

## I. Family 961

Chapter 961: Heavenly Spirit Fruit, Go All Out!\_4

This made Lu Quanzhen feel for the first time that Beast Taming Cultivators were very troublesome.

“Fine, I’m willing to hand over the Storage Bag.”

Lu Quanzhen’s face showed a conflicted and frightened expression as he pretended to throw a Storage Bag.

But in an instant, he activated a Talisman he was holding in his left hand.

“Buzz Buzz Buzz—”

Dull bytes and symbols appeared in the void, rolling towards the four individuals.

Second Grade Lower Quality Talisman—Shocking Spirit Talisman!

It shocked and disrupted the others’ Mental Spirits, inducing emotions such as alarm, panic, and fear.

Lu Quanzhen used this Shocking Spirit Talisman, and immediately, the four individuals showed flaws in their Mental Spirits, slightly losing focus.

Then he activated another Second Grade Lower Quality Talisman in his hand, the Thunder Fire Talisman, and directed the thunder fire towards the female cultivator with a silver marten on her shoulder.

This person’s spiritual beast was a support type, indicating that her combat strength was likely somewhat inferior.

He wanted to kill all four by himself, so he had to fight swiftly and decisively!

“Whoo whoo whoo!”

The Thunder Fire Talisman transformed into rolling purple thunderous flames, surging violently towards the four individuals.

“Be careful!”

These four were not simple either.

The middle-aged man who spoke earlier seemed to have been prepared, or perhaps he possessed a Magic Artifact related to the spiritual realm, and quickly came to his senses.

But in the blink of an eye, the Thunder Fire Talisman had already reached the female cultivator playing with the marten.

“Ah!”

A shrill scream rang out, and although this female cultivator had a Magic Artifact that automatically protected its master,

faced with a Second Rank Talisman, she was instantly turned into charred remains.

“Hong Yu!”

The middle-aged man, with anger burning in his eyes, said to Lu Quanzhen with murderous intent, “You’re seeking death!”

During his speech, he took out a Talisman from his bosom and used it, causing golden light to swirl around his body as he charged towards Lu Quanzhen.

His underfoot Spiritual Beast Red Bird woke from the influence of the Shocking Spirit Talisman, let out a long cry, and spat out rolling flames, the momentum fierce.

The other two cultivators also quickly regained their composure, their expressions shocked and furious, filled with killing intent.

The cultivator surrounded by a Green Snake brandished a long blade Magic Artifact, directly attacking Lu Quanzhen with both man and snake.

The other individual conjured a beige bowl, rising into the air, emitting a beige light and pressing down towards Lu Quanzhen with suppressive force.

Facing such an onslaught, Lu Quanzhen immediately retreated into the cave, relying on the Formation to block for a moment.

Just when the three were in a rage, launching furious attacks at the Formation, from within the cave, a Second Rank Puppet burst out, its body entirely of black gold, wielding a blade in one hand and a shield in the other, withstanding the heavy attacks and charging straight at them.

“Clang!”

The Second Rank Puppet’s Black Gold War Blade moved with the force of wind and thunder, chopping at the cultivator surrounded by the Green Snake, causing him to stagger back. The Green Snake around him hissed and, with a single chop, was bisected, blood splattering.

“Second Rank Puppet!?”

Seeing this, the Xu Family trio realized they had underestimated their enemy.

They didn’t expect a mere Loose Cultivator to not only possess a rare Second Rank Talisman but also a Second Rank Puppet!

However, just as they were shocked and their faces turned grave, suddenly, a terrifying aura permeated the cave.

Lu Quanzhen activated a Talisman Treasure in his hand, transforming it into a Bronze Spear, exuding soaring murderous energy. With a ‘swoosh’, it pierced through the air towards the snake-wrapped man.

Facing this unexpected strike from the Talisman Treasure, even though the snake-wrapped man was prepared, his defenses were still broken. His chest to the back was punctured by the spear.

“Uh...”

The snake-wrapped man’s face showed shock and disbelief as he looked at his pierced chest, his eyes full of angry reluctance.

He wanted to say something, but his chest was already torn open, blood spurting, directly costing him his life!

“Xin Hai!”

“Run!”

Seeing this, the other two shouted in shock, turned around, and fled, not daring to continue the fight.

This motherfucker isn’t a Loose Cultivator!

One confrontation resulted in two Second Rank Talismans, followed by a Second Rank Puppet, and now a Talisman Treasure!

Even if they were born into the Beast Taming Xu Family, they could not possibly have such treatment!

Only Family Young Masters or Nascent Soul Seed-level cultivators could have such treatment!

“Thinking of running away?”

Lu Quanzhen’s eyes were filled with cold determination, not about to let the two escape.

He remembered the Beast Taming Xu Family had a total of ten people, now there were only four, most likely acting separately.

Allowing someone to escape would surely bring trouble later on!

“Swoosh! Puchi!”

He multitasked, controlling the Second Rank Puppet and the Talisman Treasure, relentlessly attacking the Xu Family middle-aged man.

Faced with such pincer attacks, even though the middle-aged man was extraordinary, he was hard-pressed to defend.

“Boom boom boom!”

The Protective Aura shattered in mere moments, then the Bronze Spear pierced through his body, his heart exploded, and his life obliterated!

“Screech!”

The Red Bird cried mournfully, but the next moment, it was cleaved into two by the Second Rank Puppet, blood spraying the sky.

“Where are you going!”

Lu Quanzhen saw the last runaway, promptly put away the Talisman Treasure, and deployed the Divine Peng Technique, pursuing.

This Xu Family cultivator was already scared out of his wits by Lu Quanzhen. Seeing him approaching, he was terrified and immediately abandoned his own Spiritual Beast to delay Lu Quanzhen, frenziedly fleeing.

“Five Elements Kunpeng Technique!”

Lu Quanzhen and the Second Rank Puppet together swiftly killed this Spiritual Beast.

“Blood Burning Escape Technique!”

He observed the rapidly disappearing Xu Family cultivator, face showing ruthlessness, both hands forming Gesture Incantations, resolutely deploying his secret lifesaving technique, Blood Burning Escape Technique.

In the dense fog of the Purple Shadow Mountain, once the opponent created some distance, it was possible to lose track.

Moreover, one could encounter Demon Beasts or Cultivators inside the mountain at any time, so he needed to end this quickly.

Lu Quanzhen’s strength and speed were already superior to his opponent.

Now, fully deploying such a body-damaging secret technique, he instantly turned into a blood-colored rainbow, catching up with the opponent, and with a loud slap, a five-colored torrent rolled, knocking the young man flying.

“Daoist, please...”

This person even tried to plead, but before he could finish speaking, a small five-colored fish and the Second Rank Puppet came killing, penetrated the Protective Aura, and decapitated him.

Chapter 962: Crushing Defeat, Beast Taming Xu Family Annihilated!

Lu Quanzhen easily turned the corpse before him to ash, then picked up the magic artifact and storage bag and headed back to the cave by the original route.

Upon seeing the spiritual beasts cut in half along the way, the fresh blood beside the cliff precipices, and the two bodies with pierced chests, dead with their eyes wide open, along with the mutilated remains of the spiritual beasts, he burned them all to ash, cleaning up thoroughly.

Then he returned to the cave with a calm and natural expression.

“Quanzhen?”

Lu Ping'an, hearing the movement, opened his eyes, his face filled with pain.

He had just heard the noises outside.

But he was in the critical moment of refining the Golden Bodhi Dates and couldn't move, much less speak.

“It was just a few jumping clowns, they've been taken care of. You don't have to worry, big brother, focus on your refining.”

Lu Quanzhen said with a smile, his face showing a touch of paleness.

The Blood Burning Escape Technique consumed a lot of essence blood and vitality.

Even if he only used it for a moment, it had caused him a significant loss of vitality and essence blood, necessitating several months of recuperation.

“Okay.”

Lu Ping'an saw his brother's pale face and felt a bit of guilt.

But he couldn't afford to be distracted now, nodded, and continued to close his eyes, circulating the Hundred Refinements Treasure Body Art to refine the Golden Bodhi Dates within his body.

“Boom boom boom!”

Lu Ping'an sat cross-legged, motionless, like a great sun furnace, his body roaring, permeated with a fierce and dominant aura.

He had previously swallowed the last five Golden Bodhi Dates in one go, making the medicinal strength extremely violent and overbearing, causing his tall and sturdy body to tremor, and his flesh and bones seemed to show signs of cracking.

