

L. Wyatt 1371

Chapter 1371: Thirty-Six Guardsmen

"Luis Lee is ranked twelfth among the thirteen Guardians, and now he has been defeated by Jemma Clifford, who's ranked thirteenth. She has taken his place, and he steps back... effectively just swapping positions with her."

"If he is defeated again, he will be removed from the list of thirteen Guardians!"

"If he really does get removed... Foresty Crawford will certainly take pleasure in his misfortune. Just before, when Foresty Crawford was defeated by Jemma Clifford and removed from the Guardians, Luis Lee mocked him."

...

Many gazes quickly shifted away from Wyatt Barnes onto Luis Lee.

"It seems that this Wyatt Barnes came here with Jemma Clifford."

Soon, someone uttered.

"No wonder Jemma Clifford didn't grievously injure Luis Lee just now... So it turns out, she wanted to give Wyatt Barnes the opportunity to defeat Luis Lee and let Wyatt Barnes also become a member of the 'thirteen Guardians'."

Many people suddenly came to a realization.

"You also want to challenge me?"

Luis Lee never expected that just after being defeated by Jemma Clifford, before even recovering, he would be challenged once again.

This made him somewhat annoyed.

Did they really think he was an easy target?

The already gloomy eyes of Luis Lee flickered with sharp lights, staring at Wyatt Barnes... If his gaze could turn into knives, Wyatt Barnes would probably have been slashed to the bone already.

"Was I not clear enough?"

Wyatt Barnes gave Luis Lee a deep look and asked.

"Good, good... Very good."

Luis Lee's breathing grew rapid, and the steel claws that he had previously retracted appeared again between his hands, their tips flickering with a cold and threatening brightness that captured the soul.

"I really want to see how you're going to eliminate me!"

No sooner had the words left his mouth than Luis Lee made his move, attacking first once again.

A pair of steel claws left a trail of claw marks in the air, claw shadows filling the sky, enveloping Wyatt Barnes as if to trap him inside.

Facing the fierce attack from Luis Lee, Wyatt Barnes's expression remained unchanged.

Quickly, a bow appeared in his hand, the very 'Sun Shooting Bow'.

The onlooking crowd watched intently at this confrontation unfolding before them.

They all wanted to know who would claim victory next.

Would it be Jemma Clifford's confident companion 'Wyatt Barnes', or the now one-step-behind, thirteenth ranked Guardian 'Luis Lee'.

Only Jemma Clifford was not very expectant.

Because she already knew the outcome.

Wyatt Barnes's strength was even greater than hers...

If she could defeat Luis Lee, then Wyatt Barnes taking on Luis Lee naturally left no room for suspense.

Unfortunately for her, Luis Lee had no knowledge of her thoughts.

The current Luis Lee had gone all out, his only thought to defeat Wyatt Barnes and recapture the 'dignity' he lost at the hands of Jemma Clifford... Being defeated by a woman was, for him, an immense humiliation.

Unbeknownst to him, Foresty Crawford had also stepped out of his ruined hut.

His gaze landed on the platform above.

"Luis Lee, I really want to see... whether you will still be a member of the 'thirteen Guardians' after today."

A cold sneer appeared on Foresty Crawford's face.

At this moment, he too noticed Jemma Clifford's indifferent expression and realized that there was probably no suspense in this confrontation.

"Die!!"

Luis Lee surged forth like a flying rush, and as a myriad of claw shadows fell, one steel claw descended from the sky like hail mixed within rain, striking at Wyatt Barnes's head.

In that instant, Luis Lee was beside himself with rage, completely disregarding the rules of the Dragon Camp.

On a pavilion to the side of the platform, a person stood there; it was unclear whether he had just appeared or had been there for a while.

This was a middle-aged man, donning silver armor, with a stern face.

Standing there, an icy cold aura seemed to emanate from him at all times.

He was a member of the 'thirty-six close guards' under the command of the Hill Mountain City Lord... The weakest of the thirty-six close guards are all existences of the Transcending Mortal Realm Small Perfection.

He, ranked fourteenth, was known as 'Guardian Harvey'.

Now, Guardian Harvey was quietly observing the two contestants on the platform.

Even though Luis Lee was seeing red and disregarding the rules of the Dragon Camp, he showed no intention to intervene...

It was not that he also disregarded the rules of the Dragon Camp, but rather, he could see that Luis Lee couldn't harm that young man in purple robes.

"After three moves, Luis Lee will surely be defeated."

Guardian Harvey murmured to himself.

However, the very next moment, his pupils suddenly shrank... because the scene before him completely defied his expectations.

In the face of a furious, lethal attack from Luis Lee, the young man in purple clothes did not retreat as he anticipated, nor did he use his bow for a long-range attack.

The young man in purple stood still, immovable in his spot.

Yet his hand was on the bowstring...

Seeing Luis Lee almost within reach, his hand moved, drawing the bowstring and then releasing it before continuously flicking it as if to strum a chord.

Clang! Clang! Clang! Clang! Clang!

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A series of dull sounds rose, like unpleasant musical notes; and with each strain plucked, a blade of True Energy light was swept out.

In an instant, blades of True Energy light burst into the sky, meeting the barrage of claw shadows.

With no surprise, the claw shadows were instantly shattered by the True Energy light blades, dissipating into nothingness.

And the True Energy light blades, continuing their unstoppable momentum, soared to the sky before finally vanishing from sight.

At that moment, only Luis Lee's desperate strike remained.

Luis Lee resembled a fierce hawk swooping down from the sky; his bloodshot eyes mirrored the hawk's fierce gaze, and the steel claws in his hands were like the hawk's sharp talons.

The talons tore through the air, aiming to shatter Wyatt Barnes' skull!

Clang!

Just as the talons were about to strike, another muffled sound echoed.

As the muffled sound spread, an arrow formed from True Energy shot out from the bow, meeting Luis Lee's steel claw head-on, and blasted against it with fierce force.

Boom!!

A loud explosion occurred as the arrow of True Energy burst apart.

In contrast, Luis Lee's steel claw was blown directly into the sky, and his hand was now a bloody mess...

If not for the protection of the steel claw, his hand would have been utterly destroyed by now.

"You've lost."

With a casual glance at the disheveled Luis Lee who fell to the ground, Wyatt Barnes spoke in an even tone, as calm as ever, without any hint of emotional fluctuation.

"Lost."

Upon hearing Wyatt's words, Luis Lee looked dejected, his spirit seemingly crushed as he jumped off the high platform and walked towards a wooden hut on the outskirts.

The original occupant of the wooden hut, seeing Luis Lee approaching, dodged away like seeing a ghost, sensibly yielding their hut to Luis Lee.

"Luis Lee, stop pretending to be a fool... I never thought you'd see this day."

At this moment, Foresty Crawford didn't forget Luis Lee's previous act of kicking a man while he was down, and paid back everything Luis Lee had done to him.

Hearing Foresty Crawford's words, Luis Lee's body trembled, and he quickened his pace, heading straight into the wooden hut.

Foresty Crawford's gaze quickly shifted back to the high platform.

"Enjoy your moment of pride... In no more than three months, I will break through to the late stage of the Transcending Mortal Realm! Then, I will defeat each of you, one by one, to wash away this disgrace."

As he watched the two triumphant figures on the high platform, Foresty Crawford turned and returned to his hut, throwing himself into intense cultivation.

On the high platform, Wyatt Barnes and Jemma Clifford exchanged smiles.

Both were talents invited by Damien Lynch; now, they had both become members of the 'Thirteen Protectors,' sharing a fateful bond.

"Jemma Clifford, did you take a wrong turn?"

As Wyatt Barnes prepared to return to wooden hut number thirteen, he found that Jemma Clifford had stepped in before him, causing him to stop in surprise.

"I didn't take a wrong turn... This is where I belong," Jemma Clifford said after entering the wooden hut, turning around to smile at Wyatt Barnes before closing the door.

"What does Jemma Clifford mean by this?"

The onlookers were puzzled by this development.

"What else could it mean... It must be that Jemma Clifford admits to being weaker than Wyatt Barnes, hence she voluntarily stepped down to be the 'Thirteenth' among the Thirteen Protectors, yielding the 'Twelfth' spot to Wyatt Barnes."

Many onlookers came to this conclusion.

"Indeed, Wyatt Barnes is impressive... Luis Lee went all out against him and was still defeated."

"Defeated is one thing... The most important part is, despite facing the desperate Luis Lee, Wyatt not only managed not to kill him, he even avoided rendering him crippled."

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Amidst the sounds of admiration, Wyatt Barnes also turned around and entered wooden hut number twelve.

This place would be his residence for the coming period.

"It seems they were all brought back by the 'Heavenly Elite Guard.'"

Atop the pavilion, Guardian Harvey's eyes flickered as he muttered to himself.

The 'Heavenly Elite Guard' he referred to was precisely 'Damien Lynch.'

Damien Lynch was one of the thirty-six personal guards under the Hill Mountain City Lord, ranked ninth among his peers.

Only the first ten personal guards under the Hill Mountain City Lord have two names.

And another name that is their own regular name.

The remaining twenty-six guards each have only one name, titled after the 'Thirty-six Heavenly Gangs.'

The Hidden Dragon Camp didn't become quiet with the departure of Wyatt Barnes and Jemma Clifford; instead, it became even more lively.

In just one day, two people changed within the ranks of the Thirteen Protectors of the Hidden Dragon Camp.

This day was destined to be remembered by many.

Clap!!

Inside a separate residence within the Hill Mountain City Lord's main mansion, a middle-aged scholar sitting in a pavilion in the courtyard crushed a teacup in his hand upon hearing the servant's report.

The move startled the servants outside the pavilion.

"Hahaha... Excellent! Impressive!" the middle-aged scholar laughed heartily after crushing the teacup, his laughter free and unrestrained, "I was indeed not wrong about them... Wyatt Barnes, Jemma Clifford, well done."

He couldn't help but be excited.

For this external recruitment of talents for the City Lord's Mansion, aside from many personal guards being sent out, even the sacrificial elders of the City Lord's Mansion were tasked with seeking and inviting talents.

And Damien Lynch, the ninth of the personal guards known as the 'Heavenly Elite Guard,' brought back two talents who, on their very first day at the Hidden Dragon Camp, became members of the 'Thirteen Protectors.'

He could almost foresee.

In no time, he would be summoned by the City Lord himself and given generous rewards.

"Wyatt Barnes and Jemma Clifford have truly brought me honor this time," Damien Lynch thought, growing happier as he reflected, so overjoyed that he couldn't stop smiling.

Although he was one of the ten personal guards most valued by the City Lord's Mansion, there were still eight other guards ranking above him... hence today, he felt exceptionally triumphant.

Not to mention, this time when selecting talents for the Hill Mountain City Lord's Mansion.

How many could compare to Damien Lynch's discerning eye?

Chapter 1372: High-Grade Holy Stone

In the Hidden Dragon Camp, Wyatt Barnes lay leisurely on the bed inside wooden house No. 12 atop the high platform.

This afternoon, he had unusually opted not to cultivate inside the Jewel Tower of Seven Treasures.

Compared to the stinky, dilapidated wooden houses near the cesspool beneath the platform.

The wooden house where Wyatt was now staying was simply a paradise on earth...

This was the treatment for the Thirteen Protectors!

Not only this, but over the past few days, Wyatt had also found out.

The last-ranked among the Thirteen Protectors could receive a hundred grade-eight Holy Stones every month.

As for him, the second to last, he could collect two hundred grade-eight Holy Stones each month.

The ones ranked above him followed suit accordingly.

The head of the Thirteen Protectors could receive an entire thirteen hundred grade-eight Holy Stones per month... that equates to one hundred and thirty grade-seven Holy Stones!

"One hundred and thirty Holy Stones are equivalent to thirteen grade-six Holy Stones... and that's just for one month."

Wyatt couldn't help but be amazed, "However, the head of the Thirteen Protectors is not only a late-stage Transcending Mortal Realm existence but also the strongest among the five late-stage Transcending Mortal Realm Martial Artists and Taoist Cultivators in the Hidden Dragon Camp."

"With my current strength, I can't beat ordinary late-stage Transcending Mortal Realm opponents... let alone the head of the Thirteen Protectors."

Thinking of this, Wyatt deeply felt his own weakness.

He'd been at the Hidden Dragon Camp in the Main Mansion of Hill Mountain City for several days now, and during this time, he had gained a certain understanding of the Hidden Dragon Camp.

The Hidden Dragon Camp was established by the City Lord of Hill Mountain City, with the goal of recruiting and training young geniuses from the surrounding areas of Hill Mountain City.

The recruitment of young geniuses started half a year ago.

The young geniuses recruited by the Main Mansion of Hill Mountain City had an age limit; only Martial Artists and Taoist Cultivators under forty years of age could enter the City Lord's 'Hidden Dragon Camp'.

The Hidden Dragon Camp is said to be a 'reserve camp' for the thirty-six personal guards under the City Lord of Hill Mountain City.

In the surrounding areas of Hill Mountain City, the thirty-six personal guards are well known to almost everyone... they are the City Lord's most capable lieutenants.

The weakest among them are at Small Perfection in the Transcending Mortal Realm.

It is said that the strong ones are not only at Great Cycle of the Transcending Mortal Realm, but there are also a few who have entered the Saint Realm.

Of course, these were just rumors that Wyatt had heard.

"However, it's truly surprising that Elder Lynch is also one of the thirty-six personal guards."

