

Firmament 1421

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Chapter 1421: We, Family

When Ye Xiao saw how the man died, even though he was bold, he took a chilling cold breath.

"It is an obvious truth that the vile organization does not only want to control their people... The organization is using some sort of mysterious and malicious power to steal the soul power from their people... They have this extremely evil martial art which can extract these people's essence of their energies when they died. The energies are transferred to something else. Such an immoral martial art is a malignant tumor to the entire world!"

Ye Xiao talked in a deep voice with glaring lights of fury in his eyes.

If the secret organization only killed or manipulated people in some special ways, he would understand it. After all, all organizations in history did the same thing. It wasn't that unreasonable.

However, as he saw what had happened, he knew that this organization was some kind of evilness that didn't belong to Qing-Yun Realm, that couldn't be comprehended by this realm!

It broke the bottom line of everybody in the world!

"Go check the dead bodies of the people later. I mean the people we killed these days." Ye Xiao said.

After killing those people, they surely had done a perfect job in disguising the dead bodies and covering their moves.

After they returned to the tombs they had dug, they were astounded by what they saw.

The dead bodies had all become mummified corpses.

The dead bodies were completely dried up.

There was no exception!

Ye Xiao and the others looked at each other and didn't know what to say.

It had been only one night since they last saw the dead bodies.

However, the mummified corpses looked like decades old!

"That must be some extremely vile demonic martial art! Otherwise, it wouldn't be able to do this." Jun Yinglian was extremely angry, and her face had turned green because of the anger!

Such sinister thing was totally unacceptable and unforgivable in Qing-Yun Realm!

"Keep searching!" Ye Xiao looked determined.

What filled up his heart was that unspeakable fury.

He couldn't help thinking of Master Bai in Land of Han-Yang, who was elegant and unconventional. He sighed and thought, [Master Bai, do you know the House of Chaotic Storms that you have built has now become such a depraved organization?]

[I wonder if you have thought that the cultivators you trained would become followers to the demons!]

[Do you know that the powerful organization you built is putting on a massacre worldwide?]

[I guess you won't be able to tolerate it if you do know.]

He took a long steady breath with a sigh.

He never had a doubt about Master Bai.

Although Master Bai had been an enemy to Ye Xiao since the beginning, he was still a venerable and honorable opponent to Ye Xiao. Maybe he was cruel and cold-blooded, but he still had humanity.

Besides, if Master Bai was behind the organization and making schemes, Ye Xiao and his men should have been killed long ago.

All Master Bai needed was to send Wan of Clouds, who had regained her full power that could destroy the entire Qing-Yun Realm!

It should be as easy as turning over her hand!

If Master Bai wanted to collapse the world, he wouldn't need to make such a big plan.

"We used to respect each other... We used to know each other well..." Ye Xiao smiled and looked at the sky. He blandly said, "Let me do the cleansing for you."

One night of massacre!

Even though Xuan Bing kept supporting Rou'er with the ultimate yin qi, Rou'er still got her soul exhausted. She had to eat a dan bead and went back to rest.

Ye Xiao and the others had been busy working all night as well.

Because the existence of Rou'er was still a secret, so they couldn't let others know about the plan. Ye Xiao, Jun Yinglian, and Xuan Bing were doing it on their own.

For the current situation, the three of them made the most trustworthy team.

Li Wuliang, Han Bingxue, and the others were guarding around the base to keep everything in peace.

Each attends to their own duties.

The next night, the massacre went on.

Countless lives were taken in the silence of the night.

...

"How many people in total?"

Rou'er had eaten two dan beads in the three days, even though she didn't want to. She knew that she had to use some of them to finish her job. The two dan beads infused the energy of her soul and also improved her cultivation. That was a surprise to her.

After the three days, even when she had searched around the area within a thousand miles, she couldn't find any trace of anybody from the secret organization anymore.

The secret massacre in the dark was eventually done.

Rou'er was so exhausted that she returned to Zhao Pingtian and took a rest.

Ye Xiao started to count the number of the men they had killed.

"Nine thousand, nine hundred, and ninety-eight people." Jun Yinglian had killed so many people that her arms felt numb and her pretty face was pale. She was powerful indeed, but she was a woman after all.

She felt fine just to occasionally kill some people in the martial world. However, making a massacre seemed to be unendurable for her.

She knew that those people she killed were barely human beings anymore. In fact, they had already become demonic creatures. However, they were still lives!

"Which means... With Zhao Pingtian and Ning Biluo, the enemy has sent ten thousand people this time!" Ye Xiao was shocked by the number.

Ten thousand undercover cultivators!

That was such a big plan. They actually sent ten thousand undercover cultivators for it.

Ye Xiao could imagine how big the trouble would be when the war began and the enemy's undercover people were around his people.

After many days of eating and drinking together, how could any of his people guard against the men beside them?

Those people should be someone they could entrust their lives to, shouldn't they?

Once the undercover people started to make attacks inside, tens of thousands of good men would be killed!

Even more.

Ye Xiao's army might collapse at once!

If something like that happened, Ye Xiao would know that there was nothing he could do. There was always a limitation to one's power. A strong power was the most important thing in the Qing-Yun Realm, but it was not the only thing that was important. No matter how strong an individual was, it was still weak in the battle of tens of thousands of men, hundreds of thousands of men!

Now Ye Xiao automatically took a breath of relief.

Then he realized something strange.

In Ye Xiao's heart, Jun Yinglian was definitely an experienced senior cultivator in the martial world of Qing-Yun Realm. However, her face looked pale at the moment. It appeared that she was exhausted like she was so oppressed because of the massacre.

Instead, Bing'er, who shouldn't have been through too much bloodshed, a tender, and delicate flower bud, actually looked absolutely calm!

That was so weird.

Ye Xiao had thought that Bing'er, the weak and lovely little girl, would feel sick about the bloodshed and will retreat from being a part of the massacre... Her hands should be absolutely clean... Even though Bing'er had been staying with Rou'er and didn't kill as many as Ye Xiao did, she had still taken a lot of people's lives. However, unexpectedly, Jun Yinglian felt sick about it first, not Bing'er.

"What is wrong? Is it the bloodshed? Do you feel uncomfortable killing too many people?" Ye Xiao asked Jun Yinglian softly.

Jun Yinglian nodded. As she heard the word 'kill', her face turned pale again.

"Haha..." Ye Xiao laughed and teased her, "You are a famous cultivator in the Qing-Yun Realm, aren't you? Yet you are actually even weaker than Bing'er, the weak delicate little girl. Are you sure? You don't seem like the lady of my family!"

Jun Yinglian stared at Ye Xiao's laughing arrogant face. She just wanted to punch him hard and hit his tongue back into his throat.

[Weak delicate little girl?]

[I am the weak delicate little girl compared to that woman!]

[That is the first demonic queen in Qing-Yun Realm. No, the first demonic goddess in the world!]

[Ye Xiao, you are such a pig. You are a stupid pig...]

[You don't see it, yet you keep mumbling the nonsense now and then! Are you addicted to that?]

"Ahem..." Xuan Bing heard what Ye Xiao said, 'weak delicate little girl'. Her face turned red, and she awkwardly coughed...

If she was the only person who heard it, it would be fine. She would only blush a little.

However, Jun Yinglian the lady of the family was there too...

Even if Xuan Bing was brazen-faced, she would still feel embarrassed about it! Would she? She definitely would!

Jun Yinglian got closer to Xuan Bing, staring at her rosy face and then smilingly said, "Really? Are you really that weak and delicate? Let me have a look... Oh, you are indeed! How delicate..."

Xuan Bing was angry and bashful, yet she couldn't say anything. She only humphed and ran away with a rosy face.

"How weak and delicate! The escaping little girl..." Jun Yinglian laughed out loud.

Ning Biluo, Zhao Pingtian, and Liu Changjun had been guarding around the base after improving to a new level. They were sent here undercover, yet became double-side spies now...

Besides, the other vile organization spies were all dead.

People of the organization knew that.

However, they wondered why these two were still alive.

What surprised them was that these two had become much more powerful!

It didn't need explanation, did it? They were exposed.

If the two of them went out of the base, they would definitely draw a lot of furious attention from people of the organization. Liu Changjun decided to follow them because he wanted to get himself into some fights.

Therefore, the three of them went out excitedly.

With the support from the Divine Yin Yang Fruit, they had become top-level Dao Origin Stage cultivators. Although they had better mindsets than ordinary people, they still couldn't match the new cultivation level. In order to improve their mindsets further to match their power, they would like to put themselves under the shadow of death threats. In fact, that was the common way for assassins to improve themselves.

They didn't tell anybody about the plan, and they went out secretly.

These were three men who chased for death!

...

In the camp.

Ye Xiao, Xuan Bing, and Jun Yinglian were resting. After a while, the three of them opened their eyes at the same time and looked at each other. Ye Xiao's eyes looked calm. Jun Yinglian's eyes flickered. Xuan Bing blushed.

Ye Xiao's eyes looked deep and calm like bottomless brown pools. He rubbed the jaw and said, "The moles are cleaned. Next, we are going to..."

Jun Yinglian stepped forward and held his hand softly then said, "We understand... You can make the decision by yourself. We will support you no matter what decision you make."

Ye Xiao was shocked.

Jun Yinglian said, "Today we finally get the time to stay together. Let's enjoy the leisure moment... We should talk about something not so serious. The great business about the world should be the topic you and your people talk about tomorrow."

Xuan Bing blushed and said, "That's right. We are a family. Why do we have to talk about the fights and blood... That's boring..."

In fact, Xuan Bing should address Jun Yinglian with a respectful term, such as 'the lady'.

However, no matter how she accepted that she was a concubine, even though she wasn't exposed yet, she truly couldn't speak something like 'the lady was right'... She just couldn't do it.

She just decided not to address Jun Yinglian.

Ye Xiao didn't care about how the two ladies called each other though. As he heard the word 'family', his eyes flickered. He said, "Lian Lian, what do you want to say really? I am kind of not used to the way you just talked!"

Jun Yinglian leaned on him and said, "Why? Why not? I am just saying... No matter what happens... No matter how you change into... No matter what... You are our man. You are our Ye Xiao! That's all!"

"Because you are Ye Xiao, our man, we will trust you no matter what happens. We support you, love you, and do whatever it takes for you!"

Jun Yinglian slowly said, "So... If there is anything that bothers you, whatever it is, we would love to share it."

"We are a family, not others!"

Jun Yinglian softly added.

Ye Xiao's face twisted and he said, "You know. What else could I say?"

"It is not your fault. Don't push yourself so hard." Jun Yinglian held his head and said lovingly.

"It is not my fault. I know." Ye Xiao smiled bitterly, "It is all about a strange combination of circumstances."

That was true. The only problem was the strange combination of those circumstances.

Xuan Bing gritted her teeth and said, "In fact, I am an orphan too..."

Jun Yinglian and Ye Xiao turned to look at Xuan Bing.

Apparently, they were both shocked by what Bing'er suddenly said.

Ye Xiao was surprised that Bing'er suddenly became so brave that she would talk about something about herself so boldly. Jun Yinglian was surprised because Xuan Bing seemed to start talking about something that she had been covering for a long time. What was she going to say?

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Chapter 1422: Xuan Bing's Speculation

Under the gaze of Ye Xiao and Jun Yinglian, Xuan Bing bit her lower lip and said, "I am an orphan... Nobody loves me since I was a baby... Nobody cares for me... I grew up on my own. Only I myself know the difficulty of living such a life..."

"Every time when I saw other kids staying in their parents' arms, asking for things in a spoiled way, crying for not getting what they wanted... I was jealous of them..."

"I even wanted to rush over and punch them... They already had parents. They had families. Yet they still weren't satisfied about it! They actually asked for more! Shouldn't it be the happiest thing in their lives to be embraced by love from their parents?"

"Yet they were spoiled... They cried... They asked for more..."

"Wasn't it too much to ask?"

"However, I didn't do anything I wanted to. After all, I am an outsider, a stranger. I could only watch them with envy. I just watched those parents lovingly buy everything their kids wanted... The parents started laughing when those kids cracked a laugh... They didn't care how much they had spent for the smile of their kids... Perhaps they had to get through some tougher days because of what they had just bought..."

"Nobody gave me that..."

"Affection in families is something I can never have. I have been jealous of those who have it for so many years... When I met master in the Land of Han-Yang, I saw the deep love from master's father... I yearned for it."

"Now I know that master is just the same as me, a poor lonely person. It turns out master has a special background."

Xuan Bing lowered her eyelids and said, "Master was hurt in the Ye Clan... by his father and mother... I understand how sad and unforgettable it is to be hurt like that, but I am still jealous."

"Master is sad and grieved. There is no way to vent the bitterness... That is true. However, he had it once... He enjoyed it..."

"I have never experienced the same happiness ever, not to mention losing it..."

Ye Xiao's eyes shined with some special glow. Comparison made a difference.

[I have been feeling sad and angry about how things were unfair to me, moaning about how much I have done for the identity of a member of that family, and how I eventually became nothing. However, compared to Bing'er, I am such a lucky person!]

[I had it once! I experienced it! I enjoyed it! I had the love from my families once. It was precious, and I will never forget it. Yet I have been complaining about it! I was such a fool!]

Xuan Bing said, "You have no idea, master. There is something else about you that makes me most jealous..." She took a deep breath and said, "You have experienced something that you eventually lost, so you were hurt... However, have you forgotten what you have told me several times before..."

"About... About your birth parents."

"You said it many times that you could feel them alive. They are still alive somewhere."

Xuan Bing's eyes turned red, and she said, "Do you know how happy you should be, just to have such feeling?"

"Master, you have an outstanding spiritual sensation. Your feelings always turn out to be right. I never had such feelings ever... My parents must have died. Maybe they died when I was born..."

"Master, you have such a feeling, which brings you hope and happiness."

"As long as there is hope, there are opportunities to make it come true. Is it the most precious thing in the world?"

"It would be happy to even... hate them. You can hate them for abandoning you. You have them alive to hate. Someday when you find them, you can just frankly ask them with grief. Why did you abandon me?"

"As for me, I don't have that kind of chance.

"I want to find my parents and ask them too, Why did you abandon me?"

Tears kept pouring down her pretty face. She kept her head low, lowered her eyelids, quietly said, "If possible, I want to know why they had to abandon me. What is their reason? Is it that they didn't want a girl? Did they give me up to protect me from their enemies? Were they so poor that they had to abandon me? Was it any other reason? I just want an answer. I don't care what the truth is. I wish I can have it!

"However, I am never going to get it.

"However, you still have hope. You could ask for it. You could find them. You are going to know why they did it. You get to know whether they have regretted about it... You will know whether they have tried to find you back...

"To have the parents worrying... is the biggest happiness for the children!

"Comparing to that, the pain and bitterness were just like nothing. You just think that you have done too much... You can't accept the fact that they didn't need you anymore. That is all, isn't it?"

Xuan Bing raised up her head looking at Ye Xiao. "In fact, if you want my opinion... I think this is the best result you can get."

Ye Xiao looked at Xuan Bing in a daze and murmured, "The... The best result I can get?"

Apparently, Ye Xiao was confused about it. He couldn't understand why she had such a conclusion.

"That's right. This is the best situation." Xuan Bing nodded and said, "Let me ask you... If Ye Nantian and Yue Gongxue approved you as their son, a member of the Ye Clan... What would you do when you meet your birth parents?"

"When that day comes, you will be in a more difficult situation which you cannot free yourself from.

"You can't leave this side, yet you can't ignore the other..."

"Now, you have given the Ye Clan power to rise, even planned everything they needed in the future. Ye Clan's young generation only need to put some efforts to rise up on the top of the world.

"You fulfilled the aspiration of Ye Clan and solved the enmity among the clan members.

"All Ye Clan people have reached a cultivation level that they couldn't even have dreamed of because of your supreme dan beads.

"Perhaps you think you couldn't face Ye Nantian and his wife because you owe them. Do you really owe them anything? You are the reason why Ye Nantian could return to his prime in cultivation, even stronger than he has ever been. You are the reason why Yue Shuang and Yue Han would help the couple with their reunion. You gave them dan beads that keep them young and powerful, so they can have another child soon in the future.

"The flaws in their lives, whatever they are, you fixed them all.

"If not for you, even if they had ten million years more to try, they couldn't have done any.

"You have done the best you could.

"You have done nothing to be ashamed of over this matter. You don't owe them anything.

"Even though you have taken their boy's body, it was a coincidence! You are not ashamed!

"Since you didn't do anything wrong, you shouldn't regret.

"Memory will fade, the pain in your heart will go, and the wound will heal.

"In fact, I think that the pain is..." Xuan Bing looked at Ye Xiao and said, "The pain is for the happiness in the future, master. Happiness is waiting ahead."

"The pain is for the happiness in the future..." Ye Xiao murmured, and his eyes were lighting up.

He didn't notice that Jun Yinglian was giving a thumb up to Xuan Bing. [Brilliant! Well done!]

Xuan Bing bitterly smiled.

[I said those words not because I am brilliant, but because I was telling the truth... Those were my real thoughts.]