However, within the potent medicinal strength of the Golden Bodhi Dates, there was a majestic and rich life force that could heal injuries, nourish the cracks, and remodel the flesh and restore broken bones.

Moreover, as the Hundred Refinements Treasure Body Art was crazily circulated, the magic artifact axe embedded in his chest bone continuously surged out its origin force, integrating into his limbs and marrow.

Although this process was painful and torturous, Lu Ping'an could clearly see his own improvement.

His cultivation level had only broken through from the Seventh Level Energy Refinement to the Eighth Level.

However, his physical body had vastly improved, charging directly towards the Sixth Layer of the Hundred Refinements Treasure Body Technique.

And who knows how much time had passed.

“Boom!”

Suddenly, a tsunami-like sound erupted within Lu Ping'an's body, and his musculature shone with endless dazzling light, turning the cave golden.

“Is this... a breakthrough?”

Lu Quanzhen, hearing the activity, opened his eyes, his face showing a look of surprise.

Lu Ping'an remained seated cross-legged, his body glittering radiantly, a mighty and domineering aura rolling up and down with a golden luster, exerting an overwhelming pressure.



“This level of body refinement, even Foundation Establishment would be nothing more...,”

At this moment, Lu Quanzhen felt the air become heavy, somewhat difficult to breathe, and couldn't help but step outside the cave to wait.

During this process, his mental spirit was tense, observing the situation on the cliff precipices, worried that others might come.

And so, several hours passed, and the golden light in the cave gradually faded. Lu Ping'an's muscular body's golden luster slowly retracted and dissipated.

Not long after, Lu Ping'an opened his eyes, his gaze brimming with divine light, his pupils flowing with a compelling golden sheen.

“Whew!”

Lu Ping'an let out a long breath of turbid energy, his eyes' golden sheen introverted, dark and profound, shining brightly, his gaze piercing like torches.

His body, cloaked in dark golden armor, emitted a 'zzz' sound, burning off the impurities from his skin, turning into wisps of black smoke.

After consuming twenty-three Golden Bodhi Dates, his cultivation level had broken through to the Eighth Level Energy Refinement.

However, the advancement of cultivation level was only incidental.

His real improvement came from the Treasure Body Technique and the transformation of his flesh and bones!

The Hundred Refinements Treasure Body Art broke through from the Fifth Layer to the Sixth Layer!

His meridians and bones became much more durable than before, granting his physical body and mana an increased upper limit!

After all, only when the flesh, meridians, and bones are durable can they withstand high-intensity bursts of strength and compressed mana!

“Congratulations, big brother.”

Lu Quanzhen congratulated Lu Ping’an.

From the recent commotion, he saw that Lu Ping’an had gained many benefits from the Golden Bodhi Date Tree.

He thought to himself that the Golden Bodhi Date was indeed not an ordinary spiritual medicine, one that must be offered up as its effects were truly exceptional.

Even so, it was only a body refining cultivator like Lu Ping’an who could swallow and refine more than twenty Golden Bodhi Dates from the tree in a short period.

“Quanzhen, you’ve worked hard.”

Lu Ping’an stood up, dressed in dark golden armor, his imposing figure towering, his face sincere, his eyes reflecting some guilt and self-blame.

Previously, in order to maximize the efficacy of the Golden Bodhi Dates and break through realms, he had put himself in a state where he couldn’t move.

If it weren’t for Lu Quanzhen, if someone had come in, his situation would have been very dangerous.

“Heh, big brother, you’re too kind.”

Lu Quanzhen said with a smile.

He had taken healing pills, and his complexion no longer looked so pale.

However, his appearance seemed somewhat worse, and he still needed some time to fully recover.

“Quanzhen, not only did my cultivation level break through to the Eighth Level Energy Refinement, but my Hundred Refinements Treasure Body Technique also broke through to the Sixth Layer.”

“Leave the rest to me now.”

Lu Ping'an said with a firm voice.

He roughly knew his combat strength and could ensure he handled the upcoming situations.

“The Hundred Refinements Treasure Body Technique Sixth Layer.”

Lu Quanzhen inwardly thought it was as expected.

When he was at the Fifth Layer, his big brother could almost end the fights with one or two punches.

Now that he had broken through to the Sixth Layer, couldn't he just bulldoze through the secret realm?

He narrowed his eyes, smiled, and nodded, “Okay.”

“Big brother, the people who came earlier were from the Beast Taming Xu Family, though I have dealt with them all, we might still be discovered by the Xu Family, so it's not suitable to stay here for long.”

Lu Quanzhen said this.

Although he had slain all four members of the Xu Family.

But the Xu Family, being a Nascent Soul Level force, might have some means to locate them.

## Chapter 963: Crumbling, Beast Taming Xu Family Annihilated!\_2

After all, Clan Cultivators are different from Immortal Sects' disciples.

Disciples of Immortal Sects may form small groups at most, and if others die, they die.

It's only because they happened to encounter this, and out of camaraderie, they lend a hand and seek revenge.

Otherwise, normally Immortal Sects' disciples wouldn't waste time avenging their fellows.

But Clan disciples are different.

They have blood ties and tend to be more united.

Even if we don't mention the unity of family bonds, when a large family enters the Secret Realm and someone dies inside, the others must give a proper explanation to their family.

"Beast Taming Xu Family, good."

Lu Ping'an nodded, aware that this family, being a Nascent Soul Family, was not simple.

He carefully shattered the ground and then dug up the Golden Bodhi Date Tree, handing it to Lu Quanzhen.

Lu Quanzhen took out a bottle of Spiritual Liquid from his Storage Bag, poured it over the Golden Bodhi Date Tree, then placed it into the Spirit Plant Bag.

"Ah!?"

Just as Lu Quanzhen was about to retract the Formation, both brothers paused, exchanged glances, hearing some noise coming from the cliff.

A moment later, through the Formation, Lu Quanzhen saw five figures moving down towards the cliff base, continuously heading downwards, seemingly in search of something.

Identifying them by their attire and the Spiritual Beasts beside them, he immediately recognized them as members of the Beast Taming Xu Family.

“It seems they came here after following some Tokens or tokens...”

Lu Quanzhen’s eyes narrowed slightly, revealing a hint of coldness, as he roughly guessed what was happening.

Previously, after he killed four members of the Xu Family, he naturally wouldn’t miss out on the spoils from their Storage Bags.

In the Storage Bags, tokens, and other suspicious items that couldn’t be destroyed were all thrown off the cliff.

Now looking at these people’s movements, he guessed they were led here by the sensing of those tokens.

“But it seems like the Beast Taming Xu Family knows about this cave.”

Lu Quanzhen recalled the previous four members of the Xu Family discovering the cave, seemingly purposefully, aware of the cave’s location.

Squinting, he looked to Lu Ping’an and said, “Brother, these five are from the Beast Taming Xu Family, likely here as a result of the tokens of those previously...”

Although by having the five individuals head to the base of the cliff, the two could escape without conflict,

who knows whether these people have other means to track down the two of them.

Given this, it might be better to take the initiative and eliminate them all.

Earlier, from the Xu Family members' Storage Bags, he gained quite a bounty, securing many precious Spiritual Medicines.

Even their main target, the Heavenly Spirit Fruit, resulted in two.

These five people, as Cultivators from the Beast Taming Xu Family, would undoubtedly yield substantial gains.

Why slowly search for Heavenly and Earthly Treasures when killing for loot is faster?

As for taking lives as a form of pillage, Lu Quanzhen had no moral qualms.

After all, in this world, if you don't rob, others will!

If he didn't strive or rob, how would his family rise, and how would he achieve Core Formation within a century!

After truly stepping onto the path of Cultivation, he started to view these matters indifferently.

Or rather, from the first time he killed in the mortal realm, he gradually became indifferent to life.

As soon as he arrived in the mortal realm, he could grant life and death, controlling others' lives.

With just a simple move, countless lives would perish, and he felt a certain change in his spirit.

"Quanzhen, are you suggesting..."

Lu Ping'an was momentarily stunned, roughly guessing his brother's intention.

"Rather than waiting for them to make a move, we should take the initiative."

Lu Quanzhen, dressed in a black robe and with a slender figure, lacking a bit of color on his face which made him resemble a delicate scholar, spoke softly.

Seeing his brother's narrow eyes and the smile on his face, Lu Ping'an's heart shuddered slightly, and he spoke in a deep voice, "Okay, I'll handle them, Quanzhen, you support from the rear."

"These five are from the Beast Taming Xu Family, all possessing Spiritual Beasts, be careful, Brother."

