

L. Wyatt 1561

Chapter 1561 Arrival at Moon Radiance Sect

Traversing the vast desert, heading towards the Capital City of Fletcher Kingdom, was actually a decision Wyatt Barnes had pondered deeply.

When he was still at the Moon Radiance Sect, he often heard his senior brother, Trevor Baillie, mention Fletcher Kingdom.

From Trevor Baillie's words, it was clear he yearned for Fletcher Kingdom.

He even said that if not for the Moon Radiance Sect, he would have gone there long ago.

Because of this, Wyatt Barnes felt that Trevor Baillie might have taken Taoi Romero and others to Fletcher Kingdom.

Moreover, this feeling was unusually strong.

What Wyatt Barnes didn't expect was that while he was traversing the desert heading to Fletcher Kingdom... his cheap old man, after grasping the 'clues' he left behind at the Crimson Heaven Kingdom of the Cloud Skies Continent, soon left the Cloud Skies Continent again.

"Go to the Moon Radiance Sect!"

Lanni Barnes and Withered came and went like the wind, spending only a day from arriving at the Cloud Skies Continent to leaving it.

Of course, during that day, the time they spent traveling was less than one-tenth.

Because in the clues Wyatt Barnes left, it also mentioned that he took Taoi Romero and others to the Moon Radiance Sect and introduced the Moon Radiance Sect as a seventh-rate sect in the Martial Dao Sacred Land.

At the same time, it also described the general location of the Moon Radiance Sect.

So, Lanni Barnes immediately took Withered back to the Martial Dao Sacred Land and reached the Moon Radiance Sect.

Standing in the sky above the Moon Radiance Sect, Lanni Barnes stood with his hands behind his back, his face calm and unperturbed, revealing no emotions.

However, if one looked closely into his eyes, they could see a hint of anticipation, eagerly awaiting to reunite with his son.

"Who is the Sect Leader of the Moon Radiance Sect?"

Withered stepped forward, his voice like muffled thunder, echoing through and spreading throughout the Moon Radiance Sect in no time.

In an instant, the entire Moon Radiance Sect was taken aback.

"The voice comes from the sky... and there's a 'space-forbidding formation' over our Moon Radiance Sect dwelling. The voice's owner is a Saint Realm powerhouse!"

All the elders and disciples within the Moon Radiance Sect realized this rather quickly.

For a moment, they all displayed looks of astonishment.

Why would a Saint Realm powerhouse come to their Moon Radiance Sect?

Moreover, from his words, it seemed he was specifically asking to see their Sect Leader.

At the same time, the forbidden area within the Moon Radiance Sect was also completely alerted.

"Where did this Saint Realm powerhouse come from?"

The Sect Leader of the Moon Radiance Sect, Remy Mitchell, and other Saint Realm powerhouses of the Moon Radiance Sect gathered together, looking at each other in dismay, not knowing the identity of the visitors.

However, since the visitor specifically asked for Remy Mitchell, naturally, Remy did not think to avoid the encounter.

After all, this was a Saint Realm powerhouse!

Even though they were unsure of the exact strength of this Saint Realm powerhouse, the other Saint Realm powerhouses of the Moon Radiance Sect still followed Remy towards the sky above the Moon Radiance Sect to meet the visitor.

Soon, Remy Mitchell and the others saw a withered old man.

The old man was shrouded in gray clothes, leaning on a cane, standing there, emanating an invisible, enormous pressure.

As Saint Realm powerhouses, they immediately realized that this old man's strength was far superior to theirs.

For a moment, a hint of dread appeared in the eyes of Remy Mitchell and the others.

However, when they looked at the middle-aged man standing not far behind the withered old man at a higher position, their expressions changed again.

This middle-aged man stood with his hands behind his back, exuding an ethereal aura.

At first glance, he seemed like an ordinary person.

However, his current standing position and the faint aura of authority exuded from him were enough to indicate that his strength was, more often than not, superior to the withered old man.

The withered old man was evidently a subordinate, a 'vanguard'.

"Who are you, two masters?"

Although Remy Mitchell and the others came intimidatingly, upon realizing that the two visitors were not to be trifled with, they bowed their heads in humility.

Although they were all Saint Realm powerhouses, they also knew that they were among the weakest of the Saint Realm powerhouses.

Therefore, when encountering stronger Saint Realm powerhouses, they did not dare to be negligent.

"Who is the Sect Leader of the Moon Radiance Sect?"

Withered ignored Remy Mitchell and the others, instead repeating the question with impatience in his tone.

Although Withered ignored them, Remy Mitchell and the others did not dare to retaliate. Remy promptly replied, "Master, I am the Sect Leader of the Moon Radiance Sect, Remy Mitchell. I wonder what brings you to our Moon Radiance Sect?"

Remy's words were filled with trepidation.

The pressure brought by the withered old man was too overwhelming for him.

The feeling of being watched by the withered old man was akin to being watched by a venomous snake, one he had no confidence in resisting.

"Do you have a person named 'Wyatt Barnes' in your Moon Radiance Sect?"

With a deep voice, Withered asked.

As soon as he finished speaking, his eyes swiftly scanned the faces of Remy Mitchell and the others, capturing the immediate change in their expressions.

Upon hearing Withered mention Wyatt Barnes, Remy Mitchell and the others visibly paled for a moment.

However, they swiftly forced themselves to compose their expressions.

In their hearts, however, a storm was raging.

This seemingly mysterious and powerful figure was actually here to find Wyatt Barnes?

Wasn't Wyatt Barnes supposed to be from the ordinary continent? How could such a powerful being come looking for him?

In an instant, a sense of unease rose in the hearts of Remy Mitchell and the others.

"Sect Leader, have you noticed... that middle-aged man seems to resemble Wyatt Barnes by about sixty or seventy percent."

At that moment, a Grand Elder of the Moon Radiance Sect stealthily glanced at Lanni Barnes and communicated this to Remy Mitchell through voice transmission.

In that instant, his voice revealed a hint of trembling.

Upon hearing this, Remy Mitchell also began to secretly observe Lanni Barnes.

He hadn't paid much attention to Lanni Barnes' appearance earlier, but now, upon closer inspection, he was shocked to discover... this middle-aged man indeed bore some resemblance to Wyatt Barnes.

Especially between the brows, the expression seemed as if it was carved from the same mold.

"Not good!"

Remy Mitchell's heart skipped a beat, a hint of undetectable fear flashing in his eyes.

In an instant, Remy Mitchell realized that Wyatt Barnes must have an extraordinarily complex relationship with the two people before him.

Without hesitation, Remy Mitchell immediately sent a voice transmission to the other Grand Elders of the Moon Radiance Sect, "Dear uncles and mentors... let us agree on a story: we do not know any Wyatt Barnes, nor have we ever heard of someone like that in the Moon Radiance Sect."

The Grand Elders of the Moon Radiance Sect heard this and agreed in unison.

At this moment, they also realized that Wyatt Barnes' 'background' was not as simple as they had imagined.

They even regretted pursuing Wyatt Barnes earlier.

If they hadn't gone after Wyatt Barnes, there wouldn't have been any conflict between them, and no matter how extensive Wyatt Barnes' background was, they probably wouldn't be troubled by him.

But now, things were out of their hands.

The only thought in their minds now was to find a way to send the two people before them away.

After sending the two away, they would then seek a way to make amends.

Otherwise, if the two people in front of them learned about Wyatt Barnes' 'encounter' at the Moon Radiance Sect, they were in no doubt that these two would dismantle the Moon Radiance Sect.

"Sir, although I am the Moon Radiance Sect Leader, I have never heard of anyone named 'Wyatt Barnes' within the sect."

Remy Mitchell looked at Withered and pretended to say calmly.

"Never heard of him?"

Upon hearing Remy Mitchell's words, a cold light flickered between Withered's eyes.

"Yes, never heard of him."

Remy Mitchell affirmed.

"He hasn't heard of him, how about you all?"

Withered's gaze fell on the Grand Elders of the Moon Radiance Sect behind Remy Mitchell, and at the same time, a sinister smile appeared on his lips.

"Sir, I haven't heard of him either."

"Sir, I haven't heard of him either."

...

For a moment, several Grand Elders of the Moon Radiance Sect shook their heads, all claiming they had never heard of Wyatt Barnes.

"Wyatt isn't here?"

At this time, Lanni Barnes also furrowed his brows.

Just moments ago, his powerful Divine Sense had searched the entire premises of the Moon Radiance Sect, yet he found no trace of Wyatt Barnes.

"Have you truly not heard of him, or are you unwilling to say?"

Withered looked at Remy Mitchell and the others, asking with a playful note in his voice.

Upon hearing Withered's words, Remy Mitchell and the others' pupils contracted slightly, realizing that this powerful overseer might have noticed something.

However, they still pretended to remain calm, insisting that they had truly never heard of 'Wyatt Barnes'.

"House Master, they don't seem very cooperative."

If Withered were alone, he would have long used his 'methods' to uncover everything, but because of Lanni Barnes' presence, he dared not act recklessly.

"Withered, since when do you need to report such trivial matters to me?"

Lanni Barnes said lightly, feeling a bit anxious not finding his son Wyatt Barnes.

Moreover, he sensed the unease of Remy Mitchell and others.

They were clearly pretending not to know his son Wyatt Barnes.

"House Master?"

Upon hearing Withered's address for Lanni Barnes, Remy Mitchell and others were collectively shocked, faces showing astonishment.

House Master, that's not a title just anyone can use.

In the Martial Dao Sacred Land, power lay thick like clouds, but only influential forces above the fifth tier would dare call themselves a 'House', let alone control a house.

And the title 'House Master' generally belonged only to leaders of forces above the fifth tier.

Leaders of forces above the fifth tier!

With this thought, Remy Mitchell and others felt their vision darken, a sensation of the world tumbling around them.

However, with Remy Mitchell's voice transmission, they gradually composed themselves.

"Perhaps, he's deliberately trying to scare us."

This was Remy Mitchell's exact thought.

Upon hearing Remy Mitchell's voice transmission, the other Grand Elders of the Moon Radiance Sect also calmed down, feeling that it was unlikely for a leader of a force above the fifth tier to appear at their Moon Radiance Sect.

For their Moon Radiance Sect was merely a seventh-tier sect.

In the face of forces above the fifth tier, their Moon Radiance Sect was no different than ants.

Chapter 1562: Soul Searching Secret Technique

Moreover, just by looking at the middle-aged man's appearance, it was clear that his relationship with Wyatt Barnes was not simple, most likely a blood relation.

If Wyatt Barnes truly had such a relationship with the leader of a force above the fifth tier, how could he possibly appear at their Moon Radiance Sect?

With this thought in mind, whether it was Remy Mitchell, the Sect Leader of the Moon Radiance Sect, or several of the Moon Radiance Sect's Grand Elders, their hearts were set.

However, in the next moment, their expressions changed in unison.

Just because, they were horrified to discover.

As the withered old man not far away thumped the cane in his hand, in an instant, it became as dark as night within a hundred meters, as if it had suddenly descended into night.

Simultaneously, withered branches burst from the void, seemingly brought to life.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

...

The speed of these withered branches was so fast that Remy Mitchell and others had some trouble reacting. In the blink of an eye, Remy Mitchell and the others were all bound by these flexible withered branches.

"No! My True Origin is sealed!"

And just as Remy Mitchell wanted to struggle, his expression changed drastically once more.

Just because he was horrified to discover that the withered branches binding him carried a power similar to a 'seal', which suppressed his True Origin within, leaving him unable to mobilize it.

"My True Origin is also sealed!"

"Heavens! What kind of domain is this?"

...

Simultaneously, several other Grand Elders of the Moon Radiance Sect also screamed in terror, their voices filled with panic and fear.

Even they themselves couldn't remember how long it had been since they felt such fear.

Meanwhile, as Remy Mitchell and others looked at Withered again, an endless terror shone in their eyes... Although they had realized before that the withered old man was not to be trifled with, they had never imagined that in front of this withered old man, they were like three-year-old children in front of an adult, utterly powerless to resist.

Simply by manifesting a domain, they were all bound, their lives and deaths grasped within his hands.

"Sir, I truly have never heard of this 'Wyatt Barnes' person."

Remy Mitchell said, his voice trembling.

