

Disciples 1671

Chapter 1671: Receive Three of My Palm Strikes

Everyone raised their heads and looked at the flying chariot in the sky.

The owner of the voice could only be one of the two cultivators on the flying chariot.

At this moment, a cultivator with keen eyesight exclaimed in surprise, “Emperor Shang Zhang?!”

“That’s right! How could I forget about Shang Zhang Hall!”

“I forgot that Shang Zhang Hall doesn’t have a commander!”

For some reason, Shang Zhang Hall had always been governed only by Shang Zhang. His wife, Kong Junhua, assisted him. It had been a long time since Shang Zhang Hall had a commander.

“Who’s the other person?”

“I don’t know.”

Many people shook their heads. In any case, that person had to be extraordinary. How could an average person stand next to Shang Zhang?

When Yu Zhenghai, Yu Shangrong, and the other disciples of the Evil Sky Pavilion looked up, they were shocked when they saw the familiar figure.

‘Master?!’

‘Why is master here at this time?!’

Hua Zhenghong frowned as she stared at the incoming flying chariot. She naturally recognized Shang Zhang, but she did not know who the other cultivator was. However, she could sense his aura was extraordinary. Regardless, she did not stop. She represented the Sacred Temple. Even if it was Shang Zhang, she did not need to listen to his orders. Even the three emperors could not stop her.

Hua Zhenghong naturally knew she was in the wrong. Now that Shang Zhang appeared, she was even less inclined to stay here. She tapped her feet lightly and flew up as she said, “I still have matters to attend to in the Sacred Temple. I won’t accompany you.”

Just as Hua Zhenghong flew up, a light disk descended from the sky.

The person who attacked was not Shang Zhang, but the cultivator next to him. His hands grew brightly as though he was holding the sun and the moon.

The sun disk shone down on the land, pressing down on Hua Zhenghong with incredible force.

Boom!

Hua Zhenghong’s expression changed slightly as she launched a palm seal.

When the two forces collided, energy rippled out for 100 miles.

Hua Zhenghong flashed away and lowered her altitude. She looked at the flying chariot and asked, "Emperor Shang Zhang, what's the meaning of this?"

The flying chariot continued flying.

Then, a thunderous voice rang from the flying chariot.

"Do you treat my words as a joke?"

...

Previously, after leaving Xuanyi Palace, Shang Zhang returned to Shang Zhang Hall with Little Yuan'er. According to Lu Zhou's wish, Little Yuan'er would be the Commander of Shang Zhang Hall.

Since Conch was going to participate in the commanders' competition as well, Lu Zhou planned to let Conch come to the Cloud Domain with Xuanyi and Zhang He first. However, the plan changed due to the matter regarding the Nihilist Congregation, causing him to be late. In the end, he, along with his two disciples, came with Shang Zhang.

...

In the flying chariot.

Shang Zhang and Lu Zhou continued talking as though they did not care about the commotion they had caused.

Shang Zhang said, "The Nihilist Congregation has appeared."

Lu Zhou nodded. "Where are they?"

"The Great Void is too vast so it's difficult to pinpoint their whereabouts. I heard they're active in the Sacred Region."

"Sacred Region?"

"The Sacred Region is what the Sacred Temple's territory is called. The Sacred Temple is located in Sacred City. With the temple in the center, the city covers an area of 30,000 miles. The Sacred Temple's territory is vast. It's the most prosperous place in the Great Void and the cultivation world."

"Ming Xin doesn't care?" Lu Zhou asked curiously.

"Ming Xin rarely interferes with worldly affairs," Shang Zhang said, "Furthermore, the Nihilist Congregation usually only targets the ten halls. This is beneficial to him. Although the ten halls are thriving, they're not comparable to the Sacred Temple."

Lu Zhou knew this as well. Xuanyi Palace only occupied a small area compared to the Sacred Temple, and it was likely the same for the other nine halls. All ten halls combined were still just a drop in the ocean.

At this time, Shang Zhang said, "We've arrived."

The flying chariot pulled to a stop in the air.

Little Yuan'er and Conch walked to the side and looked down.

Lu Zhou nodded. "Let's not talk about the Nihilist Congregation now."

The flying chariot descended until it drew level with the three emperors' flying chariots.

The cultivators below bowed at the same time.

"Greetings, Your Majesty, Emperor Shang Zhang."

Shang Zhang waved his sleeve. "No need."

Everyone shifted their eyes to Lu Zhou. He had blocked Hua Zhenghong's attacks earlier and was bold enough to attack her; he naturally attracted everyone's attention. Since they did not know him, it was not appropriate for them to greet him.

Chi Biaonu, the Scarlet Emperor, spoke first. "Shang Zhang, you really took your time. I almost thought you weren't going to show up. Are you afraid your people will lose?"

Shang Zhang said, "I was delayed by some trivial matters. How can I not show up for the commanders' competition?"

Ling Weiyang, the Azure Emperor, looked at Lu Zhou with a hint of admiration. He said, "Since you're able to hold your ground against Lady Hua, why don't you introduce yourself?"

Lu Zhou did not reply. Instead, he flashed out into the sky and looked down at Hua Zhenghong before he said, "I'm the Master of the Evil Sky Pavilion!"

Everyone was shocked, especially Yue Yangzi who had been 'slandering' the Evil Sky Pavilion earlier. He had been looking for Yue Qi's murderer for so long, and he did not expect the murderer would show up today.

Hua Zhenghong frowned; her expression was solemn. The earlier exchange naturally displeased her.

...

"So he's the Master of the Evil Sky Pavilion?!"

"I didn't expect his cultivation to be so high!"

"The commanders' competition this time is really exciting!"

...

Hua Zhenghong asked, "Why did you stop me?"

Lu Zhou was expressionless as he swept his eyes across Yue Yangzi, Ling Weiyang, Chi Biaonu, and Bai Zhaoju. After a moment, he said, "You and Yue Yangzi slandered my Evil Sky Pavilion. Don't tell me I'm not allowed to defend myself?"

Hua Zhenghong said, "That's Yue Yangzi's mistake, not mine. Moreover, the misunderstanding has been resolved."

"Just because you said it's resolved, doesn't mean it's resolved," Lu Zhou said.

Hua Zhenghong did not know why the other party was so hostile toward her. Even if she had gone a little overboard with Yue Yangzi, she was one of the Four Supremes of the Sacred Temple. Even the three emperors did not rebuke her earlier, and yet, this unknown person spoke to her in such a manner.

Lu Zhou continued to say, "You're one of the Four Supremes of the Sacred Temple. You should set an example for the cultivators of the world. Since the Evil Sky Pavilion is innocent, you and Yue Yangzi should be rightly punished."

"Huh?" Hua Zhenghong was genuinely shocked and confused that the other party dared to say such words. For a moment, she looked at Lu Zhou in a trance.

Lu Zhou raised his voice as he said, "Are you going to use your status as one of the Four Supremes of the Sacred Temple to get away from your punishment?"

The cultivators below were in an uproar. Most of them nodded, agreeing with Lu Zhou.

Due to their low status, they truly hated the way Hua Zhenghong did things. No one dared to criticize her if they were alone, but they had numbers on their side now. Moreover, someone had taken the lead to speak up first. With that, criticism began to pour out.

"That's right! Great Emperor Ming Xin once said that even supreme beings who break the laws have to be punished like the commoners! This is a rule of the Great Void!"

"Yes! If everyone acts lawlessly like you, then everyone can go around bullying the weak!"

At this moment, Bai Zhaoju chimed in, "Lady Hua, I think he has a point. You're one of the Four Supremes of the Sacred Temple. If you make a mistake, you should bear the consequences. You should lead by example. Otherwise, how do you think the world is going to view the Sacred Temple?"

Naturally, there were unspoken rules. However, like its name, it could only remain unspoken and would not be able to stand the scrutiny of the public. All of the old foxes present knew that those in high positions controlled the lives of those beneath them. It was just that one had to act according to the right situation and the timing. The situation right now was obviously not right.

Hua Zhenghong was angry, but she could only suppress her anger. She cupped her fists together and said, "Yue Yangzi and I are willing to apologize to the Evil Sky Pavilion."

"If apologies are useful, why do we need powerful forces to govern the masses?"

"Then, what do you suggest?" Hua Zhenghong asked.

Lu Zhou said in a deep voice, "We'll consider this matter over after you receive three of my palm strikes."

Everyone looked at Lu Zhou in surprise. Although they were complaining here, they did not expect Lu Zhou to really insist on punishing one of the Four Supremes of the Great Void. After all, for 100,000 years, those who dared to challenge the Sacred Temple all had miserable outcomes. They all shared one thought at this moment: Where did this person's confidence come from?!

"Alright." Hua Zhenghong nodded.

Chapter 1672: Isn't the Attack Too Powerful? (1)

With so many seniors present, Hua Zhenghong had no choice but to abide by the rules of the Great Void. Since she was wrong, she would naturally have to be punished. It was not too late to seek revenge later. Those who achieved great things knew when to bend and yield.

Lu Zhou swept his gaze across the surroundings and saw the three flying chariots that were clearly different from the others. He naturally knew they belonged to the three Emperors of the Lost Lands. With the trio around, he felt much more at ease.

