

Firmament 1551

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Chapter 1551: I ain't Convinced!

Master Yun made the first step, and over two thousand men behind him move along. They were like a river rushing ahead.

Bu Xiangfeng, Meng Youjiang, and Lei Dongtian felt angry when they watched those men leave.

They had stayed together for several days. How could they turn against each other just because of a mistake?

Master Yun looked upset. He walked over to Ye Xiao but didn't look at Ye Xiao's face. "Monarch Ye, I am sorry."

Ye Xiao smiled and nodded. Nobody knew what was in his mind. He softly said, "Master Yun, take care."

Master Yun nodded and sighed. He then walked away.

The Yun Clan had left the Monarch's Hall.

There were over ten thousand men watching this. Nobody made a sound.

People of the Department of Battle watched those men leave, and they were all angry.

Master Yun was the first. Master Ju followed. Master Ju sighed and started to walk to the other side.

Master Ju's people were leaving as well.

Ye Yunduan watched Ye Xiao's face.

He could see how frustrated Ye Xiao was.

For the first time, Ye Yunduan couldn't hide the gloating in his eyes. He said, "Brother Ye, I wonder how it feels to watch all these people leaving you?"

Ye Xiao blandly said, "I have no special feelings. I must let go of whatever that doesn't belong to me. It is the right thing to do!"

"How open-minded, Brother Ye!" Ye Yunduan looked at him and said, "Don't you feel upset? Frustrated? Your men are leaving. I don't see why you should embrace this!"

Ye Xiao smiled and slightly shook his head to Ye Yunduan.

His eyes were full of disappointment. He said, "When you wear a mask long enough, it becomes your face!"

Ye Yunduan humphed and stopped talking with both of his hands behind his back.

As the Ju Clan left, Master Song was still thinking about something, keeping his head low. Master Qin kept urging him, and he eventually moved with a sigh.

"Old Song!"

Master Guan abruptly shouted. His voice wasn't as clear as usual but hoarse.

Master Song turned around and looked at Master Guan. Master Guan was shaking, staring back at Master Song.

Master Guan was breathing heavily, and his face seemed to have more wrinkles.

"Old Guan, we were wrong!" Master Song said. He didn't dare to look at Master Guan's eyes. He turned over, and said, "It is time to go."

"No!" Master Guan suddenly shouted. "We are not wrong! I have no idea why it came to this, but the Bloodline Jade Plate is never wrong!"

"We have worked so hard! Somebody showed up and said we were wrong! Why should we listen?"

Master Guan shouted and said, "The Bloodline Jade Plate is an instruction of the Great Ancestor! It is an instruction of our clan! We are not wrong! There is something wrong here!"

Master Qin said in a solemn voice, "Old Guan, stop this nonsense! The truth is before our eyes. You can't deny it! Master Changqing is the descendant of the Great Ye Clan. Our ancestors proved it! We all recognized it! Don't be silly!"

"I don't believe it!" Master Guan raged up and said, "What did the Bloodline Jade Plate show us? Was it wrong?"

"The Bloodline Jade Plate doesn't prove anything! Master Changqing is the true descendant of the Great Ye Clan. He is the man the seven clans have been waiting for!" Master Qin frowned and said, "Everything about Master Yunduan proves him the descendant of the Great Ye Clan! That is the truth!"

"I haven't received the message from the ancestor of my clan. I won't leave without his order!" Master Guan was shaking, and he refused to move.

"Why do you have to get a message from the ancestors?" Master Qin was impatient. "Old Guan, we all see the truth. Why do you have to be so stubborn?"

"Stubborn? I am simply insisting on my principle!" Master Guan said to the other old masters and said, "You noticed the sign on the Bloodline Jade Plate first, and you wanted me to do this!"

"Didn't you tell me to support this young man?"

"Didn't you tell me to treat this young man as our nephew? Didn't you want me to care for him and help him?"

"Didn't you say that the Guan Clan will make the first move and become a part of the young man's organization?"

"Here I am. I have devoted everything my clan has to the Monarch's Hall!"

Master Guan was angry and sad. He said, "I watched the Monarch's Hall grow. I have seen it develop into a great force today!"

“I watched Ye Xiao, a level-two Faery Origin Stage shrimp, become a level-six Divinity Origin Stage cultivator within half a year!”

“I saw him getting through all the difficulties, struggling under the oppression of those powerful forces. I know how the Monarch’s Hall developed!”

“I witness everything here. I felt his struggles. His efforts. His sadness... I can still feel it! I didn’t believe a young man could do this in such a short time.”

“I am impressed. I am happy for him. I think I have met the right man. I think the Seven Golden Lotuses are going to rise again!”

“I watched him. I cared for him. I worried about him. I felt happy for him. It is like I was watching my own child improving step by step! Do you understand how happy that feels?”

“I still feel it!”

“I have given all I have to this place. I love this place. I want to keep it going. However, you told me this was wrong! Now you want me to leave this place and join the other side!”

Master Guan shouted and said, “Are you all morons? Can’t you at least think clearly?”

“Whenever I went back and told you how things were going in this place, you all praised and applauded for it. What did you say? ‘He is the descendant of the Great Ye Clan indeed! How incredible!’”

“Now you changed. Just like that! You changed easily!”

“What is this? This is betrayal! This is dishonorable! This is infidelity!”

Master Guan angrily shouted. His voice was like a thunderclap, striking everybody’s ears.

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Chapter 1552: Merciless

The angry shout was resounding in everybody’s heart.

The six old masters on Ye Yunduan’s side all felt ashamed. They knew that Master Guan was right. They pushed Master Guan out to do all the works in the Monarch’s Hall. The six other masters had been hiding behind the scene. They were supporting Master Guan.

Now, they urged Master Guan to give up on Ye Xiao.

Ye Yunduan’s appearance had changed everything!

The Seven Golden Lotuses should support the real descendant of the Great Ye Clan. They wouldn’t deny it. In fact, the six old masters were doing their jobs. Even though Master Song, Master Yun, and Master Ju did not really want to do this, they had no choice. Besides, they weren’t as close to Ye Xiao as Master Guan. Master Guan had done so much, and it wasn’t easy for him to give it up right now.

In fact, what he gave to the Monarch’s Hall was not that important. What hurt him was the love and care he gave to the Monarch’s Hall. It wouldn’t be easy for him to just leave!

This might not be a good metaphor, but it showed a part of the truth. He was like a young lady who loved a young man and had been through a lot with him. While the lady and the man finally had their sweet days to come, somebody came to tell the young lady, "You made a mistake. That man is not your Mister Right. Leave him, and go to your fiancé over there."

How did the lady feel?

It was not a good metaphor, but that was the truth. It showed how Master Guan felt at the moment.

The other six old masters knew that it was difficult to calm Master Guan.

They truly had done wrong to him. However, it was a matter of the Seven Golden Lotuses. They had been waiting for a hundred thousand years for this descendant to come. Now the six of the seven clans were together on the right one's side. No matter how unwilling the Guan Clan was, they must stick to the right choice...

None of them dared to say it though. If any of them dared to say it out, Master Guan would fight with his life against it!

Ye Xiao was touched. His eyes were full of emotions. He took a deep breath and held the emotion back to the bottom of his heart. He stepped forward and coldly said, "Master Guan, I know what you mean. I am grateful for what you did. However... your clan is one of the Seven Golden Lotuses. Nobody can deny it. I am not the man you want. We are not the same... So..."

"Go now." Ye Xiao said.

"Lord Monarch... Even you... Do you want me to go?" Master Guan stared at Ye Xiao and said, "Do you know that after I leave, the Monarch's Hall will collapse? Do you know after what you just did, the seven clans would never let the Monarch's Hall live? This is not a joke. You must know."

Ye Xiao peacefully said, "I know. However, I don't want to be slandered. I don't want to mislead somebody else to keep myself safe. I would rather die with dignity than live dishonorably."

"I, Ye Xiao, would rather die standing... than live by bowing under another's roof!"

Master Guan was shaking harder. His white beards were flickering. After a while, he shouted and said, "I want to check the Bloodline Jade Plate again!"

Master Qin was annoyed. "Old Guan, this is insane. Master Yunduan is the true descendant. The ancestors of our clans proved it. What do you want? What do you want to prove?"

Master Guan's eyes were full of anger. He said, "Qin Wudao, now I know how vile you are! When you got benefits from Lord Monarch, what did you say? Didn't you enjoy those dan beads so much? Who never stopped praising the young man? Now that one thing changed, and you pointed at me! Do you think those dan beads were free? Master Ye gave them to me, and that was the only reason you were lucky to have some! I didn't keep them to myself, and Master Ye wasn't a fool to let me keep so many dan beads to myself!"

