

## **L. Wyatt 1391**

Chapter 1391: Mantis Stopping a Chariot

The small black vortex kept twisting, like a dark, bottomless pool.

At the same time, Wyatt Barnes noticed his spiritual power uncontrollably flowing towards his left eye, which scared him into a cold sweat, and he hurried to stop it.

Although he stopped it in time, his spiritual power was still depleted by a small margin.

"Indeed very strange."

Looking at his own left eye, Wyatt Barnes said with a wry smile.

Because he had to return to the Main Mansion's Hidden Dragon Camp the next day, Wyatt Barnes left his guest room to find the little girl 'Maya' and spent the entire day with her.

Not until the next morning did Wyatt Barnes say goodbye to Isaias Hayden and his wife before he left.

However, Wyatt Barnes didn't rush back to the Main Mansion.

He headed straight for the outskirts of Hill Mountain City and, upon leaving the city gates, he stepped into the air and soared through the sky.

"There's a 'flight-restricting formation' in Hill Mountain City that prevents Martial Artists and Taoist Cultivators below the Entering the Saint Realm from flying... It's been months since I've breathed the fresh air of the high altitude."

Wyatt Barnes was flying at high altitude and, before long, he had covered a great distance.

When he turned around, he found Hill Mountain City had become an insignificant black dot... If he didn't know it was Hill Mountain City, he couldn't have recognized it just from the black dot.

Standing in mid-air, Wyatt Barnes quietly gazed at the distant black dot.

Suddenly, a small vortex appeared on his left eye pupil, spinning faster and faster...

Wyatt Barnes could feel his left eye getting hot.

However, his attention was not on this, but on the distant black dot.

He noticed that as his left eye became hot, without him moving, the distant black dot gradually grew larger and ultimately transformed into a vast city.

The clearly outlined Hill Mountain City completely occupied Wyatt Barnes' left eye's vision.

"Clairvoyance?"

Wyatt Barnes took a sharp breath, his heart stirred.

At the same time, feeling the rapid depletion of his spiritual power, Wyatt Barnes hurriedly interrupted the flow, no longer allowing it to send 'energy' to his left eye.

His left eye, now devoid of 'energy', quickly returned to normal.

"So far, I've discovered two of its abilities... One is the ability similar to 'Clairvoyance', and the other is the ability of 'Spatial Shifting'."

This was Wyatt Barnes' research result from one night.

Spatial Shifting refers to the technique he used yesterday to let Elder Fire's punch brush past the side of his face.

It was a capability that his left eye exhibited.

However, that ability consumed spiritual power much faster than using 'Clairvoyance'.

"What should I name it?"

Coming to his senses, Wyatt Barnes began pondering.

Now, his 'left eye' was no longer a normal human eye, so he decided to give it a name, "Divine Eye? No, that's too tacky!"

"Heavenly Eye? That won't do either! It's the same name as the spiritual secret technique 'Heavenly Eye'."

"Ghost Eye? Seems a bit inauspicious."

"'Ghost Eye' doesn't seem bad... Hmm, let's call it Ghost Eye!"

After some thought, Wyatt Barnes confirmed the name for his changed left eye as 'Ghost Eye'...

Ghost Eye refers to a strange and mysterious eye.

And his left eye was indeed strange now.

Having casually strolled around outside, Wyatt Barnes returned to Hill Mountain City and went back to the Main Mansion.

Of course, upon entering the main gate, he had to register once more.

After returning to the Main Mansion, Wyatt Barnes went back to the Hidden Dragon Camp.

Before he stepped into the Hidden Dragon Camp, Wyatt Barnes could hear a series of discussions coming from inside... The person being discussed was his friend at the Hidden Dragon Camp, Jemma Clifford.

"A month ago, Jemma Clifford was defeated by Foresty Crawford... Today, she challenged Foresty Crawford and beat him in just three moves, avenging her past humiliation! Truly impressive."

"That's not even the most impressive part... The most impressive thing is that she defeated the person who was previously ranked 'eighth' among the Thirteen Guardians, taking their place."

"If it weren't for Fenny Graham's breakthrough, she would have definitely been able to defeat Fenny Graham and take his place."

...

A stream of voices entered Wyatt Barnes' ears.

"Jemma Clifford made a breakthrough?"

Upon learning that Jemma Clifford had broken through to the late Transcending Mortal Realm, Wyatt Barnes was slightly surprised, followed by a smile, happy for Jemma Clifford.

However, the fact that Fenny Graham had also made a breakthrough was beyond his expectations.

In a blink of an eye, Wyatt Barnes stepped into the Hidden Dragon Camp grounds.

"Wyatt Barnes is back!"

Just as Wyatt Barnes walked into the Hidden Dragon Camp grounds, several exclamations were heard inside – some sharp-eyed people had spotted him.

This left him somewhat speechless.

What's so surprising about his return?

Soon, with the discussion among a group of young men and women in the Hidden Dragon Camp, Wyatt Barnes also learned the reason...

It turned out that three days ago Fenny Graham had said that when he returned, he would seek to redress his previous defeat to Wyatt.

"Wyatt Barnes!"

Under everyone's scrutiny, Wyatt Barnes had just stepped onto the high platform when the door to wooden hut number seven opened, and a figure who was not unfamiliar to Wyatt Barnes stepped out.

It was 'Fenny Graham'!

Fenny Graham, once the 'number one' person in the mid Transcending Mortal Realm around Hill Mountain City, crowned with glory.

However, since his defeat to Wyatt Barnes, his halo had also disappeared.

For this reason, he harbored intense hatred for Wyatt Barnes.

"Is something the matter?"

Facing Fenny Graham, who had taken the initiative to greet him, Wyatt Barnes looked at him indifferently.

"Wyatt Barnes, I challenge you!"

Fenny Graham spoke directly.

"Today, I want you to return everything you owe me... I will let everyone know that I, Fenny Graham, am stronger than you, Wyatt Barnes!"

At the end of his declaration, a sharp light gleamed in Fenny Graham's eyes, and his face distorted somewhat ferociously.

"I really don't know where this immense confidence of yours comes from!"

Hearing Fenny Graham's words, Wyatt's expression remained unchanged. However, his tone was tinged with a hint of disdain.

"I know you've broken through as well, but that doesn't matter! I will let everyone know... even if you, Wyatt Barnes, have broken through to the 'Late Transcending Mortal Realm' just like me, you will still not be my match."

Fenny Graham stated confidently.

"Is that so?"

At some point, Wyatt Barnes narrowed his eyes, looking at Fenny Graham with keen interest.

"Of course! I will soon make everyone aware... that you, Wyatt Barnes, are no match for me, Fenny Graham!"

Fenny Graham maintained his confidence throughout.

Creak! Creak!

Following the sounds of two doors opening, the doors of wooden hut number three and number eight were swung open, with one person stepping out from each.

A man and a woman.

The man was dressed in brocade garments, looking like a wealthy young master, which in fact he was.

"It's Ingot Gold, ranked third among the Thirteen Protectors!"

"Didn't expect him to come out for this commotion too."

"Who would miss out on such an exciting event?"

...

Due to the appearance of Ingot Gold, the crowd of onlookers once again erupted in noise.

As Ingot Gold emerged from wooden hut number three, the person who came out from number eight was none other than 'Jemma Clifford'... who had just entered wooden hut number eight today.

"I didn't expect to come out of seclusion only to witness such an exciting scene... It truly fills me with anticipation," said Ingot Gold as he looked at Wyatt Barnes and Fenny Graham standing off against each other. Waving his folding fan, he spoke with the air of a refined gentleman.

Although Jemma Clifford didn't speak, when she looked at Wyatt, her eyes were filled with confidence.

After three months, Wyatt Barnes and Fenny Graham once again stood in the same place, ready for a duel just like the one three months ago.

Three months ago, Fenny Graham was defeated by Wyatt Barnes.

More precisely, he was defeated by the bow in Wyatt's hands.

Today, Fenny Graham challenged Wyatt in hopes of redeeming his former shame and regaining his 'dignity' and 'honor'.

"It's about to begin."

As the crowd watched Wyatt and Fenny Graham face off, on the verge of clashing, everyone began to focus intently, anticipating the scene before them.

Unbeknownst to the crowd, a middle-aged man in silver armor stood atop a pavilion.

It was 'Guardian Harvey'.

"Fenny Graham is probably going to humiliate himself again," Guardian Harvey muttered as he looked at the two on the platform, as if he already knew the outcome before the fight had even begun.

On the high platform, seeing Wyatt not making a move, Fenny Graham took the initiative to attack. Wrapping the Late Transcending Mortal Realm True Energy around his legs, he launched an assault at Wyatt.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

...

Perhaps learning from the lesson three months ago, he attacked Wyatt first, his legs primarily pressing down above Wyatt's head, deliberately preventing Wyatt from taking to the skies.

Three months ago, it was by ascending into the air that Wyatt was able to fire an arrow in a short flight, defeating him.

That battle, the power in his legs was on par with the power in Wyatt's arrows, but due to the bow's advantage, he suffered shock injuries... which became the primary reason for his defeat.

Taking the lesson from last time, he didn't make the same mistake again this time.

"Do you think this will be enough to defeat me?" Wyatt asked with a faint smile after figuring out Fenny Graham's intention.

"Whether I can defeat you or not, you'll find out soon enough," responded Fenny Graham coldly, while the True Energy between his legs surged, creating terrifying waves that descended from the sky onto Wyatt's head.



"Like a mantis trying to stop a chariot!"

Confronted with Fenny Graham's thunderous strike, Wyatt scoffed with disdain, and with a raise of his hand, the 'Sunshooting Bow' appeared.

Immediately after, his hand went to the bowstring, and he quickly started to draw it back.

In an instant, the bowstring vibrated, emitting thunderous sounds.

At the same time, True Energy blades formed on the bowstring and streaked out one after another, directly colliding with Fenny Graham's legs.

Or to be more precise, they clashed with the sacred artifact upon Fenny Graham's legs.

Fenny Graham's pair of boots were his sacred artifact, a mid-grade human-level Saint Realm artifact.

Clang! Clang! Clang! Clang! Clang!

...

True Energy blades struck Fenny Graham's pair of boots, producing a series of piercing clangs.

Simultaneously, waves of energy dispersed, whipping up a windstorm that caused the clothes of the spectators to flutter...

However, no one paid any mind to that detail.

All eyes were fixed on the center of the arena.

"Impossible!"

Just then, everyone heard an indignant cry of disbelief.

Right afterwards, they clearly saw Fenny Graham being sent flying backward.

Chapter 1392: Copper Cloth Shirt' Breakthrough

Boom!

Fenny Graham's body flew out like an arrow released from its bow, heavily smashing into the ground, spitting blood frantically from his mouth, his figure extremely disheveled.

"Nothing is impossible."

Hearing Fenny Graham's unwilling and surprised shout as he was sent flying, Wyatt Barnes responded coldly.

Noticing the glances shot from around him, Fenny Graham's complexion grew increasingly ugly; he didn't even need to look to know those were mocking glances.

"So strong!"

'Ingot Gold', ranked third among the Thirteen Guardians, showed amazement, and his gaze held a bit more wariness when he looked at Wyatt Barnes again.

He could tell.

The strength Wyatt Barnes had just shown was not simply that of someone who had just broken through to the later stages of the Transcending Mortal Realm... it felt like he was on par with the peak of the Transcending Mortal Realm.

And he himself was a peak Transcending Mortal Realm Martial Artist.

"Impressive!"

Seeing Wyatt Barnes take control and defeat Fenny Graham in a single encounter, even if Jemma Clifford was confident in Wyatt from the start, she couldn't help but exclaim in awe now.

"This Wyatt Barnes, just after breaking into the later stages of the Transcending Mortal Realm, already has such strength?"

Above the pavilion, Guardian Harvey too was startled by Wyatt Barnes' strength.

If he didn't know the past Wyatt was a 'mid-stage Transcending Mortal Realm Martial Artist', he would never have believed that Wyatt had just broken through to the later stages of the Transcending Mortal Realm so recently.

"Wyatt Barnes' strength is terrifying!"

"Facing Fenny Graham, who also recently advanced to the later stages of the Transcending Mortal Realm, he used just one move to defeat him... truly inconceivable!"

"With the current strength of Wyatt Barnes, I fear he could even shake the position of those ranked in the top five among the Thirteen Guardians."

...

The bystanders discussed animatedly, many wishing Wyatt Barnes would challenge the top five of the Thirteen Guardians right there and then.

While many were admiring Wyatt's strength, not many noticed that after bitterly glancing at Wyatt Barnes, Fenny Graham returned to hut number seven.

His challenge today against Wyatt was initially to retrieve his lost honor.

Having advanced to the later stages of the Transcending Mortal Realm, he was full of confidence, thinking he could defeat Wyatt... Who would have thought that in just one encounter, he would be beaten by Wyatt.

If he had known it would turn out this way, he definitely wouldn't have come out and made a fool of himself.

