

L. Wyatt 971

Chapter 971 Being Framed

Having broken through in his cultivation and comprehended the "Triple High-Level Wind Realm," Wyatt Barnes, transformed into lightning, moved swiftly, with an extraordinary phenomenon of heaven and earth above his head following him like a shadow.

Below Wyatt's feet, earthy yellow Origin Force rolled like waves, as if resonating with the earth. With a single step, he had already crossed several caverns.

Around the earthy yellow Origin Force, besides the rampaging purple lightning that shot through the air, there were also strands of solid cyan energy winds that followed, as if tethered to him.

Not only that, but when Wyatt soared through the air, there was a faint layer of energy scouting ahead of him. Upon closer inspection, it was a solid, sword-shaped energy.

Above the soaring Wyatt, there loomed the spectral forms of ancient Horned Dragons, moving ferociously through the heavens.

Because of the incredible speed, it was difficult to discern just how many of these ancient Horned Dragon specters there were.

Only when Wyatt halted did the heavenly phenomenon above become fully visible, revealing a total of one thousand one hundred and fifty ancient Horned Dragon specters.

At the third order of the Transforming Void Realm, his full burst of Origin Force was comparable to the strength of four hundred ancient Horned Dragons.

The Triple High-Level Wind Realm, in the same way, was comparable to the strength of four hundred ancient Horned Dragons.

The other three Ninth-Order Void Realms, when added together, were comparable to the strength of three hundred ancient Horned Dragons.

All combined, that's the strength of one thousand one hundred ancient Horned Dragons!

As for the extra fifty ancient Horned Dragons' strength, that was what Wyatt harnessed by resonating with the "Earth Mystique" and the earth, lending him the "Force of Earth," which was half as powerful as the "Earth Mystique" itself.

Propelled by the strength of one thousand one hundred and fifty ancient Horned Dragons, Wyatt was as swift as the wind, and as fast as thunder, his speed was so great that many warriors could not discern his movements.

"Hm?"

After some time, Wyatt stopped abruptly, his expression somewhat unsightly.

"Noel Walton!"

Looking down at a body lying on the ground, Wyatt's eyes revealed a chilling coldness, as if choosing its prey.

Noel Walton was not a stranger to him.

Indeed, Wyatt had known Noel even before joining the Five Elements Sect.

Although their first encounter had not been pleasant, it was because Noel had been deceived by his own younger brother.

Noel himself, however, was quite to Wyatt's liking.

Before entering the 'Martial Emperor's Secret Treasure,' Noel had been alive and kicking, but now, he had turned into an ice-cold corpse and had obviously been dead for several days.

Bang!!

Suddenly, with a gloomy face, Wyatt stamped his foot on the ground.

Rumble! Rumble!

...

Instantly, at the spot where Wyatt's foot fell, a ferocious crack split the earth, extending all the way beneath Noel's body, causing it to drop in.

As Wyatt lifted his hand, Origin Force combined with the "Force of Earth" surged and struck one side of the cavern wall, sending showers of stones and rubble tumbling down.

Whoosh!

Wyatt lifted his hand again, and the dust and debris were drawn by his power, filling the crevice that had buried Noel's body, allowing Noel to quietly rest beneath the ground.

"Rest in peace."

Looking down at the now-filled crack, Wyatt murmured to himself.

"What is he doing?"

"I arrived quite early, just in time to see... it looked like he was burying a body."

"It must be a fellow sect member who was on good terms with him."

...

Unaware of when it had started, the commotion Wyatt had caused drew the attention of many onlookers, who stood at a distance, whispering among themselves.

Wyatt frowned and prepared to leave.

"It's Wyatt Barnes!"

Just as they entered the cavern and joined the onlookers, two people spotted Wyatt and couldn't help but exclaim in surprise.

At the sound, Wyatt turned to look.

With a single glance, he recognized the two, who were lay disciples from the Cloud Sky Temple.

He did not know these two individuals, but had some impression of them.

Wyatt nodded to them, acknowledging the fate that had brought people entering from the same entrance to meet here.

After nodding to greet them, Wyatt made to leave again.

However, before he could move, he found himself surrounded by three figures that had shot out like lightning. Once they had encircled Wyatt, their eyes glowed with greed as they stared at him.

As if he were some kind of rare treasure!

"Are you Wyatt Barnes?"

"The top figure among the young generation of the 'Five Elements Sect' to the east of the Northern Desert?"

"I heard you obtained an 'Artifact Fragment'?"

After surrounding Wyatt, one after another began to speak, their voices punctuated by hurried breaths.

"Right! How could I forget. Wyatt Barnes, Wyatt Barnes... I heard some time ago that he acquired an 'Artifact Fragment'."

"I've heard too. Wyatt Barnes, the first among the young generation in the Five Elements Sect, recently obtained an 'Artifact Fragment'."

"So he is that Wyatt Barnes!"

...

At that moment, except for a change in the expressions of the two lay disciples from the Cloud Sky Temple,

the other onlookers stared at Wyatt with covetous eyes, wishing they could simply kill Wyatt on the spot and seize the 'Artifact Fragment' he held.

"Hmm?"

Wyatt Barnes furrowed his brows upon hearing the surrounding discussions, and immediately looked at the two lay disciples from the Cloud Sky Temple.

Suddenly, the complexion of the two lay disciples from the Cloud Sky Temple changed drastically, and in a panic, they shook their heads and said, "Wyatt Barnes, I didn't know about you obtaining the 'Mystique Fragment.'"

"Yes, if we had known that the news of you obtaining the 'Mystique Fragment' had spread, we definitely wouldn't have revealed your identity just now!"

The words of the two lay disciples from the Cloud Sky Temple were laced with panic and disarray.

They had witnessed the strength of Wyatt Barnes.

If Wyatt Barnes were willing, it would only take a single encounter to annihilate the two of them!

The frown on Wyatt Barnes's face deepened.

He was not blaming the two lay disciples from the Cloud Sky Temple for exposing his identity, but he was puzzled as to how others came to know of his acquisition of the 'Mystique Fragment.'

Most importantly, aside from never having seen him, these people knew his name and his origins.

"When I initially obtained that 'Seventh-Order Emperor Realm Earth Mystique Fragment,' I even extended my spiritual force to explore the surroundings... apart from me, there definitely wasn't a second living person who knew I acquired the 'Mystique Fragment!'"

As Wyatt Barnes recalled the scenes when he had obtained the 'Seventh-Order Emperor Realm Earth Mystique Fragment,' he was absolutely certain of this fact.

There wasn't a second living person who knew of him obtaining the 'Mystique Fragment'!

Thus, there was only one possibility.

"Someone is deliberately framing me, intending to make me the public enemy of the group of young powerhouses entering the 'Martial Emperor's Secret Treasure'...they want me dead!"

With this thought, Wyatt Barnes easily confirmed this point, and a trace of blood-red flickered in his eyes.

For a moment, his heart couldn't help but surge with anger.

What he most wanted to do now was to find the person spreading the rumors and kill him.

Although he wasn't worried about the impact of this 'rumor' on him, the fact that his opponent was hiding in the shadows and scheming against him was extremely vexing.

Regaining his senses, Wyatt Barnes noticed something else.

Apart from the two lay disciples from the Cloud Sky Temple standing in the distance, trembling with fear, apart from the initial three who surrounded him, four more had joined the encirclement.

Seven people had him completely surrounded.

At this moment, Wyatt Barnes could also see.

Aside from the initial three who were together, among the four others were two small groups, each group consisting of two people.

In other words, these seven people were from three different powers.

There were a total of six major powers that came through entrance number two.

Apart from the twenty disciples of Grimm Wolf Fortress who all died at his hands, he recognized or at least had some impression of the others from the five major powers.

But he had no recollection of these seven individuals before him.

"Are you disciples from the Impermanence Sect, Emerging Cloud Sect, and North Nether Sect?"

Facing the seven young powerhouses whose Origin Force surged and realm followed like a shadow, ready to strike at any moment, Wyatt Barnes's eyes grew sharp and he asked in a deep voice.

"That's right!"

"What? Are you scared?"

...

Upon hearing Wyatt Barnes's words, several of the young powerhouses surrounding him revealed smug smiles.

Facing a disciple from a third-rate power like the Five Elements Sect, they, as second-rate power disciples, felt an innate sense of superiority.

"It seems that this 'Martial Emperor's Secret Treasure' is very likely to only have two entrances... The people from Impermanence Sect, Emerging Cloud Sect, and North Nether Sect all came from entrance number one, while myself and the others came from entrance number two."

"Up to now, I haven't encountered anyone from a third entrance."

Wyatt Barnes murmured to himself, subtly confirming this point.

"Who are the Impermanence Sect disciples?"

Facing the encirclement of the seven, Wyatt Barnes showed no sign of fear, and inquired slowly.

At this moment, Wyatt Barnes's gaze was calm, with an air of composure as if unaffected even if Mount Tai were crumbling before him.

"We are disciples of the Impermanence Sect."

As soon as Wyatt Barnes finished speaking, a young man and a young woman from the sect responded indifferently.

The young man had a cold expression, his eyes greedily fixed on Wyatt Barnes.

The young woman's face was calm, showing neither joy nor anger.

"Considering my acquaintance with Rey Jones... I suggest you step back," Wyatt Barnes said, giving the two Impermanence Sect disciples a faint glance. His tone was calm, devoid of any emotion.

Rey Jones, the Impermanence Sect disciple he had met previously, had a cultivation at the 'Transforming Void Realm Third-Order' and was formidable in strength.

Back then, although his interaction with Rey Jones was merely a mutually beneficial transaction, he couldn't help but have a favorable impression of Jones's forthrightness.

Now, knowing that the two before him were disciples of the Impermanence Sect, he thought of Rey Jones and was willing to spare them this once.

Otherwise, he would not have wasted his breath.

"You know Senior Brother Rey Jones?"

The ever-calm female disciple of the Impermanence Sect couldn't help but exclaim softly.

"I do," Wyatt Barnes nodded.

Upon hearing this, the female disciple of the Impermanence Sect nodded and stepped back, "Senior Brother Rey saved my life. Since you are his friend... today, I will not make things difficult for you."

"Hmph! Even if you know Senior Brother Rey, what of it? The 'Mystique Fragment' on your person, I have decided it's mine!"

The other male disciple of the Impermanence Sect, however, showed no appreciation.

Chapter 972: God of Slaughter' Reappears

The words of the Impermanence Sect male disciple seemed to fall on deaf ears to Wyatt Barnes.

He gazed around at the six people surrounding him and said indifferently, "All six of you... come at me together!"

Hearing Wyatt's words, and seeing the disregard on his face, the faces of the six youths from second-rate powers drastically changed, and they were thoroughly enraged.

A disciple from a third-rate power, daring to openly challenge six of their disciples?

Provocation!

Bare-faced provocation!

"Since you wish to die, we'll fulfill your wish!"

"We'll show you that a third-rate power disciple like you is nothing more than an ant in the eyes of us, disciples from second-rate powers!"

"Killing you will be as easy as slaughtering a chicken or mowing the grass!"

...

The six second-rate power disciples attacked at almost the same time, charging towards Wyatt.

Origin Force surged within them, the realm followed like a shadow, spirit weapons fully drawn in an all-out assault aimed directly at Wyatt with furious momentum.

Above their heads in the void, hundreds of ancient Horned Dragon phantasms took shape and accompanied them as they rushed towards Wyatt encircled by them.

More than three thousand ancient Horned Dragon phantasms formed a circle, lunging at Wyatt with bared fangs and claws.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

...

The full-on attack of the six second-rate power disciples compressed the air around them rapidly, followed by a series of thunderous blasts reverberating through the air.

As the explosive sounds erupted, massive waves of energy swept across in all directions, forming gusts of wind that made everyone's robes flutter and whistle.

"Kill!!"