Qin Wudao's face turned red, and he humphed. "That was a different time. Things have changed. What is the point to live in the past?"

Master Guan bitterly smiled and angrily said, “A different time, huh? Live in the past, huh? Qin Wudao, you are such a shameless sh*t! Give me back the dan beads then! I don’t want them all back. Just give me one! Can you do that?”

Qin Wudao’s face turned really red as if his face was bleeding. However, he couldn’t say a word. The dan beads he obtained from Master Guan were perfect cures for his illness. He ate them when he got them. Those dan beads were all in the supreme level. He could never find one supreme dan bead to give back to Master Guan. Everybody knew the truth, so he could not lie about it!

In fact, the dan-making industry in the Human Realm Upon Heavens was the same as the Land of Han-Yang and Qing-Yun Realm. Supreme dan beads only existed in tales. Any supreme dan bead could drive all the dan makers in the Human Realm Upon Heavens crazy.

Qin Wudao talked like the dan beads were not that important, but he knew it was not true. Ye Xiao gave these people too many supreme dan beads, which made people thought that a supreme dan bead wasn’t that rare!

Ye Yunduan did not want to wait anymore because he wanted Ye Xiao to make dan beads for him. He knew that Ye Xiao was a great dan maker. That was why he showed himself and did all this!

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Chapter 1553: Yue Youyou

Master Qin realized it immediately. It was fine to have a quarrel with his old brothers, but he couldn’t disgrace himself by chicanery in speaking. He knew he did a wrong thing, and he couldn’t deny it because it would truly hurt the other’s feelings!

Master Guan coldly said, “Why stop? Didn’t you feel so right about yourself? Why stay silent? You got such a great thing from him, and now you are so eager to turn against him! How could you? Does silence make help you escape? I never know you are such a shameless man, Qin Wudao! If your cultivation is as good as your shamelessness, you will be invincible in the world...”

Master Guan kept scolding him, and he didn’t dare to talk back. His face turned red, blue, green, and then colorless. What a play of face changing!

Master Guan was still angry, and he even started to blame the other old masters. Suddenly, somebody said something loudly.

“Stop this now. As you wish, let’s check the Bloodline Jade Plate!”

A silver lane of light shined in the sky.

A long stream of light was tearing the sky apart.

A middle-aged man suddenly showed up, who was in white clothes, looking down at the crowd with a pair of cold eyes.

“Great Ancestor.” People of the seven clans knelt down at the same time.

Ye Yunduan was respectful too. He slightly bowed and said, "Ancestor Yue."

The middle-aged man paced down to the ground casually from the sky, as if he was stepping down the stairs. Every step he made, a moon and a golden lotus would appear and hold his foot.

Everybody felt peaceful and calm as this man showed up.

Ancestor Yue seemed to walk pretty slowly, but actually, he was fast. Within seconds, he had reached Ye Xiao.

That was incredibly fast. He wasn't faster than Erhuo, but he was special!

Ye Xiao looked at the man, without fear in his eyes. He was calm.

Ancestor Yue looked at Ye Xiao and then turned around to look at Ye Yunduan. He seemed to feel difficult.

As he looked at Ye Xiao again, he smiled and said, "I haven't shown myself to the public for a hundred thousand years. Now here I am, for what happened a hundred thousand years ago. There is always a reason for something. You have done something I never expected, young man. This is complicated now."

Ye Xiao blandly smiled and said, "That is not true. The young Master Ye over there is recognized. I, the Monarch Ye, is simple too. However, it is surprising."

People of the seven clans all felt frightened. They obviously never knew that Ye Xiao dared to be so unruly while talking to Ancestor Yue. They wanted to shout and stop Ye Xiao, but they didn't dare to even talk loudly in front of their Great Ancestor.

"I am Yue Youyou. Have you heard of my name?" The middle-aged man smiled. He wasn't angry at all. When he asked the question, he seemed to be quite interested.

It was so strange. Everybody felt like the world had just gotten through another one hundred thousand years within a few seconds!

Everybody felt blank.

"I do." Ye Xiao stood straight up and smiled. "The Seven Golden Lotuses and the Great Ye Clan. You are the Phantom Moon, Yue Youyou."

"You have crossed the entire Limitless Ocean with one step and slaughtered the three Sky Immortals in the old days. You have guarded the south gate of the East Sky with one sword in your hand for ten days. A moon over the north of the city. Nobody could get in or out the south gate of the capital of the East Sky. That is legendary. Of course, I know."

Ye Xiao talked with respect, but in his eyes, there was only indifference.

Yue Youyou made a sigh and said, "That is a long time ago..."

He asked, "Master Ye Yunduan, one of the things Ye Xiao just said isn't true. Do you know which one?"

Ye Yunduan was surprised. *'One of them is not true? What?'*

'How do I know?'

'That was over a hundred thousand years ago... How am I supposed to know? Nobody told me about it ever anyway.'

However, he was the descendant of the Great Ye Clan, a child of the Great Master Ye's bloodline. If there is any secret about his clan, he must know about it. Yue Youyou didn't intentionally make trouble for him.

Ye Yunduan bitterly smiled and respectfully said, "I don't know."

Yue Youyou humphed and casually said, "Well, so be it. How many of the things that Ye Xiao just mentioned do you know?"

Ye Yunduan was surprised again. He knew that lying was never going to work while talking to a powerful man like Yue Youyou. If he lied, it would disgrace himself. Even though he didn't want to, he answered with honesty, "I haven't heard much about it. In fact, I know none of those things."

Yue Youyou nodded. He was still calm, and he just blandly said, "Right."

After that, he didn't ask Ye Yunduan anything anymore. After a while, he broke the silence and asked Ye Xiao again, "Ye Xiao, how did you get to know all those things? They could be some stories in the old days. I believe they should be forgotten after all these years... It was over a hundred thousand years ago after all. Men forget. They always do."

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Chapter 1554: Bloodline Test

Ye Xiao blandly said, "People tell stories, but they are eventually forgotten. The pen that writes history is sharper than a knife. It writes stories and creates legends. There are books that have recorded the stories of great people like you. When I was drinking with Master Guan and the other old masters, I got to know the Seven Golden Lotuses and the Heaven's Leaf. After that, I have been collecting information. I guess it wasn't a waste of time in the end.

"After collecting enough information, according to the information, I roughly know the personalities of the seven great cultivators of the Seven Golden Lotuses... In fact, if my information is correct, I even know how many wives they had and what they feared for... Let's say I know many personal things about them..."

Ye Xiao blandly smiled.

Everybody saw the gloating behind the bland smile. What he meant was obvious. *'I even know their personal issues, which means I surely know those big events about you!'*

"Forgetting is a man's nature. All men forget. A hero is a hero. The story of a hero will be forgotten, but there is something that can keep the stories, which is a history book."

Ye Xiao smiled and said, "There are some ancient books that have recorded the stories of the heroes in the old days. People should remember the heroes! People who have no great ambition will never step on the road beyond clouds."

Master Yun was shocked. As he looked at Ye Xiao, he was touched. In his eyes, there was fire.

'People who have no great ambition will never step on the road beyond clouds!'

The ancestor of the Yun Clan was Yun Duanlu. The name Yun Duanlu meant the road beyond clouds.

What Ye Xiao said was a famous saying of Yun Duanlu. The ancestor made it the creed of his clan to warn his descendants, from generation to generation.

There was a story about that saying too. Yun Duanlu's brothers got to know the creed, and they all thought that it sounded like he was showing his own weakness to people.

Stepping on the road beyond the clouds was fine. It was not a problem to encourage others to do so. However, because the man who said so was named Yun Duanlu, it was a problem. How could Yun Duanlu, their brother, be stepped on by anybody?

However, Yun Duanlu explained to his brothers and said, "A road is a road. Even though it is beyond the clouds, it is still just a road. People have to step on it, and it has to be stepped on. I am not belittling myself because I am not exactly a road. It is just the truth! However, not every man can walk on the road beyond clouds. Not every man could step on me, Yun Duanlu."

That happened in the ancient days. Even people in the Yun Clan didn't know the story because the story was too old. Even the old Master Yun did not know the full story either.

However, what surprised Master Yun was that Ye Xiao, a young man, actually knew about it, and he actually heard the story from the young man's mouth.

Ye Xiao had just gotten the seven masters' names a few days earlier. Within such a short time, he actually dug out all the information! It was astonishing!

At the moment, Master Yun was frightened and shocked, and he couldn't calm himself down easily.

Yue Youyou made a long sigh.

After a while, he talked to Ye Xiao again and said, "Ye Xiao, Monarch Ye, my six brothers asked me to come and solve this problem today. I will do the Bloodline Jade Plate test again. Do you have a problem with it?"