Ye Xiao thought for a long time, and eventually dejectedly said, "Even if I find my birth parents, so what? Look at me. I am not in the same body anymore. I don't share blood with them. I have no blood bond to my parents anymore..."

"How are they supposed to know your real face? It has been so many years!" Jun Yinglian said, "Besides, you still feel their existence. That is the true bond between you and your parents. They must be somebody extraordinary since they can live for such a long time. They have their way to recognize for sure."

Ye Xiao rubbed his jaw and lit up his eyes. After a while, he said, "Well, how can you be so sure... that my birth parents are in the Human Realm Upon Heavens, not in the Qing-Yun Realm?"

"Well, that..." The two ladies didn't know what to say.

They had no idea. How could they tell anything that they didn't know?

Xuan Bing rolled her eyes and then confidently said, "They must be in Human Realm Upon Heavens. There is no doubt!"

Ye Xiao's eyes lit up some profound lights. "Why is it?"

"Because... Because..." Xuan Bing kept rolling her eyes and trying to think of some reasons. Suddenly, she was enlightened, so she hurriedly said, "First of all, you feel them. They are alive. If your feeling is right, then it is the only thing that we can dig deeper into and know that they are still alive."

"Of course. My feeling is never wrong." Ye Xiao nodded to confirm.

"Let's assume it is true. You have lived hundreds of years as the Xiao Monarch. Well, they should have lived longer than you, which means they are incredibly powerful in cultivation to stay alive for such a long time... Am I right?" Xuan Bing was thinking more and more clearly.

"That's right." Ye Xiao admitted.

"You grew up in Qing-Yun Realm, which means your parents are very likely natives in Qing-Yun Realm. However, if they have been living in Qing-Yun Realm, and because they were so powerful, they should have found you a long time ago. Even though they couldn't find you for some reason, you should be able to find them by yourself.

"Even if they abandon you because they didn't want a kid, you, as the child, would never give up finding your own parents... You must have done it. You just didn't get to find them...

"Therefore, here comes my speculation. They are very possibly not native residents in Qing-Yun Realm. They must have left you here for some special reasons. Maybe they just sent you here, a realm that they didn't know ever for emergence. Maybe they wanted to find you, but they couldn't, because the universe is too big." Xuan Bing confidently said.

"Hmm... I guess... That makes sense." Ye Xiao nodded and said, "Just a little bit far-fetched..."

Xuan Bing said, "If my speculation isn't wrong, we have our conclusion. They are from a higher realm.

"Human Realm Upon Heavens."

She almost applauded for herself when she finished.

She was pushed to put a square peg into a round hole. However, she eventually made up some meticulous theory... How incredible!

"Hmm... It does make sense at some point..." Ye Xiao was lost in thought, and he said, "However if they are in Human Realm Upon Heavens, how come I grew up in Qing-Yun Realm?"

"I was a little boy... I couldn't come down by myself, could I? If I was old enough to descend to the lower realm, I should be able to remember something, shouldn't I? When I first remembered anything, I was about four years old. Did they send me down when I was four?"

"Bing'er, you have been greatly improved, but you still lack in experience. You have no idea how difficult it is to travel through different realms. Traveling between two realms alone is not difficult for people like us, top-level Dao Origin Stage cultivators. However, to travel with somebody powerless, it consumes several dozen times more energy.

"To send a kid that has no cultivation power at all to the lower realm, instead of traveling with him, required a lot of power that was beyond imagination. As far as I know, only one person from the Human Realm Upon Heavens could do it. I met her when Su Yeyue and I encountered that deadly tribulation.

"That lady cultivator's power... Even now, it is still unbelievable to me. However, that lady, Meng Ruoqing, must be one of the top cultivators in the Human Realm Upon Heavens. If my parents were as powerful as that lady, I can't imagine what reason could it be that forced them to send me down to a lower realm!"

Xuan Bing suddenly froze. She should be much more powerful than Ye Xiao in cultivation, yet her theory had a big flaw that she couldn't fix. She was speechless for a while, and then with sweats on her nose, she awkwardly said, "Well... Perhaps... I think we won't be able to know the reason until we meet them. Everything is possible..."

"Hahaha..." Ye Xiao and Jun Yinglian laughed loudly together.

Jun Yinglian smiled and said, "The universe is boundless... There are a lot more powerful figures than you can imagine. How can you be so sure that your parents are not some super powerful cultivators? You agreed with Bing'er at least ninety percent, yet you still teased her like this... That is mean. You can't bully her like that just because she is your concubine. You just ruined your own moral principle... I am speechless..."

Xuan Bing's face twitched. She bit the lower lip and stared at Jun Yinglian.

[You little woman... Can't you stop teasing me with the word concubine so often? Will you feel uncomfortable not to tease me with it...]

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Chapter 1423: Battle in the Nigh

Apparently, Xuan Bing didn't get offended by Ye Xiao's ridicule. Instead, she was actually mad at the lady who spoke up for her, even though the lady didn't mean to tease her at all!

Ye Xiao laughed out loud and pinched Xuan Bing's nose. He said, "You are such a cute little girl. I didn't know that you were that well informed. Now I do. Listen to you, what a talker. You are just like the clever girl they say..."

Xuan Bing and Jun Yinglian were both speechless.

[Cute little girl!]

[Cute little girl!]

[Clever girl!]

[Clever girl!]

Jun Yinglian was totally shaken up.

Xuan Bing was also shocked!

[That is Xuan Bing... She is not a cute little girl or a clever girl... Come on!]

[Perhaps she is not that cunning or astute, then she is at least smart! Don't you think?]

Jun Yinglian was totally speechless now.

She looked at Ye Xiao awkwardly and thought, [I wonder when this guy will find out that his cute little concubine... is actually so not that simple! Not that naive!]

However, as the two ladies saw Ye Xiao feel relieved a lot, they felt eased and satisfied for the accomplishment.

At the very least, for the next few days, the oppression that had filled the atmosphere was totally gone.

All the cultivators, especially those who were superior, would be held back by the troubles in their minds. Even though the pitfalls didn't take effects, they were hidden deep inside. It was better to get rid of it as soon as possible!

Ye Xiao looked at Bing'er and Jun Yinglian cheering, so he reminded himself about it too.

No matter how uncomfortable he felt, it was unnecessary to make his women suffer with him.

What else could he do?

It was enough to have the difficult feeling himself. Why would he make others suffer with him? It wouldn't ease the pain in him, but only make his women unhappy.

Therefore, Ye Xiao suppressed the pain and grief in his heart.

Did he drop it?

Perhaps he did.

Couldn't he drop it?

Of course, he couldn't yet.

Even though the pain to his feeling could be forgotten, the emotion that had engraved deeply inside his heart remained. Every time when he had a dream, it always made him sigh!

However, what Xuan Bing said did bring Ye Xiao hope.

Perhaps he was suffering the pain for happiness in the future.

If Ye Nantian and Yue Gongxue accepted him as their son, it would be unfair for them, also unfair for Ye Xiao's real parents!

As he thought so, he felt a lot more relieved.

Now he was thinking about how Xuan Bing and Jun Yinglian tried to console him, and he felt ashamed.

He made a sigh and said, "The duty of men is to shield their women from storms and made the women happy. That is a man's responsibility in a family. Yet... I, Ye Xiao, actually need my women to console me... That is ashamed."

Xuan Bing and Jun Yinglian were both surprised. They looked at Ye Xiao with strange lights in their eyes.

Men had always been superior to women in the hundreds of thousands of years history of Qing-Yun Realm. For powerful men, women were their properties, playthings, tools to fill their appetite...

Nobody had ever said that men's responsibility to the family was to please their women.

Now Ye Xiao said it, and it was obviously the truth in his heart.

The two ladies were moved. In the Qing-Yun Realm, not many men treated their women so well and saw the women's happiness as their responsibility.

Ye Xiao was definitely a rare kind!

Jun Yinglian lightly leaned on his shoulder and said, "We would love to be your responsibility for the rest of our lives... However, you are our responsibility too... When you are upset, we will try everything we can to make you happy. Responsibility covers both sides. We are yours, and you are ours."

Ye Xiao nodded and smiled. "You are mine. You said so. Yet you never let me touch you. I am very unhappy about that... Why don't you just make me happy here and now."

Jun Yinglian's face turned red like a big piece of red cloth. She bashfully jumped away and said, "You are not going to touch me before we get married! If you are upset, and you want to be happy, you can go to Bing'er... She will let you do anything you want with her. Is it enough for you? You are asking for more, while you are having enough in your own bowl. That is wrong! You are evil!"

Xuan Bing was ready to see a playful scene to be delivered but turned out to be involved into the discussion. Her face turned red too, and she was so bashful that she even wanted to punch Jun Yinglian.

[You just keep teasing me when I am not able to say anything to argue!]

[He wants you, but you call that asking for more when having enough in the bowl. What? He wants is me, and that is fine?]

[You little sister, Lian Lian! This isn't over!]

[Wait and see!]

The three of them were playing and laughing. Suddenly, an explosion cracked from far away.

Afterward, a series of thunderclaps sounded and sounded again, as if the sky suddenly raged up and struck down bolts of lightning!

Countless lightning was striking, while thunderclaps were cracking. The area within a thousand miles was covered by the thunderstorm!

It was a mess!

"Where is it? Some Dao Origin Stage cultivators are fighting!"

Ye Xiao's face turned pale a little bit and he suddenly stood up.

The others had rushed out at the same time. If somebody were fighting, it must be the enemies attacking.

Ye Xiao was confused by what just had happened.

No matter how they tried to get the enemies to attack, nobody did anything. How come they suddenly attacked?

Was it an accident? Did the organization take revenge for the undercover cultivators they sent because they were all killed?

The three of them didn't hesitate. They hurriedly rushed to where the sound came. While they were moving, Ye Xiao thought of something and said, "Where are Ning Biluo, Zhao Pingtian, and Liu Changjun?"

Ye Xiao's spiritual mind was incredibly powerful. Within seconds, he had searched everywhere in the base, yet didn't find any of the three men.

He came up with a thought, which made his face turn pale all of a sudden.

He knew that the three guys had gone for some fights!

The others couldn't start the fight, but Zhao Pingtian and Ning Biluo absolutely can, because they were traitors to the organization!

They joined the organization in undercover and then sent to Ye Xiao as the organization's undercover spies. In the end, because of the two of them, all the other undercover cultivators were all killed. They ruined the entire plan of the secret organization. As the two of them showed up and the enemies saw them, people in the organization would definitely rage up in fury. They surely could draw the enemies out for some fights.

Anyway, whether they could draw out the enemies was not the point at the moment. What mattered was if Ye Xiao went later, the three stupid men might get themselves killed and get their bodies smashed. The enemies would even swallow the three of them alive!

Ye Xiao made a long shout and said, "I am Ye Xiao! Who dares to answer me with a fight?"

The shout was shaking the sky, echoing far away.

His voice moved faster than himself. Apparently, he was trying to shock the enemies, and buy more time for the three men. Even one second was important enough to keep them alive!

Before the shout went out, Ye Xiao had become a stream of light dashing forward in a long echoing voice.

The others were all following him in full speed.

...

When Zhao Pingtian and Ning Biluo, the two kings in the area of assassination got enhanced, the only thing they felt was power that filled inside them. They felt like the entire Qing-Yun Realm was underneath their feet. Liu Changjun was different. He kept hiding in the darkness following them.

At that moment, the King of Assassins, the Killer King, and the Instant Killer had the same thought. [Show me some top-level Dao Origin Stage cultivators, so that I can enjoy some good fights.]

The three of them went for tens of miles waiting for some fights to happen, yet nothing happened. Zhao Pingtian lost patience first, so he spread out his spiritual mind while kept moving forward. His spiritual mind had been refined by Rou'er but was still marked with his characteristic. The organization could easily recognize him.

After he spread out the spiritual mind for a while, he felt an extremely powerful cultivator had locked on him.

The three of them didn't try to get away. Instead, they happily rushed over to it.

[Good!]

[We are thirsty for this! Our hands got itchy already!]

The enemy realized that they were truly Zhao Pingtian and Ning Biluo, so they went mad immediately, just as Ye Xiao expected.

Without a word, they started to attack!

As the attacker approached, both the King of Assassins and the Killer King felt how difficult it was to truly master their newly enhanced power. Although they had reached the top level in the world, but using the power was definitely different from mastering the power!

People said when a kid played with a big hammer, the better martial art he used to play, the more possible he got hit in the head. They usually didn't believe such a saying. How could the person who could play with the big hammer hit himself with the hammer?

However, now they knew it was true. When a cultivator attacked, as he thought about a move, his eyes saw it, and his hands did it at the same time. Zhao Pingtian and Ning Biluo were both greatly improved, which meant their minds were clearer, and their eyes were sharper, but their hands were not as fast as they needed. When they tried to use the power, they felt like scratching their itchy feet on the boots. They couldn't do it at will!

When the true superior cultivators fought, a tiny gap between the two sides made a decision on life and death! Now they had a big gap ahead to reach the enemy's league!

They were totally losing it as the fight began.

If not that their energy was pure and they had the great instant reaction of assassins, they should have been killed as the fight began.

However, now they were facing the difficult fight, things were getting more and more dangerous. They could die at any second!

As the fight went on, Ning Biluo and Zhao Pingtian were forced by the life-and-life threat, so their recognition of their power was boosted.

They became more and more skillful and experienced their own cultivation. At least they could do something now!

Liu Changjun kept harassing the enemy from the darkness. He jumped out all of a sudden and then disappeared after a second.

The three of them fought together against one enemy, but still slowly losing it.

However, although the three of them were at a disadvantage, they didn't retreat a bit! It seemed they were fighting with their lives!

In the end, they even started to make plans to sacrifice with the enemy. With the sacrificial effort, they finally got an advantage in the battle. At least they weren't obviously losing it now.

However, unluckily, more enemies had come.

It was pouring oil to the flame. The three of them were in great danger. They could die and get their souls perish at any second.

Even though they are in high spirit, they could not master their enhanced power. Even though they had the power, they could not use it properly. When they were fighting one man, it was still possible to fight. However, a lot more enemies had come and they had lost the advantage in number, so the situation was getting more and more dangerous. It was difficult to even make a move.

Lucky, when the three of them were going to be hopeless, Yue Shuang and Yue Han showed up from nowhere and killed their way into the battle!

The two ladies wanted to make up for the mistake they had made earlier, so they had been wandering around the area, trying to track the enemy. Maybe the three assassins didn't mean to die that soon, the two ladies showed up in time.

The joint attacks of the two ladies were incredible. The power of them was equal to the power of six, even eight top-level Dao Origin Stage cultivators. As they joined the battle, it eased the three assassins from the oppressive situation, although it didn't bring them victory yet.

The superior cultivators of the secret organization had come to join the battle from everywhere too.

The war just began like that. It was becoming a large-scale battle.

After Yue Shuang and Yue Han, after a while, the three great elders of the Cold Moon Palace appeared too. As the three masters joined the battle, it had become more intense. A few minutes later, two great elders from Sky Ice Palace arrived. The Moon Queen and the elders from Qiong-Hua Palace arrived too...

It all happened within the time of a half burning incense.

At the moment, it had become a battle of about thirty top-level Dao Origin Stage cultivators!

Thunderclaps cracking, bolts of lightning striking, it was like the day of the end.

The war was actually an unprecedented fight of effulgence!

The mountains were all cracked and the rocks were flying.

At this moment, Ye Xiao finally arrived with the echoing shout that shocked the sky. Before he showed up, his oppressive energy had reached the battle!

After that, a shining sword of light, surrounded by the extremely numerous starlight, had fallen to the area like a huge rainbow!

Ye Xiao was wearing his white clothes, swiftly moving to the battle and joined the fight without hesitation!

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Chapter 1424: Wu Huitian

Ye Xiao was not alone. Xuan Bing and Jun Yinglian had arrived just after him.

The three super cultivators' arrival turned the situation over.

After a while, the light of a broad saber appeared like a mountain.

The light was just like a falling mountain from the clouds in the sky.

It was Li Wuliang!

"Evil creatures! Here I am, with my saber!"

The sudden saber attack made over ten enemies yell at the same time. "Shameless bastard!"

There was an unspoken rule in the martial world. Many cultivators who thought they were great would say something loudly to show everybody they were noble people who wouldn't do sneak attacks. It always shocked the enemy, but also alerted them. It was a move that brought more disadvantages than advantages. The foxy ones wouldn't do such a thing, but Li Wuliang surely would. That was why people always said that he was an honorable man!

However, the Fierce Blade just made a move that went against his principle this time. He attacked before he shouted. When the enemies heard his voice, the saber had already cut a top-level Dao Origin Stage cultivator who was fighting against Xuan Bing into halves from head to crotch!

The man was weaker than Xuan Bing, and also less experienced than her. He was almost three levels lower than Xuan Bing, so when he was fighting Xuan Bing, he was sweating, feeling too weak to handle it. He naturally had been concentrating on the horrible lady, he surely didn't expect the famous Fierce Blade who was known to be honorable would actually sneakily attack from behind!

He didn't even have the time to scream before he was cut into halves. One saber slash and even his soul was gone.

