

Firmament 761

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Chapter 761: Unable to Escape!

[Nature Exquisite Body and ten thousand years of cultivation... He has both... He is more than just a talented young man... He can be a powerful monster that can even fight against the heaven's will! If... If he becomes one of us...]

Xiao Mufei breathed heavily as his eyes lit up. [Then... We can not only fully suppress the other six sects... but also... we may become even more powerful than one person, two saint halls, three divine palaces... and become the dominator of the entire Qing-Yun Realm!]

[That is possible! There is only one thing we have to do... Ye Chongxiao has to become one of us and acquire the chance to improve himself! All he needs is just an opportunity. Time means little to him. He has both marvelous advantages. As long as he could concentrate on cultivation, after hundreds of years, he can become one of the most powerful cultivators in the world, even the most powerful! That is not just a dream!]

His eyes lit up.

[If so... even if I have to sacrifice these men I have here, even my own life... I should do it!] He made a long sigh while sitting beside the campfire.

[Our sect is what makes us who we are...]

...

He thought for a long time and then took out a ring from a pocket. The ring looked ordinary. There was some strange green marks on it. It was nothing special.

He turned over and rubbed the ring...

After a while, a purely dark bird suddenly flew up silently. After just a second, it rushed into the sky and disappeared in the dark.

[I hope the sect... will send more men to me soon... This is too much of a responsibility on me...] He looked worried. [I... I think I am not able to take it any longer...]

...

The next day, early in the morning.

The sun just rose up. There was morning dew in the air. It was fresh.

Ye Xiao slowly opened his eyes. He saw over three hundred men of Cold Moon Palace who were ready to leave.

They were waiting for Ye Xiao.

Ye Xiao was surprised. [Why didn't they wake me up? They are all so much stronger than me. Why would they wait for me? A rookie? Because I ate the Golden-scaled Dragon Fish? Isn't this too much respect to me?]

"We saw you in meditation, so we decided not to interrupt. We won't want to stop you. Master told us not to wake you up unless anything dangerous happens to you." Fang Dalong smiled humbly.

"I see. Chongxiao must thank you all for the care." Ye Xiao smiled. In fact, he was confused. [It seems reasonable, but isn't it weird? I am too weak to have their special consideration.]

[Even though I did eat that fish... it is still unpersuasive.]

[Morals, kindness and all the other virtue mean nothing to cultivators, especially the powerful ones in Qing-Yun Realm.]

[They can kill me if they want!]

[If I die, they won't need to fight anymore.]

[Why would they do this to me? Treat me so well?]

Ye Xiao didn't feel strange about this though. Ye Nantian treated him the same way.

[But... Ye Nantian is my father.]

[These men, Xiao Mufei, Fang Dalong and the others... They are nobody to me.]

[That is nothing to compare with.]

[Isn't it weird? They way they treat me?]

Xiao Mufei saw Ye Xiao finish his cultivation, so he told everybody to get on the road again. They moved another three hundred miles peacefully. Nothing happened. It was like a leisure tour.

When they left the Ice Land, they still hadn't encountered anything dangerous. They thought there would be people chasing after them, but it turned out nothing happened!

It relaxed the hearts of the men. They lowered down a bit and started to make fun of each other.

Xiao Mufei didn't. He became more and more cautious, looking even more worried as time passed on.

He didn't even sleep at night, just sat cross legged. He didn't cultivate, but set his mind power out to sense everything around them.

Sometimes, when there were animals passing over, Xiao Mufei would check on them carefully.

He was extremely cautious all the way along!

As they moved further, he got more cautious than earlier. Under his influence, the others were also cautious.

Xiao Mufei was the eldest and strongest among the group, and he was an important elder in Cold Moon Palace. If he stayed alert, the others would definitely follow!

That was why as they moved further, they became more cautious. All of them.

No matter where they were, Ye Xiao was always in the center of the group. It was the safest place in the group!

Xiao Mufei's eldest disciple was like a loyal guard following Ye Xiao. Even when Ye Xiao needed to relieve himself, Fang Dalong wouldn't let him go alone!

Ye Xiao was speechless about it. He didn't know what to do about it.

He wasn't interested in being a disciple in Cold Moon Palace at all!

No matter how powerful they were... it meant nothing to Ye Xiao!

He even thought about escaping.

However, as he moved further, he started to give up that idea.

He was in the center of the crowd, so it was the safest spot, but also the most eye-catching!

Ye Xiao was the weakest among the hundreds of people!

The weakest of the others was in level four of Dream Origin Stage!

Ye Xiao was only level three in Spirit Origin Stage!

He had been cultivating under the others' protection all the way along, so he was level three, but when he just arrived to this world, he was just level two!

He was invincible in the Land of Han-Yang, but was the weakest in Qing-Yun Realm. It was a cruel truth that he must accept.

It was impossible for him to escape under the watch of these men!

He was unable to escape!

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Chapter 762: Dark Pine Forest

Everyday, every second, on the road, eating, resting, at night...

Xiao Mufei would gather lots of his men and talk to Ye Xiao. Everybody sat in a circle except those on guard... A group chat... They talked about everything, including the martial business, gossips, love stories, revenge stories, weird things...

Xiao Mufei felt that he was so eager to tell something of what he had learned in his life to Ye Xiao.

What he said would make his disciples think for a while.

Someone would add their own opinions and ask for Ye Xiao's thoughts.

Ye Xiao didn't want to show off and he really felt bored about it. What he really thought would only make those men turn hostile to him!

However, he had experienced so much...

No matter what Xiao Mufei said, Ye Xiao could catch the point and then respond with a few words. Xiao Mufei felt that Ye Chongxiao was such a genius...

Every time after they talked, Xiao Mufei felt more satisfied with Ye Chongxiao...

Was Ye Xiao really learning well from him?

Of course not!

Ye Xiao was like a man who had a doctorate degree but looked like a kid being taught by a teacher about some simple lessons. He tried not to answer so seriously, but even so, his answer was always the best one. Xiao Mufei would definitely praise him!

However, Ye Xiao didn't learn anything. He knew the answers!

He thought about Xiao Mufei. [This man seems nice, but he is surely not a good man. He treats me so well because he wants me to be a part of his sect. That is all!]

[In other words, this guy is a 'sect fanatic'!]

[The only thing he cares about is his sect.]

