

## **L. Wyatt 1661**

Chapter 1661: Junior House Master of the Void Breaker House

The Sky-scraping Mansion, as a third-rate power of the Martial Dao Sacred Land, occupies a territory so vast that it far surpasses the Blue Wave Han family estate.

If the Blue Wave Han family's estate is like a small country,

then the territory of the Sky-scraping Mansion is more like a large country, stretching beyond sight, yet shadows of people can be seen everywhere, making the whole residence of the Sky-scraping Mansion flourish like brocade.

However, amidst this seemingly vibrant and prosperous Sky-scraping Mansion, an extremely discordant scene was taking place in an inconspicuous mansion.

The somewhat dilapidated mansion was covered with cobwebs, as if no one had been there for a long time.

However, upon closer inspection, it was noticeable that not a trace of cobwebs could be seen on the eastern side of the mansion, as if someone had intentionally cleared a path leading directly to the main bedroom door of the mansion.

At the entrance of the main bedroom stood a young man, hunchbacked, with an unscrupulous look, as if he were not a good person.

"No... don't! No..."

Just then, a feeble cry emanated from within the main bedroom, clearly from a woman.

A moment later, the woman's cries abruptly ceased, as if they had never happened.

"Dispose of her!"

As soon as the woman's cries disappeared, a low voice came from within, causing the hunchbacked young man to tremble, and he immediately turned around, opened the door, and entered the main bedroom.

Inside, a withered corpse lay on the ground.

Upon careful observation, one could vaguely discern that this was a female's dried corpse, with steam still rising from it, indicating she had died not long ago.

Behind the corpse was a bed, on which sat cross-legged a young man with a sinister demeanor. Strands of black mist mixed with a bloody hue rose from his body, and over time, this mist was absorbed into his body.

Meanwhile, the young man with the sinister demeanor looked radiant, as if the black and bloody mist was some kind of great tonic for him.

In an instant, the young man opened his eyes, and his gaze was like lightning, directly penetrating the hunchbacked youth who entered.

"Junior House Master!"

Being looked at by such an eerie youth made the hunchbacked young man's face turn ashen, and his body shivered, causing him to fall to the ground.

"I'm sorry, Junior House Master, it wasn't... I didn't mean it."

Seeing the sinister young man's brow furrow, the hunchbacked youth scrambled up from the ground in a panic, reaching for the dried corpse and carrying it out of the room, hurriedly closing the door behind him.

It was as if the sinister young man were some terrifying beast.

Once the hunchbacked youth left, the sinister young man's brow relaxed, and he muttered softly to himself, "In the next ten months, as long as I can obtain enough young women, with the 'Devouring Dark\_Demon Art', I can break through to the 'Later Stage of Middle Saint Realm' before the Overleaping Rankings battle begins."

"If among those young women, there are enough virgins... then, when the Overleaping Rankings begin, breaking through to the 'Peak of Middle Saint Realm' is not impossible!"

Muttering to this point, the young man's eyes sparkled brightly, shining like the brilliant stars in the night sky.

"Ten months later, the first place in the Overleaping Rankings is destined to be in my 'Peace Adams' grasp!"

The young man with a sinister look had an increasingly bright gaze, and his words were filled with unprecedented confidence.

Peace Adams!

This sinister-looking young man was none other than the son of the current House Master of the Sky-scrapping Mansion, and also the one who was supposed to marry the eldest daughter of the Blue Wave Han family, Karina Hanson, a year later.

However, according to his self-talk earlier, he was practicing a demonic art, the 'Devouring Dark\_Demon Art'!

Within the Martial Dao Sacred Land, there were numerous Demon Cultivators, and their demonic arts were abundant.

Speaking of ordinary demonic arts, perhaps no one would have heard of them.

However, as soon as the 'Devouring Dark\_Demon Art' is mentioned, almost every Martial Artist or Taoist Cultivator of some knowledge knows about it.

The 'Devouring Dark\_Demon Art', though not widely spread, became well-known throughout the Martial Dao Sacred Land as it once created a powerful Demon Cultivator.

Many years ago, an originally mediocre Martial Artist, after cultivating the 'Devouring Dark\_Demon Art', rapidly improved in strength. In just a few decades, he single-handedly

transformed from a Transcending Mortal Realm martial artist of a ninth-rate power to a peerless strongman capable of destroying a third-rate power, shaking the entire Lower Domain of the Martial Dao Sacred Land.

If it were only for his subsequent achievements, he would be worthy of praise from everyone in the Lower Domain of the Martial Dao Sacred Land.

However, after being investigated by those with intentions, it was found that it was because of practicing a demonic cultivation technique called the 'Devouring Dark\_Demon Art' that he could elevate to such a degree in such a short period.

The 'Devouring Dark\_Demon Art', once practiced, required the periodic devouring of essence blood energy from young women, otherwise, the practitioner would suffer backlash.

If there was a vast supply of essence blood energy from young women, a Demon Cultivator practicing the 'Devouring Dark\_Demon Art' could see rapid enhancements in their cultivation in a short time.

For such Demon Cultivators, there were fundamentally no bottlenecks on the Martial Dao path, as long as there was sufficient essence blood energy from young women. Their cultivation could rise to incredibly exaggerated levels in a short period, reaching unimaginable heights.

Moreover, there were no limits on martial talent.

Ever since the practice method of the 'Devouring Dark\_Demon Art' was exposed, it stirred a storm in the Lower Domain of the Martial Dao Sacred Land, terrifying countless Martial Artists and Taoist Cultivators while also enraging many experts.

These experts included some top experts within quasi-third-rate powers.

Finally, the leading experts of quasi-third-rate powers and some reclusive experts within the Lower Domain of the Martial Dao Sacred Land openly stepped up, and managed to surround the Demon Cultivator who practiced the 'Devouring Dark\_Demon Art', intending to unite against and annihilate him.

The battle that followed was catastrophic, leaving the sun and moon dim in comparison.

The top experts of the Lower Domain of the Martial Dao Sacred Land, after sacrificing three of their own, inflicted severe injury on the Demon Cultivator practicing the 'Devouring Dark\_Demon Art', yet failed to kill him.

It was solely because the 'Devouring Dark\_Demon Art' contained an extreme escape technique, saving his life.

Later, that escaped Demon Cultivator vanished from the Lower Domain of the Martial Dao Sacred Land, never to appear again.

Many believed he must have gone to the Upper Domain of the Martial Dao Sacred Land.

No matter what, even though he never reappeared, the people of the Lower Domain of the Martial Dao Sacred Land remembered him and the 'Devouring Dark\_Demon Art' he practiced, a demonic art unknown to them before then.

#### Chapter 1662: Devouring Dark\_Demon Art

Generally, there are many demonic cultivation techniques at the Martial Dao Sacred Land that involve the Swallowing Technique of essence blood, but none offer such exaggerated improvements, and they come with several other requirements.

For instance, there's a technique called the "Mysterious Yin Demon Art," which differs by just one character from the "Devouring Dark\_Demon Art."

The "Mysterious Yin Demon Art" is a widely circulated demonic technique at the Martial Dao Sacred Land, and any Demon Cultivator there with the intent can practically obtain it.

The Mysterious Yin Demon Art typically uses the Swallowing Technique of virgin maidens' essence blood for cultivation, but the improvements are far less exaggerated than the "Devouring Dark\_Demon Art." Moreover, if the woman isn't a virgin maiden, even if she's young, the technique has no effect.

The "Devouring Dark\_Demon Art" is top-tier amongst demonic arts, not just in the Lower Domain of the Martial Dao Sacred Land, but even in the Upper Domain!

Peace Adams, the Junior House Master of Sky-scraping Mansion, obtained the "Devouring Dark\_Demon Art" because of a fortuitous encounter three years ago.

During that time, he accidentally stumbled upon a place where he acquired the "Devouring Dark\_Demon Art" and learned that the one who left behind this art was the powerful Demon Cultivator of that era.

While others might know some details about that powerful Demon Cultivator, as the Junior House Master of Sky-scraping Mansion, Peace Adams knows them very well.

That's because among the top-tier experts of the then Third-Rate Power, who participated in subduing that Demon Cultivator, one was from Sky-scraping Mansion... At that time, Sky-scraping Mansion wasn't a fourth-rate power but a prospective third-rate power!

Sky-scraping Mansion became a prospective third-rate power due to that expert's presence.

It's unfortunate that in that battle, Sky-scraping Mansion's expert sadly died, causing Sky-scraping Mansion to lose a top-tier expert in the Martial Dao Sacred Land Lower Domain.

Initially, out of respect for that Sky-scraping Mansion expert's contributions to the Martial Dao Sacred Land Lower Domain, even though many knew Sky-scraping Mansion had lost its qualification as a 'prospective third-rate power,' no power objected.

Yet, as time passed and generations changed.

The contributions of that Sky-scraping Mansion expert to the Martial Dao Sacred Land Lower Domain gradually faded from memory, with few in later generations still considering his legacy.

The top-tier experts and old veterans of that time also gradually moved to the Upper Domain of the Martial Dao Sacred Land.

This led to generations of replacements, with no top-tier expert emerging in Sky-scraping Mansion from the Martial Dao Sacred Land Lower Domain, causing it to falter amidst storms.

Finally, one day, a fourth-rate power birthed a top-tier expert in the Martial Dao Sacred Land Lower Domain and invaded Sky-scraping Mansion, aiming to supplant it and become the new 'prospective third-rate power.'

The experts of Sky-scraping Mansion came forth, yet no one was a match for that power's expert!

In no time, Sky-scraping Mansion had to concede, surrendering one of the best Holy Stone mines of the Martial Dao Sacred Land Lower Domain, and relocating to the power's former base, a legacy that continues to this day.

Every House Master of Sky-scraping Mansion dreams of restoring its former glory.