"How could Wyatt's progress be so tremendous... Before our breakthrough, he was barely better than me with the advantage of long-range bow and arrow attacks. But just now..."

After returning to hut number seven, Fenny Graham's face looked even uglier than if his parents had died.

Most people present didn't even clearly see what happened when Fenny Graham was struck and sent flying... Only Fenny Graham himself knew how terrifying the True Energy blade shot from Wyatt's bowstring was.

Each True Energy blade that landed on his Holy Stone boots felt like being smashed by a heavy hammer.

At first, he could still endure it.

But as the True Energy blades kept coming one after another, he eventually couldn't bear it and was sent flying... And because of his previous endurances, he sustained very severe internal injuries.

"The day after tomorrow is the day the City Lord comes out from his retreat... At that time, he'll set up a test and recruit two to three disciples."

Thinking of this, Fenny Graham's heart sank.

"I hope my injuries won't affect the test... otherwise, I will never forgive that Wyatt Barnes!"

Thinking about it later, Fenny Graham almost gritted his teeth.

Now, he seemed to have forgotten that he was a loser under Wyatt's hands.

"Jemma Clifford, congratulations."

Outside, Wyatt Barnes looked at Jemma Clifford, congratulating her on advancing to the later stage of the Transcending Mortal Realm.

Jemma Clifford returned the smile.

Then, Wyatt Barnes turned towards Ingot Gold, ranked third among the Thirteen Guardians, and nodded with a smile.

"Wyatt Barnes, would you like to challenge me now?"

Ingot Gold asked with a smile.

Seeing Wyatt display such formidable strength, Ingot Gold's hunting instinct was pleased... Having come to the Hidden Dragon Camp and ranking third among the Thirteen Guardians, Ingot Gold was inherently a fighter.

"Next time."

Wyatt Barnes held a good impression of Ingot Gold and did not plan to embarrass him in public.

If it was a few days ago, he wouldn't have dared to say he could defeat Ingot Gold, who was ranked third among the Thirteen Guardians... But now, with the 'Mysterious Eye', it was different.

Mysterious Eye, Wyatt originally named it 'Ghost Eye'.

In the end, finding it unsightly, he changed it to 'Mysterious Eye'.

Mysterious Eye refers to his 'left eye', which assimilated and merged with the One-eyed Griffin's eye, inheriting the powers of the One-eyed Griffin's eye.

"Then next time."

Ingot Gold nodded slightly, smiling gently without forcing Wyatt Barnes to make a move.

Following this, Wyatt Barnes greeted Jemma Clifford and Ingot Gold before returning to his hut number six.

Seeing this, Jemma Clifford also returned to her hut number eight.

If nothing unexpected occurs, in the next few days, the City Lord of Hill Mountain City will come out of seclusion... At that time, he will set up a test to select two to three people from the thirteen guards of the Hidden Dragon Camp to become his disciples.

Jemma Clifford really wants to become the disciple of the City Lord of Hill Mountain City.

Once she becomes the disciple of the City Lord of Hill Mountain City, she will no longer have to worry about being assassinated.

The two major families on Jade Trust Island, though incompatible with the 'Clifford Family' where she belongs, still dare not offend the Main Mansion of Hill Mountain City... The Main Mansion of Hill Mountain City is one of the 'Eighth Class Forces' of Martial Dao Sacred Land, far beyond their reach.

"Once I become the disciple of the City Lord, not only will those two families not kill me anymore, but they will also prevent others from killing me... After all, if I die, it will inevitably implicate them."

Jemma Clifford thought to herself: "At that time, if the City Lord in his anger decides to annihilate them, it's not impossible."

Just two ninth class forces, killing a disciple of an eighth class force is undoubtedly a blatant provocation.

Not to mention anything else, just for the sake of authority, an eighth class force would not let those two ninth class forces off... At that time, it will be an approach of 'better to kill wrongly than to let go'.

For this reason, Jemma Clifford is eagerly looking forward to passing the test set by the City Lord of Hill Mountain City and becoming his disciple.

"Although the chance is slim, I will still do my best."

Jemma Clifford murmured earnestly.

Indeed, her chances are very slim.

Not to mention the top five figures among the thirteen guards, she is not even a match for Wyatt Barnes and Fenny Graham.

Among the thirteen guards, there are seven people she cannot compare with, so naturally, her chances are slim.

Now, she is only hoping for a 'miracle' to happen.

After returning to cabin number eight, Ingot Gold did not stay outside much longer and followed back to cabin number three, closing the door to continue cultivating... getting ready for the test soon to be set by the City Lord of Hill Mountain City.

With Ingot Gold's return, calm was restored on the high platform.

However, below the high platform, the area behind the decrepit wooden cabins by the cesspool was bustling with activity.

People were still discussing the strength of Wyatt Barnes.

Some also mentioned Wyatt Barnes's refusal of Ingot Gold's 'suggestion'.

"What do you think... Wyatt Barnes's refusal of Ingot Gold, not challenging Ingot Gold, could it be that he was afraid of Ingot Gold?"

Someone couldn't help but ask.

"Possibly."

Someone expressed agreement.

"More than possibly... In my opinion, it's because Wyatt Barnes himself knew he was no match for Ingot Gold, which is why he didn't challenge Ingot Gold."

"If he was confident in defeating Ingot Gold, he would definitely replace Ingot Gold and take over as the 'third' of the thirteen guards... after all, being ranked 'third' among the thirteen guards allows one to receive more Holy Stones."

"Yeah. Tomorrow is the day to collect the original stones... If Wyatt Barnes could defeat Ingot Gold and become the 'third' among the thirteen guards, he would be able to collect one thousand one hundred eighth-grade Holy Stones."

"Right now, he is only ranked 'sixth' among the thirteen guards, able to collect only eight hundred eighth-grade Holy Stones."

...

Due to this topic, the decrepit wooden cabin area became lively once more.

In the end, almost everyone agreed that it should be so.

"Wyatt Barnes and Jemma Clifford are too powerful... They have both advanced to the later stage of the Transcending Mortal Realm. I don't know when I'll be able to break through."

In front of a decrepit wooden cabin, a young man stood murmuring to himself.

This young man was none other than Edward Watson, a genius Martial Artist who joined the Hidden Dragon Camp with Wyatt Barnes and Lily Watson on the same day, from the Watson Family of Wind-Rain Town under Hill Mountain City's command.



Joining the Hidden Dragon Camp on the same day, the fact that both Wyatt Barnes and Jemma Clifford entered the ranks of the thirteen guards already left him shockingly surprised.

Now, Wyatt Barnes and Jemma Clifford becoming prominent figures among the thirteen guards stirred up complex emotions in him.

"I can't be lazy anymore... Even if I can't catch up to Wyatt Barnes and Jemma Clifford, I must also break into the ranks of the thirteen guards."

Taking a deep breath, Edward Watson returned to his decrepit wooden cabin, diligently devoting himself to cultivation.

A day later, inside the Jewel Tower.

"I've broken through!"

Suddenly, an excited and joyful voice came from the second floor of the Jewel Tower, it was indeed 'Wyatt Barnes's voice.

Now, Wyatt Barnes stood aloft in the second floor of the Jewel Tower.

The space inside the Jewel Tower was not restricted by the 'No-Flying Formation' of Hill Mountain City, so Wyatt Barnes could fly freely inside.

At the moment, the aloft Wyatt Barnes, his body was emitting bursts of coppery sheen.

Now, he was wearing only a pair of trousers, bare-chested.

His muscles slightly bulged, giving his robust upper body an appearance as if draped in a layer of 'copper clothing'... It was indeed the defensive move from the lower human-grade martial arts, Copper Cloth Shirt.

Wyatt Barnes was excited and delighted completely because the 'Copper Cloth Shirt' had made a breakthrough, reaching the second realm of the martial arts technique, with some achievement.

"I feel... after operating 'Copper Cloth Shirt', my body seems to have grown stronger."

Clutching his fists, the excitement on Wyatt Barnes's face was unstoppable.

Suddenly, he raised his hand and threw a punch without using True Energy, which shook the air and created a vast shockwave that blasted directly onto the wall.

Bang!!

A loud explosion sounded, and a wave of air swept through, with wild winds ravaging the entire second floor of the Jewel Tower.

Chapter 1393: Hill Mountain City Lord

"Now, even without the 'Mysterious Eye,' late-stage Martial Artists and Taoist Cultivators at the peak of the Transcending Mortal Realm might not necessarily be my match!"

After the breakthrough of the 'Copper Cloth Shirt,' Wyatt Barnes was brimming with confidence.

His body was inherently strong, and once he used the 'Copper Cloth Shirt,' it was like a tiger gaining wings. Coupled with the True Energy surging instantaneously from the thirty-two Saint Veins, he was unbeatable.

"Today seems to be the day for comprehending Holy Stones."

After his excitement subsided, Wyatt came back to his senses and remembered that today seemed to be the day for members of the Hidden Dragon Camp to receive Holy Stones.

"I've already missed two months; I can't miss this month."

With a thought, Wyatt left the Jewel Tower and returned to Cabin No. 6.

After putting away the Jewel Tower, he left the cabin and headed straight for a nearby pavilion...

At present, quite a few people were coming in and out of the pavilion, clearly members of the Hidden Dragon Camp going to receive Holy Stones.

Wyatt made his way there, drawing many gazes as he passed.

"It's Wyatt Barnes!"

"Wyatt Barnes is ranked sixth among the thirteen Protectors, and he can receive eight hundred Grade Eight Holy Stones every month... It's truly enviable."

"Indeed, each of us only gets ten Grade Eight Holy Stones, yet he has eight hundred, almost equal to all of us combined."

...

In the rundown wooden cabin area below the high platform, many people shook their heads and sighed.

Comparing oneself to others will only make one frustrated to death!

Wyatt entered the pavilion and approached Guardian Harvey.

Intending to comprehend eight hundred Grade Eight Holy Stones, he, however, received two thousand four hundred Grade Eight Holy Stones instead.

"This..."

For that, Wyatt could not help being taken aback.

"During the past three months, it's been a 'special period'... Heavenly Guard has decreed that to prevent any impact on the cultivation of the thirteen Protectors, the Holy Stones for these three months can be accumulated and given out at once."

Guardian Harvey still maintained a cold expression, uttering coolly.

Wyatt suddenly realized, thanked him, and then turned to leave.

"Special period... Does it refer to Hill Mountain City's City Lord coming out of seclusion to take on disciples? Indeed, over the past three months, not only have I forgotten to comprehend Holy Stones, but other Protectors have likely forgotten as well."

Wyatt thought to himself.

With the City Lord's test for taking disciples approaching, nearly every one of the Protectors was cultivating day and night, and forgetting to collect Holy Stones at times was not impossible.

Taking the two thousand four hundred Grade Eight Holy Stones, Wyatt left the pavilion and headed back toward Cabin No. 6.

However, just as he arrived at the entrance to Cabin No. 6, he was stopped by someone.

"Hmm?"

Wyatt frowned and looked at the person in front of him, asking, "Is there a problem?"

"Stay away from Jemma Clifford in the future."

The man standing before Wyatt spoke with a cold voice.

"Why should I?"

Wyatt's eyebrows relaxed, showing interest as he looked at the man and asked indifferently.

"Because she is going to be my future woman, Jan Clark!"

The person standing before Wyatt was none other than Jan Clark, ranked 'fifth' among the thirteen Protectors.

This Jan Clark was also the distant cousin of Gideon Cruz, who had come from Wind-Rain Town with Edward Watson.

Three months ago, during the Council Hall meeting at the City Lord's mansion, Wyatt had seen him... At that time, Jan was clinging to Jemma Clifford, but she paid him no mind.

"Why should I? Because my fist is bigger than yours!"

Hearing Wyatt's words, Jan smirked coldly, and a chill flashed in his narrowed eyes.

"Your fist is bigger than mine?"

Wyatt laughed.

He genuinely did not know where Jan's confidence came from... Was it because Wyatt hadn't challenged him, making Jan think Wyatt was scared of him?

What Wyatt didn't know was that Jan indeed thought so.

The ritual, where the thirteen Protectors recite commands, reflects a different number of Holy Stones received each month.

Take the 'sixth' ranked Wyatt and the 'fifth' ranked Jan, for instance.

Wyatt can only receive eight hundred Grade Eight Holy Stones a month, while Jan can comprehend nine hundred.

Between them, there's a difference of a hundred Grade Eight Holy Stones.

In Jan's view, the reason Wyatt dared not challenge him was that Wyatt was afraid of him.

"Thirteen Protectors, heed the order!"

Just as tension escalated between Wyatt and Jan, attracting the notice of many onlookers, a thunderous voice transmitted from the sky.

All those present, including Wyatt, looked up upon hearing the sound.

At a glance, they saw a cyan figure standing high in the sky... It was a middle-aged man in cyan clothing, standing there, immovable as a mountain, like a statue.

"Heavenly Guard, sir!"