From a certain perspective, the emperors were also victims like the Unholy One in the ancient times. Although their views were not the same as the Unholy One, they still did not have a place in the Great Void for 100,000 years. To enter and return to the Great Void, the three emperors needed permission from the Sacred Temple. Based on this, one could see how strong Ming Xin's methods were.

Hua Zhenghong returned to the center of the arena. "Please."

Lu Zhou was not in a hurry to act. Instead, he looked around before he said, "Before I strike, I'd like to get the ugly words out of the way first."

"Please speak," Hua Zhenghong said.

"In this world, no one who fights with me has had a good ending before. After the three palm strikes, I'm afraid your life and death would be unknown," Lu Zhou said.

There were many big shots present in the Cloud Domain today. To be able to say such words, one had to be arrogant beyond imagination.

To the others, it seemed like Lu Zhou did not even think much about the three emperors.

...

Ling Weiyang, who heard Lu Zhou's words, could not help but shake his head. He turned to the side and asked in a low voice, "Has your master always been like this?"

Yu Zhenghai and Yu Shangrong could not help but feel emotional when they saw their master again. However, due to the gravity of the situation, they could only suppress their joy and excitement.

Yu Zhenghai replied in a low voice, "Yes."

Ling Weiyang laughed. "Then, he's really lucky that he hasn't been beaten down..."

"This..." Yu Zhenghai felt slightly awkward and embarrassed, but he still said seriously, "What my master said is true. No one who fought him had a good outcome."

Yu Shangrong did not forget to chime in, "Many pretentious powerhouses were killed by my master with just one palm strike."

"..."

Ling Weiyang did not easily trust others, but he had grown to trust Yu Zhenghai and Yu Shangrong. Moreover, when he thought back about his previous fight, his heart skipped a beat. He wondered why such a figure only appeared in the Great Void now?

...

Hua Zhenghong smiled and did not take Lu Zhou's words to heart. She was one of the Four Supremes of the Sacred Temple. Even if it was a divine emperor, she was still confident she could defend herself for a while. Furthermore, the person in front of her did not look like a divine emperor. Finally, she said, "If you're really so capable, I'd like to experience it myself. No matter what the outcome is, I'll be responsible for it."

"Alright." Lu Zhou's eyes burned with soul-stirring power at this moment.

Swoosh!

Lu Zhou suddenly flew into the air. As he looked down from above, he raised his hand. Following that, a large amount of Primal Qi began to converge.

...

Everyone could feel how powerful the palm strike was going to be even before Lu Zhou struck.

"Retreat," someone said.

"Retreat again."

The cultivators retreated about 3,000 feet back to prevent being accidentally injured.

On the other hand, Shang Zhang, the big shots from the other halls, and the three emperors did not move and continued to watch.

Bai Zhaoju, Ling Weiyang, and Chi Biaonu tightened their grip around the armrests of their chairs as shields appeared around their flying chariots.

Ling Weiyang looked at Lu Zhou with a complicated expression as he thought to himself, 'He's grown even stronger than before?'

...

Hua Zhenghong's expression changed slightly, and a hint of surprise appeared in her eyes. 'He's actually so strong?'

When Lu Zhou was done accumulating his power, he pushed his hand down with the might of the sky and the mountain.

"First palm strike, Flawed Perfection."

This was a Buddhist's grand technique.

The palm seal flashed with golden light as it expanded rapidly.

No one underestimated this palm strike. Instead, they felt that it could topple mountains and overturn the seas.

At this moment, Hua Zhenghong realized she had underestimated her opponent. She quickly raised her hands to the sky and manifested her astrolabe. Following that, she stacked several energy seals above the astrolabe and pushed her hands upward.

Hua Zhenghong was one of the Four Supremes of the Sacred Temple. She could not back down, let alone make a fool of herself. She had to withstand the palm strike, and she had to withstand it gracefully and calmly. Her eyes flashed with determination as she looked at the sky.

Boom!

When the two forces collided, an incomparably dazzling ball of light burst forth in the sky, releasing a frenzied explosive force.

The space collapsed, the air froze, and Primal Qi was driven away.

Boom! Boom! Boom!

The incomparably powerful force struck the shields on the flying chariots over and over again. Earlier, the owners of the flying chariots had assumed it would be easy to block the backlash. However, after experiencing the might of the explosion, they retreated one after another.

The backlash continued to ripple outward.

The cultivators who had already retreated were forced to manifest their avatars.

Buzz! Buzz! Buzz! Buzz! Buzz!

For a moment, the sky above the Cloud Domain was occupied by countless avatars. It was a magnificent sight.

The ball of light stayed in the sky for a long time before it finally dissipated.

The cultivators from the ten halls resisted much of the shockwaves generated by the collision.

When everything finally calmed down...

“Where’s Lady Hua?”

Hua Zhenghong seemed to have disappeared.

Everyone looked at each other with bewildered and shocked expressions on their faces.

Chapter 1673: Isn’t the Attack Too Powerful? (2)

The eyes of the three Emperors of the Lost Lands flashed as they searched their surroundings.

Even Shang Zhang, who had seen Lu Zhou in action, did not expect the palm strike to be so powerful.

Lu Zhou stood in the air and looked down with a calm expression on his face. Only he alone knew Hua Zhenghong had fallen; she had fallen down to the Great Abyss Land.

While everyone was still searching for Hua Zhenghong, a figure shot up into the Cloud domain from down below.

Then, someone pointed at the figure and shouted, "Lady Hua!"

"Lady Hua? What, what happened?!"

Everyone looked closely.

Hua Zhenghong's clothes were slightly tattered, and her hair was disheveled. At this moment, she could not even conceal the shock she felt. As she flew back to the center of Cloud Domain's arena, her body trembled slightly. She stabilized herself. After all, this was just the first palm strike. She stared at Lu Zhou unblinkingly. After a long while, she finally said, "You... You are the Master of the Evil Sky Pavilion?"

This question was to confirm and to remember the person in front of her.

Lu Zhou looked down at Hua Zhenghong and said, "Yes."

Hua Zhenghong nodded. "I'll remember you. I was careless earlier, and let you get the upper hand. Please continue with your second palm strike."

...

Everyone discussed animatedly among themselves.

They did not know if Hua Zhenghong was telling the truth. All they knew was the palm strike was so powerful, and it was amazing that she was brave enough to face the second palm strike.

...

Lu Zhou nodded slightly.

The palm strike earlier contained a large amount of divine power and a little bit of the divine Dao power. He was rather satisfied with its power.

This time, Lu Zhou pushed his hand down.

Space and time seemed to glitch as a vortex formed in his hand.

This time, the palm strike contained all of Lu Zhou's divine Dao power.

The divine Dao power was the Great Dao, and the Great Dao and its laws were absolute. Being able to control the laws meant that one could control life and death.

The vortex seemed to be pulling the powers of the laws in the surroundings into it. The energy it generated was not as violent as before, and the space only rippled.

"Retreat!"

Bai Zhaoju pushed his hand out. A halo appeared, and his flying chariot flew 300 feet back.

Ling Weiyang and Chi Biaonu, who were startled by this, reacted quickly and retreated as well.

Shang Zhang followed suit.

One by one, the other nine halls retreated as well.

The cultivators from the various forces could sense something was amiss based on the big shot's reactions so they quickly called out, "Retreat! Retreat!"

"Retreat a little further!"

Even if they were just watching the battle, they had to be careful.

At this time, someone complained, "I came to watch the commanders' competition, not to watch supreme beings fight!"

"Isn't it good to watch supreme beings fight? Do you know how rare this is?"

"I'd rather not watch if it means I'd lose my life!"

"..."

...

At this moment, Hua Zhenghong could no longer control her expression; it changed drastically.

'This is bad!'

She could sense that all of the powerful laws she could recognize had been absorbed by the palm strike.

Red lotuses bloomed beneath her feet.

...

When Ye Tianxin saw the red lotuses, she whispered to herself, "Butterfly Love Flower?"

Over the past 100 years, Ye Tianxin had been painstakingly cultivating the technique that her master had taught her, the Butterfly Love Flower. Currently, she felt that she had mastered the technique. She thought that no one, apart from her master, understood the Butterfly Love Flower more than she did.

Hua Zhenghong's Butterfly Love Flower was different; it seemed a little more messy and fierce, but she still recognized it.

...

The lotuses fluttered in the sky like butterflies in all directions, mending the shattered space.

"Laws? Your palm strike is useless against me!"

Hua Zhenghong mobilized almost all of her strength and imbued them into the lotuses.

"Second palm strike, the Daoist's Nine Cuts Hand Seals."

The Nine Cuts Hand Seals, imbued with the laws, fell down consecutively.

When the nine seals drew close to Hua Zhenghong, she suddenly realized that something was very wrong. Then, she discovered that time seemed to be flowing backward. Then, she felt her lotuses wilting and her strength decreasing.

“How’s this possible?!”

If the opponent’s comprehension of the laws were deeper than hers, she would lose.

Hua Zhenghong struggled to break free. She knew for sure she would not be able to withstand this palm strike. She roared inwardly, ‘Move! Hurry up! Hurry up and move!’