"Sir, we're truly not lying... if you don't believe us, you can go find others from our Moon Radiance Sect to inquire."

A Grand Elder of the Moon Radiance Sect said, appearing to retreat as he advanced.

"There's no need for such trouble."

Upon hearing this Grand Elder's words, Withered said hoarsely and indifferently.

At the same time, his gaze immediately locked onto Remy Mitchell, more specifically, locked onto Remy Mitchell's eyes.

"Look at me!"

After locking onto Remy Mitchell's eyes, Withered suddenly shouted, his voice seemingly condensed into lines of sound, piercing into Remy Mitchell's ears, startling him into instinctively looking at Withered, meeting his gaze.

And at that very moment, Withered's eyes shone with a bright scarlet light.

Simultaneously, from his eyes burst forth two scarlet rays, penetrating Remy Mitchell's eyes.

In an instant, Remy Mitchell's eyes changed from vibrant to dim and void of light.

"This is..."

Seeing this scene, the other Grand Elders of the Moon Radiance Sect were initially stunned, and then, as if recalling something, they shouted as if they'd seen a ghost: "Soul-searching! It's the Soul-searching Technique!"

"The Soul-searching Technique... impossible! Impossible!"

"A master of the Soul-searching Technique, how could they possibly appear here."

...

The Grand Elders of the Moon Radiance Sect, now stood incredulously watching the scene before them, muttering to themselves.

However, the scene deeply imprinted in their eyes seemed to tell them otherwise, that there was nothing impossible about it.

The Grand Elders of the Moon Radiance Sect, being Saint Realm experts, had a certain understanding of the legendary 'Soul-searching Technique', knowing that those who mastered it were unquestionably powerful beings.

These beings not only focused on spiritual power and the Divine Sense, but their cultivation was also exceptionally profound and unpredictable!

At the very least, not even the sixth-tier sects, sixth-tier families, or sixth-tier saintly states had any individuals with such cultivation.

For a moment, their hearts almost stopped.

At that moment, they couldn't help but recall the address used by the one who performed the 'Soul-searching Technique' towards that middle-aged man, "House Master... House Master... Could this middle-aged man, who bears a resemblance to Wyatt Barnes, truly be a leader of a force above the fifth tier?"

"That's right! Only the leader of a force above the fifth tier could possibly command an expert who mastered the 'Soul-searching Technique'!"

With this thought, the Grand Elders of the Moon Radiance Sect were filled with despair.

They knew, in front of the Soul-searching Technique, in the eyes of the other party, Remy Mitchell had no secrets at all.

Everything Remy Mitchell knew, the other party could know.

A moment later, the scarlet rays emitted from Withered's eyes gradually dimmed, while he also withdrew the 'Soul-searching Technique'.

However, his eyes became particularly icy cold.

"Hmm?"

As Withered withdrew the Soul-searching Technique, the Sect Leader of the Moon Radiance Sect, Remy Mitchell, also recovered. After recovering, his face was filled with confusion.

Seeing Withered staring coldly at him again, he repeated, "Sir, I truly haven't heard of a 'Wyatt Barnes' in our Moon Radiance Sect."

Upon hearing his words, the other Grand Elders of the Moon Radiance Sect could only display bitter expressions on their faces.

"Sect Leader, it's useless to say anything now... This lord has just used the 'soul search technique' on you."

A Grand Elder of the Moon Radiance Sect said bitterly.

Upon hearing this, Remy Mitchell's expression changed instantly, "Soul... soul search technique?"

He naturally knew what the soul search technique was.

At the same time, he also knew that the powerful forces capable of using it were extremely terrifying.

Even in six-tier forces, such powerful forces did not exist.

And without such powerful forces, a six-tier force could easily destroy a 'seventh-tier sect' like the Moon Radiance Sect.

For a moment, despair surged in Remy Mitchell's heart.

"House Master..."

At this moment, Withered also revealed everything he had learned from Remy Mitchell using the soul search technique to Lanni Barnes.

This included Wyatt Barnes' past in the Moon Radiance Sect and the events that followed.

Killed the Moon Radiance Sect's Entering the Saint Realm Inner Sect Elder, 'Evander Mullins'.

Slayed the Moon Radiance Sect's Saint Realm Grand Elder, 'Quinton Jimenez' with a single sword strike.

Subsequently, he successfully escaped from the hands of several Saint Realm experts.

Withered also informed Lanni Barnes about the extraordinary nature of the sword in Wyatt Barnes' possession.

During this process, Remy Mitchell and the others also heard Withered refer to Wyatt Barnes as 'Junior House Master', and realized the connection between Wyatt Barnes and the middle-aged man called 'House Master' by the gaunt elder. It turned out that Wyatt Barnes was his son.

In an instant, their hearts were filled with despair.

They never expected that Wyatt Barnes would be the son of a leader of a fifth-tier or higher force.

"As Destiny Elder said, my son is a person of great fortune... That sword, to exhibit such power in the Entering the Saint Realm, even surpasses the ten supreme artifacts on the !"

Hearing Withered's words, knowing that Wyatt Barnes was safe, Lanni Barnes finally breathed a sigh of relief.

"House Master, they..."

Withered gave Remy Mitchell and the others a cold glance and respectfully sought instructions from Lanni Barnes.

"Handle it as you see fit."

Lanni Barnes spoke faintly and then added, "Let's head to the Dragonsmith Clan!"

The moment his words fell, Lanni Barnes vanished into thin air as if he disappeared from Remy Mitchell and the others' sight.

The speed at which he disappeared made Remy Mitchell and the others terrified.

However, when they saw the malevolent look in Withered's eyes, they paled and cried out in terror, "Spare us, lord, spare us!"

"We were blind and offended the Junior House Master! Please, lord, spare us considering we didn't harm the Junior House Master!"

"Lord, we are willing to help search for the Junior House Master."

...

Feeling the murderous aura emanating from Withered, Remy Mitchell and the others pleaded for mercy.

At this moment, any 'dignity' as Saint Realm experts was completely abandoned.

To them, in the face of life and death, nothing else mattered.

Living was the only truth.

When one died, there was nothing.

Especially for Saint Realm experts like them, they knew all too well how arduous their journey had been.

Dying like this, they were truly unwilling.

"Noisy!"

With a cold utterance, Withered didn't visibly move, yet branches of witherwood sprung up within a hundred-meter radius, transforming into snake-like forms, enveloping Remy Mitchell and the others.

Moments later, Remy Mitchell and the others were crushed into flesh paste, dead beyond dead!

At the same time, Withered caught up with Lanni Barnes.

After Withered left, the area enveloped in the darkness by the withered branches of wood returned to light.

The countless witherwood branches vanished accordingly.

The Sect Leader of Moon Radiance Sect, 'Remy Mitchell', and the remaining Grand Elders of the Moon Radiance Sect, had now completely disappeared from this world.

Of course, this was not yet discovered by the people of the Moon Radiance Sect.

It was only a period later that the people of the Moon Radiance Sect realized that their Sect Leader 'Remy Mitchell', along with several other Grand Elders, had all vanished without a trace.

Without Saint Realm experts to rely on, the Moon Radiance Sect naturally began its decline, never regaining its past glory.

Of course, all this is a story for later.

South of Fletcher Kingdom, near the border of the vast desert, a travel-worn figure arrived today.

"Is this Fletcher Kingdom?"

The newcomer was none other than 'Wyatt Barnes', who had crossed the vast desert from the Nine Sect Alliance area to reach Fletcher Kingdom.

Wyatt Barnes stood in the air at the border of Fletcher Kingdom, peering ahead, his eyes took in a vast oasis that was like a world apart from the desert behind him.

"Keep moving forward, find someone to ask for directions to the capital city of Fletcher Kingdom."

Wyatt Barnes thought silently to himself.

Chapter 1563: Don't Know How to Appreciate Favors!

However, crossing that vast desert without sleep or rest still brought Wyatt Barnes a certain fatigue.

It wasn't physical fatigue, but spiritual fatigue.

Before asking anyone for directions, Wyatt first found a place to rest temporarily.

After resting for a night, he continued his journey northward the next morning.

Finally, after traveling northward at full speed for an hour, he saw an inconspicuous small village, with smoke curling in the distance.

Such a small village, nestled in the vast grassland, appeared in Wyatt's eyes like a perfect landscape painting.

As he approached the village, Wyatt descended from the sky.

Before entering the village, Wyatt noticed two swift figures darting out, blocking his way.

"Who are you?"

The ones blocking Wyatt's path were two sturdily built middle-aged men, looking strong and powerful, their faces filled with vigilance as they looked at Wyatt, the unexpected visitor.

"There's no need for alarm, gentlemen. I'm just a passerby seeking directions."

Wyatt managed to squeeze out a slight smile and said.

At the same time, he quietly activated the 'Heavenly Eye', immediately sensing the cultivation level of the two middle-aged men, revealing them to be Martial Artists at the Transcending Mortal Realm's Great Circle.

For such a small village to have Martial Artists at the Transcending Mortal Realm's Great Circle, Wyatt was also surprised.

It's worth noting that in the Martial Dao Sacred Land, most ninth-ranked forces at best only have Martial Artists at the Transcending Mortal Realm's Great Circle seated.

However, simultaneously, Wyatt could also sense that upon approaching the village, the Spiritual Energy became notably denser, indicating that beneath the village lay a Holy Stone mine.

With Wyatt's current cultivation, he could easily perceive it to be a ninth-grade Holy Stone mine.

"As expected of Fletcher Kingdom, a mere border village could match a ninth-ranked force."

Wyatt sighed inwardly in admiration.

And hearing Wyatt's words, the two middle-aged men's expressions softened significantly but still cautiously asked, "Where are you heading?"

"To the Capital City."

Wyatt said.

"The Capital City?"

Upon hearing Wyatt's words, the two middle-aged men were taken aback.

It's important to know that not all Martial Artists or Taoist Cultivators dare to travel from here to the Capital City.

This is Fletcher Kingdom's borderland, and from here to the Capital City is quite a long distance. Without sufficient strength, one truly wouldn't dare venture to the Capital City alone.

After all, along this journey, there's no telling how many notorious groups one might encounter.

"Hmm."

Wyatt nodded and smiled, "Could the two of you possibly guide me?"

For the two middle-aged men, it was merely a trivial matter. In a moment, they pointed to a direction, which was the northeast.

"Thank you both."

Wyatt smiled as he thanked them, preparing to leave.

Just then, a swift whistling of the wind came from afar, rushing aggressively, surprising Wyatt.

Of course, when Wyatt heard these sounds, the two middle-aged men didn't hear them.

Wyatt looked in the direction of the sound and saw a group of people marching over mightily, numbering at least dozens at first glance.

This group of people had a middle-aged man standing atop a savage beast leading them.

The middle-aged man had a full face of bristles, standing atop a savage beast resembling a giant lion, looking valiant.

"The leader is at the Mid Saint Realm... That savage beast is at the Initial Saint Realm. As for the remaining dozens, the weakest are at Mid Transcending Mortal Realm... They seem to be heading for this village, but who exactly are they?"

Activating the 'Heavenly Eye', Wyatt quickly assessed the cultivation levels of the group.

To him, these people were insignificant.

So, he chose not to avoid them.

Moreover, these people were clearly targeting the village in front of him. If he were merely passing by, he might not care about this affair.

However, now, he owed a favor to two villagers.

Leaving at this moment felt somewhat unjustifiable.

At the same time, Wyatt noticed the two middle-aged men's faces were becoming grave.

"Haha... Aren't the young and old of Bowman Village coming out to greet us?"

With a loud laugh from the bristled middle-aged leader, the group he brought stopped in the air outside the village, like a dark cloud pressing on the city, blocking out the sunlight over a large area outside the village.

"Hmm?"

Initially thinking the notorious group was coming to massacre the village, Wyatt was stunned seeing this spectacle.

Judging by the tone of the bristled middle-aged man, he seemed to be 'acquainted' with the villagers here?

"They are a notorious group along the southern border of Fletcher Kingdom, comparable to 'eighth-ranked forces'. They come to our village periodically to collect a large amount of Holy Stones as a 'protection fee'."

Seemingly noticing Wyatt's confusion, one of the middle-aged men said to Wyatt with a bitter smile through sound transmission.

Wyatt Barnes suddenly understood.

If that's the case, he didn't need to intervene.