At this moment, including the first-ranked 'Wyatt' among the thirteen Protectors, other figures from the Protectors stepped out of their cabins and respectfully saluted toward the cyan-clothed middle-aged man in the sky.

"This Heavenly Guard is truly an 'Entering the Saint Realm powerhouse'!"

Wyatt, among those saluting, had a thought.

Including Hill Mountain City's Main Mansion, the entire city was enveloped by 'sky-restricting formations,' allowing only those above 'Entering the Saint Realm' to soar through the skies.

And now, with Heavenly Guard standing aloft in midair, his profound cultivation was evident.

At this moment, Wyatt couldn't help but feel somewhat fortunate... Fortunate that three months ago in the Council Hall, he hadn't succumbed to curiosity and used his 'Heavenly Eye' to probe Heavenly Guard's cultivation.

Back then, he had nearly been unable to restrain his curiosity and was about to use the 'Heavenly Eye' to investigate Heavenly Guard.

"Heavenly Guard, sir? My heavens! Our Hill Mountain City Main Mansion's foremost lead among the thirty-six guards, 'Heavenly Guard,' is actually an Entering the Saint Realm powerhouse!"

As the thirteen guards bowed to the Heavenly Guard, the members of the Hidden Dragon Camp in the dilapidated wooden house area also learned the identity of the middle-aged man in green clothes who stood upon the air.

"Lord Heavenly Guard!"

For a moment, they all followed in bowing.

"The City Lord has emerged from seclusion... Follow me to the Council Hall to meet the City Lord."

The Heavenly Guard spoke once more.

As he did so, his figure slowly descended, landing right at the entrance of the Hidden Dragon Camp.

Upon hearing the words of the Heavenly Guard and seeing his actions, everyone including Wyatt Barnes flew out, trailing behind the Heavenly Guard one by one.

"Wyatt Barnes, consider yourself lucky!"

At the same time, a True Energy voice transmission reached Wyatt's ears.

He could tell that it was Jan Clark's voice.

However, Wyatt acted as if he hadn't heard Jan Clark's words at all, completely ignoring him... which made Jan Clark's expression even uglier, his eyes filled with murderous intent.

When he saw Jemma Clifford quicken her pace, arriving beside Wyatt and walking shoulder to shoulder with him, his face grew even more unsightly.

"Wyatt, are you confident?"

Jemma Clifford walked side by side with Wyatt, following behind the Heavenly Guard towards the Main Mansion's Council Hall, and inquired through True Energy voice transmission.

"I don't know."

In response to Jemma Clifford's inquiry, Wyatt shook his head.

He knew what Jemma Clifford was asking about—whether he was confident in passing the test set by the City Lord of Hill Mountain City and becoming the City Lord's disciple.

And he was being truthful... With no idea what the test even was, of course, he didn't know if he had a chance.

"I think you stand a good chance."

Jemma Clifford added.

"Don't just talk about me... What about you? Are you confident?"

Wyatt asked.

"Me? Not confident."

Jemma Clifford shook her head with a bitter smile, "My strength is inferior to both you and Fenny Graham... let alone the other five among the thirteen guards who are at the forefront."

"We still don't know what the test is; maybe it's not just about strength?"

Wyatt consoled.



"I hope so."

Jemma Clifford nodded her head.

Fenny Graham also followed behind, looking at Wyatt's back with a venomous glare in his eyes.

Until now, his internal injuries had not yet healed, all thanks to the person before him.

Now, all he hoped for was that the test wouldn't be held within these two days... Otherwise, he was sure to suffer a great disadvantage.

Before long, the Heavenly Guard, along with Wyatt and the other twelve, arrived outside the Council Hall of the Main Mansion and stopped.

"City Lord, the thirteen guards have arrived."

Standing outside the Council Hall, the Heavenly Guard bent forward and spoke respectfully, his tone filled with humility.

"As beings who have Entered the Saint Realm... that City Lord of Hill Mountain City must be stronger than the Heavenly Guard."

Wyatt thought to himself.

He did not doubt this at all.

"Come in."

As the Heavenly Guard's words just ended, a calm and authoritative voice came from inside the Council Hall, prompting the Heavenly Guard to quickly respond.

The next moment, the Heavenly Guard led Wyatt and the others into the Council Hall.

Wyatt was not unfamiliar with the Council Hall, having been there just three months ago.

However, today's Council Hall had two additional people.

At the foremost seat of the Council Hall, a middle-aged man in a silver robe was seated... The middle-aged man had an innate dignified appearance, with a face like jade and sitting there as steady as a mountain.

His presence brought an indescribable pressure.

"Is he the City Lord of Hill Mountain City?"

Wyatt guessed the middle-aged man's identity.

At the same time, Wyatt's gaze also fell on a black-clothed young man standing behind the City Lord of Hill Mountain City... The young man in black had ordinary looks, but his eyes were exceptionally sharp.

From the moment they entered, the young man in black didn't even cast a proper glance at them... including the Heavenly Guard; he didn't look even once.

It was as if he had completely ignored them.

"Such arrogance!"

Wyatt thought to himself.

"City Lord!"

At that moment, Wyatt and the other twelve among the guards bowed to the City Lord of Hill Mountain City, following the Heavenly Guard.

The City Lord of Hill Mountain City nodded his head without any expression.

"Transcending... Transcending Mortal Realm Small Perfection?"

And at that moment, Wyatt's heart involuntarily trembled...

All because he had discovered through the Heavenly Eye the cultivation level of the black-clothed young man standing behind the City Lord of Hill Mountain City.

Transcending Mortal Realm Small Perfection!

"Thirty-seven years old."

After finding out the young man's age, Wyatt's emotions surged again, "Only two years older than me, yet already in the Small Perfection of the Transcending Mortal Realm... Although he's somewhat behind Wyatt, it seems he also comes from the 'Ordinary Mortal Continent'."

Wyatt had already guessed.

This black-clothed young man was the only current disciple of the City Lord of Hill Mountain City.

Chapter 1394: Kai Simmons

The City Lord of Hill Mountain City sat at the head, his sharp gaze sweeping across all thirteen people, including Wyatt Barnes.

In an instant, Wyatt only felt a majestic mental force sweeping towards him... This mental force quickly enveloped his whole body, giving him a feeling of having nowhere to hide.

Wyatt knew that the City Lord of Hill Mountain City was probing them.

The gaze of the City Lord of Hill Mountain City finally rested on the young man in cyan who carried a sheathed long sword on his back.

"You must be the chief of the Thirteen Guardians, Lanni?"

Suddenly, the City Lord of Hill Mountain squinted his eyes, his gaze piercingly fixed on the cyan-clad young man, casually asking.

"Yes."

In front of the City Lord of Hill Mountain City, Lanni dared not take it lightly.

"Not bad, not bad... Barely thirty years old, yet you've already broken through to 'Transcending Mortal Realm Small Perfection'. Your future is boundless."

The City Lord of Hill Mountain City nodded, his eyes mixed with a few hints of appreciation.

Transcending Mortal Realm Small Perfection?

As soon as the City Lord of Hill Mountain City made this remark, aside from Lanni and Wyatt, including the Heavenly Guard and a black-clothed young man standing behind the City Lord of Hill Mountain City, everyone present was deeply moved.

"It really is Transcending Mortal Realm Small Perfection!"

The Heavenly Guard was the first to react, his mental force sweeping towards where Lanni was, and swiftly discerned Lanni's cultivation through a mental secret technique.

The mental secret technique for probing 'cultivation' is different from the one for probing 'age'.

The latter can be successful unless probing someone whose cultivation is a whole major realm higher than oneself.

That means, a Martial Artist or Taoist Cultivator in the early stages of the Transcending Mortal Realm can use a mental secret technique to find the age of one in the peak of the Transcending Mortal Realm.

The former, however, only those whose cultivation surpasses the probed by one major realm can be successful.

This means, probing the exact cultivation of a Martial Artist or Taoist Cultivator in the Transcending Mortal Realm, only someone in the Entering the Saint Realm or above can do it.

Of course, Wyatt's 'Heavenly Eye' doesn't have this limitation.

The Heavenly Guard, also being 'Entering the Saint Realm', easily found out Lanni's whole cultivation.

Although Lanni had already broken through to 'Transcending Mortal Realm Small Perfection' three months ago when he first came to the Council Hall, the Heavenly Guard had not probed his cultivation at that time.

Therefore, he only now knew that Lanni had reached Transcending Mortal Realm Small Perfection.

"Lanni actually broke through to Transcending Mortal Realm Small Perfection?"

The other eleven people among the Thirteen Guardians, aside from Lanni and Wyatt, were shocked when they looked at Lanni again.

Especially Baer Bear, his face bitter.

A few days ago, he spotted signs of his own breakthrough to Transcending Mortal Realm Small Perfection and thought he would be the first among the Thirteen Guardians to break through, but unexpectedly, Lanni had already advanced before him.

This left him feeling powerless.

The black-clad young man standing behind the City Lord of Hill Mountain City, looked at Lanni with thick fighting intent in his eyes.

"Lanni, I've already thought of a challenge for you."

The City Lord of Hill Mountain City spoke again, successfully capturing everyone's attention...particularly, the other twelve people among the Thirteen Guardians including Wyatt, each one's gaze brightening.

What challenge will this City Lord set for Lanni?

Is the challenge set for Lanni the same as the one they will face?

Their hearts were full of anticipation.

Upon hearing the City Lord of Hill Mountain City's words, Lanni's eyes also brightened.

Even the Heavenly Guard had an expectant look as he watched the City Lord of Hill Mountain City.

"Lanni... My disciple 'Kai Simmons', like you, is also at Transcending Mortal Realm Small Perfection. If you can withstand three moves from him without defeat, I will accept you as my disciple."

Finally, in front of everyone, the City Lord of Hill Mountain City spoke, setting forth the challenge for Lanni.

Upon hearing the City Lord of Hill Mountain City's words, the black-clad young man 'Kai Simmons' standing behind him brightened, immediately taking a step forward to stand beside the City Lord of Hill Mountain City, his gaze sharply fixed on Lanni.

"Is that Kai Simmons?"

"The City Lord's disciple? A genius Martial Artist from the Mortals' Continent?"

"Unexpectedly, the City Lord's disciple is also a Transcending Mortal Realm Small Perfection Martial Artist... However, given that they are both at Transcending Mortal Realm Small Perfection, isn't the challenge the City Lord set for Lanni a bit too simple?"

"I think so too."

...

Many among the Thirteen Guardians whispered quietly.

They all thought the challenge the City Lord of Hill Mountain City set for Lanni seemed too easy for him... Of course, even though they found it easy, they were not dissatisfied.

Lanni, only thirty years old and already a Transcending Mortal Realm Small Perfection Martial Artist.

For such a talented person, even if he were to become the City Lord of Hill Mountain City's disciple without any challenge, they wouldn't be surprised.

Hearing the City Lord of Hill Mountain City's words, Lanni's eyebrows imperceptibly furrowed.

He did not like this feeling of being underestimated.

"Lanni, make your move... I do indeed want to see if you, as the head of the Thirteen Guardians, are qualified to become my junior disciple brother."

Kai Simmons stared directly at Lanni, calmly spoke.

"Here? Shall we start?"

Just as Wyatt and the others heard Kai Simmons's words and couldn't help but be startled, Lanni had already moved, his long sword 'clang' drawing from the sheath behind him.

A three-foot sword beam, shooting forth, directly aimed at Kai Simmons.

Although he felt underestimated by the City Lord of Hill Mountain City and was thus angered... Lanni subconsciously thought, the challenge set by the City Lord of Hill Mountain City for him wasn't so simple.

Thus, he immediately made his move, opting to strike first.

"Such a fast sword!"

Wyatt was surprised to discover that in his right eye, Lanni including the sword transformed into a difficult-to-capture illusion... In his left eye, Lanni's speed was also extremely fast.

His left eye, being different, was due to inheriting the 'ability' of the Mysterious Eye of the One-eyed Griffin.

Of course, you can also call it 'talent'.

Shoo! Shoo! Shoo! Shoo! Shoo!

...

In the blink of an eye, Wyatt had thrust out thirteen swords, each strike was real and issued from the middle-grade holy sword in his hand, bursting forth with a brilliant sword light.

Where the sword light passed, it seemed as if it would leave thirteen bloody holes on Kai Simmons' body.

What surprised Wyatt was.

Facing Wyatt's preemptive strike, thunderous like an assault, from start to end, Kai Simmons' expression remained unchanged.

Only when Wyatt, along with the sword, got close did he move.

Whoosh!



He slightly bent his knees, and the next moment, sprang up, leaping into the air, narrowly dodging the thirteen solid sword lights from Wyatt's hand.

Seeing the thirteen sword lights dodged, Wyatt seemed not too surprised, a glint flashing in his eyes as he leaned back.

At the same time, a thunderous palm from Kai Simmons came crashing down, the True Energy formed palm imprint nearly swept past Wyatt's face as he leaned back.