Lu Quanzhen nodded with a smile.

Although he was confident that the two of them could subdue the five from the Xu Family,

even a lion uses full strength to catch a rabbit!

"Rest assured."

Lu Ping'an nodded, knowing he needed to be swift and efficient.

He stepped out of the cave, his eyes bright, looking towards the five figures descending towards the cliff base.

"Boom!"

Lu Ping'an's inner energy circulated, his organs vibrated with a buzzing sound, like a dormant primordial Fierce Beast. His body glowed with a golden light, casting a cold metallic shine on his Armor.

"Rumble!!!"

Following that, the rocks under his feet shattered, his tall form blasting out towards the cliff base, tearing through the layers of air, charging towards the five.

"Ah!?"

"Roar roar roar!"

“No good!”

“Be careful!”

The five Xu Family members were all very alert.

Coming here, following the Token and seeing that another team had no news or movement, they realized something was off and came to investigate.

“Who are you!?”

A middle-aged man around forty years old shouted loudly.

He was the leader of the Xu Family team.

Seeing Lu Ping'an with an overwhelming aura, which caused his Spiritual Beasts to howl in fear and sensing immense danger, his eyes filled with shock and disbelief.

Seeing Lu Ping'an coming closer, he dared not hesitate and shouted loudly, “Battle Formations, Black Dragon Shears!”

Instantly, the five formed a Formation.

This was a Battle Formation, allowing multiple Energy Refining Cultivators to integrate their energies, combining offense and defense, greatly enhancing their combat power.

The five organized themselves, their Spiritual Beasts encircling them, two of them performing Gesture Incantations, summoning Magic Artifacts to create a protective shield encapsulating them all.

The other three each summoned a black Longsword, a black Long Knife, and black Chains.



These three artifacts, under their control, emitted black light, merging in the air into a scissor measuring a zhang in length!

The scissors emitted a frightful cold black radiance, with a Flood Dragon flickering in and out of visibility, ferocious and terrifying, seemingly able to tear through anything, charging towards Lu Ping'an.

#### Chapter 964: Crumbling, Beast Taming Xu Family Annihilated!\_3

“Boom!” Lu Ping'an's body shot through the air like a meteor, muscles bulging as he fearlessly hurled his already raised right arm out to meet the approaching black shears, not dodging in the slightest.

“Idiot! To think you'd dare to catch our Black Dragon Shears with your flesh and blood!”

“Simply courting death!”

“Truly, Body Refining has turned his brain to mush!”

The five from the Xu Family saw Lu Ping'an's action and all sneered, scoffed, and looked on with disdain.

But the next moment, a golden fist struck out, accompanied by a sound of dragon's roar and tiger's howl, clashing directly with the black shears.

“Clang!!!”

A heaven-shaking, earth-shattering metallic symphony erupted, sparks flying everywhere.

The violent, powerful force burst forth from the center of the fist and the shears, violently spreading out, sending rocks and soil from the cliffs rolling down and turning into dust.

“This this this!!!”

“How is this possible!”

“He’s actually clashing fists with the Black Dragon Shears!”

The five members of the Xu Family shouted in alarm, their eyes filled with disbelief, horror, and shock.

You should know, their Black Dragon Shears were no ordinary artifact!

It was a combined Spiritual Artifact bestowed by the old patriarch of their family!

Normally, it acted as three top-tier Magic Artifacts, but once combined, it qualified as a Low-Quality Spiritual Artifact!

And it wasn’t just any run-of-the-mill production-line Spiritual Artifact; it was a Top-Grade Spiritual Artifact with power comparable to a Middle-Grade Spiritual Artifact!

The five of them wielding these Black Dragon Shears could engage in battle even with Foundation Establishment Cultivators!

But now, Lu Ping’an was confronting their Low-Quality Spiritual Artifact, the Black Dragon Shears, with his fists!

“Clang clang clang!!!”

Lu Ping’an’s fists were like dragons as he continually hammered down on the black shears, sparks flying, dazzlingly bright, causing the Spiritual Artifact to tremble frantically, its Spiritual Light dimming somewhat.

“Daoist, we do not know where we have offended you. If you have already claimed this place, we can leave!” The lead member of the Xu Family shouted, waves of shock and dread rising in his heart.

They hadn’t anticipated that not only could Lu Ping’an fend off their Spiritual Artifact with his fists, but he could also dim its Spiritual Light.

This!

This!

This!

They couldn't comprehend how such a humanoid fierce beast could appear inside the Purple Shadow Secret Realm!

Who could refine their Body Cultivation to such a degree when their Cultivation Level was only at the Eighth Level of Energy Refinement!

“Boom boom boom!”

Lu Ping'an remained silent, continuing to punch out, with the sound of clanging resonating in all directions, echoes upon echoes, as rocks and chunks of earth rolled and shattered.

“Daoist, we are from the Beast Taming Xu Family of Jiang Country. Could there be some misunderstanding between us!” Another member of the Xu Family continued to shout out.

Although they could guess why Lu Ping'an was attacking, they really didn't want to continue the battle against such a Body Refining Cultivator.

After all, entering the Secret Realm was for the purpose of seeking opportunities; there was no need to fight to the death.

If both sides were harmed, neither would gain any benefit.

Seeing Lu Ping'an remain silent as he threw another punch, shattering the Black Dragon Shears and dimming its light, anger flashed in the eyes of the few Xu Family Cultivators.

“Daoist, do you really wish for both fish and net to be destroyed!”

“Although your Body Refining is profound, killing all of us alone will come at a price!” The five Xu Family Cultivators shouted out loud.

They were from the Xu Family, one of the top forces in Jiang Country!

Ten people had entered the Secret Realm, and only at the start had one of them been killed by someone for some unknown reason.

The remaining nine had traveled together, divided into two groups, with hardly anyone daring to provoke them.

Now, faced with Lu Ping’an’s challenge, they were naturally filled with anger.

“Kill!”

Seeing this, the five realized that it would be difficult to resolve the situation peacefully and thus attacked with all their might, intending to make Lu Ping’an pay a price and retreat.

They formed a Battle Formation, controlling the Black Dragon Shears, and simultaneously commanded their Spiritual Pets to kill Lu Ping’an from the flank.

One of them also distractedly threw out several Talismans, bombarding Lu Ping’an.

Yet against such an onslaught, Lu Ping’an remained fearless, merely turning his head to look at the tiger-like Spiritual Beast pouncing at him and spinning around to land a punch.

His fist thundered like a drum beaten by gods and demons, breaking through the layers of air with a “boom,” tearing the massive body of the tiger apart, blood spraying everywhere.

The Talismans and Techniques of the other four Spiritual Beasts fell upon Lu Ping’an’s body, causing a series of violent explosions, but they did not inflict any substantial damage.

“This!?”

The five were horrified to see Lu Ping'an's Body Refinement to be astonishingly resilient without any weaknesses.

Not only could his physical strength clash with the Black Dragon Shears, but his body also completely ignored their Technique attacks.

How could they fight against this? With what could they even fight!?

“Open Mountain!”

Lu Ping'an's energy surged powerfully, treasure light flowing around his body, golden radiance entwining his form, dazzling like a layer of Golden Battle Armor.

His right arm soared like a dragon-snake rising from the ground, Roll Roll with momentum, and behind him loomed a magnificent giant axe.

The void thundered, and as he punched out, his Force exploded, causing endless sounds of air being shattered.

The giant axe, following his punch, descended from the Sky Dome, unleashing an infinitely terrifying Fierce Power, causing the dimmed Black Dragon Shears to cry out sadly as they were sent flying, crashing directly into the Defense Formation of the five.

“Boom boom boom!”

It was as if the overwhelming force was vast like a prison, causing the Defense Formation to become dim, cracking densely, with the five inside shaken in Qi and blood, pale-faced, spitting out blood.

“Damn it, damn it, damn it!”

At this moment, the members of the Xu Family felt as if they were shrouded in a thick cloud of death, their hearts sinking into despair!

Yes, despair!

Because in this exchange, they no longer knew how to fight!

They could not even breach Lu Ping'an's Defense.

“Go!”

The five exchanged glances, ready to use life-saving measures to flee for their lives.

Only then might they have a sliver of a chance!

In an instant, they abandoned their four Spiritual Pets, charging at Lu Ping'an to take the lead and using this method to buy time.

Chapter 965: Crumbling, Beast Taming Xu Family Annihilated!\_4 Subsequently, the five people activated their life-saving talismans and fled in a flash, soaring into the sky.