This village, even if comparable to a Nine Stream Power, without a 'backer' in the Fletcher Kingdom, could still easily be destroyed.

Perhaps, with the protection of a gang rivaling an Eight Stream Power, it could exist a little longer.

This is the law of survival.

At the same time, Wyatt Barnes saw yet another group of people flying out of the village, led by an elderly man in green clothes.

The old man looked helpless, but he still forced a smile onto his face.

"Third Family Head, this is our Bowman Village's 'protection fee' for this year."

In front of the bearded middle-aged man, the old man showed a humble attitude and handed over a Storage Ring.

The bearded middle-aged man reached out to catch it, confirmed its contents, and grinned, "The amount is correct! Old Man Bowman, see you next year."

Saying this, the bearded middle-aged man turned the head of the Savage Beast beneath him, ready to lead his people away.

Just as Wyatt Barnes and a group of people from Bowman Village were preparing to watch the bearded middle-aged man leave, Wyatt noticed one of the two old men following closely behind suddenly fix his gaze on Wyatt, his eyes lighting up.

The next moment, he saw the old man look at the bearded middle-aged man.

Instantly, Wyatt faintly sensed something was wrong and couldn't help but furrow his brows.

At this moment, the bearded middle-aged man also turned the head of the Savage Beast beneath him back around, his gaze landing on Wyatt first.

"You're not from Bowman Village?"

The bearded middle-aged man asked Wyatt sternly, his eyes sharp as lightning.

Meanwhile, the eyes of the gang members behind the bearded middle-aged man and those from Bowman Village also focused on Wyatt.

The village chief of Bowman Village, the elderly man in green, furrowed his brows tighter.

"I..."

Wyatt had just started to say that he wasn't from Bowman Village, but was interrupted.

"Third Family Head, this person is indeed from Bowman Village, he just rarely comes out in the public eye."

After learning from two middle-aged men from the village that Wyatt was merely a passerby asking for directions, the chief developed some sympathy and promptly spoke up to the bearded middle-aged man.

At that moment, Wyatt heard the village chief's voice in his ear, "Young man, they are not easy to deal with, just pretend to be one of us from Bowman Village."

Hearing the chief's words, Wyatt, though unafraid of the bandits, felt a sense of warmth and chose not to contradict the chief's words by staying silent.

After all, the chief meant well.

"Old Man Bowman, you think I, Third Weber, am blind? Can a person of such bearing come from your Bowman Village?"

The bearded middle-aged man sneered.

Upon hearing this, the village chief was silenced and couldn't help but take a serious look at Wyatt. He realized Wyatt had an extraordinary demeanor, clearly not someone from a small village.

"Old Man Bowman, I can pretend not to have heard what you said. Now, I want to hear you say it again. Is he from your Bowman Village? Let me remind you, you better think carefully before answering... You surely know the consequences of lying to me!"

The bearded middle-aged man continued to sneer.

For a moment, cold sweat dripped down the village chief's forehead, and he could only cast an apologetic glance towards Wyatt.

At this point, he naturally didn't dare to speak up for Wyatt anymore.

Wyatt understood the village chief's plight and gave him a reassuring smile, then turned to face the bearded middle-aged man and said calmly, "Your eyesight is not bad; I'm indeed not from Bowman Village. I'm just a passerby who stopped by to ask for directions."

"I thought so, how could someone of your bearing be from Bowman Village?"

The bearded middle-aged man bore an expression of 'as expected' and then looked Wyatt over dismissively, saying, "Today, I'm in a good mood, and I don't wish to see blood... Hand over your Storage Ring and scram!"

"In a good mood? Don't want to see blood?"

Wyatt laughed at the bearded middle-aged man's words, "From your tone, it sounds like you've already decided my fate."

Without waiting for a response from the bearded middle-aged man, Wyatt swiftly left.

Of course, his speed wasn't fast, maintaining only the level of someone who had just entered the Saint Realm.

Even so, while the bearded middle-aged man and his gang were momentarily stunned, Wyatt had already flown far away.

The direction Wyatt headed was northeast, towards the Capital City of Fletcher Kingdom.

"Insolent bastard!"

The bearded middle-aged man finally came back to his senses, his face instantly darkening, a murderous gleam in his eyes as he urged the Savage Beast beneath him to pursue Wyatt.

A large group of bandits followed in a mighty rush.

"That young man is doomed."

Seeing this, the people of Bowman Village sighed.

They could all see that the young man's speed wasn't very fast.

At least, he held no advantage in front of the bearded middle-aged man.

"Still too young and rash... What's the harm in handing over the Storage Ring? Can something external truly be more important than one's life?"

The village chief of Bowman Village sighed, having previously tried to secretly advise the young man, but his words were ignored, leaving him rather helpless.

Chapter 1564: An Unusual Ruthless Bandit

Third Weber turned around to chase Wyatt Barnes, initially planning to leave the Savage Beast behind and pursue him alone.

After all, the Savage Beast under him was only at the early stage of Entering the Saint Realm, with a speed comparable to Wyatt Barnes. Catching up with Wyatt would be challenging.

He, as a martial artist of mid-stage Entering the Saint Realm, could easily chase down an early-stage Entering the Saint Realm martial artist.

Obviously, the speed Wyatt Barnes displayed made him realize that Wyatt was merely an early-stage Entering the Saint Realm martial artist.

"Hmm?"

Soon, Third Weber abandoned the idea of chasing.

Because he noticed that, after flying a certain distance, the young man suddenly stopped and turned around, as if waiting for him and the group of pursuers to catch up.

At that moment, a sense of unease vaguely arose in his heart.

For a split second, he even had the notion of turning back.

However, thinking of the many subordinates watching from behind, he gritted his teeth and decided to pursue Wyatt Barnes, "He's just an early-stage Entering the Saint Realm martial artist; simply kill him! In this remote area, far from imperial authority, even if his background is extraordinary, who would know it was me, Third Weber, who killed him?"

With this thought, Third Weber's mind settled.

Moments later, Third Weber surrounded Wyatt Barnes with a group of menacing bandits.

"What? Have you thought it over? Willing to leave the Storage Ring?"

Third Weber looked at Wyatt Barnes with a cold smile, "I'll give you another chance, leave the Storage Ring, and I'll spare your life!"

Upon hearing Third Weber's words, the two elderly men following him were somewhat surprised.

In the past, whenever they encountered such situations, as long as the target had any thought of escape, their Family Head would simply chase them down and finish them off.

But this time, their Family Head gave the young man a second chance!

This couldn't help but surprise them.

"Perhaps the Family Head sees that he stopped willingly and thinks his death sentence can be waived."

The two elderly men exchanged glances, seeing the same thought in each other's eyes.

Yet, how could they possibly know?

Third Weber already harbored a hint of dread towards the young man before him.

"What if I refuse?"

From the start to the end, Wyatt Barnes remained calm and composed, as if unaffected by the looming disaster.

Upon hearing Wyatt Barnes' words, Third Weber's expression changed.

"Kid, courting death!"

"Family Head, kill him!"

"Kill him!"

...

At that moment, the dozens of menacing bandits brought by Third Weber roared in anger upon hearing Wyatt Barnes' words.

If not for Third Weber's lack of orders, they would've already charged forward, tearing the young man before them apart.

"Kill him!"

Now, hearing the wishes of his subordinates, Third Weber was caught between a rock and a hard place, shouted an order directly.

"Kill!"

"Kill!!"

...

In an instant, besides Third Weber, the Savage Beast beneath him, and the two elderly men behind him, the other bandits launched an attack on Wyatt Barnes, determined to tear him to pieces.

Yet, the surrounded Wyatt Barnes bore a disdainful smile at the corner of his mouth.

As the dozens of bandits approached, the air within a hundred meters around Wyatt Barnes trembled.

Immediately, within this hundred-meter radius, solid sword gleams appeared out of nowhere, each resembling a real sword.

At first glance, there were as many as tens of thousands of these swords.

"Domain!"

At this precise moment, Third Weber and the two elderly men behind him were the first to react, their expressions changed drastically as they realized they had kicked an iron plate.

What a joke!

Only those who have mastered the True Energy Condensing Domain technique can unleash a 'Domain.'

And those who have mastered the True Energy Condensing Domain technique are all at least at the Full Perfection stage of Entering the Saint Realm.

Not to mention them, even the leader of their bandit group was only a Small Perfection martial artist of Entering the Saint Realm, still far from 'Full Perfection.'

Even the leader humbles himself before a full perfection Entering the Saint Realm expert.

Yet here they were, hunting down a full perfection Entering the Saint Realm expert?

As Third Weber and the two elderly men's expressions drastically changed, dozens of the tens of thousands of sword gleams in the sky transformed into meteors, streaking across.

Each sword gleam claimed the life of one bandit.

These bandits, even the strongest, were only at the early stage of Entering the Saint Realm. Within Wyatt Barnes' 'Ten Thousand Sword Domain,' they were nothing more than fish on a chopping block.

In just an instant, aside from Third Weber and the Savage Beast beneath his feet, as well as the two elders behind him, all other bandits were pierced through the heart by sword energy, their bodies falling like rain and splattering into piles of flesh.

It was only then that Third Weber came to his senses.

"Sir, it's me, Third Weber, who was blind to your greatness! It's me, Third Weber, who was blind to your greatness!"

After coming to his senses, Third Weber's face became deathly pale, and he began slapping himself left and right, 'slap slap slap,' until his face resembled a pig's head.

At this moment, he had only one thought in his mind.

And that was to hope that the powerful figure before him would spare his life.

In front of this person, he wasn't even thinking of resistance, as he knew it would be futile.

Of course, deep down, he was filled with complaints... Complaining that Wyatt Barnes, a Small Perfection Martial Artist, would pretend to be weak, displaying only the speed of someone at the early Saint Realm before them.

Wasn't that just setting a trap for them to fall into?

If Wyatt Barnes had displayed the speed of a Small Perfection Saint Realm when he left, they wouldn't have dared to utter a word, let alone chase him.

Of course, even if they wanted to chase, they couldn't catch up.

"Spare my life, sir!"

"Spare my life, sir!"

And the two elders behind Third Weber directly knelt in mid-air, lowering their heads and begging Wyatt Barnes for mercy, their voices trembling with extreme fear.

Their mentality at this moment was identical to Third Weber's.

Even the Savage Beast beneath Third Weber, though lacking much intelligence, could instinctively sense Wyatt Barnes's terrifying power and began to get restless.

"If I really were just an early-stage Saint Realm Martial Artist, unwilling to hand over the Storage Ring... Would I have any chance of survival now?"

Facing the three's pleas for mercy, Wyatt Barnes calmly asked.

Actually, even without asking, Wyatt Barnes could deduce the answer.

So, before Third Weber and his two companions could speak, Wyatt Barnes summoned the sword energy once more from the Ten Thousand Dao Domain, killing Third Weber, the two elders, and the Savage Beast without leaving a single survivor.

When leaving Bowman Village, he realized Third Weber and his group weren't there to slaughter the village, so he didn't plan to intervene.

Bowman Village paid a 'protection fee' as part of their survival Law Rules.

Wyatt Barnes didn't want to disrupt that.

However, even though he didn't want to interfere, Third Weber and the others targeted him.

And at that moment, he didn't intend to hold back.

But to avoid dragging Bowman Village into the matter, he deliberately led Third Weber and the others away from Bowman Village before making his move here.

"The Ten Thousand Dao Domain is becoming increasingly skillful."

Under Wyatt Barnes's control, the area within a hundred meters around him turned into a sea of swords.

Tens of thousands of swords flew simultaneously, creating a spectacular scene.

Finally, after collecting the Storage Rings from the group of bandits, Wyatt Barnes commanded the swords to gather beneath him, forming a 'Flying Sword,' carrying him at a faster speed toward the northeast, heading for the distant Capital City of Fletcher Kingdom.

As Wyatt Barnes continued his journey, cries of sorrow echoed from the mountainous area not far from Bowman Village.

"Third!"

An elderly, burly man with white hair looked at the shattered Soul Bead before him, his eyes blood-red.

A cold aura spread from him.

"Big brother, what happened?"

A moment later, a middle-aged man dressed like a scholar appeared.

Upon seeing the shattered Soul Bead, his expression changed as well, "Is... this Third's Soul Bead?"