When time recovered, the Nine Cuts Hand Seals had already arrived in front of Hua Zhenghong.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

The first four seals destroyed the lotuses that were half wilted.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

Then, the following five seals landed on Hua Zhenghong’s chest one after another.

Blood splattered in the sky.

Under the sun, the droplets of blood looked like dazzling red beads.

Swoosh!

“Divine... divine soul pearl!”

Hua Zhenghong’s divine soul pearl flew and circled her. A buzzing noise rang out as her astrolabe appeared.

Swoosh!

A translucent figure shot out of Hua Zhenghong’s body. Its face was filled with wrinkles, and as soon as it appeared it let out a low and mournful scream. Then, its chest was pierced by the powerful force of the laws before it dissipated.

...

“Puppet Slave Technique?!”

“Hua Zhenghong, one of the Four Supremes of the Sacred Temple, actually uses a puppet?”

“Unbelievable!”

A shadow appeared from Hua Zhenghong’s body.

The Shadow’s face was full of wrinkles, and it let out a low and mournful scream.

Then, it was pierced through the chest by the powerful law energy and disappeared into the world.

“A puppet slave? !”

“Hua Zhenghong, one of the four paragons of the Sacred Palace, actually knows how to use a puppet slave? !”

“Unbelievable! If it weren’t for this puppet, that palm strike would have destroyed her light disk!”

“A light disk contains 300,000 years of life. Isn’t that palm strike too powerful?”

“He’s too strong! His cultivation is much higher than the Four Supremes of the Sacred Temple?!”

...

The three emperors and Shang Zhang’s expressions were solemn.

The palm strike contained the power of a divine emperor.

...

As everyone was immersed in watching the fight, Yue Yangzi suddenly flew toward the Green Roc with a loud whoosh!

At this time, there was only one thought in Yue Yangzi’s mind: Run!

Who could withstand that palm strike? Moreover, there were three of them!

Yue Yangzi leaped onto the Green Roc’s back and shouted, “Go! Go! Go!”

Lu Zhou said tonelessly, “We already have an agreement. I’m afraid I can’t let you break it.”

Buzz!

Lu Zhou flipped his hand, and Unnamed in the form of a bow appeared.

...

“Void grade?!”

“It’s actually a void-grade weapon! I haven’t seen an expert of this level for a long time. I really didn’t come here in vain!”

...

Lu Zhou pulled the bowstring back as an energy arrow appeared. The energy arrow was imbued with a large amount of divine power.

The blue avatar in Lu Zhou’s Dantian’s sea of Qi spun, pushing out divine power.

Faint blue electric arcs formed at the tip of the arrow as the divine power gathered.

Not long after Yue Yangzi and the Green Roc flew away, they heard a loud swoosh.

The energy arrow tore through space and arrived behind Yue Yangzi in just a blink of an eye.

Yue Yangzi felt a chill on his back. He took a deep breath before he turned around. His eyes almost popped out of their sockets when he saw the energy arrow. He instinctively erected his protective energy using the power of the Dao to protect himself.

Alas, the energy arrow pierced Yue Yangzi’s barrier and chest like a hot knife through butter. The energy arrow did not stop and continued to fly forth, accurately piercing the Green Roc’s heart.

Two holes could be seen on Yue Yangzi and the Green Roc's bodies as they plummeted from the sky. There were only two outcomes from the energy arrow; they were either dead or grievously injured.

Several cultivators flew over to have a look.

At the same time, Hua Zhenghong finally flew back up. At this time, she seemed like a completely different person. Her body was drenched with blood, and her eyes were bloodshot. At this time, she no longer cared about Yue Yangzi's life and death. She raised her head and looked at Lu Zhou as she asked, "Do you plan to kill me?"

Lu Zhou replied indifferently, "Didn't I say earlier that your life and death won't be guaranteed? Did you... forget?"

Hua Zhenghong's body swayed. She was rendered speechless.

Lu Zhou asked, "Are you ready?"

"Ready for what?" Hua Zhenghong was already in a daze at this moment.

"Ready for my third palm strike," Lu Zhou said flatly.

"..."

At this time, someone said from a distance, "Senior, if you can spare someone, you should spare them. Why don't you just forget about it?"

"I'm afraid Lady Hua won't be able to withstand the third palm strike; she'll be seriously injured. All of you are supreme beings anyway. Whoever has to stand still and take the shot will definitely be at a disadvantage. Why bother?"

Everyone looked at Lu Zhou.

Hua Zhenghong looked at Lu Zhou as well. Those words were the unspoken words in her heart. She was one of the Four Supremes of the Sacred Hall. Now, because of a trivial matter, she had to take three palm strikes from another person. What was going to happen to the Sacred Temple's reputation?

At this time, Ling Weiyang said in a clear voice, "Your methods are astonishing and admirable. Lady Hua has already received the punishment she deserves so why don't you let her go."

Inwardly, Ling Weiyang thought to himself, 'You can do whatever you want after I leave. The gains won't be able to make up for the losses if I'm splattered by the bloodshed today!'

Shang Zhang also spoke up. "Brother Ji, it's best to quit while you're ahead."

Shang Zhang still had countless people in Shang Zhang counting on him. If he offended the Sacred Temple, what would happen to the people in Shang Zhang Hall?

At this moment, everyone had their own thoughts.

Chapter 1674: A Light Disk With 300,000 Years

The various forces in the Great Void did not want to offend the Sacred Temple, after all. In fact, they yearned to join the Sacred Temple and the ten halls. They naturally hoped to join the ranks of the Four Supremes of the Sacred Temple and the Templars and to live in the Sacred Region.

Hence, many people felt it was enough that Hua Zhenghong received two palm strikes instead of three. Hua Zhenghong was already in a sorry state. If Lu Zhou insisted on continuing, he would definitely offend everyone.

Lu Zhou turned to Shang Zhang and asked, "Even you think I shouldn't continue with the third palm strike?"

Shang Zhang transmitted his voice to Lu Zhou and said, "You know I came here today for the commanders' competition."

Shang Zhang had to make his purpose clear.

At this time, Bai Zhaoju smiled and said, "Pavilion Master of the Evil Sky Pavilion... It's a pleasure to meet you."

Lu Zhou turned to face Bai Zhaoju.

Bai Zhaoju continued to smile and say, "Sir, why don't you calm down? If you have something to say, let's sit down and have a good chat."

Lu Zhou was not as angry as before after Bai Zhaoju spoke. After all, Bai Zhaoju had helped him in the past. If it were not for the White Emperor's jade token, it would have been difficult for some of his disciples to receive the recognition from the Pillars of Destruction. This was especially true when they faced the Feather tribe at the Great Abyss Land's Pillar of Destruction. Without the jade token, it would be almost impossible for them to enter the Great Abyss Land's Pillar of Destruction.

After Bai Zhaoju spoke, Qi Sheng turned to Lu Zhou and said loudly, "I'm Qi Sheng, the Commander of Tu Wei Hall. Greetings, senior."

Lu Zhou recalled how all disciples said that Qi Sheng might be his seventh disciple, Si Wuya. His heart stirred slightly as he turned to look at Qi Sheng.

'Jiang Aijian? How is he Si Wuya? He's clearly Jiang Aijian who regards the swords as life. However, why did he say that he's the seventh son of his family?'

Lu Zhou glanced at the flying chariot behind Qi Sheng with the Tu Wei Hall's flag before he sighed inwardly. 'Alas, Old Seventh didn't return...'

'Since Jiang Aijian is alive, is he planning to help Old Seventh fulfill his wish by helping the Evil Sky Pavilion?'

Jiang Aijian's appearance made Lu Zhou temporarily forget about his anger and the third palm strike.

Qi Sheng continued to say, "Although Lady Hua is at fault, the mistake isn't huge. The Great Void is in need of talents, and Lady Hua is also the talent that Great Emperor Ming Xin values most. I hope old sir will forget about this matter for my sake."

“For your sake?” Lu Zhou raised an eyebrow.

Qi Sheng nodded. He continued to say with a smile, “After all, I’m now the Commander of Tu Wei Hall. In terms of ability, talent, and appearance, I’m top-notch. The Great Emperor trusts me a lot. I promise there’ll be no trouble after today’s incident.” Then, he immediately turned to Hua Zhenghong and asked, “Lady Hua, you won’t be so petty as to seek revenge over such a trivial matter, right?”

Hua Zhenghong could barely control her expression. She thought that Qi Sheng was really strange. He was sometimes serious and sometimes rebellious. She really did not understand how such a person could gain the trust of Ming Xin and Bai Zhaoju.

After a brief moment, Hua Zhenghong scoffed and said, “I’m not a petty or vengeful person.”

Qi Sheng nodded with a satisfied expression and asked Lu Zhou, “What do you think, old sir?”

Everyone’s eyes were trained on Lu Zhou. Now that the three emperors, Shang Zhang, and Qi Sheng took turns to plead for Hua Zhenghong, they were looking forward to Lu Zhou’s response.

Lu Zhou flew back to his original position and looked down at Hua Zhenghong before he asked in a deep voice, “Hua Zhenghong... Are you ready?”

Hua Zhenghong’s heart trembled, and she instinctively took a step back. Her puppet had already been destroyed by that terrifying force earlier. If she had to take another palm strike, the consequences would be unimaginable.

Everyone was shocked. They did not expect Lu Zhou would do this.

