Re: God of Formation.

#Chapter 41: Dominating the Elders. - Read Re: God of Formation. Chapter 41: Dominating the Elders.

Chapter 41: Dominating the Elders.

"Young Master Wu, please, this way." The elder said with a bright smile as he ushered Jun Wu forward.

The raging sound of battle echoed above them, but the Array Formation Masters seemed not to care about it.

Array Formation Masters were moving back and forth as they tried to repair the broken array.

Arriving before the group of Array Masters, Jun Wu saw Elder Feng, Elder Shen, Elder Kang, and a few more elders he did not recognize.

Among the elders, there were those from the Yuan clan who were also looking at Jun Wu curiously.

Feeling the various gazes on his body, Jun Wu's expression was calm, not intimidated by their stares.

"Now that the Young Master is here, we can finally push for the repair in one swing motion." Elder Kai said, his voice filled with authority.

"Elder Kai, we can't follow your suggestion. Doing that would make the array formation fragile, which will serve no purpose." An elder from the Yuan clan countered.

"We're best at defensive formation. I suggest we do it according to our plan." She insisted.

All the elders wore conflicted looks. This was the situation among the Array Masters. Both the Array Association and the Yuan clan would not surrender to each other.

They had been debating on which formation diagram to use, wasting precious time while putting the lives of everyone defending the city wall on the line.

Jun Wu had an expressionless face as he watched the argument between the two factions and shook his head.

Even at the expense of other people's lives, they couldn't stop their petty schemes.

"Elder Kai, why don't we decide which array formation diagram to use? With every second wasted on debating, people are dying..." Elder Shen said seriously, not caring about Elder Kai's cold, piercing gaze.

The Yuan clan's elders also looked at her with unfriendly gazes, but she was unfazed.

Before Elder Feng opened his mouth to speak, Jun Wu beat him to it.

"I agree with Elder Shen. I did not risk my life to come to the city wall to see you bickering like market women. If you are not going to decide which defensive formation to use, I'd better return to my mansion."

All the elders were stunned.

They looked at Jun Wu with wide eyes. Elder Kai and the elders from the Yuan clan were a force to reckon with in the Mystic City.

Yet...

From the corner of her eyes, Elder Shen looked at Jun Wu, and the corner of her lips tugged with a faint smile.

"Nonsense! What do you know?" Elder Kai snapped. "You're just a kid who was lucky to become a Grade 1 Array Master. You must learn to respect elders, otherwise, I wouldn't mind teaching you a lesson."

Jun Wu did not back down and replied. His voice was cold and sharp. "What elder? You and I are both Grade 1 Array Masters. Don't you dare throw your useless pride around me."

Huh!

Even Elder Shen couldn't help but suck in a cold breath. She did not expect the calm boy to be this forceful and domineering.

In a few short statements, he tore all the prideful masks from Elder Kai's face without batting an eye.

Elder Feng looked at Jun Wu, then at the furious Elder Kai, and swallowed the lump in his throat.

Indeed, they were all Grade 1 Array Masters. They did not have the authority to order him around any longer.

With how forceful Jun Wu was, he realized his previous schemes might be useless.

For a moment, silence reigned among the elders. Each person was lost in thought.

"Fine! Since the Young Master has spoken, we'll follow his suggestion." An elder from the Yuan clan broke the silence.

All the elders nodded, as no one wanted to lose the last shred of dignity they had to a kid, young enough to be their grandson.

The Yuan clan brought out their defensive array formation diagram and placed it on the table.

Elder Kai snorted and brought forward the Association's defensive array diagram.

With the two array diagrams present, all the elders became serious as they studied them.

Looking at the two array diagrams, Jun Wu could not help but click his tongue. Each diagram was filled with flaws.

'No wonder the protective formation was easily shattered.' He thought.

'Now, this is my chance to increase my standing in the city.' He mused.

Previously, he was only known as a young Array Formation Master.

But to many Array Masters, they believed he had little experience and could not compare to the experienced elders.

But now, he would change that.

"Where is the array diagram for the city wall?" He asked, breaking the elders' concentration.

"It is these two array diagrams. We combine them to create the city defense array formation." Elder Kang responded, looking at Jun Wu curiously.

Not only him, some of the elders raised their heads and looked at him, waiting to hear his thought process.

Elder Kai sneered. "Young Master, do you have anything to say about it?"

"Yes...." Jun Wu nodded, ignoring his condescending tone.

He pointed at the two diagrams. "I learned the protective formation was broken from the western region, which is node 18 and 36."

"So what?" Elder Feng responded.

Without looking at Elder Feng, he continued. His voice was steady and clear. "Combining the two arrays is not a bad idea, but node alignment is wrong."

"Node 18 and 36 overlapped with node 18 and 36 of the Yuan clan array, which made the flow of energy difficult."

"Ordinarily, this wouldn't be a problem, but when the array is under pressure, the distribution of energy will be slower in this region, making the formation break quickly."

Jun Wu explained calmly.

"I agree your words seem to make sense, but this does not prove anything. Node overlapping is not a strange concept. Or are you suggesting it is wrong to overlap a node?" The leader from the Yuan clan countered.

All the elders nodded.

Elder Feng and Elder Kai sneered.

'You just made it easy for me to tear you to pieces.' Elder Kai grinned inwardly.

Since his disciples lost woefully in the competition, he had harbored hatred for Jun Wu.

And he couldn't wait to tarnish his rising image.

Jun Wu did not know what was going on in Elder Kai's mind, and even if he did, he wouldn't have cared.

His gaze focused on the Yuan clan, and he asked, "I thought they said you're the best in defensive formation?"

Hmm?

All the elders gasped in disbelief. The Yuan clan Array Masters were also stunned.

How dare he ridicule them?

Before they could respond, Jun Wu continued.

"Do you even understand what these patterns are?" He pointed at the various patterns on the array diagram.

When they heard his question, everyone was stunned.

Understanding the Patterns?

This was the first time they had heard such a concept.

Elder Shen couldn't help but ask. "Young Master, what do you mean?"

"Each pattern around a node tells how the node would handle the incoming energy. Some energy is fierce, while some are gentle. Some serve as delay, while some serve as accumulation."

"Each pattern has a meaning, and when you combined the two array diagrams, you did not think of the patterns. You merely forced the two formations together."

"For the Yuan clan array, it was a fierce diagram that used a lot of energy. But for the Association's array, it was an accumulation diagram."

"What do you think would happen when two opposite forces collided?" He asked and raised his head to look at the stunned elders.

AN: Please, support this book with your golden tickets and power stones.

Thanks.

Chapter 42: Leading the Array Masters.

For a moment, all the elders looked at Jun Wu with their jaws slightly dropped. This was the first time they had heard such a concept.

Every Array Master merely focused on interpreting the node while memorizing the patterns.

Why was Array Formation so difficult? Wasn't it because of the dense patterns they needed to memorize?

For many years, this was the normal routine for every Array Master, and now, they were told a different thing entirely.