The spirit weapons in the hands of the six second-rate power disciples, at that moment, seemed like the scythes of the Grim Reaper, fiercely charging towards Wyatt, aiming to reap his life.

The female disciple of the Impermanence Sect watched on calmly.

In her view, facing six young powerhouses no weaker than herself, the purple-robed Wyatt couldn't possibly survive.

However, when her gaze accidentally fell on two onlookers like her, she noticed they were looking sympathetically towards the six young warriors from second-rate powers like her.

"Hmm?"

A sense of foreboding involuntarily surged in her heart.

Could it be that this purple-robed young man had the strength to contend with them?

The thought seemed ludicrous.

A disciple from a third-rate power, even if he was the foremost among the young generation in that power, surely could not withstand the onslaught of six young powerhouses no weaker than she.

Yet, the next moment, she froze, her face turning red as if she was being strangled.

Her eyes widened, fixated on the scene before her, filled with shock and disbelief.

Heavens!

What was she seeing?!

Under the attack of six powerhouses no weaker than him, the purple-robed young man casually rose into the air.

Immediately after, a sword appeared in his hand, a sword emitting an aura that instinctively invoked fear.

"This is definitely not a second-grade spirit sword!"

At that instant, this thought unconsciously surfaced in her mind.

What shocked her the most was the purple-robed young man's next move.

Suddenly, his Origin Force spiked, transforming into a vast earthy yellow power, entwined by streaks of purple lightning, which was also accompanied by bursts of solid blue wind.

Not just that, an intense aura also emanated from the purple-robed young man.

"Sword realm!"

Being a martial artist who had also comprehended the 'sword realm,' the female disciple of the Impermanence Sect was more than familiar with it.

"He has comprehended so many realms? And they all seem to be of a high level."

Among flashes of lightning, the Impermanence Sect female disciple could only muster this thought.

The next moment, she witnessed a scene that she would never forget for the rest of her life, one that would startle her awake many nights thereafter.

At that time, how fortunate she felt for making the right choice that day.

Simultaneously, the Impermanence Sect female disciple clearly saw.

As the purple-robed Wyatt swept his sword horizontally, a terrifying sword light twisted and flashed by in a flash.

The next instant, the six youths who had forcefully lunged at him were each cut in half at the waist, their severed bodies colliding due to inertia.

Everything happened in the blink of an eye, all six dead, not even one having the time to scream.

The female disciple of the Impermanence Sect was stunned, completely stunned.

After a moment, she came to her senses, her face covered in fear, and she couldn't help but mutter to herself, "Rey Jones, my senior... I owe you my life again!"

She knew.

Today, had it not been because the purple-robed young man mentioned 'Rey Jones,' and consequently, she stepped back.

It wouldn't have been just six people dead.

She, likewise, wouldn't have survived.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

...

Bodies, severed at the waist, thunderously hit the ground, quickly turning the landing spot into a river of blood, a horrifying sight.

Two disciples from the Cloud Sky Temple turned deathly pale, their bodies trembling uncontrollably.

Although they had anticipated the scene unfolding before them, witnessing it firsthand still left them uncontrollably frightened, unable to recover for a long while.

Those six young powerhouses, although they were disciples of a Second-Rate Power.

But in their eyes.

Wyatt Barnes from the Five Elements Sect had long surpassed the typical young disciples of Second-Rate Powers.

Unless it was one of the top figures among the younger generation of Second-Rate Powers, they couldn't possibly be Wyatt's match!

As for the top figures among the young generation of Second-Rate Powers, although they had not met any, they could still tell, with their bare eyes, that those who moved against Wyatt and his six companions were definitely not of that caliber.

At best, those six could only be considered as outstanding disciples among the younger generation of Second-Rate Powers.

However, for Wyatt to kill six 'Transforming Void Realm First level' disciples of Second-Rate Powers in an instant still struck fear deep into their hearts.

"Wyatt's strength seems to have grown even stronger."

The two exchanged glances and could see the same understanding in each other's eyes, a deep-rooted fear lurking within them.

"Acting against overwhelming odds!"

With a cold sweep of his eyes over the six bodies on the ground, a hint of chilliness emerged on Wyatt's lips.

He had long sensed the cultivation levels of the six, all 'Transforming Void Realm First level warriors', not worth mentioning in front of his current might!

With a wave of his hand, surges of Origin Force swept out, and Wyatt collected the six's 'second-grade spirit weapons' and 'Storage Rings', which were his spoils of war.

Following that, Wyatt cast a casual glance at the female disciple from the Impermanence Sect and the two lay disciples from the Cloud Sky Temple.

"Wyatt, we definitely will not speak of you obtaining the 'Secret Fragment'!"

Seeing Wyatt's gaze turn their way, the two lay disciples from the Cloud Sky Temple panicked and broke their own fingers, two droplets of blood soaring into the air as they swore an oath by the 'ninety-nine Thunder Tribulations'.

Seeing this scene, Wyatt was left speechless.

When did he ask them to swear an oath?

He was clearly aware.

Since the news about him obtaining the 'Secret Fragment' was deliberately leaked, it must have already spread to most of the young powerhouses who entered the 'Martial Emperor's secret treasure.'

Apart from a few who were out of the loop, most people would definitely have heard the news.

"Whoever dares to conspire against me, Wyatt, just wait to bear my endless wrath!"

Wyatt's eyes cooled and his anger surged.

Whoosh!

Under the wary gazes of the two lay disciples from Cloud Sky Temple and the female disciple from the Impermanence Sect, Wyatt's figure moved, vanishing from their sight in an instant as if he had disappeared into thin air.

It was then that the three could not help but breathe a sigh of relief.

In front of Wyatt, they felt an overwhelming oppression deep in their souls.

He was a terrifying 'God of Slaughter'!

As their eyes fell upon the six corpses in front of them, their faces involuntarily turned pale again, the fear deeply rooted in their eyes.

"You two... knew about his strength long ago?"

The female disciple from the Impermanence Sect, in a calm tone, addressed the two lay disciples from the Cloud Sky Temple.

"Of course! Right when he entered the 'Martial Emperor's Secret Treasure', with just two sword strikes he annihilated forty-eight disciples from Third-Rate Powers whose strength was no less than ours... He is a monster!"

"It must be said, your decision just now was the right one... otherwise, your fate would certainly have been the same as theirs."

As the two lay disciples concluded, their gaze fell once again on the corpses piled in the blood river, their bodies uncontrollably trembling.

"Two sword strikes, killing forty-eight disciples from Third-Rate Powers?"

The pupil of the Impermanence Sect female disciple couldn't help but constrict.

Given that these were the disciples sent by Third-Rate Powers into the 'Martial Emperor's Secret Treasure', they must inevitably be leading figures among the younger generation of their powers, and their strength could not be that weak.

With just two sword strikes, he killed forty-eight Third-Rate Power disciples.

She doubted if she, with her own strength, could achieve that.

Even if she could, she doubted if she could do it as decisively.

"Wyatt, Wyatt... Rey Jones, what kind of monster do you actually know?"

Before she knew it, a bitter smile appeared on the lips of the Impermanence Sect female disciple.

If not for the timely mention of 'Rey Jones', and because she remembered the lifesaving grace Rey Jones had shown her in the past, she would have timely withdrawn from the battle.

By now, she would have been dead beyond dead!

The thoughts of the Impermanence Sect female disciple and the two lay disciples from the Cloud Sky Temple were naturally far from Wyatt's mind...

For now, he continued searching for the direction toward the central area of the 'Martial Emperor's Secret Treasure.'

Naturally, all along the way, he couldn't help but guess at who was framing him.

"Knowing my name and my background... the one framing me can only be one of those who entered the 'Martial Emperor's Secret Treasure' from the six major powers!"

"The nineteen disciples from Grimm Wolf Fortress, just after entering the 'Martial Emperor's Secret Treasure', were annihilated by me... Could it be that Marshall Tyler spread the word?"

Thinking this, Wyatt furrowed his brows.

In his opinion, this was the most likely possibility.

Though Marshall Tyler had already been killed by him, who knows if Marshall Tyler had not conspired against him before and maliciously spread the news that he got the 'Secret Fragment'.

"No, that's not right!"

Suddenly, as if recalling something, Wyatt shook his head vehemently.

Chapter 973: Heading to the 'Central Area

"The residual soul hidden within Marshall Tyler's body...is very likely from the 'Demon Sealing Monument'! After all, he once possessed a fragment of the 'Demon Sealing Monument.'"

"What's most important is...the soul fragment within Marshall Tyler, which resembles that of a Martial Emperor, seems to recognize the 'Demon Sealing Monument'! He probably knows the details of the Demon Sealing Monument."

"Thus, he must be well aware of the value of the Demon Sealing Monument...which means, Marshall Tyler couldn't possibly have betrayed me like that! Otherwise, once I were to be killed by someone else, the Demon Sealing Monument would fall into others' hands."

In a moment, Wyatt Barnes thought of many things.

Firstly, he could be sure of one thing.

Marshall Tyler knew the value of the 'Demon Sealing Monument'.

Originally, when he was being pursued by the four Vice Fort Masters of Grimm Wolf Fortress, it was Marshall Tyler who manipulated the 'Demon Sealing Monument' from behind the scenes.

"Perhaps, Marshall Tyler wanted the people of Grimm Wolf Fortress to obtain the 'Demon Sealing Monument' first, and then he had planned to take it back later... With the help of that soul resembling a Martial Emperor, possessing after strength surpassing Grimm Wolf Fortress was not difficult!"

"But inside this 'Martial Emperor's Secret Treasure,' it's a different story! Once he spreads the news of me obtaining the 'Mystic Fragment' and traps me... whoever kills me, he wouldn't necessarily know, let alone take back the 'Demon Sealing Monument' from those who kill me."

Thinking this, Wyatt Barnes confirmed his conclusion.

The person who betrayed him was not Marshall Tyler!

As long as Marshall Tyler was interested in the 'Demon Sealing Monument' in his possession, he definitely wouldn't do such a foolish thing.

"But if it's not Marshall Tyler, who could it be?"

While swiftly moving, Wyatt Barnes furrowed his brows, struggling to figure out who was behind his betrayal.

"Could it be those two disciples from the Sun and Moon Sect?"

Soon, Wyatt Barnes thought of the only two surviving disciples of the Sun and Moon Sect, who undoubtedly had the greatest motive.

After all, the other eighteen disciples of the Sun and Moon Sect had died by his hand.

If those two wanted to avenge those eighteen, they indeed had a motive to do so.

"Besides them, the people from Heartbreak Sect also have a motive."

Initially, when he first entered the 'Martial Emperor's Secret Treasure,' he had not only killed nineteen disciples from Grimm Wolf Fortress and seventeen from the Sun and Moon Sect but also twelve from Heartbreak Sect.

"Among the remaining disciples of Heartbreak Sect, perhaps someone wants to avenge the deceased disciples!"

Wyatt Barnes mused to himself.

Soon, Wyatt Barnes couldn't help but smile bitterly.

"And there's that disciple from Blade and Sword Sect, Tobias Morin... before entering the 'Martial Emperor's Secret Treasure,' due to my reason, Winnie crippled one of his arms! Although he managed to reattach his severed limb later, he definitely harbors hatred against me."

Wyatt Barnes's mind stirred, and he continued to ponder the suspects.

He realized that, upon further thought, whether it was disciples from Blade and Sword Sect, Cloud Sky Temple, or even from Five Elements Sect, it seemed they could all possibly betray him.

"This is really giving me a headache."

Wyatt Barnes shook his head, not wanting to think further, but his eyes revealed a chill, "No matter who it is, daring to stab me in the back... once I drag you out, I will make sure you have no place for your corpse!"

Wyatt Barnes sped up, dashing through the caves like the wind.

Along the way, Wyatt Barnes heard many of the surviving young powerhouses discussing him, all talking about his acquisition of the 'Mystic Fragment.'