Ye Xiao had warned everybody earlier that once there was an opportunity to kill the enemy, they should kill the enemy's soul at the same time. By doing so, the enemy's soul might be stopped from returning to the organization and bring profits to them!

Li Wuliang had killed an enemy by one saber attack. After that, his thundering shout was shaking up everybody. Even though the enemies were all calling him shameless, he didn't care. He just kept rushing forward while waving his saber inside the battle!

That was right, rushing deep into the enemies, waving the saber!

He didn't follow any martial arts, but just made wild saber attacks one after another. Every saber attack was hitting irrationally, attacking different enemies... That was totally attacking at random!

Xue Danru, who was following him, didn't follow any rules either. Li Wuliang's saber moves were impossible-to-miss attacks, which meant the enemies had to handle it in a tough way.

However, Li Wuliang was born strong, and his saber was horribly heavy. Whoever faced his attack would stagger.

When superior cultivators were fighting, a single second could decide life and death. Fighting with Li Wuliang explained this very truth!

Xue Danru, who was following Li Wuliang had a pair of sharp eyes. How could she miss such a good opportunity to destroy the enemy? As the enemy staggered, her sword attacked sneakily like a poisonous snake.

The enemy was usually not as powerful as Xue Danru because she was one of the top-class cultivators in the world. Therefore, when they got sneakily attacked by Xue Danru, they died!

The joint force of the couple was killing it in the battle!

Even Wu Fa in his prime days might not stand a chance to defeat the couple, let alone these men in black clothes, who were much weaker than Wu Fa!

The merciless couple entered the battle, and they had a bigger influence than Ye Xiao, Jun Yinglian, and Xuan Bing. Suddenly, they were winning it.

Well, Li Wuliang and his woman didn't decide the result of the battle, but they had surely brought the result earlier. However, the man who made the most impact on the battle was Ye Xiao!

Ye Xiao's Stars Sword was strong and powerful, destroying everything. Blood splashed alongside the starlight around the sword, which was covered by a cloud of rolling purple qi. Even though the wind was blowing strongly, it didn't blow away the purple qi.

Obviously, Ye Xiao was utilizing his full power in this fight!

First of all, he knew that Ning Biluo and the other two guys were in danger, so he wanted to end this battle as soon as he could. Second, he knew that the enemies he was fighting this time must be an important force to the secret organization!

If he could destroy these enemies before the final battle, he had a bigger chance to win.

That was why he didn't hold back anything at all. He did every attack in full power.

Many of the enemies' weapons had become ashes under the attack of the Stars Sword!

Under the sky of the Qing-Yun Realm, no other weapon could compare to the incredible Stars Sword!

The astounding power of Ye Xiao totally ruined the confidence of the secret organization's people. Besides, Xuan Bing and Jun Yinglian were fighting with him. The victory was called. Within just a short time, Ye Xiao's side won. Li Wuliang and his lady did put on a splendid show when they joined the fight, but before they showed up, Ye Xiao and his two ladies had already decided the victory. The enemies were overwhelmed by the three of them, and couldn't fight in their best! That was why it was so easy for Li Wuliang to slaughter his way in!

However, Zhao Pingtian, Ning Biluo, and Liu Changjun were the ones who benefited most from this fight. They experienced it firsthand and learned the significant power of the top-level Dao Origin Stage

cultivators. They fought in the battle and watched the powerful figures fight too. The life and death experience had brought them new understandings...

Top-level cultivators were everywhere. No matter who the three of them saw, even if it was for a second, they would learn from those top-level cultivators and fix whatever they were lacking...

It was difficult to actually improve their true power within such a short period of time, but they got a lot of inspiration in martial arts that night.

They had experienced a great danger, a deadly fight. They were so close to death. Now they were all bleeding, wounds everywhere. However, none of them even blinked while watching the fights going on.

It was such a great opportunity to learn something they needed in martial arts!

If they missed it now, perhaps they wouldn't get another chance to see people on their side taking all advantages and overwhelming the enemies' side like this...

"Retreat!"

One of the men in black clothes shouted.

When he shouted, he was using his sword to block Ye Xiao's sword attack and Li Wuliang's saber attack at that same time.

Suddenly, he spat out a mouthful of blood, and the long sword in his hand turned to ash.

He should be quite a powerful man since he could block Ye Xiao's sword and Li Wuliang's saber!

"Are you leaving? Why so soon! Just stay and let's have a longer chat!" Ye Xiao made a long shout and jumped up in the sky. He made a special turn in the sky and suddenly the moonlight in the sky seemed to dim.

A mass of glaring light that was like the sun showed up in the sky!

The starlight couldn't shine over the moonlight, but the sunshine surely could!

At that moment, the glaring light was just like the sun that had risen to the highest point!

The flaming light was so close to the ground, that it made the entire area dry.

The sun was the light of Ye Xiao's sword!

'Boom!' with a big cracking sound, countless streams of scorching sword breath rushed down. Xuan Bing gritted her teeth and waved one hand, a cloud of cold mist quietly shot out.

The cold mist was moving under the ground and soon spread into several streams of cold airflow. They moved under the feet of the enemies and then exploded. The cold qi became ice chains that locked the men in black clothes on the ground!

Xuan Bing had proved her wisdom by making this attack. Ye Xiao's attacks were indeed powerful and full-ranged, but the enemies weren't just some ordinary cultivators who would easily get hit. Xuan Bing's cold mist, cold airflow, and ice chains went on, but she didn't do it to kill the enemies, only to restrain

them. It locked the enemies for just one second. During that one second, many things could be done well!

Even though Xuan Bing was sky-piercingly powerful, it wasn't easy to lock a lot of people for a long time, especially if the enemies were all superior cultivators. However, she could still lock them up for a short period of time. After all, unlike the area attacks, this would easily make an impact on the targets!

Almost at the same time, Li Wuliang, Xue Danru, Jun Yinglian, the Moon Queen... All the superior cultivators on Ye Xiao's side attacked in full power!

[The enemies are leaving? No way!]

"After all, we have done, they are finally drawn out."

"How can we let them go just like that? Isn't it too easy for them?"

"Since you have come, why don't you all stay?"

Yue Shuang and Yue Han were in the sky, turning into a huge tornado!

They actually made their deadly strike before Ye Xiao did any destructive moves!

'Pang, pang, pang...'

It was a series of airflow that had cracking sounds, it kept sounding up without pause.

'Puff, puff, puff...'

Eighteen men in black clothes had participated in this fight. As Ye Xiao and the others showed up, the eighteen men were all losing it, trying to stay alive in the battle. When Li Wuliang and his woman joined the battle, five out of those eighteen men got killed in seconds.

The leader of the men in black clothes had given an order to the others, obviously trying to escape the battle. Unexpectedly, they encountered the attacks from beneath their feet. The thirteen men reacted a bit slowly, so the nine of them instantly got hit by countless powerful strikes. When they forcibly got rid of the encirclement of the attacks, as they only jumped up to the sky, they all exploded like fireworks in the sky.

Their blood and flesh splashed onto the ground. Both their bodies and souls were destroyed!

These superior cultivators who were powerful enough to shake the heaven and earth in Qing-Yun Realm, couldn't even have time to groan when they died miserably!

However, only a handful of people knew that Xuan Bing took the biggest credit. If she didn't make the attack on time, restrained the enemies with her extremely cold qi, they would not have the chance to put down so many enemies at a time!

The four of the enemies who survived must be a lot more powerful than the nine dead ones, so they could break through the restraint from Xuan Bing's attack in the beginning. In fact, maybe they were just lucky. Maybe the cold qi attack just didn't go to them.

However, their temporary luck didn't last long. After a while, two of the four were killed. Han Bingxue operated his Tittle Phase skill. He was good at chasing in short distance. At the moment, he was operating his movement technique in full power. All he did was to slow down the enemies and to give time for the others to catch up. Once the others approached, the enemies stood no chance to escape death. After two enemies were down, Han Bingxue immediately chased after the third!

The last one of the four was the man who defended himself against Ye Xiao's sword and Li Wuliang's saber earlier. He was the leader of the enemies, who was also the most powerful among his people. He had sharp eyes that made good decisions in time. As he sensed the energy of Xuan Bing's restraint attack, he immediately consumed his life energy to forcibly break through the ice restraint and fled away. The only thing he did was to try to survive the battle.

However, among all the enemies, Ye Xiao paid most attention to him. Over thirty percent of the extreme Yang attributed attacks from Ye Xiao was aimed at him. Although he was trying to escape so hard, he couldn't escape Ye Xiao's attacks!

He was truly a powerful cultivator. He resisted Ye Xiao's sword attack, Li Wuliang's saber attack, and escaped Xuan Bing's surprise attack. Now he actually survived Ye Xiao's extreme Yang attributed attack. His body splashed blood, and he was flying up high to the sky. He became a long rainbow that moved extremely fast, but it consumed his life energy. That was the last move he could make in order to survive.

Yue Shuang and Yue Han shouted and operated their joint attack again. With each other's support, they both rushed forward like two bolts of lightning.

The last enemy had taken the most advantageous position in the battle. He was also the man who was injured the least, which meant he had the biggest chance among the four to escape the battle. However, when he was just about to get away from the battle, his good luck went to an end, because he was caught by Han Bingxue!

Since all the other enemies were dead, Han Bingxue decided not to restrain him and wait for the others anymore. He decisively made his killing strikes. His sword moved like snow and frost, falling to the guy like a lot of flying snowflakes.

The guy wasn't truly in a desperate situation though. If he resisted the attacks a little, got himself cut a little, and fled away by consuming his life energy further, he might have a chance to get away. However, as he saw Han Bingxue approaching, he suddenly shouted angrily, and then rushed back to fight Han Bingxue face to face!

He was utterly crazy and fierce as if Han Bingxue was his sworn enemy.

He seemed not eager for survival anymore. Even though he knew that if the other people arrived, he would lose his last chance to escape, he didn't care. The only thing in his mind was to fight Han Bingxue.

Every attack he made was murderous!

He was risking his life trying to kill Han Bingxue!

Han Bingxue's sword moved so fast that it had caused many sword wounds on the guy, yet this guy acted like he didn't feel anything at all. He just kept shouting at Han Bingxue with vicious words, making his desperate attacks!

After a while, when the battle was almost finished, the fight between the two men was the only fight that was still happening.

Ye Xiao and the other over thirty top-level Dao Origin Stage cultivators had arrived and surrounded the man in black clothes in the middle.

Even Wu Fa couldn't escape the encirclement of these people!

However, it seemed like he didn't care about it at all, he just enjoyed the fight and didn't even try to slow down.

Therefore, Han Bingxue started losing the fight. He was obviously more powerful than the man, but he couldn't deal with the sacrificial attacks from the enemy. If not for the Tittle Phase skill that allowed him to dodge the attacks, he would have been badly wounded by the enemy's desperate attacks.

As the fight went on, Han Bingxue suddenly made a sword attack with flying frost, which caused the snow flying in the sky. The enemy surprisingly moved aside from the attack and then made a sword light attack which glared like the scorching sun!

It was more or less similar to Ye Xiao's extreme Yang attributed attack, only weaker in power. However, this attribution was exactly the natural enemy of Han Bingxue's martial art. When the scorching sun rose, ice melt. Han Bingxue's attack didn't hit anything, and he showed a flaw to the enemy. He was more obviously losing it.

Luckily, Han Bingxue's Tittle Phase skill saved him. He twisted his body and turned over, and then dashed away. What surprised the others was that he suddenly shouted in shock when he was turning in the air.

"Wu Huitian! You are Wu Huitian!"

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Chapter 1425: He Is; He Isn't!

As Ye Xiao and the others heard Han Bingxue, they were all astounded!

This man in black clothes who was desperately crazy was actually the prime master of the Saint Sunlight Sect, Wu Huitian, known to be missing for a long time!

Was it... Was it even possible?

Ye Xiao made a decision immediately and shouted, "It is not that simple! Take him down! I want him alive!"

Ye Xiao gave the order, and the others all followed.

After giving the order, Ye Xiao rushed forward first to lead the others.

Wu Huitian's return seemed to bring some hope for the martial world.

If he captured Wu Huitian, the people who were missing could be found.

At least there was a clue to it. Perhaps it could reveal the hidden truth about everything.

Ye Xiao could just ignore the others, but Yue Changtian, the prime master of the Cold Moon Palace was one of those people. He couldn't ignore Yue Changtian. Besides, there were a lot of people from other sects included...

Meanwhile, if he could make sure of something about it, he could bring what he, Jun Yinglian, and Xuan Bing discussed earlier up to the public. It would be a great start!

The man in black clothes saw the others approaching together, and he became crazier. He started to laugh in a hoarse voice, savagely shouted and said, "Han Bingxue, whatever is between us from the past, let's end it here today!"

Han Bingxue coldly smiled and said, "You are a demonic creature now. What could be between you and me? If you are still the man I know, Wu Huitian, you may still get the chance. Now, you don't deserve it!"

The man in black clothes laughed loudly and said, "What makes you think you are so good, Han Bingxue? You disgusting f*cking bastard, who enticed other's wife!"

After that, he actually rushed right over toward Han Bingxue like a bull.

Han Bingxue made a sword attack right towards the middle, pointed at the enemy's heart. Unexpectedly, the man didn't seem to dodge, moving right ahead to the sword on his chest. The two cultivators both attacked in full power, moving fast like a bolt of lightning.

Within the time of a blink, they already collided to each other.

Han Bingxue's sword went smoothly through the enemy's chest like cutting off a piece of bamboo. The sharp sword breath exploded inside the enemy's chest. Blood and flesh splashed everywhere.

The enemy's sword had arrived at Han Bingxue's throat.

Apparently, the man in black clothes was sacrificing himself to attack. It was an attempt to win the fight by sacrificing himself. In fact, he got himself hit by Han Bingxue on purpose to surprise Han Bingxue. While Han Bingxue was slightly stunned, the man in black clothes made his own sword attack to kill and end the fight. That sacrificial move actually forestalled Han Bingxue's attack!

However, he was too much weaker than Han Bingxue in cultivation power. Han Bingxue's Tittle Phase skill allowed him to move extremely fast. He was good at dodging. As he lowered his head a little, threw up a shoulder a bit, the enemy's sword went empty and slid over him. He was unharmed. "Do you actually think you can kill me like this? Is this all you got? To die with me? Wu Huitian, you are not there yet!"

Wu Huitian's both eyes, which weren't covered under his mask, became cruel, crazy, desperate. He laughed like a mad man, and said, "You will know soon! I am absolutely there!"

After that, it seemed like he said something to someone through mind connection. The next moment, his body suddenly expanded really fast.

"No!"

Ye Xiao hurriedly moved over and got in between the two men. He immediately hit Han Bingxue away with a palm strike.

He had to do this. No matter how good Han Bingxue's Tittle Phase movement technique was, it required time for Han Bingxue to operate it. Since Han Bingxue was holding his sword which was inside Wu Huitian's body, he couldn't truly make a fast reaction. The enemy was going to kill himself to finish the last attack, which was very likely not possible to dodge for Han Bingxue!

Just as Ye Xiao thought, almost at the same time when Han Bingxue was hit away, it exploded with a big breaking sound. The man in black clothes abruptly exploded into pieces right in front of everybody's eyes. The strong air flows flew in all direction like a windstorm.

The prime master of the Saint Sunlight Sect actually chose to make himself explode, and became a weapon to make his final attack.

It was the last thing he did to claim his revenge!

The explosion was obviously powerful. Ye Xiao got hit for Han Bingxue and faced the savage airflow.

The horrible energy wave which contained Wu Huitian's fury was overwhelming. Even though Ye Xiao was powerful, if he had to get all the energy exploding on him, he would be deadly wounded. However, with his fast reaction, he immediately held both his hands together and shouted loudly. "Cage Phase!"

The space around him seemed to freeze!

The overwhelming energy flows caused by Wu Huitian's self-explosion was actually locked inside a small space by Ye Xiao when it was just about to spread. The others were all experienced cultivators in the martial world. They all saw how horrible the explosion could be, so they all moved away as fast as they could.

However, when they were about to move away, the horrible exploding energy had broken through the lock of Ye Xiao's Cage Phase energy. The horrible killing flow was spreading away for the second time.

Luckily, that one second gave the others time to operate their best martial arts to defend themselves against the attack.

Ye Xiao's Cage Phase technique got broken, and he suffered from the impact. With a groan, he was pushed away by the airflow.

Blood ran out of his mouth. He was severely injured.

As such a powerful cultivator, he wasn't easy to get hurt. However, once he was hurt, it would be severe. A while earlier, he forcibly tried to block the horrible exploding energy flow. His Cage Phase technique was almost cracked immediately. The impact from his technique and the explosive energy both hit him. Even though his power had a strong foundation, he couldn't endure it.

Xuan Bing had a pair of sharp and experienced eyes. She hurriedly operated her own Cage Phase technique and covered Ye Xiao with her energy, which eventually resisted the aftereffect of the energy blow.

However, the explosive energy blow kept pushing Ye Xiao away.