[What he values the most is the interest of his sect.]

[Everything must make way to his sect... including his own life!]

[Cold Moon Palace is the untouchable sacred place in Xiao Mufei's heart!]

[He can do anything, literally anything, for his sect.]

[He will die for his sect!]

[These great sects are lucky to have such disciples...] Ye Xiao kept thinking. He was curious. [I wonder what kind of education his sect gave him to make him so... loyal?]

Many of the young disciples felt jealous when they saw Ye Xiao being treated so well. When they looked at Ye Xiao, in their eyes, there was annoyance.

Ye Xiao just ignored them.

However, after a few days of travel, after the group chat at those nights, and after Ye Xiao kept giving his profound views on every topic... those young men started to think deeper... Because of that, they started to show respect to Ye Xiao.

They changed. They didn't look down upon Ye Xiao anymore. They saw him like a brother. At the end, they even looked at him with admiration. Their attitude to Ye Xiao was changed bit by bit!

Every time when Ye Xiao noticed their change, he had a complex feeling.

[These men got my brother killed and vanished me... People of the three factions...]

[After the days we spent together, I am sure they are all vile and vicious. They kill without blinking the eyes!]

[But... are they really monsters? I don't know...]

After all, in Qing-Yun Realm, who had bigger fists had the rights. Those who didn't kill would eventually get killed. Whoever wanted to survive must kill without mercy!

Apparently, not just people in Cold Moon Palace were monsters!

In an afternoon.

They reached the top of a hill somewhere.

Xiao Mufei waved his hand and the others all stopped moving.

Ye Xiao tried to find what Xiao Mufei was looking at. What he saw was a big Dark Pine Forest about one hundred meter away ahead of them. They were standing on the highest spot in this area. What they saw was an ocean of dark pine trees.

"We are about to enter the seven thousand miles long Dark Pine Forest!" Xiao Mufei looked solemn. He sounded scared. "It is the... most dangerous part of our way home!"

"This is the perfect place for the other sects to attack us! A perfect place to ambush! It is the most convenient for them to make an attack."

"Once we get into the forest, I am not sure how many of us can make it out."

Xiao Mufei looked around his people. They were all standing up straight.

Those who had been leading the way had returned. Those who kept staying behind had caught up. They were gathering in this place.

"Before we go into it, I need to say something."

Xiao Mufei looked gloomy and a bit vicious, however, there was this noble spirit in him.

"Let me ask you, what is the most important thing in our lives?" he shouted.

At the moment, Ye Xiao was waiting for the answer too.

"Sect!" everyone answered loudly and put their right fist on the chest. They looked solemn. "In the endless universe, our sect means means everything to us! In the cruel world, my heart will only go after our sect!"

"Without the sect, I am a pile of rotten bones. With the sect, I am rocking the world!"

Xiao Mufei was satisfied. He said, "What should we do if the sect needs us?"

"We splash our blood for the sect! We sacrifice for the sect! We die with honor for the sect!"

They answered loudly together.

Xiao Mufei took in a deep breath and said, "We all know, Ye Chongxiao ate the inner core of the Golden-scaled Dragon Fish. He has a great future. As long as we successfully send him back to the sect, our sect will rise soon!"

"However, the other sects won't allow it. They will try everything they can to kill Ye Chongxiao and ruin the opportunity we have."

"That is why in the forest, there will be full of traps and bloods! We will go into the fight! We will fight in the seven thousand miles Dark Pine Forest!"

"All I want is one thing!" He sounded hoarse.

"Master! Don't worry!" Fang Dalong shouted, rising up his arms. "We won't let Brother Ye get hurt! We will sacrifice ourselves to protect him!"

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Chapter 763: Danger!

"Chongxiao stays safe as long as we live! Whoever wants to hurt him must step over our dead bodies!"

The three hundred and sixty men shouted together.

Xiao Mufei took in a deep breath and raised his head. Tears filled his eyes as he shouted, "Go!"

Everybody walked down the hill in line.

They were marching to the Dark Pine Forest.

None of them hesitated.

Ye Xiao was always calm and steady, but he was touched.

Regardless of how Ye Xiao hated them for what they had done in his previous life, the spirit they just showed indicated that the three factions did have the capability to stay strong in Qing-Yun Realm for so many years!

The loyalty... the unity...

That was never to be found in the Land of Han-Yang.

It wasn't easy to make a sect last for more than ten thousand years!

Ye Xiao was sure about one thing. If he never had that history with the three faction in his previous life, if he truly was just a young man who had just come to this world and accidentally ate the Golden-scaled Dragon Fish, he would definitely devote himself to Cold Moon Palace!

He would become a loyal disciple in Cold Moon Palace!

He would spend the rest of his life to serve the sect till the day he died without regret.

Personal example always worked better than verbal instructions!

Truth was something nobody could ignore!

What they did, what they said, those were real! That was shocking!

Even Ye Xiao was moved, not to mention others!

However, to make a right decision was a different thing. He was in the opposite position to these men. No matter how he was touched, he wouldn't change his view. When the day came, he would kill them without hesitation!

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After they entered the Dark Pine Forest, it became so dark that even they couldn't see each other.

The pine trees were covering the sky. They were stepping on the rotting leaves and grasses... The grass was different here. It was as tall as a man.

They just kept walking ahead carefully and silently. The forest was silent. What could be heard was only the sound of their steps.

Suddenly, Xiao Mufei's nose moved. He tried to smell something.

He then jumped up high like lightning and broke the covering of the pine trees. He grabbed something down in his hand.

When he looked at the thing in his hand, his face turned pale and dark.

His hands were shaking, and his finger joints turned pale.

Xiao Mufei didn't hesitate anymore. He jumped up again and then got down immediately. His face was totally pale this time!

"Master, what's wrong? What happened?" Fang Dalong was worried.

The others all looked over.

Xiao Mufei slowly opened his right hand and there was a little dead bird lying in it. The bird was black. Its feathers were sharp like steel.

"Iron-winged Sparrow!" Fang Dalong exclaimed. He looked at Xiao Mufei and said, "Master, did you..."

He didn't finish it. He was apparently terrified.

Xiao Mufei nodded seriously. That meant Fang Dalong was right.

Fang Dalong widely opened his eyes. The others all knew what that meant. They were all scared too.