After spending half a month's time, Wyatt Barnes finally confirmed the direction of the central area of the 'Martial Emperor's Secret Treasure' and started heading towards the central area.

"Finally confirmed the direction... The 'Palace' left by that Martial Emperor powerhouse is over there!"

Wyatt Barnes's speed towards the central area of the 'Martial Emperor's Secret Treasure' soared to the extreme, leaving only a purple lightning-like figure to those young powerhouses along the way.

"His speed is so fast!"

"Yes, I can't even catch a trace of him."

"With such speed... his strength is probably at least in the 'Transforming Void Realm Fourfold' and above!"

...

Watching that fleeting purple figure, the young powerhouses along the way couldn't help but sigh and feel inferior.

As Wyatt Barnes was making his way to the central region of the 'Martial Emperor's Secret Treasure,' plenty of young powerhouses in various parts of the treasure had also figured out the direction of the 'Martial Emperor's Secret Treasure' and began moving toward the central area.

"Elder Brother Ling Tian, did you manage to obtain a 'Mystic Fragment'?"

Two swiftly moving figures heading towards the central area of the 'Martial Emperor's Secret Treasure,' one of them couldn't help but express surprise upon hearing the discussions from the young powerhouses they encountered on the road.

"Rey Jones, do you know that 'Wyatt Barnes'?"

The other person, being 'Ledger Leigh' from Emerging Cloud Sect, was the second strongest of the young generation.

As for the former, it was 'Rey Jones,' the second strongest of the young generation of the Impermanence Sect.

"I know him. He's a friend of mine... But I never imagined that he would have the strength to obtain a 'Mystic Fragment.'"

Rey Jones nodded and as he spoke, a look of surprise inevitably appeared on his face.

He couldn't believe that the young man he had met once before had such incredible strength!

As someone who had obtained a 'Mystic Fragment' from the periphery of the Martial Emperor's Secret Treasure, he very much understood that acquiring a 'Mystic Fragment' required not only luck but also sufficient strength.

Otherwise, the 'puppets' guarding the Mystic Fragments would suffice to cause a headache.

Apart from puppets, the container holding the Mystic Fragments emitted a sound with strong penetrating power, attracting nearby people to rush over quickly.

If one couldn't fend off the people who came after, the 'Mystic Fragment' would simply change hands.

So, to obtain the 'Mystic Fragment', luck is secondary; strength is what matters most.

"If I encounter him, I'll snatch the 'Mystic Fragment' from his hands... You wouldn't intervene, would you?"

With a flash in his eyes, Ledger Leigh asked in a deep voice.

"If I encounter him, I will ask which type of 'Mystic Fragment' he has obtained... If it's the one needed by our Impermanence Sect, I'll exchange the one I have with him."

Rey Jones spoke indifferently, not answering Ledger Leigh's question directly.

Upon hearing this, Ledger Leigh's eyes brightened.

The 'Mystic Fragment' in Rey Jones's possession was undoubtedly what he desperately wanted to obtain.

That 'Mystic Fragment', in the hands of Rey Jones, was unattainable for him.

But once it fell into the hands of a disciple from that third-rate power, the Five Elements Sect, wouldn't it be easy for him to snatch it away?

A young disciple of a third-rate power, even if he were the foremost among the contemporary young generation of that power, could he not defeat him, the second-ranked of the contemporary young generation from the second-rate Emerging Cloud Sect?

Leigh was brimming with confidence in his own abilities.

"Now, I just hope that the 'Mystic Fragment' that Wyatt Barnes has is needed by the Impermanence Sect... Even if it's not, I'll still snatch the one he has!"

A cold light flashed in Leigh's eyes as he muttered to himself, "A lowly ant from a third-rate power... doesn't deserve to have a 'Mystic Fragment'!"

Swoosh! Swoosh!

Rey Jones and Ledger Leigh moved swiftly, heading towards the central area of the Martial Emperor's secret treasury.

At the same time, quite a few others were also heading towards the central region.

Swoosh!

A fiery red figure filled with scorching breath flashed past one cave after another with such speed that made many young powerhouses along the way feel ashamed.

"Brother Barnes should also be heading to the central area now, right?"

The figure that flew out was a woman in red, moving as if a sprite of fire dancing gracefully.

The woman's beauty could topple cities and captivate all beings; she appeared to be just over twenty, her brows mixed with anticipation as she traveled.

In her mind, the image of a young man in purple clothes appeared, causing her cheeks to flush and making her appear irresistibly adorable.

Swoosh! Swoosh!

On another side of the Martial Emperor's secret treasury, two figures flew side by side with extreme speed.

They were a young man in red and another in blue, both identical in appearance, clearly twin brothers.

However, their expressions were worlds apart.

The young man in red had a face full of changing expressions, while the one in blue was extremely stern, his expression unchanging from start to finish.

"Wyatt Barnes got a 'Mystic Fragment'?"

A look of surprise appeared on the face of the man in red, "It seems his luck is not worse than ours."

The man in blue raised his eyebrows, not saying much.

"The 'Mystic Array' we found in this Martial Emperor's treasury is much stronger than the one we experienced in the Sect before... Just the enhancement we gained in understanding the 'realm' shows the substantial amount and high grade of 'realm fragments' integrated into that Mystic Array," said the man in red in awe.

These twin brothers were none other than the two from the Five Elements Sect, the Nangle brothers.

The one with the stern face in blue was naturally 'Jaxx Nangle'.

As for the extravagant man in red, that was 'Demetrius Nangle'.

One calm, the other active.

After entering the 'Martial Emperor's treasury', apart from each obtaining a 'Grade One Spiritual Instrument', they also entered a self-activating 'Mystic Array'.

In the 'Mystic Array', after enduring three hours, their 'realm' received a great boost.

This boost, compared to the one they experienced within the Mystic Array of the Five Elements Sect, was like night and day.

The Five Elements Sect's 'Mystic Array' was nothing compared to the one in this Martial Emperor's treasury.

"It's a pity that the 'Mystic Array' can only be activated once... Otherwise, another session might have brought our 'realm' to the 'Ninth Advanced Level,'" Demetrius sighed sadly.

"Greedy!"

Jaxx coolly uttered these two words.

"Don't you wish for that?"

Demetrius shot Jaxx a scornful look, "Still, speaking of which, our adventures have been better than Wyatt Barnes'... Although he obtained a 'Mystic Fragment', he has to hand it over to the Sect."

"It is hard for him to survive," Jaxx said sparingly.

"Yes... We didn't expect that those entering the 'Martial Emperor's treasury' from other entrances would be people from those three second-rate powers."

Demetrius nodded, his face wary.

Chapter 974: Encounter

Since they had all heard about Wyatt Barnes obtaining the "Mystery Fragment," it was likely that the young powerhouses from the second-rate powers had also heard about it.

By now, Wyatt Barnes had certainly become the target of numerous arrows!

This, they could easily guess.

"Although Wyatt's strength is formidable...once he encounters the top young powerhouses among the second-rate powers, he may find it difficult to compete!"

Demetrius Nangle inhaled deeply, his words filled with dread towards the few top young powerhouses within the second-rate powers.

Among the second-rate powers, the average young powerhouse could easily be handled with his current strength.

But if it were the top young powerhouses from the second-rate powers, he had no confidence at all!

The reason these were second-rate powers was not only because they had 'Martial Emperors' presiding over them, but also because the young powerhouses they cultivated were far stronger than those from third-rate powers like the Five Elements Sect.

Jaxx Nangle rarely nodded, agreeing with Demetrius Nangle's statement.

Meanwhile, in various places within the Martial Emperor's secret area, more and more people confirmed the direction of the 'central area,' and one by one, they rushed toward it.

"Hmm?"

As Wyatt Barnes was hurrying towards the 'central region' of the Martial Emperor's secret area, he just passed through a cave and saw three extremely familiar figures appear in the distance.

The three were also heading in the same direction, clearly also heading towards the 'central region' of the Martial Emperor's secret area.

"Brady, Walter, Brother Graham."

Wyatt moved as fast as lightning, hauntingly catching up with the three men and smiled as he greeted them.

These three were none other than Brady Yellow, Walter Simmons, and Brian Graham!

Wyatt hadn't expected to run into them here, nor had he expected them to be together.

"Wyatt Barnes!"

"Elder Brother Wyatt!"

The appearance of Wyatt Barnes brought great surprise to Brady Yellow, Walter Simmons, and Brian Graham, their eyes revealing excitement at seeing Wyatt again.

"Wyatt Barnes, you sure are something... I thought you had been wiped out already!"

Brady teased with a laugh.

"Wyatt, did you really get a 'Mystery Fragment'?"

Walter looked at Wyatt, his eyes burning with curiosity.

Brian Graham also looked towards Wyatt.

"If I said no... would you believe me?"

Hearing Walter ask this question, Wyatt knew they must have also heard the rumor that he had obtained a 'Mystery Fragment,' and he couldn't help but smile bitterly.

He had indeed obtained a 'Mystery Fragment,' but that was a fact no other living person knew about.

As for the rumor now spreading wildly, it was entirely someone's plot against him.

"No?"

Upon hearing Wyatt's words, not only Walter and Brian but even Brady Yellow couldn't help but be startled.

"Someone wants to frame me."

Wyatt's eyes flashed, a streak of cold light fleeting as if choosing its prey, "However, I still don't know who it is! But I'm certain it must be someone who entered with us through Entrance 2."

"If I find out who it is, I will definitely wipe him out!"

Wyatt's words made Brady Yellow's face darken as he clenched his fist and spoke angrily.

"The person framing you obviously wants you killed... that person must have a grudge against you. Could it be the two remaining disciples of the Sun and Moon Sect?"

Walter speculated.

"It might also be 'Tobias Morin.'"

Brian Graham's eyes flashed as he said solemnly, "In Blade and Sword Sect, it is well known that Tobias Morin holds grudges. After suffering a great setback before Elder Brother Wyatt, he definitely won't let it go."

"I've thought about the people you mentioned... including the disciples of the Heartbreak Sect and others, all are possible! The person framing me does not necessarily hold a grudge against me; it could also be purely out of jealousy, not wanting me to survive in the 'Martial Emperor's secret area.'"

Wyatt slowly spoke, finally voicing his deductions.

For a time, the three friends fell silent.

"That person is indeed sinister! Just with a few words, he has put you in a precarious position... now, those young powerhouses from the second-rate powers are definitely looking for you."

Brady spoke cautiously.

Second-rate powers?

Upon hearing Brady's words, Wyatt's eyebrows twitched.

Among the disciples of the second-rate powers he had encountered and fought, not a single one had been his match, all had perished by his hand.

"Even Brady Yellow of the Impermanence Sect... with my current strength, defeating him should not be difficult!"

Unconsciously, Wyatt remembered 'Rey Jones,' whom he had once met.

At that time, his spiritual power had detected that Rey Jones was a 'Level Three Martial Artist of the Transforming Void Realm,' and if it were him at that time, he had no great confidence against Rey Jones.

But the current him was different.

Unless Rey Jones had encountered some extraordinary fortune, he would not be his match.

"Wyatt, along your journey, have you gained any other treasures?"

While the four were traveling together to the 'central region' of the Martial Emperor's secret area, Brady couldn't help but ask out of curiosity.

"Not bad... obtained an 'Eighth Order Profound Earth realm Fragment' and a 'Spirit Fruit.'"

Wyatt spoke with a smile, yet he did not mention the 'Seventh Order Emperor Realm Profound Earth realm Fragment.'

Otherwise, wouldn't he be admitting that the person who framed him was telling the truth?

At that point, that person wouldn't be framing him but speaking the truth.

This was something he did not want to see.

"What about you?"

After Wyatt Barnes spoke of his own 'gains', he looked at Brady Yellow and his two companions, "How did the three of you meet?"

"I met Walter Simmons first."

Brady Yellow said.

"Hmm."