“Boom boom boom!”

The protective barrier shattered loudly, and the four spiritual beasts couldn't even let out a whine before their bodies exploded, blood splattering across the sky.

As the five members of the Xu Family were about to reach the cliff, they saw a young man in a black robe and a bound crown standing above them.

Beside the young man stood a tall metal puppet, wielding a sword in one hand and a shield in the other.

Above their heads, a giant hammer, as large as a person and shrouded in purple lightning arcs, exuded a terrifying aura.

“Boom!”

The purple giant hammer, faced with the five men, struck directly downwards, engulfing them like a vast ocean of purple lightning.

“Talisman treasure!?”

The five cultivators, seeing the giant hammer with purple lightning arcs, had their faces drastically change in horror.

Unexpectedly, Lu Ping'an had an accomplice and, in such a situation, even produced a talisman treasure to await them.

“Why have we, the Xu Family, offended you!?”

The five men shouted desperately, their expressions hopeless as they tried to counter the talisman treasure's assault.

But at that moment, Lu Ping'an looked at them again and threw another punch.

“Boom boom boom!”

Facing such an onslaught, within an instant, the five individuals were blasted into a horrific mist of blood from both sides.

“Big brother, with this combat power, I suppose no one in the Purple Shadow Secret Realm could be your match.”

Lu Quanzhen said somewhat emotionally.

He had been supporting Lu Ping'an earlier and was surprised to see that the other side didn't use talismans but directly countered the Xu Family's five members with his physical body alone.

He couldn't help but feel that only Foundation Establishment cultivators were qualified to confront someone like Lu Ping'an who performs body cultivation.

Because, for Energy Refining cultivators, even the best among them couldn't break through the defense nor had any way to do so.

“Quanzhen, if we kill too many inside this secret realm, I'm afraid it might easily lead to trouble.”

“Moreover, when the secret realm ends, we need to turn in our findings, and if we harvest too much, it could also attract unwanted attention.”

Lu Ping'an said to his younger brother, thinking he intended to loot openly in the secret realm.

Initiating an attack on the Xu Family already had some justifiable reasons.

But to rob others of their findings, that was something he wasn't willing or capable of doing.

“Hehe, big brother, I understand.”

Lu Quanzhen smiled and nodded, knowing well the kind and generous nature of his older brother.

Previously, when the two encountered other cultivators on the outskirts, as long as the others didn't attack first, Lu Ping'an would definitely not initiate conflict.

Sometimes, when he saw an opportunity to attack, he would simply let it go.

The two processed the remains of the five people and their spiritual beasts, picking up the magic artifacts and storage bags, then returned to the cave to sort through these bags.

As Lu Quanzhen had guessed, the harvesting of the five members of the Xu Family was indeed substantial.

Among them were not only several kinds of spiritual medicines that needed to be submitted, but also three Heavenly Spirit Fruits!

“It seems that the Xu Family, with this kind of family force, must know some coordinates in the Purple Shadow Mountain where rare spiritual herbs are abundant.”



Lu Quanzhen speculated based on the earlier situation.

Moreover, as a family of clan cultivators like the Beast Taming Xu Family, they certainly had seized other people's spiritual herbs and medicines, thus enabling such substantial findings.

“Big brother, since we have to submit fifty percent when we exit, I see here are quite a few spirit medicines effective for the physical body and energy, why don't you take them all to boost yourself?”

While Lu Quanzhen and Lu Ping'an were sorting the storage bags, Lu Quanzhen suddenly spoke up.

He had originally planned to meet up with Lu Qingshan near the end of their time in the secret realm and give him some spoils to carry out.

After all, Lu Qingshan had a Nascent Soul master.

Even if the spoils were generous, nobody would dare say anything.

But now, their finding was indeed astonishing, so they might as well use some.

“Moreover, if we submit too many spirit medicines later, it might also invite trouble, so it's better if you take more, big brother.”

Lu Quanzhen continued.

In his view, submitting a pile of spirit medicines was genuinely less beneficial than using them to enhance one's cultivation level.

Moreover, the family was currently relying on their father and several maternal aunts back at White Tiger Mountain, which lacked Foundation Establishment cultivators.

Though he and Lu Qingshan could break through to Foundation Establishment within a few years,

Lu Quanzhen had long planned that once he achieved Foundation Establishment, he would venture out to strive for Core Formation as soon as possible!

With himself away and Lu Qingshan far in Yu Country's Jinyang Sect, Lu Wangshu would need at least a decade more to grow.

That left only his big brother at home!

Therefore, he felt it was quite important for the other to enhance his strength.

“Uh...”

Lu Ping'an found the idea reasonable.

However, seeing so many spiritual medicines, he thought about consuming them directly but felt it would be a waste.

After all, each of these spiritual medicines could be worth hundreds of spirit stones if put on the market.

Before he could speak, Lu Quanzhen pulled out a bunch of spirit herbs and medicines from the storage bags and handed them to Lu Ping'an, indicating he would eat them too.

Hearing this, the brothers began gnawing on spiritual medicines inside the cave.

Were anyone to witness this scene, they would surely curse them for their reckless wastefulness!

...

Outside the Purple Shadow Secret Realm.

“It seems Ping’an has encountered great fortune within the secret realm, not only has his cultivation level broken through to the Eighth Level of Energy Refinement, but his Hundred Refinements Treasure Body Art has also advanced!”

Lu Changsheng, through system feedback, knew of his son’s multiple breakthroughs and was amazed.

After all, just a year ago, Lu Ping’an had only broken through to the Seventh Level of Energy Refinement and the fifth layer of the Hundred Refinements Treasure Body Art.

Now, within only one year, he had made double breakthroughs.

Especially to the sixth layer of the Hundred Refinements Treasure Body Art!

With Lu Ping’an’s Hundred Refinements Treasure Body Art breaking through to the sixth layer, his own Treasure Body Technique had also significantly improved.

It was almost reaching the peak of the eighth layer!

He planned to give Lu Ping’an the halberd magic artifact he and Li Feiyu had obtained, once he returned home from the secret realm.

After all, as a father, one naturally thinks of their children first when it comes to good things.

Giving this damaged magic artifact to his children for cultivation would benefit them both—effectively a double gain.

“At this rate, perhaps my body refinement will reach the Third Rank even faster than my cultivation level...”

Lu Changsheng thought privately.

When he had broken through to Foundation Establishment, his Hundred Refinements Treasure Body Art had just advanced to the third layer not long before.

But now, the Treasure Body Technique had overtaken it.

“Just waiting for Quanzhen and Qingshan to break through Foundation Establishment.”

Lu Changsheng was hopeful, feeling more and more optimistic about the future.

“Buzz!”

Just then, a wave of Core Formation Spiritual Pressure suddenly spread through the air, overwhelming and terrifying like mountains, shaking all Foundation Establishment Cultivators present.

They all opened their eyes wide and looked up into the sky, unsure of what was happening.

“Oh, what’s gotten into Patriarch Xu, to lose composure like this?”

“Could it be that something unfortunate has happened to his descendants inside the secret realm?”

One of the False Core Patriarchs from the Shangguan Family, one of the three great Nascent Soul noble families of Jiang Country, said with a laugh upon seeing Patriarch Xu’s demeanor.

Although the three great families were all family forces, their relationship was not very good.

There were frequent frictions over interests, making it a clear struggle both openly and covertly.

“Hmph, Old Ghost Shangguan, this matter does not need your concern.”

Patriarch Xu said coldly, his expression dark as he contained the leaking False Core Spiritual Pressure.

His storage bag had contained five soul plates, which had all just shattered!

This meant that all ten of the Xu Family descendants had died within the Purple Shadow Secret Realm!

Three hundred years ago, their family had allowed their descendants to explore the secret realm, resulting in an accident where only one survived. Afterward, they established rules.

Upon entering the secret realm, they must band together immediately and must not act alone.

Since then, their family had not suffered casualties of more than half.

But this time, all ten descendants had died in the secret realm!

This incident was not only a loss of the secret realm's harvest for the Beast Taming Xu Family, but it was also a severe blow to the family's reputation and prestige!

"Is it Qingyun Sect deliberately suppressing my Xu Family, or is it the Shangguan Family, or perhaps the Four Great Immortal Sects..."

Patriarch Xu speculated in his heart, suspecting some forces were targeting his family.

After all, aside from the Four Great Immortal Sects and a few other major Core Formation forces, who could completely annihilate his descendants!

