

## Genius 691

### Chapter 691: Shi Qianhan Returns!

As it extended upwards, the tentacle grew longer and longer until it was more than a meter tall. Countless tentacles extended out, and these tentacles turned into branches and leaves.

Within a few breaths of time, it had turned into a small tree. The trunk was not as thick as a bowl, but it was full of leaves.

Suddenly, a green flower bloomed from the tree. It grew larger and larger until it was the size of a fist. It was accompanied by a refreshing fragrance.

Once again, Ye Chen felt very familiar with what was happening before him. He did not hesitate and sat down immediately while circulating the Emperor Scripture to absorb the fragrance.

The spiritual power in his body started to circulate quickly.

His cultivation base rose rapidly. He reached the peak of beginner-stage Foundation Building, intermediate-stage Foundation Building, and peak of intermediate-stage Foundation Building. His cultivation base only stopped elevating by then.

Ye Chen opened his eyes slowly, "Sure enough, the fragrance is gone again..."

It was exactly the same as the last time.

Even though he was already mentally prepared, he could not help but feel a little disappointed. He raised his eyes to look at the little tree. The green flower from before had already withered, and was replaced with something that looked like a fruit. It was green, and it was not round, nor was it oval. Instead, it was rectangular, and it looked a little like a rolling pin...

The new fruit looked exactly the same as the one on the other tree, except that one was black, and this one was green.

Ye Chen took a good look at them. He picked up the Immortal Drift Bottle again and dripped green liquid onto the two fruits. He was looking forward to seeing if there would be any changes this time.

However, to his disappointment, when the green liquid in the Immortal Drift Bottle was finished, the two fruits did not change at all other than their color becoming darker.

Inside the room, Qianqian, who had already fallen asleep, was emitting two cyclones from her glabella. One was black, while the other was green. The two cyclones seemed to be trying their best to merge into Qianqian's body, but it was as if there was a door preventing them from entering.

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Ye Chen was unaware of what happened to Qianqian because all his attention was on the two fruits before him.

"Should I remove one of them and cut it open?"

Ye Chen was genuinely curious. He then extended his hand toward the green fruit. Just when he was about to pluck it, as if sensing something, he suddenly looked outside the villa.

“Who is it?!”

His expression was gravely grim.

He took a step forward and disappeared immediately.

...

Outside the villa, a white figure rushed towards the villa, accompanied by a strong smell of blood.

If one took a closer look, they would discover that it was a young man in white. He was covered in blood, and his face was sickly. He had a head full of white hair.

Behind him were two terrifying auras.

“Shi Qianhan, where are you going?”

“Hand over the netherworld token and I’ll spare your life!”

Two extremely cold voices rang out.

Bang!

Just as the white-haired young man was about to charge into the Nine Dragons Bay, a sudden loud bang was heard, as if he had hit an invisible wall.

The powerful rebound sent him flying. At the same time, two old figures chased after him from the darkness.

One of them stopped when he was less than five steps away from the white-clothed youth. He sneered, “Shi Qianhan, you were heavily injured by our Xiao family’s young master, yet you were still able to escape over a thousand kilometers away. I have to say, your life is really tough!”

“I was severely injured by your young master?”

The white-haired youth smirked coldly, “If it weren’t for the fact that your Xiao family poisoned me, how could a scheming person like Xiao Yuanjing hurt me?”

“No matter what, you will definitely die today!”

An old man grinned sinisterly, and then slapped his palm towards him, “When you die, the third netherworld token will belong to my Xiao family!”

The white-haired youth subconsciously wanted to get up, but he realized that he could not exert any strength. His injuries had already worsened.

A flush appeared on his pale face, “Yu’er, I’ll see you soon!”

However, just as the Xiao family elder’s palm was about to land on the white-clothed youth, a calm voice sounded, “Isn’t it a little inappropriate to kill someone at my doorstep?”

The sudden voice startled the two old men. They looked around as if they were facing a great enemy, "Who is it?"

In the next moment, a skinny young man slowly walked over with his hands behind his back.

An old man said coldly, "Brat, who are you?"

Ye Chen was expressionless as if he did not see the scene before him, "You guys fought at my doorstep. Didn't you find out who lives here beforehand?"

"So it's an ordinary person!"

The old man sensed his presence and smirked, "An ordinary person dares to ruin our plan? You're courting death!

Die!"

He shouted and waved. Terrifying True Energy condensed in his palm. With a loud boom, the palm print slammed at Ye Chen's head like a flood.

In his eyes, he could kill Ye Chen with one slap!

Facing the palm that came from all directions, Ye Chen still had his hands behind his back as if he did not see it. He allowed the palm to land!

Just as the palm was about to land on his body, he moved. A brilliant gleam exploded in his eyes. A shocking aura erupted from his body, and a golden fist force was like a wisp of light golden lightning as it smashed fiercely towards the palm print.

Bang!

The smile on the old man's face froze, and fear filled his eyes. With a spurt of blood, the old man was sent flying.

The other old man was shocked, "Who are you?"

"People from the Xiao family?"

A cold smirk slowly appeared at the corner of Ye Chen's lips, "Didn't you guys ask about me after I killed Xiao Yang? Instead, you came to me for me to kill you?"

The person was stunned at first. Subsequently, he seemed to have recalled something. He gasped and exclaimed, "Y-You're Mad Southern Ye?"

He turned around and ran after saying that. He had no intention of fighting Ye Chen. He did not even care about the old man who was sent flying by Ye Chen's punch earlier.

"Since you're here, leave your life behind!"

Ye Chen took a step out. At the same time, he slapped his palm out. It swept across the space like a cattail leaf fan and landed on the old man directly!

Boom...

With a loud bang, the opponent's body exploded.

When the old man who was sent flying by Ye Chen's punch saw that, he shuddered and said, "Mad Southern Ye, i-if you dare to kill me, I..."

Before he could finish, a blast of energy pierced through the air and instantly penetrated his skull!

Ye Chen then turned around and looked at the white-haired young man behind him. His cold expression gradually softened, "Shi Qianhan, you're finally here to fulfill your promise with me!"

"T-Thank you!"

Shi Qianhan looked at him weakly. He opened his mouth and spat a mouthful of black blood before fainting on the spot.

### **Chapter 692: Wushuang's Whereabouts!**

That night, in the Ye family villa, Shi Qianhan woke up from his coma. Before he could regain his consciousness, he heard a faint voice, "You're awake?"

He then realized that he was lying on the bed.

A thin young man was sitting at the door. He was holding a bottle of Maotai and a glass. He seemed to be drinking alone.

"I-I'm not dead?"

Shi Qianhan had a complicated expression on his face. He seemed regretful and disappointed.

"With me around, it's hard for you to die!"

Ye Chen drank a glass of wine and waved it through the air. The bottle of Maotai and the glass in front of him shot at Shi Qianhan, "Drink with me?"

"Alright!"

Shi Qianhan poured himself a glass and downed it in one gulp. A hint of warmth appeared on his cold and aged face, "Brother Ye, thank you for saving my life!"

He had already sensed that most of his injuries had recovered. Even the poison that the Xiao family had inflicted on him had been completely removed.

At the same time, he gained a deeper understanding of Ye Chen's methods. After all, only the Xiao family had the antidote to the poison that they inflicted!

Ye Chen nodded lightly and said, "You parted ways with me that day. The month-long promise is almost up. I thought you were dead. Never did I expect you to come as promised!"

Previously, Ye Chen had gone to Korea alone to look for Qianqian. In the end, he met Shi Qianhan at sea. Shi Qianhan was being hunted by the Xiao family and learned that the 10,000 Swords Pavilion was destroyed by them.

In order to save his junior sister, he killed his way into Shang Santian. Before he left, he got Ye Chen to take care of Qianqian and promised to return in a month.

“Die?”

A trace of sadness flashed across Shi Qianhan’s eyes, “Yu’er is dead, master and junior brothers are dead, and junior sister is imprisoned. To me, death is an incomparable luxury.”

Ye Chen frowned, “You haven’t saved your junior sister?”

“No!”

Shi Qianhan drank another glass of wine. Perhaps he had drunk too much and was coughing non-stop, “It was my incompetence. I charged into the Xiao family residence and caused the martial emperor of the family to break out of seclusion. He heavily injured me with a single palm strike and I was poisoned. I had no choice but to flee over 1,000 kilometers away!”

‘Martial emperor?’

Ye Chen’s expression froze when he heard that!

Li Xuanji was right. There really were Emperor Stage cultivators in Shang Santian!

He was well aware of Shi Qianhan’s strength. Even he had been severely injured by a single palm strike from a martial emperor. If Ye Chen were to encounter a martial emperor, the outcome of the battle would be uncertain. After all, his overall cultivation base was at most that of a peak martial venerable!

Ye Chen said, “What do you plan to do now?”

“I want to board the ghost ship!”

Shi Qianhan looked up at the sky with determination in his eyes, “My strength is limited. For the time being, I can only watch as junior sister is imprisoned. I only want to step onto the ghost ship and see Yu’er one last time. Once my enlightenment mind is perfected, I’ll definitely be crowned an emperor. At that time, I’ll kill my way into Shang Santian and destroy the Xiao family!”