Walter Simmons nodded, "Later, Brady and I together met Brother Graham. The three of us then teamed up and also had some gains... Until now, we've basically collected all the 'Ninth Order realm fragments' we can use."

"It seems your gains are not bad either."

Wyatt Barnes smiled.

"Wyatt, you don't know... Besides these gains, we also encountered a 'Profound Mystery Fragment'! It was even a 'Level Eight Emperor Realm Wind Profound Mystery Fragment'!"

While Brady Yellow was talking, he sighed with a face full of regret.

"Level Eight Emperor Realm Wind Profound Mystery Fragment?!"

Hearing Brady Yellow's words, Wyatt Barnes couldn't help but be startled.

Although he also had an 'Emperor Realm Wind Profound Mystery Fragment', it was only a 'Third-Order Emperor Realm Wind Profound Mystery Fragment', far inferior to that 'Level Eight Emperor Realm Wind Profound Mystery Fragment.'

"You didn't get it?"

Seeing Brady Yellow sigh, Wyatt Barnes's eyes flashed, curiously asking, "Since you didn't get it... that means the person who got that 'Profound Mystery Fragment' is stronger than you! But why did he spare you? Doesn't he worry that you might spread the word about him getting the 'Profound Mystery Fragment'?"

"He did want to kill us, but we narrowly escaped... Moreover, he doesn't seem to care about us spreading the word about his getting the 'Profound Mystery Fragment.'"

Brian Graham said with a wry smile.

"What do you mean?"

Wyatt Barnes was startled, looking puzzled.

In his view, that person wanting to kill Brady Yellow, Walter Simmons, and Brian Graham indicated that he was worried they would spread the news of him obtaining the 'Profound Mystery Fragment.'

But why did Brian Graham say that the person didn't mind them spreading the news?

Wasn't that contradictory?

Soon, hearing Walter Simmons's explanation, Wyatt Barnes finally understood what was happening.

"You mean... he just casually stomped on the ground, and that killed those disciples from the Emerging Cloud Sect and Impermanence Sect?"

Wyatt Barnes couldn't help but gasp in shock.

Although, from what Walter Simmons and the others said, he could guess that those disciples from the Emerging Cloud Sect and Impermanence Sect were among the weakest of the second-rate powers' disciples who entered 'Martial Emperor's secret treasure.'

But that young man in black could stomp and kill them, almost wiping out Simmons and his friends too, which truly shocked him to the core.

"That person's strength, he must be at least the Transforming Void Realm second or third level... Most importantly, he has mastered the 'Earth realm' and can leverage the 'Power of Earth'!"

Brady Yellow said with a face full of wariness.

"According to your words... he must be at least a third level fighter of the Transforming Void Realm! Not just that, the 'Earth realm' he has comprehended must be of at least 'High Third Order'."

Wyatt Barnes guessed, following the knowledge from his cycles of memories as Martial Emperor.

"Let's not talk about him anymore... it brings bad luck just mentioning it!"

Brady Yellow shook his head, "Wyatt, now that the news that you got the 'Profound Mystery Fragment' has spread... why don't you just not go to the central area of the 'Martial Emperor's secret treasure'?"

"Exactly! Wyatt, what you need to do now is to protect yourself."

Walter Simmons agreed.

"Elder Brother Ling Tian, I also think you shouldn't go... Once you get there, human greed will make you a target for everyone!"

Brian Graham also said.

Feeling the concern from the three, Wyatt Barnes felt warmed.

Just as he was about to say something.

"Hmph! So you are Wyatt Barnes?"

A cold snort came from one of the exits in the cave in front of Wyatt Barnes and his group, clearly entering Wyatt's ears.

Following that, Wyatt Barnes saw, in the path of their advance, an additional figure cloaked in black.

This was a young man dressed in black, with a cold expression and eyes that seemed dull but hidden with murderous intent, giving an invisible oppressing sensation.

Wyatt Barnes raised his eyebrows, his spiritual power extended out, intending to probe the other's cultivation.

"It's you!!!"

Just then, the exclamation from Brady Yellow, Walter Simmons, and Brian Graham shocked Wyatt Barnes's spiritual power nearly to dispersal, filling him with curiosity.

Brady Yellow and the others, do they know this young man in black?

"Wyatt, he is the person we mentioned to you before... but we didn't expect him to be nearby! And he also heard our conversation just now."

Walter Simmons's voice, consolidated by Origin Force, reached Wyatt's ears, clearing Wyatt's confusion.

"So that means... that 'Level Eight Emperor Realm Wind Profound Mystery Fragment' is on him?"

Hearing Walter Simmons's words, Wyatt's gaze intensively stared at the young man in black blocking their path.

In the depths of his gaze, a flicker of murderous intent appeared!

Chapter 975: The Strength of the Young Man in Black

As Wyatt Barnes looked at the black-robed youth, a flash of killing intent appeared in his eyes, the black-robed youth returned the gaze with equally cold and biting murderous intent.

In the murderous eyes of the black-robed youth, there was unmistakably a hint of greed.

"It seems he has also heard the news of me obtaining the 'Mystical artifact fragment'."

The perceptive Wyatt Barnes noticed the greed deep within the youth's eyes, and something clicked in his mind, vaguely guessing some things.

At the same time, Wyatt extended his spirit power and immediately ascertained the black-robed youth's level of cultivation.

After probing the black-robed youth's cultivation, Wyatt's gaze couldn't help but turn sharp.

"I really didn't expect to encounter the three of you here again... Last time you were lucky, and I spared your lives. This time, since you walk with this Wyatt Barnes, you will die with him!"

The black-robed youth's indifferent gaze paused on Wyatt, then shifted to Brady Yellow, Walter Simmons, and Brian Graham, speaking with a chilling tone.

As soon as the words fell, the black-robed youth lifted his foot, the Origin Force on it surged, then merged with the 'realm of earth', turning into a vast earth-yellow power that violently smashed onto the ground.

Boom!

A loud noise erupted, the entire cave shook as if the earth was quaking, a vicious crack unfolded from underneath the black-robed youth's feet, then split into four cracks aiming straight for Wyatt, Brady Yellow, Walter Simmons, and Brian Graham.

The speed of the cracks spreading was lightning fast, chilling to the bone!

Brady Yellow, Walter Simmons, and Brian Graham's faces turned pale.

At this very moment, they could clearly feel that the black-robed youth's attack today was far stronger than his last attack on them.

"He held back last time."

The same thought spontaneously emerged in the minds of all three men.

And in that instant, the vicious cracks filled with terrifying power had already reached their front, leaving them no chance to defend or flee.

For a moment, a sense of despair rose from the bottom of their hearts.

Were they going to die?

Amongst flashes of lightning, a touch of sadness flashed through their eyes.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

At the critical moment, four loud explosions sounded, jolting them wide awake from their shock.

The next instant, they clearly saw.

Those three fierce cracks that had spread towards them, carrying immensely terrifying power, were suppressed by an even stronger force, just an inch away from them.

Not only the cracks spreading towards them but also the one heading for Wyatt, the power within them was suppressed.

The person who acted, of course, was 'Wyatt Barnes'!

Somehow, Wyatt had levitated into the air, standing in the void, his purple robe fluttering without a breeze, exuding an effortlessly suave and graceful demeanor.

He stood with his hands behind his back, calmly watching the black-robed youth across from him.

It was as if he was not the one who had just made a move.

There, above the black-robed youth, where the void met the sky, the power of heaven and earth stirred, converging into the phantoms of eight hundred ancient Horned Dragons, writhing down and looking incredibly lifelike.

Transforming Void Realm third stage!

When Wyatt's spirit power extended out just now, he first detected the cultivation level of the black-robed youth.

Third stage high-level mastery of earth realm!

Now, as the black-robed youth made his move, Wyatt even more so discerned the level of the 'realm of earth' the youth had comprehended.

"The power of eight hundred ancient Horned Dragons... and this is when he has not yet resonated with the 'realm of earth' to borrow 'the power of the earth'! Once he borrows the power of the earth, even without using a spiritual weapon, he would be able to unleash 'the power of a thousand ancient Horned Dragons'."

Wyatt maintained a calm exterior, but inwardly, he couldn't help but be startled.

A high-level third-stage mastery of earth realm, once deployed, is comparable to the power of four hundred ancient Horned Dragons!

If he borrows 'the power of the earth', he could add half again as much power, which is another two hundred ancient Horned Dragons.

Added to the Origin Force of the Transforming Void Realm fourth stage, comparable to 'the power of four hundred ancient Horned Dragons', the black-robed youth could unleash the power of a thousand ancient Horned Dragons without using a spiritual weapon!

"Hmm?"

The black-robed youth, who had initially had a calm and indifferent expression, couldn't help but show a faint change of expression after Wyatt suppressed his four forces.

The opponent's move was like lightning, and without even invoking the power of heaven and earth to form an anomaly, he suppressed his power!

The opponent's power was apparently higher than the eight hundred ancient Horned Dragons' power he had just unleashed.

Although, like him, the opponent hadn't used a spiritual weapon either.

But he was not the slightest bit afraid!

Because when he made his move, he hadn't borrowed 'the power of the earth'. Once he did, his 'realm of earth' would be bolstered by the power of two hundred ancient Horned Dragons!

He believed that by then, the young man in purple in front of him would not be his match and would be crushed under his feet!

"No wonder you were able to obtain a 'Mystical artifact fragment' ... I underestimated you."

When the youth in black robes looked at Wyatt Barnes again, his expression had regained its calm, but a more solemn weight lined the depths of his gaze, truly perceiving Wyatt as a formidable adversary.

"The strength of Wyatt Barnes..."

Ever since the apparition of eight hundred ancient Horned Dragon spirits emerged above the head of the youth in black robes in the void, Brady Yellow's pupils involuntarily constricted. When he came to his senses, his gaze immediately fell upon the purple silhouette standing mid-air.

At this moment, even just a purple silhouette from the back seemed incredibly towering in Brady's eyes!

"The power of eight hundred ancient Horned Dragons... suppressed by Wyatt's every move? And Wyatt hasn't even used a spirit tool?"

Brady felt his heartbeat frighteningly fast, struggling to accept this astonishing reality.

While he did not know Wyatt through and through,

the strength Wyatt had displayed before him in the past and the strength he was showcasing now made him feel as though they were entirely different individuals.

How had Wyatt grown so strong in such a short time?

"Wyatt mentioned earlier that he acquired a spiritual fruit... Could it be that the fruit helped him achieve a breakthrough?"

At the same time, Brady couldn't help but secretly speculate.

Walter Simmons and Brian Graham's gazes naturally fell on Wyatt, filled with an incredibly complex luster.

In contrast to Brady, they had known Wyatt longer and had almost watched him grow stronger step by step.

Now, the gap between them and Wyatt was widening more and more.

This disparity left them nearly suffocating!

"However, although you are quite powerful, today you must die... It's not just you, but also the three friends with you, all must perish!"

The youth in black robes' gaze turned cold, and the earthy yellow Origin Force on his body began to tremble violently, thereafter establishing a peculiar connection with the entire cave.

Moments later, his earthy yellow Origin Force began to boil over.

Simultaneously, another two hundred ancient Horned Dragon spirits appeared above his head in the void, causing the faces of Brady and the other two to drastically change.

"He just displayed the power of eight hundred ancient Horned Dragons... without even drawing on the earth's strength?"

Brady's pupils contracted.

"With the 'strength of the earth', he has the might equivalent to a thousand Horned Dragons... This is still without him using a spirit tool! How strong would he be if he were to use a spirit tool?"

Walter and Brian's pupils constricted to their limits, their heartbeats rapidly accelerating, unable to calm down for long time.

A bitter smile formed at the corners of their mouths, seemingly without their realization.

"No wonder he, watching his power suppressed by Wyatt, did not flee nor show any fear... It turns out, he had not drawn upon the 'strength of the earth' yet!"