The Yuan clan elders looked at Jun Wu incredulously. Their clan had built their inheritance on Array Formation, yet they never thought of such a concept.

Patterns are patterns. That was their thought.

But today...

"Nonsense!" Elder Kai snorted in disdain. "Where is the proof of all this? Just because you're lucky to become a Grade-1 Array Master at such a young age doesn't give you the ability to spout nonsense."

"I agree with Elder Kai. We should not believe his nonsense. How could a mere pattern have any effect on node behavior? That's absurd." Elder Feng added from the side.

When the elders heard this, they were conflicted. What Jun Wu said made some sense, but they found it impossible to believe.

Why was there no mention of it in all the books they'd read?

Could it be possible that all the books were wrong?

These were no ordinary books. They were all found in the Ruins, the birthplace of array formation.

Elder Shen looked at Elder Feng with disgust. "Are you saying patterns on arrays are mere decoration?"

When the Array Masters heard this, they were even more confused.

It would be folly to think patterns on Array Formation were decoration.

Since if the pattern was wrong, the formation might not work or even function properly.

The Yuan clan's leading elder looked at the quiet Jun Wu, and a flash of inspiration appeared on her face.

"Young Master, I believe you know something we don't. Please, why don't you show it to us?" she said humbly.

Watching this, all the elders were stunned. They did not expect the proud Yuan clan elder would lower her head to a kid.

"Young Master Jun, please show this old man and let him broaden his knowledge." Elder Kang added, looking at Jun Wu with an encouraging smile.

Elder Shen did not speak, but her gaze spoke volumes of her desire.

Watching all this, both Elder Feng and Elder Kai were stunned.

How could Array Masters lower their heads to mere speculation?

Where was their pride?

"Since you all want to see these special patterns, don't come crying to me when you fail and you do not have the chance to repair the city defense formation on time." Elder Kai snorted and left with large strides.

Elder Feng clicked his tongue and looked at the Yuan clan elders and the association members that stayed behind in disdain.

"Supporting this kid in nonsense is jeopardizing the lives of all the people in the city. If you fail, you will be banished from the association." He added, increasing the pressure.

When some elders heard this, they were conflicted. Left with no choice, most of the elders retreated, joining Elder Kai and Elder Feng.

The stakes were too high to gamble their future on a kid still wet behind the ears.

Looking at the retreating elders, both Elder Shen and Elder Kang were stunned.

They could not believe elders from the association lacked the courage to pursue higher knowledge.

As for the Yuan clan, they did not have such considerations. Since their leader had decided to gamble with Jun Wu.

They did not think of leaving. At worst, they would lose some time and compensate the association for their loss.

As for the loss of lives, weren't people dying every day? Who dared blame them for pursuing the path of array formation?

Is that not the livelihood of their clan?

Left with two elders from the association, the Yuan clan's leading elder looked at Jun Wu and smiled.

"Young Master, shall we begin?" she asked calmly.

"Yes..." Jun Wu nodded. "We're going to start by changing the node selection."

Quickly, Jun Wu and the few elders began to set up the formation.

As for repairing the previous city array formation, Jun Wu did not care.

The array was filled with flaws. Why bother repairing an array that was full of flaws when he could create a much better one within a short time?

Before anyone realized, Jun Wu had become the leader, delegating jobs to the Array Masters.

His commands were concise and short, shocking the elders.

On the city wall, the number of deaths was spiking. Previously, the arrival of the Mystic Path Academy students relieved the pressure on the guards.

But with each passing moment, the number of ruin beasts was not decreasing.

They were getting exhausted, and the students began to fall one after another.

The death toll numbered in thousands.

Fear gnawed at their faces, and their hearts pounded in panic.

For most of the students, this was the first time they fought in such prolonged life and death.

It was unlike anything they had ever done before.

"What are the Array Masters doing? Why have they not repaired the defensive formation?" Gong Tao shouted, his eyes bloodshot.

His previously pristine armor was covered in fresh blood and tissue.

His chest was rising and falling. He could barely hold on to his weapon.

A couple of meters from him, the Jun clan were not faring any better.

Close to half of them had fallen. Looking at her fallen clansmen, Jun Zhenya was burning with fury.

She turned and looked downward in the direction of the Array Masters, only to see half of them standing with their hands folded on their chests.

"What are those bastards doing?" she mused.

It was not only her who noticed the strange behavior of the Array Masters, but almost everyone on the city wall.

The Mystic Path Academy teacher was burning with rage.

"Do they want to see us die?" an old man shouted and jumped down from the city wall.

Although the city was high, for an expert like him, it was nothing.

"What are you doing folding your arms?" he shouted, arriving before the association elders.

"Don't ask us, ask them." Elder Kai responded with an evil smile.

The teacher was confused and turned. He saw a few Array Masters working seriously beneath the wall and following the command of a kid.

Just then, the guard commander also arrived. He was covered in injuries, with his armor half shattered.

He did not bother to ask the elders but walked toward the Yuan clan's elder working on the city wall formation.

"What is going on?" His voice was cold and sharp, everyone could feel his fury.

Before the elders could respond, Jun Wu came forward.

"Commander, hold for five more minutes and everything will be over."

The commander turned and looked at Jun Wu. Confused, why would a kid be the leader of the Array Masters?

"Are you sure?" he asked.

Although he did not know what was going on, Jun Wu's previous fame made him known throughout the city.

"I give you my word."

"I will hold you to that."

With that, the commander retreated to join his men and give them the good news.

Watching this, the Mystic Path Academy teacher knitted his brows but did not speak.

"Let's see what happens in five minutes," he mused and left.

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Thanks.

Chapter 43: Shocking Everyone - Peak Grade-1 Array Formation

The commander had already announced the news to his men, boosting their morale.

At the academy side, they were also informed of the news. Other warriors from the clan also learned the news.

Thus, everyone used every last bit of their strength to hold off the Ruin Beasts.

Cries and screams permeated the air.

Previously, the soldiers and students could only see darkness, but now, with light appearing at the end of the tunnel...

A newfound strength appeared, meeting the Ruin Beasts head-on.

While the warriors, students, and soldiers were giving their best, the Array Masters were also trying to complete the formation.

Standing a couple of meters from the city wall, Elder Kai wore an evil grin.

As long as Jun Wu failed, he would be the greatest sinner and would carry the blame for the lost souls.

Even as a descendant of the Jun aristocratic clan, he wouldn't escape unscathed.

Moreover, the fame he got from being the youngest Array Master in history would be tarnished forever.

And if he came and saved the day, his fame would rise like never before while also putting the Yuan clan in their place.

With the Yuan clan serving as an accomplice, their clan's name would be tarnished and would not be able to compete with the Array Association.

This was like killing three birds with one stone.

As for the thought of them completing the array formation in five minutes, it was impossible.

With most of the Array Masters joining their cause, leaving a few Array Masters to repair the array...

They could never complete the array formation in five minutes.