Ye Xiao heard him and then laughed and said, "There is no need to do it. Why bother? It will be just a waste of time. I am never even close to the Great Ye Clan, and I have never thought I was from the beginning! No matter what this is about, I can't shamelessly recognize somebody else as my ancestor, can I? I am not that hopeless!"

Yue Youyou blandly said, "That is open-minded. However, it concerns the future of the Seven Golden Lotuses. The seven clans have to stick together, and this is something we must do to reach the same conclusion. We need proof, and we have to do this. Please, forgive me."

Ye Xiao bitterly smiled and said, "Please, don't be sorry. I am flattered. What can I say? I am too weak to make the decision here. Even if I said no, nothing would change. My opinion doesn't matter. The bigger fist has a bigger power. My opinion doesn't matter, so I guess the only choice I have is to accept it. Go on then."

Yue Youyou was surprised, and then he nodded. After that, he took out a jade plate which was completely white like snow from his pocket. As he operated his energy from inside his body, the jade plate started to shine in colorful lights. Nobody saw the white color of it anymore.

After a while, the lights slowly blacked out, and it was a normal jade plate again.

He held the jade plate in one hand and made a step ahead. Suddenly, his eyes turned sharp. His face turned dark. It seemed he saw something somewhere far away that he didn't feel good about, so he humphed strongly!

"Humph!"

That humph sounded like a thunderclap, shaking the entire place.

With that shocking sound, it seemed the energy of the entire world was gathering over to this place!

Even though the energy flow was so incredibly powerful, nobody in the Monarch's Hall sensed it. However, those who were on their way to the Monarch's Hall were affected. They were some itinerant cultivator and people of other forces, who were coming over to the Monarch's Hall after getting to know something interesting was happening in the Monarch's Hall. They felt like a huge mountain was falling down on them at the same time.

Those who were flying in the sky got hit by the powerful energy wave that was oppressive like a huge mountain, and they fell to the ground!

All those who got hit started to spit out blood as if they would die the next second! Blood came out from their mouth and nose, and their inner organs were severely damaged.

Within hundreds of miles, nobody was able to stand up again!

"Go away!"

Yue Youyou shouted.

Ye Xiao and some men sent out their spiritual mind to check what was happening outside.

All they could see was that around the Monarch's Hall, within hundreds of miles, a lot of men were flying backward, moving fast away from the Monarch's Hall.

They seemed to be kicked away.

In three hundred miles from the Monarch's Hall, all cultivators were cleaned out. Animals and other living creatures were all killed!

The death of all the living creatures was not the most astonishing thing. There were some ordinary people in the area other than cultivators, animals, and other living creatures!

However, these people, who knew nothing about cultivation, did not hear anything or feel anything. The horrible power wave did not affect these ordinary people at all.

That power wave was incredible, unbelievable, and horrible.

With a shout, the entire area was shaking, and the sky and earth were changed! How magnificent!

“What a great power, ancestor!”

People of the seven clans all knelt down and started shaking.

Since the Great Master Ye lost the fight back to the old days and disappeared from the world, the seven ancestors of the seven clans refused to step on the soil of the martial world again. Yue Youyou hadn't made a strike like this for a long time. As he casually made such an incredible strike to this area, the world was shocked. It was legendary... Nobody could have even imagined things like this.

Yue Youyou slowly sighed. His peaceful heart was shaken.

He wouldn't have done this, but he had a slight flame of anger in his heart on this day.

'Why?'

He didn't want to think about it. He pointed at Ye Yunduan, but Ye Yunduan didn't notice it. From Ye Yunduan's forehead, a drop of blood came out and flew over to the jade plate.

The blood moved extremely slowly.

It was getting closer and closer to the jade plate.

Yue Youyou blandly said, “There are two methods to use the Bloodline Jade Plate of the Great Ye Clan. First, when the descendant is close to the jade plate, it turns hot and red. It happened twice. First, when it was close to Ye Xiao and second when it got close to Ye Yunduan. The sign proved a man's identity as the descendant of the Ye Clan. That is why we thought Ye Xiao was the descendant, and the four clans did much to support him.”

“Second, we can use the other method... The blood of the Great Ye Clan echoes with the jade plate. When the blood goes along the jade plate, Brother Ye's image will appear.”

As people heard what he said, people were all filled with deep esteem.

Ye Yunduan was too.

Except for Yue Youyou, none of these people had ever seen Ye Hongchen.

Ye Hongchen was a legend, an epic hero!

Nobody had thought that they could see Ye Hongchen on this day. The Great Master Ye, who was as powerful as the five sky kings.

Ye Yunduan's blood was getting closer to the jade plate. The jade plate was in the air, and it started to turn red... Other than that, it started to emit heat! It was real.

Ye Clan's Blood; Red Sky!

The second method to test the bloodline wasn't finished yet, but the first one was already done. The jade plate had turned red and hot!

Ye Xiao was staring at the Bloodline Jade Plate. He seemed to be calm, but both of his hands had made fists.

He clearly felt his heart beating fast. He wanted to shout out to vent the grudge, and it was harder and harder to hold the impulse.

He could feel the desperation!

The blood was moving slowly, and it would eventually touch the jade plate. When the blood just touched the jade plate, the jade plate shined an enormous glow of red light. An energy flow suddenly covered the entire world!

Everybody felt like kneeling down to kowtow!

In the red light, the shadow of a man appeared.

The man was wearing a purple robe, standing right up in the void. The image was getting closer and closer until it finally revealed the man's face.

It was a handsome young man with pretty eyebrows, like two straight swords pointing to two sides of the sky. His eyes were profound and deep like the years were passing through them. It felt like time was like nothing to him!

"Brother Ye, it has been quite a while!" Yue Youyou couldn't stay calm anymore. He knew that it was just the image of his old brother, yet he was still thrilled. He stepped forward, and his eyes held tears.

'It has been a hundred thousand years, Brother Ye!'

Ye Yunduan made a sigh.

He was the descendant of the Great Ye Clan, and he believed nothing would change. As the image of his great ancestor appeared, he was still nervous. After a while, he finally calmed down.

Ye Hongchen's image appeared in the sky for just a few seconds and then became some purple smoke scattering away.

"Ye Yunduan is the descendant of the Great Ye Clan." Ye Yunduan took a deep breath and said.

The others must be soaked into the enormous power because none of them heard that Yue Youyou's voice was weird.

Yue Youyou was a little disappointed.

Master Guan knelt on the floor, and he looked hopeless.

Yue Youyou looked at Ye Xiao and pointed out a finger.

Ye Xiao sighed and closed his eyes. He said, "It is what it is. There is no need to do any test again. The Great Ye Clan will never send two descendants out for this... I am not a descendant of the Great Ye Clan. Master Yue, it is enough. Don't you agree? Do you want to humiliate me again?"

Yue Youyou stopped in shock.

He looked at Ye Xiao. Ye Xiao was talking to him helplessly like a man without a soul. Yue Youyou was upset.

He didn't spend much time with Ye Xiao, but he liked this young man a lot!

As Ye Xiao said, the Great Ye Clan wouldn't send two descendants to fight each other. It was enough to test one man!

Yue Youyou knew it, but he really liked Ye Xiao. The Bloodline Jade Plate showed a sign before anyway. Yue Youyou still hoped that things were not as people expected. Perhaps, Ye Xiao was a descendant of the Great Ye Clan, too. Perhaps, Ye Xiao didn't know it for some reason!

Yue Youyou knew that it was almost impossible, but he still wanted to try it for Ye Xiao. However, Ye Xiao gave up. As Ye Xiao said, if Yue Youyou insisted, it would be a humiliation to Ye Xiao!

Yue Youyou made a sigh and took over the Bloodline Jade Plate.

When he took the jade plate back, he felt bored and upset.

'Why should we push everything to the edge? Why should anybody humiliate him to the edge? Isn't that enough?'

'This is it. The truth is the truth. We all saw it coming. Why am I so anxious? Why am I so annoyed? Why am I angry?'

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Chapter 1555: Pressing On At Every Stage

"Now this is it. We have the truth. The Seven Golden Lotuses must fight for one goal. We must stick together." Yue Youyou suddenly felt anxious for no reason. He did not want to stay any longer. After what was said, he left the place and became a long rainbow across the sky.

When the long rainbow appeared and Yue Youyou was leaving, Yue Youyou found that the purple smoke in the air started to gather once again. The image was coming up slowly again.

Yue Youyou was shocked, so he stopped. The long rainbow disappeared and he fell from the sky, nearly hitting himself on the ground.