Unfortunately, over the long years, while Sky-scraping Mansion managed to maintain its current status, without another top-tier expert emerging from the Martial Dao Sacred Land Lower Domain, it naturally couldn't regain its position as a 'prospective third-rate power.'

"Once I become the House Master of Sky-scraping Mansion, I will make it the most powerful force in the Martial Dao Sacred Land Lower Domain!"

Peace Adams' eyes shone with determination as he murmured.

The reason he dared to claim this was because his ace was the "Devouring Dark\_Demon Art" in his hands.

The "Devouring Dark\_Demon Art" is undoubtedly a taboo for Sky-scraping Mansion.

Normally, as the Junior House Master, the first thing Peace Adams should have done after acquiring the "Devouring Dark\_Demon Art" was to submit it to Sky-scraping Mansion for destruction.

After all, it was the owner of this art who ruined Sky-scraping Mansion back in the day.

However, due to the allure of the power of the "Devouring Dark\_Demon Art," Peace Adams hardened his heart and kept it.

Initially, despite keeping the "Devouring Dark\_Demon Art," he didn't cultivate it because he couldn't make up his mind.

Until a few months ago, a piece of news spread throughout the region of Sky-scraping Mansion, solidifying his resolve.

To others, that news seemed insignificant.

Even for Peace Adams before obtaining the "Devouring Dark\_Demon Art," while the news would have displeased him, he wouldn't have thought much of it.

But to Peace Adams, who already had the "Devouring Dark\_Demon Art," that news was an immense blow!

"Our Sky-scraping Mansion's Junior House Master should be able to break into the top three of the 'Overleaping Rankings,' finishing third."

"I agree. After all, in our Sky-scraping Mansion, the strongest recognized Martial Artist and Taoist Cultivator under fifty are that 'Monk Flower' and 'Silent Void'... Their strengths are hard to distinguish, but both are a notch above our Junior House Master from Sky-scraping Mansion."

"You say the Junior House Master of Sky-scraping Mansion isn't as strong as Monk Flower and Silent Void. That I agree with... But claiming he could be the third on the 'Overleaping Rankings' seems uncertain. You see, within the scope of Sky-scraping Mansion's region, besides Monk Flower and Silent Void, there's another formidable individual under fifty."

"Are you referring to 'GullyAshton Chapman'?"

"Indeed! It's worth noting that when our Sky-scraping Mansion's Junior House Master was still at the peak of the Little Saint Realm, GullyAshton's strength was already slightly better. However, since he was the first to break through to the Middle Saint Realm, most people regard him as stronger than GullyAshton, who hadn't yet made the breakthrough. Yet, I recently heard that GullyAshton has also broken through."



"GullyAshton has broken through? If so, he might indeed threaten Junior House Master Adams."

...

These messages were the reason that led Peace Adams to make up his mind to cultivate the Devouring Dark\_Demon Art.

Despite being the Junior House Master of Sky-scraping Mansion, he was unfortunate; during the same era, two talents with gifts greater than his emerged within the domain of Sky-scraping Mansion: 'Monk Flower' and 'Silent Void.'

Before the three of them turned forty, they held the top three spots in the Heavenly List within the Sky-scraping Mansion domain.

The rankings between Monk Flower and Silent Void changed multiple times, but the first and second positions were occupied by them.

Peace Adams could only rank third. (w)ebn ov.e l\ co.m

He had considered moving up, but he was no match for Monk Flower and Silent Void, losing repeatedly upon challenging them.

As for GullyAshton Chapman, though of similar age, he hadn't challenged those on the Heavenly List before the age of forty, rendering him relatively unknown.

Years later, as Peace Adams, Monk Flower, and Silent Void faded from the Heavenly List due to age, a conflict led Peace Adams to face GullyAshton Chapman... At that time, both were at the peak of Little Saint Realm, yet when they truly fought, Peace Adams was slightly inferior, narrowly defeated by GullyAshton Chapman.

During that period, besides the looming presence of Monk Flower and Silent Void, Peace Adams also had the burden of GullyAshton Chapman.

Until he broke through to the Middle Saint Realm, the mountain of GullyAshton Chapman finally disappeared.

However, as news from outside arrived, the mountain of Gully Ashton Chapman reappeared over his head, the combined weight of these three mountains made him feel suffocated.

It was then that he remembered the Devouring Dark\_Demon Art, recalling the might of its original master, and thus, he stepped into the mire, unable to withdraw... Ultimately, he couldn't resist the temptation of the Devouring Dark\_Demon Art, deciding to cultivate it.

Of course, to cultivate the Devouring Dark\_Demon Art he had to sacrifice numerous young women.

So, at this time, he and his crony, the hunchbacked youth who had previously been mentioned, began roaming about, searching for young women, seizing them and bringing them here for his cultivation.

After cultivating the Devouring Dark\_Demon Art, with every moment of swallowing the Essence Blood Energy of the young women, he could feel the transformation of his own cultivation.

Having tasted success, he was unstoppable!

Naturally, due to the irreconcilable grudge between the Sky-scraping Mansion and the original master of the Devouring Dark\_Demon Art, he dared not expose the cultivation of the Devouring Dark\_Demon Art, for once exposed, the old stalwarts within the Sky-scraping Mansion would certainly not allow him to inherit the position of the House Master.

Not only would they not let him inherit, they might even turn and kill him who had cultivated the Devouring Dark\_Demon Art.

After all, he was now considered a personal disciple of the original master of the Devouring Dark\_Demon Art.

How could the Sky-scraping Mansion spare the disciple of their enemy?

"If I only rely on the resources of the Sky-scraping Mansion, whether I can break through to the mid Middle Saint Realm by the time the Overleaping Rankings placement battle arrives in

ten months is uncertain... Even if I break through, I might only be stronger than Gully Ashton Chapman, but still not able to surpass Monk Flower and Silent Void."

Peace Adams continued his muttered whispers, "However, after cultivating the Devouring Dark\_Demon Art, I am one hundred percent sure to break through to the late Middle Saint Realm! Even breaking through to the peak of Middle Saint Realm is not impossible... As long as I have enough young women, I could smoothly break through to the peak of Middle Saint Realm in ten months."

"Junior House Master, it's all taken care of." we(bn)ovel.c om

And at this moment, the voice came from outside, it was the hunchbacked youth who had returned.

Click!!

Swiftly leaving the bed like a gust of wind, Peace Adams opened the door and appeared before the hunchbacked youth, startling him.

"Accompany me outside... We'll return when the Overleaping Rankings placement battle is about to begin."

Peace Adams said calmly.

"Junior House Master, are you planning to cultivate outside?"

The hunchbacked youth's eyes gleamed, a surge of excitement in his heart.

He couldn't help but be excited because as long as the Junior House Master went outside to cultivate, he didn't need to worry about being discovered for abducting so many young women to the Sky-scraping Mansion.

If the Junior House Master's cultivation of the Devouring Dark\_Demon Art were exposed, not only would the Junior House Master face trouble, but he, as an accomplice, wouldn't be able to escape death.

"Yes."

Peace Adams nodded lightly, then left with the hunchbacked youth to cultivate outside.

The reason he chose to cultivate outside was after careful consideration, as it was more convenient for him to find young women.

His current goal was to break through to the peak of Middle Saint Realm by the time the Overleaping Rankings placement battle starts in ten months.

Then, he intended to dominate the Overleaping Rankings and claim the first position!

Chapter 1663: Not Necessarily?

Not long after leaving the Sky-scraping Mansion, Peace Adams, the Junior House Master of the Void Breaker Mansion, also heard astonishing news from afar about the "Demon Sealing Monument" and "Wyatt Barnes".

"The Demon Sealing Monument... one of the top ten super sacred artifacts listed on the Top Ten Sacred Artifact List, and the only one among them that restrains Demon Cultivators! How did this Demon Sealing Monument appear in the Lower Domain of the Martial Dao Sacred Land?"

Peace Adams frowned, his expression slightly unpleasant.

If it were before he hadn't cultivated the Devouring Dark\_Demon Art and found out about the existence of the Demon Sealing Monument, he would feel only greed without any other emotions.

However, now that he has become a Demon Cultivator due to cultivating the Devouring Dark\_Demon Art, he has a deep-seated fear of the Demon Sealing Monument.

"Even if I break through to the peak of the Middle Saint Realm, I am no match for an early Little Saint Realm Martial Artist or Taoist Cultivator wielding the Demon Sealing Monument!"

Peace Adams murmured to himself, his face growing more unsightly.

"Junior House Master, that Demon Sealing Monument is in the hands of an Entering the Saint Realm Martial Artist, so it doesn't threaten you. Besides, throughout the entire Martial Dao Sacred Land, there is only one such Demon Sealing Monument... The person who possesses it may not necessarily be your enemy, and might not become your enemy."

The hunchbacked youth stood behind Peace Adams, guessing his thoughts after hearing his muttering, and quickly offered comfort.

Upon hearing the words of the hunchbacked youth, Peace Adams' eyes suddenly brightened.

"That's right! You're right... Not to mention that the Demon Sealing Monument is in the hands of an Entering the Saint Realm Martial Artist, even if it's in the hands of a Little Saint Realm Martial Artist, he might not be my enemy, might not target me."

As the saying goes, 'those involved may be confused,' but after the hunchbacked youth's reminder, Peace Adams was completely enlightened and his mood significantly improved.

"However, that Entering the Saint Realm Martial Artist named 'Wyatt Barnes' is indeed lucky to have obtained a super sacred artifact like the Demon Sealing Monument."

The hunchbacked youth's eyes showed envy.

"Hmph! So what if he has the Demon Sealing Monument? It won't be long before everyone in Martial Dao Sacred Land knows he possesses it. He will either hide or be killed... Even if he's not killed and goes into hiding, he wouldn't dare to use the Demon Sealing Monument casually."

Peace Adams snorted.