Ling Weiyang, Bai Zhaoju, and Shang Zhang shook their heads helplessly.

Lu Zhou glanced at the trio.

‘These old geezers didn’t want to get involved in the matters of the Great Void 100,000 years ago. Now, they still refuse to get involved. How can I let them have such an easy time? If there’s a burden, everyone should shoulder it together. How can I let go of such a good opportunity to drag them through muddy waters?’

Qi Sheng opened his mouth to persuade Lu Zhou again. However, the Silver Guard flashed to his side and shook his head slightly before he said in a low voice, “It’s useless. Respect his decision.”

“Okay.”

Then, the duo returned to their flying chariot.

The Silver Guard said, “Stand behind me.”

Qi Sheng said, “You really look down on me. Are you afraid my handsome face will cover up your brilliance?”

“...”

At this time, Lu Zhou had already raised his hand. He said clearly, “I’ve always done what I said I’d do. Those who dare to stop me will be my enemies.”

An item card appeared in Lu Zhou's hand. This was the precious Deadly Strike Card he had obtained after killing Zui Can and the ancient Frost Dragon. It was equivalent to a powerful strike from the Unholy One.

Hua Zhenghong's expression was a mixture of shock and anger. She gritted her teeth and said, "I'll receive your third palm strike."

Then, Hua Zhenghong brought her lotus out. She did not hesitate when she slashed the artery on her wrist, dripping the blood on her lotus seat.

...

When Ling Weiyang saw this, he shook his head and said, "Why bother?"

Bai Zhaoju sighed. "Blood sacrifice to the red lotus. It'll take her three to five years to recover after using this move."

Chi Biaonu looked at Lu Zhou and said, "I really didn't expect there to be an expert like him outside of the Great Void. How rare."

Ling Weiyang turned to look at Chi Biaonu. In order to avoid being overheard, he asked through voice transmission, "Don't tell me you don't find him familiar?"

"Hm? Familiar?" Chi Biaonu did not understand Ling Weiyang's words.

Ling Weiyang replied, "Well, I'm not sure either. Just watch carefully. Regardless, I don't think the three of us will be able to wash away this muddy water."

...

When the fresh blood dropped on the red lotus, a bright red light illuminated the entire Cloud Domain immediately.

The sky was dyed red as lotuses appeared in the air.

Lu Zhou remained expressively, clearly unbothered. He clenched his hand, shattering the item card.

The wind and the clouds surged and roiled immediately as a vortex appeared.

At the same time, the Great Abyss Land's Pillar of Destruction began to tremble.

The huge figure in the Great Abyss Land suddenly flew up through one of the holes in the sky to the Great Void. Like Meng Zhang, the Azure Dragon, its eyes were like the sun and the moon when it opened them.

When Lan Xihe saw the pair of eyes, she frowned.

"The guardian of the Great Abyss Land?"

No one had ever had a good look at the guardian of the Great Abyss Land. They only knew it was one of the most powerful fierce beasts in the world today. At its peak, it was not any weaker than the Four Divinities of Heaven; it was comparable to an ancient creature.

Lu Zhou looked up at the thing circling the sky expressionlessly and said, "This isn't a place for you. Before I change my mind, you better get lost."

Lu Zhou could use the Deadly Strike Card on the gigantic beast, but he had a better use for it. Moreover, it was not necessary.

The gigantic beast let out a low whimper in the sky. It circled the sky a few times before it returned to where it came from. It was not a fool, after all. It was better to avoid trouble in the Great Void. Before long, it vanished from everyone's sight.

...

"..."

The three emperors were surprised. Who was the person in front of them that he could easily get the gigantic beast to leave with just a few words?

...

Hua Zhenghong was determined to block the third palm strike. She mobilized all her energy and used everything she had learned in her life.

The vortex in the sky churned with unprecedented power. When the power reached its peak, forming a palm seal, Lu Zhou said, "Third palm strike, the Confucian's Expansive Heavenly Energy."

Vitality energy from the Expansive Heavenly energy permeated the air in the Cloud Domain as it shot out and tore through space.

Vitality surged violently in the air.

The ten halls and the other cultivators did not let down their guards and raised their defenses immediately.

At the same time, the three emperors' flying chariots retreated again.

Boom!

The dazzling palm seal pressed down on Hua Zhenghong's red lotus, shattering space.

The wind and the vitality grew even more violent as they swept through the entire place.

Hua Zhenghong grunted as she cried out, "No laws? Just pure power?!"

Absolute power trumped all kinds of fancy techniques.

Hua Zhenghong's mind went blank as she plummeted to the ground.

A light disk appeared as soon as a Primal Qi storm erupted.

Someone exclaimed in shock, "The light disk?!"

Everyone stared at the light disk in shock.

"The light disk contains 300,000 years of life."

Previously, Hua Zhenghong had the protection of the puppet. After the destruction of the puppet, what else did she have to protect her?

Hua Zhenghong, one of the Four Supremes of the Sacred Temple, paid the price for her arrogance and lost a light disk with 300,000 years.

For the longest time, the Sacred Temple stood high above everyone. No one dared to challenge them.

Everyone looked at the Pavilion Master of the Evil Sky Pavilion, who was hovering in the sky. He completely defeated Hua Zhenghong with three palm strikes.

Chapter 1675: Each in Its Place (1)

As one of the Four Supremes of the Sacred Temple, Hua Zhenghong was an elite even among her peers. Everyone knew her cultivation was profound and her status was high. No one dared to underestimate her even if she was just a great divine king. Her cultivation path was special. Her offenses were different from ordinary cultivators, and she had rich combat experiences. Even lesser divine emperors might not be 100% certain they could defeat her. However, Lu Zhou's palm seal had shattered her light disk that she had painfully cultivated for 10,000 years. There were 300,000 years of life in that light disk!

At this moment, the vitality energy from the 300,000 years of life wreaked havoc in the Cloud Domain.

The crowd watched the scene in front of them in a trance. They naturally did not dare to covet the vitality energy in front of them. All they felt at this moment was shock and nervousness; they did not know what to do next. If the Sacred Temple decided to pursue the matter, everyone in the Cloud Domain today would not be able to escape punishment. The three emperors, Shang Zhang, and the ten halls had enough strength and status to survive offending the Sacred Temple, but what about the various forces in the Great Void?

After a long time, someone asked, "Where's Lady Hua?"

They searched the entire place with their eyes, but they could not find Hua Zhenghong.

"Did she... Did she die from the three palm strikes?"

"Impossible. Lady Hua has at least five light disks. Even if this one is destroyed, she should have four light disks left."

However, no matter where they looked, they could not find Hua Zhenghong.

Chi Biaonu was faintly worried. He really did not want Hua Zhenghong to die in front of him. To be precise, he did not want to wade in muddy waters.

"Let me take a look," Bai Zhaoju said before he flew out of his flying chariot. He flew down one of the holes to the Great Abyss Land in the Unknown Land. Alas, no matter how hard he searched, he still could not find Hua Zhenghong.

"Strange. She's one of the Four Supremes of the Sacred Temple. Although she suffered a huge loss because of the three palm strikes, she shouldn't have fled. Did she leave first hoping to restore her light disk?" Bai Zhaoju muttered to himself, "It's not that I don't want to help you, but I really can't help you with this matter."

With that, Bai Zhaoju returned to his flying chariot. Then, he turned around and calmly said, "Lady Hua is injured so she must have left to recuperate."

Upon hearing this, Chi Biaonu's eyelids twitched slightly. He raised his head and looked at Lu Zhou as he said, "You're really bold. Aren't you afraid of offending the Sacred Temple by doing this?"

Lu Zhou said righteously, "I've already said the ugly words earlier. Didn't I say her life and death won't be guaranteed after she receives three palm strikes from me? Why are you afraid?"

Chi Biaonu: "?"

'At the very least, I'm also a prominent figure. Why is this person speaking to me in such a condescending manner?'

Chi Biaonu did not get angry. Instead, he turned to Bai Zhaoju. He saw Bai Zhaoju nodding at him with an expression that seemed to say, "You must not get angry."

Then, Chi Biaonu said calmly, "I didn't expect the Pavilion Master of the Evil Sky Pavilion to be so extraordinary. If you're free, I'd like to invite you to the Southern Flaming Sea to have tea with me."

Lu Zhou said, "Forget about having tea. If you're free, you should go to Ji Ming's Pillar of Destruction to visit your daughter."

Lu Zhou did not have a good impression of Chi Biaonu, the Scarlet Emperor.

Shang Zhang was forced and deceived by the Nihilist Congregation, Wu Zu, and disaster at that time to bring Conch to the Unknown Land. Conch was lost later by accident, and he did not intentionally abandon Conch. However, Chi Biaonu was truly heartless. The two of them were completely different.

Even a tiger would not devour its own cub. Chi Biaonu could even abandon his daughter and imprison her under a mulberry tree in Ji Ming; how could someone like that be a good person?

Upon hearing Lu Zhou's words, Chi Biaonu's expression turned unsightly. He frowned and asked, "You've been to Ji Ming's Pillar of Destruction?"

Lu Zhou did not want to waste time with Chi Biaonu. He asked, "Do you think I'm a criminal?"