Just as their family patriarch had previously been heavily injured in a beast tide, his condition was unclear.

At this time, other families might be trying to probe their family's stance through this manner, thereby deducing the condition of their patriarch.

"Who exactly it is, we shall know once the secret realm concludes and we see the situations of the other families,"

Patriarch Xu said calmly, standing on the divine vessel.

Now that all his descendants had died in the secret realm, he could very well leave directly.

But this matter was not only embarrassing but also concerned probing by other families.

If he couldn't discern which family was responsible, it would be difficult to explain upon returning!

Chapter 966: Young Master Lu Qingshan, from the Blue Lake Mountain Lu Family! Purple Shadow Secret Realm.

“Lu Qingshan, we are not as skilled as you, we admit defeat; this White Jade Ganoderma is yours.”

Two disciples of the Heavenly Sword Sect looked at the sharp and upright figure of Lu Qingshan in front of them, spoke solemnly, and then left with a bow.

“The Heavenly Sword Sect, interesting.”

Lu Qingshan watched the two departing Heavenly Sword Sect disciples, his expression calm and indifferent.

Planning to break through to Foundation Establishment soon, if he had time, he could consider going to the Heavenly Sword Sect to challenge them.

After all, these two were at best above average in the Heavenly Sword Sect, not considered top-tier geniuses.

But such a spar was somewhat helpful to his Sword Dao.

It indicated that this Sword Cultivation Sect had many outstanding features!

He walked over to the slain Dual-Headed Python, picked the White Jade Ganoderma that looked like jade and shimmered with a crystal-like luster, and put it into his Spirit Plant Bag.

Although he had seized quite a few Heaven and Earth Spiritual Materials along his way,

he would not trouble those who were sensible and retreated voluntarily.

Like these two Heavenly Sword Sect disciples, they were easy to talk to.

As long as there was a spar and they lost, they would willingly concede the Spiritual Medicine.

“Xiao Jin, continue.”

Lu Qingshan took out a Spirit Grass and fed it to the golden hamster in his sleeve, speaking out loud.

“Chichichi!”

The Earth Spirit Mouse held the Spirit Grass and nibbled on it, its face full of bliss.

Then it looked around, sensing the situation of Heaven and Earth Spiritual Materials.

“Hm?”

At this moment, Lu Qingshan frowned slightly, flipped his hand, and a red-glowing Yin-Yang Sensing Talisman appeared in his palm.

Though he hadn’t accompanied Qingzhu Mountain on this trip,

he had given a Sensing Talisman to his grandfather, Lu Yuanding,

indicating that if Qingzhu Mountain encountered any danger in the Purple Shadow Secret Realm, they could seek his help.

Half a month since entering the secret realm, this Sensing Talisman had remained silent.

Its activation now signaled a high probability of a life-threatening danger.

“I want to see who is so blind!”

Lu Qingshan’s eyes narrowed, he stored the Earth Spirit Mouse, and channeled Spiritual Power into the Sensing Talisman.

Then he looked towards the northwest, lightly tapping his Storage Bag.

The Tianxin Sound Bamboo Sword, resembling golden bamboo, appeared and softly glided like a swimming dragon.

Lu Qingshan lightly tapped his foot and rose on his sword, turning into a sword shadow, shooting towards the direction of the Sensing Talisman, causing bursts of golden and jade sword sounds to ring through the air.

...

Meanwhile,

inside a dense forest,

six monks of the Jin Family were besieging Lu Miao Feng and two Lu Family disciples.

At this moment, the three were completely surrounded, unable to escape, and could only rely on Talismans to barely hold on, continuously defending, creating a stalemate.

“Hehe, are you still waiting for rescue?”

“Hundred Birds Lake probably doesn’t even dare enter Purple Shadow Mountain but just loiter around the periphery, picking up some Spiritual Medicine. Even if they received the rescue, they cannot save you.”

“It’s a pity no one from Blue Lake Mountain came, otherwise we would definitely make that Lu Changsheng taste the pain of losing a son!”



The six monks of the Jin Family watched the struggling Lu Miao Feng and others, continuously speaking out.

Previously, when Lu Changsheng saw the monks from the Jin Family come forward, he directly had his son Lu Quanzhen encounter them, and slew them all.

The same was true for Golden Dragon Ridge.

Due to the matter with White Tiger Mountain, they harbored deep hatred for Blue Lake Mountain, considering them irreconcilable!

However, the Jin Family cultivator outside the secret realm hadn't seen anyone from Blue Lake Mountain.

Thus, they let them encounter Qingzhu Mountain, Hundred Birds Lake, and other families allied with Blue Lake Mountain, and slew them all!

After all, families like Qingzhu Mountain, Hundred Birds Lake sending three or four late-stage Energy Refinement cultivators into the Purple Shadow Secret Realm was already their limit.

If they all died in this secret realm, it would be a significant blow, indirectly weakening the strength of Blue Lake Mountain.

Lu Miao Feng did not speak.

He was naturally aware of the Bai Family's situation.

Suffering one death and one injury in the outer area, they hadn't entered the core area.

But he had not sought help from the Bai Family.

Instead, he had sought help from his nephew, Lu Qingshan.

He wasn't clear about the exact strength of this nephew, having seen only a brief sword strike from him.

But just that one strike made him realize there were always higher skies above one acknowledges!

"Boom boom boom!"

The orderly offensive of the six from the Jin Family struck Lu Miao Feng's defensive Magic Artifact, causing his internal Spiritual Energy to continuously shake, his complexion turning pale.

"Hmm."

At this moment, Lu Miao Feng suddenly sensed a response from Lu Qingshan's side, immediately transmitted to his younger relatives: "Hold on, Qingshan is already on his way!"

"Qingshan, Lu Qingshan."

Upon hearing this, the two instantly perked up.

They knew their nephew, a cousin of the direct lineage of the Immortal Sects, a disciple of the Nascent Soul Immortal, had strength far beyond their Clan Cultivators.

"Nephew Miao Feng, is it only Lu Qingshan coming?"

One of the Lu Family disciples asked via transmission.

He knew that Lu Qingshan was extraordinarily powerful.

But it seemed difficult for one person alone to repel six from the Jin Family.

"Qingshan's strength is extraordinary, comparable to Foundation Establishment. Once he arrives, he will definitely be able to repel the six from the Jin Family."

Lu Miao Feng's voice was resolute, leaving no room for doubt.

At this moment, he had to instill confidence in them.

Besides, he still had two Second-Rank Talismans in his Storage Bag.

As long as Lu Qingshan arrived, he believed the four of them would be able to repel the six from the Jin Family!

“Comparable to Foundation Establishment!”

Both were shocked upon hearing this.

After all, the gap between Energy Refinement and Foundation Establishment was like a chasm.

To be comparable to Foundation Establishment while only in Energy Refinement, that was astonishing!

“Lu Miao Feng, if you are willing to surrender now, kneel and beg for mercy, we might be in a good mood and let you live.”

“Continuing this way, you only have a path to death; better to give up struggling, and we might spare your lives!”

The few cultivators of the Jin Family continued to speak.

Their words were not truly expecting Lu Miao Feng to give in and beg.

Chapter 967: Young Master Lu Qingshan, from the Blue Lake Mountain Lu Family! \_2 It was, after all, a distraction tactic using these words.

After all, the mental state of the cultivators during combat was extremely important.

Once their minds were disturbed, they were prone to making mistakes.

They did not want to expend too much energy fighting Lu Miao Feng and his two companions in the Purple Shadow Mountain.

Thus, they chose this method to interfere with their mental spirits, seeking an opportunity to find a flaw and end the fight quickly.

“Boom! Boom! Boom!”

As time slowly passed, the faces of Lu Miao Feng and his two companions became paler and paler, one of them even had blood seeping from the corner of his mouth, appearing extremely unsteady.

At this rate, the three of them were doomed!

But even so, Lu Miao Feng did not give up and chose to escape alone using a talisman.

“Buzz! Buzz! Buzz!”

At that moment, Lu Miao Feng sensed the energy of the Yin-Yang Sensing Talisman closing in, and immediately transmitted a message to his juniors, “Qingshan will be here soon, get ready!”

“Yes, Seventh Brother!”

“Uncle Miaofeng, don’t worry, I can still hold on!”

Although the two were pale and weak, their eyes flashed with a fierce determination.

Since they had dared to venture into the Purple Shadow Secret Realm, they were certainly not the type to fear death!

“Be cautious of their desperate counterattacks in their dying throes!”