The palm imprint almost hit beside the Council Hall, poised to shatter one of the chairs.

A Heavenly Guard intervened, with a sweeping motion of his hand—with no True Energy seen—the palm imprint exploded in mid-air into nothingness, leaving only a turbulent whirlwind.

It caused the chairs on that side of the Council Hall to sway.

"One move."

Wyatt had a thought.

Perhaps, the others from the Thirteen Protectors didn't see clearly what just happened...but his silently operated 'Mysterious Eye', saw it all vividly.

As Kai Simmons dodged Wyatt's attack, he had also strikingly dealt Wyatt a palm from mid-air.

The speed of that palm was extraordinarily fast, beyond the capacity of an ordinary Transcending Mortal Realm Martial Artist at Small Perfection.

However, Wyatt was also no ordinary Transcending Mortal Realm Martial Artist at Small Perfection, and he managed to evade Kai Simmons' palm without harm.

"Good!"

The City Lord of Hill Mountain City exclaimed with a laugh.

"Kai Simmons has not used a holy weapon yet."

Wyatt thought to himself.

As if in response to Wyatt's thought, Kai Simmons who had just leaped up, now descending, had an additional narrow blade in hand, shimmering like a crescent moon with an intimidating cold light.

Shoo! Shoo! Shoo!

...

As Kai Simmons was about to land, Wyatt did not give him the chance, while he was still in mid-air and could not exert force, his three-foot Qingfeng blade burst forth, transforming into five even faster sword lights.

These five sword lights were even faster than the thirteen he thrust earlier.

Seize him in his illness, demand his life!

At this moment, Wyatt seemed to show no mercy when he had the upper hand.

"Well done!"

Yet, Kai Simmons was not panicked; facing the lightning-fast five swords thrust by Wyatt, he let out a low shout, True Energy surged on his narrow blade, and he threw it.

Hum! Hum! Hum! Hum! Hum!

...

The narrow blade, upon release, swiftly spun in the air, whirling beneath Kai Simmons like a fan.

And Kai Simmons stood firmly on it as if on flat ground.

Clang! Clang! Clang! Clang! Clang!

Five harsh sounds rang out almost at the same time.

It was Wyatt's five swiftly thrust swords, intercepted by Kai Simmons... more precisely, by the fan-like continuously spinning blade.

"What a sublime defensive technique!"

Wyatt's eyes brightened, "Now, two moves have passed... if Wyatt blocks one more move, he will pass the test and can become the disciple of the City Lord of Hill Mountain City."

"If I were Wyatt... next move, I would either defend passively against the upcoming attack from Kai Simmons or take the initiative, launching a torrential offensive, putting Kai Simmons on the back foot."

Wyatt thought to himself.

Almost as Wyatt's thought settled, Wyatt had already made his choice at the fastest speed.

He chose the latter.

He pushed against the ground, causing it to crack open like a spider web of ferocious fissures.

Immediately, he, like a transformed sword, soared into the sky.

Clang!!

A louder and sharper sound echoed as Wyatt's sword forcefully tore through Kai Simmons' defensive blade technique and aimed straight for Kai Simmons, as if to pierce him from bottom to top.

Wyatt noticed.

At this moment, Kai Simmons' face also became grave.

No longer casual.

He got serious.

Bang!!

He thrust his leg and kicked the blade beneath, propelling himself shooting into the air.

At this moment, the blade under his feet drew a perfect arc, stably returning to his hand.

Whoosh!

Wyatt, along with his sword, pursued Kai Simmons into the sky.

Chapter 1395: Vicious Insight

In the blink of an eye, Kai Simmons turned mid-air, his legs inexplicably kicking backward as a shockwave formed by True Energy heavily struck the air.

Boom!!

Immediately, a loud explosion spread, the rolling shockwave propelled him like an arrow released from a bow, diving sharply downward.

Directly facing Wyatt's sword.

One soaring upward, the other plummeting downward, the sword's radiance surged first, followed closely by the blade's aura like a shadow, fiercely colliding together in midair, like two blazing suns vying for brightness.

Clang!!

Boom!!

The clash of sword and blade, like two scorching suns stacking upon each other, then exploding.

In an instant, the radiance of the blazing sun rampaged forth, with a pneumatic explosion in the air, a sweeping gale enveloped everything in all directions.

It was about to knock over many items in the Council Hall, but at the critical moment, the Heavenly Guard intervened once again, intercepting the vast, rolling gale.

"Wow!!"

At the same time, everyone heard a sound of spitting blood, only to see that after Wyatt and the other touched ground with swords in hand, Wyatt knelt on one knee, his sword propped on the ground.

His face was pale, constantly spitting mouthfuls of congested blood, looking extremely distressed.

Huff!

Simultaneously, Kai Simmons landed steadily, his face showing a faint flush, evidently due to the surging blood within his body.

However, he wasn't injured.

Wow!!

This scene caused a stir throughout the audience.

Both at the Small Perfection of the Transcending Mortal Realm, it took Kai Simmons only three moves to defeat the preemptive Wyatt.

At this moment, apart from Wyatt Barnes, the eleven remaining among the Thirteen Protectors felt as though their achievements were not worth mentioning in the face of Kai Simmons.

"Truly worthy of being the City Lord's disciple."

Many silently exclaimed.

Seeing is believing; Kai Simmons's strength won people's complete conviction.

"This Kai Simmons's strength... might have already reached the peak of Small Perfection in the Transcending Mortal Realm! Just one step away, he should be able to break through to the Great Perfection of the Transcending Mortal Realm."

Wyatt Barnes looked at Kai Simmons and thought to himself.

"Three moves, and I have lost."

After taking Pill Medicine to heal and recovering from some injuries, Wyatt looked bitterly at the Hill Mountain City Lord and spoke.

Now, nobody thought that the Hill Mountain City Lord had simply set up a formal test for Wyatt... It appeared to be a mere formality, but Wyatt did not pass it.

"I will give you another chance... In a month, if you can withstand three moves from Kai Simmons without defeat, I will accept you as my disciple. Now, go back."

The Hill Mountain City Lord looked at Wyatt and said.

"Thank you, City Lord!"

Hearing there was still a chance, Wyatt's eyes lit up, and after standing up, he quickly left the Council Hall to return to his training at the Hidden Dragon Camp.

After Wyatt left, everyone's gaze fell on Kai Simmons.

The strength that Kai Simmons had demonstrated was shocking.

At that moment, Kai Simmons also returned to the side of the Hill Mountain City Lord, his expression as cold as before.

"I heard that among the Thirteen Protectors, there is also one from the Mortal Continent?"

The Hill Mountain City Lord's gaze swept over the remaining twelve Protectors, and he inquired.

"City Lord!"

Wyatt Barnes stepped forward.

"City Lord, Wyatt Barnes, on the first day he arrived at the Hidden Dragon Camp, became a figure among the Thirteen Protectors... A month ago, he even broke through to the

'Late Transcending Mortal Realm,' defeating Foresty Crawford who had also reached the same stage."

The Heavenly Guard reported.

Foresty Crawford was also present; upon hearing the Heavenly Guard's words, his expression darkened slightly, his fists clenched, and his body trembled.

The humiliation from a month ago, he would never forget for the rest of his life!

"Wyatt Barnes, I will make you regret... I will definitely make you regret it!"

Foresty Crawford stared at Wyatt Barnes's back, roaring continuously in his heart.

"Late Transcending Mortal Realm? Isn't he at the 'Mid Transcending Mortal Realm'?"

Upon hearing the Heavenly Guard's words, the Hill Mountain City Lord's brows furrowed.

As soon as the Hill Mountain City Lord spoke, Wyatt Barnes knew his cultivation level was about to be exposed... However, he didn't mind, he had neither stolen nor robbed, there was no need to be secretive.

"Mid Transcending Mortal Realm?"

The words of the Hill Mountain City Lord caused a shock, including to the Heavenly Guard, who exclaimed softly in response.

Immediately after, he used a spiritual secret technique to probe Wyatt Barnes's cultivation.

After finding out the 'result,' his face also became incredibly animated, "It's... it's indeed just the Mid Transcending Mortal Realm! Wyatt Barnes, you... you are only at the Mid Transcending Mortal Realm?"

"Hmm."

Wyatt Barnes nodded, feeling the spiritual power of the Heavenly Guard probing him, knowing that the latter had also discovered his cultivation level.

"Impossible!"

Just then, two people cried out in shock.

It was Foresty Crawford, who had been defeated by Wyatt Barnes a month ago, and Fenny Graham, who had only been defeated yesterday.



They had fought with Wyatt Barnes and knew the strength of his capabilities.

No matter what, they couldn't believe that Wyatt Barnes's cultivation was only at the 'Mid Transcending Mortal Realm.'"

"Humph! Both the City Lord and I have probed Wyatt Barnes's cultivation with spiritual secret techniques... His cultivation is indeed at the 'Mid Transcending Mortal Realm.'"

The Heavenly Guard hummed coldly, his cold gaze sweeping over Foresty Crawford and Fenny Graham, "What? You doubt the words of me and the City Lord? You think the City Lord and I are going senile?"

"Foresty Crawford dares not!"

"Fenny Graham dares not!"

Foresty Crawford and Fenny Graham realized their misconduct and hastily lowered their heads.

At this moment, including Jemma Clifford, the eyes of the eleven of the thirteen guardians shifted entirely when they looked towards Wyatt Barnes.

Mid Transcending Mortal Realm, defeating Foresty Crawford in the late Transcending Mortal Realm?

"A few days ago, Jemma Clifford broke through to the late Transcending Mortal Realm and defeated Foresty Crawford, who is also in the late Transcending Mortal Realm... then Jemma Clifford got defeated by Fenny Graham, who had just broken through to the late Transcending Mortal Realm."

At this time, the second-ranked 'Ingot Gold' among the thirteen guardians spoke up.

"Just yesterday... in just a single exchange, Fenny Graham was defeated by Wyatt!"

As he spoke, Ingot Gold looked towards Wyatt with a particularly complex expression.

Yesterday, he personally witnessed Wyatt make his move... At that time, he almost concluded that Wyatt was at the peak of the late Transcending Mortal Realm, just like him.

But today, after the probing by the two 'Entering Saint Realm powerhouses', the City Lord of Hill Mountain City and the Heavenly Guard... he found out that Wyatt is just a 'Mid Transcending Mortal Realm Martial Artist'.

"Wyatt, your... your cultivation is really just at the mid Transcending Mortal Realm?"

Jemma Clifford asked in disbelief.

"Hmm."

Wyatt nodded.

"What about three months ago? When you first defeated Fenny Graham, what was your level of cultivation?"

Jemma Clifford asked again.

As Jemma Clifford spoke, including the Heavenly Guard, it dawned on the group of thirteen guardians... Wyatt had defeated Fenny Graham three months ago before Fenny had made his breakthrough.

At that time, Wyatt did not display overwhelming strength, he just managed to narrowly defeat Fenny Graham with the advantage of his bow and arrow.

"Three months ago... I was at the 'Initial Transcending Mortal Realm'."

Wyatt said.

Boom!!

As soon as Wyatt spoke, it was like a stone causing a thousand ripples, shocking the crowd once more.

"Do you mean... whether it was when you originally defeated Fenny Graham or defeated Luis Lee to become a member of the thirteen guardians, at that time you were just an Initial Transcending Mortal Realm Martial Artist?"

Jemma Clifford gasped in shock.

"Hmm."

Wyatt nodded.

For a moment, most of the people on the scene looked at Wyatt as if they were looking at a monster.

Gaining a seat among the thirteen guardians while at the Initial Transcending Mortal Realm.

That was simply freakish!

"Humph! Foresty Crawford and Fenny Graham are really useless, a disgrace to us late Transcending Mortal Realm Martial Artists... Can't even defeat a mere mid Transcending Mortal Realm Martial Artist."

The fifth-ranked 'Jan Clark' in the thirteen guardians glanced at Foresty Crawford and Fenny Graham, scoffing in his heart.

Now, he was even more confident in defeating Wyatt.

To him, a mid Transcending Mortal Realm Martial Artist was trivial!

At that moment, he seemed utterly unaware.

Wyatt had defeated Fenny Graham when he was still at the Initial Transcending Mortal Realm... an existence once recognized as the 'Number One Mid Transcending Mortal Realm Martial Artist' in the surrounding area of Hill Mountain City.

"Hmm?"

Kai Simmons, who had become disinterested after defeating Lingyun, took a curious look at Wyatt upon hearing about his 'deeds'.

This genius Martial Artist who, like him, came from the Mortal Continent, seemed quite extraordinary.

"At the Initial Transcending Mortal Realm, sweeping through the Mid Transcending Mortal Realm... After breaking through to the Mid Transcending Mortal Realm, he consecutively defeated two Martial Artists in the late Transcending Mortal Realm."

The gaze of the City Lord of Hill Mountain City on Wyatt also underwent a complete change, "Your name is Wyatt Barnes, right?"

"Yes."