Iron-winged Sparrow was the carrier bird only Cold Moon Palace used in the world.

"I jumped up there..." Xiao Mufei spoke with a gloomy voice, "and I found many dead birds up on the trees..."

Before he finished, some disciples already jumped up to check on it.

Ye Xiao was curious, so he jumped up too. He saw lots of little dead birds lying on the trees.

There was no bigger birds.

The biggest one was no bigger than a crow. There were too many dead birds and he couldn't count them at all.

The men got down with gloomy face too.

"We can be sure about one thing now. The other sects have prepared for this. This time, they..." Xiao Mufei spoke in a solemn voice, "... will do it in full effort!"

"They will die fighting!" he gritted with his teeth and said.

"Master... The dead birds... Did they kill all those birds? All of them? Why?" Fang Dalong couldn't believe it.

"We shouldn't be surprised. They didn't know what kind of bird is our carrier, but they know we are good at beast training. They just had to kill every bird in this place! I would do that too, if I were them!"

"Our problem is that the Iron-winged Sparrows we set out were killed by them with many other birds." Xiao Mufei looked worried. "In other words... the sect has no idea what we are dealing with right now."

"We won't get any support from the sect. Nobody know we are here."

"From now on, we are on our own. We have to make the way out by ourselves... fight against the two saint halls, three divine palaces and the other six sects..." His face twisted. "We may need to fight against more..."

The three hundred and sixty disciples were all heavy-laden in the heart.

Those sects actually did such a thing to stop a young man from being a part of another sect.

They would rather kill ten thousand innocents to make sure Ye Xiao was dead!

That was vicious and cruel...

"We must stop looking forward to any help. We know our current situation. Be careful. Let's go!" Xiao Mufei shouted and led the way ahead.

Apparently, they were in such a dangerous situation and they were on their own. It was meaningless to say more.

Since nobody would come to save them, they must leave the forest as soon as possible, in case the enemies gathered more men. They moved so fast, trying to escape for survival!

The sun was setting. It became red like blood.

One full day and a night, they barely slept. They couldn't sleep. Xiao Mufei scolded them for this. "What are you doing? What if there is a fight you have to fight tomorrow? How do you fight with an exhausted body? Do you want to die in fear? Sleep now! Whoever is on guard, keep your eyes open! Or else we all die!"

The latter part of the night...

Some weird sound was approaching. It woke them up.

At the moment, any sound could arouse tension in their hearts!

One man suddenly exclaimed, "Somebody..."

Then it turned silent again.

The scary Dark Pine Forest suddenly became full of horror!

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Chapter 764: Silver-scaled Golden-caruncled Snake!

They lit up torches and went over to the man who exclaimed!

The man was grabbing a strange snake, which was glowing. His face was dark. He was dead!

The man was level four of Dream Origin Stage, considered weak among the group.

He got bitten by that snake and died immediately!

What was that snake?

That was overwhelming!

Ye Xiao looked at it. The snake had a silver scale, which made it look like crystal. On its head, there was a golden caruncle!

The snake was dead too. Apparently, the man operated his full power to grab it. He died, but he also killed the snake.

"Silver-scaled Golden-caruncled Snake!" Xiao Mufei's face changed. He shouted, "Guys, stay together! Clean the area under your feet! Quick!"

Ye Xiao was shocked too.

Silver-scaled Golden-caruncled Snake!

The third most poisonous beast!

There were ten most poisonous things in Qing-Yun Realm. This snake was the third!

That was dangerous!

Many years earlier, somebody successfully extracted the poison from this snake. He used that to wipe out an entire family of a man who was level eight of Dream Origin Stage!

That was where the story of the Silver-scaled Golden-caruncled Snake began! It shocked the world!

People below Dao Origin Stage all feared it!

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Suddenly, sound of whistling came from afar.

It kept resounding and nobody could tell where the sound came from.

After a while, sound of something moving in the grass came along. That weird sound soon surrounded them...

Apparently, there was a lot of snakes moving over to them. They cut the way out.

"What... What should we do?" They were all terrified.

In the dark of the forest, they could nearly see each other. To be surrounded by a bunch of Silver-scaled Golden-caruncled Snakes was absolutely a terrible situation.

Xiao Mufei looked even gloomy. He never thought the enemies would be this vicious.

"Someone is manipulating these snakes. That whistling must be the instruction." He said, "This forest is their perfect cover. This is the most vicious and efficient way to attack. This is difficult..."

He looked up while staring at the pine trees and sighed.

Ye Xiao knew what he was thinking. To fight against Silver-scaled Golden-caruncled Snakes, fire was the perfect weapon. However, they were in the dark of the forest.

They might get themselves killed in the fire. If the trees were on fire, they might all die in the forest.

That was why they didn't want to set a fire.

It would also cut off their way out.

After a while, the men had cleaned up a clear area. It was about three hundred meters wide. There wasn't even grass in it...

They even cut off the trees and threw them out the area.

As the trees were removed, the moonlight finally splashed into the forest.

It lightened their faces, which were pale.

In the moonlight, they saw silver waves rolling around them. Endless Silver-scaled Golden-caruncled Snakes were moving over to them. They kept hissing and it scared everybody.

There were snakes on the trees too. The snakes stared at the men with cold eyes. Some of them had whirled their bodies, ready to rush over.

"I am afraid there are tens of thousands snakes around us..." Xiao Mufei made a long sigh. "Dark Pine Forest is their home. We all know it. Nobody dares to mess with these snakes, not even Dao Origin Stage cultivators. Nobody dares to draw them out of the forest... Once they were out, the world would be ruined! Thousands of miles around this place, nothing could survive. I chose to go this way because I thought they would fear these snakes!"

"But I never thought that they would use the snakes on us. How vicious!"

Ye Xiao's eyes lit up. He said, "Elder Xiao, I knew you are good at beast training. If they can draw these snakes out, can't you just make them go away?"

"They must have been preparing for a long time on this. It is too late for me to do anything." Xiao Mufei was in pain. "These snakes love the smell of human... Once they smell it, they won't get away..."

While he was speaking, some snakes already started the attack. The sound of hissing was everywhere.

The men who stood on the outskirts were fighting the snakes with swords in the hands. They were scared but didn't give up fighting. They kept cutting the snakes apart when the snakes flew over to them.