Even for them, it would take close to half an hour. That is if they followed the previous array diagram.

And if they were to set up a new defense array, they would need hours.

Time whisked by, and the five minutes' mark was drawing nearer.

Elder Kai and his group were grinning as they could already foresee Jun Wu begging them when they failed.

Unbeknownst to their evil thoughts, Jun Wu was moving around the city wall to give a last-minute check to the formation.

To him, setting up a simple defensive array formation was as easy as drinking water.

The reason why he took so much time was he was perfecting the flaws while also strengthening it.

"Young Master, can we activate?" Elder Shen asked, her voice filled with anticipation.

Beside her, the Yuan clan elders, and Elder Kang were also staring at him.

Previously, they thought Jun Wu was inexperienced and that he only knew a single array formation.

But his words and explanation convinced them partially. But the major reason was to learn about the pattern interpretation.

And indeed, they learned about it.

It was now they realized how they had been wrong in going about setting up array formation.

Array Formation was not as static as they thought. It could be flexible, bent, and twisted any way you liked.

The only thing stopping you was your understanding.

Now, a new door had been opened to them. A little understanding of the array pattern brought their understanding of array formation to another level.

How could they not be happy and worship the boy that made it happen?

Looking at them, Jun Wu smiled and nodded.

"Elder Shen, why don't you activate it," Jun Wu said calmly.

Elder Shen was stunned for a moment. Such an important moment, many would have taken the chance to be the one to activate the formation since they were the creator.

But he did not do so.

Recovering from her shock, she nodded and approached the array formation core.

At the core, there were twenty spirit stones to power the defensive array formation.

Looking at her, everyone held their breath, their eyes filled with anticipation.

Elder Kai and his gang had a disdainful look on their faces.

Fail and let this be over with, they thought inwardly.

Taking a deep breath, Elder Shen pressed her hand on the array core and activated it.

Instantly, a pulsating energy lit up and spread at a blinding speed.

Looking at the light, Elder Kai froze, and his evil grin faltered. Beside him, his gang were equally stunned.

On the city wall, everyone was already on the brink with little to no strength to fight back when a pulsating light enveloped the city wall.

Before anyone could realize what was going on, the pulsating light cleaved all the Ruin Beasts trying to climb over the wall into two, forming a shield.

Watching the bright defensive formation, everyone was stunned for a moment before they erupted with cheers.

They did it.

The commander was stunned for a moment. He stared at the defensive array formation with his jaw dropped.

Compared to the previous formation, this formation gave out strong pulsating energy without any form of weakness.

"Why do I feel this defense formation is a lot stronger than before?" he whispered.

From the corner of his eyes, he saw a young man with a few elders climbing the wall.

All the soldiers and warriors paved the way for them; their faces filled with respect.

Among the students, the Jun clan and Gong clan were stunned when they saw Jun Wu leading the Array Formation Masters.

How could this be? they wondered.

Although Jun Wu had just risen to fame, they did not expect he could walk ahead of Array Masters as if he were their leader.

Apart from the Jun clan and Gong clan, a girl was staring at Jun Wu with wide eyes.

"H-How..?" Jiang Yawen muttered with wide eyes.

She could still remember Jun Wu's terrifying battle style inside the ruins of the Bright Pearl Village.

She vowed to avenge the disgrace, but now...

She swallowed the lump in her throat nervously. Against such a powerful monster, what was her little revenge?

Now, she realized how fortunate she was to escape with her life.

Jun Wu did not know she was among the students, and if he knew, he wouldn't have cared.

When the commander saw Jun Wu and the elders, his face was brimming with gratitude.

"Thank you..."

Jun Wu nodded and replied, "It's nothing, we are merely doing our part. Now, you don't have to worry about Tier-1 Ruin Beasts."

"To destroy this defensive formation, there must be a Tier-2 Ruin Beast. And that wouldn't be easy. So, you can relax, clean the city, and attend to the injured."

When everyone heard this, they were stunned and looked at Jun Wu as if he were some kind of monster.

Standing behind him, the Yuan clan elders, Elder Shen, and Elder Kang had confident smiles on their faces.

"Y-Young Master..." one of the Mystic Path Academy teachers called... "What grade is this formation?"

Listening to his question, everyone perked their ears in anticipation.

"Peak Grade-1 Defensive Array Formation. The Flowing Light Array."

Gasp!

For a moment, the city was quiet, everyone forgetting about the Ruin Beasts attacking the formation.

Chapter 44: Schemes That Turn Into An Immovable Mountain

With the activation of the Grade-1 Flowing Light Array Formation, the Ruin Beasts could only helplessly attack the formation.

Their previous terrifying attacks did not leave a scratch on the formation.

It did not even shake. It was solid like an immovable mountain.

Everyone breathed a sigh of relief and looked at Jun Wu with respect and adoration.

Jun Zhenya and her fellow clansmen looked at Jun Wu with hate and jealousy.

They could not understand how a previously retarded fool could accomplish such a feat.

Compared to her actions in the competition, this was on another scale.

This show of talent had proven he was a force to reckon with in the array formation world.

Meters from them, the Gong clansmen wore unsightly expressions.

Gong Tao, covered in blood, clenched his fist in anger and hatred. They had risked their lives and fought against the terrifying Ruin Beasts.

Yet, they did not receive the respect they deserved. It was as if they were nothing.

'You just wait...' he mused inwardly, as he could not wait to trample Jun Wu under his feet.

On the ground, Elder Kai, Elder Feng, and their group wore dumbfounded expressions.

They stared at the bright, domineering Peak Grade-1 Flowing Light Defense Array Formation in shock.

How could this be?

What formation is this?

How did he do it?

Various conflicted thoughts spiraled in their minds but with no answers.

This should have been impossible. Completing such a grand formation would have taken days, if that was even possible in the first place.

Yet, they barely spent an hour.

Elder Kai pulled his beard hard, but he did not feel the pain.

Beside him, Elder Feng and the others looked at the formation, gasping in disbelief.

Slowly, their faces began to contort into regret. If they had not doubted Jun Wu...

Not even Jun Wu, if they had supported Elder Shen and Elder Kang, they would be up there basking in the glory.

Their names and fame would be known throughout the Soaring Cloud Region.

But now...

On the city wall, Jun Wu turned his head and his gaze landed on them.

For a moment, they flinched. Even Elder Kai couldn't help but avert his gaze under Jun Wu's sharp glance.

"Commander, what are you going to do against those that want to sabotage the safety of the people for their selfish interests?" Jun Wu asked, without looking at him.

Following his gaze, the commander looked at Elder Kai and the others with a sneer.

Of course, he knew what transpired between the Array Formation Masters, but since the situations were dire...

He did not bother about them.

But now...

"Don't worry, they can forget about their peaceful life in the city. They will feel the wrath of the law."

Jun Wu nodded and averted his gaze as if Elder Kai and the others were inconsequential.

He looked at the ferocious Ruin Beasts hammering against the defense formation without any change in his expression.