Wyatt nodded.

"Wyatt Barnes, if I'm not mistaken, you're not entirely human, are you?"

The City Lord of Hill Mountain City asked.

"Not entirely human?"

Wyatt was taken aback.

Seeing Wyatt's reaction, the City Lord of Hill Mountain City felt more certain of his guess, "It seems that you are indeed not fully human... One of your parents must be a 'Sacred Beast', right? And one with a strong physique."

Sacred Beasts!

As the City Lord of Hill Mountain City uttered those words, everyone's gaze fell on Wyatt in unison.

"Only beings born from the union of humans and Sacred Beasts, due to their powerful bodies, are capable of defeating stronger foes like you."

Insight sparkled in the eyes of the City Lord of Hill Mountain City, "Did I guess correctly, Wyatt Barnes?"

Wyatt was stunned.

He hadn't expected the City Lord of Hill Mountain City to have such a piercing insight.

Upon knowing his ability to easily defeat stronger enemies, the City Lord had guessed that his strength was related to his powerful physique.

The rest were also astonished.

"So this Wyatt Barnes is a being born from the union of a human and a Sacred Beast?"

"No wonder he can defeat stronger opponents... Seems like he inherited the powerful physique of a Sacred Beast."

...

Many people looked at Wyatt with a hint of wariness in their eyes.

"Humph! When it comes down to it, he's just a half-breed."

Jan Clark snorted disdainfully, "His ability to defeat stronger enemies is merely because those he met were 'trash' ... If it were me, I could defeat him in just two or three moves."

As he said this, he glanced meaningfully at Foresty Crawford and Fenny Graham.

Causing the latter two to change their expressions drastically, their eyes filled with anger.

Chapter 1396: Body Examination Stone

However, upon hearing Jan Clark's words, Foresty Crawford and Fenny Graham, despite their anger, dared not act rashly and could only silently endure.

Because they knew they were no match for Jan Clark.

"Bastard? A few moves and you think you can defeat me?"

Unlike Foresty Crawford and Fenny Graham, Wyatt Barnes reacted differently. Hearing Jan Clark's words, his expression turned exceedingly somber, and his eyes flickered with a cold and frightful light.

Just as he turned his head to look at Jan Clark, ready to make his move.

A stern shout suddenly erupted.

"Insolence!!"

The voice of the City Lord of Hill Mountain City boomed like thunder, making the entire Council Hall seem to tremble, and it also startled Wyatt Barnes.

Bang!!

Before Wyatt Barnes had a chance to look at the City Lord of Hill Mountain City, he saw Jan Clark's body tremble in his field of vision, then, like an arrow released from its bow, he flew out and crashed against a pillar of the Council Hall.

The pillar shook, and some dust fell.

Following that, Jan Clark slid down the pillar onto the ground, continuously spitting out blood, in a state of utter disarray.

"City Lord! Jan Clark knows his mistake... Jan Clark acknowledges his wrong!"

Ignoring the injuries within his body, Jan Clark knelt on the ground, prostrating himself in front of the City Lord of Hill Mountain City, his body quivering.

"Jan Clark, how dare you be so impudent in front of the City Lord!"

The Heavenly Guard's face also looked quite ugly.

"Acknowledge your wrong? What is your mistake?"

The City Lord of Hill Mountain City snorted.

"Jan Clark's mistake was causing a disturbance in front of the City Lord."

Jan Clark's head touched the ground as he spoke with a trembling voice.

"Offend again, and you will surely die."

Hearing Jan Clark's words, the City Lord of Hill Mountain City's stern gaze landed on him, and he said in a calm tone.

Although his tone was calm, the murderous intent within it was obvious.

"Thank you for your leniency, City Lord!"

Jan Clark hastily thanked him and, after standing up and consuming Pill Medicine to heal, his gaze towards Wyatt Barnes became even colder and filled with hatred.

At this moment, his heart was overwhelmed with uncontrollable rage.

He dared not direct his anger at the City Lord of Hill Mountain City, so he shifted it towards Wyatt Barnes. "Wyatt Barnes, if it weren't for you, I would not have enraged the City Lord... it's all your fault!"

"Given the chance, I will kill you! I will kill you!!" Jan Clark roared almost maniacally in his heart.

Although Wyatt Barnes was unaware of Jan Clark's thoughts, seeing Jan Clark's eyes filled with the intent to kill, he guessed that Jan Clark harbored a killing intent towards him.

"Jan Clark."

For a moment, murder flashed in his own eyes as well.

"Wyatt Barnes, you still haven't answered my question... is my guess correct?"

The City Lord of Hill Mountain City looked at Wyatt Barnes again, his previously stern face now replaced with a smile as he asked.

This scene made Jan Clark's face look even uglier.

"City Lord, I am not 'descended' from humans and Sacred Beasts," Wyatt Barnes stated truthfully.

"Not?"

The City Lord of Hill Mountain City frowned and said in a perplexed tone: "That should not be... if you are not the offspring of humans and Sacred Beasts, why do you have the ability to defeat foes beyond your level?"

"Or could it be... you are a Sacred Beast in human form?"

Muttering to himself, the City Lord of Hill Mountain City's eyes lit up as he spoke.



Although the City Lord of Hill Mountain City was muttering to himself, the Council Hall was very quiet, so almost everyone heard his words.

For a moment, Wyatt Barnes once again became the center of attention.

"A Sacred Beast in human form?"

Hearing the City Lord of Hill Mountain City's increasingly outrageous speculation, Wyatt Barnes couldn't help but laugh bitterly and said: "City Lord, I am not only not a descendant of humans and Sacred Beasts, but I am also not a Sacred Beast in human form... I am a purely human Martial Artist."

"Impossible!"

The City Lord of Hill Mountain City shook his head decisively and said: "If you were purely a human Martial Artist, you would not have such an exaggerated ability to defeat opponents beyond your level."

"Indeed... how is that possible?"

"It seems Wyatt Barnes still wants to conceal his identity."

"At this point, even with eloquence, he can no longer hide."

...

Many people whispered among themselves.

"City Lord."

Wyatt Barnes looked at the City Lord of Hill Mountain City and said: "As far as I know, the Martial Dao Sacred Land has an item called the 'Identity Stone'... Although the Identity Stone does not aid one in combat, it can be used to verify whether a person is a Sacred Beast in human form or the offspring of humans and Sacred Beasts."

Identity Stone!

At the mention of the Identity Stone by Wyatt Barnes, the City Lord of Hill Mountain City furrowed his brow, "While the Identity Stone is not something remarkable, it is also engraved by a 'Saint Markings Master'... Our Main Mansion in Hill Mountain City does not have such an item."

Upon the words of the City Lord of Hill Mountain City, a wave of commotion was once again stirred up.

"Wyatt Barnes's schemes are truly profound; knowing full well that Hill Mountain City doesn't have an Identity Stone, yet he insists on bringing it up."

"I think he's doing it on purpose.

"Do they really think that by mentioning the Identity Stone, we will believe he's a purely human being? "

...

Again, many people whispered among themselves.

This time, even Jemma Clifford's look towards Wyatt Barnes couldn't help but carry a few more traces of doubt.

After all, Wyatt Barnes's ability to defeat opponents beyond his level was too exaggerated.

She also found it hard to believe that Wyatt Barnes was a purely human Martial Artist.

In the long history of the Martial Dao Sacred Land, she had never heard of such a human martial artist.

Even the legendary powerful being who opened up eighty-one Saint Veins was only able to possess the ability to defeat opponents above his level after breaking through to 'Entering the Saint Realm'.

"Then I really can't do anything about it."

Wyatt Barnes shrugged his shoulders and said nonchalantly, "Moreover, whether I am a complete human martial artist shouldn't really affect me, should it?"

Just when most people thought this matter was coming to an end.

"City Lord, half a month ago, I heard that the ninth brother got a 'Verification Stone'... originally he wanted to put it up for auction at the Marvel Pavilion, but in the end, he felt it wouldn't fetch much price, so he didn't bring it out," said the Heavenly Guard to the City Lord of Hill Mountain City.

"Heavenly Elite Guard? He has a Verification Stone?"

The City Lord of Hill Mountain City's eyes lit up, "You, go and find the Heavenly Elite Guard immediately."

The Heavenly Elite Guard, that is, the 'ninth brother' mentioned by the Heavenly Guard.

In the Main Mansion of Hill Mountain City, he is ranked 'ninth' among the thirty-six close guards, known as 'Heavenly Elite Guard', and his current external name is 'Damien Lynch'.

"Yes."

The Heavenly Guard left at the command.

Meanwhile, many started to take delight in Wyatt's misfortune, "It seems that this time, Wyatt Barnes is about to shoot himself in the foot."

However, faced with their schadenfreude, Wyatt remained completely calm, as if his countenance would not change even if Mount Tai were collapsing in front of him.

The City Lord of Hill Mountain City also noticed Wyatt's calmness.

He couldn't help but feel puzzled.

Was this Wyatt Barnes truly unafraid of being verified by the 'Verification Stone', or was he bluffing and unwilling to give up until the very last moment?

Standing behind the City Lord of Hill Mountain City, Kai Simmons also had a few traces of doubt in his gaze.

"City Lord!"

Before long, the Heavenly Guard returned, bringing with him a person, the ninth-ranked among the thirty-six close guards, the Heavenly Elite Guard, Damien Lynch.

Damien Lynch stood before the City Lord of Hill Mountain City and bowed in salute.

"Heavenly Elite Guard, the Heavenly Guard mentioned that you acquired a Verification Stone a while back?" asked the City Lord of Hill Mountain City.

"Yes, City Lord," confirmed Damien Lynch with a nod.

"May I borrow it?" asked the City Lord of Hill Mountain City.

"Of course!"

Damien Lynch quickly nodded, and as he raised his hand, a translucent little stone, resembling an irregular crystal, appeared in his palm.

Then, he handed the small stone to the City Lord of Hill Mountain City.

"This is the Verification Stone?"

Wyatt Barnes looked at the small stone passed from Damien Lynch to the City Lord of Hill Mountain City with puzzled eyes. He had heard of the 'Verification Stone' before, but he had never seen one.

Today was his first time.

The Verification Stone, similar to the 'Demon-reflecting Mirror' of the Cloud Skies Continent, yet slightly different.

As the Verification Stone reached the hands of the City Lord of Hill Mountain City, except for Damien Lynch, all others' gazes were fixated on the stone.

They too wanted to see if Wyatt Barnes had been bluffing just now.

At this moment, only Damien Lynch's gaze was on Wyatt, filled with shock.

On his way to the Council Hall, he had heard from the Heavenly Guard about initially bringing Wyatt back when he was just at the early stage of the Transcending Mortal Realm.

Furthermore, he knew that Wyatt had already broken through to the mid-stage of the Transcending Mortal Realm and had even defeated two late-stage Transcending Mortal Realm martial artists.

At first, he couldn't believe it.

But when the Heavenly Guard said that he and the City Lord had witnessed it with their own eyes, he had no choice but to believe.

Now, he also understood that the reason the City Lord borrowed the 'Verification Stone' from him was to verify whether Wyatt Barnes was truly just a pure human martial artist.

Whoosh!

Just then, a soft sound arrived, attracting Damien Lynch's attention as well.

Under the watchful eyes of everyone, the City Lord of Hill Mountain City held the Verification Stone, infused his True Energy into it, causing the Saint Markings on the stone to flash...

After the Saint Markings flashed, rippling shimmering light arose.

Not long after, a mirror-like barrier appeared in the void, reflecting a silhouette.

The owner of this silhouette was none other than 'Wyatt Barnes'.

However, the reflection of Wyatt in the mirror remained completely unchanged.

It's known that if the Verification Stone's 'mirror barrier' reflects a Sacred Beast transformed into a human, their Sacred Beast true form would appear inside it.

If it reflected someone who is the offspring of a human and a Sacred Beast, behind them would appear the phantom of a Sacred Beast.

Yet, none of these phenomena occurred.

"You... are you truly just human?"

The City Lord of Hill Mountain City was the first to react. Even though the Verification Stone had produced a result, he still asked in surprise.

"Is Wyatt Barnes really just a human martial artist?"

"Could there be something wrong with the Verification Stone?"

"That should be impossible."

...

As the Heavenly Guard, the Heavenly Elite Guard, and Kai Simmons came back to their senses, others followed suit one after another, unable to help but lower their voices and whisper to one another.

After witnessing Jan Clark's 'precedent', they did not dare to act recklessly in front of the City Lord of Hill Mountain City.

"How? At this moment, do you, City Lord, still not believe me?"

Wyatt Barnes didn't expect that even now, the City Lord of Hill Mountain City would ask such a question.

For a moment, he felt a bit speechless in his heart.

Chapter 1397: Burden

Hearing Wyatt Barnes's retort, the City Lord of Hill Mountain City felt somewhat embarrassed.

After all, from the beginning, he had concluded that Wyatt Barnes was not a purely human Martial Artist.