Meanwhile, Wyatt also learned about Damien Lynch being ninth among the thirty-six personal guards, a 'Heavenly Elite Guard', "It's said that within a few years, the top ten guards among the thirty-six will become Sacrificial Elder Officers of the Main Mansion."

"By then, there will only be twenty-six personal guards left... the remaining ten guards will be selected from the Hidden Dragon Camp."

During his days in the Hidden Dragon Camp, Wyatt had been inquiring about the matters of the 'Hidden Dragon Camp'.

Of course, he did not actively seek this information.

It was lively beneath the high platform; all he had to do was leave a crack in the door of his wooden house, and he could hear the voices coming from the outside... everything he heard was said by other members of the Hidden Dragon Camp.

"Now, I too have settled down in the 'Martial Dao Sacred Land'."

Wyatt narrowed his eyes and murmured softly, "I wonder how the two girls are doing... and Karina as well. She hasn't come looking for me, has she?"

Wyatt understood Karina Hanson.

Before finding him, she would definitely not spread the news of his disappearance to Crescent Island, as she feared worrying his two fiancées and the three little ones.

For this reason, Wyatt opted not to return for a while.

Of course, his hesitation to go back wasn't just due to this reason, but also because he had become fearful!

Yes, he had become fearful!

On his way here, due to getting lost and facing life-and-death situations several times, he became acutely aware of the horrors of the Savage Beasts in the boundless sea and the preciousness of life.

In the past, to have the power to protect himself, he even spent three years in seclusion on the second layer of the Jewel Tower of Seven Treasures, successfully opening fifteen Saint Veins and breaking through to the 'early stage of the Transcending Mortal Realm'.

However, even with the strength of the early-stage Transcending Mortal Realm, he had almost been killed by several savage beasts in the late-stage Transcending Mortal Realm before.

Fortunately, Damien Lynch was present and saved him.

Therefore, before having enough strength to protect himself, he temporarily does not plan to return to the Cloud Skies Continent.

"Strength... my current strength is still too weak."

Sighing, Wyatt stood up and closed the door of the wooden house... instantly, the noisy sounds from outside became very faint, negligible.

After closing the door, Wyatt took out the Jewel Tower of Seven Treasures and placed it inside the wooden house.

With a thought, Wyatt entered the Jewel Tower of Seven Treasures.

"Elder Fire, remind me in two and a half months."

After greeting Elder Fire, Wyatt climbed to the second layer of the Jewel Tower of Seven Treasures...

Of course, the two and a half months that Wyatt Barnes mentioned refers to the time span on the second layer of the Jewel Tower.

Two and a half months on the second layer of the Jewel Tower is equivalent to nearly one month outside.

By then, it will also be the day when members of the Hidden Dragon Camp receive their Holy Stones.

Ranked 'twelfth' among the thirteen guardians, he would be able to collect two hundred eighth-grade Holy Stones then.

Although two hundred Holy Stones are nothing compared to the thousands of high-grade Holy Stones given to him by Karina Hanson before... even a mosquito's meat is still meat.

After arriving on the second layer of the Jewel Tower, Wyatt Barnes did not rush to cultivate but began to assess his current strength.

"With my current strength, wielding the 'Sun Shooting Bow', I should hardly encounter any rivals among mid-stage Transcending Mortal Realm Martial Artists and Taoist Cultivators."

A thought crossed Wyatt's mind, as he mused inwardly.

Of course, he dared not guarantee that he could defeat all mid-stage Transcending Mortal Realm Martial Artists and Taoist Cultivators...

If it was someone who cultivated saint-grade martial arts or saint-grade Taoist Techniques to a very high level in the mid-stage Transcending Mortal Realm, he might not be their match.

"Compared to other mid-stage Transcending Mortal Realm Martial Artists and Taoist Cultivators, my current advantages, other than a body stronger than the Five-Clawed Divine Dragon, are the 'Sun Shooting Bow'... Though with my strength, I can't fully unleash the bow's power, the might it currently displays in my hands far surpasses that of a mid-grade human-level Holy Artifact in the hands of someone in the mid-stage Transcending Mortal Realm."

A few days ago, Wyatt Barnes witnessed firsthand Jemma Clifford, Foresty Crawford, and Luis Lee using a mid-grade human-level Holy Artifact... so he could be certain of this.

"As for the advantage of my Saint Veins... it is only apparent when compared to Martial Artists and Taoist Cultivators at the same level."

Wyatt Barnes contemplated internally.

After all, as a Transcending Mortal Realm Martial Artist, he had only opened his Saint Veins once.

"However, this is all because the True Energy in my Qi sea is limited. If I can break through to 'mid-stage Transcending Mortal Realm'... I'm confident that even without relying on my physical strength or the Sun Shooting Bow, I could easily defeat full-strength mid-stage Transcending Mortal Realm Martial Artists and Taoist Cultivators!"

On this point, Wyatt Barnes was very confident.

By then, the number of Saint Veins within his body would not be comparable to that of any other mid-stage Transcending Mortal Realm Martial Artists or Taoist Cultivators.

If he were to duel with Martial Artists or Taoist Cultivators of the same level, before they could release much True Energy from their Qi sea, his True Energy would have already flowed out through his numerous Saint Veins.

As long as he took the initiative, his opponents often were defeated before they could muster their True Energy.

"Mid-stage Transcending Mortal Realm... I wonder how long it will take for me to break through."

Wyatt Barnes's heart was filled with anticipation, and he immediately prepared for cultivation.

At this moment, he took out the Holy Stones given to him by Karina Hanson, one 'fifth-grade Holy Stone'... This was his first time using the Holy Stones given to him by Karina Hanson for cultivation.

The last breakthrough from the peak of the Martial Emperor Realm to the 'early-stage Transcending Mortal Realm' took a full three years of cultivation using ninth-grade Holy Stones... Over those three years, he had nearly exhausted all the ninth-grade Holy Stones.

Those ninth-grade Holy Stones were all 'stock' from Crescent Island.

Wyatt Barnes did not want to waste, so he decided to use up all the lower-grade Holy Stones in his possession first.

Now, having used up the ninth-grade Holy Stones and broken through to the 'early-stage Transcending Mortal Realm', he only had the high-grade Holy Stones given to him by Karina Hanson left for cultivation.

The thousands of Holy Stones Karina Hanson gave him were ninety percent 'fifth-grade Holy Stones', with the remaining ten percent being 'fourth-grade Holy Stones'.

Nine Dragons War Sovereign, Nine Dragons Transformation!

Clasping a fifth-grade Holy Stone, Wyatt Barnes closed his eyes.

At the same time, he began to absorb the Spiritual Energy of heaven and earth from the second layer of the Jewel Tower for cultivation.

Though the Spiritual Energy of heaven and earth in the Main Mansion of Hill Mountain City was rich, it was only equivalent to the Spiritual Energy of heaven and earth available in the first layer of the Jewel Tower.

The Spiritual Energy of heaven and earth on the second layer of the Jewel Tower far surpassed that of the Main Mansion of Hill Mountain City.

While absorbing the Spiritual Energy of heaven and earth from the second layer of the Jewel Tower and the Spiritual Energy stored within the fifth-grade Holy Stone... after a Great Cycle, Wyatt Barnes's eyes suddenly opened.

"The speed of cultivation using a fifth-grade Holy Stone is not much faster than with a ninth-grade Holy Stone... however, the Spiritual Energy contained within is indeed much more abundant than that of a ninth-grade Holy Stone."

Wyatt Barnes looked at the fifth-grade Holy Stone in his hand, noting that the Spiritual Energy flowing into his body from the Holy Stone seemed almost tangible.

"According to Julia, these fifth-grade Holy Stones last much longer compared to ninth-grade Holy Stones... With my current rate of cultivation, a ninth-grade Holy Stone can be used up in one day."

Of course, this is because Wyatt Barnes's rate of cultivation is ridiculously fast.

With fifteen Saint Veins absorbing Spiritual Energy for cultivation, his speed of cultivation even surpasses the vast majority of mid-stage Transcending Mortal Realm Martial Artists...

After all, the number of Saint Veins is key to the speed at which one can absorb Spiritual Energy from heaven and earth.

That's also why those with more Saint Veins cultivate faster.

Ordinary early-stage Transcending Mortal Realm Martial Artists and Taoist Cultivators, if compared in cultivation speed with Wyatt Barnes, would undoubtedly be dismayed.

"Ordinary early-stage Transcending Mortal Realm Martial Artists and Taoist Cultivators would need a few days to deplete one ninth-grade Holy Stone."

"During the cultivation process, frequent changing of Holy Stones to a certain extent can also affect the speed of cultivation... so, if the conditions allow, it is better to use high-grade Holy Stones for cultivation, which can be used for an extended time without changing."

At this time, Wyatt Barnes also appreciated the benefits of high-grade Holy Stones.

Chapter 1373: Extortion

"Julia also gave me a fourth-grade Holy Stone... According to the conversion ratio between different grades of Saint Stones in the Martial Dao Sacred Land, a fourth-grade Holy Stone is equivalent to ten fifth-grade Saint Stones."

Wyatt Barnes pondered inwardly.

"With my current level of cultivation and speed of practice, a single fifth-grade Saint Stone can assist me in breaking through to the 'Early Stage of Transcending Mortal Realm', and there would still be a lot left over."

Soon, Wyatt Barnes closed his eyes again and cultivated earnestly.

The Spiritual Energy from the second layer of the Jewel Tower, and the Spiritual Energy within the fifth-grade Saint Stone, flowed continuously into his body...

The tenth variation of the 'Nine Dragons Transformation' from the Nine Dragons War Sovereign, transformed into nine dragons, transporting the Spiritual Energy along fifteen Saint Veins, circulating the Great Cycle, converting it into True Energy, and merging it into the Qi Sea between Wyatt Barnes's eyebrows.

The Qi Sea, the size of a pigeon egg, was gradually increasing with True Energy...

Although each increment was small, as the saying goes, many a little makes a mickle, and eventually, it would be full one day.

And the day it became full would also be the time for Wyatt Barnes to sprint towards the 'Middle Stage of Transcending Mortal Realm'.

"Advancing from the Early Stage of Transcending Mortal Realm to the Middle Stage is much simpler than breaking through from the pinnacle of the Martial Emperor Realm to the Early Stage of Transcending Mortal Realm..."

This was something Wyatt Barnes was well aware of.

After all, the latter not only involved the fusion of profound insights into Origin Force before converting it into True Energy but also the laborious task of developing new Saint Veins.

However, the former was much simpler.

Once the Qi Sea was fully charged with True Energy, break through, develop the Saint Veins, and then it's done.

Time passes unnoticed in cultivation, and two and a half months flew by quickly... Wyatt Barnes, awakened by Elder Fire, left the Jewel Tower and returned to Cabin No. 12.

After storing the Jewel Tower, not long after Wyatt Barnes opened his door, Jemma Clifford stood at his doorstep.

"Wyatt Barnes, it's time for us to collect the Saint Stones," said Jemma Clifford to Wyatt Barnes.

"Is it today?" Wyatt Barnes asked.

"Starting today, we can collect them within three days... The place for collecting Saint Stones is very close, right beside the cabins where we, the 'Thirteen Protectors', live, in that tower," explained Jemma Clifford.

"That tower?" Wyatt Barnes was surprised, as he remembered seeing that tower when he first arrived at the Dragon Spy Camp.

At that time, he had wondered what that place was.

It seemed now that it must be where the powerful figures of the City Lord's mansion resided, and one such figure was normally responsible for overseeing the members of the Dragon Spy Camp...

After all, the Dragon Spy Camp had its rules and regulations.

And these rules and regulations needed someone to enforce them to be effective.

"Let's go," said Wyatt Barnes, stepping out of his cabin and walking with Jemma Clifford towards the tower.

Along the way, the two attracted quite a bit of attention.

"Is that Wyatt Barnes and Jemma Clifford?"

"Correct! Just a month ago, they had newly entered the ranks of the 'Thirteen Protectors'."

"Quite a couple of talent and beauty... Are they in a relationship?"

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Many who saw Wyatt Barnes and Jemma Clifford together whispered among themselves, with some even assuming they were a couple.

Hearing these comments, Wyatt Barnes didn't care and simply smiled it away...

But Jemma Clifford differed, her pretty face blushing faintly.

"Hey! Wyatt Barnes."

Just as they were nearing the tower, Wyatt Barnes saw someone greeting him; looking closely, it was 'Edward Watson'.

"Edward Watson, why are you by yourself? Where's Gideon Cruz?" asked Wyatt Barnes, puzzled to see Edward Watson alone.

"Hmph! He has now climbed up the ladder... The strong figure in the 'Thirteen Protectors' ranked fifth in the Transcending Mortal Realm later stage is actually his distant cousin," snorted Edward Watson.

"Isn't that a good thing? Since you get along well with him, he might look out for you in the future," said Wyatt Barnes with a smile.

"Look out for me? It'd be good enough if he doesn't kill me," Edward Watson self-deprecatingly chuckled, then turned to Jemma Clifford and said, "Jemma Clifford, you're also from a lesser-known family; you should know very well... What do you think he'll do to me now that he has a backer?"

"Eliminate you for the sake of his family," Jemma Clifford answered matter-of-factly, not in the least surprised.

Edward Watson and Gideon Cruz were similar to her situation with Mandy Wood from Jade Trust Town's Wood Family, whose place was taken by Wyatt Barnes.