After saying that, he drank another glass of wine with a dazed expression, “This is good wine, but it’s a pity that it can’t compare to Yu’er’s Hundred Flowers Wine. There’s no point in drinking it!”

The wine bottle and glass were returned to Ye Chen.

Ye Chen poured himself a glass and lifted his eyes to look at him, “What about the information I asked you to gather before you left that day?”

He was most concerned about Wushuang’s whereabouts, no matter life or death!

“Ye Wushuang?”

Shi Qianhan’s eyes focused. He took a good look at Ye Chen and said, “Brother Ye, may I ask what’s your relationship with this person?”

Ye Chen said, “He’s my brother!”

“No wonder you guys have the same surname Ye!”

Shi Qianhan’s pupils constricted slightly, and then he said, “There are ten great ancient families, three sects and four groups in Shang Santian, whereas the Sword Sect’s Ninth Peak has produced a genius in the Sword Dao the past two months. This person is only 18 years old, yet he possesses the Sword Heart.”

Ye Chen was overjoyed!

It was Wushuang!

He was really alive!

No one could understand what he was feeling now!

However, he was puzzled because Wushuang had been taken away by an old beggar that called himself the master of the 10,000 Swords Pavilion, so how could he have appeared in the Sword Sect?

He asked this question.

“You mean the person who took Ye Wushuang away was an old beggar on a donkey?”

Shi Qianhan’s countenance changed slightly as he replied, “That’s my grandmaster, and he was also the previous 10,000 Swords Pavilion’s pavilion master. However, this grandmaster of mine has always been fond of having fun and has always displayed his unkempt appearance to others. Hence, even I’ve only seen him once.

It’s just that I’ve already been exiled from the 10,000 Swords Pavilion, so I didn’t know about grandmaster bringing Ye Wushuang back to the 10,000 Swords Pavilion!”

At this point, a pained expression appeared on his face, “Grandmaster was a man of justice. When our 10,000 Swords Pavilion was facing a calamity, the Xiao family’s martial emperor made a move. Grandmaster, a fake emperor, risked his life to protect the last shred of the 10,000 Swords Pavilion’s dignity!”

Fake Emperor!

Ye Chen was shocked!

He did not expect that the old beggar who took Wushuang away was a fake emperor!

“As for how Ye Wushuang survived the Xiao family and entered the Sword Sect, I’ve no idea about that!”

Shi Qianhan took a deep breath in and said, “The Sword Sect has a total of nine peaks. The first peak is the most powerful, and the ninth peak, the Humble Peak has long declined. However, in the past two months, a genius disciple from the Humble Peak, Ye Wushuang, defeated seven genius disciples in a row. Only Su Qilin from the first peak, the Heavenly Sword Peak can fight him!”

“Wait...”

A thought flashed through Ye Chen’s mind when he heard the name Su Qilin. He interrupted immediately, “Did you just say that the person from the first peak of the Sword Peak is called Su Qilin?”

If he remembered correctly, when he went to Yang City to bring Su Yuhan back that day, although he had wiped out the Su family completely, there was still one person whose whereabouts had yet to be found.

It was Su Qilin!

He was Su Yuhan's cousin and Su Tao's biological brother. He was taken away by a traveling Daoist priest when he was young and had never returned to the Su family.

"That's right, it's Su Qilin!"

Shi Qianhan seemed to be scared as he said, "This person possesses extraordinary natural talent, and he was taken as a direct disciple of the Sword Sect Master when he was young. He cultivated the sword at 10, comprehended the first sword intent at 12, and three sword intents at 15. He suppressed the seven peaks, and firmly sat at the top of the Sword Sect's younger generation until now!"

Ye Chen secretly frowned when he heard that.

Based on Shi Qianhan's information, there was no way he could confirm whether Su Qilin was the Su Qilin from the Su family.

"Brother Ye!"

Shi Qianhan suddenly said, "Even though this brother of yours is extraordinary in the Sword Sect, he's still a member of my Humble Peak after all. Supposedly, the Humble Peak has been desolated for a few decades after the previous sect master passed away in meditation, and it's impossible for him to be a match for the First Peak. Your brother's future is worrying!"

"Don't worry about it!"

Ye Chen's expression was slightly cold. A killing intent that made one's heart palpitate slowly emerged, "If the Sword Sect bullies my brother, I'll destroy the Sword Sect!"

Shi Qianhan smiled and stood up, "It's time for me to leave. It's not good for Brother Ye if I stay here any longer. I owe Brother Ye my life. Once I fulfill my wish, Brother Ye can take my life at any time!"

Subsequently, he turned around and left in the darkness of the night!

It was clear-cut!

As for Qianqian, he did not mention her because he knew that instead of letting Qianqian follow him, he would rather let her be with Ye Chen!

Ye Chen watched him leave quietly and mumbled, "Wushuang, wait for me. You must wait for me. I'll come and look for you after I'm done with my thing. I'll do anything for you!"

### **Chapter 693: Perfecting the Great Nine Heavens Dragon Transformation Formation!**

The next morning at the Jiulong Lake outside the Ye family villa, a thin young man stood on the surface of the lake with his hands behind his back. He looked at the rising tide of the Jiulong Lake, and a thoughtful look flashed across his face.

Although it was already winter and the temperature in Lin City had dropped below 10 degree celsius, while most of the river banks had already been frozen, Nine Dragons Bay was still a pool of water.

The willow trees around Nine Dragons Bay were verdant and full of spiritual energy.

“Although the Great Nine Heavens Dragon Transformation Formation has a certain level of defense, without me around, it would not be able to withstand the attacks of martial venerables!”

Ye Chen secretly shook his head. A vertical eye gradually appeared between his brows.

As the eye opened, four blood red shadows landed in front of him. They were the four Demon Blood Guards that he had refined during his trip in Japan!

“If these four Demon Blood Guards are integrated into the formation and become the spirits of the formation, they can make up for the flaws of the Great Nine Heavens Dragon Transformation Formation. By then, all the hooligans will be attacked by the Demon Blood Guards!”

Ye Chen pondered while rubbing his chin.

The strength of the four Demon Blood Guards was comparable to a top-notch Martial Dao master. They were comparable to ordinary martial venerables. With the help of the formation, they could even fight a peak martial venerable.

A blood red token appeared in his hand as he thought to this point. At the same time, he communicated to the four Demon Blood Guards before him to hand over a trace of their souls.

The four Demon Blood Guards subconsciously revealed struggling expressions. Although their intelligence had been erased, their most basic consciousness remained, and they subconsciously wanted to resist.

“Hmph!”

Ye Chen’s expression turned grim as he scoffed coldly. Two bolts of golden lightning shot out from his eyes. Under the golden lightning, the four Demon Blood Guards begged for mercy. Only then did they split a portion of their souls.

“Soul refinement from all directions, condense!”

Ye Chen shouted and performed hand seals with both of his hands. He fused the four souls into the blood-colored token in his hand.

It was the token to control the four Demon Blood Guards!

He would get Su Yuhan to control them by then!

He stood at the center of the Jiulong Lake and made another hand seal. With a stomp, the entire lake shook violently.

At the next moment, formation flags appeared at the bottom of the Lake. Four formation flags floated in the air, emitting dense spiritual energy.

“I will bestow upon you, the Southern Formation Spirit, fire virtue, and the power of the Vermilion Bird!”



Ye Chen pointed at one of the Demon Blood Guards and shouted, “The Southern Formation Spirit, when will you take your position if not now?”

The Demon Blood Guard turned into a streak of red light and shot into a formation flag, turning into a vermilion bird mark.

“I will bestow upon you the Northern Formation Spirit, the water virtue, and the power of the Black Tortoise!”

Another Demon Blood Guard shot into a formation flag.

“I will make you the Eastesn Formation Spirit, the earth virtue, and the power of the Azure Dragon!

I will make you the Western Formation Spirit, the gold virtue, and the power of the White Tiger!”

“...”

In the end, all of the four Demon Blood Guards shot into the four formation flags, transforming into Vermillion Bird, Black Tortoise, Azure Dragon, and White Tiger respectively.

“Heaven and earth, lend me the power of ghosts and gods!”

A spiritual pen landed in Ye Chen’s hand. He wrote rapidly on the four formation flags with the pen, “The evil of the Saguaro Heaven, the power to transform the earth. The state of illusion, the sword rises and walks the underworld. The Vermilion Brush touches the spiritual altar, the two elements are born, and the four images have moved. Serve me now, the spirit of Yaksha!”

At the next moment, the four formation flags glowed red!

Four ghostly figures roared.

Boom...

The four formation flags carried a dense pressure as they landed in the north, south, east, and west directions of the Jiulong Lake respectively. With a flash of light, they transformed into four stone sculptures – the Vermillion Bird, Black Tortoise, Azure Dragon, and White Tiger.

“From today onwards, all of you are the spirits of the Great Nine Heavens Dragon Transformation Formation!”