Now, the facts were right in front of him, leaving no room for doubt.

"Wyatt Barnes, may I ask how you are able to defeat opponents above your level?"

The City Lord of Hill Mountain City asked.

Instantly, the burning gazes of everyone present, including the Heavenly Guard and the Heavenly Elite Guard, all fell on Wyatt Barnes.

They were just as curious.

"City Lord, you were actually right about one thing,"

Wyatt Barnes said to the City Lord of Hill Mountain City: "That is... my body is indeed much stronger than an average human's."

The eyes of the City Lord of Hill Mountain City lit up.

"However, the reason my body is strong has nothing to do with Sacred Beasts... but because I once had a 'mystical encounter'."

Wyatt Barnes finished in one breath, and everyone's eyes lit up.

Many felt a surge of envy.

However, what Wyatt Barnes said next quelled the covetous thoughts that had arisen in their minds.

"That mystical encounter was a strange 'spiritual fruit'. After consuming it, I noticed my body beginning to transform... Later, I went back to that place several times in search of that fruit but couldn't find any more of it."

Wyatt Barnes continued.

"Who would have imagined such a spiritual fruit existed in this world... Being able to obtain it is also your good fortune,"

The City Lord of Hill Mountain City exclaimed.

Others nodded in agreement.

"Wyatt Barnes, you've been hiding it so well from me! It turns out when you followed me home, you were just a Martial Artist at the early stages of the Transcending Mortal Realm."

Damien Lynch looked at Wyatt Barnes, complaining via True Energy transmission.



"At that time, did I ever say I wasn't a Martial Artist at the early stages of the Transcending Mortal Realm? I don't recall saying I was at the mid-stages,"

Wyatt Barnes shrugged his shoulders, responding with a transmission of True Energy.

"You..."

Damien Lynch was rendered speechless for a moment.

Now that he thought about it carefully, Wyatt Barnes indeed never said he wasn't at the early stages of the Transcending Mortal Realm, nor did he say he was at the mid-stages.

From the beginning, it seemed it was he himself who had made assumptions.

"Heavenly Elite Guard, I heard it was you who brought Wyatt Barnes back... I won't forget this contribution of yours,"

After returning the 'identity stone' to Damien Lynch, the City Lord of Hill Mountain City said to him.

"City Lord, it was my duty to do so,"

Damien Lynch quickly replied, but joy could barely be concealed between his brows.

"City Lord, if there are no other matters, I will take my leave now,"

Damien Lynch added.

"Mm. You may leave,"

The City Lord of Hill Mountain City nodded in agreement.

After Damien Lynch left the Council Hall, tranquility returned to the hall.

The other eleven members of the thirteen guardians now looked at Wyatt Barnes with eyes filled with envy, jealousy, and resentment.

"To think that he could find such a spiritual fruit... this Wyatt Barnes is really unbelievably lucky!"

This was what most of them were thinking deep down.

Of course, there were some people who looked rather displeased.

People like Foresty Crawford, Fenny Graham, and Jan Clark were among them.

After giving Wyatt Barnes a fleeting glance, Kai Simmons, who stood behind the City Lord of Hill Mountain City, began to close his eyes and meditate, keeping his thoughts to himself.

"Let's get back to the matter at hand."

It was only after the City Lord of Hill Mountain City spoke again that everyone's gaze shifted away from Wyatt Barnes and back to the City Lord.

They knew the City Lord was about to discuss 'serious matters'.

As for what those matters were, it wasn't hard to guess.

It was related to the 'trial'.

The City Lord would select two to three people who performed well in the trial to become his disciples.

At this moment, besides Wyatt Barnes, the other members of the thirteen guardians present were all filled with anticipation.

"Tomorrow, I will set up a trial for you... The trial will be based on a 'point system'. The two who accrue the most points will become my disciples,"

The City Lord of Hill Mountain City's gaze swept over the twelve others beside 'Wyatt', meaning the other twelve members of the thirteen guardians excluding 'Lingyun'.

As they heard the City Lord of Hill Mountain City's words, many people's breathing became rapid.

"Today, I've summoned you here to inform you that for tomorrow's test, you may choose to participate on your own, or you may choose to cooperate with another person. Of course, you're limited to cooperating with just one other person,"

continued the City Lord of Hill Mountain City.

"We can find partners to cooperate with?"

Instantly, many lit up with interest.

However, what the City Lord of Hill Mountain City said next left them all dumbfounded.

"Nevertheless, anyone who cooperates with someone else must bring a member of the Hidden Dragon Camp who is not one of the Thirteen Protectors to participate in the 'test'... Moreover, the 'points' they earn together must be divided into three parts; they each take one part, and the remaining portion goes to the non-Protector member of the Hidden Dragon Camp."

As the City Lord of Hill Mountain City finished speaking, the majority were immediately dissuaded of the notion.

This was looking for trouble for no reason, wasn't it?

They weren't averse to the idea of cooperating with someone...

But the thought of sharing their gains with a 'burden' was hard for them to accept.

In an instant, over ninety percent decided to face the test alone.

"Cooperate?"

As the City Lord of Hill Mountain City mentioned the possibility of cooperating to face the 'test,' Jemma Clifford's gaze instinctively fell on Wyatt Barnes, filled with expectation.

If she were to cooperate with Wyatt, her chances would definitely be greater.

However, after the City Lord of Hill Mountain City's additional comments, she withdrew her gaze, somewhat dejected.

Even though, she knew that if she insisted, Wyatt would definitely not refuse her.

But could she really be that selfish?

No!

If it was just her and Wyatt cooperating and evenly splitting the points, that would be fine... But now, if she wanted to cooperate with Wyatt, she had to bring along a 'burden.'

She could have overlooked that.

The crucial point was that they would still have to split the points with the burden, each only receiving a third of the total score.

"Jemma Clifford, let's cooperate,"

Just as Jemma Clifford was preparing to face it alone, a voice clearly reached her ears, making her tremble.

Then, she looked at the smiling young man in purple, the very 'Wyatt Barnes' she had just been watching.

The True Energy voice transmission just now had come from Wyatt.

Surprised for a moment, Jemma Clifford snapped back to reality.

"Wyatt Barnes, I know you mean well... but I can't drag you down,"

Jemma Clifford said with a bitter smile.

"Drag me down?"

Wyatt Barnes chuckled.

If Jemma Clifford knew that he had no interest in becoming the disciple of the City Lord of Hill Mountain City, she would wonder what her expression would be.

Although Jemma Clifford declined his request, Wyatt Barnes did not give up just like that.

"If you say that... then I might as well give up my right to take the City Lord's test,"

Wyatt Barnes communicated to Jemma Clifford through True Energy voice transmission.

"You..."

Hearing Wyatt's words, akin to a child's temper tantrum, Jemma Clifford was speechless,  
"Wyatt Barnes, stop joking around."

"I'm not joking, I'm serious,"

Wyatt stated solemnly.

As time went by, Jemma Clifford realized... Wyatt Barnes was indeed not joking.

In the end, she could only compromise and choose to cooperate with Wyatt.

If Wyatt truly gave up his right because of this, she would never forgive herself for the rest of her life.

Of course, she knew that everything Wyatt did was to help her.

Her heart was filled with gratitude.

As the City Lord of Hill Mountain City left with Kai Simmons, Wyatt Barnes and his group also returned to the Hidden Dragon Camp.

As for the Heavenly Guard, they had vanished as soon as Wyatt and his group left the Council Hall, with no one knowing where they went.

However, no one in Wyatt's group cared much about the departure of the Heavenly Guard.

It's well known that the Heavenly Guards are as elusive as a Divine Dragon revealing only its head while hiding its tail.

So, they were not surprised.

"Wyatt Barnes, if the two of us are to cooperate... we still need to find a third person,"

Jemma Clifford voice transmitted through True Energy to Wyatt Barnes on the way.

"Mhm,"

Wyatt Barnes nodded, "I already have someone in mind."

Chapter 1398: Wyatt Barnes's Decision

"Has someone been chosen?"

Jemma Clifford was startled.

"Yes."

Wyatt Barnes nodded.

Collaborating with Jemma Clifford seemed to be a spur-of-the-moment decision, but in reality, he had given it careful thought.

He was not particularly interested in becoming the disciple of Hill Mountain City's City Lord; he only wanted to help Jemma Clifford.

Of course, he only saw Jemma Clifford as a common friend and harbored no other intentions.

The reason he did this was entirely because of Jemma Clifford's 'reminder' from before.

The first time he met Jemma Clifford, when he didn't know her, it was her 'reminder' to him.

Although, he didn't avoid a disaster because of her reminder that time.

But subconsciously, he always felt that he owed Jemma Clifford a favor.

This time, it could be considered going with the flow to repay her favor.

Of course, this would only be considered as fully repaying the favor if it resulted in Jemma Clifford becoming the disciple of Hill Mountain City's City Lord.

"Who?"

Jemma Clifford asked curiously.

"Edward Watson."

Wyatt Barnes said with a smile.

In the Dragon-Hiding Camp, he was only relatively familiar with Jemma Clifford... Among the others, the only one he was slightly acquainted with, after some thought, was Edward Watson.

"But... if we collaborate and bring Edward Watson, the 'points' we obtain will be considered as group points, and they will be divided by three in the end."

Jemma Clifford frowned and said, "Isn't that too much of a loss for us?"

"Do you think you have a greater chance to succeed in the examination by yourself... or do you think the odds are better if you cooperate with me?"

Wyatt Barnes smiled and asked.

"Of course, my chances are better cooperating with you. It's just that, this arrangement seems to be highly disadvantageous for you."

Jemma Clifford said with a wry smile.

"As long as you think your odds are better with my cooperation, that's enough... As for me, don't worry about it," Wyatt Barnes said.

Wyatt Barnes and Jemma Clifford walked ahead, communicating with True Energy transmission, so no one else could hear what they were discussing.

However, behind them, a gaze filled with hatred was firmly fixed on Wyatt Barnes's back.

"Wyatt! Barnes!"

Fenny Graham clenched his teeth, staring at Wyatt Barnes's back.

He had been severely injured by Wyatt Barnes the day before, and his injuries had only partially healed by now... Even by tomorrow, they wouldn't have fully recovered.



Thinking of how he had to participate in such an important 'examination' with an injured body because of Wyatt Barnes, a flare of malicious intent involuntary rose in his heart.

He hated!

Hated Wyatt Barnes!

Wished he could grind Wyatt Barnes's bones to ash and scatter them to the wind!

Fenny Graham's hateful gaze was naturally noticed by Wyatt Barnes, but he didn't care.

A defeated opponent was all it was.

Upon returning to the Dragon-Hiding Camp, Wyatt Barnes went to find 'Edward Watson' and told him about the collaboration with Jemma Clifford and his plans to bring Edward Watson along for the examination set up by the City Lord of Hill Mountain City.

"The City Lord is recruiting disciples?"

Edward Watson's eyes lit up. Although he knew he wouldn't likely become a disciple of Hill Mountain City's City Lord, he was still very interested in the examination set by the City Lord.

"Wyatt Barnes, this examination, it won't be dangerous, will it?"

Eventually, Edward Watson considered this aspect and cautiously asked.

"Whether it will be dangerous or not, I can't say yet... After all, as of now, neither I nor any of the other members of the Thirteen Guards know what tomorrow's 'examination' entails," Wyatt Barnes replied truthfully.

Upon hearing this, Edward Watson's brows furrowed.

"Take some time to think about it... If you don't wish to, I'll just randomly find someone else. I heard the City Lord say that the 'points' obtained in tomorrow's examination can be exchanged for 'merit points'."

Wyatt Barnes said, "One point can be exchanged for one hundred merit points."

"One point can be exchanged for one hundred merit points?"

Hearing Wyatt Barnes's statement, Edward Watson instantly widened his eyes, showing a look of shock.

He knew very well what 'merit points' were.

They were a form of 'currency' within the Main Mansion that could be used to borrow 'Top-grade martial arts', and even purchase 'Top-grade Mortal Instruments' and 'Top-grade Pill Medicines'.

"Wyatt Barnes, I'm willing! I'm willing!"

Seeing Wyatt Barnes about to turn away, Edward Watson immediately panicked, fearing that Wyatt Barnes would really go find someone else.

He knew clearly that this was an opportunity for him.

"Alright, see you tomorrow."

Nodding at Edward Watson and greeting him, Wyatt Barnes then returned to wooden cottage number six.

There was nothing special to prepare for tomorrow's 'examination'.

Wyatt Barnes entered the Jewel Tower and continued to cultivate the attack technique 'Falling Star Strike' from the Supreme Falling Star Arrow.

Now, the 'Falling Star Strike' was not far from breaking through to the next realm.

At the foot of the high platform in the Dragon-Hiding Camp.

"Gideon Cruz, did your distant cousin from New South Town ask you to join tomorrow's examination?"

Edward Watson looked at Gideon Cruz, squinting his eyes and asking with a smile.

"The examination?"