However, his tone was clearly mixed with a trace of bitterness.

The encounter of that Entering the Saint Realm Martial Artist named 'Wyatt Barnes' made him feel a mix of envy and jealousy to some extent.

Yet, Peace Adams never imagined, even in his dreams, that Wyatt Barnes, whom he assumed might not be his enemy, had traveled to the region of the Sky-scraping Mansion specifically to eliminate him in the Overleaping Rankings battle ten months later.

While Peace Adams and his lackeys were outside rounding up young women, especially virgins, Wyatt Barnes was diligently and relentlessly cultivating.

As time passed, the Solar True Origin within him stabilized completely, allowing seamless control.

Nonetheless, Wyatt Barnes did not stop cultivating because of this. .

He continued to cultivate, further consolidating his initial Little Saint Realm prowess.

His current goal was to break through to the mid or even late Little Saint Realm before the start of the Overleaping Rankings battle.

In the Overleaping Rankings battle, killing the Sky-scraping Mansion's Junior House Master 'Peace Adams' was his promise to Karina Hanson's father, Politi Hanson, the House Master of Bibo Hanson's mansion, and he was determined to fulfill it no matter how difficult it might be.

"If I use the Splendid Fairy Sword, with my current cultivation, I can easily slay Peace Adams! Unfortunately, the Overleaping Rankings battle doesn't allow the use of sacred artifacts or any external aid... Without the Splendid Fairy Sword, I must elevate my cultivation as high as possible to surpass him."

At some point, an obsession arose in Wyatt Barnes' mind, an obsession to elevate his cultivation.

Obsession can be detrimental at times, but it can also be beneficial.

At least for Wyatt Barnes now, 'obsession' served as his motivation.

Not for anything else, but for the promise he made regarding Karina Hanson, whom he regarded as his sister. He must fulfill his promise to Politi Hanson; it is a man's promise. No matter how arduous the journey, even if he must crawl, he will see it through.

As Wyatt Barnes was preparing for the Overleaping Rankings battle, in the distant Mansion of Azure Clouds, Lanni Barnes' emotions had yet to settle down.

His countless guesses about his 'benefactor' turned out to be his own son.

Even as the House Master of the Mansion of Azure Clouds, Lanni Barnes was shocked.

However, when he thought about his son's current situation, his heart was filled with worry. He longed to immediately send someone to bring Wyatt Barnes back to the Mansion of Azure Clouds because that was the only way he would feel truly at ease.

But whenever the thought arose, the figure of the old man Destiny would flash before his eyes.

According to old man Destiny, he should not interfere with his son Wyatt's growth; doing so might have unpredictable effects on his son's future.

He respected and accepted old man Destiny's words and never questioned them.

Including this time, if it weren't for recalling old man Destiny and his past advice, he would have already sent someone to find his son.

"Wyatt, I hope you can overcome this challenge... I'm still waiting for you to defeat that Five-Clawed Golden Dragon 'Emperor End' of the Dragonsmith Clan and enter the Dragonsmith Saint Land's 'Dragon Washing Pool'!"

Lanni Barnes murmured softly.

Even as he whispered, his face revealed an indelible worry.

In this world, a parent's worry for their child extends over a long distance, not only mothers worry but fathers too.

For this reason, Lanni Barnes had no intention of informing his wife 'Christina Lee' because he knew that if she found out, she would not be able to handle it. Her emotional tolerance was far less than his.

He hadn't told Christina Lee or Jovie Lee.

Moreover, he secretly ordered the Mansion of Azure Clouds to block any news about the 'Demon Sealing Monument' and 'Wyatt Barnes' within their premises to prevent Christina Lee and Jovie Lee from knowing.

Some things are better left unknown.

Knowing might not necessarily be beneficial.

However, the lack of action from the Mansion of Azure Clouds did not mean the Shadow Mountain Black Market was inactive.

As orders were issued from the headquarters of the Shadow Mountain Black Market, the branches across the Lower Domain of the Martial Dao Sacred Land began to move.

The Shadow Mountain Black Market spared no effort, searching for Wyatt Barnes' whereabouts.

If previously the Shadow Mountain Black Market sought Wyatt Barnes merely because he was the son of Lanni Barnes, the House Master of the Mansion of Azure Clouds... now, they sought him because he possessed the 'Demon Sealing Monument,' which the Shadow Mountain Black Market desperately wanted to acquire.

Chapter 1664: Jewel Valley

The movements of the Shadow Mountain Black Market were significant, and although they tried to block the information, it still clearly reached the Mansion of Azure Clouds.

"What is that Dugu trying to do?"



Lanni Barnes' face darkened, a cold light flickering in his eyes.

At this moment, Lanni Barnes also learned that before the 'Demon Sealing Monument' in his son's hand was exposed, the leader of the Shadow Mountain Black Market, 'Dugu', had already set his sights on it.

"That Dugu actually knows who my son is, and even has his portrait... Where did he get it from?"

Lanni Barnes was quite puzzled by this.

However, as a flash of insight appeared in Lanni Barnes' mind, he easily guessed that this matter was more than likely related to the Dragonsmith Clan, after all, the last time he went there was because of his son's business.

"Even having my son's portrait... It seems to be the work of that Five-Clawed Golden Dragon, 'Emperor End' from the Dragonsmith Clan!"

Soon, Lanni Barnes locked onto a target.

Once targeted, his face became extremely grim. He hadn't expected that Emperor End, despite agreeing to a five-year agreement with his son Wyatt Barnes, would dare to play tricks behind their backs.

However, although he determined it was Emperor End's doing, because there was no evidence, despite his anger, he did not go to the Dragonsmith Clan to settle accounts with Emperor End.

Emperor End has thousands of reasons to claim this matter has nothing to do with him.

Upon learning that the Shadow Mountain Black Market took such significant actions, Lanni Barnes became even more worried about his son's safety, feeling more unsettled.

However, recalling the stern words of Destiny Elder at the time, he held himself back.

Wyatt Barnes naturally did not know about Lanni Barnes' concerns.

He wasn't even aware that his father was the House Master of the Mansion of Azure Clouds, a quasi-third-rate power in the Martial Dao Sacred Land Lower Domain.

Meanwhile, Winnie Romero, who had only recently entered the territory of the Bi Bo Han Residence, couldn't help but worry about Wyatt's safety as she heard the widespread rumors, "I hope Brother Barnes is blessed with great fortune... Brother Barnes, where exactly are you now?"

However, after arriving in the territory of the Bi Bo Han Residence, Winnie Romero did not hurry to leave.

A month later, when she arrived at Green Wave City, she inquired about the identity of 'Karina Hanson'.

Although she had not met Karina Hanson face-to-face before, she had heard the name many times from Brother Barnes and had a general idea of what kind of person Karina Hanson was.

In Brother Barnes' eyes, Karina Hanson had an extraordinary background and a mysterious identity.

Winnie Romero has heard of Karina Hanson from Wyatt Barnes, and Karina Hanson has similarly heard of Winnie Romero from Brother Wyatt.

Therefore, even though the two had not met face-to-face, they already knew of each other's existence.

Because of this, when Winnie Romero revealed her identity and sent someone to inform Karina Hanson, Karina promptly invited Winnie Romero into the Bi Bo Han Residence and brought her into her residence.

"You are Sister Winnie? I've often heard Brother Wyatt mention you."

Faced with Winnie Romero, Karina Hanson was exceedingly warm.

"Julia, I've often heard Brother Barnes speak of you too."

Winnie Romero responded with a smile but quickly got to the point, asking, "Julia, did your Brother Wyatt come to find you?"

"Brother Wyatt came to find Sister Jovie."

Karina Hanson sighed, "However, some time ago, Sister Jovie was taken away by someone... As for Brother Wyatt, he stayed at our Bi Bo Han Residence for a month and then left. But I believe he will come back to see me before long, he certainly will..."

As she spoke, Karina Hanson was almost muttering to herself.

"Left?"

Hearing that Wyatt Barnes had been to the Bi Bo Han Residence, Winnie's eyes lit up, but upon learning that he left after only a month, she felt somewhat disappointed.

Because it meant she still couldn't see her Brother Barnes.

"Julia, did Brother Barnes say where he was going?"

Winnie looked at Karina Hanson, her eyes gleaming, and asked directly.

"He didn't say."

Karina Hanson replied with a wry smile.

Seeing this, Winnie felt deeply disappointed.

But as for clues about Wyatt Barnes' whereabouts, they were completely cut off at this point.

At this moment, Winnie felt a sense of not knowing where to turn, a feeling of impotence.

Invited by Karina Hanson, Winnie temporarily stayed at her residence, residing in the premises of the Bi Bo Han Residence.

Meanwhile, the news of an outsider arriving at Karina Hanson's residence, after several months, soon reached the ears of the Supreme Elder of the Bi Bo Han Residence, 'Juan Hanson'.

However, because Winnie was a woman, he didn't pay much attention.

Time flowed like water, silently slipping through his fingers.

In the Sky-scraping Mansion's region, the discussions concerning the Overleaping Rankings reached their peak just a month before the Ranking Battle began.

Throughout the Sky-scraping Mansion's region, everywhere could be heard talks about the Overleaping Rankings.

In the following period, the hottest topic in the Sky-scraping Mansion's region was undoubtedly the Overleaping Rankings.

A month's time is neither too long nor too short.

Within this month's time, the place where the Overleaping Rankings' Rank Battle will be held, an expansive gorge called 'Jewel Valley', was crowded with people, lively and bustling.

The Overleaping Rankings' Rank Battle is a grand event in the Sky-scraping Mansion's region, and even though there was still a month before it commenced, a group of people had already arrived here, eagerly awaiting the Overleaping Rankings' Rank Battle.

During this period, many martial artist geniuses and Taoist cultivators from various parts of the Sky-scraping Mansion's region who met the criteria also arrived.