Ye Chen stood with his hands behind his back. He exuded an unparalleled might, “Absorbing spiritual during the day, releasing the moonlight at night. As long as you’re focused on protecting my home, you might be able to attain the Great Dao in the future!”

He heaved a sigh of relief, “The Great Nine Heavens Dragon Transformation Formation has been perfected now. Even if I’m not here, those below the Emperor Stage cannot enter the Ye residence. If they enter without permission, they will die without a doubt!”

After that, he returned to the villa.

“Little monkey, stop running...”

If you run again, I’ll get Xiaohei to bite you!”

“...”

As soon as Ye Chen entered, he saw Mengmeng chasing after a monkey continuously. She was holding a handful of dog food in her hands, “Eat this dog food now. Cutie used to eat it too. He became very powerful later on.”

On her shoulder was a small snake as thick as a chopstick.

Squeak, squeak, squeak...

The monkey landed on Ye Chen’s shoulder with a whoosh and bared its teeth at Mengmeng while jumping up and down. It seemed to be saying, “I don’t eat dog food.”

“Daddy, catch the monkey!”

The little girl ran over happily.

The monkey had goosebumps all over its body, and it squeaked non-stop. It was not afraid of the little girl, but it was afraid of Xiaohei.

Ye Chen said between laughter and tears, “My dear daughter, monkeys don’t eat dog food. Go get a banana from the refrigerator and try again.”

“Banana?”

Mengmeng ran into the kitchen and soon brought a huge plate of bananas. The monkey ran over without saying anything when it saw it. It grabbed one and returned to Ye Chen’s shoulder.

The little girl giggled and widened her eyes, “Daddy, does the little monkey have a name?”

“No...”

The little girl’s eyes lit up, “Then can I give it one? L-Let’s call it Cutie No.3?”

Hearing that, the monkey felt its throat tighten. The banana that it had just swallowed was stuck in its throat, and it jumped up and down anxiously.

Ye Chen patted it lightly and allowed the banana to pass through its throat. Even so, the monkey was still pointing at Mengmeng while grimacing. It seemed to be resisting the name Cutie.

The little girl said dejectedly, “The little monkey doesn’t seem to like the name.”

Ye Chen said in a low voice, “Why don’t we call it Chucky?”

The monkey was originally the Hidemoto clan’s god. It was also a Weeping Soul Beast that eats souls. Its body mutated after being injured by Ye Chen. Now, it was the size of a palm and was no different from a newborn monkey. It was perfect to call it Chucky.

The little girl was so happy that she clapped her hands, “Chucky? That sounds great!”

Yang Tian and Lin Tai walked in quickly as they were talking. They whispered into his ear, “Old Ye, there’s a lady with the surname Luo looking for you outside.”

‘A lady surnamed Luo?’

Ye Chen was stunned at first, but he soon came to a realization. He said to Mengmeng, "My darling, stay here and play with Chucky for a while. I'm going out."

He stood up and walked out.

...

On the shore of Nine Dragons Bay, Luo Shuiyao and Tang Jianfeng stared in shock at the fluctuations of the formation in front of them. Tang Jianfeng's face was somewhat pale, appearing rather miserable.

He wanted to fly over Jiulong Lake earlier, but he was attacked by the formation. If he had not retreated in time, he would have been severely injured if he was not killed by it.

"What a powerful formation!"

Shock flashed through Luo Shuiyao's beautiful eyes, "This formation seems to have covered the entire Jiulong Lake. I can't believe that Ye Chen is well-versed with the Formation Dao!"

#### **Chapter 694: The Xiao Family's Evil Trick, Diverting the Tide of Trouble!**

"This formation is very powerful!"

Tang Jianfeng said with lingering fear, "A normal martial venerable would've been killed if they had entered. Fortunately, I didn't go too deep and I retreated in time!"

Right at this moment, a calm voice sounded from the other side of the lake, "You two can come in now!"

Luo Shuiyao hesitated for a moment when she heard that voice. Eventually, she took a step forward and flew towards the surface of the lake. Tang Jianfeng followed closely behind.

This time, neither of them was attacked by the formation.

As soon as the two of them landed next to Ye Chen, Luo Shuiyao said grumpily, "Ye Chen, you're really something. You actually set up such a terrifying formation!"

Ye Chen said with a faint smile, "Why are you guys looking for me?"

Luo Shuiyao sized up her surroundings before looking at him in all seriousness, "Let me ask you, do you have a netherworld token with you?"

Even Tang Jianfeng looked at him subconsciously.

Ye Chen frowned and said, "I do. How did you guys know?"

Apart from him, only the people from the Tang family knew about the netherworld token.

"The Xiao family released the news!"

Tang Jianfeng said in a low voice, "They said that you also have a netherworld token, and it has the word 'world' on it. We thought that the Xiao family had spread it on purpose to take revenge on you for killing Xiao Yang, but it turned out to be true."

Ye Chen's eyes flickered, "The Xiao family? How did they know that I have a netherworld token? Also, what's their purpose in doing this?"

“Don’t you know about the ghost ship?”

Luo Shuiyao looked at him with some surprise and said, “When the ghost ship appears, if you want to board it, you must hold the netherworld token before you can be accepted onto the ship. If you don’t have the netherworld token, you will be cursed by the ghost ship if you forcefully board it.”

At this point, she paused for a moment before continuing, “There are a total of eight pieces of netherworld token, and each piece has a word written on it. The eight pieces form the phrase ‘You can cross hell with the netherworld’s order’ when they’re put together. Now, my family and Tang family possess one piece each, the Xiao family has one, you have one, and Shi Qianhan has one. The other seven ancient families can only share four pieces. Naturally, it’s not enough!

Therefore, the Xiao family wants to divert the trouble so that the ancient families without the netherworld token would place their attention on you and attack you.”

Ye Chen could not help but scoff upon hearing that, “So what? I’ve killed people from the Xiao, Bai, Huang, Duan, and the Lin family. I’ve already offended them. Why should I care about two more enemies?”

“It’s not as simple as you think!”

Luo Shuiyao shook her head and said, “You’re not from Shang Santian, so you don’t understand the situation over there. Shang Santian is divided into ten ancient families, three sects, and four groups. Among the ten ancient families, we all have our own interests in an alliance.”

Her brows furrowed slightly, “For instance, the Xiao, Bai, Huang, Duan, and Lin families are all in an alliance of interests, while the Luo, Tang, Xiang, Liu, and Tong families are all in an alliance of a different interest. You’ve offended the Bai family, but at least you haven’t offended the five ancient families that are led by my family.”

Ye Chen gradually understood what she meant when he heard that, “So, you’re saying that the Xiao family wants the other two ancient families apart from your family, Liu family, and Tang family to attack me?”

“Yes!”

Luo Shuiyao nodded lightly, “So I came here to ask you how you intend to deal with the netherworld token you have. Do you intend to give it up and choose to retreat immediately, or do you intend to hold on to it and board the ghost ship with us?”

After Ye Chen pondered for a while, he stopped hiding his true purpose, “I want to board this so-called ghost ship too!”

Earth Immortal Fruit, a treasure used to refine the Qi Repair Pill!

He was determined to get it!

After all, his parents were almost 60 years old. Although they had consumed many of his medicinal pills and had extraordinary physiques, they could live for 100 years at most.

The ghost ship would only appear once every 20 years. If he missed it this time, his parents would be 80 years old when it appeared again. They would only embark on the path of cultivation at 80 years old. They would be old and weak by then, and their memories would decline. It was almost impossible.

Seeing that he really wanted to board the ghost ship, Luo Shuiyao glanced at Tang Jianfeng and gave him a knowing look.

Luo Shuiyao said slowly, "We'll need to gather all eight netherworld tokens to board the ghost ship. Most of the people from Shang Santian have arrived and are preparing to discuss the trip to board the ship. Are you in?"

Worried that Ye Chen would overthink, she added, "Don't worry. The purpose of this discussion is boarding the ghost ship. The Xiao family and the other ancient families won't do anything to you. We won't sit back and do nothing either."

Ye Chen asked, "When is it?"

Tang Jianfeng said, "Tomorrow at noon, at the same place."

"Yang City International Hotel?"

Ye Chen squinted and said, "Alright, I'll definitely be there tomorrow."

...

After Ye Chen returned to the villa, he told Lin Tai and Yang Tian about his decision to board the ghost ship. Both of them looked stunned. Clearly, they were shocked.

Yang Tian objected without even thinking about it, "Old Ye, I don't think you should do it. The ghost ship is too dangerous. After so many years, I wonder how many powerhouses have stayed on it forever."

"That's right, my lord. What if something happens to you on the ghost ship? What about your family? What about madam and the rest?"

Lin Tai said worriedly, "Besides, don't forget that even if Shang Santian decided to join forces with you on the ghost ship on account of the netherworld token, who knows if they will join forces to attack you once you get on the ghost ship?"

"Don't worry about it!"

Ye Chen shook his head lightly and said, "I'll sort everything out before I leave. I'll make sure nothing goes wrong. As for Shang Santian, who under the Emperor Stage can hurt me?"