Ye Hongchen appeared in the air one more time. Yue Youyou had a stronger feeling this time. It seemed his old brother was truly hiding in that purple smoke, looking at him with a blurred face.

The smoke blurred the image, but the man's face was vivid and clear in Yue Youyou's eyes.

"Brother Ye!"

Yue Youyou's heart was beating, and he spoke loudly with an exclamation, "What is it that you want to say to me? It has been so many years... We miss you so much!"

A soft flow of wind blew over and the purple smoke scattered. The image of the man was gone as well. The purple smoke was rising up and scattering away. This time, the image appeared quietly and the smoke disappeared silently. Nothing was left.

Yue Youyou stayed in the sky. He was lost for a while. All of a sudden, he made a long shout and disappeared with a flash!

His voice was resounding in the air behind him. "Brother Ye! The great name of the Heaven's Leaf will never fall!"

That shout was from the purest power of Yue Youyou. The entire City of Chaos was shaking when the sound rang in the air. The city was almost breaking down because of it.

Everybody's ears were ringing, and they felt dizzy.

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That was it. They had a conclusion now.

One of the seven great ancestors, Yue Youyou had shown himself to prove the truth. Even though Master Guan was stubborn, there was nothing he could do. In the end, he could only make a long sigh. It seemed he was aged dozens of years. He stayed on the ground and was too weak to stand up.

His heart was broken, and he was like a dead man!

Ye Xiao made a sigh and walked over to Master Guan. He held Master Guan up and gently said, "There is a reason, and there is the outcome. I am grateful for your help, Master Guan... Thank you for what you did... However, I can't pretend the descendant of the Great Ye Clan. I am not the guy the Seven Golden Lotus want. This is the truth. Please, old master. Don't feel bad. We will meet again someday."

Master Guan shakily stood up. In his hand, there was a warm jade bottle. He knew that Ye Xiao had put it into his hand. It was a farewell gift. He closed his eyes and sighed to the sky. Tears fell off his eyelids and crawled over his face.

He stood there and didn't move.

He didn't move, but the people of the Guan Clan were walking over him to join the other side one by one.

They were all silent.

The great ancestor had come to help, and the truth was proved. Even though Master Guan was the clan chief, these men knew what was right to do. There was nothing he could change. That was it!

After a long time, Master Guan kept his head down. It seemed his energy was all gone. He staggered step by step ahead to the other side. While he was still walking, he suddenly stopped to shout sadly. He abruptly flashed and then disappeared in the sky!

Ye Xiao watched the old man leave, and he felt heavy in his heart. He felt like a big heavy rock was put on his chest and pressed his heart.

The old man was hurt. The worst wound was the wound on one's feelings. He hoped that the dan beads he gave Master Guan would help him out of the sorrow...

Ye Yunduan watched Master Guan leave, and saw people of the Guan Clan walking slowly over to join him. His eyes were filled with coldness.

However, the coldness soon disappeared, as if it had never appeared before.

There was a thought in his heart, and he was lost in it.

'The Seven Golden Lotus of the Great Clan Ye. What? Can't it be six golden lotuses instead? The Guan Clan doesn't seem to be loyal. Do I really have to keep them with me? Humph. Maybe not.'

...

As the four clans left the Monarch's Hall, the Monarch's Hall was like an empty shell. Meng Youjiang and his men in the Department of Battle were all they had.

The management system of the Monarch's Hall was gone, and there used to be more people in the management system than the cultivators. Now there were only cultivators.

These people stood there and watched everything happen. Many people had been drinking and laughing with them before this day, yet now they all left the Monarch's Hall. The Monarch's Hall, which was known to be full of capable men, was now an empty shell. There was nothing they could do. Many people were angry and grudge-bearing, but they had to endure it.

Would the Monarch's Hall collapse just like Ye Yunduan said?

Ye Yunduan was confident when he arrived. He thought his plan was easy and great, but unexpectedly, troubles kept happening. Now, everything was settled. Although it didn't end as well as Ye Yunduan expected, he still felt happy about it. He looked at Ye Xiao like looking at a clown. In a soft voice, with a warm smile, he said, "Brother Ye, that is it. The truth is the truth. I told you, the Monarch's Hall is going to... Hah hah..."

Ye Xiao coldly said, "What are you talking about? The Monarch's Hall is not going to collapse. The four clans chose to stand on your side, not because of you. You don't have the power and capability. The Monarch's Hall is still the Monarch's Hall. It won't collapse just because they left!"

"I am here. I, the Monarch, am here. The Monarch's Hall stands!"

Ye Yunduan looked around the people behind Ye Xiao, and he was disdainful.

Those were all middle-level Divinity Origin Stage cultivators. There were over two thousand of them.

However, they were not good enough.

'A bunch of stupid dogs and chickens. That is all!'

'Humph!'

'All you have is a bunch of weak shrimps now. Why don't you give in? Do you really think you can expand your territory and increase your influence with these men?'

'Well... I don't need to have more men to join me, no matter how weak they are. There must be something they can do. If I can recruit some of these itinerant cultivators, I will have better fame at least!'

Ye Yunduan tried to be friendly. He smiled and said, "Brother Ye, as I said, the truth is the truth. The Monarch's Hall doesn't have enough people. Your organization is an empty shell. Why do you have to keep those men with you and lead them to nothing? They don't have a future staying with you. You may

break down at any second. After all, you have gotten quite some enemies during the past few months. Now the four clans have left you... If your enemy comes to attack, you are very likely going to be destroyed... Look... You don't need to wait for destruction. You always have a choice. I think you are all good men, so I would love to give you a choice. No matter who you are, as long as you join me, I would love to fight your enemies as they are mine."

What Ye Yunduan said was unluckily the truth. The Monarch's Hall had expanded greatly, so they had made lots of enemies during the expansion. The Monarch's Hall was developing as fast as the House of Chaotic Storms. Both of them had destroyed many other forces. If the enemies came to start a fight, the Monarch's Hall might not be able to defend themselves. After all, the help from the seven clans was the main reason why the Monarch's Hall could win so many fights in a short time. The Monarch's Hall was now eighty percent weaker than before!

Ye Xiao calmly said, "Thank you, Master Ye, for your kindness. The Monarch's Hall will never be destroyed, as long as I, the Monarch, stand... It takes time to prove my point. You are offering a good opportunity, and I won't stop anybody else to join you."

He thought for a while and talked to his own men. "Brothers, if any of you want to follow Master Ye, I won't stop you! I will hold a feast for you, to memorize the days we have stayed together. There is one thing you must remember, though. You have made a vow to me. You can join whoever you want, but you can't turn against the Monarch's Hall. Someday in the future, you must do one thing for me to return the debt. That is enough!"

Ye Xiao was not being narrow-minded. It was a deal they made in the Hall of Life and Death after all.

Ye Xiao could let them leave, but he couldn't save people for anything!

Ye Yunduan had planned for a long time on dealing with Ye Xiao, so he knew the deal. He smiled and said, "That is true. That is fair."

And then he took a breath of relief.

He did not really care about the men of the Monarch's Hall so much. Those men were too weak. However, if he could get these itinerant cultivators, it would be a good start to recruit more powerful itinerant cultivators from the Limitless Ocean. He was going to get a good reputation because of it!

He was worried that Ye Xiao might stop these men from joining Ye Yunduan, but Ye Xiao turned out to approve it. In Ye Yunduan's opinion, it would be easy as a cake to recruit these people, because he was the descendant of the Great Ye Clan after all!

It was not something these people needed to hesitate about. The right choice was obvious. Nobody would make the wrong decision!

In fact, Ye Yunduan always saw Ye Xiao as a clown. He was impressed when the Monarch's Hall expanded incredibly fast, and he was surprised by how magnificent Ye Xiao's dan beads were. However, he believed one thing. *'If not for the Seven Golden Lotuses, Ye Xiao was nothing.'*

That was why he never looked Ye Xiao in the eyes.

After that, when he finally met Ye Xiao, he started to hate Ye Xiao!

There was a strong hostile feeling.

No matter who Ye Xiao was, what he did, how he was, Ye Yunduan didn't feel right when Ye Xiao was around.

He did not want those people in the Monarch's Hall, but he wanted to take them over. He knew that if he did this, Ye Xiao, the great dan-maker, would never work for him, but he still wanted to hurt Ye Xiao!

Taking over Ye Xiao's men was a strike in Ye Xiao's heart, and it made Ye Yunduan happy.

Ye Yunduan was never a narrow-minded man. However, since he met Ye Xiao, he was. The strong hostility in his heart was impossible to get rid of.

He used to plan to recruit Ye Xiao and be good friends with Ye Xiao. He wanted Ye Xiao to be like his brother. However, he didn't want him anymore!