"Be careful! Cutting them into two parts may not kill them. We must cut them on their neck, seven inches from their heads. Make sure you cut off their heads. Don't leave the heads near your feet! They might still bite you!" Xiao Mufei kept warning others.

As Xiao Mufei finished his speaking, the men all hurriedly looked down to the snake bodies on the ground. One of them saw half a snake with a head actually moving over to him and trying to bite on his foot.

He exclaimed and kicked it away immediately.

Luckily, with Xiao Mufei's instruction, nobody died!

The silver waves had turned into a bright net. Countless Silver-scaled Golden-caruncled Snakes turned beastly after they smelled blood. They moved even faster now. Things went worse.

- Puff, puff, puff... -

That was the sound of sword hitting the snakes. It kept sounding out. Such a sound filled the battle. It was such a tough fight.

The snakes were small but tough. It wasn't easy to cut through their silver scales. They had to pour their spiritual energy into the swords so as to cut the snakes' heads off. Ye Xiao was confident to handle one snake with one sword strike, but there were definitely more than one snake that he needed to deal with.

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Chapter 765: Crowd of Snakes!

Even though Ye Xiao was in Spirit Origin Stage, if he encountered an attack from three snakes, he may be able to kill two of them, but definitely not the third.

He was unable to kill it, but he couldn't just let it be there. What he had to do was to knock it back and wait for the chance to kill it later.

In fact, everyone needed to face more than three snakes at the same time. They needed to face a lot. That was why they kept knocking the snakes away and they did this more than cut them off.

That consumed lots of energy. Thirty men who stood outside had just fought for an hour and they started to feel exhausted.

Tiredness was not the only thing they was facing. They also needed to endure the terrible smell from the dead snakes and the poisonous mist from their mouths. Even though they had prepared for that, they still got seriously damaged.

"Switch!" Xiao Mufei shouted.

If they didn't take turn to fight those snakes, they would die soon! It would be a great loss!

The thirty disciples heard Xiao Mufei as if it was song from the heavens. They immediately stepped back and thirty more men took their places. They rushed out and stayed stable. That expanded the defensive area for them. They just began to fight, so they were still energetic. Within just seconds, they had already killed over a hundred snakes.

However, after just a while, these men were exhausted too. They started to knock away the snakes instead of killing them. The defense area became smaller again!

Although it wasn't a good situation to be surrounded by the snakes, they could still hang on for some time!

Ye Xiao looked away and found the snakes had become an ocean of silver out there.

In the silver ocean, the silver glow never stopped shining. It moved so fast like a horse running in the fastest way. Countless snakes kept striking the defensive line. Every minute, there were snakes being chopped in to parts, but more and more snakes rushed over without fears!

The silver glow was shining from far away. There were many more snakes coming over to them.

The whistling was still sounding, commanding the snakes...

Xiao Mufei thought there might be tens of thousands of snakes. In fact, he was wrong. There must be more than that. There were more than one hundred thousand snakes!

Ye Xiao frowned and tried to think of a practical way to deal with the situation. It was utterly dangerous this time. If he couldn't come up with a method... he would die with these men in this forest.

Xiao Mufei was powerful enough to escape though, if he was lucky.

However, after fighting for a long time, he wouldn't be powerful enough anymore. He would also die in the crowd of snakes eventually!

What a vicious trap.

Ye Xiao had to think of something practical, and he had to proceed as soon as he could. Once the over three hundred men were all exhausted, nobody could fight anymore. Even though Ye Xiao could make the snakes go away by himself, there would be no one to help him deal with the enemy next!

He had to do it quick!

He frowned and thought hard.

In fact, he had thought of one method. As long as he told the others, they could be released from such suppression!

Ye Xiao didn't know much about this snake. He hadn't seen one before. However, he happened to know the weakness of this snake!

The weak point wasn't the neck. It was the caruncle.

Cut off the caruncle and the snake would die immediately!

However, he couldn't tell them.

If he told them, they might suspect his real identity.

'You are a young man who have just come to this world. How did you know the weak point of this snake?'

That was a question he didn't know how to answer!

'You actually knew such a thing. Does it mean you are not new to this world?'

'I guess you want something from us, don't you?'

Well... he might get himself killed because of it...

For people in those great sects, when they suspected somebody, they just killed them. No matter what the truth was, the man who had the possibility to be an enemy would get killed!

Ye Xiao would never make such a mistake.

However, if he didn't tell them, they would all die...

Once they died, Ye Xiao wouldn't be able to live.

Ye Xiao kept thinking about it. He tried to figure out another way to help them. He wanted to let them know about this secret but wouldn't get himself involved!

Erhuo suddenly showed up its head. The color of silver filled its sight. - Mia! - It exclaimed. The hairs on its body all stood up.

Its eyes became roundish.

[Oh my heavens and hell. Scare the wit off me. Why are there so many snakes?]

[What is going on?]

"What?" Ye Xiao frowned while looking at the cat. He said, "Oh, you are scared? You? Aren't you the peerless spiritual creature? How can you fear such 'mortal' beasts?"

Erhuo rolled its eyes up and rubbed its whisker. It decided to totally ignore Ye Xiao.

Then its two ears flicked!

[Meow... What did I see?]

[Holy heaven kitty!]

[Scales!]

[Those snakes... have scales!]

[Are they as delicious as fish? Look at their scales!]

It kept flicking its ears while rubbing its whiskers. It couldn't make up its mind. [Should I... have a try?]

[What if they are super delicious?]

[There are so many of them...]

[That should be enough to eat!]

[I have yet to experience even one good meal after following this needy master. How can I give up such an opportunity?] Erhuo stopped its claw. It was lost in thoughts... Suddenly, it rubbed its whisker again...

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Chapter 766: Surprise; Suggestions!

- Shoot! Shoot! Shoot... -

The snakes on the trees started to attack now.

First, the men needed to defend the attacks from the ground, and now they also had to defend the attack from the sky. Things got worse for the men of Cold Moon Palace this time. Everybody was in a muddle now. They probably would lose it.

Xiao Mufei shouted loudly and thirty men in the crowd jumped up high all of a sudden. They had been prepared for a long time. Their swords started to glow and they protected the others from the attacks in the sky. There were dozens of other disciples that kept watching the ground and swept away the other snakes on the ground as soon as they could.

The snakes had forced two groups of men to fight together. What a tough fight!