"I'll be going first."

After greeting Wyatt Barnes and Jemma Clifford, Edward Watson leaped off the platform and headed towards his cabin.

Wyatt Barnes shook his head and followed Jemma Clifford into the tower.

The one responsible for distributing the monthly original stones was Guardian Harvey... Guardian Harvey ranked fourteenth among the thirty-six Guardians.

"Jemma Clifford, one hundred eighth-grade Saint Stones."

"Wyatt Barnes, two hundred eighth-grade Saint Stones."

Guardian Harvey kept a stern face throughout, somewhat rigidly handing the Saint Stones over to Wyatt Barnes and Jemma Clifford... the latter two thanked him after receiving the stones.

"Transcending Mortal Realm Small Perfection?"

In the meantime, using the 'Heavenly Eye', Wyatt Barnes scrutinized Guardian Harvey and saw through his strength.

Wyatt Barnes was not surprised by this.

Without at least the strength of Small Perfection in the Transcending Mortal Realm, it was impossible to command respect in the Dragon Spy Camp... at least, not from the top-ranked figures among the Thirteen Protectors.

What Wyatt Barnes did not notice,

Was that as he and Jemma Clifford turned to leave, Guardian Harvey actually lifted his head to glance at his figure... as if he discovered something unusual about him.

Leaving the tower, Wyatt Barnes and Jemma Clifford walked back.

"Wyatt Barnes, members of our Hidden Dragon Camp are allowed to go out once every three months... Have you prepared for when you will leave?"

Jemma Clifford looked at Wyatt Barnes and asked.

"No."

Wyatt Barnes shook his head, "There's nothing to do outside anyway."

"I don't plan to go out either... Who knows if those two families have sent someone to lurk outside the City Lord's mansion, waiting to kill me."

Jemma Clifford said as well.

"They actually dare to come to Hill Mountain City to kill you?"

Wyatt Barnes was surprised.

"What's there not to dare... If they have the chance, they would even dare to sneak into the City Lord's mansion to kill me."

Jemma Clifford said.

"Aren't they afraid of the City Lord's mansion blaming them?"

Wyatt Barnes frowned.

As far as he knew, even Jade Trust Town was within the jurisdiction of Hill Mountain City and thus managed by it.

"Blame?"

Jemma Clifford shook her head, "I'm currently not significant enough for the City Lord's mansion to do anything for me... Even if I were killed now, the City Lord's mansion wouldn't blame the two main families of Jade Trust Town because of me."

"Only if I could show my absolute value and be recognized by the City Lord's mansion... Then I could truly be safe."

Jemma Clifford continued.

Wyatt Barnes nodded.

"Are you the Wyatt Barnes who defeated Luis Lee and became the new 'Number Twelve' of the Thirteen Protectors? Give me half of the Holy Stones you collected."

Wyatt Barnes and Jemma Clifford had just arrived in front of the wooden house when a voice had already come from not too far away.

Following that, Wyatt Barnes and Jemma Clifford saw a black-clothed youth walk out from wooden hut number six and move towards them.

This black-clothed youth was tall and well-built, with every step he took exuding the presence of a dragon and the force of a tiger.

"It's Fenny Graham, who ranks sixth among the Thirteen Protectors."

"This Fenny Graham extorts Holy Stones from the Protectors ranked after him every month with overwhelming martial power... However, wasn't he extorting from the last one normally?"

"Probably he saw that the last one was a woman and had a soft heart."

...

At this moment, the gazes of a group of youths below the platform fell upon Wyatt Barnes, Jemma Clifford, and Fenny Graham.

Whether inside the wooden huts below the platform or those above, many people came out.

They had heard the noise and came out to watch the excitement.

Confronted by the hostile Fenny Graham, Wyatt Barnes faced off against him with a calm expression on his face.

The Heavenly Eye opened quietly.

Fenny Graham, thirty-two years old, with a cultivation in the middle stage of the Transcending Mortal Realm.

"Why should I give them to you?"

Coldly glancing at Fenny Graham, Wyatt Barnes scoffed.

"Now, it's not just half anymore... I want all of the Holy Stones you've just collected! Two hundred Holy Stones, give them to me."

Standing in front of Wyatt Barnes, Fenny Graham's face was calm, yet his words were filled with arrogance and despotism.

"Idiot!"

Wyatt Barnes stared coldly at Fenny Graham, nonchalantly uttering two words.

Idiot!

As soon as Wyatt Barnes's words fell, the whole place was in an uproar.

"Has Wyatt Barnes gone crazy?"

"He... He actually dared to call Fenny Graham an 'idiot'? Am I dreaming? Ouch! Why did you pinch my leg?"

"There's a good show to watch now!"

...

The group of young men and women beneath the platform watched interestedly at the scene above.

Apart from cultivation, their lives were quite boring... The occasional conflicts were indeed thrilling for them.

On the platform, other than the top five Protectors in the late stage of the Transcending Mortal Realm, the remaining mid-stage Protectors also came out of their huts.

They were just as interested in looking at the standoff between Wyatt Barnes and Fenny Graham, wanting to observe the commotion just like the youths below the platform.

Of course, they had something else in common.

That was... they were all victims of Fenny Graham's extortion.

Today, they had just received their original stones, and they had already given half of them to Fenny Graham.

They didn't want to either.

But they had no choice... If they didn't, they would surely end up beaten by Fenny Graham to the point of lying in bed for a month, unable to cultivate, which would be more loss than gain.

So, now they dutifully gave half of the Holy Stones they received every month to Fenny Graham.

"Kid, don't think that just because you defeated Luis Lee a month ago you're anything special... In front of me, Luis Lee can't even make it through half a move."

Fenny Graham calmly scrutinized Wyatt Barnes, his tone was even, but anyone sensitive could feel the anger hidden within.

If Fenny Graham were to be compared to a 'volcano', then now, he was on the brink of eruption.

In his eyes, whether it was Luis Lee or Wyatt Barnes, both were insignificant characters...

Yet today, such an insignificant character dared to defy him!

He felt that his dignity was being challenged, a blatant provocation!

"So what?"

Wyatt Barnes's face was still with a cold smile, "If you want the Holy Stones in my hand, feel free to come and get them... If you don't dare, then disappear from in front of me this instant!"

"No... No need to disappear. I almost forgot, you... are you ranked sixth among the Thirteen Protectors?"

Suddenly, Wyatt Barnes seemed to remember something and asked.

Chapter 1374: Heavenly Guard

When Wyatt Barnes first spoke, the spectators were already dumbfounded.

Is this Wyatt Barnes too audacious?

How dare he provoke Fenny Graham like that!

And that's not all, what does his last sentence mean?

Why is he asking Fenny Graham if he is ranked 'sixth' among the Thirteen Protectors?

Could it be that he... wants to...

The onlookers didn't dare to continue the thought, one by one they felt their scalps tingle, thinking Wyatt Barnes has gone mad! Totally mad!

Their Hidden Dragon Camp gathered the top talents from around Hill Mountain City.

Fenny Graham, being the top one at the middle stage of the Transcending Mortal Realm in their Hidden Dragon Camp, is to some extent also considered the top one at the middle stage of the Transcending Mortal Realm in the surrounding area of Hill Mountain City.

Such an existence, yet Wyatt Barnes dares to challenge him actively?

Does he think he can defeat Fenny Graham?

Where does he get the confidence?

Even Jemma Clifford, who has full confidence in Wyatt Barnes, can't help but start to worry about him, transmitting through True Energy: "Wyatt Barnes, how about just giving him the two hundred eighth-grade Holy Stones?"

"I have a hundred eighth-grade Holy Stones on hand, I can give you fifty, that should be enough for your cultivation,"

Jemma Clifford advised.

"That's right! I am ranked 'sixth' among the Hidden Dragon Camp's Thirteen Protectors... What? You want to challenge me?"

Upon hearing Wyatt Barnes's words, Fenny Graham's fury turned into laughter, his pent-up rage nearly bursting forth uncontrollably.

"It seems you're more than just an idiot! Weren't my words clear? Everyone else figured it out, why haven't you? Still asking me?"

Wyatt Barnes sneered with disdain.

"You're courting death!!"

Fenny Graham, who was never good-tempered, couldn't hold back after being repeatedly provoked by Wyatt Barnes.

Bang!!

With a kick of his legs, he shot out like a cannonball towards Wyatt Barnes.

"It's about time to take action."

Facing Fenny Graham coming straight at him, Wyatt Barnes let out a low grunt.

Raising his hand, he drew the Sun Shooting Bow...

Not only that, he also condensed an arrow with True Energy in his right hand.

His body followed the arrow!

Seeing Fenny Graham only a few meters away, Wyatt Barnes slightly pulled back the Sun Shooting Bow in his hand.

Of course, he used all his strength.

Therefore, the arrow shot from a slightly pulled bow was incredibly fast.

Wyatt Barnes, riding on the arrow, passed by Fenny Graham who was coming head-on, nearly brushing past him...

The speed he showed was on par with Fenny Graham.

"This Fenny Graham really has some ability... his speed is actually on par with mine."

As Wyatt Barnes shot out with the arrow and swapped positions with Fenny Graham, he turned to look back at Fenny Graham who also turned around, his face showing surprise.

This Fenny Graham, who became the top person at the middle stage of the Transcending Mortal Realm in the Hidden Dragon Camp, really had some skills.

While Wyatt Barnes was surprised, Fenny Graham was equally astonished.

"This kid's speed... can actually match mine?"

Fenny Graham was shocked, completely shocked.

Ever since his breakthrough to the middle stage of the Transcending Mortal Realm, besides those in the late stage or beyond, he had never met anyone at the same stage who could match his speed.

As the saying goes in martial arts, speed is unmatched!

Fenny Graham, being revered among middle-stage Martial Artists of the Transcending Mortal Realm, relied most on his speed...

With such speed, he was virtually invincible.

Moreover, with his strong offensive techniques, he had never met a match among middle-stage Martial Artists and Taoist Cultivators.

"His speed can actually keep up with Fenny Graham?"

Now, with the Holy Stone distribution pavilion closed, on the balcony of the pavilion, one of Hill Mountain City's Main Mansion's thirty-six Heavenly Guards, Guardian Harvey, watched the confrontation between the two, his gaze mostly focused on the purple figure.

"Did you all see that?"

A few other middle-stage Thirteen Protectors looked at each other and saw shock in the others' eyes.

They had all been defeated by Fenny Graham before.

Having clashed with Fenny Graham, they knew well that what allowed him to surpass them was his astonishing speed.

And now, there actually was a middle-stage Martial Artist who could match Fenny Graham's speed!

How could they not be amazed?

"Another Fenny Graham... has emerged?"

Their feelings were complex.

Seeing the speed Wyatt Barnes has just shown, they knew that even if they were to face Wyatt Barnes, nine times out of ten, they would be defeated... Wyatt Barnes was simply too fast.

Fast enough to be mentioned in the same breath as Fenny Graham.

"What incredible speed! This Wyatt Barnes, he held back when he defeated Luis Lee a month ago."

"If he had shown such speed a month ago, I bet Luis Lee wouldn't even have the chance to strike before being defeated."

"My God! His speed can actually match Fenny Graham!"

...

The group of young men and women below the stage were now boiling with excitement, each of them watching Wyatt Barnes with shining eyes.

"Such fast speed..."

In a corner of the crowd, Luis Lee stood with an ugly expression, "It seems that unless I break through to the late stage of the Transcending Mortal Realm... I won't have a chance to redeem myself."

"I must break through before he advances to the late stage of the Transcending Mortal Realm!"

Thinking this, Luis Lee returned to his wooden hut, grasped the Holy Stone, and began to cultivate.

If he knew that Wyatt Barnes was currently still only a Martial Artist in the early stage of the Transcending Mortal Realm, who knows what sort of expression he would have.

"Two months... at most two months, I will defeat you!"

Although Forestry Crawford was also shocked by Wyatt Barnes's speed, he was still full of confidence, because he was sure that he could break through to the later stages of the Transcending Mortal Realm within two months.

At that time, he would not only defeat Jemma Clifford to wipe away previous humiliations.

He would also defeat Wyatt Barnes, proving to everyone in the potential dragon camp his own strength.

"No wonder you're so cocky... You do have the capital to be. However, do you think that just because you can catch up to my speed, you can defeat me?"

Fenny Graham said coldly.

"Whether I can defeat you or not, we will only know after we try."

Wyatt Barnes responded indifferently.

"Good! Then I'll just play along with you!"

No sooner had Fenny Graham spoken than his entire body shot out like a bullet, his legs whipped towards Wyatt Barnes like the wind, seemingly rolling up a tornado, heading straight for Wyatt.

Wyatt Barnes had long since noticed that Fenny Graham's holy weapon was the pair of boots on his feet; whether it was speed or attack, he relied on his legs.

Just like Wyatt Barnes, whether it was speed or attack, depended on the 'arrow' in his hand.

Facing the tornado whipped up by Fenny Graham's legs, Wyatt Barnes's whole body shot straight up, he drew his bow and set an arrow, his gaze locked onto Fenny Graham, then released the drawn bowstring.

Clang!

At once, the arrow formed of True Energy shot out, leaving a trail in the air, streaking directly towards Fenny Graham.

"Hmph!"

Fenny Graham let out a cold snort, his leg movements sped up, the tornado grew even more fierce, rolling towards the True Energy arrow shot by Wyatt Barnes.

Finally, the tornado and the arrow collided, creating a thunderous blast.