Seeing that the two of them were about to say something, Ye Chen said in all seriousness, "Stop persuading me. I've made up my mind. The two of you will talk to the Spiritual Medicine Mountain and Miaojiang. Bring me as many medicinal herbs as you can. I'll be refining medicinal pills for the next few days!"

Yang Tian and Lin Tai had no choice but to comply.

That night, Miaojiang and the Spiritual Medicine Mountain sent over many medicinal herbs. Although some of them were not matured enough, it was nothing to Ye Chen who had the Immortal Drift Bottle.

Taking advantage of the bright night, he used the Immortal Drift Bottle to mature the medicinal herbs to 300 years old. Subsequently, he refined many medicinal pills overnight. However, most of them were for Su Yuhan, Yang Tian, and the rest to elevate their cultivation base.

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Around 10 a.m. the next morning, Ye Chen arrived in Yang City successfully. Luo Shuiyao and Tang Jianfeng, who were already waiting, called him to get into a Lamborghini Veneno while Tang Jianfeng drove.

Ye Chen realized that they were not heading toward Yang City. He frowned and asked, "Are we going somewhere else?"

"I'll introduce you to a few people before we go to the hotel!"

Luo Shuiyao smiled and said, "They're all members of the ancient families led by my family. For instance, the Tong family, Xiang family, and the Liu family where Liu Qing is."

### **Chapter 695: Are You Trying to Get Him Killed?**

Tang Jianfeng drove fast.

Half an hour later, they arrived outside a villa in Yang City's Third Ring Road. Ye Chen saw a person standing at the entrance of the villa from hundreds of meters away.

It was a young man in a purple robe, his aura surging.

If anyone was present, they would realize that the man was the person who used to rank No.1 on the Heaven Leaderboard, Yang Junlin, known as the Battle God of China!

Before Ye Chen debuted, Yang Junlin had suppressed the Heaven Leaderboard for ten years. Later on, as Ye Chen debuted and became famous, Yang Junlin was pushed to the second place after he ranked first on the Heaven Leaderboard.

Ye Chen entered the World Leaderboard, and Yang Junlin naturally dropped to second place.

Ye Chen was surprised, "Why is he here?"

As soon as the car stopped, Yang Junlin came up to them and said with a smile, "Welcome to the Yang residence, Ms. Luo, Mr. Tang and Mr. Ye!"

As if sensing Ye Chen's confusion, Luo Shuiyao explained with a smile, "Ye Chen, I'm afraid you didn't know yet. Yang Junlin is a member of the Tong family in Shang Santian. They're planning to let him return to the Tong family after the Tong family came into the world. Therefore, the Tong family and the Xiang family are currently staying in the Yang residence."

Ye Chen came to a realization after hearing that. He smiled at Yang Junlin.

"They've been waiting inside. Please come in!"

Yang Junlin made an inviting gesture.

Subsequently, he led the three of them into the Yang residence villa.

The Yang residence was not big, but it was well-equipped. There were pavilions, and there was also a sparring arena. Many weapons were placed there. It could be seen that Yang Junlin was a rather traditional person.

The Yang residence's living room was currently filled with about ten people. They were all young men and women, and most of them were dressed in vintage clothing.

Ye Chen and the rest entered.

The eyes of a woman in a purple dress lit up, "Yaoyao, if you hadn't come, we would've gone to look for you."

The woman's appearance was astonishing, and she had a gentle temperament. Her pair of peach blossom eyes were filled with intelligence, and her voice was as clear as a zither.

"Sister Shuhui, aren't I here now?"

Luo Shuiyao immediately smiled and went up to welcome her. She intimately hugged the woman's thin arm and stuck out her tongue playfully.

Ye Chen quietly observed the people in the living room. He noticed that there were two handsome young men sitting next to the lady. Behind one of them was Liu Qing whom he had seen before.

Sensing his gaze, Liu Qing smiled.

Meanwhile, the young man in front of him lifted his head and glanced at Ye Chen. There was wariness in his eyes, "Yaoyao, who is this?"

His words caught everyone's attention. At that moment, everyone in the living room looked at Ye Chen.

Luo Shuiyao finally snapped back to her senses and introduced him immediately, "Brother Xiang Nan, this is Ye Chen, the China No. 1, Mad Southern Ye!"

Following her words, the living room fell into an awkward atmosphere.

Cold, dead, oppressive, intimidating...

If the people looked at Ye Chen like he was a stranger earlier, they were much colder now. There was even a hint of hostility.

On the other hand, a flash of extraordinary splendor flashed across the eyes of the lady from before.

The oppressive atmosphere made Yang Junlin, the host, feel as if he was facing a great enemy. On the other hand, Ye Chen stood with his hands behind his back and looked at everyone in a neither servile nor overbearing manner.

Several seconds later, discussions started in the living room.

"So, he's Mad Southern Ye?"

"The guy who killed Xiao Yang and the rest?"

"He doesn't look outstanding just from his appearance!"

“A mere mortal dares to call himself the China No. 1?”

“...”

Sensing that the atmosphere was odd, Luo Shuiyao’s pretty face changed slightly. She stood before Ye Chen by instinct and introduced them one by one, “Ye Chen, let me introduce you. This is Tong Shuhui from the Tong family of Shang Santian. This is Xiang Nan from the Xiang family. This is Liu Yunfeng from the Liu family. And that’s...”

Following her introduction, Ye Chen had a rough understanding of the people there.

Among them, Tong Shuhui, Xiang Nan, and Liu Yunfeng were very powerful. They were even more powerful than Xiao Yang and the rest that he had killed. They were at least a high-level martial venerable.

That also made him wary of the foundation of Shang Santian.

As expected of the holy land of martial arts heritage.

“Yaoyao, come here with me!”

Tong Shuhui suddenly said something and led Luo Shuiyao out of the living room. They only stopped when they arrived at the garden.

“Tell me, why did you bring this person to see us?”

Tong Shuhui, who had always been gentle, pulled a long face at that moment, “Don’t you know that Mad Southern Ye disregarded our Shang Santian and even killed people from the Xiao family as well as a few other ancient families? Moreover, he seems to have the netherworld token.”

“Sister Shuhui, it’s not a suspicion. Ye Chen really has a netherworld token. Moreover, it’s the one with the word ‘world’,” Luo Shuiyao said truthfully.

Tong Shuhui was shocked when she heard that, “What? Why do you still dare to bring him here? Don’t forget that the Xiang, Liu, Lin, and Huang family don’t have the netherworld token. Are you trying to get him killed?”

...

Even though their conversation was at least 300 meters away from the living room, Ye Chen still heard every single word.

It was not that he was intentionally eavesdropping, but from the moment he walked into the Yang residence villa, he had already spread his Divine Consciousness out. Naturally, what Tong Shuhui said could not escape his ears.

While the two ladies were talking outside, a young man behind Xiang Nan glanced at him indifferently, “You are the one who killed Xiao Yang and the rest?”

Ye Chen said calmly, “So what if I did? So what if I didn’t?”



The young man smirked coldly, "Your aura is too weak, I'm now very suspicious if you had used some shameful method to kill Xiao Yang and the rest."

Ye Chen said, "You can try me."

"You..."

The young man flew into a rage. Just as he was about to speak, Tang Jianfeng interrupted him, "Enough, Xiang Heng. If you really want to spar with someone, you can do that with me!"

Xiang Heng's expression turned grim as he snorted, "Jianfeng, don't forget that you're also from Shang Santian. How dare you defend an outsider!"

Even Xiang Nan and Liu Yunfeng, who had been silent all this while, frowned. They were slightly displeased with Tang Jianfeng.

"Xiang Heng, Jianfeng is trying to save your life!"

Liu Qing, who was standing on the side, said, "I was also present that day, and personally witnessed how Xiao Yang and the rest were killed. If you really attack Brother Ye, don't blame me for not warning you when you're killed."

Xiang Heng's expression changed when he heard that. In the end, he did not dare to boast further. Even Xiang Nan and Liu Yunfeng secretly exchanged glances.

They were aware of Liu Qing's personality. He never liked to exaggerate when he spoke. Since he had already proven the truth of what Ye Chen did that day, he would not lie.

It seemed like Ye Chen was not that different from the rumors.

Liu Yunfeng took another deep look at Ye Chen as he thought to this point and said, "I heard that you have a netherworld token?"

### **Chapter 696: The Truth of the Exchange!**

The living room fell into dead silence again!

After all, the ten great ancient families of Shang Santian had all entered the world for the ghost ship. The netherworld token was the necessary item to board the ship, how could they not be concerned?

He met everyone's gaze.

Ye Chen smiled lightly, "I do have one."

Following what he said, exclams were heard in the living room. Even Xiang Nan and Liu Yunfeng were no exception. Their pupils constricted slightly. They were shocked that Ye Chen had the netherworld token, but they were also shocked that Ye Chen dared to admit it.

"Interesting!"

Xiang Nan, who had been silent all this while, suddenly chuckled. He looked at Ye Chen with a burning gaze, "I don't know if you're ignorant or fearless. How dare you admit that you have the netherworld token in our presence? Perhaps you think you can protect it with your ability?"