In the vast Jewel Valley, martial artists and Taoist cultivators could be seen sitting cross-legged everywhere, practicing. Some even chose to sit cross-legged in mid-air, and True Origin could be faintly seen circulating around their bodies.

Saint realm powerhouses didn't seem to hold much value here.

"The Sky-scraping Mansion's people have arrived!"

Three days before the Overleaping Rankings' Rank Battle was to begin, someone shouted, drawing the attention of many people.

As the crowd looked up, they found a group of extraordinary people, led by an elderly man, entering the Jewel Valley, forcibly occupying a picturesque part of the valley, which made the martial artists and Taoist cultivators originally practicing there retreat in the distance.

In the Sky-scraping Mansion's region, the Sky-scraping Mansion is an absolute behemoth, and no one dares to provoke them easily.

So, although everyone was angry at the Sky-scraping Mansion's dominance, they did not dare to express it, only gritting their teeth in silence.

"That elder seems to be the Ninth Elder of the Sky-scraping Mansion."

"That's right! He's the Ninth Elder of the Sky-scraping Mansion, I've seen him once... It seems he and those behind him are just 'vanguards' of the Sky-scraping Mansion this time. The Junior House Master and the others of the Sky-scraping Mansion haven't arrived yet."

"Monk Flower and Silent Void haven't arrived yet either."

"There are still three days left, no rush."

...

The Jewel Valley was abuzz with discussion.

## Chapter 1665: Brahma Heaven Temple, Monk Flower!

In the last three days, people have arrived one after another at 'Jewel Valley'.

These individuals come either from the various fifth-level forces within the region of Sky-scraping Mansion, or from sixth-level and seventh-level forces.

As for those from eighth-level and ninth-level forces, even if they came, no one would know them.

In fact, many people from these forces do not even dare to come.

The battles between Saint Realm experts are not only vast in momentum, but the residual power is also extremely astonishing. If one's cultivation is not sufficient and they don't hide a safe distance away, they will be affected eight or nine times out of ten, at worst getting injured, at worst dying.

Within Sky-scraping Mansion, there are a total of three fifth-level forces.

Monk Flower and Silent Void are from two of these forces.

Monk Flower is a disciple of the fifth-level force 'Brahma Heaven Temple', while Silent Void is a disciple of the fifth-level force 'Pure Sun Temple'.

These two are also considered the most outstanding young talents of the middle-aged generation within the region of Sky-scraping Mansion.

Even the Junior House Master of Sky-scraping Mansion is overshadowed by them.

However, although quite a number of people from Brahma Heaven Temple and Pure Sun Temple have arrived, no one at the scene saw Monk Flower and Silent Void, "It seems the people from Brahma Heaven Temple and Pure Sun Temple who came are here to scout ahead, to secure a good position for those who will come later. After all, the Overleaping Rankings tournament doesn't happen in just one day, and all the forces need a place to rest."

Apart from the Ninth Elder of Sky-scraping Mansion leading people to occupy the best spot, Brahma Heaven Temple, Pure Sun Temple, and another fifth-level force have also secured three good spots.

The others who were driven away were resentful but did not dare to speak out.

In this world where respect is given to the powerful, having a big fist is the hard truth.

Two days passed, and the Overleaping Rankings tournament is tomorrow, so the arrivals became fewer.

However, those who came now are much more significant than those who came earlier.

"It's Monk Flower! And people from Brahma Heaven Temple!"

Someone exclaimed in shock, spreading the word. At first, it only attracted the attention of the people around them. After all, Jewel Valley is not small, and although his voice was loud, it could not spread throughout the entire valley.

However, as he and the people around him all focused their gaze into the distance, others noticed the anomaly and followed their gaze.

In the distance, a large group was approaching, led by an old, bald man in a golden robe. He had long white eyebrows and a long white goatee on his chin, striding in mid-air with an unusual demeanor, giving off an enigmatic aura.

"It's Master Kind, the Abbot of Brahma Heaven Temple!"

Soon, someone recognized the leading old monk and exclaimed in a low voice.

The Abbot of Brahma Heaven Temple is also the leader of the temple, the supreme existence within Brahma Heaven Temple.

Following behind this Abbot of Brahma Heaven Temple were four people, of which three were old monks wearing silver robes, each appearing old and giving an ethereal feeling, obviously not ordinary old monks.

Beside the three old monks in silver robes stood a young monk in a red robe, with an ordinary appearance that would make him unrecognizable in a crowd. Yet his proximity to these three silver-robed monks of apparent unusual status indicated his extraordinary nature.

This young monk was none other than the foremost figure of the middle-aged generation in Brahma Heaven Temple, Monk Flower.

He was called Monk Flower because of his peculiar fondness for flirting, not at all adhering to Brahma Heaven Temple's rule against lustful conduct.

Of course, although he liked flirting, he never forced women; he would only engage with those who are wholeheartedly devoted and willing to sacrifice everything for him.

Therefore, within the region of Sky-scraping Mansion, his reputation was neither particularly good nor bad.

If a regular disciple of Brahma Heaven Temple broke the rule against lust, the lightest punishment would be caning and reflection, the heaviest, expulsion from Brahma Heaven Temple.

Monk Flower was undoubtedly an exception.

This exception was not only because his master was the Abbot of Brahma Heaven Temple but more so because of his Martial Dao talent, which earned him admiration throughout Brahma Heaven Temple, making no one comment even if he broke the temple rules.

Would they expel him?

After all, Monk Flower was the most talented Martial Dao individual since the founding of Brahma Heaven Temple, likely to lead Brahma Heaven Temple to further advancement and become a 'fourth-level force' in the future.



Such an existence having some privileges within Brahma Heaven Temple was normal.

"It's Brahma Heaven Temple's Three Vajras!"

To most people within Jewel Valley, Monk Flower was not unfamiliar because he couldn't stay put in Brahma Heaven Temple and liked to roam throughout the region of Sky-scraping Mansion. His high-profile movements meant that many people in the region recognized him.

Even those who hadn't seen him in person had seen his portrait to some extent and could recognize him.

However, the three old monks in silver robes by his side were only recognized by a few.

The Three Vajras of Brahma Heaven Temple are second only to the Abbot and the Grand Elder of Brahma Heaven Temple, their strength well-known in the region of Sky-scraping Mansion.

However, since they rarely appear in public, few recognized them.

The strength of these three individuals, even individually, is formidable, and if they unite, their strength could rival that of the Abbot of Brahma Heaven Temple.

"Are they the Three Vajras of Brahma Heaven Temple, Wisdom, Cloud, and Fire?"

"That's right! They are the ones."

"It's said that since entering the temple, they have been training together, their union after hundreds of years of synergy, being able to unleash extremely powerful combined techniques."

"I've also heard of that... It's said that their combined strength doesn't fall short of the Abbot of Brahma Heaven Temple."

"Even if they don't unite, they are first-class powerhouses within Brahma Heaven Temple!"

"It seems that Brahma Heaven Temple places a lot of importance on the Overleaping Rankings tournament, with not only the Abbot coming personally but also the Three Vajras."

...

Within Jewel Valley, everyone was talking fervently.

In contrast, the group of old monks and middle-aged monks behind the five were ignored by others.

Of course, after a while, some recognized these monks. Among them, many of the monks were elders of Brahma Heaven Temple, and several had strength and status higher than the Brahma Heaven Temple elders who had arrived at Jewel Valley a few days prior.

That Brahma Heaven Temple elder, because he came as the leader a few days ago, received quite a bit of attention from those present.

As they came along with the Abbot, the Three Vajras, and Monk Flower, in contrast, they more closely resembled 'green leaves', while Monk Flower and the five appeared as 'red flowers'.

Green leaves make red flowers stand out!

Chapter 1666: Eden Lee

However, among the group from Brahma Heaven Temple, the most attention-grabbing individual was still 'Monk Flower'.

He was one of the protagonists in this Overleaping Rankings ranking battle.

"The strength of 'Monk Flower' and 'Silent Void' from the Pure Sun Temple has always been neck and neck... This time, I wonder who will come out on top and be listed as number one on the Overleaping Rankings! That would be the supreme honor in our Sky-scraping Mansion region. Whoever gets first, it holds extraordinary significance for their respective factions."

"Indeed. Whoever gets number one on the Overleaping Rankings will surely have more people breaking their necks to join their factions."

"The personal charm of being number one on the Overleaping Rankings is no joke."

"This time, Monk Flower and Silent Void are undoubtedly the first and second respectively on the Overleaping Rankings... It remains to be seen if that Sky-scraping Mansion Junior House Master 'Peace Adams' can fight his way to the third place."

"I think it's unlikely. After all, GullyAshton Chapman's cultivation has now reached the 'Middle Saint Realm'."

"I, however, think otherwise... This time's Overleaping Rankings ranking battle, even Sky-scraping Mansion must take it extremely seriously. So, they would surely invest a lot of resources in Peace Adams... If Peace Adams has broken through to the 'Middle Saint Realm mid-phase', I wouldn't be surprised at all."

"That's also true. If Peace Adams breaks through to the Middle Saint Realm mid-phase and GullyAshton Chapman does not, then GullyAshton Chapman should not be his match!"

...

Within Jewel Valley, a group of people were whispering, discussing either Monk Flower, Silent Void, Peace Adams, or GullyAshton Chapman.

These four were undoubtedly the protagonists in everyone's eyes.

After the group from Brahma Heaven Temple arrived, they settled in a corner of Jewel Valley that an elder from Brahma Heaven Temple, who had arrived a few days earlier, had taken with people. Except for Monk Flower, all the monks sat there quietly, motionless, resembling statues.

Only Monk Flower was looking around, finally fixing his gaze on one person.

It was a young man with a stern face, holding a simple, unadorned, sheathless sword, standing quietly in mid-air, exuding a sharp aura as if he had become a sword himself at this moment.