The Monk of the Jin Family warned cautiously, not giving Lu Miao Feng and his companions any chance to counterattack.

“Hmm?”

“Be careful, someone’s coming!”

Soon, one of the Monks of the Jin Family sensed an aggressive and piercing aura rushing towards them and loudly alerted the others.

However, just as he finished speaking, another cold and compelling voice sounded, “Seeking death!”

A young man on a flying sword appeared, his expression cold, holding a golden magical sword. Without even exchanging greetings, he swung his sword at the five cultivators.

His sword strike was domineering, bursting forth with endless piercing sword light, overwhelming the skies.

“Who is it!?”

“Not good!”

The Monks of the Jin Family, faced with the piercing sword light, were startled and hastily activated their talismans, attempting to block it.

But the sword light, in an instant, focused into a single point like an antelope hanging its horns on a branch, fiercely drilling towards a Monk of the Jin Family who was only at the Seventh Level of Energy Refinement.

With a ‘splat’, the sword light penetrated the heart of the Monk of the Jin Family, his throat gurgled with blood, and he fell with his eyes wide open in death.

This display of Sword Energy Formation startled the remaining five cultivators from Jinlong Ridge.

“Qingshan!”

Lu Miao Feng and his companions immediately looked towards the young sword cultivator with sharp eyebrows and brimming vigor, their expressions filled with surprise.

They knew of Lu Qingshan’s extraordinary strength.

But they hadn’t expected him to be this astounding.

He had killed a man with a single strike upon arrival!

This increased their chances of victory considerably!

“Take action!”

Lu Miao Feng didn’t hesitate, made a prompt decision, and shouted out, switching from defense to offense with the other two.

“Why do you seek to be our enemy, sir?”

“If Qingzhu Mountain has offered you any rewards, just withdraw, and Jinlong Ridge will double them!”

The Monks of the Jin Family’s expressions changed drastically, looking ugly.

Although they had seen Lu Qingshan being sent here by a Nascent Soul Immortal outside the Secret Realm.

They did not recognize Lu Qingshan, nor were they aware of his relationship with Qingzhu Mountain or why he would suddenly attack them.

Thus, they hoped to make him retreat with offers of benefits and by invoking their family’s reputation.

“Jinlong Ridge? Jinlong Ridge Jin Family?”

Lu Qingshan, handsome with distinct features, raised his eyebrows slightly upon hearing their words.

He remembered his grandfather mentioning that Jinlong Ridge had a feud with his family.

“Yes, we are indeed from the Jinlong Ridge Jin Family. If you are willing to cease, we will surely reward you handsomely afterward!”

The Monk of the Jin Family said immediately, his expression carrying a tinge of proud arrogance.

After all, as a False Core Family,

even beyond the Qingyun Region, they had a certain reputation and influence!

“So be it, then you all can die!”

Lu Qingshan scoffed, his demeanor intensely commanding like a blazing sun, holding the magical sword, continuing his onslaught against the five.

“Fellow Daoist, do you really intend to make enemies with Jinlong Ridge?”

“Has Jinlong Ridge in any way offended you?”

The Monk of the Jin Family twitched in the corner of his eyes, his expression ugly, quickly taking out several talismans from his possession, activating them, and yelling.

Even though Lu Miao Feng and his companions were gravely injured.

In this situation, they really had no confidence to handle both Lu Qingshan and Lu Miao Feng’s group.

Even if they could manage to kill Lu Miao Feng and his companions, they too would suffer heavy casualties and would not be able to continue exploring the secret realm.

“Remember, young master’s family name is Lu, given name Qingshan, from the Blue Lake Mountain Lu Family!”

Lu Qingshan stood upright on his flying sword, swinging his golden magical sword that emitted piercing sword lights, his voice cold, “Knowing my name, you can die without regret!”

As soon as he finished talking, his Tianxin Sound Bamboo Sword also transformed into a sword light, resembling a silver dragon, tearing through the air waves, attacking the five.

This flying sword was a reward he had received from the sect’s sword testing competition; it was a spiritual artifact flying sword with abilities like breaking techniques, sharpness, and traceless sword shadows—it had never been used routinely, always kept as a trump card.

Now, to quickly resolve the battle and ensure all five were slain, he unleashed both swords.

“What, Lu Qingshan, from Blue Lake Mountain?”

“Where is such a person in Blue Lake Mountain?”

The five were shocked and bewildered upon hearing this.

Blue Lake Mountain, although not without its fame, the only renowned figures, aside from the Mountain Lord Lu Changsheng, were his wives, Dao companions.

In terms of children, only Lu Quanzhen at White Tiger Mountain, Family Head Lu Yun, and Puppet Master Lu Xianzhi had some reputation and were known to the surrounding families.

But they absolutely did not recall a sword cultivator named Lu Qingshan associated with a Nascent Soul Immortal.

Yet at this moment, the five had no time to ponder further.



“Boom! Boom! Boom!”

Chapter 968: Young Master Lu Qingshan, from the Blue Lake Mountain Lu Family!\_3 The Gengjin Law Sword was like a blazing sun, fierce and dominant, bursting forth with sharp and overbearing Sword Qi, striking directly at the defensive aura of the five men.

The Tianxin Sound Bamboo Sword was like a silver dragon, stirring up a layer of rolling Sword Qi that shimmered with golden jade musical waves, its edge sharp and its Sword Qi inhaling and exhaling, using the characteristic of the Flying Sword to pierce a hole in the aura and behead a cultivator of the Jin Family at the Eighth Level of Energy Refinement.

“Jin Ming!”

The other four, seeing this, cried out in alarm.

They had not expected that, with the five of them in such a state, Lu Qingshan’s Flying Sword could still instantly kill one of them.

At this moment, they felt a rich sense of crisis!

“Hiss!?”

Even though Lu Miao Feng had known early on about Lu Qingshan’s strength, he was still incredibly shocked at this scene.

Lest the cultivators of the Jin Family fight back in desperation, he immediately activated a Second Rank Thunder Fire Talisman from his Storage Bag, turning it into endless thunderous flames and charging at the remaining four men.

“Boom, boom, boom!”

In an instant, the situation changed from defense to offense.

Originally, six people from the Jin Family were besieging the three members of the Lu Miao Feng party.

But now, with Lu Qingshan arriving, they were directly caught in a pincer attack.

“Ah, damn Blue Lake Mountain!”

The cultivators of the Jin Family roared in anger, filled with regret.

They had not at all expected that this young man sent by the Nascent Soul Immortal would actually come from Blue Lake Mountain.

If they had known about Lu Qingshan’s story earlier, they would have fought with all they had, even at the risk of serious injury, to kill the three Lu Miao Feng quickly, not giving Lu Qingshan time to arrive.

But there is no medicine for regret in the world.

At this time, there was no time for them to regret!

“Boom, boom, boom!!!”

Facing such an overwhelming offensive, the defensive aura of the four from the Jin Family was struggling to hold and the Spiritual Light was dimming.

“Pu-chi!”

The Tianxin Sound Bamboo Sword was like a celestial being flying from the sky, its sword light crisscrossing, air currents flying about, finding the gap, and in an instant beheading another person.

“Ah, I’m not reconciled!”

“Let’s fight them to the death!”

The remaining three Jin Family cultivators revealed despair in their eyes, knowing that in such a situation, the three of them could not even run away and would only die faster.

They immediately looked ferociously at the Lu Miao Feng trio, wanting a fight to the bitter end.

“Be careful!”

Seeing this, Lu Miao Feng immediately used the last Second Rank Defense Talisman in his bottom-of-the-box collection.

He could see that now, as long as they interfered and maintained the situation, Lu Qingshan would be able to handle everything.

“Boom, boom, boom!”

Lu Qingshan saw the attack of the three from the Jin Family, sneered coldly, and his hands formed a gesture, his fingers coming together like a sword, pointing forward.

One could see the Gengjin Law Sword drawing an arc in the sky, radiantly golden, slashing down fiercely.

“Boom!”

The three had just been fully resisting, managing to hold against Lu Qingshan’s Flying Sword onslaught.

But at this moment, they were distracted, focusing on attacking, which instantly led to their defense being breached, their spiritual power and blood unstable, and their steps stumbled.

“Ch-ch-ch!!!”

The Gengjin Law Sword was like a radiant golden sun, blasting and swallowing boundless sword light, heading straight for the three men.

The Tianxin Sound Bamboo Sword, like a wandering dragon, coiled around the three, looking for weak spots, and then struck a lethal blow.