"No matter who it is, I will hunt them down and avenge Third!"

The old man spoke with eyes red, his voice filled with boundless hatred and coldness.

"I'll start investigating immediately."

The scholarly-dressed middle-aged man also had a grim expression. Although the three of them were not blood relatives, their bond surpassed that of true brothers.

Because Wyatt Barnes hadn't specifically destroyed the evidence, the bandit group quickly found Elder Cruz and the others' bodies and transported them back to their lair.

"Big brother, I've asked people from several villages around the place where Third died... According to the timeline, Third died while pursuing a young man."

The middle-aged man, not just the Second Family Head of the bandit group but also its 'Military Strategist' and 'brain', quickly uncovered some details, "I asked those from Bowman Village, and they said the young man asked someone for directions, saying he was heading to the Capital City."

"Capital City?"

Hearing the middle-aged man's words, the old man exclaimed through gritted teeth, "Then I'll make sure he dies in the Capital City!"

"Big brother, are you planning... to go to the Capital City?"

The middle-aged man frowned, "Big brother, considering the wounds on the brothers, dozens died in an instant... The young man's true strength might be equal to yours! I also observed the environment of the site where Third died and found no other traces; I suspect he used a 'domain', and is a Small Perfection Saint Realm expert!"

"For Third, I must go to the Capital City! Years ago, when I left, the 'Fourth Highness' promised me a favor. As long as it's within his power, he won't refuse... Even if he's a Small Perfection Saint Realm, even if he's a regular Saint Realm expert, one command from Fourth Highness, and he'll die regardless!"

The old man's eyes were bloodshot, seemingly a bit irrational, "Second, go find more people from Bowman Village, get them to describe the man's appearance, sketch his portrait... Once the portrait is ready, I'll set off for the Capital City immediately!"

"Big brother, thank you for Third."

The scholarly-dressed middle-aged man took a deep breath, bowed to the old man to express his

Chapter 1565: Magic Runes?

In the Fletcher Kingdom, anyone addressed as 'Highness' is undoubtedly a prince under the emperor of the Fletcher Kingdom.

The Fletcher Kingdom, as a 'Six-tier Saint Kingdom,' naturally has strong foundations, far exceeding those of the Moon Radiance Sect, which is a Seven-tier Sect.

The Moon Radiance Sect has only a few powerhouses at the Saint Realm, and they are all the weakest of their kind.

But in a top Six-tier power like the Imperial Family of the Fletcher Kingdom, there are at least dozens of Saint Realm powerhouses, among them many who are highly powerful.

Wyatt Barnes didn't bother to destroy the bodies of those bandits because he deemed it unnecessary.

In Wyatt's eyes, that group of bandits was merely comparable to an eighth-tier power's gang.

An eighth-tier power was hardly worth his attention.

So, he didn't waste time and effort to destroy the bodies.

However, Wyatt could never have imagined that the 'big boss' of such an eighth-tier bandit group would somehow be connected to the Imperial Family of such a Six-tier Saint Kingdom like the Fletcher Kingdom.

If he had realized this, he certainly wouldn't have spared the effort.

Everybody makes mistakes at some point in their lives.

Unintentionally, Wyatt made the mistake of underestimating his enemy.

Of course, at this point, Wyatt is unaware of this; he is still on his journey to the capital city of the Fletcher Kingdom.

"With my speed, I should arrive at the Fletcher Kingdom's capital tomorrow."

Wyatt, traveling on a flying sword, thought to himself.

Meanwhile, almost at the same time, at the hideout of the bandit gang that Wyatt had taken out, the leader was also preparing to head to the Fletcher Kingdom's capital with Wyatt's portrait.

If Wyatt saw this portrait, he would undoubtedly be surprised because it bore a remarkable resemblance to him.

If someone who had seen the portrait were to see him, they would easily recognize him at a glance.

"Big brother, the promise the Fourth Highness made to you, it's what you spent most of your life earning... Are you really going to use it on the third brother?"

In the span of a few days, the scholarly middle-aged man, the 'Second Family Head,' had calmed down considerably. Before the elder set off, he couldn't help but ask.

"Second brother, stop saying such things in the future; I don't like to hear them."

The elder said in a deep voice.

"Big brother, if the third brother knew about what you're doing here from beyond, he would certainly be very pleased."

The middle-aged scholar replied.

"What use is happiness? Once a person dies, it's like a lamp being extinguished... Enough said, I should be on my way."

As soon as the elder finished speaking, he left.

Watching the elder's figure depart, it wasn't until his figure completely disappeared that the middle-aged scholar recovered and murmured to himself: "Big brother, if I were the one who died this time... would you also use up the promise made to you by the Fourth Highness?"

Thinking about it, the middle-aged scholar's gaze became somewhat dazed.

Fletcher Kingdom, Capital City.

Even though Wyatt had seen the grandeur of Thames River City within the nine sect alliance region, he was still astounded by the capital of the Fletcher Kingdom.

Originally, in his view, compared to Thames River City, the largest cities on the Cloud Sky Continent seemed like 'small villages.'

But upon arriving at the capital of the Fletcher Kingdom, Wyatt further comprehended the meaning of the saying 'there's always a mountain beyond a mountain'... Compared to the Fletcher Kingdom's capital, Thames River City was merely like a countryside town, whether in terms of appearance or size, it was insignificant in comparison.

Upon arriving at the capital, Wyatt remained very low-profile as he entered.

Of course, this was also because he had no choice but to be low-profile; approaching the capital of the Fletcher Kingdom, he realized there was a 'forbidden sky formation' similar to that of the Moon Radiance Sect, but its coverage was broader and its setup more complex.

Once inside the capital, Wyatt immediately found an inn and went inside.

Whether on the Cloud Skies Continent or in the Martial Dao Sacred Land, the places most lively and with the most reliable information were undoubtedly 'inns.'

Wyatt came to the Fletcher Kingdom's capital not blindly but with specific purposes.

First, he wanted to see if Trevor Baillie had brought Taoi Romero and others to Fletcher Kingdom.

Secondly, he wanted to find out if he could gather information on Julia's background in the Fletcher Kingdom.

"Julia, at first she didn't directly tell me the name of the power behind her... Now I wish to find her, but I don't know where to start."

Wyatt sighed.

The clues Julia left him consisted of only a bunch of fifth-grade holy stones, fourth-grade holy stones, and the fact that her surname was 'Hanson.'

Wyatt was not seeking the power behind Karina Hanson to find a 'patron,' though he vaguely sensed that the power behind Julia was not ordinary.

His aim was to find his fiancée 'Jovie Lee.'

"Preliminary estimation, the power behind Julia should be a fifth-tier power... most likely a fifth-tier family."

Based on all the information he knew from the past, Wyatt speculated to himself, "Hanson Family, Hanson Clan... This time in the capital city of Fletcher, I'll focus on investigating this."

As time passed, the wine and dishes Wyatt ordered were also served.

Meanwhile, more and more people were coming into the tavern.

When there are more people, it naturally becomes lively.

At this time, Wyatt Barnes also heard a lot of 'gossip', but it was all about some aristocratic playboy's scandals in the Fletcher Kingdom's capital city.

However, during this process, Wyatt Barnes was secretly astonished.

Because he heard from the surrounding drinkers that even some families in the Fletcher Kingdom's capital have strength comparable to seventh-tier forces.

In these families, there are more or fewer Saint Realm powerhouses guarding them.

"A family in the capital of the Fletcher Kingdom has strength not less than that of the Moon Radiance Sect."

At this moment, Wyatt Barnes also found that his perspective had been broadened.

In the past, he stayed in the territory of the Nine Sects Alliance, staying in the Moon Radiance Sect, which, although not the strongest, was still a considerable force.

But once he arrived in the capital of the Fletcher Kingdom, he realized that the Moon Radiance Sect was nothing here.

From the families people mentioned, there were three with strength not less than that of Moon Radiance Sect.

And in the region of the Fletcher Kingdom, besides the capital, there were clearly many sixth-tier forces... compared to this, Wyatt Barnes suddenly felt that the structure of the Nine Sects Alliance region was too small, and he was increasingly convinced that coming here was the right decision.

"Have you heard? That oldest young master of the Swayer Family, his condition has been worsening lately... it's said he might not survive past this month."

Suddenly, a middle-aged man at a table near Wyatt Barnes was saying to another middle-aged man at the same table, trying hard to keep his voice down as if worried about being overheard.

If Wyatt Barnes hadn't developed 'Saint Veins' connecting his ears, even with his consummate Entering the Saint Realm cultivation, he might not have heard his voice.

But now, Wyatt Barnes could hear it all clearly.

"The Swayer Family?"

Wyatt Barnes's heart stirred. Just now, he had heard other drinkers discussing and learned what kind of family the Swayer Family was.

The Swayer Family, in the capital of the Fletcher Kingdom, was also a notable family and had numerous ties with the Fletcher Kingdom imperial family. Rumor had it that the current head of the Swayer Family's sister was a beloved concubine of the current empire's emperor.

"The Swayer Family's oldest young master? Is it the one rumored to be possessed some time ago?"

The other middle-aged man also lowered his voice and asked.

"That's right, it's him."

The first man nodded, "Speaking of which, he's quite unlucky. The emperor had recently bestowed upon him a holy artifact engraved with four-star Saint Markings, and shortly afterward, he got possessed... I say, he was just not blessed enough to enjoy the emperor's gift."

"It really is bizarre... the imperial family's Saint Refiners, who are good at alchemy, were unable to figure out what was wrong with him."

The latter added.

"I heard that those Saint Refiners, who are good at alchemy in the imperial family, have checked his body and determined he's normal, without any abnormalities."

The former said again.

"Perhaps it's heaven punishing him... but, I heard that the Swayer Family's oldest young master is a decent person, not like the usual playboys, so why would he be punished by heaven?"

"As the saying goes, good people don't live long, but scourges live for a thousand years."

"What a pity."

"I heard that the head of the Swayer Family recently issued a bounty again... anyone who can cure the oldest young master of the Swayer Family will not only get a four-star Divine Travel Talisman but also a four-star Golden Armor Talisman."

"Even if they offer a four-star attack Taoist Talisman, nobody might be able to cure that oldest young master of the Swayer Family."

"Indeed. Not to mention anything else, just the black marks similar to a spider that appeared on the oldest young master of the Swayer Family's forehead after being possessed, no one has been able to identify what they are."

...

The conversation between the two middle-aged men reached Wyatt Barnes's ears, word by word.

"Black marks similar to a spider?"

Upon hearing their words, Wyatt Barnes raised his brows, and some corresponding information appeared in his mind, which was from the Holy Simplicity given to him by his senior brother Trevor Baillie, recording the inheritance of 'arcane pattern techniques'.

"Could it be... Demon Markings?"

Wyatt Barnes was shocked internally.

Demon Markings are a type of Saint Markings and an extremely esoteric existence.

In the Martial Dao Sacred Land, Demon Markings are generally mastered only by Saint Refiner Demon Cultivators, but the cost is very high, and it is so esoteric that only a few people in the Martial Dao Sacred Land know of its existence.

Moreover, the requirements to inscribe Demon Markings are very high.

The most important thing is, Demon Markings differ from ordinary Saint Markings. It is a kind of sinister Saint Markings if one must categorize it as such - a harmful Saint Markings.

"Earlier, they said that the oldest young master of the Swayer Family encountered this after receiving a holy artifact bestowed by the emperor of the Fletcher Kingdom... and that artifact was even engraved with four-star Saint Markings! Could it be that the emperor of Fletcher Kingdom intends to kill him?"

Thinking of this, Wyatt Barnes shook his head in denial, finding it unlikely.

Since the Swayer Family's head's sister is a concubine, the oldest young master of the Swayer Family is also the emperor of Fletcher Kingdom's nephew. The emperor should not harm him.

Chapter 1566: Not a Saint Refiner

Of course, although Wyatt Barnes thought this way, he didn't dare to be certain.

In this world of weak meat strong food, even biological father and son can become enemies, let alone merely a nephew.

"However, the head of the Swayer Family truly is generous... A four-star Divine Travel Talisman, and a four-star Golden Shield Talisman. Even I can't help but be tempted."

Indeed, Wyatt Barnes is now very tempted.