His attention was drawn to this young man not just because of that.

Upon arriving, Monk Flower noticed this was the only person present who paid no attention to him and their group from Brahma Heaven Temple.

Of course, perhaps the other party hadn't even looked their way.

The person wasn't completely shutting out his five senses; he could see that much.

Thus, either the other person was someone who considered themselves too superior to care about Brahma Heaven Temple, or they were someone with formidable skill and exceptional background, hence indifferent to their arrival.

Yet his intuition told him that the other person shouldn't be the former.

"Friend, are you also here to participate in the Overleaping Rankings ranking battle?"

Monk Flower was a straightforward person. After becoming interested in the stern-looking young man, he directly approached him and greeted.

"What's up?"

The stern-faced young man opened his eyes, glanced at Monk Flower and asked nonchalantly.

"Friend, I am known as 'Monk Flower'. May I know how I should address you?"

Monk Flower asked with a smile.

"Eden Lee."

The stern-faced young man was none other than Wyatt Barnes.

Of course, now, despite still having a stern visage, he didn't look like his previous self who went to Green Wave City. He had changed his face with a secret appearance altering technique, appearing stern yet unrecognizable as the previous 'Wyatt'.

He was here for the Overleaping Rankings ranking battle.

Eden Lee was his current name.

Lee was his mother's surname.

Feng was taken from the last character of his cheap old man's name.

"So it's Brother Eden... Brother Eden, are you also here for the Overleaping Rankings ranking battle?"

Monk Flower squinted his eyes with a smile and asked.

"Yes."

Wyatt Barnes nodded indifferently, thinking to himself, "This Monk Flower is just like the rumors, a free-spirited wanderer with no regard for etiquette. Though having a monk's origin, he carries none of a monk's habits... No wonder he's considered an 'Odd Species' in Brahma Heaven Temple by people in the Sky-scraping Mansion region."

"However, being one step ahead of that Junior House Master 'Peace Adams' is enough to show he is no simple character."

Wyatt Barnes, who had been in the region of Sky-scraping Mansion for quite some time, naturally heard about 'Monk Flower'.

Not only Monk Flower, but he had also heard of Silent Void.

Just as Monk Flower was about to speak again, he seemed to notice something, got startled, and his gaze moved away from Wyatt Barnes to the distance.

There, a grand group of people was approaching.

Leading them was an elderly man holding a fly-whisk, wearing a Taoist robe. The man's stature was average, with a youthful face and white hair, his Taoist robe fluttering without wind, giving him a celestial-like presence.

Behind the elder, there was a young man and two elderly men, all three wearing Taoist robes, and the two behind had a contrasting build but shared an ethereal aura.

Following these four were groups of middle-aged and elderly Taoists.

"They're from Pure Sun Temple!"

At this moment, many people within Jewel Valley recognized this group, and many cried out in surprise.

The group of Taoists who arrived now was led by the head of Pure Sun Temple.

As for the two elderly men behind him, they were the two deputy heads of Pure Sun Temple. Standing beside them was 'Silent Void', the most outstanding Taoist cultivator among the middle-aged generation in Pure Sun Temple.

In Pure Sun Temple, aside from the older and younger generations, his peers respectfully called him 'Senior Brother'.

So in the region of Sky-scraping Mansion, whenever anyone mentioned the Senior Brother of Pure Sun Temple, everyone knew it referred to him.

Unlike the vibrant Monk Flower, Silent Void was a very serious and disciplined person. As the most outstanding talented strongman among the middle-aged generation in Sky-scraping Mansion, their strengths were evenly matched but their personalities were opposites.

"Heh heh... Silent Void, it's been a while. This time, the first place on the Overleaping Rankings is mine, Monk Flower,"

Monk Flower chuckled at Silent Void, his words laced with provocation.

In the region of Sky-scraping Mansion, Monk Flower and Silent Void were known to be 'arch-enemies', a well-known fact. Thus, their meetings were never pleasant.

"Hmph!"

Facing Monk Flower's blatant provocation, Silent Void merely huffed coldly without further words.

But even without saying anything, his meaning was clear enough, indifferent to Monk Flower's words, not believing Monk Flower could surpass him and claim the top of the Overleaping Rankings.

Chapter 1667: What an Attitude!

"Silent Void!"

At this moment, Wyatt Barnes's gaze also fell upon Silent Void.

Regarding this talented Taoist Cultivator within the Sky-scraping Mansion region, he had long heard of him, knowing that his strength was on par with Monk Flower, and that both he and Monk Flower were stronger than the Junior House Master 'Peace Adams' of the Sky-scraping Mansion.

Of course, saying they were stronger than Peace Adams means they were stronger in the past.

Tomorrow marks the official start of the Overleaping Rankings battle, and for this day, the Junior House Master 'Peace Adams' of the Sky-scraping Mansion must have prepared thoroughly.

So much so that even the Sky-scraping Mansion must have recently spared no effort cultivating him, investing a large amount of cultivation resources on him.

Therefore, even Wyatt Barnes wouldn't dare to conclude that Monk Flower and Silent Void could now surpass Peace Adams.

Of course, though reluctant to conclude, he subconsciously still felt that Monk Flower and Silent Void should be somewhat stronger than Peace Adams.

"GullyAshton Chapman is here too!"

Another low exclamation sounded, drawing the gaze of many present, including Wyatt Barnes.

Wyatt Barnes glanced over to see an ordinary-looking young man, dressed in simple clothes, walking over from afar. He carried a broad knife on his back, wrapped in layers of plain cloth without a sheath, appearing exceptionally subdued.

However, despite this youth's low profile, his presence in Jewel Valley still startled many people.

Simply because he was 'GullyAshton Chapman'!

If one were to speak of the most outstanding individuals under fifty in the Sky-scraping Mansion region, it would be Monk Flower and Silent Void. Then, beneath them, apart from the Junior House Master Peace Adams, was him.

GullyAshton Chapman once defeated Peace Adams, also at the pinnacle of the Little Saint Realm, while he was at the same level.

However, later when Peace Adams broke through to the early stage of the Middle Saint Realm, he was no longer a match.

But now, GullyAshton Chapman had also broken through to the early stage of the Middle Saint Realm, and if Peace Adams remained at that stage, he might not necessarily be Gully's match.

Of course, the likelihood that Peace Adams is still at the early stage of the Middle Saint Realm is small.



After all, no matter what, he is the Junior House Master of the fourth-level force Sky-scraping Mansion.

Monk Flower, Silent Void, and GullyAshton Chapman appeared in succession, drawing the gaze of most people in Jewel Valley.

Wyatt Barnes, who stood in the air not far from Monk Flower, did not attract much attention due to his unfamiliar face, except for Monk Flower, who seemed quite interested in him at first.

However, after a round of probing, Monk Flower did not find anything different about Wyatt Barnes, leaving him somewhat puzzled. In the end, after greeting Wyatt, he left and returned to a corner of Jewel Valley where others from Brahma Heaven Temple stayed.

As for Silent Void and the group from Pure Sun Temple, they also settled within Jewel Valley.

As a Loose Cultivator, GullyAshton Chapman didn't have such a grand entourage. He quietly found a place to rest alone, without speaking to anyone, appearing extremely aloof.

As time passed, the last member of the fifth-level force arrived in the afternoon.

Of course, this fifth-level force had sent people ahead to occupy a corner of Jewel Valley as their resting place, so when they arrived, they stayed there.

Even though this fifth-level force did not have gifted disciples like Brahma Heaven Temple's Monk Flower or Pure Sun Temple's Silent Void, they lacked no exceptionally talented disciples either. Quite a few of them came this time, ready to participate in tomorrow's Overleaping Rankings battle.

Of course, the top three in Overleaping Rankings were beyond their expectations.

At most, the top four in Overleaping Rankings were beyond their reach as well.

In the eyes of most people in the Sky-scraping Mansion region, if nothing unexpected occurs, the top ten in Overleaping Rankings this time will undoubtedly be Monk Flower, Void Breaker, Peace Adams, and GullyAshton Chapman.

Of course, while they say if nothing unexpected occurs, how many unexpected events can there actually be?

Hence, many almost assume that the top four in Overleaping Rankings this time are undoubtedly those four.

The fifth-level force set the goal for their disciples to be within the top ten in Overleaping Rankings.

Soon, evening descended, and the sky above Jewel Valley seemed stained red, completely evolving into a bloody hue.

"Hasn't the Sky-scraping Mansion arrived yet?"

Many people looked around, discovering no sign of the arrival of the Sky-scraping Mansion.

Of course, there were people from the Sky-scraping Mansion within Jewel Valley, but they were merely an advance party led by the Ninth Elder of Sky-scraping Mansion.

"What's going on with the Sky-scraping Mansion? Are they planning to arrive tomorrow?"

"No way... According to the usual rules of the Overleaping Rankings battle, it starts at daybreak. This time should be no exception, so there's no way the Sky-scraping Mansion will arrive tomorrow. That would be too late."

"It's not just the Sky-scraping Mansion... The other two fourth-level forces haven't arrived either."

"The experts from those two fourth-level forces follow their respective ancestral traditions and come to maintain absolute fairness for our Sky-scraping Mansion's Overleaping Rankings every fifty years!"

"Usually, they arrive together with people from the Sky-scraping Mansion."

...

In Jewel Valley, discussions continued, bustling with excitement.

"The other two four-tier forces..."

Even Wyatt Barnes only recently found out that during the Overleaping Rankings Rush Ranking Battle, people from two additional four-tier forces would attend.

The people coming from these four-tier forces are the powerhouses within their respective factions.

These powerhouses come to the Overleaping Rankings Rush Ranking Battle not because of an invitation from the Sky-scraping Mansion, but because it's a directive from their own forces... A long time ago, when the Overleaping Rankings were established, to ensure fairness, it wasn't the Sky-scraping Mansion that presided over the Rush Ranking Battle, but powerhouses from the other two four-tier forces.