Boom!!

A vast wave of air swept out accordingly.

A moment later, the tornado slowed down, and the True Energy arrow also vanished into thin air.

Fenny Graham's body shook, and he was sent flying backward, affected by the blast...

At the same time, barely keeping his stance, Fenny Graham felt a sweetness in his throat.

His face slightly pale, he forcefully swallowed back the blood that had welled up... His pride wouldn't allow him to spit out the bloody sputum at that moment.

Once he spit it out, it would undoubtedly be a declaration to others:

He, Fenny Graham, was inferior to Wyatt Barnes!

"Truly a proud man."

Wyatt Barnes, who landed steadily and was completely unharmed, watched Fenny Graham from afar... Others might not know the power of his arrow, but he did.

Although it was neutralized by Fenny Graham's technique, the blast created by their clash was enough to injure Fenny Graham.

If he was nearby at the time, he would definitely have been injured like Fenny Graham.

However, his weapon was the bow and arrow, a long-range attack, which meant he wouldn't be affected by the blast... In this regard, he had a complete advantage.

When it came to attack as well as speed.

He and Fenny Graham were nearly on par.

However, because he used a bow and arrows, he was bound to have the upper hand in practical combat over Fenny Graham.

Fenny Graham's injuries were very well concealed, so much so that not even those thirteen guardians of the mid-stage Transcending Mortal Realm noticed he was hurt.

If these people didn't notice, not to mention those below the high platform, behind the cesspool.

Wyatt Barnes and Fenny Graham faced off, Wyatt asked indifferently, "Fenny Graham, is it? Do you want to continue?"

"Wow!"

Upon hearing Wyatt Barnes's words, Fenny Graham, infuriated and desperate, ended up spitting out the blood he had swallowed.

The ground was stained with blood, like a glaring and dazzling red rose.

Wow!!

Seeing this spectacle, the whole place fell deathly silent.

"Fenny Graham is injured?"

The crowd was shocked; they really hadn't seen it before.

If anyone still wasn't surprised now... it was none other than Wyatt Barnes, as well as the one on the pavilion, Guardian Harvey.

"Hmm?"

Suddenly, Guardian Harvey on the pavilion raised his eyebrows, as if perceiving something, and looked into the distance.

From afar in the sky, a figure was rapidly flying over, so fast that even he could only catch a glimpse...

In the blink of an eye, the arrival was already standing next to him.

The one who appeared beside Guardian Harvey was a middle-aged man in a green robe, of average height but robust build.

His mere presence seemed to exert an invisible pressure.

"Number Fourteen."

Finally, the man in the green robe spoke, looking at Guardian Harvey with a slight smile.

"Big brother!"

Guardian Harvey took a deep breath, saluted the man in the green robe with great respect, not daring to show the slightest neglect.

In his eyes, a glimmer of excitement could be seen.

This was his big brother!

The leader of the thirty-six close guards, the Heavenly Guard!

At the same time, his brother was one of the few who had reached the Entering the Saint Realm among the thirty-six close guards.

"Eh? Who is that? He actually defeated Fenny Graham?"

The Heavenly Guard's gaze from afar landed on the figure in purple below, feeling somewhat surprised, "I don't think I've ever seen him before... Is he new?"

"He's the person brought back by Number Nine," said Guardian Harvey.

"Brought back by Number Nine?"

The Heavenly Guard was even more surprised. "So, he is that Wyatt Barnes? The talented Martial Artist from the mortal lands?"

Chapter 1375: The Chief of the Thirteen Protectors

"Wyatt Barnes, the humiliation of today, I shall return it tenfold someday!"

After taking Pill Medicine to heal his injuries, Fenny Graham, who was defeated by Wyatt Barnes, said to Wyatt with a darkened expression.

In his eyes, a vicious sheen flickered ominously.

At this moment, Wyatt only felt as though he was being watched by a venomous snake, causing his heart to sink and recognizing that this Fenny Graham was a dangerous individual.

"What? Can't accept defeat?"

Wyatt Barnes sneered.

Just as Fenny Graham was about to say something more, a whistling of the wind approached.

Moments later, everyone present noticed an additional person on the high platform—a middle-aged man dressed in silver armor.

Most of those present were familiar with this man.

"It's Guardian Harvey!"

"One of the thirty-six personal guards under the command of the City Lord, ranked fourteenth, Guardian Harvey, who is also in charge of our Hidden Dragon Camp."

...

A series of whispered discussions reached Wyatt Barnes's ears.

"He is also one of the thirty-six personal guards of the Hill Mountain City's City Lord?"

Wyatt Barnes recognized the man in silver armor; it was the same person who had distributed the Holy Stones to him not long ago. He didn't expect him to be one of the thirty-six personal guards under the Hill Mountain City's City Lord as well.

And ranked fourteenth at that.

"Guardian Harvey!"

"Guardian Harvey!"

...

Many people respectfully greeted Guardian Harvey.

"The chief of the thirty-six personal guards, Heavenly Guard, has issued an order... All thirteen protectors must now go to the Council Hall of the City Lord's Main Mansion for a meeting, and no one is allowed to be absent!"

Guardian Harvey spoke unhurriedly.

As he said this, his voice, imbued with True Energy, exploded like thunder, spreading throughout the entire Hidden Dragon Camp.

"He is reminding those five who are at the later stages of the Transcending Mortal Realm."

Wyatt Barnes didn't find it difficult to guess Guardian Harvey's intention.

At the moment, the thirteen protectors, except for those five late-stage Transcending Mortal Realm Martial Artists and Taoist Cultivators, were almost all present.

"Haha... With Heavenly Guard personally summoning them, there's got to be an interesting discussion at the Council Hall."

A hearty laugh came through as a shadow shot out from Wooden Cabin No. 2, quickly leaving the Hidden Dragon Camp grounds.

The speed so swift that even Wyatt Barnes found it hard to track.

"So fast! Worthy of being the second-ranked individual among the thirteen protectors."

Wyatt Barnes was astounded.

Then, one after the other, shadows emerged from Wooden Cabin No. 3, No. 4, and No. 5, following the person that came out of Wooden Cabin No. 2, all heading towards the Council Hall.

Clearly, they were all going to the Council Hall.

Whoosh!

At this time, Guardian Harvey also returned to the mansion; he had announced everything that needed to be said.

Fenny Graham gave Wyatt Barnes a cold glance before stepping down from the platform and leaving the Hidden Dragon Camp...

The other individuals among the thirteen protectors also left one by one.

Suddenly, only Wyatt Barnes and Jemma Clifford were left.

"Let's go too."

Jemma Clifford said.

"Hmm."

Wyatt Barnes nodded.

As he was leaving, he couldn't help but glance several times at Wooden Cabin No. 1, only to find no movement there; no one came out for a long time.

"Could it be that the owner of Wooden Cabin No. 1, the chief of the thirteen protectors, dares to ignore the orders of the 'Heavenly Guard', the chief of the thirty-six personal guards?"

Wyatt Barnes thought to himself.

After Wyatt Barnes and Jemma Clifford left, the Hidden Dragon Camp became noisy, and everyone talked without inhibition.

"The chief of the thirty-six personal guards 'Heavenly Guard' personally summoning the thirteen protectors, I wonder what has happened..."

"I have been in the Hidden Dragon Camp for quite a while now and have only seen Guardian Harvey from the thirty-six personal guards... I haven't seen the chief, Heavenly Guard, let alone any of the other personal guards."

"It's your own fault for not practicing hard enough. Otherwise, you could have become one of the thirteen protectors and gone to meet Heavenly Guard."

...

While a group of Hidden Dragon Camp members were engaged in various discussions, Wyatt Barnes and Jemma Clifford also arrived at the City Lord's Main Mansion's Council Hall.

After entering, they discovered that there were already ten people standing inside.

Among these ten individuals, besides four new faces, the other six were all recognizable to Wyatt Barnes.

He had seen them before at the Hidden Dragon Camp grounds; they were the other Transcending Mortal Realm mid-stage Martial Artists and Taoist Cultivators among the thirteen protectors.

"Eh? New faces?"

At this time, a burly young man with a wide frame, resembling a bear in build, showed a look of surprise as he addressed Wyatt Barnes and Jemma Clifford, "Are you two the new members of the thirteen protectors?"

"Baer Bear, it seems like you've really been out of touch for the past month... These two, they're the new members of the Hidden Dragon Camp who replaced Foresty Crawford and Luis Lee a month ago," a dandy young man with a fan commented with a laugh.

"Not bad, not bad."

Baer Bear glanced at Wyatt Barnes and Jemma Clifford, nodding his approval.

"He's the second-ranked individual among the thirteen protectors?"

Wyatt Barnes looked towards Baer Bear; he could tell that the voice of the person who had left Wooden Cabin No. 2 was identical to this man's...

Clearly, they were the same person.

"Hello, my name is 'Ingot Gold.' I'm ranked third among the thirteen protectors, just below that 'freak' and this big guy here."

The young man in fine clothing swayed his folding fan while looking at Wyatt Barnes, introducing himself.

"Jemma Clifford, thirteenth of the Thirteen Protectors."

Seeing that even the third-ranked among the Thirteen Protectors took the initiative to introduce himself, Jemma Clifford hurriedly responded, not daring to be presumptuous.

"Wyatt Barnes, the sixth of the Thirteen Protectors."

After Jemma Clifford, Wyatt Barnes followed with an introduction. He had quite a good impression of the forward Ingot Gold... Such people are usually quite straightforward.

"The sixth of the Thirteen Protectors?"

Ingot Gold was stunned, "Isn't the sixth of the Thirteen Protectors Fenny Graham?"

While saying so, he turned towards Fenny Graham, asking with some surprise, "Fenny Graham... you... were actually defeated by a newcomer?"

Though unwilling to accept it, Fenny Graham had to nod in acknowledgment, and while admitting it, he didn't forget to explain, "If he hadn't used a bow and arrows, at best we would have fought to a draw."

In the fight against Wyatt, Fenny Graham knew precisely where he had been defeated... which is why he felt so discontented.

"Hmph! Defeat is defeat, why make so many excuses? If you were killed, could you come back to life and seek revenge again?"

A young man in plain robes, with an ordinary appearance, standing on the side, scoffed disdainfully.

"Haha... Arthur Davidson, Fenny Graham already feels bad about being defeated, why do you need to rub salt in the wound?"

The young man, whose eyes hadn't left Jemma Clifford since she entered, finally withdrew his gaze to look at the robed young man and laughed heartily.

"Jan Clark, you're such a busybody."

Arthur Davidson snorted.

"The fourth of the Thirteen Protectors, Arthur Davidson... The fifth of the Thirteen Protectors, Jan Clark, also the distant cousin of Gideon Cruz?"

Wyatt still remembered the figures of Arthur Davidson and Jan Clark.

They were the ones who just came out of cabins four and five.

"Miss Jemma."

Before she knew it, Jan Clark had come up in front of Jemma Clifford, greeting her enthusiastically, without any of the composure that a Martial Artist at the later stages of the Transcending Mortal Realm should have.

However, seeing the lecherous glint flickering deep in his eyes, one could tell he was no good.

Jemma Clifford, of course, noticed this as well and said coldly, "I don't know you."

"You may not know me, but I certainly know you."

Jan Clark chuckled, "You are the beloved young lady of the Clifford Family from Jade Trust Town, the number one warrior of the younger generation... I had the honor to visit your Main Mansion with my father back in the days."

"So what?"

Jemma Clifford responded as calmly as before.

"Miss Jemma, let me introduce myself... My name is Jan Clark, the Young Master of the Clark Family of New South Town, ranked 'fifth' among the Thirteen Protectors of the Hidden Dragon Camp."

Jan Clark patiently introduced himself.

This time, Jemma Clifford did not pay him any attention, regardless of how eloquently Jan Clark spoke, she simply ignored him.

In the end, Jan Clark's complexion turned extremely unsightly.

"Bitch, the crime of not drinking a toast is to be forced to drink a forfeit!"

Jan Clark's eyes betrayed a trace of cold severity as he cursed inwardly.

"Haha... Jan Clark, I find you truly despicable! Can't you see that Miss Jemma Clifford does not wish to bother with you? Yet, you still manage to talk so much... I really admire that, admire it indeed," Ingot Gold laughed boisterously, openly mocking Jan Clark.

"Ingot Gold, don't push your luck too far!"

No sooner had Ingot Gold's words dropped than Jan Clark glared, his face darkening.

"Not push too far? I am pushing too far, what are you going to do about it? I'm giving you a chance... Challenge me, how about that?"

Hearing Jan Clark's words, Ingot Gold laughed, his smile brilliantly radiant.

With just one sentence, Jan Clark was infuriated to the point of trembling, his face red with rage, his eyes bloodshot, as if he might explode at any moment.

Whoosh!

And just then, a gust of wind swept into the Council Hall, causing the robes on the twelve present to flutter, settling down only after a moment.

The next moment, an additional figure appeared in the Council Hall.

It was an ordinary-looking youth in green clothes, carrying a sheathed long sword on his back.

He stood there, exceedingly serene, making no sound whatsoever.

"He... is the leader of the Thirteen Protectors?"

When the green-clad youth entered, Wyatt had no prior notice. Even with the draft of wind that blew, he didn't realize it was a person, thinking it was merely a breeze.

Suddenly, his heart was filled with astonishment.

Heavenly Eye!

Curious, Wyatt looked at the green-clad youth, his eyes sharpening.