Wu Huitian was only a top-level Dao Origin Stage cultivator, who even hadn't reached the Tittle Phase. However, even though he wasn't in the Tittle Phase yet, he was at the top of Dao Origin Stage. His power was pure. Otherwise, he wouldn't have become the prime master of the Saint Sunlight Sect. As he made his last attack of desperation, he exploded himself to make one strike that contained ten times of his full power. Ye Xiao had done two things at a time when he got hit by the explosive blow. On one hand, he sent Han Bingxue away; on the other hand, he used his Cage Phase technique to lock the explosive energy. Even though he was such a great and powerful cultivator, he couldn't handle the explosion's power which was ten times as powerful as a top-level Dao Origin Stage cultivator's full power!

After a while, the energy waves of the explosion stopped. The place where the man in black clothes exploded became a big pit.

It was a huge pit which was hundreds of meters deep.

The man in black clothes didn't actually take off his mask during the whole ordeal. No evidence could show that he was Wu Huitian.

Even though everybody was sure that he was, none of them said it.

Who was dead was gone. Judgment should be made by later generations. People who stayed here at the moment were all influential figures in the world. None of them wanted to judge somebody behind one's back. It was dishonorable!

"Wasn't he Wu Huitian? Can we be sure about it?" Ye Xiao looked at Han Bingxue.

Ye Xiao needed to know if this man was Wu Huitian, so that he could go on to bring up the discussion he wanted later, so he asked Han Bingxue, who had fought against the man. Besides, Han Bingxue knew Wu Huitian the most among all the other people.

Han Bingxue apparently hesitated. He said, "Familiar... But... I can't be sure."

Ye Xiao looked solemn, he deeply looked into Han Bingxue's eyes and stopped asking.

Han Bingxue's face had a long cut wound. A scar like that on his pretty face, he was totally disfigured. Although it would heal very soon. However, for the next a few days, Han Bingxue was not going to look handsome anymore.

However, although Han Bingxue cared about his face so much, he didn't seem to be angry. That was rare.

He looked weird.

He seemed to be regretful, lost, frustrated, but also relieved.

Ye Xiao saw them all, but he didn't say anything.

Han Bingxue's answer was apparently a surprise to Ye Xiao. However, Han Bingxue had his choice to make. Ye Xiao wouldn't blame him!

The battle was in peace. They started to sum up the fight. Everybody couldn't help taking a cold breath. Over twenty people joined the battle this time, and almost all of them were injured. They killed all the enemies except their leader. Nobody died in the fight, but most of them got injuries that frightened them afterward.

They didn't know that if Ye Xiao didn't use his extreme Yang attributed technique to draw the attention of the enemies, which helped Xuan Bing with the extreme cold ice locking attacks, they wouldn't have the chance to play the last scene surrounding the last enemy together. If not for Ye Xiao, they wouldn't have the chance to win the battle without sacrificing anyone!

"This time, we had almost all the super cultivators in Qing-Yun Realm together fighting against the enemies. Yet we still got injured so bad." Ye Xiao said, "If we face the core force of the vile organization, what then? I don't think we have a promising future on this!"

The others were all experienced cultivators, who understood exactly what Ye Xiao meant. They wouldn't be lost in the pride of winning just one battle. As they thought deeper, they were frightened. Everybody looked heavy-laden.

The enemies didn't have support coming, which meant that they were no better than just a front line party in the organization, who was only sent there to cause some turmoil.

They must be one of their good troops, but definitely not the main force.

However, such a small team of people had stirred up such a big disturbance!

What if all the enemies came for the battle? How would that end?

It wasn't going to be good!

...

"He talked to me. He said he couldn't live anymore."

Han Bingxue stood right in front of Ye Xiao, talking in a heavy voice which sounded frustrated.

"He said he couldn't be more disgraced."

"He wanted me to cover his identity."

"He came to me on purpose, and he decided to make himself explode from the very beginning. It was obvious. If you guys didn't come, maybe I could hit him away to the sky with my sword to save everybody from the explosion..."

Han Bingxue made a long sigh. "I have been enemies with this man for my entire life. However, at the end of his life, I respected him."

"No matter how vile and dishonorable he was..."

"For the last thing, he did..." Han Bingxue said, "He died like a real man."

Ye Xiao stayed silent. He didn't know what to say, he just made a long sigh.

He was an expert in cultivation, so he knew that Han Bingxue was telling the truth. If the enemy made himself explode to attack, anyone would be lucky to avoid getting hit. However, it would be easy to use that chance to know the enemy's reason for wanting to make himself explode.

In the last fight, when Wu Huitian got himself hit by the sword on purpose to restrain Han Bingxue, if Han Bingxue knew what he was going to do, there would be many things he could do to deal with it. The things that Han Bingxue needed to do was to make three moves. First, he should stab the sword deep into the enemy's body. Second, he should operate his power to break the enemy's defense. Third, he could hit Wu Huitian up to the sky when the explosion was about to happen and save everybody from the blast.

Han Bingxue should have done that if he wanted to let Wu Huitian die. However, if he didn't want to, he could have used an even easier way to capture Wu Huitian alive. All he needed to do was to break Wu Huitian's three acupuncture points—Dantian, Qihai, and Tanzhong. It would break Wu Huitian's energy shield and let out the energy he used to explode himself. Han Bingxue's movement technique was peerless in the world, and he knew what Wu Huitian was going to do beforehand. He could absolutely stop Wu Huitian and capture him alive.

However, Han Bingxue wanted to let him die as he wished, so he chose not to use the second way. Ye Xiao was so protective to his brother, which nearly got things out of control. There was no need to explain any further!

After a while, Ye Xiao finally said, "That was not Wu Huitian!"

Han Bingxue was shocked, but then he understood why Ye Xiao said so. He nodded and said, "That's right. He wasn't Wu Huitian."

"Wu Huitian is missing..." Ye Xiao said, "He has been missing for a long time... I am afraid that it would be difficult to find him in such a short time. Let's stop searching for him in the meantime. The Saint Sunlight Sect is gone. Wu Huitian alive or not doesn't really matter."

"That's right!" Han Bingxue's eyes glittered.

...

Somewhere between two mountains, it was far away from the battle.

The leader of the men in black clothes who luckily escaped the battle was looking at some other men who were also wearing black clothes, his mouth was bleeding, and his eyes were red. He then asked furiously, "Why? Why didn't you send me some back up? If you had come to help us, at least half of us would survive!"

In the shadow of the mountain, twelve men in black clothes were sitting quietly.

They all looked like ghosts.

At the moment, as they saw the man spitting out blood, they acted like they were not seeing him.

"Why?" The man in black clothes furiously shouted again.

One of the twelve men slightly raised up his head then stared at the man straight in the eyes. He blandly said, "Backup? Why should we help you?"

The man in black clothes was totally provoked.

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Chapter 1426: Duty-bound

Apparently, Yun Xiran could never have thought that the twelve men would respond with those words. The blood was boiling in his veins and he spat out a mouthful of blood. He hurriedly took out a lot of dan beads and swallowed them all at once. After a while, he had rested and calmed down. With a hoarse voice, he said, "Do you even know what you are talking about? No matter who you were, who I was in the past, we are now in the same boat... We are all hiding in the dark! Don't you care?"

The other man in black clothes was still sitting quietly and blandly said, "It is your own business whether you should care or not. Also, it is my business whether I care or not. I don't care what you do, but why do you have to judge me?"

The man angrily shouted and said, "We are in such a situation now, yet you still care so much about your goddamn face. Only people who are alive have the right to talk about the future, while the dead cannot."

The other man in the shadow seemed to smile and blandly said, "You said it yourself. Only people that are alive have the right to talk about the future. Tell me, are we still people? No. I am still a human being. Although my body is manipulated, my mind is clear. I am not controlled! I can say this, but you can't!"

He finally raised up his head, staring at the man who was spitting blood with two sharp eyes. His voice became even calm and cold, and he said, "Yun Xiran, answer me. Do you want to know why I didn't go to help you?"

The man was actually Yun Xiran, the prime master of the Saint Starlight Sect!

Yun Xiran was shaken, staring at the man who sits cross-legged, and said, "So you know who I am!"

The other man in black clothes coldly said, "It is not proud to me to recognize you."

Yun Xiran fiercely said with a deep voice, "It truly is not. Yue Changtian, do you think you can hide from me? I recognized you too!"

The other man was shocked. His eyes looked like he was pretty painful about it, but he returned calm and indifferent. He said, "So you recognized me. So what?"

"So what? You and me, we are not so different. You know that. Do you really think you are still the prime master of the Cold Moon Palace?" Yun Xiran viciously said, "Yue Changtian, you don't need me to tell you this, but you and I, we are both pathetic men who are controlled by others. We are just two slaves."

Yue Changtian looked extremely painful again, but he tried to hold down the raging anger in his heart. "That's true. What you said is true. Well, however... I, as a slave, do not want to save you, the other slave. Is that a problem?"

"I like to see you and your people die over there!" Yue Changtian sounded a bit vicious too. "Yun Xiran, you, Saint Starlight Sect and Saint Sunlight Sect have been bullying the Cold Moon Palace for a long time. Now it is time you take the fruit that you planted. Now it is time!"

Yun Xiran shouted, "Don't you think it is pointless to say this now? The Saint Sunlight Sect and Saint Starlight Sect are both gone. So what? What are we into here? Even if the Master gives you back your freedom, do you think you can still make it back to the Cold Moon Palace alive to be the prime master?"

Yue Changtian calmly said, "No. That is the truth we both know!"

"Do you think the Cold Moon Palace is still yours? Do you think the Saint Starlight Sect still belongs to me?" Yun Xiran seemed to be desperate. "We are all here now. Maybe some of us are worse, maybe some are better. So what? Why don't we just face it and do what we should do?"

Yue Changtian seemed to be sorry about it. He blandly said, "I think you have gotten it wrong at one point. The Cold Moon Palace is absolutely different from the Saint Sunlight Sect and the Saint Starlight Sect. Your sects are gone, but the Cold Moon Palace will live forever!"

Yun Xiran finally burst into fury. "Yue Changtian, do you have to immerse yourself in your own lies?"

Yue Changtian's eyes looked calm and still sharp. He said, "Lies? The truth is that the Saint Sunlight Sect and the Saint Starlight Sect are gone... The Cold Moon Palace is growing... We will shine till the end of the world..."

"Yun Xiran, watch it then. Perhaps the war will be ended by us, the Cold Moon Palace!"

"I may have become a disgrace to the sect myself. However, the name of mine, Yue Changtian, will remain the respectable prime master of the Cold Moon Palace!" Yue Changtian felt sorry but also proud about it. "Do you think I can do those dirty business with you just for my own survival?"

Yun Xiran angrily said, "You are lying to yourself. Do you know that the genius disciple in the Cold Moon Palace, Ye Chongxiao, is actually the Xiao Monarch, Ye Xiao! He is our enemy! He is the enemy of the Saint Sunlight Sect, the Saint Starlight Sect, and the Cold Moon Palace! He is on the other side against you! Do you really want to watch the Cold Moon Palace in his hands? Do you just watch it and do nothing?"

"I am just watching it. So what?" Yue Changtian was calm. "Ye Chongxiao is Xiao Monarch, Ye Xiao. So what? I don't care who he is. Ye Chongxiao is a disciple of the Cold Moon Palace now!"

"Not in his hands, we are Cold Moon Palace. In his hands, we are still the Cold Moon Palace!"

"If he can lead the Cold Moon Palace to rise and become a great name in history, I would love to give him the sect!" Yue Changtian's eyes were full of fever. "What does it matter who he is? Even though he is our enemy, I don't care!"

"As I said, we are a bunch of demonic creatures. We are a bunch of slaves. Enemies? We don't deserve to be anyone's enemies anymore."

Yun Xiran humphed and coldly said, "Yue Changtian, you've got guts! You should wait and see what is going to happen to you. When I go back, I will report everything to the Master... I wonder how tough

you can be. Show me your dignity, your backbone, your pride... I want to see how long can you hold these things in front of the Master."

Yue Changtian slightly raised up his head, with his eyes in a sneer, he blandly said, "Do you really think we can still go back?"

Yun Xiran was shaken up. He said, "What the hell do you mean?"

Yue Changtian blandly smiled and weirdly said, "Wu Huitian couldn't make it back... Your people couldn't make it back... You are the only one who survived. Which means... They are all dead, aren't they?"

Yun Xiran humphed and said, "What do you want to say?"

"What do I want to say? I say they deserve it. They died for good!" Yue Changtian's eyes were filled with cold, and he said, "Your men are all dead. Yun Xiran, as their leader, do you really want them to go to hell alone?"

Yun Xiran took a few steps back, and loudly said, "Yue Changtian, what are you doing? I am warning you. Do not take reckless moves. Whatever you are going to do, remember what the Master may do to punish you. Besides, you can't defeat me, can you? Even though I am injured, you still can't beat me in a fight!"

Yue Changtian smiled and said, "Can't we just focus on the present? I really don't care what the Master will do. Well, I can't defeat you in a fight by myself... That could be true. However, why are you so sure that I am alone? Why don't you take a look behind you?"

Yun Xiran took five steps aside and then looked over.

Behind him, there were three men in black clothes, standing in a triangle, blocking his way to escape. As he turned to look at the three, about eight of the other men in black clothes all quietly stood up, slowly walking over to him.

These people moved silently, but they are all full of murderous intent!

Yun Xiran was terrified. He said, "You... Yue Changtian, You... What are you doing?"

Yue Changtian sat on the floor cross-legged and blandly said, "Why do you have to ask such a stupid question even though things have been so obvious now? Tens of thousands of years ago, the Saint Starlight Sect, the Saint Sunlight Sect, and the Cold Moon Palace were one. Now things have become so painfully disgraceful. In case our ancestors are disgraced, today, I will represent the ancestors to cleanse the filth."

"Wu Huitian is dead. You two are tight. I think he must be waiting for you on the way to hell." Yue Changtian said, "Yun Xiran, you shouldn't let him wait too long. You are best friends! You should go now!"

Yun Xiran took three steps back and angrily said, "Yue Changtian, do you think you are still the prime master of the Cold Moon Palace? Don't you know you will suffer the reverse impact from your own soul and get your brain burned if you dare to attack your teammate?"

Yue Changtian blandly smiled and said, "I do. I know what will happen! Come on, tell me. Do you think I am afraid of the reverse impact? The punishment?"

"You... Don't you dare!" Yun Xiran furiously said.

Yun Xiran's face turned blue. He surely knew himself the best. He was now severely injured, life energy greatly consumed, which meant he had no power to fight against Yue Changtian at the moment.

If Yue Changtian truly wanted to kill him, it wouldn't be difficult even if Yue Changtian had to fight alone, not to mention all the others who were helping Yue Changtian!

Yun Xiran could never have thought that Yue Changtian would choose to fight him at this moment.

What surprised him more was that at least three people among the people under Yue Changtian's lead were from the Saint Sunlight Sect and the Saint Starlight Sect. Yue Changtian actually turned them against their own sects!

"Yun Xiran, you have disgraced the Saint Starlight Sect!" One of the people in black clothes, whose clothes were glittering in starlight said. It was exactly one of the people from the Saint Starlight Sect. However, at the moment, as he talked to their own prime master, he only sounded full of anger and grief. "Do you still remember how our sect was saved? The leaders sacrificed themselves to save the last bit of our inheritance. If people recognize you, there will be no more Saint Starlight Sect..."

"You were controlled, manipulated... It was fine because you didn't want to do what you did. However, now I see, you never want to resist the manipulation... You actually enjoyed it! You kneel down and bow to the demons... You enjoyed being their slave... You... How could you still call yourself the prime master of the Saint Starlight Sect?"

Yun Xiran loudly said, "Do you think I want to bend my knees? I am forced by the situation. I am only pushed by reality. We have to kneel before the absolute stronger power. Do you really think there is anything else we can do? All of you, do you really think there is still turning back for us?"

"Turning back? No, we certainly don't have hopes for that!" The cultivator from the Saint Starlight Sect seemed painful. Word by word, he said, "But we still have another choice. We can choose death!"

We can choose death!

Those were four powerful words.

The others all had their eyes filled with glaring fever.

"Since we fell to the trap on the Heaven's Terrace, we have been waiting for an opportunity..." Yue Changtian's elegant voice sounded determined. He said, "What we want to do is to die with you, Wu Huitian, and all the others! We want to end this restraint with death!"

"The reason why we were cooperating, following their orders, is that we want an opportunity to show up. We were waiting for this day when we temporarily avoid their supervision! We want to come out together, and die together!

"We won't let those who are still alive disgrace us!"

"We can't choose to live with dignity anymore." He looked up to the sky and peacefully said, "But we can choose to die with honor."

"Gods must pity us. We finally have the chance we have been waiting for." He quietly said, "Now I am comforted. Not just me, we all are comforted."

Yun Xiran heard it and he was stunned like he was stricken by thunder.

"Wu Huitian wouldn't escape." Yue Changtian blandly said, "He would find Han Bingxue, and let himself die in his sworn enemy's hands. I know he won't come back this time."

"He deserves to die!"

"He is always a treacherous and cunning person. I don't see anything of him that could make him a good man. However, this time, his death will bring him dignity. I must say that I am impressed!"