Those two four-tier forces are no weaker than the Sky-scraping Mansion in strength.

Therefore, the powerhouses that come from their ranks naturally don't fear the Sky-scraping Mansion, which means there's no worry of the Sky-scraping Mansion suppressing others or cheating due to their power.

Because of this, the Overleaping Rankings Rush Ranking Battle is considered fair.

After learning all this, Wyatt Barnes breathed a sigh of relief, "In that case, even if I kill the Junior House Master of Sky-scraping Mansion, 'Peace Adams', during the Overleaping Rankings Rush Ranking Battle, the powerhouses of Sky-scraping Mansion won't dare to act against me in front of the powerhouses of the other two four-tier forces."

His purpose for appearing here today was only one: to kill the Junior House Master of Sky-scraping Mansion, 'Peace Adams', and rescue Julia from the crisis!

As for the rankings on the Overleaping Rankings, he doesn't care.

Not to mention he isn't from the Sky-scraping Mansion region and doesn't need such honor, even if he was, he wouldn't be interested in the Overleaping Rankings.

It's just a hollow reputation.

Along the way, he had experienced too much and had long come to see through it.

"They're coming! They're coming!!"

Only when an exclamation voice came did Wyatt Barnes come back to his senses, simultaneously following the gaze of most people in the Jewel Valley.

In the distant sky, a large group of people was approaching majestically.

After they approached a bit, it became vaguely visible that they were divided into three groups, walking side by side, without distinction of order.

"It's the Grand Elder of Sky-scraping Mansion, Serene Adams!"

Someone with sharp eyes looked toward the group in the middle, or rather, at the leader of that group.

It was an old man with a full face of bristly beard; whether his hair or eyebrows were snow-white, even the bristles on his face were snow-white, making him look from afar like a white lion, unconsciously imposing a certain pressure.

He was the Grand Elder of Sky-scraping Mansion, Serene Adams.

In Sky-scraping Mansion, Serene Adams' strength, even if it doesn't rank in the top three, certainly ranks in the top five without any problem.

Therefore, his arrival also shocked quite a few people.

Serene Adams, in the Sky-scraping Mansion, holds a status second only to the House Master of Sky-scraping Mansion, the two Vice House Masters, and the rarely-seen Senior Elder.

"I never expected Elder Serene Adams to personally come... It seems Sky-scraping Mansion values this Overleaping Rankings Rush Ranking Battle a lot."

"That's stating the obvious, isn't it? The Overleaping Rankings is the most authoritative list in the Sky-scraping Mansion region, carrying profound significance. As the most powerful force in the Sky-scraping Mansion region, isn't it normal for Sky-scraping Mansion to value it?"

"Huh? How come I don't see the Junior House Master of Sky-scraping Mansion?"

"Yeah, where's the Junior House Master 'Peace Adams' of Sky-scraping Mansion?"

...

As the discussions spread, everyone realized that one of the main figures of this session's Overleaping Rankings Rush Ranking Battle, Peace Adams, did not seem to have come with the Grand Elder and the others from Sky-scraping Mansion.

"Could it be that Peace Adams isn't coming?"

"Impossible! Peace Adams, regardless, is the Junior House Master of Sky-scraping Mansion, and his talent isn't bad. How could he miss this Overleaping Rankings Rush Ranking Battle?"

"True. The Overleaping Rankings Rush Ranking Battle is held only once every fifty years and has age restrictions, meaning in a lifetime, there's only one opportunity to participate in the Overleaping Rankings Rush Ranking Battle. How could he not come?"

"Even if he doesn't care about fame, surely he wants to become the next House Master of Sky-scraping Mansion? As far as I know, those in Sky-scraping Mansion who haven't made it into the Overleaping Rankings in their lifetime are destined never to become the House Master of Sky-scraping Mansion... This is the rule, an ironclad law, of Sky-scraping Mansion; it has always been this way."

"I've heard of it too. But now that most of the Sky-scraping Mansion's main force has come, why hasn't the Junior House Master Peace Adams shown up? What's going on?"

"Maybe he encountered some unforeseen situation."

...

The absence of Peace Adams in the Jewel Valley caused quite a stir.

"Hmph! Such ostentation!"

"In terms of strength, Monk Flower and Silent Void surpass him by far, so why is he making a fuss about arriving late?"

"The Junior House Master of Sky-scraping Mansion... Tsk tsk, if he didn't have this aura, and were placed in the Brahma Heaven Temple or Pure Sun Temple, he would have been suppressed long ago by Monk Flower and Silent Void."

...

Inside Jewel Valley, it became increasingly lively, with many people beginning to sneer at the Junior House Master of Sky-scraping Mansion, Peace Adams.

#### Chapter 1668: Exquisite Chessboard

Within the Sky-scraping Mansion's territory, the name of the Sky-scraping Mansion's Junior House Master, 'Peace Adams,' was quite renowned, but that was mostly due to his identity.

In terms of strength, he was no match for Monk Flower and Silent Void.

In fact, at the same level, he was even inferior to Gully Ashton Chapman.

In the Martial Dao Sacred Land, the Respect the Powerful prevails. Given Peace Adams's performance, despite his fame not being less than Monk Flower and Silent Void, it naturally bred dissatisfaction among many.

In the eyes of everyone, Peace Adams only achieved his status due to his background.

If not for his favorable background, he wouldn't have amounted to much, and might not have even made it to the top ten of the Overleaping Rankings.

As the discussions within Jewel Valley grew increasingly unrestrained, the Sky-scraping Mansion's Grand Elder, 'Serene Adams,' could not help but wear a dark expression.

In usual times, he would have used his authority to silence these voices long ago.

However, with the presence of strong figures from two other fourth-rate forces, any one of them no weaker than him, he refrained from acting out despite his anger at the surrounding discussions.

"Our Sky-scraping Mansion's Junior House Master set out for training not long ago... for this Overleaping Rankings battle, he will naturally appear, so you all need not worry."

Finally, Serene Adams couldn't hold back any longer and spoke up.

As he spoke, his voice, infused with True Origin, swept across the entire Jewel Valley, reaching everyone's ears.

In an instant, the majority of those still engaged in heated discussions fell silent.

They could tell that this Sky-scraping Mansion's Grand Elder was angry.

However, a small number seemed aware of the representatives from the other two fourth-rate forces, knowing that the Sky-scraping Mansion's Grand Elder would not dare act recklessly, so they continued their murmurs.

The content of the whispers invariably revolved around Peace Adams, the Sky-scraping Mansion's Junior House Master.

"Elder Serene Adams, it seems that your Sky-scraping Mansion's Junior House Master intends to appear only after the Overleaping Rankings battle begins."

From a group to the left of the Sky-scraping Mansion delegation, an elderly leader turned to Serene Adams, speaking with a smile.

This elderly man, clad in a blue robe and leaning on a cane, appeared very amiable with his squinting eyes, much like a kindly neighbor.

Serene Adams, upon hearing this, could only manage an awkward smile, "That seems to be the case."

"Ladies and gentlemen, let us go and rest over there."

Serene Adams gestured to a picturesque corner within Jewel Valley, speaking kindly to the blue-robed elder and the leader of another group, careful not to slight them.

Both the blue-robed elder and the other man hailed from fourth-rate forces, their strength no less than that of Serene Adams, the Sky-scraping Mansion's Grand Elder.

The place Serene Adams indicated had previously been occupied by the Sky-scraping Mansion's Ninth Elder.

The people from the three fourth-rate forces settled down in Jewel Valley just like that.

"The other two fourth-rate forces... Soaring Mansion and Surge Hayden House."

Wyatt Barnes was unaware of the strong figures from the other fourth-rate forces overseeing the Overleaping Rankings battle, but having been in the Sky-scraping Mansion's territory for quite some time, he had heard of these two fourth-rate forces.

Soaring Mansion and Surge Hayden House were formidable fourth-rate forces, no weaker than the Sky-scraping Mansion, neighboring its territory.

The Green Wave Hanson House was situated within the Soaring Mansion's territory.



"That Sky-scraping Mansion's Grand Elder... I cannot fully discern him... He is most likely a strong figure of the Great Saint Realm, not an ordinary one at that."

Wyatt Barnes, looking at the receding figures, secretly noted in his heart.

When facing the Sky-scraping Mansion's Grand Elder, 'Serene Adams,' Wyatt Barnes distinctly felt a certain pressure, one stronger than when he had faced the Green Wave Hanson House Master, 'Politi Hanson.'

Therefore, he could almost conclude that the Sky-scraping Mansion's Grand Elder Serene Adams was more powerful than Politi Hanson!

Following the settling of the strong figures from the three fourth-rate forces, leaders from the Brahma Heaven Temple, Pure Sun Temple, and another fifth-rate force approached to pay their respects, seemingly fearing repercussions for perceived disrespect.

As a fifth-rate force, although they were not weak, they were insignificant before the fourth-rate forces.

The evening hours faded away, and night descended.

Still, the Sky-scraping Mansion's Junior House Master, 'Peace Adams,' had yet to make an appearance.

"Is Peace Adams really planning to show up only after the Overleaping Rankings battle begins?"

Hovering discreetly in a corner of Jewel Valley, unnoticed by others, Wyatt Barnes subtly frowned and pondered to himself.

His main purpose of coming was Peace Adams.

Having not yet seen Peace Adams, it was only natural for his feelings to be somewhat stirred.

As night deepened, even though the number of people in Jewel Valley was large, it gradually grew quiet, with no one speaking.

The night passed without any events.

The next morning, as dawn painted the sky with hues, nearly everyone opened their eyes and rose into the air.

Boom!!

Amidst a loud sound, the blue-robed elder from the Soaring Mansion casually flicked the cane in his hand, pointing it towards the central sky of Jewel Valley.