Thirty years old.

Transcending Mortal Realm... Small Perfection!

When Wyatt discerned the age and cultivation level of the green-clad youth, he was shocked.

A thirty-year-old at the Small Perfection of the Transcending Mortal Realm?

Where did this freak come from?

"Freak, you finally showed up... I was beginning to think you were going to defy the orders of Guardian Harvey," Ingot Gold, with his easy familiarity, narrowed his eyes at the green-clad youth and chuckled.

"I'm not a freak."

The green-clad youth finally responded, his voice cool as if it could freeze water.

Freak?

Hearing Ingot Gold's address for the green-clad youth, Wyatt momentarily pondered over Ingot Gold's words from before:

"Nice to meet you; my name is 'Ingot Gold.' I'm ranked third among the Thirteen Protectors, only behind that 'freak' and that big guy."

The 'big guy' mentioned was the 'Baer Bear,' who was second among the Thirteen Protectors.

"He is the leader of the Thirteen Protectors, Wyatt!"

At this moment, Wyatt Barnes was utterly certain of it.

Chapter 1376: Fifth-Rate Forces

"Isn't it said that the top five figures among the thirteen guardians are all late-stage Martial Artists in the Transcending Mortal Realm?"

Wyatt Barnes gasped in astonishment.

"Could it be... that this Wyatt has only recently made a breakthrough?"

In the end, Wyatt Barnes could only think so.

Wyatt Barnes noticed.

As soon as Wyatt appeared, aside from Ingot Gold who was naturally assertive, the rest, including Baer Bear, who was ranked second among the thirteen guardians, all revealed a trace of wariness in their eyes when looking at him.

"Good, everyone is here."

A voice suddenly echoed throughout the Council Hall, startling Wyatt Barnes.

Not just Wyatt Barnes, everyone else except for Wyatt was also startled.

Only Wyatt stood there, like a statue, as immovable as a mountain.

"This Wyatt, his composure is truly frightening."

Wyatt Barnes thought to himself.

As the voice that emerged out of nowhere finished speaking, a figure in green clothes also appeared at the head of the Council Hall... it was a middle-aged man in green.

As soon as the middle-aged man in green clothes appeared, he emitted an extremely powerful aura, making everything else around him appear dull and lackluster.

"We've seen the Heavenly Guard, sir!"

For a moment, everyone including Wyatt saluted the middle-aged man in green clothes.

Wyatt Barnes and Jemma Clifford followed suit in saluting.

If it were just the two of them here, they wouldn't even know who this person was.

"Is he the Heavenly Guard? One of the thirty-six personal guards under the command of the City Lord of Hill Mountain City?"

Wyatt Barnes was secretly shocked, and after raising his head, he began to scrutinize the middle-aged man in green, the leading figure among the thirty-six guards, the Heavenly Guard.

"Gathering you here is to announce something."

The Heavenly Guard stated bluntly, "In three months, the City Lord will exit seclusion... At that time, he will select two to three disciples from among you thirteen."

The City Lord is selecting disciples?!

As soon as the Heavenly Guard spoke, everyone, including Wyatt, had their eyes light up, except for Wyatt Barnes.

The City Lord of Hill Mountain City, a powerful being in the Entering the Saint Realm, the strongest in the surrounding areas of Hill Mountain City!

If one could become his disciple, skyrocketing to great heights would be within easy reach.

Besides that, it would also mean finding a powerful shelter... as the disciples of the City Lord of Hill Mountain City, one could undoubtedly walk sideways in the surrounding areas.

Heavy breaths echoed throughout the Council Hall.

Among those present, besides Wyatt Barnes who remained indifferent, Wyatt appeared to be quite calm... However, a flicker of longing could also be seen in Wyatt's eyes.

As for Wyatt Barnes, it was as if he didn't really care.

It's not that he was putting on airs.

It's just that he truly felt nothing about it.

Wyatt Barnes's vision was different from that of the other young prodigies present...

In the eyes of these young prodigies, the City Lord of Hill Mountain City in the Entering the Saint Realm was an existence they needed to look up to and revere.

In Wyatt Barnes's eyes, the City Lord of Hill Mountain City was merely a common Martial Artist in the Entering the Saint Realm.

Witnessing Wyatt Barnes's composure, the Heavenly Guard silently praised him, "Elder Lynch picked a decent kid from the mortal lands... Having not seen much of the world, still so composed even after hearing the City Lord will take disciples."

One can imagine.

If Wyatt Barnes knew what the Heavenly Guard was thinking at this moment, perhaps he would have wished he could take out his Jewel Tower, make it grow large, and then slam it fiercely down upon the man's forehead.

This fellow, to say he hasn't seen much of the world?

"Heavenly Guard sir, may I ask how the City Lord will select disciples from among us at that time?"

Fenny Graham asked excitedly.

"After three months, when the City Lord exits seclusion, he will individually test each of you... Of course, I don't know what the tests will be," the Heavenly Guard said. "I called you here to remind you... During these three months, exert as much effort as you can to improve your strengths."

"In three months, if anyone is eliminated from the thirteen guardians, they will also lose their chance to be a disciple of the City Lord."

After the Heavenly Guard finished speaking, he waved his hand and said, "Alright, you may go."

As soon as the Heavenly Guard's words ended, all but Wyatt Barnes and Wyatt swiftly left the Council Hall, heading straight towards the location of the Dragon Hidden Camp...

They were in a rush to get back to their cultivation.

Wyatt looked at Wyatt Barnes with a hint of surprise and also followed suit by flying out.

"As for Jemma Clifford... even if one wishes to improve their strength, there's no need to rush at this very moment, right?"

Wyatt Barnes smiled wryly, then slowly walked towards the exit of the Council Hall.

He was not interested in becoming a disciple of the City Lord of Hill Mountain City, so naturally, he wasn't in a rush to go back and cultivate.

"Wait!"

Just as Wyatt Barnes was about to cross the threshold of the Council Hall, he heard a voice behind him, it was the Heavenly Guard's voice.

"Heavenly Guard sir, are you calling me?"

Wyatt Barnes looked towards the Heavenly Guard and asked.

Truth be told, he was very curious about the 'Heavenly Guard', the leader of the thirty-six personal guards under the command of the City Lord of Hill Mountain City.

Earlier on, there were several times when he wanted to use his Heavenly Eye to probe the other person.

However, thinking that even Elder Lynch, ranked ninth among the personal guards, was a Martial Artist at the full completion of the Transcending Mortal Realm, Wyatt Barnes dismissed the thought.

Wyatt Barnes even suspected that the leader of the thirty-six personal guards might, like the City Lord of Hill Mountain City, also be an existence in the Entering the Saint Realm.

Of course, this was just his speculation.

"I heard you are from the Mortal Continent?"

The Heavenly Guard looked at Wyatt Barnes and asked.

"Yes."

Wyatt wasn't surprised that the Heavenly Guard knew of his origins... After all, he had reported his background in front of Elder Lynch, saying that he was from the Mortal Continent.

"Which Mortal Continent are you from? To my knowledge, beside the Martial Dao Sacred Land, there are a total of three Mortal Continents... However, only two Mortal Continents have Martial Artists."

"I come from the Mortal Continent that only has Martial Artists."

Wyatt spoke truthfully.

"I have heard of that Mortal Continent... called the Cloud Skies Continent."

The Heavenly Guard nodded, "It seems that you are not from the same Mortal Continent as the City Lord's disciple... If you were from the same continent, you might know each other."

"The City Lord's disciple?"

Wyatt was taken aback, "Also from the Mortal Continent?"

"Yes."

The Heavenly Guard nodded with a smile, "Not only is he from the Mortal Continent, but he is also an extremely rare Martial Dao prodigy. You will have the chance to meet him in the future."

"Hmm."

Wyatt nodded.

"Lord Heavenly Guard!"

Suddenly, Wyatt remembered something, "May I ask you a question?"

"Go ahead."

The Heavenly Guard nodded.

"Do you know, within the five-tiered forces of the Martial Dao Sacred Land, there is a family with the surname 'Han'?"

Wyatt asked.

Five-tiered forces!

As soon as Wyatt finished speaking, the Heavenly Guard's complexion had already changed...

Five-tiered forces!

To him, those were exalted existences far beyond his reach.

"Lord Heavenly Guard, what's the matter?"

Seeing something off with the Heavenly Guard, Wyatt's face was filled with confusion, not understanding why his demeanor suddenly altered.

Could there be something wrong?

Because the Holy Stones given to him by Julia were mostly fifth-grade Holy Stones, with a small portion being fourth-grade...

Therefore, he speculated that the force behind Julia belonged to one of the Martial Dao Sacred Land's five-tiered forces.

Of course, this speculation was also due to Jemma Clifford's reminder.

According to Jemma Clifford, her Clifford Family in Jade Trust Town was a ninth-tiered force with ownership of a ninth-grade Holy Stone mine.

And the Main Mansion of Hill Mountain City was an eighth-tiered force with ownership of an eighth-grade Holy Stone mine.

A ninth-grade Holy Stone mine could produce a small number of eighth-grade Holy Stones.

An eighth-grade Holy Stone mine could produce a small number of seventh-grade Holy Stones.

It was by this logic that he deduced.

The force where Julia was from should indeed be one of the 'five-tiered forces' of the Martial Dao Sacred Land.

"Wyatt, why would you ask about this?"

The Heavenly Guard took a deep breath to steady his agitated emotions and asked.

"Back in the Mortal Continent, I heard from my grandfather that when he was young, he met a person... a man surnamed 'Han' who claimed to be from a five-tiered force of the Martial Dao Sacred Land."

Wyatt made up a story on the spot. He didn't dare to say outright that he knew someone with the surname Han, suspected to be from the five-tiered forces of the Martial Dao Sacred Land.

He didn't want to stir up unnecessary trouble.

Moreover, if he claimed to know someone from a five-tiered force, and others believed he might have received some 'benefits' from those forces, it could incite greed and spell certain death for him!

Having lived through two lifetimes and merged with the memories of two lifetimes as a Martial Emperor, Wyatt could be considered to have experienced 'four lives' – his thoughts were naturally thorough.

"So that's it."

The Heavenly Guard, upon hearing this, heaved a sigh of relief, "Indeed, many people from the Martial Dao Sacred Land have visited the Mortal Continent before... but, as they describe it, the conditions there are very poor and staying for even a short period is unbearable."

Wyatt couldn't help but smile bitterly at the Heavenly Guard's words.

Compared to the Martial Dao Sacred Land, the Mortal Continent's conditions are naturally inferior.

Not to mention anything else.

Just take Jemma Clifford's Clifford Family in Jade Trust Town – a ninth-tiered force of the Martial Dao Sacred Land – which offers a cultivation environment and resources far surpassing any place in the Cloud Skies Continent.

"As for the five-tiered forces... I don't know much about them either. Even our Hill Mountain City Main Mansion is only an eighth-tiered force. Even the great Sect above our Hill Mountain City is merely a seventh-tiered force," said the Heavenly Guard. "Five-tiered forces are too far removed from us... However, one thing is certain. Within the five-tiered forces, there are numerous powerful figures, with at least hundreds in the Saint Realm."

When mentioning 'Saint Realm experts', the Heavenly Guard showed respect, a deep and heartfelt veneration.

"Hmm."

Wyatt nodded while inwardly he was also shocked, "So the force Julia is from is that powerful? Saint Realm experts numbering at least in the hundreds... Isn't that an exaggeration?"

Wyatt was inwardly stunned.

After a moment, Wyatt bid farewell to the Heavenly Guard and left the Council Hall.

"He truly is a rare genius... To have cultivated on the Mortal Continent and to have reached the 'Mid-Transcending Mortal Realm' at the age of thirty-five! If the City Lord's disciple hadn't come to the Martial Dao Sacred Land with the City Lord in advance, he might not compare to him."

The Heavenly Guard thought to himself.

Within the Hill Mountain City Main Mansion, when it came to the matters of the City Lord, as the leader of the City Lord's most trusted thirty-six guards, he naturally knew much.

Chapter 1377: The Terrifying Old Man

When Wyatt Barnes returned to the Hidden Dragon Camp, he found that aside from himself, the other twelve members of the Thirteen Protectors were quietly cultivating inside their wooden huts.

As for those living in the dilapidated wooden huts under the high platform, they were as idle as before.

However, there were two wooden huts whose occupants seldom came out.

The huts belonging to Forestry Crawford and Luis Lee.

Wyatt hadn't noticed this when he returned, and he went back to his own wooden hut...

Of course, his wooden hut now was number six.

Having defeated Fenny Graham, he took his place and became the person ranked 'sixth' among the Thirteen Protectors.

He was only below five others who were at the latter stages of the Transcending Mortal Realm.

"No! It should be said, one at the Small Perfection stage of Transcending Mortal Realm and four at the latter stages of the Transcending Mortal Realm..."

At this point, Wyatt thought of Wyatt, the blue-garbed youth with the sword sheathed on his back, the leader of the Thirteen Protectors.

It must be said, seeing Wyatt reminded Wyatt of his good childhood friend, Walter Simmons.

Unfortunately, until the moment he left the Cloud Skies Continent, he had never seen Walter again.

The reason for this association was because Wyatt closely resembled Walter... of course, only in terms of attire.

After closing the door, Wyatt entered the Jewel Tower.

"Elder Fire, if I haven't awakened by nine months later, wake me up."