"But you, Yun Xiran."

Yue Changtian's eyes were sharp like arrows. "Let's do it!"

"Wait!" Yun Xiran rolled his eyeballs and then suddenly laughed. He said, "In fact, we all have the same thought. I have been thinking the same as you. We have..."

Yue Changtian's eyes looked still and determined. He blandly said, "Even if you are, you have to die today. We have decided to die together. No one will make an exception!"

As he gave the order, over a dozen superior cultivators in black clothes moved at the same time.

Yun Xiran's face was colorless. He kept dodging the attacks from everywhere. However, he was already injured, which meant he was half dead already. How was he supposed to defend himself against all those superior cultivators' attacks?

After a while, he was already wounded all around the body. His bones were revealed under the blood and flesh. He was powerless to stand, waiting for death.

Yue Changtian dashed and showed up beside Yun Xiran. He raised up one hand fiercely and then slashed down with the glow of the moonlight from deep upon the sky!

That was a killing strike!

However, at this moment, a figure of a slim man suddenly rushed over and stood between Yue Changtian and Yun Xiran.

Yue Changtian was stunned and stopped his moving hand. The slim guy had already raised up his hand and hit Yun Xiran's head in overwhelming power. Yun Xiran's head was broken into pieces.

With a sound, the palm hit even destroyed the soul of Yun Xiran.

"We talked about it. I should be the one who made the last strike." Yue Changtian seemed to be in pain. "Tian Laojiu, why did you do this?"

Tian Laojiu smiled bitterly and said, "Prime Master Yue, Yun Xiran was the prime master of our sect, the Saint Starlight Sect. We should do the cleansing by ourselves... Besides, you can't die yet. You have to lead us to do what we planned to do earlier!

"At least, for now, it is better to have you alive than me!"

At the same time, Tian Laojiu suddenly looked painful with a twisted face. His eyes were filled with madness and desperation. "Brothers, do not forget our deal. I am going to leave now. I don't need to suffer the pain anymore!"

As he spoke, some black blood ran out of his mouth and nose. The blood was actually boiling hot.

It was steaming.

Tian Laojiu staggered painfully and then hit himself on the head with a palm strike before he lost his mind. At the same time, somewhere in his dantian sounded a rupture.

Blood and flesh flew everywhere.

His body fell down and hit the floor.

Apparently, he was dead. His soul and body were both destroyed.

However, his body was still twisting and shaking. The dead body was still suffering the unspeakable and unendurable pain!

The others all have tears in the eyes.

Yue Changtian made a long shout and then destroyed Tian Laojiu's body with a fierce palm strike. With tears in the eyes, he said, "Brother, you are alone down there. Slow down a bit, and we will be there with you soon!"

The secret organization's manipulation method was extremely vicious.

The members of the organization were free to fight against each other but never allowed to kill one another. In other words, two members could fight however they liked as long as no one got killed. The cruel rule gave the individuals a way to solve the problems between each other, but made no deduction on the organization's power!

When two men were fighting, there were always mistakes. However, two members of the secret organization would definitely not make any mistakes. They would do whatever they could to avoid it. If one member killed another, the death energy from the dead man would trigger the same death energy inside the killer's body. When the two energies were both rising, the restraint inside their heads would be awakened.

The boiling blood would burn the brain!

Boiling blood burnt the brain. The blood in the body would all rush to the brain and boil like hot water. The scorching blood would steam inside the brain, but it wouldn't kill the man immediately. The burning and steaming would bring extreme pain that never ended.

Even though the man killed himself because he couldn't endure the pain, his dead body would still suffer from it. It wouldn't stop until the body was completely rotten!

It wouldn't leave the body in good shape.

The restraint would disappear after that.

In other words, once the restraint was triggered, alive or dead, the man would have to suffer the pain.

It wouldn't stop until the body, the heart, and the soul were all destroyed!

That was why Yue Changtian broke Tian Laojiu's body by a palm hit.

Tian Laojiu stopped Yue Changtian and killed Yun Xiran himself, claiming to cleanse his own sect. However, he knew he would die after that. In fact, he did it to save Yue Changtian's life!

Yue Changtian broke Tian Laojiu's body to return the favor. When he did it, he wasn't sure if the restraint would hit him too or not. After all, Tian Laojiu was also a member of the secret organization. Nobody knew whether the restraint would remain in a dead body or not!

An honorable man did what he should do. Tian Laojiu died for Yue Changtian, and Yue Changtian certainly couldn't see Tian Laojiu's body in pain!

"Perhaps... In this vile organization, we are the only ones..." Yue Changtian looked so sad but still proud. He looked around and said, "Maybe we are the only people... who still have..."

He didn't finish.

These men's eyes were all glowing.

Apparently, they all knew what Yue Changtian was going to say. It was humanity, wasn't it?

No matter what, they knew they deserved it!

"Everybody get ready. We will attack Ye Xiao's base at night!" Yue Changtian took a long and deep breath. "Tonight, we will say goodbye to the world... Qing-Yun Realm."

He looked up at the sky. His eyes looked profound. He seemed to have a strong attachment to the world. Staring at the bright moon in the starry sky, he stayed quiet and still.

Everybody was in silence, staring at the sky.

At this moment, they realized that this world was actually so likable. Even a single plant of grass was so lively in their eyes.

Even the single plant of grass was lively enough to make them jealous.

The grass could still healthily live in the world, yet these men would no longer be alive after the night.

...

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Chapter 1427: Life Cage

After the extremely cruel fight, when Ye Xiao was back to the base, he was a bit lost.

He was thinking about the people in black clothes and the secret organization behind them.

He thought about Wu Huitian who was dead, Yun Xiran who ran away. They reminded him of an old friend.

Yue Changtian!

The prime masters of the Saint Sunlight Sect and the Saint Starlight Sect, what about Yue Changtian?

Ye Xiao thought about the prime master of the Cold Moon Palace, who was always solemn yet generous and was now missing.

[How is he now?]

Thinking about that, he suddenly made a long sigh.

Late at night.

The stars blinked in the sky.

It was the moment before dawn, the darkest moment of the world in a day.

Suddenly, a world-cracking sound rang up.

Somewhere around the union of justice, a mountain suddenly collapsed. Dust filled the sky, and one could barely see his own hands in the dusty air.

Ye Xiao and the others were shocked, and they all went out.

They were in the darkness, and all they could hear was the sound of the cracking rocks.

Ye Xiao frowned.

[It must be people from the secret organization... But... Why would they break down a mountain before they came over? If they do this quietly and sneakily, we would lose many lives.]

[Breaking down a mountain like this is completely pointless. It would only give us time to prepare for the fight.]

[How come?]

[Covering our sights? Trying to frighten us? Nonsense! It was superfluous. I don't think their leader could be this stupid!]

Ye Xiao frowned, watching the rising smoke in the sky. He couldn't understand what exactly was happening.

In the dark, somebody was shouting in a hoarse voice. "Ye Xiao! Come fight me! I dare you!"

Suddenly, a sword light blinked in the dark. A man in black clothes with a mask on flew up to the sky as if he and his sword were one. The black clothes were exactly the same as those people from the vile

organization earlier. However, nobody felt the same horror earlier. Instead, they had the feeling of somebody willing to sacrifice with honor.

However, they denied the feeling immediately. Those were demonic creatures from the vile organization. How could they be honorable? It must be a delusion!

Li Wuliang's thick and deep voice sounded. "I, Li Wuliang, am enough to defeat you! There is no need to let Ye Xiao go for this easy fight!"

He was dragging a huge saber, striding out with his eyes like electricity. He was ready to jump over to the sky and fight the man in black clothes.

Ye Xiao's eyes blinked and he said, "Let me do it!"

Then he moved, became a moving stream of light rushing up to the sky.

The man in black clothes laughed and said, "You are indeed the Xiao Monarch I know! Follow me!"

Before he finished talking, he already took a move, turned around, and left fast toward the south. Ye Xiao didn't hesitate, just followed up immediately. One shadow in black and the other in white disappeared in a blink. One was leading while the other followed.

Xuan Bing and the others didn't feel right about it, so they all hurriedly rushed over to chase them.

At the moment, the mountain didn't stop shaking yet, as if it was a sign of a coming disaster...

Lei Dadi's long white beards flew in the blowing air. He kept looking into the sky where the man in black clothes had been standing. His sight was lost in thoughts.

Yun Piaoliu quietly came over to him, talking to him in mind connection. "How is it? Is that him?"

"It probably... is!" Lei Dadi's voice was a bit hoarse and powerless.

The three old men just stood there silently like three pieces of woodcarving works.

After a while, the three of them turned around and left the battle for their camp. They looked so old all of a sudden, with their silver hairs.

"Ye Xiao has gone for it. Just let him deal with it. I don't think there will be any problems. He always does things right."

"That's true."

"They... They apparently don't want us to know. We will just play dumb then."

"Ah."

"What happens afterward is unpredictable. Let's just wait for Ye Xiao. It is pointless to be frightened now. We can only face the truth!"

"That's the only thing we can do."

The three of them talked in their mind connection, but even though they were talking secretly, they didn't mention the name, because they couldn't endure saying it out.

Ye Xiao moved like the wind, chasing after the black shadow in front of him like a white shooting star. In fact, he intentionally kept a certain distance to the man.

He didn't operate his ultimate moving technique, didn't try to get closer, because his heart was also disturbed.

Two shadows moved out a far distance within a short time, like a shooting star chasing after the moon.

Ye Xiao noticed that there were two groups of people in black clothes secretly following them on both sides.

They were like two giant wings.

They were silent but moved in order.

If these people were arranged to kill Ye Xiao, as they worked together like that, they could kill anybody in the world, including Ye Xiao. Ye Xiao could never be able to fight his way out alone with a sword!

However, he didn't care. He wasn't worried, because those people didn't have any murderous intent.

There was no murderous intent, but they were powerful. However, no matter how horribly powerful they were, there was no need to be afraid of them!

Ye Xiao kept following silently.

After getting over another mountain, there was a sharp cliff ahead of them.

The shadow in front suddenly fell down the cliff, and Ye Xiao followed down without hesitation.

The other twelve men in black clothes all jumped down the cliff on two sides without hesitation as well. As they jumped off the cliff, something colorful rose up and covered the cliff.

Xuan Bing and the others arrived almost right after they jumped, yet when they went down on the mountain, they were surprised that the colorful thing that covered the cliff had become an extremely powerful energy shield. Even Xuan Bing couldn't break through the energy shield!

"Life Cage!"

Xuan Bing was the most knowledgeable person among all. As she checked on the energy shield, she couldn't help exclaiming out two words.

Jun Yinglian and the others were all shocked, and they looked at each other.

Life Cage was easy to understand. It was a technique which allowed a cultivator to consume his own life energy to build a cage-like shield to protect a certain area.

However, to built a cage like this, it took at least nine top-level Dao Origin Stage cultivators' lives!

Once the life cage was built, within half a year, even god couldn't get through the shield!

Nine top-level Dao Origin Stage cultivators' life energy together was as powerful as the energy of the power of the ultimate greatness!

No man was powerful enough to break it!

Life Cage had such a cruel and strict requirement that it only appeared in some historical stories. Nobody had ever seen it, not to mention tried to build it.

After all, it took all the life energy of nine top-level Dao Origin Stage cultivators just to build an energy shield which only protected a certain area for a while...

It was cruel, and it cost too much. It was not a good deal no matter at what point.

No sects in the world would use such a method to protect or block a certain area.

Wasn't it a better solution to send nine living top-level Dao Origin Stage cultivators to protect the area than sacrificing them? Besides, as long as they were alive, they could protect the area as long as they could. The Life Cage only lasted for a short period of time after all!

Those cultivators didn't seem to be fools, then why would they use such an unwise method?

No matter what, at this moment, in that place, the Life Cage was built.

It was shown right before everybody's eyes!

People built the Life Cage only to protect the meaningless cliff, which the men in black clothes and Ye Xiao jumped off!

Why?

"Why is Xiao Xiao so reckless this time?" Jun Yinglian was worried and angry at the same time. She said, "He didn't even pay attention to the surroundings, just jumped down without hesitation. That was stupid!"

Xuan Bing's eyes looked deep and heavy. She said, "Do not panic... As it is recorded in history, the Life Cage can't be broken by human power. However, it is a technique to go against people outside the cage, which meant it didn't bring any impact on people inside it. Xiao Xiao has fallen in, but if he wants to come out, the cage can't stop him..."

"This cage is here to stop us. They don't want us to follow them anymore."

"However... Who are these men in black clothes?"

Her eyes looked profound and full of thoughts.

Apparently, she was wondering why Ye Xiao would jump off the cliff without hesitation before giving it a second thought. There must be something special about this weird situation... Suddenly, she was shaken up. It seemed she thought of something, but she decided to keep her mouth shut. Soon, her face became calm and peaceful.

In her eyes, there was respect.

...

Ye Xiao moved right straight down to the bottom of the cliff like a shooting light, and then quietly landed on the floor. When he just stood on the floor, he clearly felt some special energy abruptly rising up.

It was some kind of life energy that contained sincerity.

It seemed several superior cultivators had just given up their own lives in this place, at this very moment!

They sacrificed themselves in the most extreme way, just for one simple goal.

That was the power of selflessness!

Ye Xiao was shocked. As he looked up, he saw twelve streams of colorful energy up over his head, covering the cliff.

The next moment, twelve men quietly landed on the floor, like twelve falling leaves hiding in different places.

As they finally hid away, their life energies were all gone.

In fact, when they landed on the floor, they already lost their lives.

They became something like the withered leaves.

They became one with the world; they breathed with the world. However, there were no signs of them in the world anymore!

"Life Cage!"

Ye Xiao couldn't help exclaiming.

Xiao Monarch, as an experienced cultivator in the martial world, surely knew about the story. It was a myth, which was very unlikely going to happen in reality!

At that moment, Ye Xiao's heart was filled with resentment!

He had no idea how the myth came true, but he knew why it would do. The appearance of it explained many things!

"That's right. It is Life Cage!" The man in black clothes, whom Ye Xiao was chasing, stood out with his eyes full of strange feelings. As he looked at the rising colorfulness in the sky, he made a long sigh.

The sigh expressed too much of his complicated emotion. It sounded like all the emotions and feelings in his whole life got vented out in that long sigh.

"Why?" Ye Xiao turned around staring at the mysterious man in black clothes with a mask

The man in black clothes quietly stood there, but he didn't answer Ye Xiao immediately.

"Why do you take such an extreme move? As long as we destroy the organization, you can all come back one day!" Ye Xiao asked loudly, and he seemed to be emotional. "As long as we kill the biggest demon, all the restraint will be gone. Why do you have to take the most extreme and cruel move now?"

The man in black clothes blandly said, "You are right. Everything can start over again. However, not us, we can't."

"Even after the demon dies, our dignity, our sect's honor, our ten thousand years old heritage, will be all gone." The man in black clothes blandly said, "As long as we are still alive, the disgrace remains!

"We should stay alive if there are still missions to complete, even if we have to bear the shame. However, after today, we are no longer needed in this world. We have no reason to live with shame anymore! The sect has raised us up, and we have fought for the sect for our lives. We won't allow disgrace!

"As long as we die, what we have experienced, what we have suffered, will all be gone in the world.

"That is the only thing we can do for our sect."

The man in black clothes sounded pretty sad when he spoke. What he said, he said it in a flat tone as if it had nothing to do with him. "If not now, when the two sides start the real war, we won't even be able to betray the demon. If he comes, we will lose our minds, and will totally become tools for killing. We won't be able to hide our identities when that day comes.

"That will be a great disgrace to the sect! Instead of bringing disgrace to the sect, we would rather sacrifice ourselves to destroy all that related to the shameful truth.

"There is another reason why we would choose this extreme method. We want to create an absolute safe atmosphere for you and me to have this conversation, in which I would speak all the words I have to say before I die.

"We can at least do something for you, who have been planning on killing the demons. Besides, to die like this, our souls won't become nutrition to the demons."

"We will die for justice!"

Ye Xiao was shocked. He emotionally exclaimed and said, "Prime Master Yue!"

Before he talked, the man in black clothes shook and then hurriedly interrupted. "No, I am not the man you think! You are mistaking me for somebody else. I am just a pathetic man who still has a bit of conscience. Ye Chongxiao, please remember my words!"

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Chapter 1428: The Last Tea Meeting

The man in black clothes didn't sound as calm as earlier. It seemed he was begging, begging painfully.

It seemed the name Prime Master Yue was giving him an unbearable pain!

Ye Xiao's eyes looked painful too.

He nodded and said, "I see. I understand. I will remember!"

The man in black clothes made a long sigh of relief as if he had finally gotten something he wanted for a long time. "Good. Good. Great!"

He quietly turned around and walked aside toward somewhere a man in black clothes landed.

As he walked over step by step, he saw a suit of black clothes on the floor. A strange look filled his eyes, sadness, relief, console, desperation...

The black clothes were the only things left.

The blood and fresh inside the clothes were all gone.

The dead body was melted into nothing at the moment when the man landed on the floor.