'Do you think this is an interrogation and that I have to answer your question? You overestimate yourself.'

At this moment, Bai Zhaoju smiled and said, "If there's a chance, I'd like to invite you to the Lost Land in the east as a guest."

Unexpectedly, Lu Zhou nodded and said, "I have something to talk to you as well so we'll meet again in the future."

Bai Zhaoju was delighted. He smiled and said, "Alright!"

After that, Bai Zhaoju cocked his eyebrow and looked at Chi Biaonu with a smug expression.

'You failed to invite him, but I didn't. Are you angry?'

Chi Biaonu's expression was slightly dark, but he did not say anything. No one knew what he was thinking. He might be thinking about his daughter in the Unknown Land, or he might be thinking about how to deal with Lu Zhou. In any case, no one knew.

As for Ling Weiyang, he continued to pretend as though he could not see anything.

...

At this moment, some people had already moved on to another matter. Lu Zhou had already admitted he was the Pavilion Master of the Evil Sky Pavilion so where were his disciples? They were shocked beyond belief when they thought about how all the owners of the Great Void Seeds were the disciples of the person in front of them.

However, the majority of the cultivators were still in a daze, wondering where Hua Zhenghong had gone. They were also worried and afraid they would be implicated in the matter today.

...

Lu Zhou turned around and faced Qi Sheng. He did not expose Qi Sheng. Instead, he asked, "What are you doing here?"

Qi Sheng replied, "I'm the Commander of Tu Wei Hall so I have to accept challenges. Moreover, I'm also in charge of the commanders' competition. I naturally have to be here."

Lu Zhou nodded and said with a sigh, "You're quite lucky."

Lu Zhou was referring to the fact that Jiang Aijian was successfully resurrected with Si Wuya's help.

Jiang Aijian understood Lu Zhou's meaning. His smile vanished from his face as he waved his hand. His red mask flew to him, and he placed it on his face before he said, "Life is unpredictable. There's both good luck and bad luck. Senior should know this better than I do."

Needless to say, most people did not understand the real meaning behind Lu Zhou and Qi Sheng's words.

Chapter 1676: Each in Its Place (2)

As for the nine disciples of the Evil Sky Pavilion, they felt a sense of helplessness when they heard Lu Zhou and Qi Sheng's words that seemed to indicate that Si Wuya was truly... gone.

Qi Sheng asked, "Senior, you're the Pavilion Master of the Evil Sky Pavilion. Why are you here today?"

Lu Zhou briefly swept his gaze across his disciples. He did not call them out, and they did not step forward either. His disciples did not know what to do so they thought it was better to wait and see.

At this moment, Shang Zhang said, "Pavilion Master Lu came with me to watch the commanders' competition."

At this time, Little Yuan'er and Conch stepped forward.

Upon seeing the two girls, Qi Sheng nodded. "Very well. Time is precious. Let's continue with the commanders' competition."

There was another possibility for Hua Zhenghong's disappearance. She might have gone back to call for reinforcements. If the Templars attacked at this time, the entire Evil Sky Pavilion might be annihilated. It was best not to delay the commanders' competition anymore.

At this time, Shang Zhang said, "I want to appoint the Commander of Shang Zhang Hall."

Upon hearing this, Qi Sheng shook his head and said, "Your Majesty, this is too last minute. We should proceed as planned."

Shang Zhang said seriously, "I know that you're in charge of the commanders' competition, but I want to appoint the Commander of the Shang Zhang Hall."

Qi Sheng said, "No."

"If I say yes, then it's a yes."

"This is my suggestion. I hope Your Majesty will consider it," Qi Sheng said as he tossed a piece of paper over.

Shang Zhang was about to destroy it without looking at it when Lu Zhou asked Qi Sheng meaningfully, "Are you serious?"

"My biggest flaw is that I like to tell the truth," Qi Sheng replied with a straight face.

"..."

Lu Zhou nodded. "I'll believe you once."

Qi Sheng nodded as well before he turned around and said in a clear voice, "The commanders' competition will now resume! Is there anyone who would like to challenge me, the Commander of Tu Wei Hall?"

Qi Sheng's voice resounded through the entire place.

No one dared to challenge Qi Sheng. The Silver Guard was like an indestructible mountain standing in front of Qi Sheng. If his subordinate was already so strong, how much stronger was he?

15 minutes passed without anyone stepping forward to challenge Qi Sheng.

Qi Sheng smiled and said, "Alright. Then, I'll retain my position as the Commander of Tu Wei Hall."

Following that, Qi Sheng did not stand on ceremony and sat down.

Suddenly, Shang Zhang flew into the center of the arena.

Everyone looked at each other, wondering what Shang Zhang was trying to do.

'It can't be that Emperor Shang Zhang is going to accept challenges, right?! Isn't that too domineering and embarrassing?!'

Chi Biaonu, Bao Zhaoju, and Ling Weiyang were puzzled as well.

Shang Zhang stood silently with his hands on his back for a few seconds before he said in a clear voice, "I'm here to announce two things. First, Shang Zhang Hall already has a commander.."

Everyone was curious.

Who could it be?

Shang Zhang disregarded the curious looks and continued to say, "I once made a huge and unforgivable mistake. This mistake caused me to toss and turn for hundreds of years, unable to sleep at night."

Everyone was shocked and curious at this time.

How much courage would it take for a divine emperor to admit his mistakes in front of so many people?

A hint of admiration could be seen on the faces of Ling Weiyang, Chi Biaonu, and Bai Zhaoju. They had been in high positions for a long time, and they had never admitted to certain mistakes even if they knew clearly they were in the wrong. There were even instances when they had to find scapegoats to cover up their mistakes. As time passed, they had even forgotten the essence of being human. To be human was to feel all sorts of emotions and desires like compassion, shame, and resignation.

Shang Zhang's voice was loud and clear as he said, "For the past few hundred years, I've been trying to atone for my mistake. In hopes of comforting my heart, I wandered Shang Zhang Hall, the Unknown Land, the nine domains, the Endless Ocean, and the Lost Lands. I thought about it over and over again. If she were around, would she forgive me?"

Shang Zhang smiled as he shook his head. "No. I don't think so. I won't ask for forgiveness either. I only hope she can continue to live well..."

Shang Zhang stopped speaking. He did not turn around to look at Conch's reaction.

Lu Zhou did not turn around either; his eyes were trained on Shang Zhang.

As for the others, although they felt sorry for him, they were bewildered as well. After all, they did not know about the past. They did not understand why he would say such things during the commanders' competition.

Shang Zhang's expression turned serious suddenly as his aura rippled out. Then, he said in a tone that brooked no argument, "The Commander of Shang Zhang Hall is the person behind me... Miss Conch!"

Everyone turned to look at Conch.

Conch had been frozen in place for a long time. Her eyes widened. Confusion, anger, disappointment, and all sorts of emotions could be seen swirling in her eyes.

Little Yuan'er's mouth was slightly agape. It was already decided that she was going to be the Commander of Shang Zhang Hall so she was caught off guard by the sudden turn of events. Nonetheless, she did not say anything. After all, she knew about Conch's identity.

Shang Zhang said, "I've already made up my mind. Miss Conch has to be the Commander of Shang Zhang Hall."

Someone raised his hand and asked, "Can we challenge her?"

Upon hearing this, Shang Zhang's aura and expression changed immediately, displaying his might as a divine emperor. His eyes were cold as he said, "Shang Zhang Hall will not be accepting any challenges."

“This is against the rule of the Great Void. As per the rules of the commanders’ competition...”

Shang Zhang interjected, “Then, I’ll break the rule! Whoever is dissatisfied, step forward now. No matter who the challenger is, I’ll fight on her behalf.”

“...”

Needless to say, there was an uproar.

Chi Biaonu, Bai Zhaoju, and Ling Weiyang glanced at Conch and could vaguely guess something. They knew how Shang Zhang had lost his beloved daughter, and they also knew how he had spent the past few hundred years.

At this moment, Conch said before she left the deck of the flying chariot, “I don’t need you to do this.”

Shang Zhang sighed heavily. He had already expected this.

Regardless of Conch’s words, who would dare to step forward at this moment to challenge Shang Zhang Hall?

Qi Sheng said, “Since Shang Zhang Hall has confirmed its commander, we’ll now proceed with the other halls.”

Little Yuan’er was in a dilemma.

At this time, Lu Zhou called out, “Yuan’er.”

Business was more important. Shang Zhang and Conch’s matter was their private matter. It was meaningless for outsiders to interfere. Moreover, the knots in their hearts were not so easy to untie.

“Oh.” Little Yuan’er nodded before she flew to the center of the arena. Then, she asked loudly, “Master, who am I challenging?”

Lu Zhou pointed in a specific direction and said, “The Commander of Zhao Yang Hall.”

The cultivators of Zhao Yang Hall instinctively retreated.

‘What the f*ck!’

‘What a bully!’

‘This girl is his disciple, who’ll dare to fight with her? If her master is unhappy, he might unleash a few palm strikes at Zhao Yang Hall!’

“What should we do?” The Commander of Zhao Yang Hall felt like crying at this moment.

“We... We can only blame this on our bad luck.”

“There’s no justice at all!”