A three-star Divine Travel Talisman can allow the user to possess the speed of someone at the brink of Entering the Saint Realm for a quarter of an hour.

A three-star Golden Shield Talisman can also let the user possess the defense of someone at the brink of Entering the Saint Realm for a quarter of an hour.

A four-star Divine Travel Talisman and a four-star Golden Shield Talisman, once used, undoubtedly grant speed and defense comparable to Saint Realm powerhouses.

Although Wyatt Barnes's current strength is formidable, to kill even the weakest class of Saint Realm powerhouses, he must use the 'Splendid Fairy Sword' to succeed, and the price to pay is high; it's like killing one thousand enemies at the cost of eight hundred of one's own.

As for speed, even if he uses the 'Flying Sword' conjured from his Thousand Sword Domain, it would merely chase the speed of Saint Realm powerhouses, yet still lacking compared to them.

"I've just arrived at the Capital City of Fletcher Kingdom, unfamiliar with the territory... perhaps this is my opportunity, an opportunity to temporarily settle in the Capital City of Fletcher Kingdom."

Thinking of this, Wyatt Barnes is even more tempted.

He has just come to the Capital City of Fletcher Kingdom; whether it's to find Trevor Baillie or to investigate the forces behind Karina Hanson, he undoubtedly needs connections.

But currently, he has no connections at all.

The incident of the Swayer Family's Young Master being possessed actually gives Wyatt Barnes an opportunity.

Now, Wyatt Barnes is eighty percent sure that the Swayer Family's Young Master is indeed afflicted by a demonic mark, resulting in 'possessed' symptoms.

The demonic mark is introduced in the jade slip that records the 'art of strange markings', along with methods to break them.

Additionally, according to the two middle-aged men, the demonic marking on the Swayer Family's Young Master doesn't seem to be a very notable demonic mark.

However, even if it's not a significant demonic mark, without knowledge of the method to break it, even a nine-star Saint Refiner might be unable to undo it.

"A black mark shaped like a spider... is it possibly a 'Dark Spider Demonic Mark'?"

Wyatt Barnes murmured softly.

In the jade slip containing the art of strange markings, there is also information on some common demonic marks and ways to break them.

The Dark Spider Demonic Mark happens to be recorded, as a kind of 'one-star demonic mark', belonging to the most rudimentary category.

Of course, if Wyatt Barnes had not mastered the 'art of strange markings', he wouldn't have carefully looked at the information at the end of the jade slip, nor would he know of the existence of demonic marks.

Wyatt Barnes is certain that although Trevor Baillie also looked at the information within that jade slip, he definitely didn't notice the demonic marks.

Because the information about demonic marks isn't eye-catching among the plethora of information within that jade slip, if one doesn't grasp the basics of strange markings recorded at the beginning, most wouldn't look at the mound of complex information at the end, considering it a waste of time.

If Wyatt Barnes hadn't mastered the art of strange markings, he's certain he would have missed the records concerning 'demonic marks' at the end.

"I'd better go and take a look at the Swayer Family... however, if it can be confirmed that the emperor of Fletcher Kingdom truly wants to kill the Swayer Family Young Master, I should avoid getting involved in this murky water. I've just arrived at the Capital City of Fletcher Kingdom, and haven't accomplished what I ought to do; it's not wise to offend the emperor of Fletcher Kingdom then."

After a brief meal and settling the bill, Wyatt Barnes walked out of the tavern, calculating in his mind.

After inquiring about the location of the Swayer Family, Wyatt Barnes headed towards the Swayer Family.

As one of the largest families in the Capital City of Fletcher Kingdom, second only to the Imperial Family, the Swayer Family's residence is exceedingly grand, with a vast area, not much smaller than the Moon Radiance Sect's premises.

It's known that the premises of Moon Radiance Sect is in the barren wilderness.

While the Swayer Family's residence is situated in the pricey lands of the Capital City of Fletcher Kingdom.

Because the 'grade-six Holy Stone mineral vein' controlled by the Imperial Family of Fletcher Kingdom lies beneath the palace of Fletcher Kingdom's Capital City, the entire capital's cultivation environment is superb... coupled with the Swayer Family having a 'grade-seven Holy Stone mineral vein' under their residence, the combination results in the Swayer Family's cultivation environment far surpassing that of the Moon Radiance Sect.

At the entrance of the Swayer Family, upon learning Wyatt Barnes's purpose, a member of the Swayer Family immediately went to report inside.

Moments later, an elderly man appeared, with the reporting Swayer Family officer following behind him.

The elderly man's appearance was ordinary, but a shrewd glimmer flashed between his eyes, indicating he was not a simple character.

"Are you confident?"

As soon as the elderly man came out, he didn't say anything else but stared directly into Wyatt Barnes's eyes, seemingly wanting to assess Wyatt's confidence.

Without a change in his expression or gaze, Wyatt Barnes simply said flatly, "Rather than ask me about my confidence here, why not take me inside to see your Young Master... shouldn't you adopt the attitude of 'a dying horse could be treated like a living horse' now?"

Upon Wyatt's words, the elderly man's face darkened, "Did you just compare my Young Master to a 'horse'?"

Instantly, the Swayer Family members' faces turned hostile, closely eyeing Wyatt Barnes, like they would attack him upon the elderly man's command.

"It seems the Swayer Family isn't that desperate after all... very well, let's pretend I never came."

Wyatt Barnes shook his head, turning away to leave.

However, just as Wyatt turned around, the elderly man blocked his path, coldly stating, "Insult my Young Master, and you think you can just walk away? Do you really think the Swayer Family is without anyone to stop you?"

"Scram!"

Wyatt Barnes furrowed his brow, a word slowly escaping his lips.

Just when Wyatt Barnes thought the elderly man would burst out and make a move, an unexpected scene unfolded.

"Please."

Not only did the elderly man not burst out, he even stepped aside and respectfully invited Wyatt into the Swayer Family estate.

This scene caused Wyatt to pause momentarily.

Are these Swayer Family people inherently foolish? They won't give up unless they use force?

"Sir, I apologize for my earlier rudeness... I just wanted to confirm if you truly have genuine skills. After all, our Young Master's condition is not good, and he can no longer withstand more torment."

Seemingly noticing Wyatt's confusion, the elder's gaze darkened, and he sighed.

"Now, have you confirmed that I have genuine skills?"

Wyatt looked at the elder with a half-smile.

"With the confidence you displayed, sir, it's already worth inviting you in for a try... As you said, our Young Master's condition can only be addressed by treating a dying horse as if it were a living one."

The elder continued.

"Lead the way."

Upon hearing the elder's words, Wyatt found it amusing, but he no longer wore a stern face and replied lightly.

As the saying goes, 'One does not strike smiling faces,' and since the other party was now so sincere, he couldn't possibly turn away.

Moreover, if he wanted to establish himself in the Capital City of Fletcher Kingdom, the Swayer Family was indeed his best choice at the moment.

Upon entering the Swayer Family estate, the scenery that greeted him was impressive enough to make Wyatt's eyes light up.

No wonder it's a prominent family in the Capital City of Fletcher Kingdom; the layout of the front courtyard was indeed refreshing. The arrangements of the other estates Wyatt had visited were all not as good as this Swayer Family.

Along the way, Wyatt also discovered the elder's identity.

The elder was the steward of the Swayer Family's outer estate.

Although the elder brought him into the Swayer Family, Wyatt could see that the elder had little hope that he could cure the Swayer family's Young Master. It was mostly just going through the motions.

As for the scene outside the estate earlier, in Wyatt's estimation, it must have been a 'test' set up by the Swayer Family.

People without confidence had no reason to come in and try.

This was the Swayer Family's attitude.

Accompanied by the elder, Wyatt passed through the front courtyard of the Swayer Family, walked down a long corridor, and finally stopped at a spacious gate at the corridor's end.

At the gate, both Wyatt and the elder were stopped.

"Not surprising for a prominent family in Fletcher Kingdom, their vigilance is truly intense."

Wyatt secretly remarked; he knew that even the outer estate steward who brought him in was blocked so ruthlessly.

"This gentleman is here to see the Young Master... send someone to escort the gentleman to meet 'Steward Ellis.'

At this moment, the elder handed Wyatt over to the Swayer Family disciples guarding the inner estate gates, then said to Wyatt, "Sir, beyond this gate is our Swayer Family's 'inner estate.' They will send someone to take you to meet our inner estate steward, 'Steward Ellis,' who will take you to see the Young Master."

"Mm."

Wyatt nodded and then followed a Swayer Family disciple into the inner estate.

Upon entering the inner estate, Wyatt was again amazed.

The inner estate's arrangement, compared to the front courtyard and the entire outer estate of the Swayer Family, was even more captivating, making one feel refreshed at a glance.

Soon, Wyatt met the so-called inner estate steward, 'Steward Ellis,' a beautiful woman who appeared to be in her thirties or forties. Although her appearance was not as stunning as Wyatt's two fiancées, her graceful figure naturally exuded an alluring charm, drawing people to her unconsciously.

Upon learning Wyatt's purpose, the beautiful woman gave him a few more glances and slightly furrowed her brows almost imperceptibly.

Although in the Martial Dao Sacred Land, one cannot determine a person's true age by appearance alone, Wyatt's youthful and handsome appearance still gave an impression of 'young and inexperienced.'

Wyatt naturally noticed the woman's reaction and guessed her thoughts but wasn't bothered by it; he nodded and gave her a slight smile.

"Follow me."

She said casually, then took the lead.

The sway of her graceful figure made Wyatt, who was following behind her, unconsciously glance more times, not because Wyatt was particularly lecherous, but because it was a man's nature.

"How many stars as a Saint Refiner are you?"

On the way, the beautiful woman asked casually.

"I'm not a Saint Refiner."

Wyatt shook his head in response.

And it was this response that made the beautiful woman stop, turn around, and look at him with an unhappy expression, "You're not a Saint Refiner? Then what are you doing here?"

Chapter 1567: Heavenly List

"Could it be that your Swayer Family has a rule that those who aren't Saint Refiners cannot come? If so, I'll turn around and leave immediately."

Facing the slightly sullen face of the beautiful woman, Wyatt Barnes spoke nonchalantly, his expression indifferent.

Upon hearing this, the beautiful woman's expression eased. She took a deep look at Wyatt Barnes but didn't say anything more and continued to lead the way ahead.

Although she didn't understand where this young man's confidence came from, she still didn't tell him to leave. Since he was already here, it was naturally worth trying. If she chased him away, it would be her negligence.

Under the beautiful woman's guidance, Wyatt Barnes quickly arrived outside a spacious courtyard within the Swayer Family's inner mansion.

"I'll go notify them."

The beautiful woman greeted Wyatt Barnes, and without caring about his reaction, she walked straight into the courtyard.

Wyatt Barnes stood quietly at the entrance, his gaze flickering, "The steward of the Swayer Family's inner mansion is indeed not simple... Her cultivation is at the peak of Entering the Saint Realm, and the feeling she gives me is no different from the Vice Sect Leader of the Moon Radiance Sect. She should be a 'half-step Saint Realm' existence."

If it were before, knowing that the beautiful woman was a half-step Saint Realm existence, he would surely be apprehensive.

But now, he felt nothing.

With his current strength, he dared to claim that even without the 'Splendid Fairy Sword,' he was seldom met with equals below the Saint Realm.

Soon, the beautiful woman came back out, accompanied by an elderly man.

This elderly man, dressed in a neat white robe, matched with his head full of white hair, appeared quite ethereal and graceful.

Every step he took seemed so natural in Wyatt Barnes's eyes.

In fact, it brought Wyatt Barnes a certain amount of pressure.

"Strong in the Saint Realm!"

Seeing the beautiful woman behaving respectfully in front of the elderly man, and considering the pressure the man exerted, Wyatt Barnes easily guessed the elderly man's power, his heart momentarily shocked.

This seems to be the place where the Swayer Family's Young Master resides, doesn't it?

Why would there be a Saint Realm strong here?

For a seventh-tier family like the Swayer Family, there could at most be a few Saint Realm strong individuals, making it surprising for Wyatt Barnes to see one here.

"This here is Elder Crawford."

The beautiful woman followed closely behind the elderly man, and spoke to Wyatt Barnes.

"Elder Crawford."

Wyatt Barnes nodded to the elderly man as a greeting.