Wyatt greeted Elder Fire and then went to the second floor of the Jewel Tower to cultivate.

Nine months on the second floor of the Jewel Tower is equivalent to three months outside.

Three months later, it would be the day the City Lord of Hill Mountain City comes out of seclusion... At that time, he's setting up some test to recruit two to three disciples.

About that matter, Wyatt had no interest at all.

However, it was inconvenient for him to stay uninvolved.

Therefore, he could only go with Jemma Clifford to join the crowd and broaden his horizons.

If he accidentally became a disciple of the City Lord of Hill Mountain City, then so be it.

If the other members of the Thirteen Protectors knew about Wyatt's thoughts, they would certainly want to thrash him.

Even Jemma Clifford wouldn't be an exception.

They are training themselves to death right now, just so they can perform well in the test set by the City Lord of Hill Mountain City in three months.

Becoming a disciple of the City Lord of Hill Mountain City is their cherished dream.

"Jemma Clifford certainly very much wants to become a personal disciple of the City Lord of Hill Mountain City."

Thinking of Jemma Clifford, Wyatt felt a sigh in his heart.

In his eyes, Jemma Clifford was undoubtedly a pitiful person, a woman with talents not inferior to men and heavily relied upon by her family.

And all these also come with a price.

Wherever she goes, she is always terrified, afraid that someone might secretly stab her in the back and finish her off.

And if she could become a personal disciple of the City Lord of Hill Mountain City, she would no longer need to worry and be afraid.

"If I can help you... I will certainly do so," Wyatt murmured to himself.

Jemma Clifford was the first person he met after coming to the Martial Dao Sacred Land.

Previously, before he killed hundreds of Ghostly Armored Beasts near Jade Trust Island and attracted many more ferocious Demon Beasts, Jemma Clifford had warned him.

Although Jemma Clifford's warning didn't help in the end, he was still very grateful.

After getting to know her better over time, he realized that Jemma Clifford was a kind-hearted girl.

Such a kind-hearted girl, he didn't hope to see her perish tragically.

Even if that day really comes.

He also hoped that would be the day she naturally reaches the end of her life.

"With my pace of cultivation, there is no doubt that I will break through to the 'Mid-Transcending Mortal Realm' in nine months! After this breakthrough, I still need to spend time properly cultivating the techniques from the Supreme Falling Star Arrow.", Wyatt pondered internally.

Soon, Wyatt sat cross-legged in the void, holding a Grade Five Holy Stone, and began to cultivate.

Nine Dragons War Sovereign, the transformation of the nine dragons!

The Spiritual Energy from the second floor of the Jewel Tower, the Spiritual Energy from the Grade Five Holy Stone, was continuously absorbed into Wyatt's body.

Then it is transported by the nine dragons, passing through fifteen Saint Veins.

After passing through the fifteen Saint Veins, it completes a Great Cycle. The Spiritual Energy then transforms into pure True Energy and enters Wyatt's sea of energy.

The True Energy within his sea of energy increased by a bit more.

It is such a cycle, time and again, seemingly never knowing fatigue.

Cultivation is just that monotonous.

To endure the bitterness amongst bitterness is what makes someone superior!

And while Wyatt diligently cultivated, aiming to progress to the 'Mid-Transcending Mortal Realm.'

In the southern region of the Martial Dao Sacred Land, a group of people passed by majestically in the air, their momentum like a rainbow.

This group of people were more than three hundred strong.

Their speed was incredibly fast, unbelievably so.

"My goodness! What is that?!"

At the same time, many people saw this scene and were utterly shocked.

"Such fast speed! My own level of cultivation is at the Great Perfection of Transcending Mortal Realm... yet my speed is far from keeping up with these people."

A person at the Great Perfection of Transcending Mortal Realm muttered to himself, his face filled with nothing but shock.

"Entering the Saint Realm! These three hundred plus people are all beyond the Entering the Saint Realm... My God! So many powerful beings from the Saint Realm, which sixth-tier power has come out in full force?"

"So many people, it seems like they are about to set sail... How strange, what are they going to do?"

"I really want to follow them and see... But the problem is, I simply can't catch up with them!"

...

Many people looked up at the sky, watching helplessly as over three hundred figures disappeared into the horizon, vanishing before their eyes.

The shock in their hearts took a long time to subside.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

...

The mighty procession of over three hundred people swept across the sky from the southern area of the Martial Dao Sacred Land into the southern seas.

At the very front of these three hundred people, there was a gigantic barbarian bear leading the way, its eyes blood red and its massive body like a small mountain.

This barbarian beast was very fast and in the blink of an eye, it had already far distanced itself from the land south of the Martial Dao Sacred Land.

On the back of this barbarian beast stood a woman wearing yellow, her youthful face just losing its childishness, clearly a beauty about to leave her girlhood.

However, her complexion was not very good.

"Julia, don't worry. Your brother Wyatt will be alright."

Riding alongside the barbarian beast, there was a middle-aged man in exotic attire.

His facial features were perfect, but the ravages of time still left their marks on his face.

Now he was looking at the young girl in yellow on the back of the barbarian bear and smiled as he spoke.

"Uncle Woodson, thank you for coming out with me to find Brother Wyatt."

The young girl in yellow was indeed 'Karina Hanson'.

"Silly girl, why thank Uncle Woodson with words?"

The middle-aged man shook his head, then added, "As long as your Brother Wyatt hasn't gone to the 'Martial Dao Sacred Land,' Uncle Woodson will definitely be able to find him."

The words of the middle-aged man revealed strong confidence.

You must be joking!

This time when he came out, he brought thirty powerful beings from the Saint Realm.

Those beyond the Entering Saint Realm, there were even as many as two hundred seventy people.

With so many people, even if they scoured the entire sea area between the Martial Dao Sacred Land and the Cloud Skies Continent, it wouldn't take long.

Of course, the main thing is that these people are very fast.

"Mmm."

Karina Hanson nodded, but her brows were still mixed with some worries.

"Brother Wyatt... you must be okay. Otherwise, Julia will never forgive herself in this lifetime."

Karina Hanson silently said to herself.

In her mind, the appearance of a young man in purple continuously emerged...

That was her 'Brother Wyatt.'

The mighty procession of over three hundred people swept past, where the sea surface constantly churned up huge waves, which then crashed down, stunning some nearby barbarian beasts into a daze.

And not far behind these three hundred people, an elderly figure was following closely behind like a shadow.

This was a gray-clothed old man, emaciated with hardly any flesh on his body.

However, his eyes seemed to flicker with a sinister green flame, deeply unsettling and captivating.

In his hand, he held a cane made of unknown materials, its surface exuding a ghastly green luster... Complementing his pair of eyes, it created a spine-chilling sensation.

"Are these people from a sixth-tier power or a fifth-tier power? Such a large brigade heading southward, not knowing what they are after... South, seems to be where the 'Junior Lord' resides in the mortal continent."

The gray-clothed old man murmured softly, his voice also having a bit of a gloomy tone.

"I don't know how much the Junior Lord has grown... The master asked me to wait for him in the south region of the Martial Dao Sacred Land, but he hasn't arrived yet."

"It's said that people from the mortal continent cultivate very slowly... Maybe, I need to wait a little longer."

"However, since these people are heading towards the direction of the Junior Lord's mortal continent, we must ascertain their intentions... We can't let them disrupt the Junior Lord's growth."

The old man whispered to this point, then instantly disappeared from the spot, as if he had vanished into thin air.

Meanwhile, at the same time, a figure appeared in front of the procession led by the barbarian bear...

It was precisely the gray-clothed old man who had been following behind.

Boom!!

The old man raised his hand and tapped his cane in the void.

Immediately, a force exploded in the void, and a 'barrier' that seemed to reach from heaven to earth spread out, almost like standing tall and towering...

Simultaneously, the mighty convoy of over three hundred people also approached closer.

"No good!"

The middle-aged man in exotic attire beside the barbarian bear also noticed the suddenly appeared barrier between heaven and earth, and his complexion instantly changed drastically.

"Stop!!"

The middle-aged man commanded, and the mighty procession of over three hundred people began to slow down, but they still were carried some distance by inertia.

The first to slow down was the barbarian bear, which after stopping, raised its head and roared fiercely, sending ripples through the air that also produced a tangible shockwave.

Boom!!

The shockwave slammed into the void, shaking the space as if it was trembling.

"A Hellish Wild Bear?"

An old startled voice timely resounded.

Chapter 1378: Mansion of Azure Clouds

Following closely, the grey-clothed elderly man with a cane in hand appeared before the crowd of over three hundred people.

With his power alone, he brought a troop composed of thirty Saint Realm experts and more than two hundred individuals Entering the Saint Realm to a halt...

The old man's deterrence was plainly evident.

"Old man, who are you?"

Standing atop the barbarian bear, Karina Hanson had now come to her senses and glared at the grey-clothed elderly man in front of her, "Why are you blocking our way?"

"Little girl, how disrespectful... Hasn't your family taught you to respect your elders?"

The grey-clothed elderly man, with eyes flickering with pale green flames, stared intently at Karina Hanson and asked in a deep voice.

"Ah!!"

It was at this moment that Karina Hanson finally noticed the eeriness of the old man's eyes, her face instantly turning pale with fright, her body shivering involuntarily.

To frighten Karina Hanson who was known as 'Little Witch', one could only imagine how terrifying the image of the old man must be.

"Julia, do not be disrespectful!"

At this moment, the strangely dressed middle-aged man who was walking at the front with Karina Hanson flew forward to the grey-clothed elderly man and bowed slightly.

"Senior."

The middle-aged man took a deep breath, then slowly began to speak, his tone full of respect.

"You're not bad... There are few outstanding beast tamers from Martial Dao Sacred Land, and even fewer can tame a Savage Beast like the Hellish Wild Bear. They are rare as phoenix feathers and unicorn horns."

The grey-clothed old man looked at the middle-aged man and nodded, his gaze quickly falling upon the Hellish Wild Bear beside him.

The Hellish Wild Bear trembled in fright under the old man's gaze, nearly throwing Karina Hanson off its back...

Fortunately, the strangely dressed middle-aged man timely let out a low shout, calming the Hellish Wild Bear down.

"Speak... What is your name? The old man might have heard of you."

The grey-clothed old man looked again at the middle-aged man and asked indifferently.

"Senior, this junior is 'Aurelio Woodson'."

The middle-aged man replied respectfully.

"Aurelio Woodson? It seems I've heard that name... Are you the genius beast tamer from 'House of Verde Waves'?"

The grey-clothed old man thought for a moment, the pale green flames in his eyes flaring up as he inquired.

"I wouldn't dare claim to be a genius. Indeed, I belong to the House of Verde Waves."

Aurelio Woodson replied humbly.

"There's no need for modesty... I stopped you mainly to inquire about one thing. Your House of Verde Waves is making such a grand move southward, for what purpose?"

The grey-clothed old man asked directly.

"Senior, to tell you the truth... We came here to find a friend of our young lady. Her friend has gone missing in the Vast Sea Territory and there has been no word till now."

Aurelio Woodson said sincerely.

"Is she the daughter of the House Master Hanson of the House of Verde Waves? Hmph! It seems her family education isn't all that great."

The grey-clothed old man looked at Karina Hanson again and snorted.

If someone else had said this about her, Karina Hanson would have lost her temper long ago...

But this old man gave Karina Hanson the feeling like she was hovering at Hell Gate.

Moreover, anyone who could be treated with such respect by her Uncle Woodson was certainly not a simple character.

Therefore, she chose to remain silent.

Thump!!

Suddenly, the grey-clothed old man lifted his hand, the cane vibrated, and he pointed again at the void.

Instantly, the barrier that seemed to connect heaven and earth disappeared, as if it had never been there in the first place.

"Aurelio Woodson, I will trust you this once... If I find out you've deceived me, I'll have to make a trip to the House of Verde Waves."

After speaking, the figure of the grey-clothed old man began to fade into an illusion.

"Senior, may I ask who are you?"

As the grey-clothed old man was about to leave, Aurelio Woodson hurriedly inquired.

"I come from the 'Mansion of Azure Clouds'."

The aged voice came once more, reaching only Aurelio Woodson's ears.

Following that, the figure of the grey-clothed old man gradually dissipated into nothingness in the air.

"The... Mansion of Azure Clouds?!"

Upon hearing the grey-clothed old man's words, Aurelio Woodson's pupils suddenly constricted, "He is from the Mansion of Azure Clouds? Could he be... that one? Good heavens! Why would he be here?!"

Aurelio Woodson's heart raced to its limit, gradually calming down after a long while.

"No wonder with a wave of his hand, he could deploy 'The Heavens Covering' technique... So, he is indeed that mighty figure from the Mansion of Azure Clouds!"

Aurelio Woodson took a sharp intake of breath, still striving to regain his calm.

"Uncle Woodson, what did that old man say to you?"

At that moment, Karina Hanson noticed the old man had left and dared to raise her head... But upon seeing the discomposed look on Aurelio Woodson's face, she still asked.

She knew that the old man must have said something to her Uncle Woodson.

Otherwise, with his temperament, he would never have reacted like this.

"Julia, remember this... If you ever get a chance to see him again, you must show him more respect. Even your father would have to address him as 'Senior'."

Aurelio Woodson said gravely to Karina Hanson.

Thinking of Karina Hanson's earlier willful actions, he couldn't help but break out in a cold sweat,

"Even my father has to call him senior?"

Karina Hanson frowned, "Uncle Woodson, just tell me... who exactly is he? He certainly told you, right?"