“If we think about it from a different perspective, it’s not a bad thing that the disciple of such an expert is the Commander of our Zhao Yang Hall.”

Upon hearing this, the eyes of the Commander of Zhao Yang Hall lit up immediately. Then, he said decisively, "I admit defeat. Zhao Yang Hall acknowledges her as its new commander!"

Everyone: "..."

The crowd did not know how to react for a moment. This year's commanders' competition was different and filled with excitement, but the battles for the competition itself made them feel hopeless, helpless, and bored.

These people were undoubtedly powerful, but could they not at least pretend to go through the proper process? Why are they choosing someone so directly? What was the point of the commanders' competition then?

"Very good." Lu Zhou nodded.

Qi Sheng said, "Continue."

At this time, Mingshi Yin smiled and said, "I want to challenge Qiang Yu Hall."

Following that, Duanmu Sheng said, "I choose Xuanyi Palace."

The people from Qiang Yu Hall shook their heads helplessly when they saw the challenger was the Scarlet Emperor's subordinate.

'How's this still a challenge? You might as well say you want to rob the position!'

...

At the same time.

Zhu Honggong thought to himself that things were not looking good.

The cultivator next to him said, "Mr. Zhu, at this point, only Xihe Hall is left. You need to challenge Xihe Hall's Holy Maiden. Originally, it was called Chong Guang Hall. Emperor Chong Guang fell 100,000 years ago and has been without a master since. Since before, the Holy Maiden has been regarded as Emperor Chong Guang's successor. If you defeat her, you'll essentially be the Master of Chong Guang!"

Zhu Honggong's expression was very unsightly at this moment. He said in a low voice, "So much nonsense! Can I withdraw from the competition?"

"Ah? Withdraw from the competition?"

"I don't want to be a commander anymore!" Zhu Honggong said.

Chapter 1677: The Final and Unexpected Commander

Although this year's commanders' competition was very exciting, there was no suspense and it was boring.

Everyone could already guess most of the results. They shook their heads and sighed helplessly.

People fantasized about climbing up from the bottom, passing certain tests, and entering the world of the elite to live a better life. However, in the end, they discovered that the rules were just games to those in high positions.

There was no chance for anyone to compete for the positions of commander. Just Shang Zhang, Chi Biaonu, Bai Zhaoju, and Ling Weiyang had taken up eight places. Then, both Qi Sheng and Lan Xihe continued to maintain their positions. With these, there was no place left for the others.

...

Zhu Honggong kept shaking his head. "No matter what, I don't want to be a commander. Whoever wants to be a commander can go ahead and issue a challenge, but I definitely won't issue a challenge."

"I'm afraid that won't do. The Temple Master has already requested you to take the position of commander. If you... If you don't go, I won't be able to explain it to the Temple Master. The Temple Master has said repeatedly that you must take the position of commander," the cultivator said.

Zhu Honggong scratched his head. "Does the Temple Master think so highly of me?"

"Well, uh... In the entire Great Void, there are very few people the Temple Master thinks highly of, and you're one of them. Moreover, you're also handsome and elegant. Such an important task can only be entrusted to you," the cultivator said.

Zhu Honggong could not help the proud expression that appeared on his face. He laughed until his eyes could not be seen. Finally, he said, "Your words are truly pleasant to the ears. Although they're just words of flattery, they sound very sincere. You have a bright future ahead of you!"

Humans were all the same; they like listening to good words.

Contrary to the cultivators' expression, Zhu Honggong's smile suddenly vanished from his face. His gaze changed as he said, "Although you're very sincere, I... I'm not a f*cking fool! Goodbye!"

After saying that, Zhu Honggong turned around to fly away.

At the same time...

"Stop."

"..."

Zhu Honggong's body stiffened immediately as he thought to himself in despair, 'This is bad! It's over! Although I'm standing in such a hidden place, I was still seen!'

At the same time, everyone was confused and turned to look at Lu Zhou who had just said, "Stop."

Zhu Honggong turned around with a fake smile on his face as he said awkwardly, "M-master."

"..."

As long as they were not fools, everyone could already guess that the owners of the Great Void Seeds were Lu Zhou's disciples.

Chi Biaonu and Ling Weiyang seemed to have figured out a lot of things as well. They turned to look at the owners of the Great Void Seeds behind them with inscrutable expressions on their faces.

Chi Biaonu and Ling Weiyang remembered the huge incident when the last batch of Great Void Seeds was lost. At that time, they had already left the Great Void so they did not know much about the situation. However, they knew it was not an easy feat to steal all ten Great Void Seeds under the noses of the Sacred Temple and the ten halls.

After the Great Void Seeds were lost, the ten halls dispatched their respective experts to search the nine domains for the Great Void Seeds, but they did not find anything. In the end, they could only wait passively for them to reappear.

Who knew if it was a coincidence or not, but the ten Great Void Seeds were all in place now.

Ling Weiyang said to Chi Biaonu and Bai Zhaoju through voice transmission, "I have a feeling that something is amiss."

"You don't have to say it. I've already sensed it," Chi Biaonu replied.

Ling Weiyang said, "If all of this is intentionally arranged by the Sacred Temple, I'm afraid we've all become pawns."

Chi Biaonu scoffed coldly and said, "From the very beginning, I've already sensed something was amiss. The Sacred Temple is too indulgent with the ten halls. Although the Pillars of Destruction at Dunzang and Chifenruo have collapsed, the Sacred Temple that always prioritized the balance doesn't seem to care at all. Moreover, after the Great Void Seeds reappeared, the temple doesn't seem to care as well. In any case, they're wrong if they think they can turn me into their pawn."

Ling Weiyang smiled. "I remember you weren't like that when you left the Great Void 100,000 years ago."

Bai Zhaoju sighed. "We've already come this far. We can only take things one step at a time now. Put aside everything else, I believe in them."

"Them?" Chi Biaonu asked.

Bai Zhaoju casually pointed and said, "Don't you think they're all very special?"

As soon as Bai Zhaoju's voice fell, Zhu Honggong laughed sheepishly and said, "I don't want to be a commander. I don't think I'm cut out for it. I should give the position to someone else who's more talented. Holy Maiden Xihe is very capable. In my opinion, she should continue being the Commander of Xihe Hall."

"???"

Ling Weiyang and Chi Biaonu looked at Bai Zhaoju in unison.

'I don't know about the others, but this one is really special. How did he get the Great Void Seed? Are the heavens blind?'

At this time, Lan Xihe rose to her feet. She looked at the sky and said, "Pavilion Master Lu, we haven't seen each other for many years. You're much stronger than before."

An uproar broke out following Lan Xihe's words.

'They know each other?!'

Lu Zhou looked at Lan Xihe. He could sense that her aura was much stronger than before so he said, "Likewise."

Lan Xihe flew out to the center of the arena and said, "Ever since I joined Chong Guang Hall, I've encountered many disasters and hardships. My cultivation path is also bumpy. Thanks to the care of the ten halls and the Sacred Temple, Chong Guang Hall's name has been changed to Xihe Hall. In everyone's eyes, I'm Emperor Chong Guang's successor, and I'll definitely become the Master of Xihe Hall."

Everyone nodded as they listened. After all, she was stating facts.

"Nonetheless, I'll abide by the rules of the Great Void and accept challenges," Lan Xihe said.

Upon hearing this, Qi Sheng said loudly, "The positions in the other nine halls have been taken. This is your last chance. Don't miss it!"

No one moved.

'Look at this brat trying to fool us!'

The various forces were in awe of the Holy Maiden. Challenging her was tantamount to committing suicide.

The cultivators of the ten halls knew how powerful Lan Xihe was so they naturally did not dare to step forward.

Time passed by slowly, and no one stepped forward.

Finally, Qi Sheng turned around and asked Zhu Honggong, "What are you waiting for?"

Zhu Honggong: "???"

Qi Sheng continued to say, "Stop looking around. I'm talking to you."

'F*cking Jiang Aijian! You pretended to be my Seventh Senior Brother for so long and ordered me around! When this is over, I'm going to beat you to death!'

Qi Sheng slowly said, "The Temple Master has ordered this, and it's also... Pavilion Master Lu's wish."

"..."

Zhu Honggong looked up and found his master looking at him with a pair of deep and spirited eyes. Although his master did not speak, his expression clearly said, "Now that 100 years have passed, this wicked disciple of mine should've improved a lot. If he can't become a commander, I'll skin him alive."

Zhu Honggong gulped as he sorted out his thoughts and emotions. Then, he braced himself and said loudly, "Alright! I'll do it!"

Under everyone's watchful eyes, Zhu Honggong flew into the arena and landed across from Lan Xihe.

Everyone unscrupulously sized Zhu Honggong up.

"There's someone bold enough to challenge Holy Maiden Xihe?!"

"With his ability, he dares to challenge her?"

"Don't look down on him! After all, there are a few challengers who are Great Dao Saints as well. Since he dares to challenge Holy Maiden Xihe, he must be confident."

Someone sighed. "The threshold for the competition is getting higher and higher."

"That's right. We can't judge a book by its cover. If Yue Yangzi was telling the truth, then this person is also a disciple of the Evil Sky Pavilion. Apart from that, he also has the support of the Sacred Temple. Hence, he has a high chance of winning."