Despair crept into the hearts of Brady, Walter, and Brian.

Although Wyatt had just demonstrated formidable strength, they did not believe that Wyatt could defeat the youth in black robes who could exert the power of a thousand ancient Horned Dragons without even using a spirit tool.

Unnoticed, a giant hammer appeared in the hands of the youth in black robes. As soon as the hammer materialized, it was enveloped by the earthy yellow Origin Force, emanating an aura of domination.

Whoosh!

For a time, above the head of the youth in black robes in the void, the forces of heaven and earth stirred once more. Next to the one thousand ancient Horned Dragon spirits, another three hundred and fifty or so spirits quickly appeared.

The youth in black robes, at the Transforming Void Realm triple level, with all his Origin Force unleashed, was comparable to the strength of four hundred ancient Horned Dragons.

This giant hammer added another 'over three hundred and fifty Horned Dragon strength' to the youth in black robes on top of the strength of four hundred ancient Horned Dragons, clearly indicating its grade.

"With an amplification of 'eighty-eight percent'... a Grade One spirit tool!"

Wyatt's eyes sharpened; he quickly discerned the grade of the giant hammer in the black-robed youth's hand, a Grade One spirit tool.

The youth in black robes held the hammer, as vast earthy yellow Origin Force emanated from him, swirling around the hammer's 'core' and twisting into a vortex.

The vortex expanded, igniting bursts of soft explosive sounds.

The vast power, as it spread and reached the ground of the cave, caused the surface to crack, with myriad fissures spreading out like a giant spider web.

Not only that, gusts of wind surged from the center where the youth in black stood, sweeping in every direction and quickly enveloping the entire cave, causing the robes of Wyatt and the others to flutter noisily.

"You all retreat first."

Wyatt did not turn around but calmly gazed at the youth in black robes, and spoke slowly.

His words, naturally, were not meant for the youth in black robes.

Upon hearing this, Brady and the others exchanged looks before sighing and retreating from the cave, standing together at one exit, watching the standoff between Wyatt and the youth in black robes from afar.

They knew that in the face of such a powerful opponent, remaining behind would not only fail to help Wyatt but might even become a burden to him.

"Are you... a disciple of the North Nether Sect?"

Wyatt stood in the air, facing the youth in black robes who was beneath the shadow of more than thirteen hundred and fifty ancient Horned Dragon spirits, yet his face remained calm, as he asked faintly.

Earlier, he had heard from Brady Yellow.

This youth in black robes had killed the disciples of the Impermanence Sect and the Emerging Cloud Sect without even batting an eye.

Therefore, it was impossible that the opponent was a disciple of the Impermanence Sect or the Emerging Cloud Sect.

Chapter 976: The Power of 1500 Ancient Horned Dragons!

"Dead men don't need to know who I am!"

Clutching a giant hammer, the black-clothed young man, like a God of War in his era, had his black robes ripple loudly as his eyes flashed with a piercing cold light. He spoke slowly, his voice cold as ice.

"Right... Why do I even need to know the identity of a dead man?"

Upon hearing the black-clothed youth's words, Wyatt Barnes was initially startled, then burst into brilliant laughter.

Wyatt Barnes's laughter made Brady Yellow, Walter Simmons, and Brian Graham exchange looks involuntarily.

"Wyatt Barnes can still laugh at a time like this... Could it be that he is confident in defeating that black-clothed young man?"

Walter Simmons's pupils shrank as he muttered softly.

"That black-clothed young man, using a spirit weapon, can exhibit the strength of more than thirteen hundred ancient Horned Dragons! If Wyatt Barnes can defeat him, then his strength..."

Brady Yellow left his sentence unfinished and involuntarily gasped in shock.

"I've known Elder Brother Ling Tian for many years and deeply understand his character... His ability to laugh at this moment clearly means he is confident in defeating, even killing, that black-clothed young man!"

Brian Graham stared fixedly at the distant figure standing in mid-air, garbed in purple, and murmured softly to himself.

Hearing Brian Graham's words, Brady Yellow and Walter Simmons felt their hanging hearts relax. In each of their eyes, an expectant look appeared, eager for Wyatt Barnes to make his move.

"Seeking death!!"

Hearing Wyatt Barnes's words and seeing the radiant smile on his face, the black-clothed youth could no longer contain himself, and after bellowing, his entire being vanished from the spot.

Whoosh!

The black-clothed youth's giant hammer tore through the air, carrying him along as if he were a cannonball shot toward Wyatt Barnes, coming with an immense momentum.

As he passed, the air currents in the area swept around, compressing to create bursts of thunderous blasting noises!

With each blast, invisible shockwaves trembled, pressing the swirling air currents to sweep out in all directions, turning the entire cave dusty and filled with a series of piercing howling winds.

The giant hammer in the hands of the black-clothed youth, containing the strength of more than thirteen hundred ancient Horned Dragons, struck down ferociously at Wyatt Barnes's head like a lightning-fast falling meteor.

"What powerful strength!"

Seeing the giant hammer dropping, the air currents around it dispersed, and Wyatt Barnes's eyes narrowed slightly, his expression growing slightly grim.

Facing the giant hammer smashing down with the black-clothed youth, a sword suddenly appeared in Wyatt Barnes's hand, a sword emitting a fierce aura.

As milky-white Origin Force rose from Wyatt Barnes's body and transformed into an earthy yellow force that surged into the sword, thick bolts of purple lightning wrapped themselves around the blade.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

...

Suddenly, a series of faint blasting sounds erupted.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

...

At the same time, streams of fast-moving cyan gang winds appeared, coiling around the sword and emitting bursts of sharp air.

Amid the flashes of lightning, Wyatt Barnes held his Emperor Grade spirit sword aloft, positioned above his head.

Simultaneously, his entire body emitted an incomparably sharp aura!

In an instant, the power on Wyatt Barnes's sword spread throughout his body, making both him and the sword seem as one.

The earthy yellow force intertwined with purple lightning and cyan gang winds spread over the surface of his and his sword's body, enveloping them both and turning into a giant sword.

Whoosh!

As the earthy yellow force at Wyatt Barnes's feet entwined with purple lightning and cyan gang winds exploded, the giant sword soared skyward, aimed directly at the fiercely descending giant hammer.

The incomparably sharp aura, rising with the giant sword, filled the entire cave, even reaching Brady Yellow, Walter Simmons, and Brian Graham by the entrance, who could distinctly feel this aura.

"Such strong 'Sword Intent'!"

Walter Simmons's pupils suddenly narrowed.

As a sword cultivator, Walter Simmons had a special sensitivity to 'Sword Intent,' a sense far surpassing that of Brady Yellow and Brian Graham.

Whoosh!

Just then, his attention abruptly shifted, focusing on the 'giant sword' about to collide with the giant hammer.

He could see that Wyatt Barnes had not used any martial skills.

Similarly, the black-clothed youth had not invoked any martial skills.

The clash between them was more like a brute force contest!

They discarded all intricate techniques, clashing purely with strength, battling in a bloody and passionate display truly fitting of a warrior!

Boom!

The giant hammer in the hands of the black-clothed youth, like the 'Hammer of the Thunder God,' ferociously fell, continuously scattering the air currents around it like a boulder hitting a calm lake surface, causing countless ripples and waves to spread.

The strength of more than thirteen hundred ancient Horned Dragons endowed the giant hammer with immense power and instilled deep confidence within the black-clothed youth from the depths of his heart!

Whoosh!

Wyatt Barnes, along with his sword transformed into the 'giant sword,' suddenly swept forward to meet the falling giant hammer of the black-clothed youth, not showing the slightest fear as he confronted it.

Unlike the black-clothed youth, who with hammer dragged the power of heaven and earth to converge into the 'illusion of more than thirteen hundred ancient Horned Dragons.'

From the moment Wyatt Barnes made his move, it had all happened in the blink of an eye. The power of heaven and earth was still swirling in the void where he had passed, not yet having the chance to gather into a celestial phenomenon.

"Trying to block a moving car with a mantis' arm!"

As Wyatt Barnes, together with his spirit sword, transformed into a 'giant sword' and swept towards him, the young man in black, filled with disdain, saw his huge hammer wrapped in earthy yellow energy swell increasingly, crossing the sky towards the 'giant sword' and smashing down at it.

Boom!

The huge hammer shattered the air again, falling from the sky, a mere inch away from the giant sword.

Whoosh!

The giant sword, fearless, met it head-on. The surging sword light and the hammer collided harshly, emitting deafening blasts.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

...

The sword light on the 'giant sword' seemed to contain endless power, continually erupting while clashing with the young man's hammer.

In contrast, as the young man's hammer struck down, it unleashed rolling earthy yellow energy, fully unleashing the 'Triple High-Level Earth Realm' with the 'Power of Earth'!

However, it didn't take long for the young man in black to change his expression.

He noticed that the power of the 'giant sword,' embodying both Wyatt and his sword, was continuously rising and growing stronger, quickly overpowering the energy infused in his hammer.

When he saw the heavenly phenomenon finally taking shape above Wyatt's head, his face drastically changed, and his mind faltered.

In battles between strong opponents, one must never be distracted!

At this moment, the young man in black had committed a grave error, causing the power of his hammer to temporarily lose its enduring strength.

Swish!

The continuously rising power of the giant sword, facing the change in the hammer's power caused by the young man's distraction, swept out destructively and fiercely collided with the hammer, engulfing the young man from head to toe.

Boom!

A loud bang ensued, and the young man, together with his hammer, was sent flying, crashing into the cave wall like a loosed arrow, embedding and hanging there.

Of course, it was mainly the young man's hammer that was embedded in the wall, with him hanging from it.

"Wow!!"

The young man in black felt his blood surge and his throat sweeten, unable to hold back a mouthful of dark blood.

Who knew that this mouthful of blood would start an uncontrollable sequence, as each time he opened his mouth, he spewed a pool of dazzling, eye-catching dark blood, quickly forming a small stream on the ground.

After a while, he finally regained his senses, his face pallid as he looked toward the distant figure in purple, Wyatt Barnes.

By the time Wyatt had sent the young man in black flying, the 'giant sword' formed between Wyatt and the near-Emperor Grade spirit sword had already vanished, and even the spirit sword was put away by him.

Wyatt stood in the air, with the heavenly phenomenon above his head gradually dissipating.

The disappearing heavenly phenomenon contained the shadows of fifteen hundred ancient Horned Dragons, a full strength of one hundred and forty more than the young man in black had managed to muster.

Crushing!

Absolute crushing!

And this was without Wyatt communicating with the 'Realm of Earth' to harness the 'Power of Earth.'

Otherwise, what would now be dissipating wouldn't be the shadows of fifteen hundred ancient Horned Dragons, but rather fifteen hundred and fifty!

Even so, the mere fifteen hundred ancient Horned Dragon shadows still brought immense shock to Brady Yellow, Walter Simmons, and Brian Graham.

"One... One thousand five hundred ancient Horned Dragons' strength?!"

Brady's eyes were wide open, his entire demeanor stupefied.

Walter and Brian were similarly stunned.

Wyatt's strength had completely shocked them.

Whoosh!

Wyatt stepped through the air, arriving in no time in front of the young man in black who still clutched his hammer and hung on the cave wall, facing him with an expression of calm.

The young man in black's face changed, fear creeping into his eyes.

Right before he was sent flying, he had seen the fifteen hundred ancient Horned Dragon shadows forming above Wyatt's head.

At that moment, he had already realized that he was no match for Wyatt!

"You... are you really a disciple from the Third-Rate Power 'Five Elements Sect'?"

The muscles on the young man's face trembled incessantly, his tone filled with disbelief.

"Dead men need not know my identity!"

Wyatt threw the words previously said to him by the young man back at him, causing the young man's face to change drastically, and as he stirred up his earthy yellow energy trying to struggle, it was in vain.

Just as Wyatt spoke, his hand had already been charging up. As soon as his words fell, a palm containing the strength of thousands of ancient Horned Dragons swept out, striking the young man in black.