Ye Xiao was stunned. It wasn't until this moment that he realized how overwhelming the Life Cage could be. After the cultivators performed this technique, they had given up everything of themselves, including their blood, soul, and flesh. Everything of them had become the purest energy in the world.

Not even a hair of them was left!

It was indeed the ultimate restraint technique, the legendary martial art!

The man in black clothes was quiet, but he didn't stop moving. He kept walking ahead, while Ye Xiao was following after step by step. He saw all the twelve sets of black clothes that were lying on the floor at different spots.

Twelve sets of clothes were all that had left, nothing lively anymore!

"Hah hah hah..." The man in black clothes suddenly burst into an extremely sorrowful laugh.

Ye Xiao made a long helpless sigh.

As Ye Xiao could remember, Yue Changtian was such an elegant gentleman, who was powerful and also righteous. He had never seen Yue Changtian being so awkward. That was why he felt so sorry about it, but also realized Yue Changtian's determination to what he was going to do and the loyalty to his own sect!

The next moment, the man in black clothes raised up his hand. Two chairs and a table showed up from nothing all of a sudden. In a familiar tone, he talked to Ye Xiao, said, "Now, it is time for you and I to have a good talk about it.

"Hmm. Not to talk about it... You just listen to me. I will do all the talking."

He said, "Just listen. When I am speaking, please do not interrupt."

Ye Xiao's eyes were full of complicated emotion.

"Have a seat." The man in black clothes seemed to be casual and polite now. As he pointed at a chair, he took a seat on the other chair. After that, he took out a set of teacups and teapot, started to make tea.

He really was casual and leisure. When he was making tea, he was so concentrated, elegant, and gentle.

"This tea meeting must be the last time for me to make some tea and have some tea." He said, gently in a low voice.

"Life is just like a tea meeting.

"A meeting always goes to an end.

"My meeting is going to end.

"Yesterday, even just now, I felt regret that there were so many things that I yet have done. However, at this very moment, everything naturally took a place. Perhaps you don't know. Maybe you don't believe it. I assure you, that I can't be more peaceful and calm at the moment."

Ye Xiao quietly sat opposite to him, silently listening to him.

He didn't speak, not only because Yue Changtian didn't want him to... He just didn't want to interrupt.

This was very likely the last time Yue Changtian talked.

He understood how Yue Changtian felt, so he just listened, quietly and patiently listened.

"With your brilliant sight, I believe you could see that the twelve men in black clothes just now were not all disciples of the Cold Moon Palace." Yue Changtian, the man in black clothes with mask, slowly said, "What happened that day... We were invited to the West Hall to discuss about the great plan of fighting against the secret organization—at least we thought it was a great plan..."

"What a surprise! When we arrived, we got restrained for no reason... When we woke up, we were already deeply under their control. It was impossible to get away from the manipulation. As we all had lost our freedom, we finally realized that the West Hall, the world's most influential sect, is the main base of the secret organization.

"The Master they call, the biggest demon of the secret organization, is very likely a member of the West Hall too. In my opinion, that head demon is in all probability the first prime master of the West Hall, the world's most powerful cultivator in the old days, Zong Yuankai!

"However, it was done. There were nothing we could do anymore. We were regretful, but we couldn't stop.

"What happened to us... It was not only physical, also mental. Our minds were under their control. We, the superior figures who were high upon ordinary cultivators, suddenly became slaves to some demonic creatures!

"As superior cultivators in different influential sects, we all have our bottom lines. Most of us have thought about killing ourselves, to avoid bring shame and disgrace to our own sects. However, under the head demon's control, we can't do as we wish. We couldn't even kill ourselves... Under that circumstance, some were forced, some lost their conscience. Many people have caved to the organization, become tools to the demonic creatures. We ourselves have become demonic creatures already.

"Even people like me, we changed. We didn't cooperate this much in the beginning, but then we had to do as they say. In the end, we were totally their dogs. I believe we were trying to earn their trust. That is why we did those things. We tried to complete the missions as fast as we could... We have to send the message out to tell the world the information we got.

"There is nothing we didn't do... No matter how disgusting it was, how brutal or inhuman it was... we did what they asked. In fact, sometimes we did more than they asked us to do to earn their trust... I don't think I can ever speak of what they were."

Yue Changtian shook his head. In his eyes, there was indescribable extreme pain. He couldn't endure remembering those things he had done.

"It didn't waste our efforts after all. This time, we are assigned to this mission.

"Even at this moment, the organization still put their full trust on us. They sent us out to create panic. More than that, they want one of us to reveal our real face, because that will lead to discord among the sects in the martial world... All the forces in the Qing-Yun Realm that were against the organization would be suspicious of each other...

"When the suspicion and panic spread, the organization will make good use of it and set up a lot of traps everywhere as a start of invading the martial world. They will build altars for the head demon, make massacres in the world!

"Nearly three hundred of us fell into the organization. Some brothers were respectably stubborn, who didn't cave or submit for greater purpose. The organization tortured them in all kinds of inhuman methods. About eighty of us died.

"Many of us have become demonic creatures because they didn't have pure hearts in the beginning. They are now a part of the Demonic Soul Hall, complete monsters.

"Over fifty were left to send out on different missions, to kill. Some of these people were sent here.

"Thirty-six people in total were sent here.

"These black clothes, you see, belong to the twelve men among the thirty-six."

Yue Changtian's eyes were filled with anger. He said, "We... Some said we were enduring humiliation for the sake of a higher objective. Some said we were clever, submitting for a greater goal. Some said we were afraid of the painful tortures. Anyway, the fourteen men, including these twelve brothers, and Tian Laojiu, who killed Yun Xiran and died, have been fighting together. We were trapped together. We were tortured together. We planned together, and acted together. We did those evil things together... We are brothers!

"We have been lingering on with our last breath. The only thing we want to do has always been sacrificing our lives to make an absolutely safe area. All we want is to have a conversation with you at least for once, to earn us the chance to bring you all the information we learned. We just want to bring some hope for the people who are guarding the Qing-Yun Realm."

Yue Changtian continued in a low voice, said, "I believe the conversation here today will do a great job after we are gone..."

"Perhaps this is the only thing we can do for this world with our lives!

"We must not fail to live as human beings!"

He bitterly smiled and said, "Maybe this is why we could still live up to the present."

Ye Xiao stayed silent.

The only thing he felt was the sincere respect in his heart.

Ye Xiao didn't know what had happened to these people, but he could imagine how hard it was.

How much did these men have to suffer, how disgraced and ashamed did they have to feel to survive the place where was surrounded by crowds of demonic monsters? How much did they have to compromise to earn that little trust from the demons to come this this place?

He could imagine. He could guess. However, he didn't want to.

Because... For these men who didn't fear to end their own lives, those things were nightmares that they would never want to remember.

They had suffered so much, compromised so much, but all they wanted was to come out and die in this place, bringing hope to Ye Xiao before it ended.

A chance to do this seemed to be such a little to ask for, yet they had to pay everything they had to get the chance!

Now they finally got it. They finally died in this place as they wished.

All those top-level superior cultivators died to seize the chance to send the message!

Ye Xiao felt like a mountain suppressing on his heart.

The suppression nearly took his breath. As he looked at those black clothes in the shadow of the grasses, all he could do was to make a long sigh with endless grief.

Because of people like these men in black clothes, the martial world in the Qing-Yun Realm had always been a place with justice and honor. The heritage was the dignity of these cultivators.

"What I am going to tell you have cost us too much. We have paid more than we could to collect the information bit by bit. I am sure it will bring you great help."

Yue Changtian's eyes focused again. He stared at Ye Xiao with fever in the eyes, and said, "Even though you already knew some and I have told you a little earlier, I think I should take the time to tell you everything from the start to the end. After all, it took all our lives to gather all the information together. I have to make sure you get everything."

"For these messages, many people died. Sometimes, we have to make mistakes on purpose just to get ourselves into that torture room, and collect information from inside."

Yue Changtian continued, slowly said, "Ye Xiao, listen up."

Ye Xiao was touched. He sat straight up and solemnly said, "Please, don't worry. I know how precious the intelligence is. I won't miss a word of it!"

Yue Changtian stayed quiet for a while. It seemed he was thinking about how to proceed with the speaking. After a while, he said, "First of all, this secret organization has a name, Demon Soul Dao. Their great leader, the Honor Demon, is very likely the first prime master in the history of the West Hall, the world's most powerful cultivator in the past, Zong Yuankai! He has been recognized as the best cultivator in the history of the Qing-Yun Realm... Hmm. We don't have solid evidence to prove this point, but I think it is ninety percent true."

Ye Xiao took a deep breath.

"The West Hall is the base of the Demon Soul Dao. That aside, the West Hall, which is known as a force that is as powerful as the West Hall, turns out to be just a subbranch of the West Hall. The West Hall has done such a great plan. How horrible and shocking!"

Ye Xiao was shaken up, and he widely opened his eyes in shock.

"About the West Hall, the power they have shown the world is not all they have got. Their true power is mostly hidden under the table. Under the base of the West Hall, there is a huge underground palace which is more than a thousand miles wide. Around the palace, there are strong energy shields, which can absorb the energy from the sky, the earth, the sun, and the moon. They are a natural system. Human power is never powerful enough to break through. Whoever wants to break through the shield must be prepared to give up their lives."

Yue Changtian was talking more and more solemnly, and he said, "That is not all. There are nine other bases of the Demon Soul Dao. Three of the nine bases are used to train their superior cultivators. All the demonic cultivators in the Demon Soul Dao will gather in the three bases for training. These places are called... the Death Trains!"

"Whoever is sent to the Death Trains must reach at least level seven of Dao Origin Stage to get out and be sent for missions. Or else they had to die inside. They either come out with superior cultivation level, or die inside!"

"I don't know how many people are in the three bases, but I know there are some people working in the three places as the Mentors. Each of them is an extraordinary cultivator, who is at least level nine of Dao Origin Stage. Mentors are in four grades, first, second, third, and fourth. The Mentors in the weakest grade are already level nine of Dao Origin Stage. I have no idea how many of them there are in total... There are four first-grade Mentors, and three super-grade Mentors. Wu Fa, the well known world's most powerful cultivator is one of the three super-grade Mentors!"

Hearing that, Ye Xiao felt like his head was going to explode in shock.

Wu Fa, the man who was though defeated, but still had much stronger cultivation power than Ye Xiao, was actually just one of the three super-grade Mentors in the organization!

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Chapter 1429: Demon Soul Dao

"There are people from the Demonic Soul Hall who take charge of another three bases. These three bases keep building altars for demons and made the entire Qing-Yun Realm a complete battle massacre. They kill people, and capture souls for the altars!"

"For now, nine great altars are almost completed after centuries of efforts. Nine altars on the basic stage. Do not underestimate the basic-stage altars. Each of the nine altars needed the heads, the soul, blood, and flesh from over thirty million cultivators beyond Dream Origin Stage. It is horrible."

"To fully complete an altar, it needs a lot more souls and blood of higher level cultivators."

"Only one altar is completed. The second one is nearly done—seventy percent completed..."

Ye Xiao's mouth twisted pretty hard when he heard it.

It took the souls and blood of more than thirty million cultivators who were beyond Dream Origin Stage to build the basic form of an altar! And it took the souls and blood of thirty million more cultivators who were at even higher levels to finish building the completed altar!

That meant it took the lives of at least sixty million cultivators beyond Dream Origin Stage to fully build an altar like that.

There were actually nine altars like that!

The nine altars were all in the basic form.

The first altar had been fully finished, and the second had been seventy percent completed.

That meant at least three hundred and twenty million cultivators had been killed for those altars.

How many cultivators were there in total in the Qing-Yun Realm?

Not to mention those were all cultivators, even the death of three hundred and twenty million ordinary people could be unbelievably horrible!

However, to finish the nine altars, two hundred million more cultivators would lose their lives!

Two hundred million lives!

Heaven was benevolent and it treated everything equally. The demons were much worse. Human beings were like ants to them. They did massacre in the Qing-Yun Realm and created swarming of unfortunates.

[That is...]

Ye Xiao was giving a rough thought about it, yet the rough thought had already terrified him.

"The organization started everything when Zong Yuankai founded the West Hall... They have been working on it to the present day." Yue Changtian said, "It has been ongoing for twenty thousand years."

[Twenty thousand years?]

Ye Xiao knew that Yue Changtian didn't exaggerate the number, but he still felt the cramp on both legs. Twenty thousand years was truly an incredibly long period.

"However, I couldn't think it through. Zong Yuankai had stepped ahead to the height of the heavens back to his days. He became famous and invincible. He is known as the first most powerful cultivator in the history of the Qing-Yun Realm. That is such a great and honorable title. The West Hall that he founded was the world's most powerful sect that nobody could even match it. Wasn't it such a great achievement in his life? Why would he cultivate the demonic martial arts, learn those vile and dark technique? Even if the demonic power did enhance him a lot, he was still the most powerful man in the world. Nothing changed so much. And he ruined his reputation. I truly don't understand why he would do it!" Yue Changtian sighed.

Ye Xiao didn't know much about these things, but he did have an answer to Yue Changtian's question. Zong Yuankai was probably a puppet, no better than a high-class puppet, and that was all!

Zong Yuankai's achievement came from the Divine Yin Yang Fruit. However, the fruits he took were something from the demon's realm. It certainly boosted him up to the top of the world, raised him up to the top of the Dao Origin Stage, but also brought the pure source of the demonic power. When he got the incredibly strong power, he started to become more and more of a demon himself.

It cost a lot to deal with the demons. Zong Yuankai had been improved greatly by the demonic Divine Yin Yang Fruits. His mindset was too weak for such strong power, so he was easy to become a demon. That wasn't such a big surprise really!

However, Ye Xiao couldn't tell Yue Changtian the answer. It was pointless to let Yue Changtian know... Besides, the truth would only fill in Yue Changtian's heart with more regret and helplessness. Was the Qing-Yun Realm going to survive the calamity of threats from a higher realm?

It wouldn't be so optimistic!

"Those things about Zong Yuankai were a long time ago, so I don't think we should stick on it. We should focus on the present time. According to the information I have obtained, within the twenty thousand years, especially in the first period—Zong Yuankai and his West Hall only worked on building the foundation in the Qing-Yun Realm. There weren't much of actual moves to be seen... During the years, in the organization, there were some people, who came from nowhere, who weren't even famous in the Qing-Yun Realm, who turned out to be so mysterious. These people were unbelievably powerful. People like us would be astounded by their incredible strength! Listen, if you fight against the Honor Demon one day, you must be cautious about those people I just said. They are all tough figures. Some of them are as powerful as Wu Fa, even stronger than him!"

Ye Xiao nodded. He figured that those people must be those from the House of Chaotic Storms.

They were horribly tough. The Red in the Sky was a vivid example of it. Ye Xiao would worry not overestimating these people. How could he underestimate them!

However, one thing didn't seem to be right. If things were exactly like Yue Changtian said, something had gone wrong.

If everything began twenty thousand years before, Master Bai shouldn't have started his great plan yet...

In fact, Master Bai's people didn't start all this. Well, that led to a new question for Ye Xiao... Who on earth could command the people of the House of Chaotic Storms, which was under Master Bai's lead?

Perhaps... There was something Ye Xiao didn't know and couldn't think of yet.

"The last three bases are used to train some special and secret assassins... What these assassins do is to do assassination like what happened on Xiao Mufei earlier. They raised and trained the assassins who looked like somebody close to the target and kill the target quietly and secretly. These assassins didn't have to be powerful. However, they had a shockingly high success rate!"

"Normally, the cost of raising and training that type of assassins always outweighs the gains, no matter how big the chance is to succeed. After all, no matter how much they pay on the assassins, the assassins were all one-time killers. However, the Demon Soul Dao is keen on it."

"It took me a lot to get to know why they would do it this way. They want the cultivators who were to be killed, experience heavens to hell in the assassination. They needed the cultivators to have desperate emotion when they die. The bursting energy of the negative emotion seems to be quite important for the organization. Perhaps, the demonic energy is simply the pile-up of countless negative things. As long as they could get the energy from the negative emotion, they would do anything! Those monsters do have completely different minds with us!"

Yue Changtian's eyes were full of worry and cautions. "However, the secret organization is huge and strong... It is horrible. Oh, there is another story. The completed altar, the first one of the nine, has the demon fire that will keep burning for ten thousand years. To maintain the demon flame, they need many high-level cultivators to sit around without moving a bit. It seemed like they were guarding the altar, but they were pouring their spiritual energy into the altar. They wouldn't stop until their lives reached the end. If the story is true, the demon fire must be some sort of a very special thing..."

"We were grieved and angry in the beginning. We kept thinking about killing ourselves if we got a good chance. However, as we stayed inside it for long enough, we have learned more than ever before. If we were going to die, we should at least do something to help you destroy this powerful but evil organization. We should at least do something for the bright sky in this realm before we die."

Yue Changtian smiled with self-mockery and said, "If we let the world down before we die, if we bring shame to this sky, this land, we must have wasted our entire lives. Haha."

Ye Xiao poured tea into the teacups, held up one teacup and drank up the tea in it.