"Elder Crawford is our Swayer Family's esteemed elder, please show some respect."

At this moment, before the elderly man could respond, the beautiful woman reminded Wyatt Barnes via voice transmission, her tone mixed with some discontent.

"Steward Ellis, you're meddling too much, aren't you? I came to the Swayer Family because you need me. Even if Elder Crawford is your family's esteemed elder, why should I be subservient?"

Wyatt Barnes glanced at the beautiful woman mildly and responded unrestrainedly.

"You!!"

The beautiful woman clearly didn't expect Wyatt Barnes to say such words, and to say them openly instead of via voice transmission. Her expression changed instantly, her eyes revealing a chilling light.

"What? Did I say something incorrect?"

Wyatt Barnes sneered.

From the moment he entered the Swayer Family territory, Wyatt Barnes had already made up his mind that if he wanted to firmly establish himself in Fletcher Kingdom through the Swayer Family, he must maintain a strong stance to garner attention.

With his current strength and abilities, he did indeed qualify to showcase a strong side in a family like the Swayer Family.

Meanwhile, Wyatt Barnes no longer looked at the beautiful woman and instead stared directly at the elderly man before him.

At this moment, Wyatt Barnes noticed that the elderly man's lips curled into an indescribable smile.

For some reason, upon seeing this smile, a sense of vigilance involuntarily rose in Wyatt Barnes's heart.

Boom!!

In that instant, akin to a shocking break in the sky, accompanied by a loud noise, Wyatt Barnes suddenly felt a surge of strong wind rushing toward him, causing the void to wail as if in agony.

Accompanied by the strong wind was a fragrance.

This fragrance was familiar to Wyatt Barnes; it came from the inner mansion steward, 'Steward Ellis,' the beautiful woman who was originally following the elderly man.

Steward Ellis's sudden attack caught Wyatt Barnes by surprise.

However, Wyatt Barnes wasn't a pushover. Facing Steward Ellis's unexpected assault, his right arm jolted violently, and then the strength from his flesh burst forth, combined with the True Energy rapidly coursing through ninety-nine Saint Veins into his fist, he punched out with a thunderous blow to meet Steward Ellis's preemptive jade palm.

The jade palm struck suddenly as if transforming into a massive fan ready to swat Wyatt Barnes away.

The iron fist countered with imposing wind, fearlessly meeting the beautiful woman's jade palm head-on.

In an instant, fist and palm collided.

Bam!!

Another thunder-like explosion echoed, marking the clash between Wyatt Barnes and Steward Ellis.

This clash did not involve the invocation of Saint-grade martial arts techniques, nor the reliance on True Energy to form weapons, beasts, or domains, not even external forces like Saint Artifacts. It was purely a contest of True Energy.

Of course, for Wyatt Barnes, it wasn't just True Energy.

After Wyatt Barnes broke through to the peak of Entering the Saint Realm, his flesh also underwent another transformation, and the contained power became even more formidable.

Of course, having just recently advanced to the peak of the Entering the Saint Realm, Wyatt Barnes does not hold an advantage in terms of True Energy.

Although he possesses ninety-nine Saint Veins to channel True Energy, he was ultimately reacting posthaste. Before he could make a move, Steward Ellis had already gathered all her True Energy into her jade-like palm, launching it at him like a storm without holding back.

Therefore, regarding Saint Veins, he holds no particular advantage.

As a wave of air, centered on the clash between the two, swept across the area, Wyatt Barnes remained expressionless, standing still like a statue as immovable as a mountain.

In contrast, on the other side, the confidence on Steward Ellis's previously self-assured face crumbled in an instant.

Soon after, her whole body was sent flying backward, only stopping awkwardly after a few meters.

This was because Wyatt Barnes timely held back his strength!

Otherwise, Steward Ellis would have been in an even more embarrassing state.

"May I enter now?"

After repelling Steward Ellis, Wyatt Barnes didn't even glance at her. Instead, he looked towards the elder in white robes standing not far away all along, who was also the Supreme Elder of the Swayer Family, 'Jordan Swayer'.

He didn't need to guess to realize that it was the elder who had instructed Steward Ellis to take action.

Otherwise, even Steward Ellis wouldn't dare to act so recklessly in front of the elder.

"Of course."

Upon hearing Wyatt Barnes's words, Jordan Swayer nodded, as if having no sense of being 'exposed'.

Upon hearing this, Wyatt Barnes immediately stepped into the grand courtyard ahead of him.

At the same time, Jordan Swayer followed close behind, while casting a sideways glance at Steward Ellis, whose face was slightly pale, "There's nothing for you here now."

"Yes."

Steward Ellis replied respectfully.

However, as she left, she couldn't resist taking another look at Wyatt Barnes's back, eyes filled with both awe and disbelief.

"I can be sure that he is not a Saint Realm expert... but his strength is clearly far superior to mine! Could it be that he is a strong contender on the 'Heavenly Ranking'?"

At this thought, Steward Ellis's eyes twinkled with fascination.

The 'Heavenly Ranking' is a highly prestigious list within the Martial Dao Sacred Land, typically established only by 'fifth-tier forces'.

This signifies that the 'Heavenly Ranking' generally encompasses an entire regional prefecture.

To be precise, it includes top-tier experts at the peak of the Entering the Saint Realm from a regional prefecture.

The 'Heavenly Ranking' includes only one hundred individuals, each a towering presence at the pinnacle of the Entering the Saint Realm, merely a fingertip away from the 'Saint Realm'.

It's said that even the weakest individual on the 'Heavenly Ranking' possesses the power to face three regular half-step Saint Realm experts in direct combat.

If Wyatt Barnes knew about the 'Heavenly Ranking', he would surely be greatly astonished. The list is very similar to the 'Earth List' of the Nine Religions Alliance region, except the 'Earth List' features experts at the pinnacle of the Transcending Mortal Realm, whereas the 'Heavenly Ranking' features those at the peak of the Entering the Saint Realm.

In fact, the 'Earth List' is modeled after the 'Heavenly Ranking'.

In the Martial Dao Sacred Land, there are countless regions like the Nine Religions Alliance region.

While there are many fifth-tier forces in the Martial Dao Sacred Land, there are only a few dozen.

Even if each fifth-tier force established a 'Heavenly Ranking', there would only be a few dozen 'Heavenly Rankings' in the Martial Dao Sacred Land... this shows how high the value of the 'Heavenly Ranking' is.

The experts listed on the 'Heavenly Ranking' are all top contenders at the pinnacle of the Entering the Saint Realm.

It is for this reason that, while speculating that Wyatt Barnes is an expert on the 'Heavenly Ranking', Steward Ellis's attitude completely transformed.

At this time, thinking of that nearly perfect handsome face, for some unclear reason, Steward Ellis's cheeks flushed slightly, as if a shy maiden's modesty suddenly appeared within her.

Steward Ellis's change in attitude naturally escaped Wyatt Barnes's notice.

Of course, he wasn't interested in noticing it either.

Currently, he was entering the room of the eldest young master of the Swayer Family, together with its Supreme Elder 'Jordan Swayer,' a simple and unpretentious room. It's hard to imagine this could be the room of the heir to the next head of the Swayer Family.

This alone made Wyatt Barnes develop a good impression of the Swayer Family's eldest young master.

Meanwhile, Wyatt Barnes also saw the Swayer Family's eldest young master, Beau Swayer, lying on the bed.

Beau Swayer had a handsome, yet not rugged, face. However, it was now as pale as a sheet of paper, making the black spider mark on his forehead appear all the more frightening and alarming.

As Wyatt Barnes and Jordan Swayer entered, he struggled to sit up, clearly very weak, as frail as an ordinary person with no cultivation whatsoever.

"Grandpa Crawford."

He first greeted Jordan Swayer, then shifted his gaze onto Wyatt Barnes, moving his pale lips as he asked, "And who might this be?"

"This gentleman has come to treat your illness."

Jordan Swayer seemed to have a good relationship with Beau Swayer, with gentle affection evident in his eyes as he spoke.

"I've already given up, why do you still..."

Beau Swayer sighed deeply.

"It's not over yet, do not speak of giving up lightly."

Jordan Swayer responded earnestly.

"Alright then."

Beau Swayer nodded, then looked at Wyatt Barnes, squeezing out a weak smile, "I trouble you."

Chapter 1568: The Real Mastermind

Beau Swayer's optimism, to a certain extent, also influenced Wyatt Barnes.

In fact, when he first entered and saw the black spider mark on Beau Swayer's forehead, he was more than ninety percent certain that it was the "Dark Spider Demonic Mark."

Of course, he couldn't be one hundred percent sure without a spiritual probe.

"Relax."

Wyatt Barnes said to Beau Swayer, his voice gentle, like a warm breeze.

As Beau Swayer's expression softened, Wyatt Barnes's spiritual power swiftly reached out, merging immediately into the center of Beau's forehead, or more accurately, into the black spider mark on Beau's forehead.

"Ah!!"

At the moment Wyatt Barnes's spiritual power entered Beau's forehead, Beau screamed in pain and collapsed.

"What are you doing?"

Standing by, Jordan Swayer's face changed slightly, and he glared angrily at Wyatt Barnes.

However, Wyatt Barnes did not pay him any mind.

Yet, a faint, confident smile appeared on Wyatt's lips.

This smile naturally fell into Jordan Swayer's eyes, making his heart skip, "Could he have a way?"

From the moment Wyatt Barnes appeared before him to easily suppressing the Swayer Family's inner court steward and then now with such demeanor after observing Beau Swayer's 'condition'... Jordan Swayer found Wyatt increasingly inscrutable. He felt that even though this young man was not a Saint Realm powerhouse, he was even more mysterious than one.

"Do you have a way?"

Taking a deep breath, Jordan Swayer asked solemnly.

But Wyatt Barnes still ignored him, moving to the bedside, pressing his right thumb on the black spider mark on Beau Swayer's forehead.

In the next moment, the black spider mark on Beau Swayer's forehead faded a little.

Although it only faded slightly, Jordan Swayer, who was watching with full concentration, clearly saw it.

At this moment, without needing Wyatt Barnes' response, he got the answer he wanted, a genuine smile emerging on his face.

"Umm..."

As Wyatt Barnes stepped back, Beau Swayer regained consciousness, his pale complexion slightly improving.

"What just happened? Why do I feel... as if I'm much better?"

Beau Swayer said, a bit confused.

After a moment, as if realizing something, he stared intently at Wyatt Barnes, "Was it... you?"

"Who else could it be? Elder Crawford?"

Wyatt Barnes, naturally aware of what Beau Swayer was asking, replied with a faint smile, "I roughly understand your situation... Helping to remove the 'Demonic Mark' you are afflicted with isn't difficult, but it requires some materials. With the Swayer Family's resources, those materials shouldn't be hard to find."

Halfway through Wyatt Barnes's words, Beau Swayer became stunned and did not hear the rest.

Although he didn't know what the 'Demonic Mark' was, he vaguely guessed it was related to his condition.

Most importantly, the young man in purple robes before him seemed to suggest he could heal him?

This...

In that instant, Beau Swayer felt as if he had risen from Hell to Heaven.

It's important to know that after the recent period of pain and torment, he had almost lost hope.

However, he didn't expect that just as the fourth-grade Saint Refiners adept in alchemy within the palace had declared he wouldn't live to see next month, he would see the dawn of hope.

The dawn of hope instantly swept away the gloom in his heart.

If one could live, who would choose to die?

Especially dying in such an unclear way.

"What is a Demonic Mark?"

At this time, Jordan Swayer asked in confusion.

"A Demonic Mark is also a type of Saint Marking... However, unlike ordinary Saint Markings, it is a harmful Saint Marking, and it's a one-time use marking, similar to a Taoist Talisman."

Wyatt Barnes explained bluntly.

"Such a Saint Marking exists?"

Jordan Swayer couldn't help but exclaim, "This is the first time I've heard of it."

"But how did young Beau get afflicted by such a Demonic Mark?"

Jordan Swayer asked puzzledly.

"A Demonic Mark, being a Saint Marking, is also inscribed... It is usually hidden within a holy artifact, seamlessly integrating with ordinary Saint Markings, yet difficult to detect. Once one has been in contact with a holy artifact carrying the Demonic Mark for some time, the power of the Demonic Mark will fully attach to the person who contacted the artifact."