It was weird, but that was how it was. Sometimes, when two people liked each other, they became friends forever. Sometimes, when two people hated each other, everything seemed to be wrong about them!

"Guys, I am Ye Yunduan of the Great Ye Clan. Please accept my respect." Ye Yunduan softly smiled and looked at the men. He said, "A man never gets to decide his own fate in the martial world. I guess you all feel that."

The people he was talking to were all silent.

Ye Yunduan said, "Life and death, wealth and poverty. How do we get what we want? How do we reach the position beyond the clouds? I think you all know the answer."

"You know what this is about. You know how the Monarch's Hall is like. Powerful forces are rising in the City of Chaos. Competition is everywhere. I don't think you want to die in vain. The best way to make your effort count is to find yourself a strong background. You know what is the best to choose. Will you stay with the Monarch's Hall, which is going to end, or come and join me to embrace a new life? I think you will make the right choice.

"I am not the best, but I am a descendant of the Great Ye Clan. You know why I am here. To be honest with you, I would love to have you as my own men. I would love to fight for the glory with you on my side. I wonder if you trust me."

He paused, giving time for the men to think. After a while, he blandly smiled and said, "Make one step ahead if you want to join me. Let's create a legend that belongs to us. The Great Ye Clan had companies in the old days. You can be our companies in the future."

That was some fine speech.

He was giving a good speech to inspire the crowd. When he was talking, he sounded friendly and soft, like the men of the Monarch's Hall were already his brothers.

However, when he looked at Ye Xiao, he couldn't hide the gloat in his eyes. That ruined the sincerity he pretended to show.

Ye Xiao pretended not to see him. He just stood aside in silence. He was watching Ye Yunduan's poor performance.

'You have taken away the four clans, and now you are going to take over my men...'

Ye Xiao sneered.

"Ye!"

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Chapter 1556: Severe Competition

Ye Xiao wasn't worried about whether the rest of the people of the Monarch's Hall would leave or not.

In fact, he didn't care!

For him, those who could resist the lure and chose to stay were the men he truly needed.

What happened at the moment was a severe competition, so he could select those he needed the best!

The Seven Golden Lotuses gave him the biggest support, but Ye Xiao had never seen it as a part of the Monarch's Hall. After all, the power came from others, and he never truly relied on it!

Those who chose to leave him easily meant nothing to him. How could he put his trust in people like that?

What Ye Yunduan was doing actually helped Ye Xiao select the good ones from the masses. Ye Xiao wouldn't try to stop it. Why would he?

Even if all the people of the Monarch's Hall were gone, he wouldn't be any more frustrated.

At the very least, he could start over again, with his own hands. If one thing didn't work, he would find another!

Ye Yunduan had finished his speech, but people of the Monarch's Hall were still in silence.

Bu Xiangfeng, the Dark Evil Spirit, Bai Long, Qiu Luo, and Meng Youjiang all showed a dark and sullen face. They were staring at Ye Yunduan. They wanted to kill this guy, and they were holding the impulse down!

As the descendant of the Great Ye Clan, it was understandable that he would go against the Monarch's Hall and Ye Xiao. After all, he had to take back the four clans of the Seven Golden Lotuses!

However, he had taken them back now. He won the conflict, and he had brought hostility to the Monarch's Hall. He should stop now, but he didn't. He kept making further moves, trying to take over the rest of the people of the Monarch's Hall. That went too far.

'You talked like you are so sincere and kind, but we are not blind. Look at your gloating eyes. We can clearly see it! Look how you keep looking at our Monarch, trying to provoke him! That is disgusting!'

'You have taken what you wanted. Why do you have to humiliate people like this?'

'We can't follow a man like this. He may sell us immediately someday!'

Ye Yunduan was surprised that nobody responded. He thought the men felt embarrassed to leave, so he said again, "Aren't you interested? I can give you more things to show sincerity. Whoever leaves with me today will be a member of the team under my direct leadership. Each of them will get three dan beads that can save them from death. Other than that, each of them gets a divine weapon. How about that?"

As he was speaking, he raised up his wrist and turned over his hand. A saber was in his hand, and it created a glittering stream of light that drew an image of a lotus. The light glittered in the air like a rainbow.

The guards who stood around Ye Yunduan took out their iron rod and threw them into the lights. As the rods touched the saber lights, they became pieces of scraps.

"This is one of the divine weapons that I promise you. You won't get a weaker one. You have my word." Ye Yunduan was so friendly and humble, but it didn't deny the fact that he was trying to buy people's loyalty."

The men of the Monarch's Hall were still in silence, but some of them started to be moved.

"I am patient. I can wait." Ye Yunduan sincerely said, "As long as you can be absolutely loyal to me, and join me to the greatness in the martial world, I can wait. I can wait as long as you need. A fine bird chooses a solid tree to perch in. A good man chooses the right leader to follow. I would like to spend more time on the right ones."

At this moment, a big tough guy abruptly stood out and said in a deep voice, "I am only at level three of the Divinity Origin Stage. Will you accept me?"

Ye Yunduan was delighted. He just wanted somebody to step out and be the first. The guy was at level three of the Divinity Origin Stage, and even if he was at the Faery Origin Stage, Ye Yunduan would be glad to accept him. "Brother, I am grateful for your approval. Of course, I accept you! Come over, join us, and we are brothers!"

That man nodded and then walked ahead.

However, the man who stood right in front of him did not make way. In fact, the man even moved a bit to stand in his way.

"Please. Excuse me." The tough guy said.

"What? Who do you think you are?" Several men who stood in front of him turned around. One of them was Du Qingkuang, who disdainfully said, "You? A disgusting man like you? How dare you ask me to make way? One more word and I will kill you right here, right now!"

"Pah!"

He spat on the tough guy's face. Du Qingkuang kept talking disdainfully, "Ungrateful piece of sh*t! F*cking traitor! How dare you speak to me?"

The tough guy was so awkward. His face turned red and he didn't know what to say.

“Qingkuang, move aside. Let him go.” Ye Xiao calmly said, “Let him leave! Do you want to keep a man like this around us?”

Du Qingkuang was enlightened and said, “That’s true. I should have seen it. What an idiot I am! Sorry, that was my fault. Please, go now. Move!”

The tough guy walked out of the crowd then staggered to Ye Xiao. He said with embarrassment, “Master, I am sorry... I... I dream of a divine weapon that belongs to me... I... Well...”

Ye Xiao blandly said, “Go now. You don’t owe me anything. All men fight for themselves. Just keep the words that you gave me in the beginning. There is nothing else I want from you. Go now.”

Li Erleng, the tough guy, bowed and ran to Ye Yunduan, with his head low.

Li Erleng was the first, and it was only the beginning. Over one hundred men of the Monarch’s Hall went to Ye Xiao, bowed, and ran to Ye Yunduan with their heads low.

People kept coming to join him, and Ye Yunduan was more and more delighted.

The Monarch’s Hall people were shouting abusive words. Some of them even attacked those who chose to leave.

“Bastard! You ungrateful dogs! How could you do this?”

“Son of a b*tch! Are you a man? Does your vow not count?”

“Lord Monarch saved your life, and yet you do this to him? How dare you?”

“Lord Monarch taught us not to hurt those who turn away from us. You and I are no longer friends anymore. I would like to call you a bastard, and I hope we will meet again because I will beat you up to death whenever I meet you! Wait for me!”

“I am going to kill you now! You ungrateful son of a b*tch!”

...

Ye Yunduan watched those men running over to join him. He was so happy, enjoying the moment and stared at Ye Xiao. That was obviously provoking!

However, Ye Xiao was calm, standing there without moving a bit. In fact, he seemed to feel relieved while watching those people go. He truly wasn’t annoyed at all.

“Why are you happy about this? I have no idea what is it that amuses you. Could you share it with me?” Ye Yunduan asked with a smile.

“Oh, you got me. I thought nobody could tell I was glad. I guess I am still too young, so I am not good at covering my true feelings. This is delightful, what is happening now. How can I not feel happy?” Ye Xiao seriously said, “A righteous man has nothing to hide from the public. Since you asked, I would love to answer. Thank you for what you did, Brother Ye. It is always difficult to tell the disloyal follower from the loyal ones. When the wind blows strong enough, the gold under the sand will come out. Brother Ye, what you are doing is helping me a lot. This helps me select the men I truly need. However, you do not

ask for the credit. What an honorable man! What a shame we are not at the table with drinks. I should drink for this!”

Ye Yunduan’s face was twisted. His delighted face froze immediately.

It was so awkward as if he had just realized what he had been enjoying turned out to be a piece of sh*t in his mouth.

Ye Xiao was right. What he did helped him select the loyal ones!