After all, during this commanders' competition, none of the original commanders of the ten halls managed to successfully defend their positions.

With this thought in mind, everyone looked at Zhu Honggong with anticipation shining in their eyes.

Even Shang Zhang, Chi Biaonu, Ling Weiyang, and Bai Zhaoju were looking at Zhu Honggong curiously.

Finally, Zhu Honggong straightened his back. His aura seemed to have changed completely as he said, "Holy Maiden Xihe, I challenge you."

Lan Xihe nodded with an expression of approval and said, "It's my honor."

Zhu Honggong said again, "Before we start, I want to say that I won't show mercy just because you're the Holy Maiden."

"Going all out is a sign of respect for one's opponent and the commanders' competition," Lan Xihe said.

Zhu Honggong's body seemed to burn with fighting spirit as he said, "Very good. Today, I'll show the entire Great Void and even the nine domains my true strength!"

Zhu Honggong's words made the spectators' blood boil. They were no less excited when Lu Zhou fought Hua Zhenghong.

"Please," Zhu Honggong said in a thunderous voice as he cupped his fists together.

Lan Xihe smiled and took a step forward.

Buzz!

A white lotus bloomed beneath her feet as a blazing white light burst forth. Then, a light disk appeared.

"..."

Everyone was shocked!

Shang Zhang, Ling Weiyang, Bai Zhaoju, Chi Biaonu, and the ten halls looked at the light disk in surprise.

The light disk only appeared for a moment before it disappeared.

Everyone sized up the beautiful Lan Xihe again. At this time, they finally remembered that she was also an owner of the Great Void Seed. Moreover, she had cultivated for more than 30,000 years; she was older than the owners of the last batch of Great Void Seeds. Even if she made some mistakes when cultivating in the past, with the Great Void Seed, it was not surprising that she became a supreme being after more than 30,000 years.

Although they did not expect it, it was well within reason that Lan Xihe was a supreme being now.

Swoosh!

Everyone sensed the fluctuations of the Primal Qi.

Swoosh!

Lan Xihe frowned. "Hmm?"

At some point, Zhu Honggong had flown into the distance like a shooting star. Under the eyes of the experts of the Great Void, he had flown away from the Cloud Domain.

"???"

Some cultivators rubbed their eyes, thinking their eyes were playing tricks on them. They found it hard to believe that he had fled just like that.

As Zhu Honggong's figure disappeared into the horizon, an awkward silence descended on Cloud Domain.

Everyone looked at each other with dumbfounded expressions on their faces.

Chapter 1678: Supreme Being Xihe (1)

No one expected Zhu Honggong to flee so decisively. His action was like a slap to those cultivators who thought highly of him.

'Is this the f*cking work of a human?!'

Zhu Honggong, a disciple of the Evil Sky Pavilion; the owner of a Great Void Seed who joined the Sacred Temple; and the person favored by Ming Xin, fled without caring about everyone's opinion.

Everyone looked at Lu Zhou, Zhu Honggong's master.

Lu Zhou hovered in the air with a slight frown on his face. After a moment, he scolded, "Wicked disciple."

Ling Weiyang laughed heartily before he said, "He's very interesting. I like him."

Bai Zhaoju chimed in, "A wise man knows to bend and yield."

Lu Zhou, who had heard many words of flattery before, was naturally immune to Ling Weiyang and Bai Zhaoju's words. He shook his head and said, "He's as timid as a mouse."

Qi Sheng said with a helpless expression on his face, "Holy Maiden wins this round uncontested. Is there anyone else who wants to challenge her?"

If there was a sliver of chance earlier of someone challenging Lan Xihe earlier, at this moment, that sliver of chance had been destroyed by the brief appearance of the light disk. It was impossible for Dao Saints to defeat supreme beings.

Everyone shook their heads.

“There’s no challenger?” Qi Sheng asked.

No one responded. The Cloud Domain was as silent as a graveyard.

In the end, Qi Sheng could only say, “Then, I’ll announce that the Commander of Xihe Hall is...”

“Wait,” Lan Xihe suddenly interjected.

Qi Sheng asked, puzzled, “What’s wrong?”

Lan Xihe replied, “I’m afraid I can’t continue to be the Commander of Xihe Hall.”

“Why?” Qi Sheng was even more puzzled.

Everyone discussed animatedly among themselves as well when they heard Lan Xihe’s words.

“According to the rules, with my strength and ability, I’m qualified to be the Hall Master of Xihe Hall,” Lan Xihe said calmly.

Qi Sheng frowned. “You want to be the hall master?”

“Do you think I’m not qualified?” Lan Xihe asked in return.

“No,” Qi Sheng said with a smile, “If you’re not qualified, then no one is. However, I can’t make the decision regarding this matter. You’ll have to talk to the Sacred Temple.”

At this time, Chi Biaonu asked, “Since when do the ten halls’ affairs have to be decided by the Sacred Temple?”

Since the three emperors did not live in the Great Void, in their opinions, the affairs of the ten halls should be decided by the ten halls themselves.

Qi Sheng said helplessly, “This is how it’s always been.”

“...”

The Sacred Temple was above the ten halls, after all. Who would dare to say anything?

Lan Xihe said, “I’ll explain this matter to the Sacred Temple.” Then, she turned to look at the cultivators of Xihe Hall, including Ouyang Ziyun.

Ouyang Ziyun had been in a trance since earlier. He had been paying attention to Lu Zhou’s every move. He was shocked by Lu Zhou’s speed of progress, and when he recalled Jie Jin’an’s words, his mood became even more complicated.

Finally, Lan Xihe asked, “What do you think?”

Ouyang Ziiyun regained his senses. He was the first to bow and said, "From now, Holy Maiden Xihe is the Hall Master of Xihe Hall. Greetings, Hall Master!"

"Greetings, Hall Master," the other cultivators from Xihe Hall echoed and fell to their knees in unison.

In fact, Lan Xihe had long been regarded as the Hall Master of Xihe Hall. It was just that previously her cultivation base was lacking so she could not legitimize her position. Now that her cultivation was sufficient and the time was right, if she did not act now, when should she act?

The cultivators of Xi He Hall had been waiting for this day for a long time.

Lan Xihe nodded in satisfaction and said with a smile, "There's no need for formalities."

The cultivators of Xihe Hall rose to their feet.

With this, Xihe Hall no longer had a commander now. A commander of a hall was only below the hall master. He or she would manage the affairs of the hall, not unlike the steward of a house.

Lan Xihe turned around and said, "The hall is short of a commander."

The crowd burst into a heated discussion immediately. One by one, they began to speak up.

"I'll do it! I'll do it! I'm willing to be the Commander of Xihe Hall and work for the Holy Maiden!"

"No, I'll do it! In terms of ability and cultivation, I'm not inferior to you!"

"It's up to you to decide this!"

Seeing the commotion, Qi Sheng said, "If you want to be the Commander of Xihe Hall, you can just compete in the Cloud Domain's arena."

Everyone nodded.

However, Lan Xihe shook her head and said, "No need."

"Do you have a suggestion, Holy Maiden?"

"I think Zhu Honggong, who has fled, is very suitable to be the Commander of Xihe Hall," Lan Xihe said.

"..."

The cultivators looked at each other in dismay. They were unresigned. After all, how could a timid and cowardly person be the Commander of the Xihe Hall?

Lan Xihe said in a clear voice, "In fact, I admired Miss Ye, who's by the White Emperor's side, more. If the White Emperor is willing to exchange with me. I'll be very grateful."

Ye Tianxin could not hide the surprised expression on her face at all. She was the Tower Master of the White Tower so Lan Xihe was most familiar with her.

Bai Zhaoju smiled. "I'm afraid that's inappropriate. Ye Tianxin is already the Commander of Rou Zhao Hall, after all."

'You can have the cowardly one...'

Since Bai Zhaoju had said so, Lan Xihe turned to Lu Zhou, who was still hovering in the sky, and asked, "Pavilion Master Lu, they're your disciples. What do you think?"

Before Lu Zhou could reply, Chi Biaonu said disapprovingly, "Although they're his disciples, they're now in the Great Void. Even the weakest among them are Dao Saints. They should have the freedom to pursue their goals."

Chapter 1679: Supreme Being Xihe (2)

In fact, Ling Weiyang and Bai Zhaoju were worried about this as well. They did not spare any effort to nurture the owners of the Great Voids during the past 100 years. How could they be happy if all their effort only benefited others and did not benefit them at all?

They were prominent figures and rulers of their respective regions. They were powerful cultivators who were respected in the Great Void and in the nine domains. To them, with these factors alone, the owners of the Great Voids should stay and serve them instead of obeying the orders of their former master.

Lu Zhou scoffed and said, "Chi Biaonu, you're shameless enough to talk about freedom! You imprisoned Princess Mulberry at Chifenruo, and now that the pillar there has collapsed, you don't even care about her life and death."

Chifenruo was the ancient name for Ji Ming.

Although Chi Biaonu was an ancient cultivator who had sailed down the long river of time, his expression still changed slightly upon hearing Lu Zhou's words. Was it not akin to slapping his face now that Lu Zhou mentioned his daughter twice? It was only natural that he was angry. He said unhappily, "Old sir, you're being too controlling."

"If it weren't for their sake, I wouldn't even bother to talk to you," Lu Zhou said.