Wyatt Barnes elaborated.

And what he knew of this came from a Jade Slip that recorded the "Arcane Pattern Technique."

However, the Jade Slip only mentioned some Demonic Marks, along with methods for neutralizing them, but not the inscription method.

Furthermore, according to the Jade Slip, there are many Demonic Marks, and it only recorded some of the more common and basic ones.

The Dark Spider Demonic Mark, being a two-star Demonic Mark, is naturally among the more common and basic ones.

"Holy artifact?"

Hearing Wyatt Barnes's words, Jordan Swayer and Beau Swayer exchanged glances, both seeing disbelief in each other's eyes.

"I heard that young Master Swayer became like this after accepting a holy artifact bestowed by the Emperor?"

Wyatt Barnes asked straightforwardly after a moment's thought.

Jordan Swayer fell silent.

"It couldn't have been uncle."

Beau shook his head, speaking with absolute certainty.

The uncle he referred to was none other than the current emperor of Fletcher Kingdom.

"Could you show me that sacred artifact?"

Wyatt Barnes asked Beau.

Even though Wyatt hadn't completely cured him yet, he had helped him recover significantly, which was undeniable. Therefore, in Beau's mind, Wyatt was seen as his 'lifesaver,' making him very cooperative with Wyatt's requests.

"Here it is."

Beau raised his hand, taking out a seven-foot-long spear, handing it over to Wyatt.

As soon as the spear was in hand, Wyatt could sense its extraordinary nature, or more accurately, the exceptional material it was made of.

The moment he grasped it, a biting cold spread through his fingers.

Wyatt's gaze then fell upon the spear's shaft, where he saw three Saint Markings engraved.

He recognized all these markings as three-star Saint Markings.

According to his knowledge, Beau's spear should have a four-star Saint Marking; since it's not on the shaft, it must be on the spearhead.

Indeed, Wyatt found the four-star Saint Marking on the spearhead, marking the first time since arriving in Martial Dao Sacred Land that he'd seen an artifact inscribed with 'four-star Saint Markings.'

The four-star Saint Markings were something Trevor Baillie couldn't inscribe.

Not because Trevor lacked expertise in the art of Saint Markings, but because his cultivation wasn't high enough.

Once Trevor breaks through to the Saint Realm, becoming a Saint Realm expert, with his mental power further enhanced, inscribing four-star Saint Markings wouldn't be difficult.

With a breakthrough in cultivation, Trevor would become a 'four-star Saint Marking Master'!

"Is there a problem?"

Beau couldn't help but ask.

However, Wyatt didn't answer him because his full attention was focused on the four-star Saint Marking on the spearhead.

Wyatt couldn't identify what type of four-star Saint Marking it was.

As time passed, after a deeper observation, Wyatt noticed some traces in the four-star Saint Marking's pattern. Though the traces were faint, they couldn't escape his mental power's scrutiny.

"It really is a demonic mark!"

At some unknown point, a cold smile appeared at the corner of Wyatt's mouth.

"You say the emperor couldn't possibly want to harm you?"

Retracting his gaze, Wyatt looked at Beau and asked.

"Yes."

Beau nodded with absolute certainty. "Besides being my uncle by marriage, his current status gives him no motive to harm me. And moreover..."

As he spoke, a blush appeared on Beau's pale face, resembling a shy young lady, leaving his words unfinished.

"If Beau hadn't encountered this issue... within six months, he would have wed 'Princess Delilah Brightfall'. This marriage was granted personally by the emperor."

Just as Wyatt furrowed his brow over Beau's unfinished words, Jordan Swayer said with a smile, "And Princess Delilah Brightfall is the emperor's only daughter."

Wyatt suddenly understood.

Given this, the emperor indeed had no motive to harm Beau.

As the only daughter, according to normal logic, the emperor would definitely dote heavily on Princess Delilah Brightfall.

It's impossible, after granting the marriage, to then harm the future husband of the princess.

After all, this world, much like ancient times on Earth where Wyatt came from, held women's reputation in particularly high regard and wouldn't joke about such matters.

"If it wasn't the emperor... then perhaps that 'demonic mark' was inscribed later."

Wyatt looked towards Beau, asking, "Did you lend the spear to anyone after the emperor gifted it to you? Inscribing a 'demonic mark,' even for a highly skilled Demon Cultivator Saint Marking Master, requires a day and night's effort! After all, demonic marks aren't ordinary Saint Markings; they are harmful markings."

"Right, Beau, did you lend the spear to anyone after obtaining it?"

Jordan Swayer also asked.

Before Beau could respond, the looks from Wyatt and Jordan already provided the answer.

As soon as Wyatt and Jordan finished speaking, Beau's complexion shifted dramatically, with his gaze flashing with struggle, confusion, and finally anger.

"Who was it?"

Jordan's eyes flashed with frost as he asked coldly.

In that instant, Wyatt could feel the temperature in the room seem to drop.

"Truly impressive, a Saint Realm expert's anger is unlike that of ordinary people."

Wyatt clicked his tongue secretly.

"Myles Swayer."

Beau sighed.

"It was him!"

Jordan's face grew darker, "He must have really lost his mind... I'll go take him to the 'Enforcement Hall' right away!"

As he spoke, Jordan was about to step out.

"Grandfather Crawford!"

"Wait!"

Beau and Wyatt's voices rang out almost simultaneously, stopping Jordan Swayer.

"Hmm?"

Jordan looked at Beau in confusion and then at Wyatt, wondering why both stopped him, seemingly preventing his action.

Chapter 1569: Ridge South Anderson Manor

"Lord Crawford, we don't have any evidence."

Beau Swayer said with a bitter smile.

"Isn't there this gentleman?"

Jordan Swayer looked at Wyatt Barnes, clearly full of confidence in him.

Of course, this was because Wyatt had just used several methods to make Beau recover considerably, even when the four-star Saint Refiner in the palace was at a loss. This young man could handle it.

"According to what the gentleman just said, a 'magic pattern' is clearly an extremely obscure existence, and the traces it leaves are negligible... The gentleman can discover and even recognize the magic pattern, showing his erudition. Others, however, might not believe what the gentleman says."

Beau Swayer expressed his concerns.

"As long as the gentleman cures you, won't they believe it?"

Jordan Swayer seemed to dismiss the concern.

"Even if the gentleman cures me, they can still deny the existence of a magic pattern... After all, before the gentleman mentioned it, even you and I didn't know about the existence of magic patterns in the world. By then, Myles Swayer could completely counter by saying that I deliberately framed him."

Beau sighed.

"Young Master Swayer is right, this matter cannot be rushed... Even if we want to expose Myles Swayer, we have to plan slowly."

Wyatt Barnes rarely chimed in.

Although he didn't know who Myles Swayer was, seeing Beau and Jordan's attitude earlier, they clearly believed the 'magic pattern' afflicting Beau was related to him.

"The gentleman speaks the truth."

Beau nodded in agreement, then gingerly stepped off the bed, bowed to Wyatt in gratitude, "Thank you, gentleman, for extending a helping hand. Otherwise, I, Beau Swayer, might not last until next month."

Although the young man in the purple robe hadn't completely cured him yet, under his miraculous treatment, Beau's condition had improved greatly.

"Young Master Swayer is too kind."

Wyatt smiled faintly.

"May I inquire what the gentleman's esteemed name is?"

Beau Swayer asked politely.

"Wyatt Barnes."

Under the gaze of Beau and Jordan, Wyatt smiled and replied.

So far, Wyatt had a good impression of this eldest Swayer son.

Having lived two lives, Wyatt had developed a knack for reading people and could tell Beau Swayer was a straightforward person, unmatched by typical aristocratic offspring.

"So, it's Mr. Barnes."

Though still not fully recovered, Beau, after standing for a while, gradually grew pale again.

"Beau, you should rest."

Noticing this, Jordan quickly said.

"Alright."

Beau acknowledged, greeted Wyatt again with an apologetic smile, then lay back on the bed.

Meanwhile, Wyatt and Jordan left the room and returned to the courtyard.

"Mr. Barnes, please forgive my previous lack of manners."

Once outside, Jordan apologized to Wyatt. As for the 'lack of manners' he mentioned, it was nothing more than having Steward Ellis test Wyatt's capabilities earlier.

"Elder Crawford was only concerned for Young Master Swayer; I understand."

Wyatt said.

Hearing Wyatt say this, Jordan's face lit up with a smile. He then asked somewhat hesitantly, "Mr. Barnes, are you a power listed on the 'Heavenly List'?"

"A power on the 'Heavenly List'?"

Seeing Jordan's fixed stare, Wyatt was baffled, "What's that?"

He had heard of the 'Earth List'.

What was the 'Heavenly List'?

"Mr. Barnes, you... you've never heard of the 'Heavenly List'?"

Seeing Wyatt wasn't pretending, Jordan's eyes widened, his face slightly stunned.

"It's the first time I've heard of it."

Wyatt said, "I've heard of the 'Earth List', which is a ranking for the peak powerhouses in the Transcending Mortal Realm."

"The 'Earth List' isn't on the same level as the 'Heavenly List'... In the Martial Dao Sacred Land itself, the 'Earth List' is numerous, but the 'Heavenly List' only numbers in the dozens."

Jordan shook his head.

"Please elaborate."

After Jordan's explanation, Wyatt became curious about this 'Heavenly List'.

Following Jordan's introduction, Wyatt also understood what the 'Heavenly List' was. It was a ranking established by fifth-tier powers, a list dominated by pinnacle Saint Realm experts within a region controlled by a fifth-tier power.

The Fletcher Kingdom, although a sixth-tier Saint Kingdom, was also dependent on a fifth-tier power called 'Anderson Manor' of Ridge South.

Within Anderson Manor's domain, there were a total of eleven sixth-tier powers, among which Fletcher Kingdom was just one.

Thus, becoming a pinnacle Saint Realm expert listed on the 'Heavenly List' meant one was among the top Saint Realm experts within Ridge South Anderson Manor's territory.

The "Heavenly List" gathers a hundred people, and those from Fletcher Kingdom who make the list are few and far between.

"Unexpectedly, Mr. Barnes, you don't yet know of the 'Heavenly List'... May I ask, from where do you hail, Mr. Barnes?"

Jordan Swayer asked curiously.

"I came over from the Nine Sect Alliance region."

Wyatt Barnes replied truthfully, as he planned to ask the Swayer Family to help find Trevor Baillie's whereabouts later, so there was no need to hide it.

"Nine Sect Alliance region?"

Jordan Swayer seemed to realize, "I've heard of that place. It's an edge region behind the southern desert... I never thought someone as outstanding as you, Mr. Barnes, would come from there."

Jordan Swayer sighed.

"Elder Crawford, earlier when you and Young Master Swayer mentioned 'Myles Swayer,' I wonder who he is and what conflict exists between him and Young Master Swayer?"

Wyatt Barnes was quite curious about this.

It's known that Beau Swayer is the eldest young master of the Swayer Family and the successor of the next family patriarch.

Such a person has someone conspiring against him.

Moreover, judging by the name, he is clearly also part of the Swayer Family.

"Myles Swayer is also a direct descendent of our Swayer Family, known as the 'Second Young Master'... However, he and Beau have no direct blood relation. Speaking of blood relation, it would trace back dozens of generations ago."

Jordan Swayer slowly explained.

Wyatt Barnes could understand Jordan Swayer's words, which simply meant that Beau Swayer and Myles Swayer are both direct descendants but not from the same line.

"The legacy of our Swayer Family does not pass down a single lineage; rather, we select the most outstanding direct descendants to cultivate as the next family head... The current family patriarch is Beau's father. Beau has been promising and has been designated as the heir to the next family patriarch."

Jordan Swayer continued, "However, in Beau's generation, there is another extremely outstanding individual... If Beau were not present, he would definitely replace Beau and be designated as the heir to the next family patriarch."

"That person is Myles Swayer?"

Upon hearing Jordan Swayer say this, Wyatt Barnes understood and also guessed Myles Swayer's motive for wanting to kill Beau Swayer. It was nothing but wanting to replace Beau Swayer as the heir to the next family patriarch of the Swayer Family.

After all, as long as Beau Swayer is alive, he has no chance.

"Exactly!"

Jordan Swayer's eyes flashed with cold light as he spoke solemnly, "I never thought he would be ruthless to this extent... He is challenging the laws of our Swayer Family!"