In an instant, the air trembled, seemingly producing ripples like water, spreading layer by layer, gradually expanding.

"What is he doing?"

Seeing this scene, Wyatt Barnes couldn't help but be stunned.

In the next moment, Wyatt discovered that the leader of the Surge Hayden Mansion group had also moved.

This was a bald, burly man in blue clothing. With a raise of his hand, a seemingly plain and unadorned giant hammer appeared in his hand. The hammer swung through the air, smashing towards the center of Jewel Valley's void.

The place where the hammer was aimed was exactly where the old man in green from the Tengyue Mansion had pointed his cane earlier.

Both struck the same spot.

In the void, the ripples that originally spread like water waves shattered with a crash as the hammer fell.

In an instant, a crack appeared in the void at the center of Jewel Valley, and the crack grew larger, making Wyatt's heart race with fear, "This... what is going on?"

In fact, it wasn't just Wyatt; many people present were also frightened by the scene before them.

Of course, there were those who were not surprised by this.

These people had all experienced the Overleaping Rankings competition before, either as participants or as spectators.

"So it's the effect of the formations."

Soon, Wyatt realized that the shocking scene he had just witnessed was merely an illusion created by the formations.

To be precise, the void in the center of Jewel Valley was part of the formation's illusion.

The actions of the powerful figures from Tengyue Mansion and Surge Hayden Mansion disrupted the formation, causing a crack and revealing everything behind it.

As everything behind the formation was revealed, what appeared before everyone, including Wyatt, was a chessboard. The chessboard seemed to be growing larger in their eyes... At first, the chess pieces appeared normal-sized, but soon, they became the size of fists.

Later, the chess pieces grew to the size of a human adult.

Finally, each chess piece was large enough to accommodate over a hundred people.

At this point, the chessboard and the pieces upon it stopped growing and became stationary.

"Is this... inside the illusion?"

When Wyatt snapped out of his shock, he realized he was standing on what seemed to be an endless chessboard, on top of an enormous chess piece. With enough squeezing, it could fit around two hundred people.

Taking a deep breath, Wyatt looked around and, after finding no end to the chessboard, he looked up.

There above his head was a gray sky pressing down, as if trapping him and others within the chessboard.

"Is this the 'Jewel Chess Setup'?"

Just then, an exclamation reached Wyatt's ears, making him pause, "Jewel Chess Setup?"

Soon, through the murmurs of others, Wyatt finally understood what the boundless chessboard was. It turned out to be the 'Jewel Chess Setup' within Jewel Valley.

Of course, the so-called Jewel Chess Setup was essentially an illusion array.

The Jewel Chess Setup also served as the stage for the Overleaping Rankings competition, and Jewel Valley got its name 'Jewel' because of the Jewel Chess Setup.

All of this was only now known to Wyatt.

Whoosh! Whoosh!

Accompanied by the sound of two piercing gusts of wind, Wyatt gazed upward to find that the elder from Tengyue Mansion and the bald burly man from Surge Hayden Mansion rose through the air, overlooking everyone.

Now, in the vast Jewel Chess Setup, most people had yet to recover from their shock.

The scene before them left them puzzled.

Most of those present were here for the first time to witness the spectacle of the Overleaping Rankings competition.

"Everyone, our Tengyue Mansion, following the ancestral teachings passed down, sends people every fifty years to host the start of the Overleaping Rankings competition... This time, our Tengyue Mansion has sent me."

The elder with the cane announced in a booming voice.

Although he appeared quite old, his words were full of vigor, belying his age.

"My name is Donovan Tasker, the Vice House Master of Tengyue Mansion. You may address me as Vice House Master Tasker or simply as Elder Tasker."

The elder continued speaking.

Roar!!

With the elder's declaration, the scene inevitably erupted with excitement.

Tengyue Mansion, the Vice House Master?

Most people present knew little about Tengyue Mansion, given they were from the region of Sky-scraping Mansion and had little contact with forces at Tengyue Mansion's level.

Of course, while they couldn't deeply interact with forces at Tengyue Mansion's level, it didn't mean they knew nothing about Tengyue Mansion.

Both were fourth-tier forces.

In their view, the Vice House Master of Tengyue Mansion was similar to the Vice House Master of Sky-scraping Mansion, a figure of the same caliber.

"I didn't expect him to be the Vice House Master of Tengyue Mansion!"

Many people sighed, as the elder appeared quite ordinary, so they didn't expect him to be the Vice House Master of Tengyue Mansion, a figure far beyond their reach.

#### Chapter 1669: Overleaping Rankings Placement Battle

As the Vice House Master of Teng Yue Mansion, 'DonovanTasker', introduced himself, the bald and strong man leading the group from Surge Mansion also spoke up.

"Everyone, the words that Elder Ren spoke are also what I want to say. Since he has already said them, I won't repeat. My name is 'Castiel Mullins', and I am the Second Elder of Surge Mansion."

The bald and strong man, who was sent by Surge Mansion to oversee this Overleaping Rankings battle, introduced himself following DonovanTasker's words.

Like Teng Yue Mansion and Sky-scraping Mansion, Surge Mansion is also a four-tier force.

However, compared to the Vice House Master of Teng Yue Mansion, 'DonovanTasker', and the Grand Elder of Sky-scraping Mansion, 'Serene Adams', it seems this Second Elder of Surge Mansion does not amount to much.

"It seems that Surge Mansion doesn't care much about this Overleaping Rankings battle, to have only sent a Second Elder to host it."

Soon, after learning of the bald man's identity, someone couldn't help but whisper.

When someone has made the first comment, naturally others will follow.

In this vast chessboard-like area, it quickly became lively once again.

"The Second Elder of Surge Mansion appears to be in a completely different league compared to the Grand Elder of Sky-scraping Mansion and the Vice House Master of Teng Yue Mansion... I really don't understand what Surge Mansion is thinking, to only send a Second Elder."

"Indeed. How can a mere Second Elder of Surge Mansion maintain the fairness of the Overleaping Rankings battle?"

"Within Sky-scraping Mansion's territory, only people from Sky-scraping Mansion have the strength to disrupt the fairness of the Overleaping Rankings battle... This time, if the Vice House Master of Teng Yue Mansion were absent, and the Grand Elder of Sky-scraping Mansion decides to ignore the rules of the Overleaping Rankings battle, what can this Second Elder from Surge Mansion do to counter it?"

"Exactly! In my opinion, this Second Elder from Surge Mansion is merely here to go through the motions... At a critical moment, his level of strength won't be of any use."

...

Seeing that the Second Elder of Surge Mansion, 'Castiel Mullins', seemed unconcerned about their discussions, more people joined in the unbridled chatter on this exquisite chessboard.

Castiel Mullins stood in the air with a calm expression, seemingly oblivious to the surrounding gossip.

In reality, when one reaches his level of cultivation, even if the people present were only murmuring, he could hear clearly; not to mention now when they were openly discussing him.

Therefore, the reason he remained calm is that he simply didn't care about these discussions.

However, just because Castiel Mullins didn't care doesn't mean that the people who accompanied him from Surge Mansion were indifferent. These elders and disciples from Surge Mansion were visibly angry.

Several people even tried to refute.

However, their voices were drowned out by the noisy surrounding chatter before they emerged.

Not far away, the Grand Elder of Sky-scraping Mansion, 'Serene Adams', heard the surrounding discussions and his lips twitched involuntarily.

Are these people saying Castiel Mullins is inferior to him?

Keep in mind, though he is a generation older than Castiel Mullins, a decade ago, Castiel Mullins' strength already surpassed his... That time when he accompanied the House Master of Sky-scraping Mansion for a visit to Surge Mansion, he had faced Castiel Mullins and was defeated in less than a hundred moves.

In that battle, apart from not using Saint Markings, Taoist Talismans, and other external forces, he used every technique he could, yet still came up short against Castiel Mullins.

Thus, that battle ended with him completely convinced of his defeat!

Now, hearing people claim Castiel Mullins is inferior to him, his face burned with embarrassment, feeling a sense of shame.

"This Second Elder of Surge Mansion, 'Castiel Mullins', isn't that simple!"

If anyone among the present wasn't convinced by the surrounding discussions, apart from those already familiar with Castiel Mullins, it would only be a few people, including Wyatt Barnes.

When the people from the three four-tier forces arrived together earlier, Wyatt Barnes had noticed a peculiar situation: the Grand Elder of Sky-scraping Mansion, 'Serene Adams', was not only polite to the Vice House Master of Teng Yue Mansion, 'DonovanTasker', but also extremely courteous to Surge Mansion's Second Elder, 'Castiel Mullins'.

Since they hail from the same tier of power, if Castiel Mullins were truly weak, even considering the Surge Mansion's influence, Serene Adams wouldn't have been so courteous.

After all, this is a world where Respect the Powerful prevails.

A person of equal standing but greater strength would never treat a weaker person in such a manner.



Those thinking along the same lines as Wyatt Barnes included several powerful figures from the three five-tier forces within Sky-scraping Mansion's territory; besides them, there were Monk Flower, Silent Void, and Gully Ashton Chapman.

Judging by their expressions now, they clearly did not agree with the surrounding discussions.

"Everyone, may I have a word as well?"

Just when the situation seemed difficult to control, Donovan Tasker spoke up, his voice imbued with True Origin, instantly suppressing the voices of everyone present, causing those engaged in lively discussion to close their mouths.

As these people fell silent, their gazes turned uniformly towards Donovan Tasker.

They all wanted to know what this Vice House Master of Teng Yue Mansion would say under such circumstances.

Seeing the venue quiet down, Donovan Tasker then looked at Castiel Mullins, his voice still imbued with powerful True Origin, "This Second Elder of Surge Mansion, in terms of seniority, is like a nephew to me... However, when it comes to his strength, even I am not confident I could defeat him!"

As Donovan Tasker's voice fell, the already silent venue became deathly quiet once again.