Such masterful manipulation of the Flying Sword technique was truly exquisite, something many sword cultivators who had broken through to Foundation Establishment could not achieve!

Within a few breaths, two cultivators of the Jin Family died under Lu Qingshan's Flying Sword.

“Ah, I'm not reconciled, I'm not reconciled!”

The last Jin Family cultivator's face was filled with a miserable expression, roaring with resentment and unwillingness.

“Pu-chi!”

With silver sword light crisscrossing, the Tianxin Sound Bamboo Sword like a roaming dragon, pierced through the heart of the last Jin Family cultivator.

“Not reconciled? Being able to die at my hands, Lu Qingshan, is your honor, the only thing worth remembering in your lives!”

Lu Qingshan's expression was cold and indifferent as he spoke.

His palm lightly lifted, and the Tianxin Sound Bamboo Sword returned to his hand like a roaming dragon.

“Thump!”

The monk of the Jin Family's chest burst open in an instant. He violently spat out a mouthful of blood, died on the spot, and fell to the ground with eyes wide open, unable to close them even in death.

Not far away, Lu Miao Feng and his two companions were staring dumbfounded at the scene.

At this moment, they deeply realized the gap between people!

“Qingshan, we owe you big time for coming just in time,”

Lu Miao Feng quickly came back to his senses, looked at Lu Qingshan, and said.

In his eyes, he couldn't help but show a bit of awe.

After all, Lu Qingshan's strength was so astonishing that they couldn't help but feel respectful.

“Hehe, uncle, you are too kind,”

Lu Qingshan's face showed a hint of a smile as he spoke, “Are you all okay?”

Although he knew Lu Miao Feng and the others, they weren't very close, not even as close as the playmates of his childhood.

“We are fine, we are fine,”

“It's just excessive consumption of spiritual power, some minor injuries,”

Lu Miao Feng and the others hurriedly said.

“I have some healing medicine here,”

Lu Qingshan took out a porcelain bottle from his storage bag and handed it to the three, saying.

The condition of the three also affected his following exploration in the secret realm.

So he hoped they would recover soon.

Under Lu Qingshan's care, the three began to heal and condition themselves.

Two days later, when they had nearly recovered, Lu Miao Feng handed over a rare spiritual medicine they had found to Lu Qingshan.

He expressed that if they encountered any accidents in the secret realm, he hoped Lu Qingshan would take the harvest of the spiritual medicine back to Qingzhu Mountain.

Because they were well aware that the three of them would only delay and impact Lu Qingshan in the secret realm.

If they acted together, the benefits they received could not be evenly divided.

To avoid personal interests affecting family ties, they indicated that they were fine,

and would soon leave Purple Shadow Mountain to mix some spiritual medicines in the outer areas.

Upon hearing this, Lu Qingshan did not say much.

He gave each of the three a Second Rank Talisman, told them to be careful, and then continued his solo adventure in the secret realm.

Whenever he heard fighting nearby, he would go over to take a look and step forward to intervene...

Outside the Purple Shadow Secret Realm.

“Hmm?”

Lu Changsheng became alert and opened his eyes.

Not far away, an old Foundation Establishment cultivator from Golden Dragon Ridge suddenly stood up with a grim and ugly expression on his face, utterly frustrated and furious.

If it weren't for the numerous Foundation Establishments around and several Nascent Soul Immortals in the sky, he would have wished to vent his anger!

“Could it be that Quanzhen and Qingshan encountered the cultivators of the Jin Family?”

Lu Changsheng saw this and stroked his chin, a hint of a smile appearing on his face.

It was a pity that he was not in his true form; otherwise, he would have liked to check on the situation with his neighbors.

However, it was not necessary for him to worry, as immediately, two Foundation Establishment cultivators approached and inquired about the Jin Family cultivator’s situation with concern.

But this gesture only made the Jin Family Foundation Establishment’s face grow uglier. With a flick of his sleeve, he controlled the spirit boat and soared into the sky.

This scene surprised many bystanders.

After all, although Golden Dragon Ridge wasn’t a top-tier family force, it still belonged to the first tier.

This time, they had sent six Energy Refinement Late Stage descendants to the Purple Shadow Secret Realm, and their strengths were not to be underestimated.

Now, with the secret realm exploration still ongoing and the Foundation Establishment cultivator of the Jin Family leaving with a grim face, it indicated that all six descendants had perished within the secret realm!

This was astonishing indeed!

Nevertheless, this was not the first occurrence of its kind, and others were merely surprised and more worried about their own descendants in the secret realm.

They hoped that their families would have better luck and not encounter any deadly cultivators from the Spirit Taming Sect or the Heavenly Sword Sect.

Chapter 969: Demon Tree Seed, Your First Love Has Been Attacked! Purple Shadow Secret Realm, inside a certain cave.

Lu Ping'an and Lu Quanzhen had been consuming medicinal herbs all these days.

Stuffing their mouths full of valuable Spirit Grass, Spiritual Medicine, and Spirit Fruits, swallowing them whole and chewing vigorously.

Though compared to Alchemy, this method of ingesting Spiritual Medicine directly was quite wasteful.

And the medicinal power was overbearing, filling the entire body, making it hard to digest and refine.

Yet compared to Elixir Medicines, this way had a benefit.

As long as your body could withstand and consume it, refining it, there wouldn't be any Elixir Toxicity or side effects.

Lu Quanzhen knew his own condition, so he ate very steadily during this process, slowly refining it to solidify his foundation.

Lu Ping'an was at first reluctant to consume them, feeling quite pained.

But as he ate more, he began to feel the effects.

On one hand, his brother said they had too many Spiritual Medicines, and if they didn't eat more, they would have trouble handing them over when required and might have to throw them away.

On the other hand, this way of directly consuming Spiritual Medicines was very suitable for him.

Because the Hundred Refinements Treasure Body Art was itself a method of Cultivation through the use of Heavenly and Earthly Treasures.



These treasures were not limited to just metallic spiritual ore.

They also included Spirit Grass, Spirit Flowers, and Spirit Fruits as Heaven and Earth Spiritual Material.

Therefore, for ordinary Cultivators, Spiritual Medicine was more effectively used when refined into Elixir Medicines with the use of supporting ingredients, as the resultant pills were better for absorption and easier to refine.

But for the Hundred Refinements Treasure Body Art, it was different.

The Hundred Refinements Treasure Body Art required the use of raw and overbearing properties, energy, and medicinal effects from Heaven and Earth Spiritual Material to forge the Physical Body.

Once Spiritual Medicine was refined into Elixir Medicine, while easier to absorb and refine,

The raw and overbearing effects of its medicinal properties would have all but faded away.

Thus, as Lu Ping'an continued to ingest and refine Spiritual Medicines, with the overbearing medicinal power surging through his limbs and organs, he could clearly feel his Physical Body continuously improving.

He even noticed some mysterious changes in his Physical Body as his muscles and bones strengthened, his bone density increased and his marrow seethed.

There gradually formed a callus-like thin membrane between his skin and bones.

Ordinary Technique attacks would be absorbed by this thin membrane.

This effect was quite astonishing.

Lu Ping'an felt that his understanding of the Hundred Refinements Treasure Body Art was now exceeded.

He had to ask his father later for advice to understand what was going on with his Hundred Refinements Treasure Body Art.

“Quanzhen, the Secret Realm should be ending in about ten days, let’s go out again and take a look, maybe we can still find some gains.”

Lu Ping’an chewed on the Spiritual Medicine as he spoke.

He now felt a surging power throughout his body, endless force that he wanted to release in a few exhilarating fights.

“Okay.”

Lu Quanzhen heard this and looked towards his elder brother, nodding his head.

Then he packed up the Formation, and the two of them left the Cave Mansion to continue searching for Spiritual Medicine.

Perhaps because they had stayed in the cave for more than ten days, the number of Demon Beasts nearby had decreased due to their previous hunting, causing them to encounter them less frequently.

The two thus headed directly towards the summit of Purple Shadow Mountain.

Generally, the closer to the center, the more and the rarer the Spiritual Medicines would be.

Naturally, Demon Beasts would also be more formidable.

However, even if a Second Order Monster Beast appeared, it was unlikely to pose a threat to them now.

In the billowing mist, occasionally a Demon Beast would emerge, but they were mostly killed by a few punches from Lu Ping’an.

Like this, three days passed.

“Boom!”

Through battle, Lu Ping'an had nearly fully digested the accumulated Spiritual Medicines in his body, and his Cultivation Level had directly broken through to the Ninth Level Energy Refinement.