The ten great ancient families were very determined to board the ghost ship. On the other hand, there were only eight netherworld tokens. Now, one was in Ye Chen's hands while the other was in Shi Qianhan's. In other words, there were only six netherworld tokens that the ten great ancient families could compete for.

It definitely meant that the four ancient families had no fate of obtaining the six netherworld tokens. The consequence of that was that the four ancient families would place their attention on Ye Chen and Shi Qianhan. On the other hand, Shi Qianhan was extraordinarily powerful and his whereabouts were uncertain. Even the Xiao family could not capture him with all their might.

However, Ye Chen...

"Ye, as the saying goes, a common man's only crime is to carry a jade. Your strength is insufficient, so possessing the netherworld token will only bring you the calamity of death."

Xiang Heng sneered once again, "As long as you hand the netherworld token over to our Xiang family, we'll allow you to join our family. At the same time, we can guarantee your safety!"

At the end of his sentence, he added with a threatening tone, "Don't forget this. Since you killed Xiao Yang and the rest, even if we don't do anything to you, the Xiao and Bai families will not let you off."

As soon as he finished speaking, even Liu Qing could not refrain himself from saying, "Yeah, Brother Ye, why don't you hand the netherworld token over to my Liu family? If you do that, the Xiao family will have to deal with my family if they want to make a move against you."

From the beginning to the end, Xiang Nan and Liu Yunfeng did not say anything. It was as if they did not hear anything. However, both of their lips curled into a grin.

To them, the Liu family and the Xiang family had offered a high enough price. Ye Chen would not reject them if he was smart.

However, Ye Chen smiled lightly, "Since when do I need anyone to protect me for whatever I do in my life? I only believe in the sword in my hand!"

What he said completely rejected them.

Xiang Nan and Liu Yunfeng frowned when they heard that. They were slightly unhappy as they felt that Ye Chen was being ungrateful.

Tang Jianfeng broke out in cold sweat for Ye Chen.

'Brother Ye, oh Brother Ye. I know you're not weak, but you must know who's in front of you right now.'

Among them, Xiang Nan was the No.1 person in the younger generation of the Xiang family, while Liu Yunfeng was the No.1 person in the younger generation of the Liu family. The strength of these two people could not be compared to Xiao Yang and the rest.

Anger flashed through Xiang Heng's eyes. Just when he was about to flare up, a cold voice came from the door, "Ye Chen's netherworld token is his. Are you guys going to fight for it?"

At the next moment, Luo Shuiyao and Tong Shuhui walked in quickly!

Luo Shuiyao glared at Xiang Nan and Liu Yunfeng angrily, "Brother Xiang Nan, Brother Yunfeng, Ye Chen is my friend. How could you bully him like that?"

Xiang Nan and Liu Yunfeng looked at each other and said helplessly, "Yaoyao, since when did I bully your friend? We were just being nice."

"That's great!"

Luo Shuiyao snorted coldly before glaring fiercely at Xiang Heng, "And you, Xiang Heng. Are you seeking trouble? Be careful, I might tell my brother that you're bullying me."

"No, no!"

Xiang Heng's expression changed as he hurriedly shook his head.

The thought of that genius from the Luo family was too much!

Not only him, even the confident Xiang Nan and Liu Yunfeng were no exception!

"Alright, the meeting is in half an hour!"

Tong Shuhui interrupted everyone and fixed her gaze on Xiang Nan and Liu Yunfeng, "Yaoyao told me that this Mr. Ye also has a netherworld token and wants to board the ghost ship. Since he's Yaoyao's friend, we can't be fighting for the netherworld token in his hands for the time being. Moreover, there's only one piece. It's not enough for both your families."

"Then, what do you think we should do?" Liu Yunfeng frowned slightly.

Tong Shuhui said, "I received a call from the Xiao family earlier. Their intention is that during today's exchange, each family will send a member to challenge each other. The wager is the netherworld token. The winner will take the other party's netherworld token."

"Would they be that kind?"

Tang Jianfeng smirked coldly, "There are four pieces added among the five ancient families, but we only have one. I think they're only interested in the two netherworld tokens we have."

Liu Qing nodded and said, "That's right. If I remember correctly, the Duan family still doesn't have the netherworld token, right? They're obviously trying to take the netherworld token from Yaoyao so that the five ancient families can't board the ghost ship."

At the end of his sentence, he added, "Right now, all the powerhouses of the younger generation of the five ancient families have arrived. On our side, Big Brother Luo and Big Brother Tang have yet to arrive. If we agree, we will be at a disadvantage."

"What do you think?" Tong Shuhui looked at Xiang Nan and Liu Yunfeng.

Xiang Nan and Liu Yunfeng looked at each other.

Xiang Nan stretched his neck and said lazily, "What else can we do? Of course we're going to fight. We were just worried about not having the netherworld token. Since they're willing to give us a chance, that'd be for the best."

Liu Yunfeng looked at Luo Shuiyao, "The only problem is that the netherworld token on our side belongs to Yaoyao. I wonder if Yaoyao is willing?"

"Of course!"

Luo Shuiyao said without even thinking, "If you can't bear to part with a child, you won't be able to catch the wolf. Besides, if the four of you don't have the netherworld token, only my Luo family will be able to board the ghost ship once it appears. We won't be their match at all."

"Right, don't worry too much!"

Tong Shuhui seemed to have thought of something and continued, "Xiao Yuanjing, Bai Shaoyu, and the rest won't be participating in this battle. On our side, Xiang Nan, Yunfeng, and I can't participate!"

"In other words, when the time comes, Liu Qing and Xiang Heng will fight? Looks like they are quite confident," the smile on Xiang Nan's face grew even brighter.

"Yes!"

Tong Shuhui smiled too. She turned her head and said to Ye Chen, "Are you sure you want to attend this exchange with us?"

"Of course!" Ye Chen nodded lightly.

Tong Shuhui frowned and said, "Let me remind you. If you go this time, although the five great ancient families won't directly make a move on you, they'll definitely send someone to challenge you. Once you lose, the netherworld token in your hand will belong to them."

Ye Chen stood with his hands behind his back and smiled lightly, "In other words, I can challenge them and take the netherworld token from them, right?"

### **Chapter 697: Bai Shaoyu and Xiao Yuanjing!**

When Tong Shuhui heard that, she secretly shook her head. Xiang Nan and Liu Yunfeng frowned without a trace. Even Luo Shuiyao and the rest did not know whether to laugh or cry.

Xiang Heng could not help but sneer, "Ye, I advise you not to be so confident. It's better to know your limits."

"Alright, let's go!"

Tong Shuhui looked at the time and immediately led the group out of the villa. Yang Junlin had already arranged for a few sports cars to park at the entrance.

Ye Chen and Luo Shuiyao got into the Lamborghini Veneno from before while Tang Jianfeng drove and led the way.

In a Rolls-Royce Phantom behind the Lamborghini Veneno, Liu Yunfeng took a deep look at the car in front and said in a deep voice, "What do you guys think of Mad Southern Ye?"

Xiang Nan said directly, "Arrogant!"

"That's right, this brat is insanely arrogant!"

Xiang Heng nodded repeatedly. There was a hint of anger on his face as he said, "When this man saw us, not only did he not show any respect, he actually rejected our invitation."

He smirked coldly before continuing, "Not only was he not worried that someone would take his netherworld token, he was even thinking about taking someone else's token. Those who don't know might even think that he's a genius like Luo Tianya!"

Even Tong Shuhui nodded and said, "He's indeed a little arrogant, but it's understandable. After all, before Shang Santian came into the world, he was the China No.1 in the secular world. Furthermore, he has such a cultivation base at such a young age. It's acceptable."

Liu Yunfeng's eyes flickered, "Do we challenge him, then?"

The moment that was said, everyone could not help but look surprised.

They could not take the netherworld token from Ye Chen for Luo Shuiyao's sake earlier. However, they would not have to show any mercy during the exchange.

"Forget it!"

Tong Shuhui sighed softly and said, "After all, he's Yaoyao and Jianfeng's friend. Moreover, in my opinion, the Xiao family will definitely challenge Ye Chen when the time comes. By then, Ye Chen won't be able to keep the netherworld token. We can fight him after his netherworld token is taken away."

Xiang Heng laughed out loud, "Wonderful. By then, Yaoyao won't be able to stop us. After all, he can't blame anyone else for his lack of skills!"

...

Half an hour later, the cars arrived at Yang City International Hotel.

As soon as they got out of the car, they saw a long motorcade coming from afar. Compared to the cars from Ye Chen's side, the motorcade before them was even more luxurious. They were all Maybachs. Wherever the motorcade passed by, everyone stopped to watch as they exclaimed.

Tong Shuhui frowned slightly, "They're here too!"

As the cars pulled over, a cold-looking young man in a long-sleeved shirt slowly walked out of the Maybach.

Xiang Nan narrowed his eyes and said, "It's Du family's Du Zong, ranked No.10 on the Martial Venerable Leaderboard!"

'The Martial Venerable Leaderboard?'

Ye Chen's heart skipped a beat.