Ye Xiao was worried. One hundred and twenty men of the three hundred and sixty had joined the fight. Nobody died yet. However, as it went on, there would definitely be people dying!

Ye Xiao knew the weak point of the snakes, but that was all he knew. Xiao Mufei knew more than Ye Xiao about the snakes, but just not the most important one. Ye Xiao was worried and he knew this was urgent. He just couldn't think of a way to indicate the weak point of the snakes!

At the meantime, he felt something moving on his chest. He looked at it and saw Erhuo was thrilled. It didn't look scared at all now. He knew what to do now. He reached his hand and grabbed a part of a snake body.

Ye Xiao didn't know much about Silver-scaled Golden-caruncle Snakes, but when one hits a snake, they usually hit its jugular. He grabbed the snake on its neck. The snake was yet to die even though it had already lost the other part of its body. It kept twisting but couldn't attack, as its jugular was grabbed.

And then Ye Xiao put the snake on the floor.

Xiao Mufei frowned and looked at him. He wasn't happy about that. [We all fight so hard for your life, and you are playing with the snake here... It is good if you help killing some, yet you just play with a dead one...]

He had no time to say anything about it on the battle. Time flew. He just pretended he didn't see him.

Erhuo saw what Ye Xiao did. It knew what he wanted immediately. Before Ye Xiao said anything, Erhuo casually walked over that snake and turned that snake over with a claw.

The snake was seriously injured, but it still hissed and stared at Erhuo fiercely.

Erhuo was pissed. [You little stupid snake. How dare you stare at me like that? You are just a dying snake!]

Erhuo opened its mouth and bit on the snake fiercely.

Of course, the cat won. Erhuo bit the snake head and then crunched. - Crack! - It bit off the head and chewed it, and then swallowed it without hesitation.

"You silly cat! Why are you so stupid!" Ye Xiao was shocked. He tried to open its mouth. "You fool! It's a poisonous snake!"

Erhuo rolled its eyes and licked its lips. Its furry face was full of indifference.

It thought. [Oh, my master. What an ignorant fool. Even you know this thing is poisonous, of course I know too! Would I eat it if I am afraid of the snake's poison? If you don't want me to get poisoned, don't let me fight that stupid snake. My man. I can't believe I am following such an idiot!]

[Hmm... The taste of the snake...]

The next moment, it licked its lips again and again! Its two ears stood up and flicked. Its eyes were like two searchlights lighting up!

[Holy heavens!]

[That... is such a surprise!]

[This snake... is full of nutrition!]

[It looks creepy but... tasty.]

When it looked around the enormous amount of snakes, its eyes were getting brighter. A long line of saliva appeared on its mouth.

"Silver-scaled Golden-caruncle Snake is one of the most poisonous things in Qing-Yun Realm. They could only be found in this Dark Pine Forest," somebody spoke in a deep voice. It was Xiao Mufei.

"Among all the beasts in Qing-Yun Realm, this snake is far from the top league. In fact, it is even lower than average."

"However, the poison it carries makes it part of the top poisonous beasts."

"Whoever gets poisoned by it will die for sure. Even Dao Origin Stage cultivators wouldn't be able to survive its poison. The snake is just a third level beast. That means it's weak!" Xiao Mufei kept watching the snakes while he was speaking.

The disciples were listening to him while fighting the snakes.

"You may not be any outstanding cultivators, but you are all above Dream Origin Stage at least. Each of you can easily handle a level six beast. To kill this snake should be a piece of cake."

Xiao Mufei sounded heavy, but he was encouraging his men.

"Now, we have over three hundred brothers here. Even though we have to deal with a hundred thousand snakes, each of us only need to kill about three thousand. [1]"

Xiao Mufei continued, "We kept switching to defend the snakes, so we have time to rest. We have been cultivating all our lives. This is just some stupid snakes. Do you really think we are unable to handle it? Hell no!"

The disciples were all inspired!

[That's right! There are many snakes indeed, but I just need to kill three thousand! Just sway the sword three thousand times. That's easy. We do more than that everyday in practice!]

Suddenly, everybody was thrilled. Their swords became brighter, moving faster and faster. Within just a while, the defense area expanded a hundred meters wide.

They started to cheer, as things finally went better.

Ye Xiao frowned. He moved close to Xiao Mufei and spoke quietly, "Elder Xiao, I am afraid there is something wrong with this. I don't think these snakes are easy to handle like this."

Xiao Mufei frowned and said, "Hmm? Why?"

Ye Xiao spoke in a low voice, "I was observing the snakes and grabbed one to check its body... It is easy to handle when it is just one snake. Even I can easily kill it. All I need to do is try my best not to be poisoned. However, the scales are unbelievably tough. If we keep cutting it, it will consume more energy than we can afford. It will be easy to feel exhausted. Even though we take turns to fight, we may still not be able to clear it. Besides, it will eventually damage our weapons. If we die because of the loss of weapons, that will be such a shame."

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Chapter 767: Golden Caruncle, the Weak Point!

Xiao Mufei was quite experienced. Of course, he knew what Ye Xiao said. However, it was urgent. He had to cheer his men up, so he didn't tell them the problem. He heard what Ye Xiao said and knew that Ye Xiao must have thought of a way to deal with the situation. His eyes lit up and he said, "Do you have any ideas then?"

Ye Xiao said, "I checked the snake earlier. Like all the snakes, the jugular is its weak point, but not the fatal one."

Xiao Mufei said, "That's right. That couldn't put it to death!"

"Hmm. We can constrain it by attacking its jugular, but not kill it."

"I am new to this world, so I barely know much about the animals here. However, I know one thing. Every living thing has a weak point that can lead it to death. As long as we find this weak point, it will be much easier to kill it." Ye Xiao spoke in a low voice, "Silver-scaled Golden-caruncle Snake must also have a fatal weak point. That is the key we need to find out as soon as possible... I just don't know where it is..."

He continued, "Maybe we can ask our men to test it by attacking the snakes on different parts of their bodies. If we can find that weak point..."

Ye Xiao had made his point clearly enough.

Xiao Mufei was a clever man. He knew what Ye Xiao meant exactly.