"Young Master, I'll take my leave. There are still a lot of things to do in the city," the commander said respectfully.

"Commander, you can do your thing. I hope I won't be bothering you and your men by staying here." He looked at the commander.

"Not at all, you can stay as long as you like."

With that, the commander departed with his men to clean the city of any hidden Ruin Beasts.

"Young Master, thank you." The leading elder of the Yuan clan said with a deep bow.

Jun Wu looked at her, confused. "For what?"

He did not remember helping her or her clan. To him, this was the first time they had any dealings.

"For showing us the way forward," she responded calmly.

Listening to this, all the elders present nodded, their faces filled with gratitude.

With the little knowledge they learned from Jun Wu about patterns' interpretation and purpose, they knew their path forward had been opened for them.

"It's nothing. You earned it. If you had doubted me and not taken the leap of faith, perhaps, you would have been like them."

All the elders nodded, agreeing with his statement.

They realized sometimes opportunity comes in unexpected ways, left for only those daring enough to take it.

"Young Master, we will take our leave." The Yuan clan elders said and gave a deep bow before they departed.

With the Yuan clan departed, Elder Shen and Elder Kang exchanged subtle glances.

"Young Master, we need to report to the Association," Elder Shen announced, her gaze filled with respect and awe.

Her instinct was telling her that Jun Wu knew more than he was letting out, and if she wanted to reach greater heights in Array Formation...

She must stay close to him.

And this was why she bet everything on him during the sensitive period.

As for Elder Kang, that was easy to guess. He had been trying to woo her for many years now.

Therefore, he wouldn't hesitate to support her in anything she did.

'I guess I need to give this block-headed fool some chance.' She thought, and a faint smile tugged at the corner of her lips.

Looking at their departing backs, the corner of Jun Wu's lips curled into a knowing smile.

His plan was smoother sailing than he expected.

To have power that could rival his clan, he did not only have to be strong but have enough influence.

And now, both the Array Association and the Yuan clan had been woven into his plot.

Showing them pattern interpretation was not an act of goodwill. No, it was a calculated risk.

And the result did not disappoint him.

Putting the thought behind his mind, he looked at the thousands of Ruin Beasts that seemed to be retreating and knew it was about time.

"Young Master, we should return to the mansion," Mao Yun advised.

His respect for Jun Wu had broken through the roof. He knew Jun Wu was a monster in array formation, but competing and leading Grade-1 Array Masters was another thing.

He did not only repair the city defense array but turned it into something different and stronger.

Beside him, Zhang Wei also had the same thought.

Now, they could be proud of serving such a monster.

"Return?" Jun Wu shook his head. "The real battle is about to begin. So, be prepared."

Chapter 45: A New Ruin Discovered

Watching the ruin beast withdraw, everyone breathed a sigh of relief and the thick tension began to dissipate.

The Mystic Path Academy teachers looked at the departing ruin beasts, their gazes turning deadly sharp.

Quickly, they exchanged subtle glances and nodded. Immediately, one of them left to report to the academy.

Apart from the Mystic Path Academy, elders from other clans began to appear, walking toward the wall.

Jun Wu looked at the newcomer without any change in his expression before retreating from the city wall.

Below the city wall, Jun Wu's carriage was already ready in place. Mao Yun and Zhang Wei sat at the coach.

Creak!

The carriage began to move. The guards protecting the city gate saw the carriage and quickly opened the gate.

With Jun Wu's current fame, the guards did not dare stop him from leaving the city.

On the city wall, everyone saw Jun Wu's carriage and was confused. But a few people quickly recognized what was happening.

Without hesitation, they quickly rushed to follow him.

When ruins appeared, they brought many changes. Some lower ruins would only affect their surroundings while some would release ruin beasts.

For example, the Bright Pearl Village only affected its surroundings, releasing pure spiritual energy.

However, the more powerful ruins produced powerful ruin beasts. This was common knowledge, but for the inhabitants of the Soaring Cloud Region, only a few people knew about it.

"Follow the ruin beast. But don't get too close."

Mao Yun and Zhang Wei heard Jun Wu's voice and nodded. Although they were confused, they did not doubt him.

They continued to trail them for thirty minutes before the beasts disappeared into a forest.

Without hesitation, Jun Wu jumped down from the carriage and followed the ruin beasts together with his retainers.

Stopping a couple of meters from the ruin beasts, they watched as the beasts disappeared into thin air.

In less than five minutes, all the ruins had disappeared, leaving no traces behind.

"I-Is that a ruin entrance?" Zhang Wei asked with a trembling voice.

Jun Wu nodded, his gaze never leaving the entrance of the ruin. Now, it dawned on them why Jun Wu asked them to follow the ruin beasts.

This was to find out the entrance of the ruin.

"Young Master, should we enter?" Mao Yun asked.

"Let's wait, we don't know what is on the other side."

He only learned of the secret of discovering ruins from the ancient soul's memory and he was not sure if following the ruin beasts was safe.

Thus, he decided to play it safe.

Creak! Creak!

Suddenly they tensed up and turned back. For a moment, no one uttered a word but their expressions spoke volumes.

They had been followed.

Jun Wu was not surprised. Anyone with a bit of sense would have followed them.

"Let's go..." He whispered and headed toward the ruin entrance.

Arriving at the ruin entrance, Jun Wu examined the pulsating formation around the entrance and knitted his brows.

The Array Formation was a higher grade.

'This is going to be interesting...'

A ruin protected by an Array Formation higher than Grade-1 would be anything but ordinary.

Thinking of this, his heart raced in anticipation as he stepped into the ruin.

Whoosh!

He disappeared from the forest. Watching this, Mao Yun and Zhang Wei took a deep breath and followed him.

Whoosh!

Likewise, they vanished from their spot.

Just then, a group of men appeared from the forest and stared at the glimmering ruin entrance in the distance.

"T-that's..."

One of them whispered in shock.

Leading the group was a middle-aged man in his mid-forties. At the corner of his lips was a bright smile.

He gambled right.

"My Lord, what should we do? Should we enter?"

The man did not respond. He creased his brows and thought for a moment before he shook his head.

Although a ruin contained many rare resources, likewise its danger could not be underestimated.

"Did any of you see Jun Wu?" He asked.

His men shook their heads. Although they followed his trail, they did not see him.

The man was not surprised, but his instinct was telling him Jun Wu and his men had already entered the ruin.

However, when he remembered who Jun Wu was— a powerful Grade-1 Array Master—he sighed and shook his head.

There was no helping it. Without an array formation master to confirm if this was a safe ruin, going inside was nothing but suicide.

"Quickly, go and find an array master from the association." He commanded.

"My Lord, if we do that, the secret of this ruin will be known by everyone." One of his men advised.

"Hahaha. Do you think such a secret can be hidden?" He shook his head. "Just like me, others will be curious about our sudden departure. I believe they are already on their way."

True to his word, ten minutes later, another batch of people arrived, staring at them.