Gideon Cruz furrowed his brows, "What examination?"

"What? Didn't your distant cousin from New South Town tell you?"

Edward Watson said with a face full of surprise: "Tomorrow, the City Lord is setting a trial to select two disciples from the thirteen protectors... In this trial, any two protectors can collaborate, but after collaborating, they must bring along a regular member of the Hidden Dragon Camp."

"Wyatt Barnes and Jemma Clifford are collaborating and have invited me to join... At that time, I can get one-third of the group's points. One point can be exchanged for a hundred merit points."

As Edward Watson spoke, a brilliant smile spread across his face, his eyes filled with pride.

Gideon Cruz's face darkened.

At this moment, if he didn't realize that Edward Watson was deliberately showing off in front of him, then he had lived his years in vain.

Only, faced with Edward Watson's boasting, he was at a loss for words.

"Hmph! I'll go ask my cousin Jan Clark."

Gideon Cruz snorted and leapt onto the platform, heading to cabin number five to find Jan Clark.

Seeing this, Edward Watson's smile grew even brighter, feeling utterly triumphant and elated... With his goal achieved, he also returned to his dilapidated cabin to practice diligently.

Inside cabin number five, Jan Clark opened the door and walked out, frowning at the person outside, "Gideon Cruz? What do you want with me?"

"Cousin Jan Clark, I heard that tomorrow the City Lord is setting a trial to select disciples?"

Gideon Cruz asked with a sycophantic smile on his face.

"Yes."

Jan Clark nodded indifferently, seeming not to care much for this distant cousin.

"Cousin Jan Clark, I heard you are looking for someone to collaborate with, and you have to bring along a member of the Hidden Dragon Camp... and that member of the Hidden Dragon Camp can also receive a certain amount of points, which can be exchanged for a lot of merit points, is that right?"

Gideon Cruz asked somewhat eagerly.

"Who told you that?"

Jan Clark's brow furrowed, he asked in a deep voice.

"I heard it from Edward Watson... that Wyatt Barnes will collaborate with Jemma Clifford and plans to bring him along."

Gideon Cruz said, a hint of jealousy in his voice.

"Wyatt Barnes, to collaborate with Jemma Clifford?"

Jan Clark's face suddenly became stern, and a sneer appeared at the corner of his mouth, "It seems that Wyatt Barnes has no confidence in himself at all... Truly a waste of space!"

In his opinion, Wyatt Barnes' choice was purely self-destructive.

Although Jemma Clifford was also a Martial Artist in the late Transcending Mortal Realm, joining forces with Wyatt Barnes would be strong... However, she was, after all, not as strong as Wyatt!

Moreover, they had to bring along a burden and still share the points evenly with that burden.

At that time, the points that Wyatt Barnes would get would definitely be less than what he would get alone.

Therefore, he felt that Wyatt Barnes lacked confidence in himself, and only to curry favor with Jemma Clifford would he make such a choice.

"Hmm?"

Jan Clark's words, however, Gideon Cruz did not understand at all, "Cousin, why do you say that?"

"Hmph!"

Jan Clark snorted coldly, "In tomorrow's trial, the City Lord will take the two people with the most points as disciples... Anyone who is confident in their own strength would not seek collaboration."

"If it were just bringing along a 'burden,' not sharing points evenly with the burden, that would still be okay... Now, not only do you have to bring a burden, but you also have to share points evenly with them, only a fool would seek out collaboration."

Jan Clark explained.

Hearing Jan Clark's words, Gideon Cruz was momentarily stunned; it seemed to make sense.

He asked himself if he were in Jan Clark's position, he would also not seek collaboration.

What a joke!

Bringing a burden was already bothersome enough.

And to share points with a burden?

"So that's how it is. But, that Edward Watson is really lucky... Even if Wyatt Barnes and Jemma Clifford don't become disciples of the City Lord in the end, they will likely get a lot of points."

As Gideon Cruz spoke, his face fell completely dark, "By then, Edward Watson will also be able to share one-third of that."

He and Edward Watson had always been openly and secretly competing ever since their days in Wind-Rain Town.

Having come to Hidden Dragon Camp, he naturally did not want Edward Watson to step on his head... Thus, his heart was filled with jealousy, jealousy towards Edward Watson.

"He'll need to be alive to get those points,"

Jan Clark sneered, "In tomorrow's trial, if there's a chance, I will take out that Wyatt Barnes... and since Edward Watson is your rival, I'll take care of him too."

"Thank you, cousin."

Hearing Jan Clark's words, Gideon Cruz instantly beamed with joy, and the jealousy towards Edward Watson dissipated from his heart.

"Edward Watson, this time, even if you manage to get the points, you won't live to exchange them for 'merit points'."

Gideon Cruz thought coldly to himself.

A day's time quickly passed.

Early the next morning, the leader of the thirty-six guards of Hill Mountain City's Main Mansion, the 'Heavenly Guard', appeared once again.

At once, except for the chief of the thirteen protectors 'Wyatt', the rest of the twelve figures from the thirteen protectors left their cabins and respectfully saluted the Heavenly Guard.

"Let's go!"

Under the command of the Heavenly Guard, the twelve protectors followed.

"Edward Watson!"

With a reminder from Wyatt Barnes, Edward Watson also followed them.

"Hmm?"

Edward Watson's participation caught the Heavenly Guard and many others off guard, unsure of why he was following.

"Wyatt Barnes asked me to come,"

Under the gaze of the Heavenly Guard, Edward Watson spoke with a bit of timidity.

"Wyatt Barnes?"

Instantly, not just the Heavenly Guard, but everyone else also turned to look at Wyatt Barnes, "Wyatt Barnes is planning to bring a Hidden Dragon Camp member to participate in the trial set by the City Lord?"

"Is he planning to collaborate with someone?"

"Has he gone mad? Collaborating means saddling himself with a burden, and moreover, he has to share points evenly with that burden."

...

### Chapter 1399: The Test Begins

Including the Heavenly Guard, everyone guessed the reason why Wyatt Barnes asked Edward Watson to leave the Dragon Camp with him.

"Wyatt Barnes, do you really plan to cooperate with others and take part in the challenge set by the City Lord?"

The Heavenly Guard looked at Wyatt Barnes, frowning as he asked.

Wyatt Barnes nodded.

"You..."

The Heavenly Guard just wanted to call Wyatt Barnes foolish, but in the end, he didn't say it in front of so many people. Instead, he used his True Energy to voice transmission: "Wyatt Barnes, you are being foolish!"

"With your strength, you could participate in the challenge alone, and it wouldn't be impossible for you to become the disciple of the City Lord... Yet, by seeking collaboration, you're simply ruining your own future!"

Towards the end, the tone of the Heavenly Guard was full of frustration and disappointment.

Wyatt Barnes just smiled and said nothing.



What could he say at this moment?

Could he say that he had no interest in becoming the disciple of the Hill Mountain City Lord?

If he said that, it would definitely cause public outrage.

This, he had no doubt of.

"Wyatt Barnes, it seems that among us, only you and Jemma Clifford opted for cooperation... In that case, let me be the first here to congratulate you, for securing 'first place' together with Jemma Clifford and becoming disciples of the City Lord together."

While many people were discussing noisily, a loud voice rang out, quieting the crowd as everyone turned towards the source of the sound.

For a moment, everyone realized that the speaker was none other than the fifth-ranked 'Jan Clark' among the thirteen protectors.

Many people were surprised deep inside.

So the person collaborating with Wyatt Barnes was 'Jemma Clifford'.

Now, although Jan Clark seemed to be congratulating Wyatt Barnes, anyone with sharp eyes or ears could tell and hear that Jan Clark was actually taking pleasure in his misfortune.

"I'll take your auspicious words."

However, Wyatt Barnes responded indifferently as if he had not detected the schadenfreude in Jan Clark's tone.

This left Jan Clark feeling snubbed for a moment, and with a cold snort, he said no more.

Foresty Crawford and Fenny Graham showed sarcastic smiles on their faces when they learned that Wyatt Barnes was going to collaborate with Jemma Clifford, thinking that Wyatt Barnes was simply shooting himself in the foot.

"Wyatt Barnes, you're being too impulsive."

The third-ranked 'Ingot Gold' among the thirteen protectors couldn't help but use his True Energy to voice transmission to Wyatt Barnes: "With your strength, it shouldn't be hard for you to become the disciple of the City Lord without cooperating with Jemma Clifford..."

"But you insisted..."

Ingot Gold hadn't finished speaking when he was interrupted by Wyatt Barnes, "To each their own."

Wyatt Barnes knew what Ingot Gold wanted to say next... It was nothing more than telling him that he insisted on collaborating with Jemma Clifford and was asking for trouble.

Hearing Wyatt Barnes's reply, Ingot Gold shook his head and said no more.

Soon, the Heavenly Guard brought Wyatt Barnes and others to meet with the 'City Lord of Hill Mountain City'... There was only the City Lord himself; as for his disciple 'Kai Simmons,' he was nowhere to be found.

Clearly, he had not followed the City Lord here.

"Is the challenge set outside the city?"

Wyatt Barnes looked back at Hill Mountain City, which lay sprawling like a slumbering beast, and mused inwardly.

He and the other twelve people were indeed brought here by the Heavenly Guard to meet with the City Lord of Hill Mountain City... Since they had left the city, the challenge was likely set outside of Hill Mountain City.

This, he was almost certain of.

"Let's go!"

Soon, at the behest of the City Lord of Hill Mountain City, Wyatt Barnes and his comrades, including the Heavenly Guard, rose into the sky one after another.

Following the City Lord of Hill Mountain City, they flew off into the distance.

Inside Hill Mountain City, flight was forbidden, but now that they had left, all members of the Dragon Camp felt a sense of 'the sea's vastness allows the fish to leap, the sky's height lets the birds fly.'

"Where is this leading?"

After flying north for a quarter of an hour without arriving at their destination, Wyatt Barnes was filled with doubt.

Just as doubts arose in Wyatt Barnes's mind, the voice of the City Lord of Hill Mountain City timely came forth, "We have arrived."

"Arrived?"

Wyatt Barnes was startled, and as he looked around, he realized they had reached the skies above a mountain range, "Could it be that the challenge is to be held here?"

The City Lord of Hill Mountain City's action of descending confirmed Wyatt Barnes's thought.

At this point, the others also reacted, "We've arrived!"

"No way... The challenge is to be held in this godforsaken place?"

"Really not sure what sort of challenge it will be."

...

Amidst the various discussions, a group of people followed the City Lord of Hill Mountain City.

Wyatt Barnes and his group followed behind the City Lord of Hill Mountain City, landing at the entrance of a valley outside.

This valley, when viewed from the outside earlier, Wyatt Barnes had noticed that apart from the exit above, there was only one other exit.

The other exit was the entrance to the valley they were currently facing.

"That is..."

Looking intently, Wyatt Barnes could see that the entrance to the valley in front of him was guarded by two middle-aged men in silver armor.

Their attire was almost identical to that of the 'Guardian Harvey' from the Dragon Camp.

"This silver armor... Could it be they are also among the thirty-six close guards?"

Wyatt Barnes speculated quietly to himself.

"City Lord!"

While Wyatt Barnes was still speculating, the two silver-clad middle-aged men at the valley entrance took a few steps forward, respectfully saluting the City Lord of Hill Mountain City.

"Lord of the City!"

At the same time, Wyatt Barnes heard two voices coming from high above.

Looking up, he saw two figures in silver armor standing in the air, respectfully saluting the City Lord of Hill Mountain City.

Wyatt looked towards the Heavenly Guard and noticed a change in his expression as well.

"It seems that these four truly are amongst the 36 personal guards... Just unknown which ranks they are. Also, what secret does this valley guard that it requires the protection of four personal guards?"

Wyatt felt a surge of curiosity in his heart.

The valley before him was guarded by four people on the outside.

However, the airspace directly above the valley was devoid of anyone.

This was something he had noticed earlier.

"Furthermore... none of the group of us approached the airspace above this valley just now. Could it be that inside the valley, a 'forbidden airspace formation' has been set up?"

Wyatt couldn't help but speculate to himself about this.

It was the City Lord of Hill Mountain City who had led them to land outside this valley... If they were to enter the valley, why not directly from the air?

Moreover, the exit of the valley was even guarded by four individuals who seemed to be among the 36 personal guards.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

...

Before Wyatt could react, he heard a series of whooshing sounds behind him, causing his complexion to change.

"Lord of the City!"

Only after a series of deafening, echoic voices did he come to his senses and simultaneously turned towards the source of the sounds.

In Wyatt's line of sight, another dozen figures in silver armor appeared... These people were either middle-aged or young men.

Their sudden presence not only startled Wyatt but also the other members of the thirteen protectors, and Edward Watson.

"All from among the 36 personal guards?"

Wyatt's lips twitched slightly.

He could tell.

The silver armor worn by these dozen individuals was identical to that worn by the four guarding the outside of the valley, and the same as the armor worn by 'Guardian Harvey,' the steward of the Hidden Dragon Camp.