That was right. This snake was extremely poisonous, but it barely appeared. Information about this animal was very small. Now, there were countless of this snake, so they had a lot of experiment subjects. The snake was dangerous, but it was not that strong. It shouldn't be a problem to find out the fatal weak point of it. If they could figure out where to cut the snake to kill it easily, they could survive this ten times sooner!

Xiao Mufei understood it, so he turned around and gave the order.

"Try to attack the snake on different parts, like the neck, tail, head and others..."

Several level eight Dream Origin Stage cultivators answered and got back to the fight.

Their swords were moving with cold lights. A few snakes were killed. However, Ye Xiao urged, "Elder Xiao, I am afraid things are changing. Tell them to do it faster."

Xiao Mufei also noticed something was wrong.

The snakes seemed twice bigger than the former ones.

The snakes that showed up earlier were about two kilograms each, but the ones they were fighting now were about four kilograms. Some were even more than five kilograms!

The bigger snakes were not just bigger in size. The scales were brighter and tougher. To cut them into parts would cost more energy now.

It was getting more difficult now. The disciples were all stepping backward.

Suddenly, there came up a sound of cracking. One man had stricken on a snake with his sword. The snake was in pain and got hit off, but it didn't die.

The sword broke into two parts!

That man reacted quick. He turned around and left immediately. Another man took his place to continue the fight.

However, as the man spent time running over to fill the gap, a few others exclaimed. About seven men got bitten by the snakes and then died!

Xiao Mufei looked grieved. He watched his men fighting against the snakes. Ye Xiao was watching too. He hoped somebody would figure out the secret in the caruncle soon.

However, although they had killed hundreds of snakes within a short time, nobody ever tried the caruncle.

On one hand, the snakes surely would try to protect their caruncles.

On the other hand, none of the men thought of the caruncle!

Xiao Mufei was sweating.

He knew that his men were tired. Most importantly, some of them died. More and more would die. Those men must be frightened.

If things didn't go better, they would all die eventually!

Xiao Mufei was vexed and didn't know what to do. Suddenly, he heard Ye Chongxiao murmuring, "That's impossible. We tried every part of the snake. They must have a fatal weak point, right? Is Silver-scaled Golden-caruncle Snake a perfect creature? Silver scales protect the body. Golden caruncle... Wait... If there is any part of it we haven't tried to attack yet, it must be the caruncle..."

Xiao Mufei's eyes lit up. He shouted hurriedly, "Hit the caruncle! The caruncle! That's the weak point!"

He shouted repeatedly. A few Dream Origin Stage cultivators jumped up high and swayed their long swords with cold lights. - Shoot, shoot, shoot... -

Suddenly, dozens of snakes that had been flying in the air got hit on the caruncles. They all fell down to the ground.

Green liquid poured out from the broken caruncles. As the caruncles were damaged, the snakes instantly died. That was efficient. The snakes didn't even twitch.

"The caruncle!"

"Hit the caruncle!"

Everybody heard it. They were thrilled again. They didn't fight hard anymore. What they did was to slip aside and cut the caruncles on the snakes' heads. After a while, the dead snakes piled up on the ground.

The snake bodies were about one meter high on the ground. More and more snakes died on it.

Now that they found the fatal weak point of the snakes, things got easier. Those men were all above Dream Origin Stage. They killed the snakes like cutting off grasses.

Xiao Mufei was relieved. He shouted and then tried to sweep off the dead snakes.

The snakes were dead, but the poison was still in their bodies. Whoever touched the poison would definitely die. They had been fighting so hard and didn't have time to deal with the dead bodies. Since the battle was safe on their side, he decided to clean the snakes himself!

[Those are good stuffs...]

Erhuo was jumping between Ye Xiao's legs, anxious for the snakes.

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Chapter 768: Snake King!

Ye Xiao saw Xiao Mufei cleaning the snakes, so he said, "Elder Xiao, you are too important to do such a thing. Let me help. You have a group of men to lead."

He pretended to be humble and honest. He said, "I am weak. I can't help with the fight. I have been watching you guys here and couldn't do anything. It makes me feel bad. I just need to be careful about the poison when dealing with the dead snakes. I can do it. Just let me do something, please."

Xiao Mufei thought for a while and agreed with it. He should better keep an eye on the fight in case anything went wrong.

[Chongxiao asked the chance to make a contribution. What a good guy. He grabbed a dead snake because he wanted to figure out the weak point of it. I misunderstood him. It is reasonable that he wants to help. What he needs is just to be careful not to get poisoned. That should be safe...]

He nodded and said, "Alright. I will leave it to you. The snakes are dead, but the poison is still there. Just be careful. That aside, you must not go far. Stay inside our defensive perimeter."

Ye Xiao promised and then walked away.

He communicated with Erhuo with mind, "Erhuo, do you want the snakes?"

"Meow."

"Does it taste good?"

"Meow."

"Is it useful?"

"Meow."

"Really?"

"Meow meow!"

Ye Xiao understood.

He walked to the boundary of the defensive perimeter but didn't leave it. He then started to deal with the snake bodies. He reached his hand to the pile of snakes and then threw them high and far away. Nobody noticed that before the snakes were thrown away, some snake bodies disappeared. When the

snake bodies flew out, it was hard to notice how many there were. In fact, many snake bodies were missing.

The little white cat was following him behind his back.

It kept walking around like doing nothing, but in fact it was eating the snakes. Nobody found out what they were actually doing.

That was reasonable. Who would think that a little cat had such an enormous stomach?

Maybe Erhuo was the peerless stomach king in the universe!

Ye Xiao quickly cleaned the bodies around the defensive perimeter, and then found that more dead snakes piled up again...

The pile of dead snakes was getting thicker and thicker...

Apparently, those men killed the snakes much faster now as they figured out they should hit the caruncle!

Ye Xiao kept cleaning the dead snakes faster and faster...

Xiao Mufei squinted at Ye Xiao from time to time. He wasn't watching him though. He just didn't want Ye Xiao to get poisoned. He would go over to help Ye Xiao if he got clumsy. However, when he found Ye Xiao was efficiently cleaning the snakes, he couldn't help himself from praising him.

[Ye Chongxiao is a good disciple. He fears neither hardship or tiredness... He just keeps doing his job...]

[Good lad!]

[He is calm and steady in such a chaos, and he is smart and sharp-minded. He will eventually become a great figure of Cold Moon Palace!]

Ye Xiao was satisfied.