The two groups stared at each other for a moment before the leader of the new group asked,

"Patriarch Luo, what are you doing here?" Patriarch Hu asked with a knitted gaze.

Just then, one of his men pointed to the distance.

"Is that...."

"Yes. We followed Young Master Jun and discovered a ruin entrance." Patriarch Luo replied with an indifferent expression, though he was cursing in his heart.

"What!" Patriarch Hu widened his eyes and stared at the ruin entrance.

Quickly, a sharp and knowing look appeared on his face. He looked at Patriarch Luo and said,

"I believe you need an Array Master to check if it is safe, right?"

Patriarch Luo nodded, not denying it.

Quickly, the two clans dispatched their men to summon the best array masters from the city.

Back at Mystic City, everyone in the city was discussing the ruin beast attack and Jun Wu's terrifying talent in array formation.

But once in a while, they would ask where he was.

Suddenly, they saw the Luo clansmen and Hu clansmen returning with urgent expressions.

"What happened?" The guard commander asked in a cold voice.

Looking at the commander, the two clans men looked at each other and knew there was no way they could bypass the commander without revealing the truth.

Chapter 46: Tier-2 Ruin

"What! Are you serious?"

"Yes. Do you think I would lie to you?"

"Ah! A Tier-2 Ruin. I've never heard of a Tier-2 Ruin in my life. How big is that?"

"Heard? You're wrong. There has never been a Tier-2 Ruin in the Soaring Cloud Region. The highest that has ever appeared is a Tier-1 Ruin."

"I can't imagine how many people will rush to the ruin."

"I heard only First-Rated Martial Artists and below could enter the ruin."

In less than a day, the news of a Tier-2 Ruin appearing near Mystic City had already spread throughout the Soaring Cloud Region.

The news shook the region to its core.

In the Gong aristocrat mansion, urgent movements appeared everywhere.

Inside the clan grand hall, elders sat with serious expressions. "We need to do everything to secure this ruin. This might be our chance to surpass the Jun clan."

An elder said seriously.

"Apart from that, we must use this chance to eliminate the Jun clan's younger generation. Most especially, Jun Wu." Another elder suggested.

All the elders nodded. This was a great opportunity that they couldn't afford to miss. They could use a single stone to kill many birds at the same time.

"I agree with everyone, but we must not forget to watch out for the Jun clan." A voice added.

The elders agreed. Although they were planning to hunt the Jun clan, they knew the Jun clan would also do the same for them.

Seated on the main seat, the Gong clan leader looked at the elders without any change in her expression.

"How many elders should we send?" She asked.

"I suggest we send half of our force. We don't know how big and dangerous the ruin is. We must not hold back."

"Agreed. This is the first time we're exploring a Tier-2 Ruin. We must be prepared." Another elder suggested.

"Alright. We will send half of our force." The clan master announced.

"Remember, your safety is important."

...

Inside the Jun clan archipelago, every family was gearing up to head toward the Tier-2 Ruin. As the uncrowned king of the region, the moment the news was exposed,

They were informed immediately.

This was a great opportunity they couldn't miss. Like the Gong clan, they were prepared to take control of the Tier-2 Ruin.

A ruin could be explored multiple times. Some ruins might even contain mines that could slowly be mined. However, such ruins were rare, and the Jun clan only had one such ruin.

A Tier-2 Ruin, they were hell-bent on taking control of it. To deter anyone from having thoughts about the ruin, they even sent two Master Martial Artists.

A single Master Martial Artist could vanquish one hundred First-Rated Martial Artists without breaking a sweat.

Anyone below a Master Martial Artist was considered an ant. And any force without the backing of a Master Martial Artist would not be taken seriously.

There were hundreds of First-Rated Martial Artists but only a handful of Master Martial Artists.

From this, anyone could see how serious the Jun clan was regarding the acquisition of the Tier-2 Ruin.

...

In Silver Star City, the news of the Tier-2 Ruin was spreading like a wildfire.

Inside the City Lord's mansion, the city lord was addressing his clansmen before they departed to the Tier-2 Ruin.

"This is unlike any other ruin we've ever explored. You must be careful and make sure not to offend anyone."

"If you see the Jun clan and Gong clan, you must act according to the situation. And if things turn bad, don't hesitate to leave the ruin."

His gaze focused on his second son, "Your brother will also come. Make sure to look for him. Don't wander off into dangerous areas."

"Yes, father. I'll follow your instructions." Liang Chun responded with a nod.

With that, the Liang clan departed from the city lord's mansion. This time, the city lord was determined to find enough resources that would allow him to break through the Master Realm.

Inside the Gu clan, the Gu patriarch and his clansmen were also preparing to depart to the Tier-2 Ruin.

Like the Liang clan, they were also desperate to elevate the status of their clan from this ruin exploration.

Thus, the Gu clan patriarch did not hesitate to deploy all the warriors from his clan. He did not care if they were Third-Rated Martial Artists.

Everyone must contribute to the clan in this expedition.

- - -

Inside Frostwind Academy, students were rushing to the mission hall to sign up for the exploration of the Tier-2 Ruin.

Since the Tier-2 Ruin was ownerless, anyone could venture inside and explore it.

Although Frostwind Academy had been at odds with Mystic Path Academy,

The allure of a Tier-2 Ruin was too great for them to care about their differences.

Apart from the students rushing to Mystic City, Frostwind Academy also dispatched teachers at the Peak of First-Rated Martial Artist while also sending Master Martial Artists to protect their students in the shadows.

Everyone in the Soaring Cloud Region knew the Tier-2 Ruin exploration wouldn't go smoothly. There was bound to be a major battle.

Thus, everyone was prepared for the worst.

Mystic City had become the eye of the storm. Hundreds of martial artists were streaming into the city every minute.

In front of the city gate, people were shouting and forming teams to explore the ruin. Unlike other ruins, a Tier-2 could not be explored solo.

The previous ruin beast tide was enough to tell them everything they needed to know about the ruin.

Also, demand for Array Formation was at an all-time high. Those who could not find an Array Formation Master were forced to even employ an apprentice.

At the entrance of the Tier-2 Ruin, thousands of people gathered, and the previous chaos was long cleared.

Various tents scattered everywhere.

Every minute, people entered the Tier-2 Ruin and no one ever came out. No one found this alarming since the discovery of the Tier-2 was barely over a day.

However, on the other side, it was a different world filled with bloodthirsty battles.

It was carnage.

Screams and chaos everywhere.

Chapter 47: Ruin Exploration - A Fierce Battle with Ruin Beast.

Roar!

A deafening roar thundered in the sky, and the air was filled with thick tension.

Dilapidated buildings were everywhere, bearing the passage of time. Beast claw marks could be seen on the half-destroyed pillars.

At the center of a crumbling building, a group of Tier-0 Ruin Beasts led by a Tier-1 Ruin Beast was confronted by a human.

Bang! Bang!

Taking out his Runic Revolver, Jun Wu did not hesitate to release three shots. The condensed energy pierced into the brains of the three Tier-0 Ruin Beasts in front of him.