The world created everything to raise people, yet people always turned against the world. Yue Changtian and the twelve men who were dead, with the men who died for the greatness like Tian Laojiu, had returned the favor to the world with their own lives!

"The organization has millions of people who are good at fights..." Yue Changtian looked at Ye Xiao in concerns, and said, "The Qing-Yun Realm may go to its end this time. They have trained so many powerful cultivators within the twenty thousand years that none of the great sects in the Qing-Yun Realm could defeat..."

"In fact, the two most powerful sects turn out to be on their side. They are actually their backup, or maybe the front force..."

Yue Changtian made a long sigh. "I hate it! I hate it so much!"

"One of the nine altars are completed. When I knew it, I was shocked and confused too. Wouldn't it be a lot easier and safer if they finished all the nine altars before starting the war? Wouldn't they be even more powerful?"

"However, I got to know more afterward. The information I got concluded for me... They could spend as much time as they want to finish all the nine altars. However, when one altar is completed, the other eight have to be completed in a limited time!"

"So far as I am concerned, the nine altars must be connected to each other. They have this energy flow going round and round, cycling around them. It must be a part of some great array formation. That array formation must be the real grand goal of the organization."

"Once the cycling is stopped, all they did before will become nothing. That is why they would show up to attack even knowing it was not a good time for them to do so..."

"What you have to do next is to destroy the altars and stop them from being completed."

"We have been searching for the locations of the nine bases, but only got four of them... Listen up, the four locations are..."

Yue Changtian's voice sounded deep and heavy. "It is fine if you are not going to fight any battle. However, if there is a battle, you must destroy them as soon as you can! Do not give your enemies any chance to rest... Do not show sympathy to your enemies."

His eyes were full of fear and hate. He said, "Do remember one thing. They are not human beings, but demons!"

"All the members in the Demon Soul Dao are completely demonic creatures, tools that are used to destroy the Qing-Yun Realm!"

Word after word, Yue Changtian told Ye Xiao the locations of the four bases, and Ye Xiao marked them down in his heart.

After telling Ye Xiao the most important information, Yue Changtian just sat at the stone table quietly and slowly drank his tea while thinking. Once again, he recollected all the information he had in the head thoroughly.

He had to make sure that he told Ye Xiao everything, every detail.

He had to do it!

Only after that, he could rest in peace!

The rising steam from the teapot smelled so good.

Yue Changtian was deep in thoughts.

Ye Xiao was waiting, quietly waiting.

"In the end, I want to say one more thing. All the honorable ones among the cultivators who were captured from the Heaven's Terrace will be dead soon. In the future, when you meet some of us, do not hesitate. Just kill them as fast as you can. It will be a great thing to do to send them to death!"

Yue Changtian added.

"I understand!" Ye Xiao finally spoke, and said, "But there is one thing I don't understand..."

Yue Changtian said, "What is it?"

"Wu Huitian and Yun Xiran, they were pretty good cultivators. However, I don't think they were that good." Ye Xiao said, "If they were that powerful, the Saint Sunlight Sect and the Saint Starlight Sect would be much higher ranked."

Yue Changtian blandly said, "It takes only a blink to decide whether one should be a human or a demon. Once a man chose the path to demons, his cultivation will be improved forty percent. Dealing with the demons may make you a demon, but also gives you power."

Ye Xiao stayed quiet for a while, and then said, "I see."

Yue Changtian stopped talking.

He was lost in thoughts again.

After a while, Yue Changtian finally spoke again in a low voice and said, "I guess this is it. I have told you all."

He paused and said, "I have told you whatever I know. What else do you want to know? Any questions for me?"

Ye Xiao stared at him and said, "I don't have any more questions. I want to know what else you haven't told me yet! Do you have anything more than you didn't say yet?"

Yue Changtian closed his eyes. His face looked in pain and grief again. He said, "No, I don't think I do. I think you know what you should do next!"

"Do not let the one hundred and twenty thousand disciples of the Cold Moon Palace be disgraced because of me!"

He stood up and said, "Ye Xiao, Ye Chongxiao, please remember. You never saw me today."

Ye Xiao spoke in a low voice, "The demonic soul mark isn't impossible to break."

Yue Changtian laughed. He didn't let Ye Xiao continue and just blandly said, "Twelve brothers of mine just sacrificed themselves here to build this Life Cage. Before this, a lot of people gave up their lives for today. People die to earn this conversation for me..."

"They must be lonely down there. They must be waiting. I should go with them." Yue Changtian slowly turned around and coldly said, "Ye Xiao, what happened in the recent days are the biggest disgrace for all of us. However, what we have been chasing after, by doing what we had to is the greatest pride."

"You know what I mean!"

"Don't stop me. Don't make me hate you."

Ye Xiao was stunned. He stared at the lonely shadow of Yue Changtian's back, watching him off. All that Ye Xiao could feel was the bitterness and pain in his heart.

...

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Chapter 1430: Thundering Up

When Ye Xiao left the place, his heart was still filled with the indescribable indignation and grief.

When Yue Changtian became a mass of glaring light before Ye Xiao's eyes, the only thought Ye Xiao had was to kill a way into the Demon Soul Dao and put on a massacre inside the organization.

He felt like he couldn't breathe no matter how he tried to open his mouth. The grief and sorrow took his breath away. The extreme anger had etched deep into his soul!

He didn't stop any longer and just flew up the mountain.

Xuan Bing and the others had been waiting by the cliff. When they saw Ye Xiao return, before they were ready to ask him about what had happened, they sensed the cold murderous intent that was filling his aura and the raging fury of him.

They were all shocked.

[What the hell happened?]

[Did he get ambushed down the cliff? Did he get hurt? It doesn't look like so. Although he is all filled up with the horrible murderous intent, his hands don't seem to have traces of any energy flow. He didn't operate martial arts down there. Where does this horrible murderous intent come from?]

The next moment, all of a sudden, Ye Xiao coldly said, "Everybody get back to the base. There is nothing here. Nothing to worry about."

His voice was cold like ice, emotionless.

The others heard him and they were all shocked. They had no idea what had happened and what was happening. Ye Xiao was the leader indeed, but he was always outgoing and nice, with that warm smile all the time. He was such a thoughtful man for everyone. They had no idea what was going on. It was... It was abnormal, wasn't it?

When everybody was thinking, being confused, they could clearly feel the indifference and coldness in Ye Xiao's inviolable words.

Almost all unknowingly, they started to follow the order to turn around.

When they had moved for a long distance...

Suddenly, they heard a long shrill shout sounding behind their backs, which seemed like tearing the entire world into halves. They were all shocked and frightened, so they looked back, only to see a stream of bright light shooting up through the sky into the heavens!

That shocking scene was definitely the most unforgettable thing they had ever seen in their lives!

Ye Xiao moved so fast. His movement made a long glaring rainbow light across the sky. The weapon in his hand was shining like all the lights in the world were gathering on that sword. In the speed of light, he moved past a thousand miles within one second!

Two ten-thousand miles high mountains were cracked when he moved past them!

The mountains that were piercing through the clouds started to fall down slowly after he went by.

The mountains fell down on the cliff where he had just returned from!

The cliff was shielded by the Life Cage, which meant if the blast came from inside the cage would break the shield, but the mountains falling onto it would not crack it. Ye Xiao was making a bit scene there,

making two huge mountains fall onto the cliff. The mountains were tens of thousands of feet higher than the cliff!

Two mountains cracked down!

The entire land was shaken by the blast. Within a thousand miles, there were long tens of feet that deeply cracked the ground...

It was an extremely destructive power that nobody had ever seen!

The cliff was totally covered and gone! No traces of the cliff could be found!

On the cliff, there was a new big mountain of rocks!

No matter what secrets there were under the cliff, everything was buried below the new mountain!

Ye Xiao waved his sword and made another long shout. His grieved sound pierced through the night sky like a thunder cracking, shaking the entire land. The clouds in the sky were all scattered.

Everyone who had witnessed the horrible power got frightened.

[What is wrong with Xiao Monarch? Why did he put on such a big scene? Did he have to?]

Everybody could hear the anger and grief in the two shouts. There was that deep hatred!

[What happened down below the cliff? What on earth happened?]

[What was it, that made the Xiao Monarch, Ye Xiao behave so unreasonably?]

Lei Dadi and the other two great elders were standing right in front of their camp, staring up at the strange changes in the sky.

When Ye Xiao's shouts cracked the sky twice, the three great elders sensitively noticed something different from Ye Xiao's voice—the deep grief and anger. The three old men were all shocked. Their faces turned pale for a while and then returned to being calm and peaceful. However, they were still dejected.

Ye Xiao's sword had collapsed two mountains by one move. As he returned to the base with his aura full of murderous intent, the first thing he did was to call for a meeting of all superior cultivators.

Lei Dadi and the other two old men came earlier than any others. The three of them all looked angry. Lei Dadi grabbed Ye Xiao and frankly asked, "Was it? How was it?"

Ye Xiao stayed silent for a while and then said, "Nothing. It was not him."

His eyes twinkled with avoidance though.

Lei Dadi was such an experienced cultivator in the world. Even though he asked like he needed the answer, he actually just wanted a console from Ye Xiao. He knew what happened. Holding back the tears in his eyes, he was shaking, nodded weakly and said, "That's right. it wasn't him! He is still alive. We should keep searching for him."

Ye Xiao sadly closed his eyes and said, "That's right. Whenever the disciples of the Cold Moon Palace go out, they should go look for our prime master. Everybody should try their best to find our prime master. No exception!"

Lei Dadi and the other two old men heard it and their eyes turned red in tears again. He fiercely said, "Chongxiao, this time when we fight against the demons, we three old brothers must be fighting in the front line!"

Ye Xiao was quiet for a while—then he took a long breath and said, "Well, that..."

"This and that, there is nothing else to say! It is a deal!" Lei Dadi's hairs were all silver. Eyes staring like two bolts of lightning and he said, "What is happening is a great disgrace to the entire Qing-Yun Realm. It is something we all have responsibility for... We want revenge! We are going to take revenge with our own hands!"

Revenge!

Ye Xiao slowly said, "Three masters, you are all stronger than anybody could imagine. It surely won't be a problem to have you fighting at the front line. However, you have to promise me one thing. I am sure it will be more persuasive."

"We won't eat that thing!"

Lei Dadi and the other two old men frankly turned it down.

They knew what Ye Xiao wanted them to do. When the three old men arrived at this place, Ye Xiao showed the three old men those fruits that could improve them greatly. If the three old men could eat the fruits, they could get rid of the restraining wounds from the fight against Wu Fa in the old days. However, unexpectedly, they all turned down the chance to become stronger.

"We know what we are. We are old. Our bodies are almost wasted. The fights from the old days have left us great damages. Even though we were mostly cured, thanks to you, our energy was too over consumed. Even if we eat those fruits and get fully cured—even if we become stronger, we won't be able to make it to the greatness of martial arts!"

"I think you should just keep the fruits for those who truly need them."

"It will be a waste to give them to us!"

Ye Xiao was helpless for the current situation.

Any one of the fruits was valuable enough for the entire Qing-Yun Realm to riot, let alone those were some fruits after Erhuo's purifying work. Now as he gave them to the three old men, none of the great elders accepted it!

"My great masters, if you don't eat these fruits, how do you think I can put you on the front line to fight those demons?" Ye Xiao frowned and said, "The demons we are fighting have tremendously vicious methods. No matter who on our side becoming stronger will increase our chance to win the war... How is that a waste?"

Before Ye Xiao finished the talking, Yun Piaoliu interrupted and said, "Hahaha... Are you serious, kid? Do you think we are too weak to kill in the battle if we don't eat your fruits? My dear disciple, you are underestimating us three."

Ye Xiao frowned and said, "Masters, the only way to victory is to become stronger..."

"Of course, it is absolutely most important to obtain stronger power... Nobody can deny that... However..." Lei Dadi tapped on Ye Xiao's shoulder and said, "First of all, we are three old men, who barely have the chance to get up to an upper realm... Second, even if we do luckily have a chance to ascend, we won't go. After all, the Cold Moon Palace needs us here. After this war, I don't think many of our best disciples can survive... We won't just ascend to the upper world leaving our people behind."

"A great sect needs some influential figures to hold the responsibility... Even if we will die in the battle, our death can at least save some younger people in our sect... Do you understand?"

"Chongxiao, you have a great future ahead. When the war is over here, you will leave for a greater realm, won't you? You don't belong to this world. We know it. We would surely like you to raise our sect up higher in the martial world, but there is not much we can shamelessly ask. It is not your duty to protect our sect. We won't let the sect become a restraint to you."

"Therefore, we won't eat that magical fruits. You will leave the Qing-Yun Realm and go to the Human Realm Upon Heavens one day. It is passing through from the lower realm to the higher one. You need as much power as possible."

In all sincerity, Lei Dadi said, "Kid, you should use these fruits to train more people that are loyal to you... You should prepare yourself a team... Take the good ones with you up to the upper realm. I know you will worry about us, but we worry more about you."

"All we need is to survive this war. I believe under the sky of the Qing-Yun Realm, nobody could kill us... It is just impossible." Lei Dadi looked at Ye Xiao nicely and said, "After you enter the Human Realm Upon Heavens, at least in the beginning, you will be treated like you are nothing by those really strong figures. You will be nothing... Perhaps, you don't think it necessary to worry about it, but as your masters, we shall worry about it for you."

Ye Xiao felt the warmth inside and he said, "That is about the future. What I am thinking is all about the battles to come soon..."

"There is no need to talk more." Lei Dadi waved his hand and said, "Not only us, but also your Disciple Brother Zhan... I don't mind if you gave him dan beads to increase their cultivation. However, do not give them the fruits."

Ye Xiao didn't understand. "Why?"

"Everybody had his own destiny. Zhan Yunfei and Zhu Jiutian are not like you and Li Wuliang... You two are unattached to any sects, but you have gone through so much more than others. How many miseries have you been through?"

Lei Dadi bitterly smiled and said, "Your mindsets are solid like rocks... What about them? They are far below the league... They grew up in the Cold Moon Palace, and certainly experienced more or less something from the martial world. However, their lives were still too easy... Their mindsets are only at

their current cultivation level. If you let them rise to the top of the world all of a sudden, even to the point that reaches the upper realm... I am afraid they will not make it alive through the ascending."

Ye Xiao heard that answer and got shocked.

It was truly a serious problem.

It was a problem Ye Xiao couldn't ignore, that he had to face!

That was right. When they broke through the limitation and ascended to the Human Realm Upon Heavens, they had to get through the heavenly tribulation.

If their mindsets were strong enough, if they were experienced enough, they wouldn't be able to complete their greatness in cultivation. If they went through the heavenly tribulation in a flawed condition, it would be difficult to survive the tribulation.

The Qing-Yun Realm had a long history. In the history of the Qing-Yun Realm, countless cultivators had once reached the top of the cultivation level to ascend to the upper realm. However, most of them were killed by the heavenly tribulation.

Lei Dadi's white hairs made him look lonely. He deeply said, "Over ninety-five percent of the cultivators who tried to transcend the tribulation died eventually... Only a few people successfully reached the great Human Realm Upon Heavens. In fact, there are only seven people known to us."

"Seven!" Ye Xiao was shocked. The number didn't seem right to him since he knew a different number. As he knew, there were only three people who successfully made it.

It was obvious that the great sects did have a lot more records of history.

"That's right. Seven people made it up to the Human Realm Upon Heavens. However, three of them were from the great sects. The other four were all unattached cultivators." Lei Dadi sighed and said, "Do you know why things were like that?"

Ye Xiao slightly bowed and said, "Please inspire me, master."

"Environment." Lei Dadi lowered his eyebrows and said, "That is it. Environment. The independent cultivators live in such a terrible environment... Most of the cultivators are self-governing in the martial world. Every one of them has to search for opportunities by all means alone. They look forward to the greatness in cultivation more than those who cultivate as disciples of some sects.

"For the self-ruling cultivators, the biggest shortage they have comparing to the disciples of the sects is their martial art."

"They don't have enough martial arts. They need martial arts that match their conditions. Disciples of a sect, especially disciples of a great sect, would get a test by the sects when they are recruited. They have their martial arts perfectly designed for them. It should be their advantage truly, but while that gives them advantages—it also set up the restraint on them. The best they could do is to reach the limitation of their martial arts. They are impossible to break through and surpass the people who created the martial arts they were cultivating! How are they going to reach greatness in cultivation?"

"The independent cultivators are quite different. They don't have many martial arts to learn. No matter what martial arts they learn, they treat martial arts as the most valuable things in the world. They would read the books, again and again, practice as much as they can. The path to success is a lot more difficult for them, but they just won't give up on any bit of hope to get stronger. When they get one martial art, it is more likely they will cultivate the martial art to a level that is higher than the creator could ever reach."

"Independent cultivators are moving on a difficult and painful path to the greatness of martial arts. They only have a few options. Some have no options at all. However, disciples in the sects always have their martial arts to learn, as long as they enter a certain level. They have a lot of martial arts to pick. Even if they have picked a wrong martial art, they can very possibly stop to pick another one right away."