"..."

It was impossible to fight now, but Chi Biaonu could not lose his imposing air. He turned to look at Mingshi Yin and Duanmu Sheng and said, "Since you're the disciples of the Evil Sky Pavilion, I'll give you a chance now. You can either stay in the Flaming Sea or leave!"

Mingshi Yin and Duanmu Sheng: "?"

'These two old men are quarreling, but we're suffering the consequences. This is unfair!'

"This... This..." Mingshi Yin hemmed and hawed.

Chi Biaonu said, "Why are you hesitating? It's not like I'm threatening you!"

With this, Mingshi Yin, "Since that's the case, I choose my master!"

"..."

Chi Biaonu felt suffocated. 'This ingrate!'

Following that, Duanmu Sheng said with a straight face, "A master for a day is a father for life. Please forgive me, Your Majesty."

Chi Biaonu: "..."

Ling Weiyang laughed out loud before he said, "Chi Biaonu, why are you looking for trouble? He's been taking care of his disciples for hundreds of years. What did you do over the past 100 years that you expect them to follow you wholeheartedly? It's one thing for them to owe you a favor, but for you to force them to make a choice, you're only setting yourself up to fail."

The choice Chi Biaonu forced on Mingshi Yin and Duanmu Sheng was no different from asking a child if he or she would save his father or mother if they both fell into the ocean. Not to mention Chi Biaonu had not even reached this level of importance in their hearts.

"Since you protected two of them over the past 100 years, I won't stoop to your level," Lu Zhou said tonelessly.

Chi Biaonu wanted to refute, but Ling Weiyang and Bai Zhaoju quickly tried to mediate the situation. Even Shang Zhang tried to persuade him. In the end, he finally gave in. After all, if continued to be stubborn, he knew it would not end well for him. He still needed Mingshi Yin and Duanmu Sheng to help him return to the Great Void. If those two ingrates really left, who knew if they would still help him.

Now that the old men stopped arguing, Lan Xihe said, "Pavilion Master Lu, you've yet to answer my question."

Lu Zhou nodded. "If you want to appoint Old Eight as the Commander of Xihe Hall, I naturally have no objections."

Upon hearing this, Qi Sheng smiled and looked at everyone as he said, "I think no one will object to this."

Everyone remained silent, but their expressions clearly showed their dissatisfaction.

Finally, someone said, "How could we dare to object?"

One could clearly hear the dissatisfaction in his voice.

Qi Sheng shook his head and said, "I was there when he joined the Sacred Temple. To be honest, his cultivation isn't inferior to mine. If you're dissatisfied, you can step forward and challenge him in the future. This is my promise to you. I'll be struck to death by lightning if I lie."

Everyone was stunned by Qi Sheng's words. He did not seem like he was lying or joking.

With this, the matter came to an end.

As long as one was not foolish, one would not challenge Zhu Honggong. There were several big shots protecting Zhu Honggong, after all. On the surface, Qi Sheng's words sounded very fair, but no matter how they looked at it, it was clear that Qi Sheng was not helping them. Alas, there was nothing they could do. After all, they could not afford to offend these people.

In the end, everyone bowed and said, "Congratulations, Holy Maiden."

Lan Xihe nodded. Then, she looked at Lu Zhou and said, "Pavilion Master Lu, it's been a long time since we parted ways in the Unknown Land. 100 years ago, I heard that you were at Zhixu's Pillar of Destruction. I waited for three days, but unfortunately, I didn't get to meet you. If you're free, can you come to Xihe Hall for a chat?"

Mingshi Yin nudged Duanmu Sheng with his elbow, but Duanmu Sheng did not seem to understand what he meant. Hence, he nudged Duanmu Sheng a few more times before he said in a hushed voice, "There's something fishy going on."

Lu Zhou nodded. "Alright."

Lan Xihe smiled and made an inviting gesture. "Please."

With that, Lu Zhou flew toward Xihe Hall's flying chariot.

Everyone looked surprised, jealous, and envious.

At this time, Qi Sheng said loudly, "With this, the commanders' competition has come to an end. Thank you for your support and your cooperation."

Following that, everyone began to leave.

Chi Biaonu wanted to stay in the Great Void, but when he saw Shang Zhang, he could not help but think about Princess Mulberry. Hence, he said, "Go to Ji Ming."

"Understood."

Then, Chi Biaonu looked at Mingshi Yin and Duanmu Sheng and said, "Are you coming with me, or are you staying?"

Mingshi Yin said with a smile, "Of course, I'll come with you. My master taught me to repay kindness. Otherwise, we're no different from animals."

Chi Biaonu frowned. Why did it seem like Mingshi Yin was mocking him?

After Mingshi Yin and Duanmu Sheng followed Chi Biaonu to the Unknown Land, Bai Zhaoju and Ling Weiyang looked at each other and smiled.

Bai Zhaoju asked, "Shall we look for a place to talk?"

"Good idea," Ling Weiyang replied.

With that, the two emperors' flying chariots flew away.

Tu Wei Hall's flying chariot was the last to leave the Cloud Domain.

When Qi Sheng and the Silver Guard entered the cabin, the Silver Guard said, "It's not done well enough."

"Don't be so obsessed over small details," Jiang Aijian said.

Chapter 1680: Supreme Being Xihe (3)

“You know how important it was for Old Eighth to become the Commander of Chong Guang Hall,” the Silver Guard said solemnly.

“Alright, alright, you win. At least it’s done, right? I’m not in peak condition today,” Jiang Aijian said.

“Let’s return to Tu Wei Hall,” the Silver Guard said.

Qi Sheng nodded.

Then, the Silver Guard said, “Also, you shouldn’t have removed your mask.”

Jiang Aijian said helplessly, “I had no choice at that time.”

“With me around, no one would’ve been able to remove your mask,” the Silver Guard said.

“It doesn’t make any difference now that I put it back on, right?” Jiang Aijian said.”

“Stupid.”

“You’re calling me stupid?” Jiang Aijian wanted to argue back. However, when he sensed the Silver Guard’s aura that seemed to have intensified, he smiled sheepishly and said, “I’m just a little stupid.”

“Now that you expose your face, you’ve lost the ambiguity from when people suspected you were Si Wuya. I’m afraid that with this, there’ll be some changes,” the Silver Guard said.

“Really?”

“We have to be careful. Our plan has to be flawless. Have you ever wondered if Ming Xin has already known everything?” the Silver Guard asked.

“...”

Jiang Aijian was shocked. He had never considered this possibility. Their plan had been flawless thus far. The cultivators of the ten halls believed them without a doubt, and Ming Xin even entrusted them with important tasks. However, now that he thought about it, things had gone abnormally smoothly. He said with a hint of dismay, “It’s over! What should we do now?”

The Silver Guard said, “Wait.” After a moment, he added, “Wait for him to wake up.”

Jiang Aijian scratched his head and said, “I really don’t know what Old Si was thinking. He knows I’m stupid, and yet, he still asks me to do this.”

...

The Sacred Temple.

At this time, Hua Zhenghong was kneeling in the hall and reporting everything that had transpired.

Ming Xin flashed and appeared in front of Hua Zhenghong before he asked, “He defeated you with three palm strikes?”

“I didn’t expect his cultivation to be so high and his methods to be so fierce. In the beginning, I’d sensed his cultivation was only ordinary. I was careless and fell into his trap. Fortunately, the commanders’ competition went smoothly.”

Ming Xin said expressionlessly, "I'm afraid things aren't that simple."

Hua Zhenghong did not say anything. No matter what, she had lost. After a moment, she said, "I just didn't expect that... Qi Sheng isn't Si Wuya."

Ming Xin frowned as surprise flashed in his eyes for a moment. Then, he asked, "Where's Yue Yangzi?"

"He and the Green Roc are injured," Hua Zhenghong said.

Ming Xin called out, "Wen Ruqing, Guan Jiu."

Two figures appeared in the hall immediately and bowed.

"Your orders, Your Majesty?"

"Execute Yue Yangzi," Ming Xin said.

"Understood."

After the two figures flashed away, Ming Xin looked at Hua Zhenghong again and asked, "In your opinion, who is the Pavilion Master of the Evil Sky Pavilion?"

Hua Zhenghong lowered her head and said reluctantly, "I think he's likely an unknown expert from one of the Lost Lands"

In fact, Hua Zhenghong had another guess in her heart, but she did not dare to give voice to it. Those three palm strikes' ferocity and tyranny were quite familiar.

"Unknown expert?" Mings Xin frowned.

Hua Zhenghong raised her head and said, "Your Majesty, please seek justice for me! A light disk with 300,000 years... I, I, I..."

Ming Xin shook his head and sighed. "If you dare to gamble, then you'll have to prepare to lose as well. You're no longer a child."

"..."

Hua Zhenghong kowtowed.

Ming Xin casually threw out a pill that glowed with a jade-green light and said, "Leave. Take your time to digest this Samsara Mystic Pill."

Hua Zhenghong caught the pill and said happily, "Thank you, Your Majesty."

"Alright, leave."

"Yes, Your Majesty!" Hua Zhenghong said before leaving the hall.

As soon as Hua Zhenghong left, Ming Xin flashed and disappeared from the hall.