They fell to the ground, their blood flowing like a broken pipe. However, Jun Wu did not have time to catch his breath as more Ruin Beasts pounced on him.

Whoosh!

Instantly, a glowing shield appeared around him, deflecting the Ruin Beasts' claw attack.

Wind Blade!

Protected by the Defense Formation, Jun Wu sent four wind blades. Looking at the incoming wind blades, the Ruin Beasts tried to avoid them, but not all the beasts were lucky.

Roar!

Two Ruin Beasts were cleaved apart, and their bodies fell lifelessly to the ground. Against Jun Wu's unconventional fighting style, the ferocious Ruin Beasts seemed to have lost their primal terror.

Watching its minions being slaughtered, the Tier-1 Ruin Beast was furious and pounced on Jun Wu.

Its attack was swift, leaving no room for Jun Wu to avoid it.

The Rhino-like Ruin Beast slammed into Jun Wu's defensive formation and was sent flying.

He crashed into a half-crumbling building, creating a cloud of dust and groaned in pain.

It felt like he was hit by a moving mountain. Shaking off the dizziness, he raised his head and saw the building falling.

"Shit!" he cursed.

Whoosh!

Activating his Swift Wind Boots, he shot forward like a rocket. Just as he left, the building collapsed.

Boom!

Jun Wu appeared a few meters from the collapsed building and sucked in a cold breath. "That was close!" he whispered.

Roar!

The Ruin Beasts were furious when they saw the human escaping the destruction. Instantly, the Rhino-like Ruin Beast charged at him.

Having learned his lesson, Jun Wu did not dare meet the beast's attack head-on. With the Swift Wind Boots, he easily evaded the Rhino-like beast.

He appeared behind it and was confronted by the few remaining Tier-0 Ruin Beasts.

Slash! Slash! Slash!

He unleashed four deadly wind strikes at the Ruin Beasts. Against the Tier-0 Beasts, Jun Wu did not feel any pressure.

Before the Rhino-like beast could react, Jun Wu had slaughtered all its minions.

Turning back, the Rhino-like beast was furious and howled. Its eyes filled with fury.

It charged forward, ready to snap Jun Wu in two. Unfortunately, its opponent was Jun Wu.

Whoosh! Whoosh!

The two were locked in a life-and-death battle. Jun Wu deployed countless wind strikes, only to leave shallow injuries on the Rhino-like Ruin Beast.

Its defense was sturdy, making it impossible for any ordinary attack to kill it.

With each attack landing on the Rhino-like beast, its speed increased, almost catching up to Jun Wu.

Feeling the increasing pressure, Jun Wu did not dare let down his guard. He wanted to use his Runic Revolver, but he was unsure if it would work.

Besides, he didn't have many spirit stones on him, and this was just the first obstacle in the ruin.

With how massive the ruin was, wasting his ace at the beginning was not a good decision.

Thus, he could only do one thing that he was good at.

Array Formation!

Quickly, he began to set up a Trapping Array Formation around the Rhino-like beast.

Apart from the Trapping Array Formation, he was also setting up the Blazing Spear Array Formation.

Both were Grade-1 Array Formations.

Five minutes later, the Rhino-like Ruin Beast looked at the slippery human with hatred. How could this puny human be slippery as an eel?

Even though it could not touch the human, it was not ready to give up. It howled fiercely and stared intently at the human.

Jun Wu looked at the Ruin Beast with a smirk playing on his lips.

Charge!

The Rhino-like beast charged forward, its heavy feet leaving deep prints on the ground.

Watching the incoming beast, Jun Wu had no intention of evading its charge. He stared intently at it, his smirk still playing on his lips.

When the Rhino-like beast was only a few feet from him, he stomped his foot on the ground, activating the hidden array.

Whoosh!

The Trapping Array Formation lit up, coming to life, trapping the beast. The Rhino-like Ruin Beast was confused.

What's happening?

It tried to plough its way forward, but its body wouldn't move. It howled fiercely, its bloodshot eyes staring at the human.

Its instincts screamed this was the work of the shameless human. It howled continuously, unwilling to be trapped by a mere human.

It pushed forward with all its might. Suddenly, cracks began to appear on the Trapping Array Formation, the trap around it loosening a bit.

Seeing this, Jun Wu was stunned for a moment but recovered quickly. Without hesitation, he activated the Blazing Spear Array Formation.

Feeling the sudden rise in temperature, the Rhino-like beast stopped its charge for a moment.

Suddenly, its instincts screamed of impending danger.

Above the beast, a blazing spear appeared and shot forward toward the Rhino-like beast.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

The ground around the area trembled under the terrifying power of the Blazing Spear.

Inside the Trapping Array Formation, the terrifying Tier-1 Rhino-like beast lay on the ground, covered in blood with various grievous injuries.

Till death, it did not understand why such a blazing spear would appear above its head.

Canceling the arrays, Jun Wu's breath was erratic, and beads of sweat gathered on his forehead.

Activating the two arrays had consumed almost all his blood qi. But looking at the dead Rhino-like beast, a smile tugged at the corner of his lips.

Quickly, he began to extract the Ruin Beast's soul core. The beast's soul core could be used for Array Formation.

Done with the extraction, he turned and looked at the mansion in the distance. With the Ruin Beasts killed, he could finally have the chance to explore the mansion.

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Chapter 48: Ruin Exploration - Strange Mural

With ease, Jun Wu bypassed the array formation protecting the mansion and began to explore.

Although the mansion lost all its previous grandeur, from the structure and the stone statue in front of the mansion.

He could see this old mansion once belonged to a powerful clan.

His feet were quick, he moved from one building to the other. Apart from crumbling paper and clothes that turned to dust any time they were touched, he did not find anything that caught his eye.

However, he was not surprised. Who knew how long this place had been like this.

He arrived at a courtyard which was quite different from every other part of the mansion.

Jun Wu saw the dried pond, the crumbling bridge, and the stone pavilion in the distance.

This alone showed this courtyard belonged to an important person in the clan.

Quickly, he entered the house and began to search. Suddenly, he stopped in his tracks and looked at an ancient mural on the wall.

He stared at the mural for a few minutes but could not wrap his head around it.

The mural depicted an ancient tree that reached through heaven. But that was not what caught his eye, he noticed the material had yet to decay from the passage of time.

He reached out his hand and touched it. Everything was smooth, and pure energy entered his body.

Hmm?

He creased his brow and his eyes widened. He realized his cultivation had improved a bit.

"Strange..." He looked at the mural once again but did not find anything unusual about it.

Without hesitating, he took the mural from the wall and prepared to leave.

His instinct told him this was a great treasure.

Just then, he noticed a small hidden compartment located where the mural was.

He pressed the hidden compartment, and a small hole appeared on the wall.

Inside the hole was a small pouch etched with strange runes.

Looking at the runes, Jun Wu was dizzy for a moment. He shook his head and averted his gaze from them.