"Independent cultivators do not have such chances. In fact, when they realize the martial art doesn't fit them, they had to keep cultivating, hoping they can defeat all difficulties and finally reach success. From example, some people are born with a body in fire attribution, but they may get a martial art that is in water attribution. The martial art is definitely not a good option for them, but would they give up? No! Absolutely not! They will try everything they can think of to make themselves match the martial art."

"Some would torture themselves for it; some would rob all kinds of medical materials that may help them change their body attribution; some will keep cultivating the water attributed martial art, being patient to the slow progress—they could go crazy while cultivating like that. They did everything, but never be scared by the difficulties."

"In such an environment, most of them have to stop in the middle of the path to the great martial art. However, the ones who succeed in the end will become great cultivators who have stronger will power and mindsets. In fact, the independent cultivators have stronger mindsets and will power than the disciples of the sects. The disciples absolutely have much better martial arts, but the independent cultivators work much harder on studying martial arts!"

At this moment, the Moon Queen, Xuan Bing, Xue Danru, and Jun Yinglian all gathered over.

As they heard Lei Dadi speaking about cultivators' difference, they all quieted down and just listened.

Lei Dadi had opened a gate to talk, so he couldn't stop, not even more people have come over to listen.

"Attitude is the second reason... Those who are qualified to be disciples in a big sect must be outstanding among the others. Some disciples have miserable childhoods because of poverty, only got recruited by luck, but since they are able to win the selection, they are good. They are definitely talented people."

"No matter how poor they used to be, how tough life was for them when they are successfully recruited and become a member of a great sect, all that they have been through only brings them confidence and power... However, it also brings them arrogance."

"Living in the martial world could be truly difficult for many independent cultivators. The disciples of a sect could solve a problem by telling people the name of their sect some times. That is why people in a great sect are always arrogant."

"That is why a disciple of a sect and an independent cultivator are always so different... Even though they have been through the same much practical fights, they have different attitudes to the fights. The disciple has his sect as his support, so he is confident. The independent cultivator never stops feeling the danger around. Every move they make, they are cautious like walking on the frozen lake. In fact, the independent cultivators definitely pay more time training themselves than the disciples of some big sects."

"As time goes by, the men who come through the other independent cultivators are always to become some great cultivators in the world. There aren't many of them though. Perhaps only one will show up within hundreds of years among a billion people. However, whoever is one of them, he must be like a conqueror to the world."

Lei Dadi blandly said, "Let's not reach far. Let's see the most powerful cultivator in the world, Wu Fa, or Zong Yuankai, another famous champion. Think about these people, the Fierce Blade, Li Wuliang, and the Xiao Monarch, Ye Xiao..."

"Wu Fa was an independent cultivator back to the first few years. He didn't belong to any sects. Before Zong Yuankai founded the West Hall, he was a disciple of a small sect, which was destroyed afterward, and he became an independent cultivator in the end..."

"Wu Fa, Zong Yuankai, and Ye Xiao—three cultivators, who have sat on the chair of the most powerful cultivator in the world. If you think about it, you will find no disciples of any sects ever sat on that chair."

When Lei Dadi talked about this, he spoke in a casual tone. However, what he said was like thunder striking on the others who were leaders of different sects.

Xuan Bing, Xue Danru, and the Moon Queen all had the same thought. [That is true. Disciples in a sect obviously have much more resources and advantages in cultivation than independent cultivators. They are cultivating in such favorable circumstances. However, none of any disciples in any sects ever became the world's most powerful cultivator!]

Ye Xiao felt a little bit ashamed though. His mindset will power, and strength was beyond all other disciples in the sect. He never doubted that. However, he didn't work that hard to get what he had. What gave him the extraordinary power was the East-rising Purple Qi, and the defined Divine Yin Yang Fruits from Erhuo. In fact, Zong Yuankai and Wu Fa also became that powerful for the Divine Yin Yang Fruits!

What made them great cultivators was their good luck. A good fortune was known as part of one's power, but Ye Xiao still blushed when Lei Dadi praised him like that!

One thing was sure. Lei Dadi was telling the truth.

Fate and fortune treated everybody equally.

In fact, the disciples from those sects had advantages.

If independent cultivators could get good luck, then they deserved good luck.

Lei Dadi made a sigh and said, "More and more superior cultivators keep showing up from all the great sects. The most powerful one is Xuan Bing, the great elder of the Misty Cloud Palace... She is so close to the chair of the most powerful cultivator, but always one step below it.

"We must think deeper about it. We must reflect on our mistakes."

The Moon Queen frowned and said, "Elder Lei, do you mean... Do you mean disciples like us are worse than independent cultivators? Do you mean... Do you mean all that we have been supporting our disciples with are wasted? Are we wrong?"

She was not questioning. Instead, she was humbly seeking for the truth.

Lei Dadi was such an experienced cultivator, so he was smart enough to tell the difference. He thought for a while on how to bring it up right and then said, "Well, it would be exaggerated to say that it is wrong... Perhaps, we should say that it is limited. One thing is for sure though. All sects have chosen a few wrong steps."

"Please, I would love to hear more." The Moon Queen humbly said.

"Well, if you want me to say what exactly it is, I can't. I have no idea what it is. Moon Queen, please don't think I am being sensitive. I do have the feeling, but I just don't know how to express it. I don't even think you can feel what I feel. It is ambiguous inside my head."

Lei Dadi bitterly smiled and said, "If I can figure it out and point out exactly what it is, I won't say these words to you. Why not keep it a secret to myself and raise up the Cold Moon Palace to the top of the world. We might rule the world for it."

The others all laughed.

Lei Dadi was being honest and reasonable.

"If you want me to share the thoughts I have, I can tell you what I learned. I think it is reasonable that the sects do their best to support their disciples, but sometimes when you protect the kids too hard, you are restraining them at the same time. The name of the sects protects them well when they walk in the martial world... However, that is why our disciples never feel the hidden threats and dangers like independent cultivators. Those people, they are cultivating anywhere anytime, because they have to face all kinds of challenges all the time... The crisis pushes them up."

"No matter what, I am telling the truth. In fact, only people like us—this powerful—in this position, can think of what I said. The fear of the hidden dangers is what makes a cultivator great. That is the true taste of the martial world that all cultivators should taste."

"At the same time... The difficulties were essential for cultivators to get through so that they can become great."

"If iron isn't smelted, no matter how good the material is, it won't become great. When a piece of iron is thrown into the furnace, it had no rights to choose what is going to happen. It only accepts whatever is going to happen. Refining, smelting, polishing... Only after all those difficulties, it can become a stunning weapon. Likewise, it is the same—that cultivator has to get through all kinds of sufferings and difficulties before he becomes great!"

Lei Dadi continued and said, "This is how I think of why there has never been a disciple of a sect who can sit on the chair of the most powerful cultivator. For so many years, among the seven people who made it reach the upper realm, only three are disciples of sects—while the other four are all independent cultivators."

Xue Danru frowned and said, "Doesn't it mean we don't need sects? Did our ancestors waste their time building all these things for us?"

"No. Prime Master Xue, you are going to the other extreme end here. We naturally need sects, but... the problem relies on education... The way we train our disciples must be improved..."

Lei Dadi said, "That is what we should do to make our disciples better cultivators."

The others were also clever people. They all understood what Lei Dadi meant, but they still frowned.

What Lei Dadi said seemed to be reasonable, but it was not practical. It was easy to speak but impossible to do.

Even if a sect didn't try to protect the disciples, the fame of the sect will always protect the disciples no matter when. The power of the great names of the sects is invisible but powerful, and overwhelming.

"It is good that we found the problem. There must be one or more ways to solve a problem. It only takes time. There will be some day that we have a solution for that." The Moon Queen spoke.

She was right. The problems with training disciples were going to be solved in a short time. The calamity was right ahead of the entire martial world. It would be quite a waste of time to keep digging in such a problem.

Ye Xiao rubbed his own head. [There are many people here, which means I don't have the chance to make the three old men eat the fruits anymore...] In a deep voice, he said, "Now we know what we should be dealing with on the education issue. That aside, let's talk about the serious business right now."

"What serious business?" The others asked.

Ye Xiao said it was a serious business, which meant it was an important matter to all. The others all stopped digging the topic Lei Dadi had brought about. They certainly knew what they should pay attention to first.

It didn't mean they all forgot what they had been discussing. They just kept that in their minds and tried to solve the problem someday afterward. Lei Dadi had revealed a big problem that all the sects had at the same time, which was also a shame to all of them.

After all, the sects had a lot of talented disciples. They gave the disciples all kinds of supports, including resources, tutorials, martial arts, and medicines... However, no matter how much they had done for the disciples, their people could not go as far as the independent cultivators did...

That was the truth.

Lei Dadi gave a hint to Ye Xiao by eye contact. In his eyes, there was hope and concern.

Ye Xiao knew exactly what Lei Dadi's hint meant.

[Use those fruits on the people you can trust. Build your own army. Take the happiness with you... to the Human Realm Upon Heavens!]

[We would love to see it. We hope that you can make it!]

Lei Dadi did not say anything about that, but he expressed it clearly through that hint through eye contact.

Ye Xiao felt warm in his heart.

He took a deep breath to calm down.

"Today, there is something important—I need you to come and discuss with me." Ye Xiao said, "The business about your sects is important. I agree with that. However, it is something that can't be late to solve after the war is over. What we have to face soon is something that concerns our life and death."

The others all looked at Ye Xiao.

Ye Xiao half closed his eyes, which made him look cold and fierce. He blandly said, "I have done something secretly, which now has helped me figure out everything about the secret organization. Now I am going to share the information with you, and we can make a plan about it afterward."

The others were all shocked. They looked at Ye Xiao and said, "Really?"

They surely were stunned. These people were eighty percent of the most powerful people in the Qing-Yun Realm. In the earlier months, these people had tried everything they could to collect the information about the secret organization, yet there was not much they had obtained. Their understanding of the secret organization was still superficial. They all knew how important intelligence was. That was why they had a headache about the issue. However, there was nothing they could do. Now as Ye Xiao told them he knew everything, they surely were inspired and shocked!

"I am telling the truth!" Ye Xiao waved one hand, and two men walked into the camp.

They were Ning Biluo and Zhao Piantian.

"Guys, these two fellows are my good friends, my brothers. Years ago, I sent them into the secret organization, and I lost contact with them for some time. Now we are together again. It is interesting that the secret organization actually sent them back to me to do their undercover works while they didn't know they are my people!"

Ye Xiao sneered and said, "I would never agree to the people who say the heavens bless the nice ones. However, the secret organization actually sent back the men who turn out to be my men. I have to admit that fate is ruling everything! We are the blessed side of this war!"

People all started to laugh.

After a while, everybody cast their hasty look at Zhao Pingtian and Ning Biluo.

Ning Biluo started to tell everything he learned slowly, trying not to miss any details. However, there was something he decided not to tell—things about Rou'er. He also lied about the time when he

entered the secret organization. He got in only one year earlier, but he said he had stayed in the organization for a few years.

He had to lie about the time, because, after all, he knew too much to collect within one year. He had to tell things he knew, and also things that Ye Xiao learned from Yue Changtian too.

Yue Changtian decided to die and build the Life Cage to keep his true identity a secret to the world. Ye Xiao could not go against the man's wish!

In fact, the information Rou'er collected was more than precious to the people. If Ning Biluo told the people that he got all the information within just one year, people might not believe him. In fact, people might suspect that he and Zhao Pingtian were still on an undercover mission for the organization!

At first, Ning Biluo did not agree to do this job. He did not want to take the credit. However, after Ye Xiao told him the story about Yue Changtian's sacrifice, Ye Xiao talked to Ning Biluo and said, "Ning, do you want Prime Master Yue's name get stained? If you don't want to do this job, I won't force you."

Ning Biluo changed his mind when he heard so.

"What a hero to the world! It is a shame that he can't be remembered as a hero forever! How can I let his name get stained?" That was what Ning Biluo said in the end.

Ning Biluo kept telling everybody everything, and the people who were listening became more and more frustrated.

They had imagined how horrible the secret organization could be!

However, they still could not believe how powerful and vicious the organization could actually be! They were shocked!

The organization was not only powerful itself, but also tightly connected to the East Hall and the West Hall.

The nine training bases were also something terrifying to the others.

The altars, the manipulation, the massacre, and the inhumanity...

The well-known most powerful cultivator Wu Fa turned out to be a member of this organization, not even an important one.

That was all.

They were simply sharing the information, yet the truth had stricken everybody in the heart. They were all taking a cold breath.

"For now, this is it. I have said everything we know... The locations of those training bases are undefined... We wanted to stay among them for a longer time, but after the mole-cleansing issue, we don't think we can go back now."

After the talk, Ning Biluo looked at the people in concern and said, "We are all on the same side. I won't waste time on making polite remarks. We seem to have a lot of good people, but comparing to them, we are... quite weak."

"We may have as many top-level cultivators as they do, but as for the middle-level ones... We lost them a big one."

After a few seconds of silence, the Moon Queen abruptly looked up—sharply stared at Ning Biluo and said, "Thank you for sharing the information, Ning. We appreciate it. However, I have one question for you. I hope you don't mind. According to what you just said, you should be manipulated by the Demon Soul Dao's special martial art too. How did you..."

Before he finished the question, the others all knew what she was going to say.

[You said that all those heroes lost their minds after getting into the organization and became killing tools for the organization. What makes you two an exception?]

That was a question that stayed in everybody's mind. It was a critical moment before the war started, so they surely would not dare to be careless. Even though Ning Biluo and Zhao Pingtian did bring a lot of secret information to them, they could not just ignore the questionable point for it!

They knew it might hurt the two guys, but they had to ask!

Ning Biluo looked at Zhao Pingtian. He felt sorry about it because he had to mention Rou'er to explain the truth.

Ye Xiao, Ning Biluo, and Zhao Pingtian had discussed it earlier. They would not expose Rou'er if they did not have to. That was why Ning Biluo avoided mentioning Rou'er in the previous talk. However, since the Moon Queen had asked such a question, and the others all wanted to know the answer, Ning Biluo had to tell the truth!

He had to expose Rou'er, or he would lose the trust of these people.

He had to make the decision!

Zhao Pingtian took a breath and blandly said, "We got rid of their manipulation because of my wife."

"Your wife?" The others all asked.

They were all experienced cultivators in the martial world, so they knew that there must be something this man did not want to share if he kept from mentioning his wife previously. However, his wife must be the key role to get rid of the manipulation. It meant there might be a way to manipulate the demons with some reverse method. Everybody wanted to know the truth about this part and so they had to ask!

They knew it was pushing Zhao Pingtian, but they had to do it!

Zhao Pingtian did not speak. He thought for a while and then said, "Rou'er, please show yourself."

In the air, some energy flows and waved in the void. A soft voice answered, "I am here. I haven't left."

The others were all shocked. They all looked over and saw a shadow showing up from nothing, slowly becoming a lady.

Rou'er had shown her beautiful body, but she was still not physically a person, only like smoke or mist in the shape of a lady.

Zhao Pingtian's face looked painful. In a hoarse voice, he said, "This is my wife, Rou'er. Her physical body was ruined in an accident. By some great luck, she became a cultivating ghost. She helped us get rid of the manipulation. She also helped us collect all the information that Ning Biluo just shared to you..."

He turned around and looked at his wife. Rou'er was looking at him too. Zhao Pingtian's voice sounded hoarse and he said, "This is a pity of my life..."

Nobody talked. It was silent.

They were all top-class cultivators in the Qing-Yun Realm. They all had sharp eyes that were much more profound than ordinary people. They had never seen a cultivating ghost, but they knew it was possible for a ghost to cultivate. When Rou'er showed up, they did not feel any energy wave at all. They were just confused about it.

Rou'er said that she was there all the time, which meant that these cultivators all failed to sense her existence. It was impressive already.

The cultivating ghost was indeed incredible!

"My apology." The Moon Queen felt sorry for what she had to do.

No matter who she was, she was a woman. What she admired the most was the pure love between a lucky couple. Zhao Pingtian and Rou'er had been with each other, but could not actually touch each other. Even so, they had not left each other ever. The Moon Queen, even all women, were jealous of such a romantic love story.

The Moon Queen had to force Zhao Pingtian to tell everybody this unspoken truth, so she felt guilt filling inside her heart!

In fact, the Moon Queen was not alone, because Xue Danru, Yue Shuang, and Yue Han—all the female elders felt the same!

Zhao Pingtian blandly said, "I understand. It is a serious issue, which concerns the future of the entire Qing-Yun Realm. I know that it cannot only depend on our words to start a war against the East Hall and the West Hall... We two are not that trustworthy. It is a business concerning billions of people's lives. We understand."

Everybody nodded but said nothing.

When Rou'er showed up, they all had the answer in their hearts.

It was true that only the high-level cultivating ghost that only existed in myth could enter and leave the Demon Soul Hall freely!

Now that the information was proved to be true, what left to do was to face the problem!

"The East Hall! The West Hall!"

"The Demon Soul Dao!"

"The nine bases!"

"The nine altars!"

"The countless high-level cultivators! Over one million middle-level cultivators!"

Every piece of information was like a bolt of unendurable lightning striking on everybody's heart!

...