What did Ye Yunduan need those disloyal men for?

Ye Yunduan was mad, and he loudly said, “Meng Youjiang, you are clever enough to see the truth. I would love to have you on my side to reach greatness in the future! What do you think?”

The hostility was obvious now. Ye Yunduan decided not to pretend to be humble anymore. In order to recruit some powerful cultivators of the Monarch’s Hall, he directly talked to Meng Youjiang.

Meng Youjiang was the head of the Department of Battle and the most powerful man under Ye Xiao’s leadership. He used to be the leader of the Dark Wind Mountain, and it made him famous.

The Monarch’s Hall had lost the four clans, and most of its men were gone. Over ten percent of the people who stayed were from the Dark Wind Mountain. Other than that, the Dark Wind Mountain was a sub branch of the Monarch’s Hall, in which all the people followed Meng Youjiang’s command!

If Meng Youjiang joined Ye Yunduan, most of the Monarch’s Hall people would leave with him. It must be a severe strike in Ye Xiao’s heart, and it might cause the collapse of the Monarch’s Hall immediately!

If Meng Youjiang left for Ye Yunduan, this was not a selection to Ye Xiao anymore!

Ye Yunduan was confident that Meng Youjiang would join him because he had given Meng Youjiang three great dan beads, a hundred thousand purple spirit coins, and a chance to have a breakthrough in cultivation. He had promised to give whoever joined him more great things, and he thought nobody could resist it.

At least, he thought that Meng Youjiang couldn’t resist it, because he was just a leader of a second-class local force!

Meng Youjiang stepped forward and said loudly, “Thank you for your invitation, but I don’t think I am good enough to join you. I am weak and foolish. I don’t want to be a sandbag to your Saint Origin Stage cultivators.”

He laughed and then said, “In my opinion, it is always better to be the head of a group of weaklings, than to be the bottom of a group of strongest. I am nobody. I believe you agree with me!”

“I can’t say that I am an honorable man, but I am definitely not a contemptible person. I don’t think I can do this!”

“Besides... I have my own principle...” Meng Youjiang looked around and suddenly spoke loudly, “I would rather die with honor than live with shame! I would rather die with my brothers than live alone!”

“Well said!” Over one thousand and six hundred men of the Monarch’s Hall, who decided to stay, shouted at the same time to support him.

That shook the entire world.

Those who had left for Ye Yunduan kept their heads down and didn’t dare to look at the others in the eyes.

“Let them go. Let them leave!” Meng Youjiang said, “People like that are dishonorable! They are traitors! How can we trust them with our lives? How can we let them stay with us in the Monarch’s Hall? It is a good thing to let them leave! Whoever wants to go, move now!”

“That is correct! Those who want to go must go now!”

People cheered.

Master Ju, Master Yun, and Master Song realized that the Monarch’s Hall was still spirited up, yet those who left and came to join them were frustrated. The three old men sighed.

Ye Yunduan was a young lord of a great clan. He was excellent in many parts when compared to ordinary people. However, when compared to Ye Xiao, he couldn’t win.

The three old men were experienced and cunning, so they could see what Ye Xiao was doing. Ye Yunduan was a lot worse than Ye Xiao at playing schemes.

The three old men sighed.

If they hadn’t met Ye Xiao, Ye Yunduan would be good enough to impress them. However, Ye Xiao was right opposite to them now. Ye Yunduan insisted to compare himself with Ye Xiao, trying to oppress Ye Xiao. That was awkward because he only got to humiliate himself in the end.

It was a difference between the clouds and the mud!

It was a difference between the sky and the earth!

Ye Yunduan made his promise, trying to take over most of Ye Xiao’s people. However, in the end, he got only one hundred and forty-three. It meant nothing for the Monarch’s Hall because they had over two thousand Divinity Origin Stage cultivators.

Li Erleng was an example. The one hundred and forty-three men were all weak cultivators who did not have a strong will.

These men were useless!

The outcome was not as Ye Yunduan expected, and that pissed him off. He felt disgraceful, and he had an impulse to destroy the Monarch’s Hall immediately. However, he kept pressing down the impulse, because it was not a good time to do this yet.

The Seven Golden Lotus had finally gathered together to stand on his side. Master Guan of the Guan Clan left with anger.

If Ye Yunduan killed the Monarch’s Hall right now in front of the four clans, what would happen?

Ye Yunduan wasn't sure. He couldn't take the risk.

It was never too late to kill. He was going to have the opportunity to kill Ye Xiao and the Monarch's Hall someday!

When Ye Yunduan was going to give the order to retreat, Bu Xiangfeng suddenly stepped out. He walked to Ye Xiao and bowed.

Ye Yunduan was excited. *'Is Bu Xiangfeng going to join me? If he comes to my side, it will be such a pleasant surprise!'*

...

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Chapter 1557: I am Convinced

Bu Xiangfeng surely was a powerful cultivator. He was one of the most important roles in the Monarch's Hall, but for Ye Yunduan, he wasn't that important. After all, there were so many powerful men in the seven clans. Bu Xiangfeng was good at killing, but he was not invincible. Bu Xiangfeng was important to the Monarch's Hall. If he left the Monarch's Hall, the Monarch's Hall was going to collapse!

Ye Yunduan thought that things were changing, so he stopped and waited.

Bu Xiangfeng loudly said, "Monarch Ye, I have been traveling the martial world for hundreds of years. I have seen many honorable men and great heroes. However, nobody has ever convinced me.

"Nobody could actually take over all the responsibility and troubles on me.

"Today, it is different! I finally met somebody who is willing to support me with full power. Finally, I see a man who would love to do anything for his people!

"I am convinced!

"I am here, begging you, Lord of the Monarch's Hall, to accept me as a member of the Monarch's Hall! From now on, I will be a member of the Monarch's Hall! I have been stubborn and unruly in the past, but please forgive me, because I will change! Please... I need your approval!"

Ye Yunduan heard the speech. Bu Xiangfeng was staying unbelievably low to beg for a position in the Monarch's Hall. That provoked Ye Yunduan, whose face turned white because of anger.

'Really? Do you have to? Why? You talked like you needed to beg him! What are you thinking? This is too much!'

'What the hell are you talking about? Are you begging for adoption or anything?'

He didn't know the connection between Ye Xiao and Bu Xiangfeng. They had a deal. If Bu Xiangfeng wanted to join Ye Xiao, he had to beg for it!

In fact, Bu Xiangfeng would rather die than beg to somebody else like that. That was why he hadn't asked to join the Monarch's Hall during those days. What happened had given him a chance to pledge his loyalty, and now it seemed so right to do this for Ye Xiao!

Ye Xiao stared at Bu Xiangfeng and said, "Old Bu, are you sure?"

"I am!"

"Excellent!"

Ye Xiao said, "I announce... that you are the Great Executor of the Monarch's Hall! You inspect everybody in the Monarch's Hall. Whoever violates our rules will be in your hands! You can do whatever you want to punish them!"

That meant Bu Xiangfeng had the power over most issues. Master Guan used to hold a concurrent post of it in the Monarch's Hall but didn't mean much to him, because all those men under his inspection were people of his own clan. They followed him no matter if he was or not the Great Executor. Bu Xiangfeng took over the position now, and things were totally different.

"Oh, my heavens... Dear Lord Great Executor..." Meng Youjiang walked over and said, "You know... Hah hah hah... We are brothers... We got each other's back..."

"Lord Great Executor..." Lei Dongtian, Du Qingkuang, and the Old Worm all gathered over to congratulate him. That was obviously kissing ass...

"Humph..." Bu Xiangfeng raised his head and put both hands behind his back. "Listen up, you all. I don't need sucking up. I didn't care when you did, because I was not the Great Executor. Now that I am, you must behave yourselves. I have no mercy for those who break the rules!"

"Yes... Yes..." People bowed to him.

"Now, I will kill those who betray the Monarch's Hall! Do you understand?" Bu Xiangfeng spoke loudly.

"Yes... Yes..."

People bowed and answered. They glanced at those who had joined the enemy. That was obvious.

"I heard some dicksh*t saying that the Monarch's Hall was collapsing!" Bu Xiangfeng said, "Let me ask you. Do you think so?"

"Bullsh*t!" Du Qingkuang shouted and said, "The Monarch's Hall is rising!"

"That's right! They are bullsh*tting... We are shining!"

"Hahahaha..."

They all started to laugh. The grudge and anger were all gone.

"Humph!" Ye Yunduan humphed and stayed silent. After that, he turned around and left.

Master Ju, Master Song, and Master Yun were the last to turn around. Before they left, they looked at Ye Xiao and made a long sigh.

...

The Monarch's Hall had lost most men and a big cut of the territory.