Luo Shuiyao seemed to have noticed his confusion. She explained in a low voice, "The Martial Venerable Leaderboard is one of the leaderboards in Shang Santian for martial venerables. It's similar to the Heaven Leaderboard in China. However, the difference is that the people ranked on the Martial Venerable Leaderboard are not only a martial venerable, but also one of the best among martial venerables."

Ye Chen said, "What's the rank of Xiao Yang and the rest I killed earlier?"

"Their ranking?"

Without waiting for Luo Shuiyao to speak, Xiang Heng immediately ridiculed, "A piece of trash like Xiao Yang, let alone ranking, he can't even get to the top 50!"

As they were talking, a few more people walked out of the car.

"Lin family's Lin Fulong, No.9 on the Martial Venerable Leaderboard!"

"Duan Tianlang of the Duan family, No.7 on the Martial Venerable Leaderboard!"

"..."

When a young master in white walked out, Tong Shuhui and the rest narrowed their eyes, "Bai Shaoyu of the Bai family, No.3 on the Martial Venerable Leaderboard!"

It was a handsome gentleman. He had sharp eyebrows and bright eyes. His eyebrows were barely visible through his messy fringe.

Ye Chen's eyes focused slightly.

Through his Divine Consciousness, he discovered that Bai Shaoyu's aura was very powerful. It had already surpassed Xiang Nan, Liu Yunfeng, and the rest. His cultivation base was at least at the peak martial venerable.

No wonder he was ranked No.3 on the Martial Venerable Leaderboard!

At the next moment, in the last Maybach, a young man dressed in black stepped out of the car. The young man's expression was calm and his deep eyes were unfathomable.

He was not as handsome as Bai Shaoyu, nor did he have any terrifying aura as Lin Fulong, Du Zong and the rest did. However, when he appeared, everyone's breathing subconsciously froze.

Liu Yunfeng took a deep breath in and enunciated each word clearly, "Xiao family's young master, Xiao Yuanjing, ranked No.2 on the Martial Venerable Leaderboard. He's the person with the highest chance of becoming an Emperor!"

"He's Xiao Yuanjing?"

Ye Chen looked at the other party coldly, "The No.2 on the Martial Venerable Leaderboard already has such an aura. I wonder what the person who ranks No.1 on the Martial Venerable Leaderboard looks like!"

At this moment, Xiao Yuanjing had obviously noticed them. He walked over slowly with his hands behind his back, and his black stone-like eyes swept over everyone.

Under his gaze, Xiang Nan and the rest immediately felt like they had been seen through with a single glance. There were no secrets they could hide from him.

Xiao Yuanjing's gaze paused on Ye Chen for a few seconds before he looked at Luo Shuiyao, "Your brother isn't here?"

Luo Shuiyao snorted coldly, "Why would my brother participate in such a minor event?"

"What a pity!

I thought I would challenge him!"

Xiao Yuanjing sighed regretfully and walked into the hotel. The people behind him followed.

When Bai Shaoyu passed by Ye Chen, he suddenly stopped and looked at him coldly, "Are you Mad Southern Ye who killed three people from my Bai family?"

Luo Shuiyao stood in front of Ye Chen by instinct. She glared at him and said, "Bai, what are you doing?"

"Don't worry!"

However, Bai Shaoyu chuckled lightly, "It seems like such a minor character is beneath me to make a move against him. Your big brother is my real opponent!"

Subsequently, he turned around and left.

After the group left, Liu Yunfeng said fearfully, "Why do I feel that Bai Shaoyu and Xiao Yuanjing seem to have become more powerful?"

Xiang Nan did not mind at all, he chuckled instead, "These two guys really are the same as before. They set Big Brother Luo as their target and never took us seriously!"

On the Martial Venerable Leaderboard, the Luo family's genius, Luo Tianya, was ranked No.1. He possessed extraordinary talent and single-handedly suppressed the paragons of the ten ancient families.

Xiao Yuanjing and Bai Shaoyu, on the other hand, were ranked No.2 and No.3. Naturally, they were unconvinced and challenged Luo Tianya repeatedly. However, they had always failed!

As for Tong Shuhui, Liu Yunfeng and Xiang Nan, they were ranked No.8, No.5 and No.6 respectively. They were nothing in the presence of the duo.

Other than Luo Tianya, the only person who could threaten the two of them was probably the Tang family's genius, Tang Yiming, who was No.4 on the Martial Venerable Leaderboard!

"We are weaker than them, what can we do?

Let's go!"

Tong Shuhui shook her head slightly and led the group inside.

**Chapter 698: The Extremely Confident Xiang Heng!**

Among Xiao Yuanjing and the rest, Bai Shaoyu stood next to him and said with a cold expression, "I saw that brat Ye. I didn't expect him to actually dare to come to our exchange. Why did you stop me from killing him earlier?"

"What's the rush?"

Xiao Yuanjing maintained his calm expression, "Don't forget that this person also has a netherworld token. If you made a move earlier, can you guarantee that Xiang Nan and the rest wouldn't stop us because of the netherworld token?"

Bai Shaoyu harrumphed coldly and said in an unconvincing manner, "So are we just going to watch that brat act so smug in front of us?"

"Since this man is participating in this exchange, he probably wants to board the ghost ship. During the exchange, get someone to challenge him."

Xiao Yuanjing smiled noncommittally, "As long as we get his netherworld token, he'll have no value to Xiang Nan and the rest. By time, won't he be at our mercy?"

"Hahaha, that's brilliant!"

...

On the 20th floor of the Yang City International Hotel, everyone present sat down in a spacious hall at the moment.

The Xiao family led the Bai, Duan, Lin and Du family, while the Tang, Xiang, Tong and Liu families were led by the Luo family. They sat on the other side.

Du family's Du Zong coldly swept his gaze over Luo Shuiyao and the rest before he smiled insincerely and said, "Luo Shuiyao and Tang Jianfeng, your families' Luo Tianya and Tang Yiming aren't here. Could it be that they're scared?"

What he said was what most of them were thinking.

Both sides had been fighting openly and covertly in Shang Santian. Now that the younger generation had gathered, it was natural that no one liked each other.

Luo Shuiyao did not get angry. Instead, she looked at Du Zong with a face full of disdain and said, "Du Zong, do you dare to say this to my big brother?"

Du Zong paused, "You..."

Honestly, he really did not dare!

"What are you trying to say?"

Luo Shuiyao said with a cold snort, "Have you forgotten who was almost killed by my big brother with a single sword strike back then? Who knelt before him and begged for mercy?"

"Hahaha!"



Her words naturally caused Xiang Nan and the rest to burst into laughter. Even many people from the Xiao family could not help but laugh.

Previously, Du Zong had bullied Luo Shuiyao because he was ranked on the Martial Venerable Leaderboard. When Luo Tianya found out about it, he barged into the Du family alone and forced Du Zong to kneel down in front of the Du family members, apologizing profusely.

The upper echelons of the Du family were furious, but they did not dare to say anything. It was a competition between the younger generation. Not only would it be embarrassing for the older generation to make a move, the older generation of the Luo family would not sit idly by either.

After all, Luo Tianya was not called the Crazy Sister Protector for nothing!

Hearing everyone's laughter, Du Zong's face flushed. He could not help but stand up and look coldly at Luo Shuiyao, "You..."

"Enough!"

Right at this moment, Xiao Yuanjing spoke slowly.

The entire hall fell silent.

Xiao Yuanjing scanned the crowd expressionlessly before his gaze finally landed on Luo Shuiyao and the rest. He smiled and said, "Shuiyao, I believe Shuhui has told you that the purpose of today's exchange is to discuss the matter of the ghost ship and redistribute the netherworld token.

I wonder what are you guys going to do about it?"

Luo Shuiyao first glanced at Xiang Nan and the rest before saying, "There's no need to think about it. We agreed. We were just about to fall asleep when you guys offered us pillows. How could we say no?"

"Alright!"

Xiao Yuanjing looked at Xiang Nan, Tong Shuhui, and the rest one by one. Seeing that none of them had any objections, he said slowly, "Since that's the case, here are the details. Each of us will send one person to challenge the other. The winner will get the netherworld token from the other party."

At this point, he added, "Of course, considering that Luo Tianya and Tang Yiming have yet to arrive, for the sake of fairness, not only will I not fight, but even those on the Martial Venerable Leaderboard won't fight. The challenger's strength is limited to intermediate-level martial venerable. What do you guys think?"

Luo Shuiyao nodded and said, "I've no objections!"

She regretted it after she said that. She looked at Ye Chen subconsciously, her pretty face filled with guilt.

That was because she suddenly recalled that Xiao Yuanjing said that the challenger was only allowed to be an intermediate-level martial venerable at most. Although Ye Chen had killed Xiao Yang and the rest, they were only beginner-level martial venerables.

Beginner-level and intermediate-level seemed to be only one level apart, but to martial venerables, the difference was like heaven and earth.

However, Ye Chen merely nodded at her.

Xiao Yuanjing gently stroked his hands and said with a firm voice, "Alright, in that case, let's draw lots. The side that draws the long lot will initiate the challenge!"

Following that, Luo Shuiyao walked out and drew lots with a young man from the Xiao family. Fortunately, Luo Shuiyao drew the long lot.