Hearing Karina Hanson's words, Aurelio Woodson could not help but wryly smile.

This girl is really too clever.

"Julia, I can tell you... but first you must promise me, if you meet him again, you need to be respectful,"

Aurelio Woodson spoke again.

"I don't want to meet him again."

Karina Hanson grunted: "That old man, so ugly... But my Brother Wyatt is much better looking."

Upon mentioning 'Brother Wyatt', Karina Hanson heaved a sigh.

However, she quickly recovered her spirits and looked toward Aurelio Woodson, "Uncle Woodson, hurry up and tell me, who exactly is that old man?"

"Julia, if you don't agree to Uncle Woodson's terms, I'm not going to tell you,"

Aurelio Woodson shook his head and then bellowed.

Instantly, the barbarian bear beneath Karina Hanson's feet soared out, as if turning into a giant missile, its rush formidable.

"Go!"

At the same time, Aurelio Woodson commanded the more than three hundred strong followers to continue on their journey.

"Uncle Woodson, I can agree to your condition. Just tell me, that old man... No! That senior, who exactly is he?"

Karina Hanson turned her head to look at Aurelio Woodson, who had caught up with her, and at this moment, she had completely conceded.

"He is from Mansion of Azure Clouds,"

Aurelio Woodson spoke to Karina Hanson through voice transmission.

"Mansion of Azure Clouds?!"

Upon hearing this, Karina Hanson's eyes narrowed, her face showing shock, "Good heavens... the 'freak' from Mansion of Azure Clouds, what is he doing here?"

"I also cannot figure it out... However, there should be something in the south that he cares about, otherwise, he wouldn't have inquired about our purpose. This time, whether or not we can find your Brother Wyatt, we still have to return,"

Aurelio Woodson said.

"We will definitely find Brother Wyatt!"

Karina Hanson insisted.

Meanwhile, as Karina Hanson, leading the strong members of 'Han Residence decorated with Azure Waves', was conducting an exhaustive search over the vast and boundless sea...

The person they were searching for was quietly staying in a seaside city within Martial Dao Sacred Land.

This city was called 'Hill Mountain City'.

Hill Mountain City, City Lord's residence, Hidden Dragon Camp.

Inside wooden cottage number six, a seemingly dusty small tower was quietly situated in a corner of the bed.

No one would have thought that this seemingly insignificant small tower actually concealed a whole other world within it.

The second floor of the Jewel Tower.

A purple-robed young man was sitting cross-legged in the void, streams of visibly clear Spiritual Energy from heaven and earth flowing through the air, merging into his body, becoming a part of him.

In his hands, the near-tangible Spiritual Energy accumulated within a fifth-grade Holy Stone extended out and also integrated into his body.

Time quietly passed by.

After an indeterminate period, the purple-robed young man sitting cross-legged in the void slowly started to revolve.

Threads of faint True Energy halo emerged from his body.

"Finally filled up. This pigeon egg-sized sea of energy, it's like a bottomless pit... After breaking through to the middle stage of the Transcending Mortal Realm, the chicken egg-sized sea of energy will probably be even more exaggerated?"

Wyatt Barnes regained consciousness at some point, no longer numbly repeating his cultivation routine.

At this moment, within the sea of energy at his brow, the pigeon egg-sized sea of energy was now filled with True Energy.

Not only that, even the fifteen Saint Veins within his body were now filled with True Energy.

"Now, I can begin to create new Saint Veins... Once the Saint Veins are created, the sea of energy is formed."

Wyatt Barnes's mind moved, and he began to mobilize the True Energy within the fifteen Saint Veins.

It must be said, creating Saint Veins is a challenging process.

Even though Wyatt Barnes had experienced it once before, going through it again, he still felt somewhat unable to adapt...

Right now, he had only one feeling, and that was 'pain'!

"Ouch! It's so painful!"

Creating Saint Veins was a good thing, but the process of creating them brought a sensation akin to being torn apart, "I wonder which is more painful compared to giving birth to a child by a woman."

Wyatt Barnes didn't know why he would have such a thought.

However, just as this thought emerged, he suppressed it again, "I almost forgot... in this world, if the mother's cultivation is profound, she can use her power to reduce unnecessary pain during childbirth."

While Wyatt Barnes was contemplating all this, his sixteenth Saint Vein was also successfully created.

The creation of a Saint Vein was like a beacon leading people through darkness...

Gradually, the seventeenth Saint Vein, the eighteenth Saint Vein, the nineteenth Saint Vein... were all successfully formed one after another.

"Seventeen Saint Veins!"

When all the Saint Veins were created, Wyatt Barnes's body vibrated with excitement, causing the True Energy to deviate slightly and another intense wave of pain hit him, calming him down completely.

"Seventeen Saint Veins! Seventeen!"

Nonetheless, Wyatt Barnes's heart was still full of turbulence.

In the early stage of Transcending Mortal Realm, fifteen Saint Veins were created within the body.

In the mid-stage of Transcending Mortal Realm, seventeen additional Saint Veins were created.

What was most important was not this point.

"In the early stage of Transcending Mortal Realm, I created fifteen Saint Veins; in the mid-stage, I added seventeen more... Afterwards, in the later stages of Transcending Mortal Realm, at least eighteen more can be created; at Small Perfection, at least nineteen more; and at Great Perfection, at least twenty more!"

Chapter 1379: Mid-Stage of Transcending Mortal Realm

"Altogether...when reaching the peak of the Transcending Mortal Realm, one can open up a total of eighty-nine Saint Veins!"

Thinking of this, Wyatt Barnes's previously somewhat calmed mood became excited once again.

He knew that opening up seventeen more Saint Veins in the mid-stage of the Transcending Mortal Realm gave him a whole new 'future'.

Originally, he planned to open up sixteen more Saint Veins during the mid-stage of the Transcending Mortal Realm, and so on thereafter.

Opening up a total of eighty-five Saint Veins was already quite remarkable.

Keep in mind, the most Saint Veins ever opened by the indigenous people of Yan Huang Star, the 'Burning Lamp Buddha,' was only eighty-five as well.

But now.

The 'anomaly' that occurred when breaking through to the mid-stage of the Transcending Mortal Realm gave Wyatt Barnes an even more fantastic, or one might say, a more abnormally powerful 'future'.

From what can be seen at present, upon reaching the peak of the Transcending Mortal Realm, he can open up at least eighty-nine Saint Veins!

"If there were another surprise when breaking through to the late-stage of the Transcending Mortal Realm... and yet another surprise when reaching the Small Perfection stage of the Transcending Mortal Realm. When breaking through to the peak of the Transcending Mortal Realm, let there come a great surprise."

"Just let me open up ninety-nine Saint Veins when I reach the peak of the Transcending Mortal Realm!"

Wyatt Barnes's mind was filled with wild wishes.

However, soon after, Wyatt Barnes regained his senses, "Now...it's time for the final step."

With a thought, Wyatt Barnes started to circulate the tenth transformation of the Nine Dragons War Sovereign, 'Nine Dragons Transformation' heart method, quickly absorbing the Spiritual Energy from heaven and earth and converting it into True Energy, while the True Energy within his Sea of Qi also began to surge out.

In an instant, the thirty-two Saint Veins within Wyatt Barnes's body were filled with abundant True Energy.

Carried by the nine dragons, they performed cycle after cycle of the Great Cycle, as if they never knew exhaustion.

The speed at which the nine dragons transported the True Energy grew faster and faster.

In the end, the thirty-two Saint Veins were almost rubbing together so fiercely they could 'ignite'.

"Now is the time!"

Wyatt Barnes took in a deep breath as his heart kicked into action.

In that instant, the True Energy from the thirty-two Saint Veins in his body rushed into the Sea of Qi the size of a pigeon's egg with an unstoppable force...

For a while, the Sea of Qi the size of a pigeon's egg began to expand.

"Ah!!"

Intense pain spread through the nerves on Wyatt Barnes's forehead, making him involuntarily cry out.

This was still him holding back the pain emanating from within his body.

Otherwise, he would have already screamed out in excruciating agony.

However, after the pain came a comfortable sensation... Perhaps this is what they mean by 'after the bitterness comes the sweetness.'

With a move of his spiritual force, Wyatt Barnes soon discovered that the Sea of Qi between his eyebrows had undergone earth-shattering changes...

The Sea of Qi, originally only the size of a pigeon's egg, had now grown to the size of a chicken egg.

However, although the Sea of Qi grew to the size of a chicken egg, the True Energy inside was only transferred from the Sea of Qi the size of a pigeon's egg, making the now chicken egg-sized Sea of Qi seem very sparse.

"Filling up the chicken egg-sized Sea of Qi is yet another long process... However, after it is full, it will be time for me to challenge the later stage of the Transcending Mortal Realm," Wyatt Barnes muttered to himself.

At this moment, Wyatt Barnes, who had been sitting in a cross-legged position, stopped rotating, and his eyes opened with a flash of brilliance.

With the appearance of the chicken egg-sized Sea of Qi, Wyatt Barnes had thoroughly broken through to the mid-stage of the Transcending Mortal Realm.

At this moment, Wyatt Barnes felt that not only had his Sea of Qi changed.

His body also seemed to have undergone revolutionary changes.

After some testing, Wyatt Barnes found...

His current strength was absolutely unmatched in the mid-stage of the Transcending Mortal Realm!

Even if facing a Martial Artist in the mid-stage of the Transcending Mortal Realm who had cultivated their martial arts techniques to the highest realm, he was confident that he could defeat them in the blink of an eye.

Thirty-two Saint Veins operating True Energy together, and a body more powerful than that of a Five-Clawed Divine Dragon in the mid-stage of the Transcending Mortal Realm.

This was Wyatt Barnes's greatest reliance!

"My current strength is comparable to the peak of the late-stage of the Transcending Mortal Realm... Ordinary late-stage opponents are no match for me!"

After more experimentation, Wyatt Barnes had a deeper understanding of his own strength.

"When I was at the initial stage of the Transcending Mortal Realm, my strength was on par with that of Fenny Graham, a peak mid-stage cultivator... However, with the advantage of my bow and arrow, I can still defeat him."

"Peak existences of the late-stage Transcending Mortal Realm, unless they are Taoist Cultivators or Martial Artists adept at long-range attacks...are likely no match for me."

With this thought, Wyatt Barnes's face was filled with a bright smile.

"Now, it's time to properly cultivate the techniques of the Supreme Falling Star Arrow... especially the attacking technique 'Meteor Rain Arrows.' Only by mastering Meteor Rain Arrows to the highest realm can I begin to cultivate the defensive technique 'Supreme Falling Star Arrow Bell' inside the Supreme Falling Star Arrow."

Wyatt Barnes was full of anticipation for the 'Supreme Falling Star Arrow Bell'.

As Julia had said.

Top-tier human martial arts like his Supreme Falling Star Arrow include techniques that are based on mastering other techniques to the highest realm.

The power of those techniques is no less than the power of Earth-tier martial arts techniques.

And Earth-tier martial arts can only be cultivated by someone in the Saint Realm.

Deciding to act, Wyatt Barnes soared into the air, the Shooting Sun Bow appearing in his hand, his right hand raised to condense an arrow of True Energy and placing it on the bowstring, shooting it out.

Meteor Rain Arrows!

As the arrow flew high into the sky, falling down, a sky full of True Energy arrow rain descended, like a meteor shower had started.

Beyond 'Meteor Rain Arrows,' Wyatt Barnes did not neglect the other techniques.

Focused on the cultivation of his techniques, Wyatt Barnes seemed to forget about time.

Unbeknownst to him, a full half-year had passed since he entered the Seven Treasures Jewel Tower...

Of course, this half-year refers to the time on the second floor of the Seven Treasures Jewel Tower.

Half a year equates to six months.

Three days on the second floor of the Seven Treasures Jewel Tower is equivalent to one day on the outside.

So, only two months had passed in the outside world.

"Hahaha... I've broken through! I have finally broken through!!"

After two months, a loud laugh shattered the tranquility of the Hidden Dragon Camp, startling many young men and women out of their dilapidated wooden huts.

As for the brand-new wooden hut on the high platform, the people inside were left undisturbed.

The huts inhabited by the former guardians were all relatively well soundproofed.

"Who is yelling and shouting?"

"So noisy! How is anyone supposed to cultivate?"

...

Many frustrated voices came from the young men and women who emerged from the dilapidated huts.

However, when they saw the person who walked out of the huts with laughter, they all shut their mouths and dared not make another sound.

The man now laughing and walking out of the dilapidated hut was all too familiar to them.

It was none other than Foresty Crawford!

Foresty Crawford, once one of the thirteen guardians, was defeated and removed from his post three months ago... And now, after three months, he claimed to have made a breakthrough?

Being a mid-stage Martial Artist of the Transcending Mortal Realm, a breakthrough would advance him to the late stage of the same realm!

"Foresty Crawford has broken through to the late stage of the Transcending Mortal Realm?"

Suddenly, many people reacted and exclaimed aloud.

"This is startling news... Foresty Crawford's breakthrough to the late stage of the Transcending Mortal Realm, not only will his energy sea transform once again, but even his Saint Veins will be significantly improved. With this advancement, no mid-stage Martial Artist or Taoist Cultivator can be his match!"

"With the strength Foresty Crawford possesses now, it's not just about reclaiming a spot in the thirteen guardians... but even breaking into the top six is not impossible."