Donovan Tasker, the Vice House Master of Teng Yue Mansion, claims he isn't confident of defeating a mere Second Elder of Surge Mansion?

Is that even possible?

"Are you kidding me? Can the strength of the Second Elder of Surge Hayden Mansion be compared to that of the Vice House Master of Tengyue Mansion? Is that possible?"

"I think the Vice House Master of Tengyue Mansion is only saying this to avoid embarrassing the Second Elder of Surge Hayden Mansion."

"I feel the same way."

...

Although DonovanTasker spoke up to defend Castiel Mullins, hardly anyone present believed his words. They all felt he was lying to help the Second Elder of Surge Hayden Mansion save face.

Seeing this, DonovanTasker couldn't help but frown.

Just as he was about to explain further, Castiel Mullins stopped him and said calmly, "Elder Ren, as the person involved, I haven't taken this to heart, so you don't need to bother with it... I appreciate your kindness."

Since Castiel Mullins said this, DonovanTasker naturally said no more.

"Hong Guang, you're more composed than an old guy like me."

In the end, DonovanTasker couldn't help but express his admiration.

No matter what, today's main topic was the upcoming Overleaping Rankings battle.

Therefore, as time passed, the discussions among the people present about Castiel Mullins gradually subsided.

Everyone's attention was focused on the Overleaping Rankings battle.

"Everyone!"

As dawn covered the earth, DonovanTasker, one of the hosts for today's Overleaping Rankings battle, spoke at the right moment, "Today is the first day of the Overleaping Rankings battle... Among those present here to participate in the Overleaping Rankings battle, many of you are likely familiar with the rules, but I assume some may not know them."

"Now, let me go over the rules of the Overleaping Rankings battle in detail, so no one is unclear later on."

With DonovanTasker's words falling, he began to introduce the rules of the Overleaping Rankings battle.

He started with rules that Wyatt Barnes was already aware of.

The Overleaping Rankings battle, life and death are disregarded!

Of course, if one side concedes, the other must cease all actions, and as hosts of this Overleaping Rankings battle, DonovanTasker and Castiel Mullins will intervene to save the person after they concede.

Life and death are disregarded!

Though nearly everyone here for the Overleaping Rankings battle already knew this rule, hearing it from DonovanTasker's mouth still made their hearts tremble.

When it comes to life and death, it's hard for them to control their emotions.

Some people even entertained thoughts of withdrawing.

Though they could concede, in the midst of a battle with life hanging by a thread, unless the opponents are evenly matched, it's difficult to have the opportunity to concede.

There aren't specific rules for the Overleaping Rankings battle. The last ten standing get to be on this edition of the Overleaping Rankings.

"In the Overleaping Rankings battle, the use of any external forces, including sacred artifacts, is prohibited. Once used, you will be disqualified from competing for a spot!"

DonovanTasker continued.

This point was also crucial.

No external forces allowed.

One can only rely on their own strength to battle others and compete for a spot on the Overleaping Rankings.

The reason for this rule is concern that those from powerful sects would have aid from external resources provided by those sects... such as high-grade Saint Markings and high-grade Taoist Talismans, which are not scarce for major forces.

If external aids were allowed, it wouldn't be fair to those grassroots loose cultivators.

"You must have heard, in the Overleaping Rankings battle, there aren't any specific combat rules... anyone who can remain standing until the end can be listed on the Overleaping Rankings! Of course, the 'end' refers to when there's no one left to challenge, only then is the Overleaping Rankings battle truly over."

DonovanTasker continued.

At this moment, amid all eyes, DonovanTasker and Castiel Mullins exchanged glances, tacitly raised their respective staffs and hammers, and struck towards the void above the Linglong board.

This time, the two aimed in different directions.

Bam! Bam!

With two soft sounds, everyone present could clearly feel the spiritual energy within the Linglong board area in turmoil, calming after a while.

At the same time, they clearly saw that on the board of the Linglong board, ten pieces suddenly flew up, five black pieces and five white pieces.

After rising into the air, the ten pieces were suspended in the air, as if held by an invisible force.

"This..."

At this moment, including Wyatt Barnes, everyone present couldn't help but widen their eyes in surprise.

Chapter 1670: It's Starting

Above the void, those ten chess pieces kept enlarging, ultimately transforming into expansive platforms.

Of course, although these chess pieces became quite large, they were still nothing compared to the entire chessboard of the Jewel Tower Chess Setup.

However, the ten towering, mountain-like chess pieces hovering in the air gave Wyatt Barnes a strong visual shock. "Such huge chess pieces, floating in the air... are they images within an illusionary formation?"

It was only when Donovan Tasker spoke again, instructing everyone present to go onto the ten gigantic chess pieces in the sky, that Wyatt realized that the enormous floating chess pieces were not ordinary images from an illusionary formation.

When he landed on them, he even felt as if he was standing on solid ground.

"What kind of formation is this?"

Wyatt's heart was filled with shock, "To think an illusionary formation could appear so realistic."

Although Wyatt prided himself on knowing some formation techniques, the formations he could set up paled compared to this one that created the Jewel Tower Chess Setup.

"Even the 'illusionary formation' that my current illusory array plate can set up is nothing in front of this illusionary formation... Who on earth set up this formation, that it is so powerful?"

Wyatt's heart was full of shock.

In the past, he had come across three array plates at Moon Radiance Sect by chance and had only used the one that could set up illusory formations.

As for the other two array plates, so far, one has yet to be repaired, though the other is nearly fixed. According to Elder Fire, it would be fully repaired in at most half a year.

However, with the Splendid Fairy Sword and the Demon Sealing Monument in his possession, Wyatt didn't rely much on the array plates and never felt the urgency.

Even though Elder Fire mentioned that, provided sufficient power, the three array plates would greatly aid him.

Of course, Elder Fire also said that the assistance offered by the three array plates was nowhere near as significant as that provided by the Splendid Fairy Sword... The difference being, the Splendid Fairy Sword consumes a lot, whereas the array plates require no expenditure of internal energy.

Thus, even if Wyatt wasn't reliant on the array plates, he still hoped Elder Fire could fix them, for there could be a time when they became useful.

"This illusionary formation is way too realistic, isn't it?"

"Unbelievable! I feel like I'm actually standing on the chess piece... When I squat down and reach out, I can even touch it! Just what is this illusionary formation that it is so magical!"

"It's apparent that the chess pieces under our feet aren't real, but even if they're not real, some power has formed to support us like chess pieces... In my life, this is my first time seeing such an illusionary formation, making it worthwhile."

"Are these ten chess pieces the battlefield for the Overleaping Rankings tournament?"

...

Voices of excited discussions echoed around, snapping Wyatt Barnes back to reality, and his attention returned to DonovanTasker.

Although there were two hosts for the Overleaping Rankings tournament, since Castiel Mullins had not spoken except for his self-introduction, DonovanTasker had become naturally recognized as the host by everyone present.

Castiel Mullins seemed to be almost forgotten, as he quietly stood beside DonovanTasker, serenely facing everything before him.

"Everyone, the ten chess pieces before you are indeed the battlefield for the Overleaping Rankings tournament... You might consider them as ten separate 'platforms', and from these ten platforms, ten 'platform masters' will emerge!"

At this moment, DonovanTasker's voice echoed once more.

"Anyone eligible to participate in the Overleaping Rankings tournament can challenge any platform master. As long as you defeat them, you can replace them and become the new platform master."

"Any of the ten platform masters who go unchallenged for a day will automatically advance, gaining qualification to participate in the real Overleaping Rankings tournament... If you fail to become a platform master, you won't qualify to participate in the actual Overleaping Rankings tournament."

...

DonovanTasker continued speaking.

The real Overleaping Rankings tournament!

Although this sounded a bit exaggerated, it wasn't inaccurate.

Even if the upcoming days could all be considered as the Overleaping Rankings tournament, over ninety percent of them were destined to be unrelated to the Overleaping Rankings, as each historical edition only included ten people, and this time was no exception.

Only the final ten platform masters could be listed in the Overleaping Rankings.

In other words, the final battle among the ten platform masters was the true Overleaping Rankings tournament, as they contended for their specific ranks in the Overleaping Rankings.

"Now, please step back to the edges of your respective chess pieces to vacate the central areas... Then, anyone who meets the criteria can step into the center of the chess piece, become a platform master, wait for your opponents, or challenge the current platform master."

DonovanTasker's voice came forth once again, and immediately, people began retreating to the edges of the ten chess pieces.

In the meantime, the vast central areas of the ten chess pieces cleared out as well.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

...

At this moment, ear-piercing sounds of wind whistling were heard as five people from Surge Hayden's group and five from another, totaling ten, appeared above the ten chess pieces, overseeing everything below.

It seemed like the ten individuals corresponded to the ten chess pieces, monitoring the scenarios upon them.

"Together with Second Elder Castiel Mullins from Surge Hayden, we are the chief hosts for this edition of the Overleaping Rankings... As for them, they are the deputy hosts for this edition, each responsible for one chess piece, or one 'platform.' Aside from assessing the ages of the participants, they ensure fairness on each platform."

DonovanTasker said.



This revelation brought everyone to an understanding.

Earlier, many people wondered how the Overleaping Rankings tournament, divided into ten simultaneously active stages, could manage twenty individual blabez matches happening concurrently.

Even if DonovanTasker and Castiel Mullins were overseeing, could they manage to intervene timely if multiple crises arose?

There was skepticism from many regarding this.

Now, seeing ten deputy hosts, enlightenment dawned, realizing that Surge Hayden and DonovanTasker had already prepared everything without needing concern.

"Is it finally beginning?"

Wyatt Barnes murmured under his breath, standing at the edge of one of the black chess pieces.

The sword held in his arms was none other than the 'Splendid Fairy Sword,' one of the celestial treasures concealed within the Jewel Tower.