Those who decided to stay were the cultivators Ye Xiao had saved in the Hall of Life and Death.

“Meng Youjiang, I need the number of people in the twelve units. I need information about everybody,” Ye Xiao said.

“Yes!” Meng Youjiang answered.

After a while, he got the information and reported to Ye Xiao. The Monarch’s Hall had one thousand seven hundred and eighty-eight men left.

Ye Xiao looked at these men and casually said, “I am telling you one thing, brothers. The Monarch’s Hall is now the real Monarch’s Hall!”

People looked at Ye Xiao, trying to figure out what he meant, but they weren’t sure.

“The reason was simple. I said it before. We are all brothers in the Monarch’s Hall, and we are all monarchs in the world. I am not the only monarch in the Monarch’s Hall. You can all become monarchs. We make our own decisions, and we have no regret, that is the first step to the seat of a monarch!

“We won’t fear for the sky, and we don’t fail the earth. We are monarchs, and we have honor!”

Ye Xiao smiled and said, “Brothers, I announced that from now on, you are my own team. If we fail, it won’t matter. If we succeed someday, you will be the men with glory!”

“We are brothers now. We will be brothers forever. We die together! The Monarch’s Hall die together!”

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Chapter 1558: Ye Xiao’s Heart

“We die with Lord Monarch! We die with the Monarch’s Hall!”

One thousand, seven hundred, and eighty-eight men shouted at the same time, and it shocked the world!

Ye Xiao laughed and waved his hand. “I am holding a feast tonight, to celebrate a new beginning of the true Monarch’s Hall! Let’s enjoy it!”

After that, he turned around and walked into the Hall of Life and Death.

People outside were still laughing. Meng Youjiang and his wife sent people to buy food and drinks.

It was usually Master Guan’s job. The old man had done a great job in daily affairs. After this day, the Monarch’s Hall needed somebody else to do the job!

People were laughing with joy. Everybody automatically started to do something for the Monarch’s Hall. Nobody asked for Ye Xiao’s permission, because those were all trifles. They knew that Ye Xiao was stricken so hard this time.

The Monarch’s Hall had hundreds of thousands of men and one-sixth of the city, only after a short time of hardworking. However, within one day, he lost both.

The followers all felt a bit upset about it, not to mention the leader of the Monarch’s Hall, Ye Xiao. He could never be that open-minded.

It was a cruel hit.

Ye Xiao walked into the Hall of Life and Death. He took a turn somewhere. Finally, people lost sight of him. He suddenly fell down on the floor.

He was leaning on the chair as if he was exhausted.

He felt that his power was all gone.

He couldn't pretend to be tough anymore.

With both hands covering his face, he made a sigh.

He just sat there and didn't move a bit.

After a while, he took a long breath and then stood up again. He waved a hand, turned the spiritual qi in the air into the water to wash his face. The cold water splashed on his face, and it kept him sober.

"Damn it. What am I doing? Why do I feel bad about it? Those were not my men. They never will be. I knew this would happen. I knew that when the true descendant of the Great Ye Clan appeared, those men would leave me. I expected all this. I have taken great advantage of them already. They worked for me for a long time. Why am I sad about it? This is embarrassing. I am Ye Xiao, the Xiao Monarch. I laughed upon all the heroes in the world! Nothing is going to stop me!"

Ye Xiao murmured.

"I have recruited some men of my own. Did they leave? A few. Only a few. Those who left are the worst. I don't need them!"

"What happened today proved one thing. What doesn't belong to me will leave. I can take it as good luck, but it will be gone someday. I must fight for what I need. I must earn it. I must earn something that nobody can take away!"

Ye Xiao smiled and said to himself, "Ye Xiao, when did you become so weak? You are weak in the Human Realm Upon Heavens. People call you a weak shrimp! They are right..."

"Hah hah hah..."

Ye Xiao actually started to laugh. He grabbed a jar of liquor from the Boundless Space and drank it up.

The liquor splashed everywhere and he really enjoyed it.

After that, he laughed again. The next moment, he threw the jar and broke it on the floor. He shouted loudly, "The Great Ye Clan! The Great Ye Clan! The bloodline of the Great Ye Clan! Hah hah hah..."

The betrayal of the four clans pierced his heart, but it wasn't that harsh. After all, he knew they were leaving sooner or later. The old men did what they had to do, and Ye Xiao was mad about it. In fact, he didn't even hate Ye Yunduan.

The bloodline of the Great Ye Clan was something that stung him really hard.

He was sure that he was related to the Great Ye Clan.

Many signs had proven it.

He just needed one proof that everybody recognized!

Yue Youyou had given him the chance to prove it, but he gave up. He didn't want to admit it!

He didn't want to be the man who was abandoned by his own clan.

The descendant of the Great Ye Clan destroyed all that he had built within a short time. That brought him pain in his heart.

If somebody else did this, he wouldn't feel painful but felt spirited up. *'Somebody did this to me, and I must become strong enough to take revenge!'*

But, what if the enemy shared the same bloodline with him? What should he do?

The Bloodline Jade Plate...

Ye Xiao knew that Yue Youyou could have revealed his true identity.

He just didn't want it!

He had pride, and he needed dignity, too!

In the end, he asked Yue Youyou to stop the test, even though he knew that Yue Youyou wanted to help him.

He felt the bloodline when he was shaken by the words on the gate of the city. That wasn't fake, was it?

The ancient clans found him because of the sign on the Bloodline Jade Plate.

There were enough proofs.

Why did he need to prove his bloodline?

The Great Ye Clan didn't seem to know his existence!

They had sent the descendant out.

Ye Yunduan was their descendant, who represented the Great Ye Clan, who destroyed everything Ye Xiao had built!

"It won't last if my force relies on somebody else. I must build the real Monarch's Hall that is totally under my control. I will build my own Ye Clan."

Ye Xiao looked at his own shadow and talked to himself, "Ye Xiao, you are an abandoned person. If you don't work hard, people will all step on you! If you are weak, you can only live beneath others!"

"From now on, you will face much more dangers."

"Ye Yunduan was not all. The Seven Golden Lotus would never allow you to live. You are a pain in their eyes and the scars on their back. They will have to eradicate you."

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Chapter 1559: Purple Qi Monarch

“Perhaps, the seven clans won’t kill me or destroy the Monarch’s Hall because the four clans may stop it. However, Ye Yunduan won’t care. It makes no difference for him. What happened today is not a victory to him, but a humiliation! He won’t let it go! He won’t forgive you, Ye Xiao!”

“He has to get rid of the humiliation, so he must put you down.

“He wants the Monarch’s Hall. He wants everything you own!

“You hate him deep in your heart, and he hates you as well. He hates you so much!

“The Monarch’s Hall will have to face more challenges in the future.”

Ye Xiao’s eyes turned sharp and bright, not blurred anymore.

He could feel it. His eyes had never been this sharp ever before.

“I am on my own!

“I am on my own!

“I can only do it on my own, with my own power!”

Ye Xiao made a long shout. His eyes were glittering and he said to himself, “I am going to be the Monarch of the Human Realm Upon Heavens!

“I am going to be the Monarch beyond the Human Realm Upon Heavens!

“I am going to be the Monarch in the universe!”

Ye Xiao brought out a bucket of spiritual water from the Boundless Space. His eyes were filled with fierceness. “Whoever dares to come and make trouble in the Monarch’s Hall will die here!”

“I don’t care who they are!”

“I don’t care what clan they are from!”

“There will be no exception!”

He laughed loudly, and noticed the changes in his dantian all of a sudden.

His emotions must have influenced the small person inside him.

What happened on that day hit Ye Xiao in the heart, and it activated the purple qi inside him!

Ye Xiao had been through the first two levels of the East-rising Purple Qi twice each. He cultivated it in the Land of Han-Yang and the Qing-Yun Realm. As he arrived in the Human Realm Upon Heavens, he started it over again...

The two different powers actually moved inside him at the same time!

In the Boundless Space, the purple qi was rising. The energy flows, it kept rushing in and out. The spiritual qi had become pure purple, and it was rushing out of his dantian crazily.

The energy came out and rushed into his Jing and Mai. After running in the Jing and Mai, it eventually rushed into his dantian.

It seemed a barrier was broken, and what appeared ahead was a wide and broad road.

Ye Xiao felt that the East-rising Purple Qi was running again after a long time of silence in the Human Realm Upon Heavens. As it started running again, the energy was making a storm inside him!

Purple Qi Monarch!

The third level of the East-rising Purple Qi was back on track!

Ye Xiao didn't truly understand it until now!

It was like a descending king!

The purple qi was the most worshipful thing in the world.

'I make the call.'

'I am the only king!'