"Indeed. The current number six in the thirteen guardians, 'Wyatt Barnes,' is only a mid-stage Martial Artist of the Transcending Mortal Realm. Although he defeated Fenny Graham... his strength, at best, would be at the peak of the mid-stage of the Transcending Mortal Realm."

"The peak of the mid-stage of the Transcending Mortal Realm and the late stage of the Transcending Mortal Realm are simply not on the same level."

...

The young men and women continued to come out of the dilapidated wooden huts, chattering and awaiting the excitement to unfold.

They were all very clear about Foresty Crawford's character.

Previously, he wasn't a match for any of the thirteen guardians, but now that he's broken through to the later stage of the Transcending Mortal Realm, there's no way he could settle for obscurity. He was sure to seek re-entry into the ranks of the guardians.

Soon, Foresty Crawford's actions confirmed the thoughts of the group of youngsters present.

Bang!!

With a strong push off the ground, splitting it like a spiderweb, Foresty Crawford leaped onto the high platform and in a blink stood outside of hut number thirteen.

"I, Foresty Crawford, challenge Jemma Clifford, who is ranked thirteenth amongst the guardians!"

Standing before the hut, Foresty Crawford slowly spoke out, his voice thundering, while the True Energy infused within carried his words inside hut number thirteen.

After a moment, the door of hut number thirteen was opened.

Jemma Clifford stepped out from inside.

However, the expression on Jemma Clifford's face was not great...

No matter who it was, having their cultivation interrupted would leave anyone in a bad mood.

"Foresty Crawford, you want to challenge me?"

Jemma Clifford looked at Foresty Crawford and asked in a heavy tone.

"Indeed! Today, I, Foresty Crawford, shall redeem my honor and defeat you, you wench."

Foresty Crawford said with a grin.

"It seems you've made a breakthrough..."

Jemma Clifford's eyes flickered, revealing a hint of wariness in the depths of her gaze.

"Since you know I've broken through, shouldn't you admit defeat? You should be aware that someone in the mid-stage of the Transcending Mortal Realm can't compete with someone in the late stage."

Foresty Crawford laughed, brimming with self-satisfaction.

His words appeared earnest on the surface, but what he truly intended was known only to himself.

"Admit defeat?"

Jemma Clifford snorted softly, "I, Jemma Clifford, never admit defeat."

"Then don't blame me for being ruthless!"

The smile on Foresty Crawford's face grew even brighter; Jemma Clifford's response was exactly to his liking. If Jemma Clifford had simply admitted defeat outright, he would have found it dull.

Him not admitting defeat was for the best.

It would allow him to fully vent the resentment that had accumulated over three months!

Remembering that it was because of this woman that he was stripped of his position among the thirteen guardians, his heart was filled with hatred... He needed a gratifying release!!

"Now that I've achieved a breakthrough to the late stage of the Transcending Mortal Realm, I won't bully you... you make the first move," said Foresty Crawford lightly.

His words left the onlookers speechless, thinking that Foresty Crawford was shamelessly conceited for even suggesting such a thing.

A late-stage Transcending Mortal Realm Martial Artist challenging a mid-stage one was indeed a form of bullying.

Chapter 1380: Exaggerated Gap

Although Jemma Clifford was unwilling to admit defeat,

she was faced with Foresty Crawford, who had already made a breakthrough to the late stage of the Transcending Mortal Realm. From the beginning, her defeat was already destined.

Thus, she was defeated by Foresty Crawford in just one exchange.

After being defeated by Foresty Crawford, she did not feel discouraged. Losing to a martial artist in the late stage of the Transcending Mortal Realm wasn't shameful... as long as she reached the late stage of the Transcending Mortal Realm, she was confident in redeeming her pride.

"Jemma, you will soon see... your companion, Wyatt Barnes, will also be defeated by my hands."

After defeating Jemma Clifford, Foresty Crawford sneered, then leapt into the air, landing in front of the sixth cabin and called out, "Wyatt Barnes, I, Foresty Crawford, challenge you!"

His voice, imbued with True Energy, carried through the air.

The sound waves passed through the gaps of cabin number six, rushing into the cabin and stirring up a breeze... The breeze also brushed against the 'Jewel Tower' reduced to the size of dust.

In an instant, the space inside the Jewel Tower was disturbed,

Wyatt Barnes, who was cultivating on the second level of the Jewel Tower, felt the ground shake and the mountains tremble, and then, he found himself ejected from the Jewel Tower.

Uncomfortable!

This was his only feeling at the moment.

"Who?!"

When Wyatt Barnes came to his senses, he couldn't help but feel a surge of anger... The Jewel Tower, inside the cabin, should not have been disturbed under normal circumstances.

So, there was only one possibility.

Someone had interfered with the Jewel Tower.

Just as Wyatt Barnes was about to open the door and see who had caused him to be ejected from the Jewel Tower,

the voice outside came again.

"Foresty Crawford!"

Hearing Foresty Crawford challenge him, with the voice carrying sound waves that caused the breeze... Wyatt knew it was Foresty Crawford's sound wave that had disturbed the Jewel Tower.

That was why he had been ejected.

For a moment, Wyatt Barnes's face looked extremely grim... Having experienced the sensation of being flung out of the Jewel Tower before, he had resolved himself not to experience it again unless absolutely necessary.

And today, Foresty Crawford had caused him to experience that extremely uncomfortable feeling once again.

When Wyatt Barnes stepped out the door,

everyone, including Jemma Clifford watching from the side, could see Wyatt Barnes's extremely ugly expression... Of course, no one could guess the real reason behind Wyatt's grim face.

"Wyatt Barnes seems to look very upset... much worse than Jemma Clifford when she came out."

"How could he not look upset? Being challenged by Foresty Crawford who just entered the late stage of Transcending Mortal Realm, he probably even feels like dying."

"He hesitated for a while before coming out... initially, he didn't plan to come out, but under Foresty's repeated urging, with no other choice, he had to."

"The power of the late stage of Transcending Mortal Realm is too strong... It seems that today, just after Foresty Crawford broke through to the late stage, he will make his way into the top ranks of 'the Thirteen Guardians'."

...

Many people were discussing, all feeling that Foresty Crawford defeating Wyatt Barnes was a foregone conclusion.

"I said it, where did you, Foresty Crawford, get such courage... It turns out you had a breakthrough. Not bad, very good."

After Wyatt Barnes stepped out of the cabin, looking at Foresty Crawford not far away, he laughed in extreme anger.

"Wyatt Barnes, I challenged Jemma first, and she, even being a woman, did not admit defeat... you surely won't admit defeat, right?"

Foresty Crawford looked at Wyatt Barnes, tauntingly said.

The purpose of his words was clear, not wanting Wyatt to concede defeat.

And now, with this line, if Wyatt admitted defeat, it would undoubtedly be admitting that he was even less than a woman.

"What? You think I would admit defeat?"

Wyatt Barnes naturally saw through Foresty Crawford's 'purpose', and sneered in response.

This Foresty Crawford, seriously overestimates himself!

"You won't admit defeat is the best."

Hearing Wyatt Barnes's words, Foresty Crawford laughed brightly, "In that case... like Jemma, I'll let you strike first. So you can't say I, in the late stage of Transcending Mortal Realm, bullied you guys in the middle stage."

Foresty Crawford repeated the same words he had said to Jemma Clifford.

Right then, the onlookers looked at Foresty Crawford with even more disdain.

In their eyes, Foresty Crawford was too shameless! Such shameless words, and he still had the cheek to repeat them twice.

"Let me strike first? Are you sure?"

Wyatt Barnes narrowed his eyes, asked lightly.

"Correct."

Foresty Crawford nodded.

At the same time, in his hand, a iron staff appeared, his accompanying weapon, an inconspicuous human-grade mid-tier divine weapon.

Although he let Wyatt Barnes strike first, he didn't dare to be careless, holding the divine weapon in his hand.

"Very well, very well."

Wyatt Barnes's eyes flashed, took out the Sun Shooting Bow, formed an arrow with True Energy, nodded gently and spoke calmly, "Since you let me strike first, I naturally cannot refuse... I will comply with your wish!"

Almost as soon as the emphatic word 'wish' had left his mouth, Wyatt Barnes had already shot an arrow.

Body follows arrow!

Wyatt Barnes shot the arrow without holding back, exploding with the strength of his body fully, and the True Energy in his Sea of Qi also burst out instantaneously through his thirty-six Saint Veins.

It can be said, the moment Wyatt Barnes moved, he showcased the fastest speed he could muster at present.

As for how fast that speed was, the scene where he reached Foresty Crawford, who hadn't even reacted yet, told it all.

Foresty Crawford was originally holding an iron staff, watching Wyatt Barnes cautiously.

But, he never anticipated.

Despite his caution, Wyatt Barnes reached him before he could react.

He felt like within the blink of an eye, Wyatt had traversed the distance between them.

Quick!

Too fast!

This was all that was left in Foresty Crawford's mind at that moment.

He didn't even have time to think more; he flicked the iron rod in his hand, ready to use a sacred martial arts technique...

However, to his utter disbelief, just as he flicked the iron rod, before he could make a move, it was enveloped by immense strength.

It was Wyatt Barnes who, upon reaching before Foresty Crawford, swung the bowstring without using any technique, and fiercely smashed it onto the iron rod in Crawford's hand.

Instantly, Crawford's hands bled from the tiger mouths, blood spattering wildly around.

"Hmph!"

With a grunt, Crawford's iron rod wasn't knocked out of his hand, but his tight grip loosened significantly.

Clang!!

Just then, a muffled sound like thunder exploded, as Wyatt suddenly shook the bowstring of the Radiant Sun Bow in his hand.

The bowstring traced a slight arc, vibrating upon hitting the iron rod.

This time, Crawford could no longer hold onto the iron rod, which fell as a consequence.

The pain from his hand was heart-wrenching, but he still forcibly endured without making a sound.

Yet, fear was clearly visible in his eyes.

"Wyatt Barnes, has he also advanced to the 'Late Transcending Mortal Realm'? It must be! It must be!"

This was his sole thought now.

After knocking the iron rod out of Crawford's hand, Wyatt Barnes put away the Radiant Sun Bow and directly attacked Crawford with punches and kicks...

Deprived of the sacred weapon, Crawford had no power to fight back against Wyatt's blows.

What a joke!

Wyatt's current strength could even be compared to a peak martial artist of the Late Transcending Mortal Realm.

Dealing with Crawford, who had just advanced to the Late Transcending Mortal Realm, wasn't it just a matter of how he wanted to torment him?

Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang!

...

Each of Wyatt's punches and kicks penetrated deep into the flesh, and the dull sounds spreading made the onlookers' scalp tingle.

Wyatt struck precisely right, neither killing nor crippling Crawford.

"Wow!!"

"Wuwow!!"

...

During this, Crawford kept spitting out mouthfuls of congested blood, which eventually sprayed out intensely.

Every time he opened his mouth trying to concede defeat, Wyatt's fist landed on his chest, shaking him so hard that he couldn't speak...

Gradually, he even harbored thoughts of dying.

"That's about enough."

At this time, even Guardian Harvey, from the tower, couldn't stand watching any longer and spoke out to intervene.

Hearing this, Wyatt didn't dare disregard Guardian Harvey's prestige, and with a kick that burst forth, he brutally kicked Crawford in the abdomen, sending him flying out.

By now, Crawford had been so battered he couldn't move, just carried by the force of Wyatt's kick, described a perfect parabola, and directly crashed into... the cesspool.

Splat!!

With a light sound, Crawford fell right into the cesspool, his whole body soaking in feces and urine.

It was unclear whether it was due to the humiliation or the intolerable stench of the cesspool... angered, Crawford glared fiercely, then passed out inside the cesspool.

Dead silence all around.

Whoosh!

Just then, Guardian Harvey left the tower and landed on the platform; with a wave of his hand, True Energy swept out, pulling Crawford out of the cesspool and then tossing him below the platform.

He had to do it.

If he didn't pull Crawford out of the cesspool, Crawford, who had been knocked unconscious, would certainly drown in the urine.

After finishing all this, Guardian Harvey looked over at Wyatt, frowning as he said: "Wyatt, you went too hard!"

As Guardian Harvey spoke this, looking at Crawford covered in filth which made some observers feel nauseous, everyone snapped back to reality.

They deeply agreed with Guardian Harvey's words...

For a while, their gaze towards Wyatt only contained genuine fear.

"Harsh?"

Wyatt snorted coldly, "If it wasn't at Hidden Dragon Camp, he would be dead or disabled!"

When Crawford interfered with the Jewel Tower, causing the tower to knock him out... Crawford's fate was sealed; there would be no good end.

"Wyatt, have you... have you advanced?"

Jemma Clifford, withdrawing her gaze from Crawford, looked at Wyatt in surprise and asked.

It was only after Jemma's question that Guardian Harvey and a group of Hidden Dragon Camp members recalled...

Wyatt, who had just been torturing Crawford, seemed to be a 'Late Transcending Mortal Realm martial artist'?

"Hmm, just advanced not long ago."

In response to Jemma's inquiry, Wyatt smiled and nodded.

Hearing Wyatt personally admit it, the scene erupted again, "Heavens! Wyatt has also advanced!"

"Wyatt just advanced to the Late Transcending Mortal Realm, facing Crawford who had also just advanced to the same level; he didn't even let Crawford get a chance to strike... Isn't this disparity too exaggerated?"

"Freak! This Wyatt is too freakish!"