Tong Shuhui and the rest secretly sighed in relief. They were afraid that Luo Shuiyao would draw the short lot and let the other side take the initiative.

Xiao Yuanjing looked on with a faint smile and said, "You've drawn the long lot, so you guys get to go first. Who do you plan to send to challenge which family?"

Luo Shuiyao could not help but look at Xiang Nan and the rest.

Tong Shuhui sized up everyone and said with a frown, "Jianfeng, Liu Qing, Xiang Heng, which one of you will represent us to the challenge?"

"I'll go!"

Xiang Heng who had been itching to fight since long ago spoke first, "Don't worry, I'll definitely win a netherworld token for us."

He glanced at Ye Chen coldly as he spoke to this point, "Let me show you that I, Xiang Heng, am not a piece of trash like Xiao Yang!"

Liu Qing had said earlier that if he attacked Ye Chen, he would not blame him if he was killed. He still remembered that.

"Okay, go ahead. Be careful!"

Xiang Nan nodded slightly. He was aware of Xiang Heng's strength. He was an intermediate-level martial venerable and had mastered the Xiao family's mysterious-grade martial technique, the Rumbling Thunder Cloud Palm. He was one of the best among the intermediate-level martial venerables.

Seeing that Liu Yunfeng and Tong Shuhui did not have any objections, Xiang Heng took a step forward and leaped out. He landed at the space that had been emptied out since earlier.

A Shang Santian formation was set up here. Even if several intermediate-level martial venerables fought at the same time, it would not affect the formation at all.

Xiang Heng swept his gaze across the crowd and shouted, "Xiang family's Xiang Heng, intermediate-level martial venerable. Which of you wants to come over and fight him?"

"Allow me!"

A young man with a birthmark on his left cheek leaped from the Xiao family's side, "Duan Hu of the Duan family, intermediate-level martial venerable!"

“Who is this person? Why haven’t I seen him before?”

“He seems to be someone from the Duan family!”

“...”

When they saw each other, Tong Shuhui, Xiang Nan, and the rest looked at each other. They saw confusion in each other’s eyes. Luo Shuiyao and Tang Jianfeng shook their heads, indicating that they had not seen each other before.

It was because anyone who had reached the intermediate-level martial venerable before the age of 30 was considered a genius. It was impossible for them to not know each other.

Right at this moment, a voice filled with slight pity was heard, causing their gazes to freeze.

“Xiang Heng is going to lose!”

### **Chapter 699: Why Haven’t You Killed Yourself Yet?**

The voice was neither loud nor soft.

However, every word was heard by everyone.

For a moment, the entire hall fell into dead silence!

The smile on Xiang Heng’s face froze. He looked in the direction of the voice and saw Ye Chen shaking his head as he spoke.

He could not help but get angry. He looked at Ye Chen while gritting his teeth, “Ye, are you saying that I’m not Duan Hu’s match?”

Seeing that it was Ye Chen who spoke, Tong Shuhui’s pretty face remained cold no matter how kind she was, “Ye Chen, don’t spout nonsense if you don’t know anything!”

The two had yet to fight, and Ye Chen declared that Xiang Heng would lose!

It was a slap to their faces!

It was as if she had been betrayed by her own people. She began to regret bringing Ye Chen over on Luo Shuiyao’s account.

Xiang Nan’s expression turned grim as well, “That’s right. Xiang Heng is a member of my family. I know his strength better than you do. You’re just a secular cultivator. Do you have the right to speak here?”

“Although Xiang Heng offended you with his words, you shouldn’t be so narrow-minded as to belittle him, right?”

Liu Yunfeng’s eyes were filled with coldness.

Ye Chen wanted to explain it to him, but Luo Shuiyao, who was standing aside, tugged the corner of his shirt, “Don’t talk nonsense, Ye Chen. This is a battle between intermediate-level martial venerables.”

She was also shocked by Ye Chen. She was afraid that Ye Chen would continue to say something wrong to anger Xiang Nan and the rest. After all, they did not like Ye Chen.

Liu Qing kept winking at Ye Chen.

Ye Chen could only shake his head lightly when he saw that. He kept quiet.

The moment Duan Hu came out, he sensed with his Divine Consciousness that this person was very strange.

His palm was covered with calluses. He must have practiced external palm techniques. His skin was rough and he must have used coarse salt to wash his face. Moreover, there was something wrong with his aura. It was obvious that he was once an advanced-level martial venerable. He must have used some unknown method to force his cultivation to drop by one level.

Most importantly, the blood aura on his body was too thick. He had probably killed many people before, and not just ten or so.

Compared to him, Xiang Heng was like a flower in a greenhouse.

How could he be Duan Hu's match?

The reason he had spoken earlier was for Luo Shuiyao's sake. He had intended to remind Xiang Nan and the rest that it would be easier to replace him, but unexpectedly, no one believed him.

Meanwhile, on the Xiao family's side, what Ye Chen said was heard.

A strange glint flashed across Xiao Yuanjing's eyes. He then smiled and said, "Luo Shuiyao, I think this Mr. Ye next to you isn't unreasonable. You guys can consider replacing him!"

"What are you talking about? No!"

Before Luo Shuiyao could speak, Xiang Heng instantly roared furiously, "If I lose today, I'll kill myself in front of everyone. A gentleman keeps his word!"

It was a matter of pride!

If he really retreated, he would have no dignity left!

"We're not replacing anyone!"

Luo Shuiyao similarly rejected Xiao Yuanjing's suggestion. To Xiang Heng, it was a battle of dignity, but to them, it was also a matter of pride.

The ten great ancient families had more pride than the heavens!

Xiao Yuanjing smiled, "Alright. Since that's the case, let's begin then. The duel will only determine who is more powerful and who is weaker. No one is allowed to use poison or use hidden weapons. Anyone who violates the rules will be executed!"

Boom...

"Rumbling Thunder Cloud Palm!"

Xiang Heng let out a loud shout, and the aura from his entire body instantly exploded. Powerful and surging, he took a step forward and charged at Duan Hu. With a palm strike, he tore through the void like lightning.

Sensing the power of that palm, the expressions of many people in the hall changed. Clearly, they did not expect Xiang Heng to use such a powerful martial technique the moment he started.

Even Liu Qing and Tang Jianfeng were shocked.

Tong Shuhui subconsciously looked at Xiang Nan, "I didn't expect Xiang Heng to have mastered your family's mysterious-grade martial technique, the Rumbling Thunder Cloud Palm."

Liu Yunfeng nodded his head in admiration, "I can feel that Xiang Heng's palm strike is something that even an ordinary advanced-level martial venerable would have to brace themselves against."

"That's because Xiang Heng's comprehension is high."

Xiang Nan seemed to be smiling arrogantly. He glanced at Ye Chen coldly at the end of his sentence and said as if he was hinting at something, "Someone said that Xiang Heng will lose. I'd like to see his face after this."

"Duan, go to hell!"

Xiang Heng's battle intent surged as he pushed all his strength to the limit. In a few strides, he sent a slap towards Duan Hu.

Facing this earth-shattering palm, disdain flashed across Duan Hu's eyes as he threw a punch out. If one took a closer look, they would discover that his fist was wrapped in a faint flame, causing the air to be completely incinerated.

The punch was extremely fast. It directly broke through the sound barrier and landed on Xiang Heng's palm like it was unstoppable.

Rumble...

Everyone watched as the fist and palm collided. Space shook as if it was about to explode from the force. Vast pulses of energy swept out in all directions, but they were stopped by the formation.

Blergh...

At the next moment, amidst the shocking storm of energy, a figure was sent flying before crashing into the formation barrier. When he landed on the ground, blood spurted from his mouth.

Who else could it be but Xiang Heng?

At that moment, he was lying on the ground, and one of his right arms dangled limply. One could even see the bones inside.

He spat several mouthfuls of blood. After struggling for a while, he could no longer get up. He looked at Duan Hu in shock, "H-How can you be so powerful?!"

"How is this possible?!"

Xiang Nan, who had initially made a solemn vow, stood up in shock. Disbelief was written all over his face, “Both of them are intermediate-level martial venerables, yet Xiang Heng lost so quickly!”

Tong Shuhui, Liu Yunfeng, and the rest were completely dumbstruck!

One move!

Xiang Heng was defeated in one move!

It was not a duel, but an instant kill!

On the other hand, Luo Shuiyao covered her red lips lightly. She looked at Ye Chen next to her in shock because Ye Chen was right. Xiang Heng was no match for Duan Hu!

“I remember who he is now!”

At that moment, Liu Qing’s expression changed. He seemed to have thought of something as he subconsciously looked at Duan Hu and cried out, “H-He’s the Taihang Bandit, Pei Xuehu. He’s not Duan Hu at all. What he used just now was the signature move of the Taihang Bandit—Nine Palace Heavenly Flame Fist!”

Hearing what he said, Xiang Nan also recognized him and could not help but curse, “Duan Tianlang, you’re shameless. You actually got the Taihang Bandit to impersonate a member of the Duan Family!”

Taihang Bandit Pei Xuehu!