There were tens of thousands of dead snakes in the Space already!

[Erhuo loves it. That means I should also take as many as I can. Things Erhuo likes... must be something extraordinary.] That was why he kept storing the snakes into the Space.

While the Cold Moon Palace people were winning the battle, the air suddenly smelled weird. Something happened. The whistling sound had stopped.

The snakes were still moving restlessly.

A beam of silver light was getting close to them. That was much brighter than the silver glow from the snakes!

It was like a silver moon splashing the lights to them...

The light was getting closer and closer...

Apparently, the main force of the Silver-scaled Golden-caruncle Snakes was coming over.

Among the sea of silver light, there was a bit of golden light moving over to them. It was like a king coming to the city!

The snakes were all lowering the heads!

"Snake king! It's their king coming!" Xiao Mufei was shocked. He was shaking. He was intense again.

Was the mythical Silver-scaled Golden-caruncle Snake King coming to them?

There were something Xiao Mufei didn't tell about the snake earlier. Silver-scaled Golden-caruncle Snake was, although a level three beast, the scales were the toughest shield they had. This was something that would make the men lose courage, so he didn't tell the others.

Besides, the bigger snakes were actually level four beasts! The smaller ones were level three or lower. It depended on their age!

The snakes they were fighting at the last were all about level seven! Xiao Mufei recognized it with what he had learned in his life!

The snake king that made the other snakes lower their heads must be about level eight! That was horrible!

It could even be level nine!

That was a beast that most of the cultivators would run away from in Qing-Yun Realm!

At least, none of these people had the capability to deal with it!

That was why the man who had been making the whistling sound left. He must have noticed the appearance of the snake king. He had never thought this would draw the snake king out. He might get killed too if he didn't leave in time...

Apparently, he thought that the men of Cold Moon Palace here would definitely die!

As the snake king arrived, the snakes attacked more fiercely.

Although the men had known the weak point of the snake, they couldn't defeat them all in a short time. As the fight went on, many men died. People kept screaming painfully. Twenty men had died under the snake bites.

Somebody got bitten, but before he died, he rushed into the crowd of snakes to kill as many as he could. Hundreds of snakes were chopped apart before he lost his breath. When he eventually died, his body became just a heap of bones!

After a while, the bones were gone. He eventually became ashes and tracelessly flew into the air.

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Chapter 769: Eliminate the King!

The horrible and cruel scene made these men tremble. They even felt weak on the hands and feet. Some of them started to throw up.

The hundreds of men were almost exhausted, since they had been fighting for such a long time. They were still sober, but they knew their arms were weak. They couldn't make any powerful strikes anymore.

More snakes were coming, like it would never end!

They knew the fatal weak point of the snake, but to kill at least one hundred thousand snakes was truly too much a challenge.

Even if the snakes just stay there to be cut off, these men would be tired to death!

It was an impossible mission!

Looking at the silver light, especially the golden light, Xiao Mufei was showing a weird look on the face.

"I have never thought that I would die in a beast's mouth. We are famous for our art of beast training. Is this what we deserve? For the sin we have done to living creatures?"

He sighed. However, his eyes started to become fierce.

He turned to Ye Xiao and said, "I will lead the men to rush out first. You should better stay in the center. Do not do anything stupid. We stay together and fight for a chance."

That was the last thing they could do.

It was like the ants holding together to cross the river. Maybe there would be some ants that would survive, but most of them would die in the water.

That was exactly what Xiao Mufei wanted to do.

That was a plan out of no plans!

He wanted to sacrifice most of his men, including himself, to keep Ye Xiao safe.

Even though there might be lots of fights ahead of them after the snakes, he had to make Ye Xiao survive this first!

Ye Xiao was shocked. He took in a deep breath and he felt a bit dizzy.

The poison was mixed with the air. It became denser and denser and Ye Xiao started to fall because of it.

He was only level three of Spirit Origin Stage, but he had East-rising Purple Qi, the marvelous martial art. He should have been impregnable to poisons, at least most poisons. However, the poisonous air made him feel dizzy. That was some strong poison.

That was reasonable. A level three snake that could kill Dream Origin Stage cultivators with its poison, which was the third poisonous creature in Qing-Yun Realm, it should be extraordinary. There were over one hundred thousand snakes around and over half of them were beyond level five beasts. The poison they set free to the air must be indefensible!

"We don't have to do that. There may be some other option," Ye Xiao said.

"Other option?" Xiao Mufei asked.

"Yes. Elder Xiao, you have seen the wolves, haven't you?" Ye Xiao said, "When I was traveling in the lower realm, I once encountered the wolves. They were in enormous number, just like the snakes here. Lots of wolves kept coming up to me. I fought against them day after night. The number of the wolves grew from hundreds to million. They fought together!"

"A million wolves..." Xiao Mufei took in a cold breath.

"That was the most dangerous fight I have ever gotten involved. It was not any superior cultivator I was fighting. The wolves were all weak. I can kill one by only a fist hit. However, no matter how many of them died, the others would gather up immediately. I was excited at the beginning, but then became numb at the end. I fought with my instinct. That's all. The wolves were too weak, so none of them could successfully break my qi shield. Otherwise, I should have died long ago!"

"One of my friends came to me at the end. I was fighting like a mad man, following my instinct. If he didn't come to help me, I would die after using up all my energy!"

"He is weaker than me, but within a short time, he drove away all the wolves!"

"When I was sober again, he told me what he did. It is simple. He just killed the wolf king. After the wolf king died, the others all left!"

"It was horrible. The wolves fear nothing, not even death. They kept fighting. However, they had the biggest weak point." Ye Xiao's eyes lit up. "The king! As long as we find the king and kill it, the wolves will leave! We don't need to kill even one more."

"No exception."

"That I will never forget." Ye Xiao blandly spoke, "What we are facing now is similar to what happened to me that day. I have been watching the snakes... When the snake king didn't show up, the whistling guided the snakes. The whistling shouldn't be able to draw out so many snakes."

"I guess they must have thrown something in this area that could lure the snakes. You know much more about beast training than I do. You must understand it."

"I doubt that the whistling was just showing them the direction... It couldn't control their attacks. That whistling isn't that powerful yet... We aren't even influenced a bit by that sound, so how could the snakes?"

"There must be something else that makes the snakes go crazy."