'What a complicated rune!' He exclaimed inwardly.

He picked up the pouch and looked at it carefully. The pouch did not have an opening; everything was sealed.

Confused, he checked the pouch once more but could not see any opening.

Why would they hide it if it was of no use?

The more he thought about it, the more he found it impossible for the pouch to be ordinary.

"I'm missing something." He mused. "Let me see if I can find out something from the ancient memory."

He closed his eyes and began to go through the ancient soul memory. The memory was jumbled together, filled with many inexplicable scenes.

Some were life-and-death battles while some were sex scenes.

Just when he was ready to give up, he found something like the pouch.

He stopped skimming through the scene and watched how the strange pouch was used.

"So that's how it is used." He mused with a look of realization.

Whoosh!

The moment he sent a portion of his Qi into the pouch, a strange space appeared in his perception.

Looking at the strange space, he understood what this pouch was.

This was a spatial pouch.

Slowly, a grin crept up to the corner of his lips. This just came right on time.

Inside the spatial pouch, there were only a few things inside.

There were weapons, pill bottles, spirit stones, and two manuals.

He willed it, and a weapon appeared in his hand. It was a black sword covered in runes.

Merely holding the sword, he knew this was unlike any other he had ever seen.

Also, his gut told him the sword was higher than a Mortal Grade Weapon.

'Is this a Spirit Grade Weapon?' He was not even sure.

But he did not have to worry, everything now belonged to him.

He took out the pill bottles but was disappointed.

The pills had lost their vitality, turning into dregs.

Although it was a shame, he did not think too much about it.

He took out the manuals. One was a cultivation technique, while the second was an offensive skill.

Just reading the cultivation technique manual, he realized this was superior to anything he ever knew.

[Do you want to deduce this manual?]

Looking at the system notification, Jun Wu had a faint smile tugging at the corner of his lips.

With such a high cultivation technique, the system could still be simplified further, making it more powerful.

Even though he wished to simplify the technique, he controlled the impulse.

He was not in a hurry and could take his time. With that thought, he closed the notification and returned everything into the spatial pouch.

His eyes lingered on the hundreds of shiny spirit stones and he couldn't help but laugh happily.

Quickly, he threw the Ruin Beast Core into the spatial pouch and prepared to place the strange mural inside, only to notice he couldn't.

"What's going on?" He wondered.

He tried many times, but the mural would not enter the spatial pouch.

Left with no choice, he could only carry the mural. As for abandoning it, the thought never appeared in his mind.

With such a high harvest, his steps were light, filled with anticipation.

Half an hour later, he came out of the mansion with a light smile on his face.

From this mansion alone, he had gained a lot. He found a lot of Mortal Grade weapons and spirit stones.

But his greatest gain was the spatial pouch. With such an artifact, he did not have to worry about others discovering his treasure.

With the spatial pouch kept beneath his robe, he only carried the strange mural and left the mansion.

"I hope my luck will be this great in the building I search." He mused and quickened his steps.

Walking on the narrow road, covered in broken bricks and filled with craters.

On both sides were crumbling buildings, with the air reeking of desolation.

The few buildings standing bore the traces of battles.

Just as Jun Wu prepared to walk deeper into the ruin,

He encountered another group. Instantly, the two sides stared at each other, and unspeakable tension grew with each passing second.

Chapter 49: Jun Wu, the Hidden Blade.

"Oh oh. What do we have here?" Gong Rui sneered, looking at Jun Wu as if he were already dead.

Apart from looking for treasure in the ruins, one of the clan missions was to kill Jun Wu.

Who would have thought escaping from terrifying life and death would give him Jun Wu on a platter of gold.

So he thought.

Beside Gong Rui was another Gong clansman but from the branch family.

A lackey to Gong Rui. Behind them were students from the Mystic Path Academy who also followed Gong Rui.

When entering the ruin, everyone would appear at different locations, but during the large-scale battle with the ruin beasts,

Gong Rui managed to find them and they both escaped together.

Since he entered the ruin, his luck had never been great. He had been escaping from one Tier-1 Ruin Beast to another.

How could he, a High Second Rated Martial Artist, confront a Tier-1 Ruin Beast.

His only option was to run as fast as possible. He even had the thought to hide.

A Tier-2 Ruin was more dangerous than they expected.

But now, with Jun Wu right before them. As long as they killed him, they could return to the clan triumphantly.

Unknown to the thoughts going on in Gong Rui's mind, Jun Wu did not have any change in expression.

Since he dared to enter the ruin, he was confident in protecting himself. Even without his protector.

"Young Master Rui, I advise we capture him. Since he's a talented Array Master. He might be useful to the clan." Gong Li advised.

"Do you think he would allow himself to be captured?" Gong Rui snorted, looking at Gong Li as if he were looking at a fool.

Seeing Gong Rui's disdainful look, Gong Li lowered his head in shame.

"Let's get this over with and we can leave this cursed land." He commanded.

"Yes Young Master. You can leave it to us." One of his lackeys responded with a fawning smile.

"Jun or not. How do you want to die?" The lackey shouted, pointing his sword at him.

Although they were all Second Rated Martial Artists, they outnumbered Jun Wu. Also, Jun Wu was a mere Array Master.

How could he pose any threat to them?

Jun Wu did not speak. He stared at them with an indifferent expression.

Seeing this, the lackeys were furious. This was a rare chance for them to prove their worth to Gong Rui.

Standing beside Gong Rui, Gong Li was also having the same thought.

Coming from the branch family, he knew his best shot at a better life was held onto the thigh of Gong Rui.

"Just kill him." He shouted impatiently.

Whoosh!

Before the lackeys could react, Jun Wu had already made his move. He wouldn't waste his time on this trash.

What!

Everyone widened their eyes in disbelief.

Four wind blades appeared out of thin air, cutting through everything in their path.

Ahhhhh! Ahhhh!

Instantly, soul-rending screams permeated the air. The two front lackeys were split apart, their bodies fell to the ground– dead.

The last lackey reacted quickly and raised his weapon to defend himself but was a bit slow.

Ahhh!

The wind blade severed his arm, blood gushing out like a broken pipe. He wailed, looking at his arm dancing on the ground.

For the last wind strike, Gong Li managed to block it while taking a couple of steps back.

Fear and shock crept up their faces.

Is Jun Wu not an Array Master?!

What were those strange wind blades?

The more they thought about the four strange blades, the more they got confused.

This was supposed to be easy, but now, they had lost two members of their team while the third lost an arm.

"Young Master, what should we do?" Gong Li asked with a trembling voice.

Jun Wu was not what they expected. They needed to weigh their choices.

Gong Rui creased his brow and opened his mouth when another scream echoed in the air.

Turning their heads, they saw their last lackey was already killed. His head severed from his neck.

"T-This..." Gong Rui shuddered.

Staring at Jun Wu's indifferent face, he saw death. If they stayed any longer, their fate wouldn't be any different from those on the ground.