The first clause of the Swayer Family's laws is to strictly prohibit the family members from harming each other.

"Magic marks, ordinary people really can't detect them."

Wyatt Barnes shook his head.

"Mr. Barnes, please stay here with Beau... I must inform the patriarch of this matter, so I won't disturb you further."

Jordan Swayer said to Wyatt Barnes, then ordered the maids within the manor to take good care of Wyatt Barnes before leaving.

"Mr. Barnes, please follow me."

As the eldest young master of the Swayer Family, the manor where Beau Swayer resides naturally has quite a few maids. Upon hearing Elder Crawford's orders, a maid promptly led Wyatt Barnes to a vacant room.

The room was tidy, although it was unoccupied, it was very clean and someone clearly cleaned it regularly.

"Mr. Barnes, if you have any needs, don't hesitate to ask. I am stationed outside the door."

The maid spoke to Wyatt Barnes, frequently casting coquettish glances his way. Although she didn't know whether this purple-clothed youth could cure the young master, Elder Crawford's attitude towards him already made it worthwhile to curry favor.

If she could catch the eye of someone like him, it would undoubtedly be a heaven-sent opportunity for her.

Yet, although the maid was quite pretty, compared to Wyatt Barnes's two fiancées, she was not merely slightly lacking, so Wyatt Barnes directly ignored her.

"I wonder where my senior brother and Uncle Romero are now... I hope they've truly come to Fletcher Kingdom."

Wyatt Barnes muttered to himself.

"Later, I'll ask the Swayer Family's patriarch if he knows of a Fifth-flow clan where most people have the surname 'Hanson.'"

This was the only clue Wyatt Barnes had regarding Julia's origins.

The force behind Julia was clearly a large clan, even the ancient 'Hanson Tribe' of the Cloud Skies Continent was founded by a common descendent who emerged from it thousands of years ago.

The reason for suspecting Julia's backing is a Fifth-flow force is naturally due to the Holy Stones Julia had given him initially.

Ninety percent of those Holy Stones were of the fifth grade, with the rest being fourth grade.

This corresponds to the standard extraction from a fifth-grade Holy Stone mine, which usually falls under the control of a Fifth-flow entity.

Wyatt Barnes sat silently on the bed and did not rush to enter the Jewel Tower for cultivation.

Just because he knew even if he went in to cultivate, he wouldn't be able to practice for long.

Just as Wyatt Barnes thought, he had only sat quietly for a short time when the maid's voice came from outside, "Mr. Barnes, the patriarch has arrived, please come out."

The 'patriarch' the maid referred to was undoubtedly the head of the Swayer Family.

Wyatt Barnes had not rushed into the Jewel Tower to cultivate, as he was waiting for the Swayer Family's patriarch to pay him a visit. As the biological father of Beau Swayer, the eldest young master, upon learning someone could cure the strange illness afflicting his son, the patriarch would surely come to verify without delay.

Such are the hearts of parents worldwide!

All parents cherish their children dearly.

Walking out of the room, Wyatt Barnes saw Jordan Swayer again, and beside Jordan Swayer was another person, a medium-built middle-aged man in a blue robe, face like jade, with sharp brows like swords, exuding an unyielding aura of authority.

Clearly, this was Micah Swayer, the head of the Swayer Family.

Chapter 1570: Myles Swayer

"Mr. Barnes."

Even though Wyatt Barnes appears young, when facing him, the Swayer Family Head 'Micah Swayer' dared not show any disrespect, his tone tinged with a bit of reverence.

In fact, at first sight of Micah Swayer, Wyatt Barnes already could determine that Micah was also a 'Saint Realm powerhouse.'

"Family Head Swayer."

Wyatt nodded at Micah Swayer, which counted as a response.

Although Micah was a Saint Realm powerhouse, Wyatt felt no pressure in facing him.

Despite only being a Martial Artist who entered the Saint Realm, Wyatt had managed to take down a Saint Realm powerhouse, so naturally would not lose composure in front of them.

Confronted by the dignified Wyatt, the impression of Wyatt in Micah's heart rose by a few notches.

Earlier, when Elder Crawford mentioned Wyatt, Micah thought he exaggerated, but now realized Crawford's words were nothing but truth, without a shred of falsehood.

This young man named 'Wyatt Barnes' is indeed extraordinary.

"Mr. Barnes, I hear from Elder Crawford that to dispel the demonic markings from my son, you require quite a few materials... May I know what materials you need?"

Micah Swayer asked openly, his tone tinged with a sense of urgency.

Initially, Micah held no hope for curing his son's strange illness, but just as despair loomed, a glimmer of hope appeared unexpectedly, leaving him indescribably delighted.

"I've drawn the materials out and noted them."

Wyatt handed Micah Swayer the drawings he had prepared while meditating in his room, which illustrated various materials, annotating some features for identification.

"Mr. Barnes, once these materials are collected... how long will it take to completely remove the demonic markings from my son?"

Micah glanced at the few sheets of drawings and collected them like treasures, simultaneously inquiring Wyatt.

"One month."

Wyatt confidently said, "In just one month, I assure you of a sprightly Young Master Swayer."

One month!

Wyatt's words brightened not only Micah Swayer's gaze but Elder Crawford's too.

Subsequently, Micah greeted Wyatt and Elder Crawford and quickly left, evidently to prepare the materials.

Before leaving, he promised Wyatt that once Beau Swayer recovered, he'd present two four-star Taoist Talismans.

In response, Wyatt was not urgent.

For the Swayer Family to publicly pledge, it's unlikely they'll backtrack, or they'd end up embarrassing themselves.

Moreover, before arriving at the Swayer Family, Wyatt had gathered some information, knowing that both the Family Head 'Micah Swayer' and the Eldest Young Master 'Beau Swayer' had a good reputation, at least in Fletcher Kingdom's capital.

Wyatt was surprised when Micah left and Elder Crawford settled in the courtyard.

With several vacant rooms in the courtyard, Elder Crawford settled in the room next to Wyatt's, becoming neighbors with Wyatt.

"Seems Elder Crawford is worried I might run off."

Wyatt chuckled and shook his head.

Yet, only a few days after Elder Crawford settled in Beau Swayer's courtyard, the atmosphere was somewhat gloomy in another courtyard within the Swayer residence.

"Why has that Mr. Barnes stayed in Beau Swayer's courtyard for several days? Is that old-timer Elder Crawford also staying there these days?"

A young man with a cold demeanor paced back and forth, muttering to himself, eyes flashing coldly.

"Could it be... that Mr. Barnes can dispel the demonic markings from Beau Swayer?"

Upon this thought, the cold young man's face changed, swiftly heading to the guest room in his courtyard to find a guest residing there.

The guest in the room wore black and had a ghastly mask.

"Young Master Myles, is there something you need?"

The masked person asked indifferently.

Judging from the masked man's words, the coldly-demeaned young man is clearly the Swayer Family's Second Young Master, Myles Swayer.

"Are you really sure that your demonic markings are unsolvable?"

Myles asked solemnly.

"Of course!"

The masked man said confidently, "Though my demonic markings aren't high-grade, in the regions under Anderson Manor's rule in Ridge South, the people who can dispel my demonic markings are exceedingly few! And those I know capable aren't in your Fletcher Kingdom."

"Are you aware that someone recently visited Beau Swayer and stayed at his place... and Elder Crawford also resides there?"

Myles said in a serious tone, "I suspect that person might have a way to resolve Beau Swayer's demonic markings."

"Impossible!"

The masked man insisted.

"How then do you explain the situation? If he couldn't, logically, he would have left our Swayer Family and wouldn't remain at Beau's place."

Myles questioned.

After hearing this, the masked man fell silent, only speaking after a long pause, "Find a chance and let me see Beau Swayer with you... just seeing him, I can ascertain if that person can dispel Beau Swayer's demonic markings."

"This is our only option now... if that person genuinely can remove the demonic markings from Beau Swayer, all our efforts would be for naught!"

Myles Swayer's expression grew increasingly sour.

A few days later, upon learning that the outsider was still residing with Beau Swayer, Myles Swayer finally lost patience. He brought a masked figure along, ostensibly visiting Beau as a 'big brother.'

After meeting Beau, the face hidden beneath the mask suddenly changed.

Simply because he discovered that Beau's condition had improved significantly compared to before.

The power of the magic markings had also diminished considerably.

"Who exactly is that Mr. Barnes? Can he really unravel my magic markings... how is that possible! I've never heard of him."

The masked figure immediately communicated this to Myles Swayer, shocking him deeply as a trace of discontent flashed in his eyes.

However, outwardly, he remained composed.

"Beau, it seems you've recovered well... That Mr. Barnes is truly impressive. Even the four-star Saint Markings experts in the palace were helpless with your illness, yet he was able to treat it."

Myles Swayer said to Beau with a smile, "Beau, I hope you recover soon. I still have many martial arts techniques I want to consult you about."

"Hmm."

Beau nodded faintly, then said, "If there's nothing else, I'd like to rest now."

Realizing that his current state was due to Myles, Beau, though not completely turning hostile, couldn't act as naturally as before in front of Myles.

His temper wasn't so good as to face someone who wanted him dead with a smile.

"Beau, I'll leave then and come back to see you later."

Myles seemed oblivious to Beau's indifference, smiled, and then exited the room.

Upon leaving, he saw Jordan Swayer standing in the courtyard and immediately greeted him, "Elder Crawford."

"When did you gain such a companion? Who is he?"

Jordan's gaze rested on the masked figure behind Myles as he asked calmly.

"This is a friend I met outside."

Myles replied with a smile.

"If I'm not mistaken, he should be a Demon Cultivator, right?"

Jordan gave Myles a deep look and asked.

"Demon Cultivator?"

Myles was taken aback, then shook his head with a laugh, "Elder Crawford, you really know how to joke... Our Swayer Family has an ancestral rule that no family member should associate with Demon Cultivators. I wouldn't dare to make such an acquaintance."

"That's for the best."

Jordan nodded slightly.

"I heard Beau's recovery is all thanks to that Mr. Barnes... Elder Crawford, do you know which room Mr. Barnes is staying in? I'd like to visit him and express my gratitude on Beau's behalf."

Myles said to Jordan.

Before Jordan could respond, there was a creak from the door of a guest room in the courtyard, and a young man in purple attire stepped out. The youth had sword-like eyebrows and starry eyes, with an elegant demeanor and extraordinary aura.

With just one glance, Myles felt somewhat ashamed of himself.

"Mr. Barnes."

Jordan was the first to address the purple-clad youth, who was Wyatt Barnes, with a greeting.

"Elder Crawford."

Wyatt replied with a smile, then proceeded to a stone table nearby, poured himself a cup of tea, and drank it, completely ignoring Myles and the masked figure standing behind him.

The masked figure's gaze flickered with a cold killing intent.

Is this young man really capable of dispelling his magic markings?

"Hello Mr. Barnes, I am Myles Swayer. Thanks to you, Beau was spared from further misfortune... Rest assured, as long as you heal Beau, the Swayer Family will not mistreat you."

Seeing Wyatt ignore him, Myles felt a surge of anger but suppressed it, smiling as he thanked Wyatt.

"Myles Swayer?"

Wyatt finally glanced at Myles, nodded with sudden realization, "I've heard of you, you're the Swayer family's 'Second' Young Master."

The word 'Second' was emphasized heavily by Wyatt.

A cold glint flashed in Myles' eyes, as Wyatt's deliberate emphasis clearly provoked him.

However, considering Jordan was right there, he dared not act rashly.

"Indeed, I am the Second Young Master of the Swayer Family."

Myles responded with a smile.

However, simultaneously, he communicated with Wyatt, "I don't know who you are, but I advise you to mind your own business! If you say you can't heal Beau and stand aside, I am willing to offer you three four-star Taoist Talismans! This is more than the reward issued by the Swayer Family."

"Stand aside?"

Hearing Myles' communication, Wyatt clearly paused, puzzled as he asked in return, "Isn't Beau your big brother? You want me to stand aside? You want him dead?"

"Don't pretend to be innocent. Since you can resolve the magic markings on him, you must understand them... If I'm not mistaken, he already suspects me, doesn't he?"

Myles communicated to Wyatt again, speaking as if he had everything under control.