Boom!

Instantly, the earthy yellow energy that had just begun to rise from the young man was shattered, and he was slammed by Wyatt's palm into the cave wall, embedding him into it like a mural.

Whoosh!

Immediately afterward, Wyatt raised his hand and took off the 'Storage Ring' worn on the young man's hand, conducting the 'blood recognition' ritual without any hesitation.

Level Eight Emperor Realm Wind Profound Mystery fragments!

Wyatt's mood swayed, filled with excitement.

Chapter 977: Megan Coldring

Soon, as Wyatt Barnes' thoughts moved, he saw a fragment emanating a cyan energy within the Storage Ring. It was indeed the 'Wind Profound Mystery Fragment.'

"This 'Wind Profound Mystery Fragment,' surrounded by flickering cyan energy, is much more profound than the one I initially obtained from the 'Martial Emperor's Treasure Trove.'"

Wyatt Barnes raised an eyebrow, thinking to himself.

Initially, he obtained three 'Profound Mystery Fragments' from the 'Martial Emperor's Treasure Trove,' all of which were 'Grade Three Emperor Realm Profound Mystery Fragments,' including one 'Grade Three Emperor Realm Wind Profound Mystery Fragment.'

However, compared to this 'Level Eight Emperor Realm Wind Profound Mystery Fragment,' that 'Grade Three Emperor Realm Wind Profound Mystery Fragment' is hardly worth mentioning.

"Now that I have this 'Level Eight Emperor Realm Wind Profound Mystery Fragment'... the 'Grade Three Emperor Realm Wind Profound Mystery Fragment' can be used to deal with the Sect."

Wyatt Barnes had an idea stirring in his heart.

This time, entering the 'Martial Emperor's Secret Treasury,' any disciple of the Five Elements Sect who obtained a 'Profound Mystery Fragment' had to turn it over to the Sect.

If they obtained a second 'Profound Mystery Fragment,' or even a third, they could claim it as their own.

Now, Wyatt Barnes was prepared to hand over the 'Grade Three Emperor Realm Wind Profound Mystery Fragment' he initially obtained from the 'Martial Emperor's Treasure Trove' to the Sect, as a way to repay the Sect for nurturing him.

For him, who had obtained the 'Level Eight Emperor Realm Wind Profound Mystery Fragment,' the 'Grade Three Emperor Realm Wind Profound Mystery Fragment' was dispensable.

"Wyatt Barnes! When did you become so strong?"

At that moment, from the entrance of the distant cave where the three had stood stupefied, Brady Yellow was the first to react. While approaching Wyatt Barnes, he looked at him with a face full of astonishment, his eyes still filled with disbelief.

Everything that had happened just now felt like a dream to him!

Walter Simmons and Brian Graham were also roused by Brady Yellow's voice and reentered the cave, walking towards Wyatt Barnes.

Their gazes toward Wyatt Barnes were filled with disbelief and wonder as well.

In their eyes,

The strength Wyatt Barnes had just displayed was too exaggerated, completely beyond their imagination!

Faced with their astonishment, Wyatt Barnes just smiled and didn't say much.

Whoosh!

At the same time, Wyatt Barnes' gaze turned to the young man in black he had blasted and embedded into the cave wall, with his eyes then falling upon the giant hammer beside him.

"A Grade One Spirit Weapon!"

Wyatt Barnes reached out and pulled the Grade One Spirit Weapon hammer from the cave wall, weighing it in his hand, "It's quite heavy..."

"Wyatt Barnes, look at what you use, 'swords'... As for this giant hammer, it doesn't seem to suit you at all. Why don't you... hehe..."

Without knowing when, Brady had approached Wyatt Barnes, his eyes gleaming as he stared at the giant hammer in Wyatt's hand, unable to resist rubbing his hands eagerly.

"What? You're saying this hammer doesn't suit me, it suits you?"

Wyatt Barnes couldn't help but laugh, seeing right through what Brady Yellow was thinking. He simply found the Grade One Spirit Weapon hammer interesting and wanted it for himself.

"Hehe."

Brady Yellow chuckled awkwardly, scratching the back of his head with an embarrassed smile, showing an uncharacteristically honest expression for once.

"If you want it, take it."

Wyatt Barnes shook his head and casually tossed the hammer to Brady Yellow, as if discarding trash.

Brady Yellow hadn't expected Wyatt Barnes to give him the Grade One Spirit Weapon hammer so readily. He caught it somewhat frantically and looked at Wyatt with fervent eyes, "Wyatt Barnes, this... this 'Grade One Spirit Weapon,' are you really giving it to me?"

"What? You don't want it? If you don't, I'll give it to Brother Graham... I think Brother Graham is definitely interested in this 'Grade One Spirit Weapon Hammer.'"

Wyatt Barnes teased with a smirk.

"Want it! Of course, I want it! How could I not want it!"

Hearing Wyatt Barnes' words and seeing Brian Graham walking slowly over, his gaze fixed on the hammer in his hand, Brady Yellow immediately panicked.

He was genuinely afraid that Wyatt Barnes would take the hammer back and give it to Brian Graham.

"Brother Graham, later I'll help you upgrade your Wine Gourd to a 'Grade One Spirit Weapon'... The 'Grade One Spirit Weapon' I refine is much stronger than this hammer."

Wyatt Barnes looked at Brian Graham, who had taken an interest in the hammer, and spoke to him through Origin Force condensed voice.

Whether it was Brady Yellow or Brian Graham, both were his friends, and he didn't wish to show favoritism.

Brian Graham's pupils shrank slightly when he heard Wyatt's words, and he asked with some astonishment through Origin Force condensed voice, "Elder Brother Ling Tian, you... you can forge 'Grade One Spirit Weapons'?"

Forging a 'Grade One Spirit Weapon' signified something significant, and he certainly understood what it meant.

It signified that Wyatt Barnes was now a 'Grade One Artifact Refiner.'

A Grade One Artifact Refiner was not something that third-rate powers like the current Blade and Sword Sect had. Even those 'second-rate powers' didn't possess one.

Even 'first-rate powers' might not necessarily have a 'Grade One Artifact Refiner'!

With this in mind, one could understand the prestige of a 'Grade One Artifact Refiner' on the Cloud Skies Continent.

"Yes."

Wyatt Barnes nodded.

"The 'Grade One Spirit Weapon' you forge for me, will it be stronger than the hammer Brady has?"

Brian Graham's breathing grew somewhat rapid as he couldn't help but ask through Origin Force condensed voice.

"That broken hammer?"

Wyatt Barnes chuckled bitterly and shook his head, this Brother Graham really underestimated him, didn't he?

"A broken hammer?"

Wyatt's words made Brian Graham involuntarily freeze, and when he realized what had been said, the corner of his mouth twitched.

That was a 'Grade One Spiritual Weapon'!

And in Elder Brother Ling Tian's mouth, it had become a 'broken hammer'?

Even if you wanted to belittle someone, this wasn't the way to do it, right?

"Isn't a 'Grade One Spiritual Weapon' that amplifies 'eighty-eight percent' just a broken hammer?"

Wyatt said as a matter of course.

"Are you implying... that you can refine a 'Grade One Spiritual Weapon' that amplifies more than 'eighty-eight percent'?"

Brian Graham's eyes lit up and, for a moment, his breathing became even more rapid.

"If I couldn't refine a 'Grade One Spiritual Weapon' that amplifies 'ninety percent', I would hardly dare to call myself a 'Grade One Artifact Refiner'."

Wyatt continued to speak with condensed Origin Force in his voice.

"Amplifies 'ninety percent'?"

Brian Graham was stunned, completely stunned.

Although the 'Grade Three Spiritual Weapon Wine Gourd' in his hand was the very one that Wyatt had refined to amplify 'seventy percent'—a supremely top-quality item among Grade Three Spiritual Weapons—he was already shocked by the powerful amplifying ability of Wyatt's Grade Three Spiritual Weapons back then.

But he had never imagined that

Wyatt could now refine a 'Grade One Spiritual Weapon' that amplifies 'ninety percent'!

Such a 'Grade One Spiritual Weapon' could also be counted as a supremely top-quality item amongst its peers!

However, seeing the confidence in Wyatt's eyes, Brian Graham didn't doubt his words at all. Bursting into a hearty laugh, he no longer paid any attention to the giant hammer in Brady Yellow's hands.

In his view, compared to the 'Grade One Spiritual Weapon Wine Gourd' he was about to get, that giant hammer was nothing but a piece of 'trash' unworthy of mention!

"Wyatt Barnes..."

Walter Simmons looked at Wyatt, a deep bitterness curling around his lips. This man he had met when he was eighteen had now grown to such an extent.

Originally, in his view,

it was already a defiance of the heavens for him to have come out from a small kingdom within the Great Turdo Dynasty and to have achieved what he had today.

But compared to the purple-clad youth before him, his achievements seemed insignificant.

"Let's go!"

Wyatt's eyebrows lifted as he called out to the three of them, continuing on their way toward the 'central region' of the Martial Emperor's secret hoard.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

Their figures moved with incredible speed, like four bolts of lightning, and in the blink of an eye, they disappeared behind an exit of the cave.

Not long after Wyatt and his companions had left, another three swift shadows passed through the cave, their destination clearly aimed at the 'central region' of the Martial Emperor's secret hoard.

They were obviously intending to head for the 'central region' of the Martial Emperor's secret hoard, just like Wyatt and his companions.

As the three people passed through this cave, they seemed to sense something and paused in succession, revealing their true appearances.

They were three young men who appeared to be around thirty-five years old.

"That is..."

After a moment, the three young men noticed the 'corpse' embedded in the side wall of the cave and their pupils contracted sharply.

"To embed a person's corpse so deeply into this thick cave wall... The strength of that individual must be at least comparable to that of over a thousand ancient Horned Dragons!"

One of the young men exclaimed with a look of shock on his face.

The other two young men, upon hearing this, also wore serious expressions on their faces.

Soon, another young man murmured in astonishment, "Even in our Emerging Cloud Sect, as well as the Impermanence Sect and North Nether Sect, the most outstanding young warriors of the current generation... even with spiritual weapons, it seems there aren't more than ten who possess such strength, right?"

From what this young man said, it was clear that he and the two others beside him were disciples from the Emerging Cloud Sect, a second-rate power in the Northern Desert.

"Eh, this person looks somewhat familiar?"

The last young man's gaze fell upon the body of the black-clad young man embedded in the wall, and soon he raised his eyebrows with a hunch that this young man in black was familiar to him.

"You know him?"

For a moment, the other two young men turned their gazes towards the one who had spoken, their faces filled with curiosity.

Soon, the man who found the figure on the wall familiar approached step by step, still filled with curiosity.

The closer he got, the more he felt that the young man in black looked familiar.

The other two followed along, also stepping up to the wall to look at the body of the black-clothed young man that hung there like a painting.

Upon clearly seeing the face of the body, the pupils of the young man who had taken the lead inevitably shrank.

"Is this... is this 'Megan Coldring'?!"

Quickly, the young man's face changed, and his eyes were filled with incredulity, as if he had seen something that he couldn't believe.

Chapter 978: Rey Jones's Plan

"What did you say? Megan Coldring? You... you're saying he is 'Megan Coldring'?!"

Recognizing the young man in black embedded on the wall, the Emerging Cloud Sect disciple had barely finished speaking when he made the pupils of the other two sect disciples shrink, with one of them suddenly asking in shock.

"Could you have mistaken someone else? Megan Coldring... how could Megan Coldring possibly be killed? Megan Coldring, even across the three major 'second-rate forces' of our Northern Desert among the current generation of youths, ranks among the 'top six'!"

Another was also wearing a face of disbelief.

"I could not have recognized him wrongly... I had once met Megan Coldring in a brief encounter! He may not recognize me, but I certainly recognize him."