Although not all the Spiritual Medicines he consumed could increase his Cultivation Level, most of them had that effect.

So even without deliberate Cultivation, as the Spiritual Medicines were digested and built up, his Cultivation Level naturally broke through at this moment.

“Congratulations elder brother on breaking through to the Ninth Level Energy Refinement.”

Lu Quanzhen saw this and smiled, congratulating him.

“It's all stacked up with Spiritual Medicines.”

Lu Ping'an showed a bittersweet smile.

If others knew he had consumed Spiritual Medicines worth tens of thousands, only to improve this much, they would certainly scold him for wastage.

“Heh heh, the Heavenly and Earthly Treasures belong to those with virtue, it does not matter if they're stacked with Spiritual Medicines.”

“But elder brother, when you return home, you need to refine your Spiritual Power a lot to solidify your foundation. Wait until there is no further progress in the foundation of your Spiritual Power, and then prepare for Foundation Establishment.”

Lu Quanzhen said to Lu Ping'an.

Previously, Uncle Qu Changge had come and spoken to him about various Cultivation knowledge.

One of the things he mentioned was that the foundation was of utmost importance!

If you didn't lay a solid foundation in the early stages, you would later need to spend tens or even hundreds of times more to make up for it.

Such as the Dao Foundation in the Foundation Establishment Stage, the Golden Core in the Core Formation Stage, and the Nascent Soul in the Nascent Soul Stage.

"Right, I know."

Lu Ping'an nodded.

Although he was far ahead in terms of Body Refinement,

He knew that the foundation of Cultivation was the true path, determining how far he could go in the future.

"There are still many Top-tier Techniques at home, elder brother should try a few, maybe there's one more suitable for you than the Purple True Solar Scripture."

Lu Quanzhen continued.

His own previous Cultivation Method had also been the Purple True Solar Scripture.

Before, the Purple True Solar Scripture, being an Exquisite Level Cultivation Method, was indeed not bad.

But from his current perspective, it seemed somewhat lacking.

When it came to Foundation Establishment and Core Formation, this method would severely hold Lu Ping'an back.

"Right, okay, I'll ask father."

Lu Ping'an felt a warmth in his heart and nodded with a smile.

Initially, he practiced the Purple True Solar Scripture because the results of his Sword Technique were unsatisfactory, so he picked up this Cultivation Method.

Now, hearing what Lu Quanzhen had said, he planned to ask his father for advice about the Hundred Refinements Treasure Body Art, and also to see if he had any suggestions.

Amid their conversation, Lu Ping'an, plucked the nearby Spiritual Medicine, casually bled and dissected the Demon Beast's body, placed the valuable materials into his Storage Bag, and continued towards the mountain summit.

Chapter 970: Demon Tree Seed, Your First Love Has Been Attacked!\_2 One day later, the two were about to reach the summit, when they saw a cave ahead.

Such caves usually contain rare heavenly and earthly treasures.

Of course, they also tend to harbor danger, often occupied by fierce demon beasts.

"Quanzhen, stay behind me and be careful," Lu Ping'an called out to his younger brother before striding towards the cave.

"Mm," Lu Quanzhen nodded, not intending to overreach.

This was how the two had traveled thus far.

After they entered the cave, they hadn't walked far before they heard intense fighting noises coming from ahead.

"Someone's already here."

Lu Ping'an, hearing the commotion, shook his head and gestured for Lu Quanzhen to leave.

"Big brother, the sounds seem a bit off," Lu Quanzhen commented, his expression growing tense.

“It seems like a massive brawl, very intense,” Lu Ping’an remarked after listening carefully.

He felt that at least ten or more people were fighting, not just a skirmish between two or three.

“With so much activity, it must be something out of the ordinary, probably a collective action by an Immortal Sect here,” Lu Quanzhen said, his eyes narrowing.

He had observed the area outside the secret realm briefly before.

Apart from the Four Great Immortal Sects bringing twenty to thirty disciples each, the others had at most ten people.

So the battle at hand was definitely a collective combat of an Immortal Sect.

“Since we’re here, might as well see what’s going on, it won’t affect us,”

“Besides, if the Purple Shadow Secret Realm opens again in the future, we could record the details and report back to the family,” Lu Quanzhen said. His eyes narrowed at the sound of the fierce battle, suggesting this plan.

Hearing this, Lu Ping’an helplessly nodded in agreement.

“Is this... a demon tree?”

The two reached the end of the cave and immediately saw a basin ahead.

This basin was very peculiar, surrounded on all sides by jagged rocks.

And in the center of the basin stood a purple giant tree almost ten to twelve meters thick.

The tree was covered in cracks, exuding a vast and ancient aura, like a colossal pillar supporting the heavens, connecting the earth and sky, standing more than thirty meters tall.

The huge canopy, similar in color to the mist of the Purple Shadow Secret Realm, was hazy and obscured the sky, making it difficult to discern clearly.

At this moment, eight disciples from the Heavenly Sword Sect dressed in sword cultivator attire were fighting fiercely with this demon tree.

The ground was ravaged by thick tree roots, like earth dragons, constantly attacking these sword cultivators.

Besides that, there were all kinds of bizarre-looking demon beasts.

These beasts didn't seem alive but appeared to be controlled by the demon tree, with plant roots bursting out of their bodies as they fearlessly attacked the Heavenly Sword Sect disciples, creating a very intense battle scene.

“So this is what happens when a tree turns into a demon,” both Lu Ping'an and Lu Quanzhen were greatly shocked upon seeing the demon tree.

It was not only their first time seeing a plant become a demon.

But also their first time seeing such an enormous piece of wood, a tree demon, making them feel very insignificant.

However, as shocking as the scene was, they could see that this type of tree demon, compared to other demon beasts, had a clearly fatal weakness!

Unable to move and fearful of fire, it could only wait for its demise!

Even though the plant demon was very powerful, possessing Second Rank strength,

it had no choice but to face a dead end against the combined assault of the Heavenly Sword Sect cultivators with their flames ablaze.

“A Second Rank plant demon...”

“To become a demon, this tree must be no ordinary one; it must be of the Heaven-and-Earth Spiritual Plant grade!” Lu Quanzhen said thoughtfully, looking at the massive tree demon in the basin.

He had previously heard from his mother about the Heavenly Longevity Technique.

He knew that under his father’s arrangement, his mother had already started cultivating this technique.

But he wanted to procure a Third Rank Heaven-and-Earth Spiritual Plant as a future safeguard for his sister, Lu Caizhen.

Because unlike himself, his sister wasn’t that interested in cultivation on a regular basis.

Even after consuming a Heaven-replenishing Elixir and advancing her Spiritual Root to fifth-grade, she only put in effort for a while before sliding back into laxity and playfulness.

As a brother, although he wanted to say something.

He understood that his sister’s temperament really wasn’t suited for the cultivation world.

Even with diligent cultivation, her prospects would be limited.

So he thought of preparing a Heaven-and-Earth Spiritual Plant for her as a fallback for the future.

Seeing the tree demon now, he couldn’t help but be tempted.

But realizing the sheer size of the tree demon, Lu Quanzhen knew it would be impossible to take it away.

He continued to look for seedlings around the tree demon, hoping to find one.

But despite looking all around, he saw no seedlings.



“Huh,” Lu Quanzhen exhaled lightly, ready to turn and leave.

But then he noticed his elder brother staring at a Heavenly Sword Sect female cultivator with slender eyes and crimson lips, a clear face, a high ponytail, and an air of vibrant heroism.

Lu Quanzhen naturally remembered her.

She was his elder brother, Lu Ping'an's first love.

Although the female cultivator had considerable strength, with a Ninth Level Energy Refinement cultivation level,

she seemed somewhat hard-pressed under the assault of the tree demon's roots and a demon beast.

“Big brother, why not play the hero to save the beauty?” Lu Quanzhen teased.

“The tree demon is already showing signs of defeat,” Lu Ping'an shook his head and said in a low voice.

With the current situation, it wouldn't make a difference whether he went to help or not.

Besides, stepping forward to help without reason might seem hard to explain.

“Hmm?”

Just then, Lu Quanzhen suddenly noticed a Heavenly Sword Sect disciple, having slain a demon beast and cremated it with fire, a purple, crystal-like seed flew from the ashes into the hands of the disciple.

“What's this... the seed of the tree demon?” his eyes narrowing in thought.

He whispered to Lu Ping'an, “Big brother, did you see the seed that appeared after the beast was burned to ashes?”