"Moreover, before the snake king showed up, these snakes fought one by one. They were just attacking, simply attacking. When the snake king showed up, the whistling disappeared, and the snakes became powerful and efficient."

"Besides... There is something else... The sound of the hissing..." He continued, "When they hissed, it sounded in a mess. It was like when a man was screaming with anger, he didn't know what he was saying."

"However, the hissing sounds orderly. It even follows a rhythm."

"I guess the snake king is commanding the fight."

"The snake king is apparently more terrible than than the whistling! However, it shows us the biggest weak point of the snakes. As long as we break it, we win."

Ye Xiao calmly spoke.

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Chapter 770: Predicament!

Xiao Mufei's depressed eyes lit up. However, he was still waiting Ye Xiao to finish the talking.

"The conclusion goes to, we kill the snake king. The time we kill the snake king, the time we survive this chaos!" Ye Xiao thought for a while and drew a conclusion.

"Great!" Xiao Mufei raised his head and looked at the golden light far away. His eyes were filled with murderous qi. He seemed refilled with endless strength.

"I should do this myself!" He took a deep breath after thinking for a while.

"That snake king is something extraordinary. Elder Xiao, be careful." Ye Xiao nodded.

Among all the men there, only Xiao Mufei had the capability to kill that snake king.

The others would just go for a suicide mission!

Erhuo stayed beside Ye Xiao's feet, half-closing its eyes while staring at Xiao Mufei.

[Is he going to kill the snake king?]

"Gather over!" Xiao Mufei shouted, "Guys, keep the defense. Be careful! The snakes will not stop attacking! I will go to the snake king and return soon!"

After speaking, he jumped up to the sky. As he was still in the air, he drew out the long sword. A stunning move!

In the splendid shining lights, he started to spin with the long sword, as if he was a colorful cyclone. And then a thunder stroke!

- Shoot! - He rushed out so fast that no words could describe it properly.

That was incorporation of human and sword!

He was a master cultivator of Dao Origin Stage!

As he moved, thunders rumbled with him!

The sword light was spinning. It hit the air and made thundering sounds. Behind him appeared a dark hole. Xiao Mufei had already rushed out a hundred meters. Wherever he went over, the snakes were making shrill sounds.

What could be seen was endless pieces of the snakes that was torn by the spinning sword attack.

The human-sword incorporation attack of a Dao Origin Stage cultivator was truly overwhelming.

He killed the snakes like cutting off the grasses. He had reached the silver light already.

Over a thousand snakes died behind him!

The snakes on the snake king's side were horrible. There were hundreds of snakes and each of them was as thick as a barrel. The snakes saw Xiao Mufei flying to them, so they stood up and started to attack.

Xiao Mufei didn't retreat a bit. He shouted and then made a sword strike down with thunders and lightnings!

- Puff, puff, puff... -

Where the sword struck on, seven big snakes were torn into pieces, being stricken by the lightnings. Besides, dozens more big snakes were blown away by the power of the sword attack. A blank area was cleared up under Xiao Mufei's feet.

That was when he stood back on the ground again. He didn't lose alert though. He rushed forward without hesitation, pointing at a golden snake with his sword. The golden snake was a few hundred meters away. It was slim and the size of the arm of a girl!

The snake king!

The snake king noticed him. Suddenly, it started to hiss loudly.

The hundreds of big silver snakes suddenly all moved to it like crazy, from everywhere... They started assault Xiao Mufei at the same time!

One of the snake suddenly became bigger and then shot out a silver liquid in the air. It was like a shooting arrow moving towards Xiao Mufei.

Xiao Mufei was terrified. The poison of a normal Silver-scaled Golden-caruncle Snake could kill a cultivator below Dao Origin Stage. That big snake was definitely much stronger than the normal ones. The poison of it must be even more murderous. He was a Dao Origin Stage cultivator, but if he got hit by that silver liquid, he would very possibly die! Even if he survived, he would get seriously damaged. How could he allow that to happen!

He hurriedly moved aside. That poison liquid hit the ground and the leaves there suddenly started to make sound and emit smoke. After one second, the leaves rotted. The raw ground was shown. The earth of the ground appeared silver and it didn't stop smoking.

Xiao Mufei's legs were nearly cramped. He felt himself so lucky to dodge that poison attack... How vicious!

If he didn't react quick enough... If he got hit...

While feeling fortunate, countless big snakes had surrounded him. From time to time, there were poison liquid shooting to him. It was dangerous. Xiao Mufei had to keep moving away.

He didn't even dare to block the liquid with his sword.

He was afraid once his sword was hit by that poison liquid, it would be corroded! If he lost his weapon and had to fight with empty hands, it would be much more difficult for him!

However, because he was scrupling, he couldn't do his best to fight. Things went worse and worse for him. The snakes were like a snake mountain, blocking the way between him and the snake king. The big snakes were surrounding it.

The snake king looked at Xiao Mufei. It was indifferent.

Xiao Mufei was a skillful and experienced man. He wouldn't be killed easily, but to escape the surrounding of the big snakes was another story. To kill the snake king seemed to be an impossible mission for him now.

As he fought, he was complaining.

[Why are these Silver-scaled Golden-caruncle Snakes... so tough?]

He could easily kill dozens of this snake of normal size by one sword attack. The big snakes were much stronger than the normal ones, but he was confident he could also kill them easily with his sharp sword. Besides, he knew the weak point of the snake, so he thought it would not be any difficult job to kill the snake king!

However, as he truly got on the fight, he found it was totally different. The truth wasn't like what he imagined. The first strike he made did kill lots of normal snakes, however, what happened next was completely out of his expectation!

Those big snakes were not so good at attacking. However, the silver scales gave them wonderful protection. He struck on one of the snake with full effort but still couldn't kill it!

That was not the most important thing. Every time when he tried to cut the caruncle, the snake would move its head away! If he was fighting just one of the snakes, he could make a second attempt and he would cut it. However, he was facing hundreds of them. There was no second chance for him. He had attacked so many times, but only successfully hit one. Even when he made this success, he nearly got bitten by the other snakes!

To damage the big snakes, he could use the human-sword incorporation attack again, but he needed to do that five times to wipe out the snakes. It wasn't easy to make that kind of attack. With the energy he had now, he could make two more human sword incorporation strikes. That was the maximum! He couldn't defeat the snake mountain!

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