It was the domineering qi!

It was extremely conceited!

The Jing and Mai couldn't handle such strong power, so they were destroyed immediately, but were fixed instantly. The body was going through some extreme pain.

Ye Xiao felt that his body had been torn apart for thousands of times, but was put together again for thousands of times.

It was much worse than death!

However, Ye Xiao was holding to it. In fact, his face was still calm, and he acted like nothing was happening.

The pain in his body was nothing when compared to the pain in his heart.

'You abandoned me. You threw me away. Fine.'

'You don't want me. Fine.'

'You don't care about me. Fine.'

'You don't teach me. Fine.'

'Why did you oppress me?'

'You are such a powerful clan. Do you have to destroy me? I am just one man.'

'You are such a powerful clan, yet you abandoned your own child!'

'You have all those methods to find your own bloodline. Why didn't you come to find me?'

'What am I to you?'

'Am I not supposed to be born?'

'Maybe there were threats in the clan. There was war in the war... I don't care. I was a baby when you abandoned me!'

'How was I going to be a threat to the throne?'

'This is unbelievable!'

Because of the improvement in the East-rising Purple Qi, Ye Xiao reached level six of the Divinity Origin Stage. However, Ye Xiao didn't pay attention to the breakthrough because he was lost in thought.

'You don't want me.'

'Then I will be the Monarch on my own!'

'You oppress me. Fine. I will climb beyond you all!'

'I decide my own fate!'

'My life is in my hands!'

Ye Xiao was obstinate at the moment.

At the same time, the East-rising Purple Qi was reaching the top.

As an expert in cultivation, Ye Xiao knew that he was being stubborn. It was not a good thing for a cultivator.

There must be a reason why he would be abandoned.

Things were strange. There were always accidents. A coincidence could easily change one's life!

Ye Xiao chose not to believe other possibilities. He just wanted things to be the worst because he needed to vent the anger and grudge out.

As he was becoming more and more stubborn, he didn't pay attention to the purple qi pouring into his body. The purple qi was refining his body, pushing him to the edge of perfection.

He reached the level seven of the Divinity Origin Stage!

The level eight!

The level nine!

He reached the top of the level nine now!

He broke the limitation, and climbed to the Saint Origin Stage!

He was at level one! He was at level two now!

The improvement of the East-rising Purple Qi had boosted Ye Xiao up to the second level of the Saint Origin Stage!

He was so close to level three now.

The East-rising Purple Qi finally stopped.

'I am the Monarch of the world; I am the king in the universe!'

That was the true power of the East-rising Purple Qi, the invincible ancient martial art!

That was what it meant to Ye Xiao!

It was the most powerful thing in the world.

Top authority!

Top power!

Peerless!

...

The next morning, the sun was about to rise upon the east sky. The first flow of purple qi appeared in the sky.

Many cultivators chose to breathe in the spiritual energy in the air. That was the source of all lives.

The next moment, the cultivators were frightened. They realized that the energy in the air was gone! They couldn't absorb any!

The purest spiritual energy in the air seemed to scatter away one second after it appeared.

It seemed there was a huge screen blocking out the cultivators and the east of the sky.

The purple qi appeared as usual, but it got instantly captured by somebody else!

There was nothing left behind.

Nobody got even a bit of those amazing purple qi!

...

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Chapter 1560: Killing Formation Built

Everybody was shocked. They were frightened.

For tens of thousands of years in the history of the Human Realm Upon Heavens, this was the cultivators' first time to encounter such a problem!

'What the hell happened?'

The purple qi was important for every cultivator in the world. There was not much of it every day, but it was pure. People didn't need to purify it at least. Everybody got to take a little of it, and the cultivators saw it as a gift from the gods...

All the high-level cultivators were surprised and upset about it. All they could do was to tell themselves, "This is an accident. Something went wrong, and it will be fixed about tomorrow... The spiritual qi will be back!"

Many people had the same thought, and they all stopped the morning exercise early.

Nobody knew that all the spiritual qi had been stored in Ye Xiao's Boundless Space. He had used up the spiritual qi in the Space, but it was half-filled the next day after absorbing all the purple qi in that morning!

Even Ye Xiao didn't notice it.

He didn't know why Erhuo was excited all of a sudden. The cat was running like a wild animal in the Space... Erhuo's fur was falling off, but the new one grew back immediately...

Within one night, Erhuo changed seven layers of fur!

It was still a little cute kitty that was as small as a man's fist. The Silver-scaled Golden-carbuncled Snakes in the Space clearly felt that their chief was a lot stronger!

Ten thousand times stronger!

'What happened?'

'We want to be stronger too...'

Somewhere in the Space.

A golden light glittered.

It was the golden hawk. It was an egg at the moment. The egg suddenly cracked, and the hawk showed up. Hawky blinked. It was awake!

The hawk actually woke up at this moment.

The golden hawk was hatched twice. Its feathers were tender like the feathers of a baby bird. It seemed the feather wasn't as strong as usual, but when Hawky stood up, the feather became as sharp and strong as a steel sword.

Hawky was smaller than before, but it became smarter.

"Koo? Koo, koo, koo?" Hawky looked at Erhuo and asked, "Hey, Chief. Where is Master?"

"Master is going crazy..." Erhuo meowed to answer. "I don't know how he did it. He is just awake... I mean the king's mentality is awake... I think something touched him... That is good... Well, I guess his mind will be unstable for a while. Do not touch his nerve, I am warning you..."

"Koo..." Hawky nodded.

Erhuo rolled its eyes and thought, *'Humph. Why did he suddenly wake up? I know why. I just don't want to tell you... It is complicated and exhausting to explain. You are a baby bird. You don't need to know everything. Just don't make Master mad.'*

...

It was early in the morning.

Meng Youjiang woke up and realized the atmosphere had changed.

What he saw with both eyes was green.

Everybody was confused. Why was the world suddenly green? When they saw the reason, they were shocked.

The giant trees that were made into the Hall of Life and Death had grown again!

The trees had grown even more than the last time.

The Hall of Life and Death had been a fortress of trees, but now it was a castle of trees. It was ten times bigger than before!

The Hall of Life and Death used to occupy ten miles of the land, which was astonishing. Now, it was hundreds of miles! That was terrifying.

The growth of the trees was not all. The green color wasn't all from the trees. In the territory of the Monarch's Hall, all the plants had grown crazily within that night. They had all grown like the fortress of trees! The Monarch's Hall had become a world of trees!

The fortress of trees was the center, and the trees built up walls surrounding the entire place. The Monarch's Hall seemed to be encircled by the ocean of giant trees.

People were shocked when they saw so!

'What was going on?'

'How did Lord Monarch do this incredible thing?'

'The Monarch's Hall is not like an organization, but more like a sea of trees, a jungle in the city!'

People were all shocked, and also confused.

Ye Xiao walked outside the Hall of Life and Death. He seemed to be exhausted.

How could he not?

Within one night, he had broken through several times and even reached the Saint Origin Stage. He had used up hundreds of buckets of the Water of True Spirits, and thousands of pieces of Chaotic Purple Crystal.

The fortress of trees had become a horrible killing formation!

The murderous traps in the fortress even frightened Ye Xiao himself. Honestly, it was cold-blooded and brutal to make such horrible formation traps!

He was so angry, so he made it. He had lost his mind when he did it, so it was fine. He didn't care!

The Monarch's Hall was a lot weaker after the four clans left, so he needed something to protect the Monarch's Hall. The new fortress of trees was powerful enough to keep it safe inside the Monarch's Hall!

– Clap, clap, clap... –

Ye Xiao clapped and called everybody to gather over. He had words to say.

“From now on, the Hall of Life and Death continues the business of saving lives. The Hall of Life and Death is the Monarch’s Hall, and the Monarch’s Hall is the Hall of Life and Death. I am putting both things as one.

“There are things I need you to do. Listen up. The twelve units settle in different parts of the fortress. Each part can hold no more than two hundred people. Well, you don’t have over two hundred people, so just get in. These places will not be open to the public.

“The Seven Stars will be in the middle of that bridge.

“The One Blade and Two Warriors stay around me.

“Everybody gets this done today.

“In the future, not far away, there will be enemies coming to attack. Guards will still take turns to guard the entrances. Nobody leaves the fortress, except the guards. Everybody stays inside the fortress and focuses on cultivation.

“We are not expanding.

“The wall of Iron Maples outside draws the boundary. The world of trees is the territory of the Monarch’s Hall

“We give orders from this place. No matter how many people we have, the headquarters won’t be expanded.”

Everybody was shocked.

‘The headquarters will not be expanded?’

‘What does that mean?’

That meant the leaders of the Monarch’s Hall were all appointed!