"It seems you are not one of the thirteen protectors?"

The City Lord of Hill Mountain City's gaze fell on Edward Watson without anyone noticing and asked.

"I have seen the Lord of the City."

In front of the City Lord of Hill Mountain City, Edward Watson appeared somewhat restrained, "I am a member of the Hidden Dragon Camp, invited by Wyatt Barnes and Jemma Clifford... They plan to cooperate and have brought me along."

"Cooperate?"

Upon hearing Edward Watson's words, the City Lord of Hill Mountain City first looked at Wyatt, his gaze flashing with a subtle complexity that was hard to detect.

His thoughts were similar to that of others.

They all felt that Wyatt was asking for trouble.

However, the City Lord of Hill Mountain City quickly regained his composure and surveyed Wyatt and the others, "This valley is where you will undergo the next set of trials... Inside, a 'forbidden airspace formation' has been set up. Therefore, flying is not possible within."

"As expected!"

The first words from the City Lord of Hill Mountain City confirmed Wyatt's guess.

"Now, inside this valley, there is a group of extremely vicious 'bandits'... These bandits have been captured by our Main Mansion of Hill Mountain City and have yet to be disposed of."

The City Lord of Hill Mountain City continued, "Today, they are your 'prey'... You can earn corresponding 'points' by hunting them."

"Killing bandits of different levels of strength will earn you different points... For example, killing an early stage Transcending Mortal Realm bandit only earns you 1 point."

"Killing a mid-stage Transcending Mortal Realm bandit earns you 3 points."

"Killing a late-stage Transcending Mortal Realm bandit earns you 7 points."

"Killing a Small Perfection-stage Transcending Mortal Realm bandit earns you 20 points."

The City Lord of Hill Mountain City said all this in one breath.

Whoosh!

Upon hearing the words of the City Lord of Hill Mountain City, the crowd was abuzz.

"Trans... Transcending Mortal Realm Small Perfection stage bandits are included?"

Many faces turned grim, their hearts pounded with trepidation, and some even began to consider withdrawing.

"Transcending Mortal Realm Small Perfection stage bandits are worth that many points?"

Wyatt was also shocked.

Killing one Transcending Mortal Realm Small Perfection stage bandit was nearly equivalent to killing three late-stage Transcending Mortal Realm bandits.

At that moment, Wyatt also noticed that the expressions on the other people's faces were not good.

As for the reason, it wasn't difficult for him to guess.

It was nothing more than a fear of danger.

After all, in the valley, there were powerful bandits whose strength had reached the realm of 'Transcending Mortal Realm Small Perfection.'

If they encountered one, wouldn't it mean certain death?

"Each one of you, each group, will be followed by one individual from my 36 personal guards... They will follow you and record the points you earn."

As if to address the concerns of everyone present, the City Lord of Hill Mountain City continued, "In addition to recording your points, they will also protect your safety... As soon as



they intervene, the person they save will be eliminated from the competition! However, any points earned up to that point still count."

"Now, off you go."

Having said this, the City Lord of Hill Mountain City looked towards the entrance to the valley, "Remember... this is the only exit of the valley where the forbidden airspace formation is set up."

"Let's go!"

Wyatt Barnes was the first to snap back to his senses and called Jemma Clifford and Edward Watson to enter the valley with him.

#### Chapter 1400: Mysterious Eye Shows Its Power

Seeing Wyatt Barnes and his two companions enter the valley, two middle-aged men clad in silver armors followed them in, while the others also snapped back to their senses.

"With thirty-six personal guards secretly protecting, our lives are without worry."

At this moment, they no longer had any concerns.

"Hmph!"

A cold glint flashed in Jan Clark's eyes as he leaped into the valley, vowing to himself, "Wyatt Barnes, consider yourself lucky!"

He knew that with thirty-six personal guards hiding in the shadows, it was impossible for him to kill Wyatt Barnes during the trial.

After Jan Clark went in, another middle-aged man in silver armor followed him.

Knowing there was no danger, the others entered the valley ahead one after another.

After entering the valley, Wyatt Barnes looked up and saw that the valley was surrounded by steep cliffs. Without the ability to fly, it was almost impossible to climb out.

"With such terrain and the 'Sky-Restricting Formations' in place, those bandits can't possibly escape."

Now, Wyatt finally understood why there were no guards in other parts of the valley; they simply weren't worried about the bandits escaping at all.

The entire valley had only one exit, guarded personally by a few of the thirty-six personal guardians. The bandits didn't dare to forcefully break through.

Moreover, with the addition of the City Lord of Hill Mountain City and the leader of the personal guard – the Heavenly Guard, the whole valley was as tight as a drum, completely impenetrable.

A group of bandits, thoroughly reduced to prey for Wyatt Barnes and his party.

Of course, whether they could take down these prey depended on the ability of this group of hunters.

"The valley doesn't look big from the outside, but once inside, it's actually quite vast."

Wyatt Barnes, Jemma Clifford, and Edward Watson roamed through the jungle, murmuring, "There are woods everywhere in the valley, those bandits may have found places to hide... Finding them is going to take some effort."

"Let's take turns using our spiritual power to scan."

Jemma Clifford suggested.

"Spiritual power to scan?"

Hearing Jemma Clifford's words, Wyatt's eyes lit up as if he thought of something, but he rejected her suggestion, "No need for that."

"No need for that?"

Wyatt's words made both Jemma Clifford and Edward Watson startle.

Immediately afterward, they saw Wyatt slowing down and stopping.

Seeing this, they also stopped one by one.

Just as they appeared to be at a loss, they found Wyatt leaping up to a big tree nearby while calling out to them, "Jemma, Edward, come up here."

Jemma Clifford and Edward Watson followed and leaped up as well.

"The higher you stand, the farther you see... Wyatt, your method is good," Edward Watson commented with a smile.

"Traversing the valley through the trees above, we can certainly see much further... But if the bandits are hiding in the underbrush on the ground, concealed beneath the trees, it will be very difficult for us to detect them," Jemma Clifford said with a frown.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

...

However, before she could finish speaking, Wyatt had already set off, jumping to another tree like an agile monkey darting through the treetops.

"We should follow too," Edward Watson said, before speeding up to keep pace.

Seeing this, Jemma could only offer a wry smile and then promptly proceeded to follow suit, suspecting that Wyatt hadn't heard her words at all.

As a matter of fact, Wyatt truly hadn't heard Jemma's words; his attention was completely captivated by something ahead of him.

Whiz! Whiz! Whiz!

...

As he rapidly maneuvered through the trees, the Solaris Bow appeared in Wyatt's hand. His gaze intently fixed forward, inside his left eye, a black vortex slowly twisted.

Mysterious Eye!

In an instant, the view became incredibly clear within his left eye.

Every tree, the trunk, and the leaves stood out in stark clarity to him.

"Hmm?"

After navigating through the trees for several breaths, Wyatt's gaze suddenly brightened, and with a raise of his hand, True Energy condensed into an arrow, resting on the bowstring of the Solaris Bow.

Twang!

The bowstring vibrated as Wyatt pulled it back slightly.

Even though Wyatt had now advanced to the mid-stage of the Transcending Mortal Realm, his full strength unleashed was no less than one at the late stage of the same realm, the bowstring made of Five-Clawed Demon Dragon tendons could not be drawn back very much.

"Hmm?"

Wyatt's archery motion was also seen by Jemma Clifford and Edward Watson, who were following close behind. A shiver ran through them, "Has he spotted the target?"

Clang!

Just as they took note, the True Energy arrow in Wyatt's hand left the Solaris Bow in an instant, turning into an arrow trace, vanishing into thin air.

At the same time, a figure a hundred meters away collapsed thunderously.

The fallen was a middle-aged man with a dirt-covered face who now had a bloody hole in his head, still oozing fresh blood, completely lifeless.

Dead as can be.

As the middle-aged man fell, two other middle-aged men not far away changed their complexion drastically, "The people from the Main Mansion of Hill Mountain City are killing their way here!"

For a moment, the two of them panicked and turned to run towards the side.

Swoosh!

But as they moved, another True Energy arrow shot out, killing one of them instantly.

The other, however, managed to survive by hiding behind a large tree.

This tree had an exceptionally thick trunk that required two grown men to completely encircle it with their arms.

"What a terrifying archer!"

The middle-aged man hiding behind a large tree was panting heavily, his face extremely unsightly.

In the blink of an eye, his two companions had been killed.

From start to finish, he only saw two streaks of passing arrow trails.

"Did the Main Mansion of Hill Mountain City throw us into this valley just to toy with us?"

The middle-aged man's face was full of anger, feeling immensely humiliated, his eyes flashing with a bloodthirsty red, yet deep in his gaze was a mix of helplessness, profound helplessness.

Whoosh!

Another fleeting, piercing whistle sounded, causing the middle-aged man's face to change dramatically and his heart to skip a beat, "Not good!"

The next moment, he felt a burst of pain in his abdomen.

When he looked down, he discovered that his abdomen had been pierced through; soon after, his consciousness started to blur and became erratic.

Whoosh!

At the same time, a purple figure appeared beside the large tree, watching the staggering middle-aged man with an indifferent gaze.

However, the middle-aged man seemed not to have noticed him.

Whoosh! Whoosh!

At this moment, Jemma Clifford and Edward Watson also arrived and were stunned by the scene before them.

Good heavens!

Wyatt Barnes fired three arrows and managed to kill two bandits and severely injure another?

And the latter bandit was hiding behind a large tree that required two adults to encircle it?

"This is... an iron fir tree!"

Edward Watson inhaled sharply, recognizing the large tree in front of him at a glance, a sturdy tree with a hole that went right through its thick trunk.

Iron fir, a tree unique to the Martial Dao Sacred Land.

This kind of tree is extremely tough.

The one right in front of them, to pierce through it with an arrow, a typical warrior in the mid-stage of the Transcending Mortal Realm couldn't do it... yet now, Wyatt Barnes had done just that.

Not only had he pierced through it, but he had also severely injured the middle-aged man hiding behind it.

After a few struggles, the middle-aged man eventually fell, dead.

"How many points are these three bandits worth?"

Wyatt Barnes spoke calmly, as if asking someone.

Whoosh! Whoosh!

Almost at the moment Wyatt Barnes's voice faded, two middle-aged men dressed in silver armor appeared, like two apparitions.

"Two in the early stage of Transcending Mortal Realm, one in the mid-stage... together, 5 points."

One of the middle-aged men said expressionlessly.

"Only 5 points?"

Wyatt Barnes furrowed his brow, then leapt into the air again, landing on a nearby tree, continuing to shuttle from tree to tree.

Jemma Clifford and Edward Watson followed.

"He seems to be that Wyatt Barnes."

The middle-aged man who had spoken without expression earlier marked the dead bandits' bodies, and then promptly followed again after Wyatt Barnes's trio left.

"Indeed, a promising prospect... no wonder the City Lord and Big Brother value him so much."

The other middle-aged man also followed, rapidly traversing the trees nearby, keeping a safe distance from Wyatt Barnes's trio.

Apart from keeping score, their duty was to protect Wyatt Barnes and his two companions.

Thus, they allowed no leeway for Wyatt Barnes's trio to leave their line of sight.

With the 'Mysterious Eye', Wyatt Barnes was always the first to strike within the valley, killing the 'bandits' before they could react, leaving bodies for those following behind.

"Following Wyatt Barnes is like picking up bargains."

Walking behind Wyatt Barnes, Jemma Clifford and Edward Watson glanced at each other and forced a bitter smile simultaneously.

Since entering the valley, they hadn't made a single move yet... however, many bandits had died before their eyes, all killed by Wyatt Barnes.



"Damn it! Why are there only bodies?"

Not far behind, Jan Clark, coincidentally following in a straight line behind Wyatt Barnes's trio, proceeded cautiously but only encountered one corpse after another.

Suddenly, he felt something was amiss.

"No good! Need to change direction."

He finally came to his senses, changed his course, and continued on.

Before long, he finally encountered a bandit. The bandit was weak, at the very least in his presence. The bandit was killed in one face-to-face encounter.

"Early stage of Transcending Mortal Realm, only 1 point."

With a frown, Jan Clark continued on his way.

At the same time, aside from the trio of Wyatt Barnes and Jan Clark, ten others also searched the entire valley in a carpet-like fashion, with each bandit falling at their hands.

No matter how large the valley was, it had an end.

Wyatt Barnes's group took the lead, arriving first at a jungle in the very center of the valley.

"Hmm?"

Wyatt Barnes's 'Mysterious Eye' suddenly narrowed. In the view of his left eye, another bandit appeared... This bandit was standing there, seemingly waiting for something.

With a hint of a cold smile at the corner of his mouth, Wyatt Barnes once again released an arrow.

Whoosh!

The arrow tore through the air, its speed shocking.

"Not good!"

At the same time, the bandit targeted by Wyatt Barnes seemed to sense something, his face changing drastically.