The name was extremely familiar to the people of Shang Santian. It was said that this person had a murderous nature and was known as the No. 1 person below advanced-level martial venerable. There were two advanced-level martial venerables who tried to kill him but he still managed to escape!

It would be strange if Xiang Heng did not lose to such a person.

Duan Tianlang chuckled, “Xiang Nan, Pei Xuehu took the initiative to submit to my Duan Family half a year ago. My family even bestowed him with the Duan surname. Therefore, he can be considered a member of my family, right?”

Duan Hu said indifferently, “I’m a member of the Duan family!”

“You...” Xiang Nan was furious.

Bai Shaoyu, who had been silent all this while, snorted coldly, “This can only be blamed on Xiang Heng’s inferior skills. If you’re willing to bet, then admit defeat. Hand over the netherworld token!”

Luo Shuiyao gritted her teeth and hesitated for a moment. In the end, she waved her hand, and a ray of dark light instantly shot towards Duan Tianlang, “This is for you!”

Liu Qing walked over and helped the injured Xiang Heng up. When he passed Ye Chen by, Xiang Heng said viciously, “Ye, I’m not done with you!”

He vented all his hatred on Ye Chen after being defeated.

Ye Chen’s expression turned cold, “Why haven’t you killed yourself yet?”

“You...”

Xiang Heng’s face turned red, and he suddenly spat a mouthful of blood before passing out. It was unknown whether he was pretending or not.

“Let’s go!”

Luo Shuiyao cast a cold glance at Xiao Yuanjing and the rest. She knew that they had set up a trap from the very beginning and were waiting for them to fall.

Now, she had lost her only netherworld token!

There was no need for them to stay any longer!

Just as everyone was about to turn around, a calm voice rang out, “You can leave, but Ye cannot!”

The person who spoke was Duan Tianlang.

Luo Shuiyao was furious when she heard that, “Duan Tianlang, don’t cross the line. Ye Chen is a friend of the Luo and Tang families. If you dare to touch him, let’s see if my brother will settle the score with you!”

“No, you misunderstood!”

Duan Tianlang chuckled lightly and said with a faint smile, “What I mean is, doesn’t Ye also have a netherworld token? You guys still have one more chance, am I right?”

### **Chapter 700: Mad Southern Ye, Get Over Here and Die!**

“What I mean is, doesn’t that Ye also have a netherworld token? You guys still have one more chance, am I right?”

The entire hall fell into silence following what Duan Tianlang said.

The eyes of the few ancient families led by the Xiao family beaming with smiles.

They had already discussed this beforehand. They would first take the netherworld token from the Luo family and make the five ancient families, led by the Luo family, withdraw from the ghost ship.

On the other hand, how could they pretend that they did not know Ye Chen killed the people from the five ancient families? The reason why they did not flare up was because they were worried that the five ancient families would retaliate if they did anything to Ye Chen.

That was why they targeted Ye Chen in the end. They decided to use ‘fairness’ to take the netherworld token from Ye Chen.

In that case, Ye Chen would no longer be of any use to the Luo family and the five ancient families without the netherworld token. When they attacked, Ye Chen would die!

Hearing what Duan Tianlang said, Xiang Nan and Liu Yunfeng, who were about to leave angrily, stopped in their tracks. They could not help but reveal strange expressions.

To them, Xiang Heng's failure was purely due to their recklessness. If Ye Chen's netherworld token could be given to them as a bet, they might have a chance to make a comeback.

Xiang Nan was about to speak when he realized that.

However, Luo Shuiyao rejected him without even thinking, "Duan Tianlang, don't think I've no idea what you're planning. You're just trying to do the same thing again and take Ye Chen's netherworld token. Let me tell you, no way."

She glanced at Ye Chen and said, "Ye Chen, let's go. Don't fall for their trap!"

She was afraid that Ye Chen would agree on impulse.

Losing the netherworld token was secondary!

Once Ye Chen agreed to the challenge, the other party would send a powerhouse like Duan Hu to kill him 'accidentally'. What else could she do? Could she fall out with the five ancient families over a dead person?

"Let's go!"

Tong Shuhui sighed softly and led the group away.

Seeing this, Duan Tianlang and the others felt that it was a pity.

However, at the next moment, Ye Chen turned around and looked at Duan Tianlang and the rest. A smirk appeared at the corner of his lips, "Are you guys sure you want me to participate in the challenge for the netherworld token?"

Luo Shuiyao's pretty face changed immediately. She looked at him in disbelief and said, "Ye Chen, are you crazy? This is a matter between the ancient families. It has nothing to do with you!"

Perhaps it was because she was too emotional, her tone was a little harsh. She was trying her best for Ye Chen, but he did not understand. That made her angry and disappointed.

Not only her, even Tong Shuhui, Xiang Nan, and the rest were shocked.

Everyone could tell that the Duan family was targeting Ye Chen on purpose. Even the dumbest person would not agree to it.

However, Ye Chen was tempted!

Tong Shuhui frowned and reminded him out of kindness for Luo Shuiyao's sake, "Mr. Ye, I advise you to know your limits!"

Xiang Nan and Liu Yunfeng looked at each other and saw a hint of disdain in each other's eyes.

'What an idiot!'

Xiang Heng's strength was considered outstanding among the younger generation of the Xiang family in Shang Santian. However, he still lost to Pei Xuehu.

Ye Chen had merely killed Xiao Yang and a few beginner-level martial venerables.



Where did he get his courage from?!

Ye Chen was not angry at Luo Shuiyao's reprimand. He could tell that she was doing this for his own good.

He smiled slightly and raised his eyes to look at Duan Tianlang and the rest again, "Let me ask one more question. Are you sure you want me to participate in the challenge for the netherworld token?"

"Are you saying that you're ready to fight us?"

Duan Tianlang's icy gaze met Ye Chen's. He said with a plastic smile, "Let me make this clear. The netherworld token is yours. If you want to participate in the challenge, you'll have to do it yourself. Moreover, we don't have beginner-level martial venerables here. They're all intermediate-level martial venerables. After all, beginner-level martial venerables are too useless..."

Before he could finish, Ye Chen interrupted him and smiled lightly, "I'll take it. However, I won't stop until I kill you!"

Following his words, the hall fell into dead silence!

Duan Tianlang's pupils constricted violently. He did not expect Ye Chen to make a request whereby he would not stop until he killed his opponent!

Luo Shuiyao was shocked too. Her pretty face was flushed red, "Ye Chen, you've really disappointed me. Why do you have to court death?"

At that moment, Xiang Heng, who had fainted earlier, had woken up at some point. He smirked coldly and said, "Yaoyao, he wants to die. Why are you still persuading him?"

"Shut up!" Luo Shuiyao scolded him.

Xiang Heng was immediately displeased, "Did I say anything wrong? This guy has only killed a few beginner-level martial venerables. How dare he think that he is a match for an intermediate-level martial venerable? Isn't he courting death?"

He finally found an opportunity to attack Ye Chen. He said like a machine gun, "I don't know why you've protected this guy so many times. If you go on to be like this, he'll drag you down sooner or later."

Tong Shuhui and the rest nodded secretly when they heard that.

Ye Chen glanced at him, "Why haven't you killed yourself yet?"

"You..."

Xiang Heng was instantly enraged, "Ye, if you know your limit..."

Ye Chen said again, "Why haven't you killed yourself yet?"

Blergh!

Xiang Heng was furious. He felt something in his throat, whereby he spat another mouthful of blood, "F\*ck, can you stop repeating that?"

'I won't kill myself!

What can you do about that?

I no longer care about my dignity, alright?'

Ye Chen ignored him and looked at Duan Tianlang.

Duan Tianlang smirked coldly, "Very well. Since you are bent on seeking death, I'll fulfill your wish. The challenge that begins with you will determine who is more powerful and who will be killed. Everyone here can bear witness!"

At this point, his gaze turned cold, "Don't kneel and beg for forgiveness, or beg someone to save you when you realized that you're incapable by then!"

How could Tong Shuhui not understand the meaning behind what he said? She said with a cold snort, "Don't worry, since he made that promise himself, whether he wins or loses, we won't make a move!"

"It's the same for the Xiang family!"

"Same goes for my Liu family!"

"..."

Xiang Nan and Liu Yunfeng immediately expressed their stance.

Only Luo Shuiyao and Tang Jianfeng remained silent.

Duan Tianlang did not mind. As long as the Tong, Xiang, and Liu families did not make a move, the Luo and Tang families would not pose a threat to them.

He subconsciously glanced at Xiao Yuanjing, who was seated at the head of the table. When he saw Xiao Yuanjing nod slightly, he said, "Ye, I'll clarify once more. This challenge will determine the winner and the loser, and it will also determine life and death. If you win, you will live, and you can also obtain the netherworld token from the opponent."

He grinned at Ye Chen after saying that, revealing his white teeth, "Since you're representing Luo Shuiyao, we'll follow the rules. We'll send someone to challenge you next!"

Following his words, a figure stomped hard and leaped onto the stage. He looked at Ye Chen in provocation, "Mad Southern Ye, get over here and die!"