The Emerging Cloud Sect disciple who recognized 'Megan Coldring' shook his head, speaking with certainty.

Seeing how certain this Emerging Cloud Sect disciple was, the one who doubted his recognition completely dismissed his suspicions, his eyebrows knitting together as he muttered, "The ones who entered 'Martial Emperor's Secret Treasure' this time... probably only our sect's 'Senior Brother Moore,' and those two from the Impermanence Sect and North Nether Sect, might have the capability to kill him."

"That one from North Nether Sect and Megan Coldring are from the same sect, impossible for him to kill him... could it be Senior Brother Moore or that one from Impermanence Sect who killed Megan Coldring?"

As this Emerging Cloud Sect disciple spoke, his eyes flashed and he couldn't help but speculate.

"It's the only possibility... apart from Senior Brother Moore and that person from Impermanence Sect, I can't think of anyone else who could've killed 'Megan Coldring'!"

The last Emerging Cloud Sect disciple agreed, "After all, even our sect's second-strongest youth 'Ledger Leigh' and the second-strongest youth from Impermanence Sect 'Rey Jones', in this place where one can freely utilize 'Earth Force,' are unlikely to match Megan Coldring who has mastered the 'Earth realm'!"

"Who would have thought that the second-strongest youth of North Nether Sect, 'Megan Coldring', would die here," the disciple who recognized 'Megan Coldring' couldn't help but sigh, deeply feeling the fragility of life.

Meanwhile, Wyatt Barnes, who was headed towards the 'central area' of the Martial Emperor's Secret Treasure alongside Brady Yellow, Walter Simmons, and Brian Graham, naturally did not know that two scapegoats were taking the blame for him.

"I wonder how Noel Walton is doing right now."

Brady Yellow, who was traveling with Wyatt and the others, frowned slightly, voicing his worry.

"Noel Walton?"

Hearing Brady Yellow's words, Wyatt couldn't help but sigh, then muttered, "He... is already dead."

"What?!"

Even though Wyatt's voice was not loud, Brady still heard him, and his face couldn't help but change dramatically, "Wyatt, are you... are you serious?"

"Yes."

Wyatt nodded, then recounted the incident of finding Noel Walton's body and burying him, without holding anything back.

"Damn it!"

Brady's face turned ashen, his eyes tinting crimson as he couldn't help but clench his fist and rage, "If I ever find out who killed Noel Walton, I, Brady Yellow, will not let him get away with it!"

His friendship with Noel Walton was even stronger than the bond between Wyatt and Noel Walton.

When he first saw Noel Walton's body, even Wyatt couldn't help but become enraged, let alone the hot-tempered Brady, whose anger surged tremendously.

Wyatt shook his head and sighed.

He knew in his heart that finding out who killed Noel Walton was almost an impossible task!

Not to mention that they didn't know if the killer was still alive; even if he was, unless the killer revealed it himself, there was no way they could find out who was responsible for Noel Walton's death.

Wyatt and the others continued on their journey, drawing ever closer to the 'central area' of the Martial Emperor's Secret Treasure.

"Elder Brother Ling Tian!"

A few days later, just as Wyatt and his three companions had entered a spacious cave, they heard a voice from the other end of the cave, tinged with a hint of surprise.

Hearing the voice, Wyatt found it somewhat familiar, but he couldn't recall where he had heard it before.

When he turned his head and saw one of the two young men approaching from a distance, his eyes couldn't help but brighten, "Rey Jones!"

The person calling him was none other than the Impermanence Sect disciple 'Rey Jones,' who he had once had a brief acquaintance with.

Initially, although it was just a one-time transaction with Rey Jones, the candidness inadvertently shown by Jones had won him genuine respect from the bottom of his heart.

"Hmm?"

Soon enough, the smile that had appeared on Wyatt's face froze.

The reason was that, at this very moment, he noticed that the burly young man beside Rey Jones was staring at him intently.

In the depths of the burly young man's eyes, there was plainly a hint of greed.

For a moment, Wyatt vaguely guessed some things; it seems that the burly young man had also heard the deliberately spread 'news' by others trying to frame him.

The news that he had obtained a 'Mystery Fragment.'

Otherwise, there was no way the man would look at him with such eyes upon their first meeting!

Since the burly young man knew about it, Rey Jones must have known as well.

Wyatt's gaze then shifted back to Rey Jones, intentionally focusing on the latter's look when facing him, but he found that Jones's eyes held no ill-intent.

"It seems, I did not misjudge him after all."

Wyatt's mind stirred, silently thinking.

Rey Jones might have also heard about him obtaining the "Profound Mystery Fragment," but he didn't develop any greed because of it, which is extremely rare.

"Elder Brother Ling Tian, I really didn't expect to meet you here... Who are these three?"

While greeting Wyatt Barnes, Rey Jones looked towards Brady Yellow, Walter Simmons, and Brian Graham who were standing beside Wyatt.

"They are my friends."

Wyatt responded with a slight smile.

Rey nodded, returned a friendly smile to the three friends, and showed no superiority despite being a disciple of the second-tier power 'Emerging Cloud Sect,' which made Brady and his friends feel much more at ease.

"And who might this be?"

Wyatt's gaze fell once again on the robust young man next to Rey, a flash of brilliance in his eyes as he inquired.

His recently extended mental force told him.

This brawny youth, like Rey Jones and a black-clothed youth Wyatt had eliminated not long ago, was all have ascended to the Third Level of the Transforming Void Realm!

"The 'Impermanence Sect' truly is a place full of hidden dragons and crouching tigers... Besides Rey Jones, there is actually another disciple who is no less than Rey."

Wyatt couldn't help but sigh internally.

Soon, Wyatt realized he had misunderstood.

"Elder Brother Ling Tian, this is 'Ledger Leigh' from the Emerging Cloud Sect, the second strongest among the young generation of our sect."

Rey introduced Ledger Leigh to Wyatt with a smile.

A disciple of the Emerging Cloud Sect?

Upon hearing Rey's introduction of Ledger, Wyatt knew he'd guessed wrong; the brawny young man was not a disciple of the Impermanence Sect but of the Emerging Cloud Sect.

Seeing that Rey introduced Ledger to him, Wyatt, although not particularly interested in Ledger, still managed a polite smile for the sake of Rey's face, as a form of greeting.

However, his smile quickly stiffened.

It was because in response to his beaming smile, Ledger completely ignored it, as if he hadn't seen it at all.

This caused Wyatt to feel quite dissatisfied.

"Elder Brother Ling Tian!"

Just at that moment, a clear voice reached Wyatt's ears—Rey had sent his voice to him using Origin Force.

"Hmm?"

Wyatt turned towards Rey, his face inevitably showing some confusion, completely unaware of why Rey would suddenly use Origin Force to speak to him.

"Elder Brother Ling Tian, I heard you obtained a 'Profound Mystery Fragment'?"

The voice of Rey continued to reach Wyatt's ears, now with a hint of urgency.

A Profound Mystery Fragment?!

Upon hearing Rey's words, Wyatt furrowed his brows slightly. His first thought was that Rey also believed the rumor that framed him and developed greed for the 'Profound Mystery Fragment' he held.

Soon, Wyatt realized he had misunderstood Rey.

"Elder Brother Ling Tian, don't get me wrong."

Seeing Wyatt frowning, Rey seemed to guess his thoughts and quickly explained using Origin Force, "I just wanted to know which kind of 'Profound Mystery Fragment' you got... I happen to have a 'Level Eight Emperor Realm Thunder Profound Fragment' in my possession, and nobody in the high ranks of our Impermanence Sect can use it."

"I was thinking, if the 'Profound Mystery Fragment' in your hands can be used by the high ranks of our sect, maybe we could trade again."

Rey explained his intentions in one breath.

Trade?

Upon hearing Rey mention the 'Level Eight Emperor Realm Thunder Profound Fragment,' Wyatt's pupils shrunk involuntarily, his eyes filled with an intense desire.

When Rey finished speaking, Wyatt immediately became interested.

"In my possession, I currently have five 'Profound Mystery Fragments'... However, the 'Seventh-Order Emperor Realm Earth Mystique Fragment' and 'Level Eight Emperor Realm Wind Profound Fragment' definitely cannot be traded with him!"

Wyatt thought to himself, "That leaves the three Profound Mystery Fragments I originally received in the 'Emperor's Treasure Vault'... those three fragments are all 'Third Order Emperor Realm Profound Mystery Fragments.'

"Perhaps, I can try to trade the 'Third Order Emperor Realm Wind Profound Fragment' with him... as long as he is willing, I will obtain his 'Level Eight Emperor Realm Thunder Profound Fragment'!"

"At that time, the 'Third Order Emperor Realm Thunder Profound Fragment' in my possession will be redundant, and I can hand it over to the sect."

In that moment, Wyatt thought of many things.

Coming to his senses, Wyatt looked at Rey and spoke using Origin Force, "I'm just afraid you won't agree... The 'Profound Mystery Fragment' I got is only a 'Third Order Emperor Realm Profound Mystery Fragment.'"

A Third Order Emperor Realm Profound Mystery Fragment?

As expected, upon hearing Wyatt's words, Rey's brows couldn't help but furrow.

The gap between a 'Third Order Emperor Realm Profound Mystery Fragment' and a 'Level Eight Emperor Realm Profound Mystery Fragment' is quite significant for a Martial Emperor Realm martial artist.

However, for martial artists at the peak of the Void Realm seeking to break through to the Martial Emperor Realm using a 'Profound Mystery Fragment,' the difference between the two fragments isn't that great.

Chapter 979: Exchange

Seeing Rey Jones furrow his brow, Wyatt Barnes couldn't help but feel anxious.

Although he was confident he could take down Rey Jones and seize the "Level Eight Emperor Realm Thunder Profound Mystery fragment" from him, he had never intended to do so.

Back when he and Rey Jones first met, he asked himself if he could match Rey Jones without using a "talisman," and the answer was not necessarily affirmative.

At that time, in Rey Jones's eyes, he was just a regular disciple from a "third-rate power" who could be easily killed and robbed of his "realm fragment."

But Rey Jones didn't do that; instead, he exchanged "realm fragments" with him in a straightforward and honorable manner.

Because of this, Wyatt held a good impression of Rey Jones.

Now, when it came to his turn, he naturally couldn't go against his principles and attack Rey Jones.

Although he didn't consider himself a particularly good person and wouldn't feel any guilt for taking treasures from someone he didn't know,

the person he was now facing was Rey Jones, the one from the past who hadn't taken his "realm fragment" just because he was a disciple from a third-rate power.

Of Wyatt's current thoughts, Rey Jones naturally had no knowledge.

If he knew of Wyatt's current strength and his thoughts at that moment, he would have felt extremely relieved, grateful to have escaped a disaster.

"What kind of 'Profound Mystery fragment' do you have in your hand?"

Just as Wyatt was feeling somewhat uneasy, Rey Jones's voice reached his ears, crystal clear.

Suddenly, Wyatt's eyes lit up.

He knew that Rey Jones was interested in the "Profound Mystery fragment" he held.

"Wind Profound Mystery fragment!"

Wyatt gazed at Rey Jones, articulating each word with Origin Force-infused clarity.

Quickly, he saw a flash of joy in Rey Jones's eyes.

This scene made Wyatt's heart pound, and he couldn't help but inwardly exclaim, 'There's a chance!'

As joy flickered in Rey Jones's eyes, he felt conflicted.

The "Level Eight Emperor Realm Thunder Profound Mystery fragment" in his hand was, without a doubt, much more valuable than the "Level Three Emperor Realm Wind Profound Mystery fragment" in Wyatt's hand.

However, no one at a high level in the Impermanence Sect could make use of the Thunder Profound Mystery fragment because none of them had comprehended the "Ninth Order High-Level Thunder Intent."