"Run!" He screamed and escaped with the greatest speed.

'I need to report this to the clan immediately.' He thought, his heart pounding heavily against his chest like a war drum.

Whoosh!

A silhouette whistled past him. Watching the person increase the distance, Gong Rui cursed.

"Bastard."

How could he not know this was Gong Li leaving him for death. Where was the promise that he would protect him with his life.

"You just wait. As long as I return to the clan. I'll make your life miserable."

While he was planning his revenge, he failed to notice the deadly wind blade that was right on his heels.

When he finally noticed, it was too late to dodge it.

Ahhhh!

He was sent flying and crashed into a half-broken wall. He crashed to the ground, covered in blood.

However, Jun Wu did not bother to look at him as he disappeared from his spot.

Gong Li was sweating bullets as he pushed his speed to the limit. He excelled in movement skill which gave him the confidence to come to the ruin.

But now...

"Where do you think you're going?"

Jun Wu's voice echoed in his ear. Listening to the voice, his spine was drenched in cold and shivered.

How could this be?

His movement skill was already at the proficiency of the Greater Success stage. Any Second Rated Martial should not be able to catch up to him.

Yet...

Ahhhh!

He stumbled on the ground, screaming at the top of his voice. He lowered his head and saw his leg was gone.

Blood spurted out continuously. His face paled, despair gnawing at his soul like a vice.

'I'm doomed.'

That was his last thought before everything went blank.

Without any change in his expression, Jun Wu returned to Gong Rui.

Looking at Jun Wu, Gong Rui shivered, his lips trembling.

Everyone thought Jun Wu was nothing but an Array Master, but now,

He knew he was something more. Something dangerous.

And he had hidden it all well.

"Y-You..."

He only managed to utter that word before his head was severed from his neck.

Chapter 50: Mao Yun Fierce Battle.

"Let's split everything in half and we won't make things difficult for you." A deep hoarse voice shouted, pointing his weapon at Mao Yun.

At the center of a grand hall, dust and debris scattered everywhere. Mao Yun stood surrounded by a group pointing their weapons at him.

Looking at their greedy faces, Mao Yun sneered. "This belongs to me. Stop spouting nonsense. If you want to fight, bring it on."

He might not have a hot temper like Zhang Wei, but he was no coward. He pointed his spear at the group with disdain playing on his lips.

If they thought they could pressure him with their numbers, they were wrong.

"Humph! Then die." A woman in her mid-thirties shouted and pounced on Mao Yun.

Mao Yun was lucky to find a room filled with treasure while others who entered the palace could only settle for the scraps. Some did not even find anything.

Looking at the bulging bag behind Mao Yun with a few weapons. How could they control their greed?

With the woman taking the lead, others did not care and charged at him.

Bang! Bang!

A deafening sound echoed inside the grand hall followed by a miserable scream.

The woman was sent flying, crashing to the side wall. On her chest were two ghastly holes with blood mixed with her organs flowing out.

What!

Everyone inside the hall was stunned. They looked at Mao Yun and saw him holding a strange weapon.

What's that?

This was the first time they had ever seen a weapon that could kill an Intermediate First Rated Martial Artist with such ease.

Fear gripped their hearts and they halted their charge.

Mao Yun sneered. "Is there anyone who wants to take my things?" His voice was cold, filled with terrifying killing intent.

No one responded, each calculating how to react to the situation.

"Everyone let us attack together. This thing can only attack a couple of times and if we are careful not to get hit by it. We can take him down." A man in his mid-forties shouted.

He wore a cunning smile as he looked at the others.

Although he did not know how many times Mao Yun could shoot those terrifying things.

He believed after a few sacrifices, he would get his hands on the treasures.

Just thinking of the huge treasures made his hands itch with anticipation.

"I agree. We just need to watch out for the weapon attack." Another person added.

Mao Yun watched their faces and knew their greed would not allow him to go without a life-and-death battle.

Since things had developed to this stage, there was no reason for holding back any longer.

Bang! Bang!

Before they could react, Mao Yun released two deadly shots. One shot hit its mark while the second shot missed its mark.

Whoosh!

Danger!

Using his movement skill, Mao Yun dodged the spear attack.

"Die!"

A man appeared behind him and swung his big axe. Mao Yun reacted swiftly, rolling to the side and releasing another shot.

Bang!

The man's leg was blasted into smithereens and a soul-rending wail escaped from his lips as he fell to the ground.

Without bothering to look at the man, he swung his spear to deflect an attack.

The force pushed him back and his hand trembled.

'I can't use the Runic Revolver too much. I don't have any spirit stones to power it.' He thought and decided quickly.

He avoided another attack by a hair and tucked the revolver into his pants. He gripped his spear with both hands and responded to their attacks in kind.

When the few remaining saw Mao Yun not using the strange weapon anymore, they wore a look of victory.

Their faces twisted with greed and they increased their attacking power.

The group was locked in a life-and-death battle. Mao Yun pushed himself to the limit.

His Mortal Grade weapon boosted his attack, giving him an advantage.

Ahhhh!

Another person fell to the ground with a deep hole in his neck. His face had already lost the previous greed and was now replaced with regrets.

However, no one batted an eye at him.

The three remaining people battled with determination.

As long as they got this treasure, their lives would change forever and their future would be secure.

This was the thought on everyone's mind.

For Mao Yun, he would not allow some greedy bastards to trample on him to get their hands on his loot.

Ahhh!

Mao Yun let out a guttural scream as a dagger cut deep into his back.

Gnashing his teeth, he twisted his body and kicked the woman in the chest.

Bang!

Ahhhhh

The woman was sent flying like a ragdoll. She crashed into a pillar, no one knew whether she was dead or alive.

Covered in blood, Mao Yun staggered back, his head dizzy and his face pale. He was losing blood at an alarming speed.

Biting his tongue, the pain surged through his body and his mind regained clarity just enough to see the deadly cold blade a few inches from his neck.

Instinctively, he leaned back just in time for the blade to scrape his neck. A gasp escaped from him, fear crept up his face.

That was close! Too close!

From his left, another attack came crashing again, giving no time to catch his breath. He raised his spear and deflected the attack, rolling to the side to avoid another attack.

Bang! Bang!

A deafening sound echoed in the hall, followed by a miserable scream. Two of the people fell on their knees, blood gushing out of their mouths.

The last person, the cunning man who started the instigation, was stunned. He halted his attack for a brief second and his face twisted into fear.

How was this possible?

How was he still able to use the strange weapon again? He screamed in his mind.

He planned everything. For such a long-range weapon, he believed it could only be used a couple of times but he was wrong.

Too wrong.

'Shit!' He cursed.

Whoosh!

Without hesitating, he turned and escaped with his greatest speed. Now that he was proven wrong about the strange weapon, he lost interest in the battle.

Watching his decisive departure, Mao Yun did not try to stop him. His injury was too grave for him to care about anything else.

He lay on the ground, panting heavily, and a slow faint smile crept up to the corner of his lips.