Only a martial artist who had comprehended the "Ninth Order High-Level Thunder Intent" could, through the "Thunder Profound Mystery fragment," comprehend the "Thunder Profound" and open the gate to the "Martial Emperor Realm."

The "Wind Profound Mystery fragment," however, could be useful to the second strongest in the Impermanence Sect, the Sect Leader, and also his master.

"Once I have the 'Wind Profound Mystery fragment' in Wyatt's hands, the master will surely be able to break through to the 'Martial Emperor Realm' in one go! Becoming the second Martial Emperor powerhouse in our Impermanence Sect."

Thinking of this, Rey Jones's mood swung, filled with excitement.

However, while he was excited, he also thought of the grade of the "Emperor Realm Wind Profound Mystery fragment" in Wyatt's hands.

Unconsciously, a hint of bitterness appeared at the corners of his mouth.

In the end, Rey Jones made his decision.

Exchange!

The "Level Eight Emperor Realm Thunder Profound Mystery fragment" in his hands would certainly be much more precious than the "Level Three Emperor Realm Wind Profound Mystery fragment" in Wyatt's hands if put on the market.

But the problem was:

Even if he brought his "Level Eight Emperor Realm Thunder Profound Mystery fragment" back to the Impermanence Sect, it wouldn't be possible to create a new Martial Emperor powerhouse within the sect any time soon.

As for when the Impermanence Sect might have someone who comprehends the "Ninth Order High-Level Thunder Intent" and could use the "Thunder Profound Mystery fragment" to learn the "Thunder Profound," who knows how long that would take.

For the current Impermanence Sect, the value of the "Level Three Emperor Realm Wind
Profound Mystery fragment" far exceeds that of the "Level Eight Emperor Realm Thunder
Profound Mystery fragment."

"Elder Brother Ling Tian, I'd like to exchange the 'Level Eight Emperor Realm Thunder
Profound Mystery fragment' in my hand for your 'Level Three Emperor Realm Wind
Profound Mystery fragment'... Would you be willing?"

Rey Jones looked at Wyatt, his eyes showing longing, and asked with his Origin Force-infused
voice.

Wyatt didn't speak. Like a bolt of lightning, he raised his hand and shot out a fragment
glowing with green energy straight toward Rey Jones.

He answered Rey Jones's question with the most direct action.

Rey Jones didn't expect Wyatt to be so straightforward and trusting, readily tossing the "Level
Three Emperor Realm Wind Profound Mystery fragment" to him.

Wasn't he worried that Rey Jones would keep the "Profound Mystery fragment" for himself?

Of course, while Rey Jones thought this, he didn't slow down his movements. Catching the
"Wind Profound Mystery fragment," he simultaneously took out a fragment glowing with
purple energy and threw it to Wyatt.

It was the "Level Eight Emperor Realm Thunder Profound Mystery fragment" he had
obtained.

Thud!

Wyatt's hand moved like lightning to catch the Thunder Profound Mystery fragment, gripping
it tightly.

"Hit the jackpot!"

At that moment, though Wyatt's face remained as calm as possible, his heart was stirring uncontrollably.

Exchanging a "Level Three Emperor Realm Profound Mystery fragment" for a "Level Eight Emperor Realm Profound Mystery fragment."

If this were to spread, it would drop jaws everywhere!

The exchange of "Profound Mystery fragments" between Wyatt and Rey Jones was extremely quick, everything proceeding like lightning, so much so, that Brady Yellow, Walter Simmons, and Brian Graham didn't catch a clear view of their actions.

However, aside from those two and Brady, there was another person present.

Ledger Leigh, the second strongest youth of his generation from the Impermanence Sect.

From beginning to end, Wyatt Barnes and Rey Jones' movements were all within Ledger Leigh's sights.

Especially when Wyatt Barnes and Rey Jones exchanged the "Profound Mystery Fragments," his gaze towards Wyatt Barnes grew greedy, and had it not been for his consideration of Rey Jones, he would have made his move long ago.

Wyatt Barnes certainly noticed Ledger Leigh's gaze, but he didn't take it seriously.

His mind was entirely on the "Level Eight Emperor Realm Thunder Profound Fragment" in his hand, and upon a single thought, he treasured it as a rare artifact and stored it in his Storage Ring.

"Now, the three types of 'Natural Intent' I have comprehended all have corresponding high-level 'Emperor Realm Profound Fragment'... As long as I comprehend them to the 'Ninth-Order High Level,' I can use those three 'Profound Fragments' to further transform them into 'Emperor Realm Profound Mysteries'!"

Thinking this, Wyatt Barnes felt a surge of excitement.

Even just one 'Profound Fragment' that he could use meant he was one step closer to the 'Martial Emperor Realm.'

And now, he had the corresponding 'Profound Fragments' for all four 'realms' he had comprehended.

"Seventh-Order Emperor Realm Earth Mystique Fragment, Level Eight Emperor Realm Wind Profound Fragment, Level Eight Emperor Realm Thunder Profound Fragment, Third-Order Emperor Realm Sword Profound Fragment..."

"As for that 'Third-Order Emperor Realm Thunder Profound Fragment,' I shall submit it to the Sect!"

Wyatt Barnes secretly planned.

Originally, after he killed that black-clothed youth suspected to be a disciple of the North Nether Sect and obtained the "Level Eight Emperor Realm Wind Profound Fragment" from him, he intended to submit the "Third-Order Emperor Realm Wind Profound Fragment" to the Sect.

But who could have imagined that his encounter with Rey Jones would bring him another stroke of serendipity!

By exchanging one 'Third-Order Emperor Realm Wind Profound Fragment' for Rey Jones' 'Level Eight Emperor Realm Thunder Profound Fragment,' he struck a hugely profitable deal.

The 'Third-Order Emperor Realm Wind Profound Fragment' that ended up in Rey Jones' hands naturally wouldn't be submitted to the Sect anymore.

Therefore, he had to submit another 'Profound Fragment.'

Fortunately, having obtained the 'Level Eight Emperor Realm Thunder Profound Fragment' from Rey Jones, his other 'Third-Order Emperor Realm Thunder Profound Fragment' became superfluous and perfect for submission to the Sect.

"There were a total of five 'Profound Fragments' on the outer perimeter of the 'Martial Emperor's Secret Treasure' ... Now, three of them are in my hands. I wonder who has obtained the other two?"

With a flash in his eyes, Wyatt Barnes couldn't help but feel curious.

"Elder Brother Ling Tian, you guys must also be heading to the 'Central Area' of the Martial Emperor's Secret Treasure, right?"

Suddenly, a voice reached Wyatt Barnes' ears. When he came back to his senses and looked towards the source of the voice, he found Rey Jones smiling at him.

"Yes."

Wyatt Barnes nodded.

"Since that's the case, let's travel together... I'm heading there too."

Rey Jones suggested.

"All right."

Wyatt Barnes agreed.

However, standing to the side, Ledger Leigh's face turned extremely unsightly after hearing Rey Jones' words.

Rey Jones' actions clearly showed he intended to protect Wyatt Barnes to prevent him from snatching the 'Profound Fragments' from Wyatt.

"Rey Jones, now that you've gotten what you wanted... there's no need for us to continue cooperating!"

A fierce light flashed in Ledger Leigh's eyes, his gaze resting on Rey Jones for a moment before focusing on Wyatt Barnes, filled with a murderous intent as if he couldn't wait to kill Wyatt Barnes to quench his hatred.

Whoosh!

As soon as he finished speaking, Ledger Leigh rushed forward, heading straight for the direction of the 'Central Area' of the Martial Emperor's Secret Treasure and disappeared from the sight of Wyatt Barnes and the other four in the blink of an eye.

Rey Jones was unconcerned with Ledger Leigh's departure.

Wyatt Barnes was even less concerned. After signaling Brady Yellow and the other two, he continued on his way with Rey Jones to the 'Central Area' of the Martial Emperor's Secret Treasure.

That place was also their destination for this trip.

Of course, it wasn't the ultimate destination.

After reaching the 'Central Area' of the Martial Emperor's Secret Treasure and competing for treasures with other young powerhouses until the end, if they survived, each person would have to exit through the same 'entrance' they used to come in.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

...

Their speed was very fast, and they were getting closer and closer to the central area.

"Rey Jones, since you are a disciple of the Impermanence Sect, you must be quite familiar with some of the disciples from the North Nether Sect, right?"

On the way, Wyatt Barnes curiously inquired of Rey Jones.

"As for disciples of the North Nether Sect... I only know the more outstanding ones."

Rey Jones said, "Why the sudden question? Do you have friends in the 'North Nether Sect'?"

"No."

Wyatt Barnes shook his head, casually remarking, "I'm just asking... In the North Nether Sect, is there a young powerhouse who has comprehended the 'Third-Order High Level Earth Intent' and has reached the 'Transforming Void Realm Level Three'?"

"Are you talking about 'Megan Coldring'?"

As soon as Wyatt Barnes' words fell, Rey Jones involuntarily paused.

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"Megan Coldring?"

Wyatt Barnes raised an eyebrow, recalling the figure of the young man in black who he had killed not long ago, "It seems that he really was a disciple of the North Nether Sect."

"Hmm."

Rey Jones nodded, "In the current generation of young disciples in the North Nether Sect who have comprehended the 'Triple High-Order Earth Realm' and are also at the 'Transforming Void Realm Level Three'... there's only 'Megan Coldring'."

"Megan Coldring is the second strongest among the contemporary young generation in the North Nether Sect, his strength is truly extraordinary! If we were to fight in the sky, I would be more or less evenly matched with him... but if I encountered him here in the 'Martial Emperor's Secret Treasure,' I would be no match for him."

Towards the end, Rey Jones's tone carried a hint of wariness.

Wyatt Barnes nodded; he naturally understood why Rey Jones would say such a thing.

The Martial Emperor's Secret Treasure, comprised of caverns hidden deep underground, allowed martial artists who had comprehended the Earth Realm to freely connect with the earth and borrow the 'Power of Earth.'

"So that guy's name was 'Megan Coldring'!"

At this moment, Brady Yellow suddenly realized and couldn't help but mockingly laugh, "So what if he's the second strongest among the young generation in the second-rate 'North Nether Sect'? He was still killed by Wyatt Barnes!"

By the end, a smug look appeared on Brady's face, as if it was not Wyatt Barnes but he himself who had killed Megan Coldring.

At Brady Yellow's words, Wyatt Barnes, Walter Simmons, and Brian Graham had no reaction.

But to Rey Jones, those words struck him like thunder, causing him to freeze in place and no longer continue flying forward.

Seeing Rey Jones stop, the four of them, including Wyatt Barnes, also came to a halt.

"Elder Brother Ling Tian, you... you killed Megan Coldring?"

Rey Jones looked towards Wyatt Barnes, his eyes wide with shock and disbelief.

Although, when he found out that Wyatt Barnes had acquired a fragment of 'Profound Mystery,' he had vaguely guessed that Wyatt's strength was not simple and was far stronger than he had imagined.

But never had he expected that Wyatt could actually have the ability to kill Megan Coldring!

Megan Coldring, whose cultivation and comprehended realm were equal to his own, would almost certainly defeat him in the Martial Emperor's Secret Treasure.

Megan Colding had comprehended the Earth Realm and could freely borrow the 'Power of Earth' within the Martial Emperor's Secret Treasure, giving his Earth Realm a boost of nearly fifty percent.

Faced with Rey Jones's inquiry, Wyatt Barnes simply nodded, appearing calm and collected, as if killing Megan Colding was nothing extraordinary to him.

Of course, in reality, it indeed was not much of a feat for him.

If he chose to strike first with all his might, unleashing a force greater by over two hundred ancient Horned Dragons than Megan Colding's.

He could take down Megan Colding in just one encounter!

"A freak!"

Watching Wyatt Barnes casually nod in response to his question, Rey Jones's lips twitched fiercely, and the thought that emerged in his mind was precisely that.

The Third-Rate 'Five Elements Sect' had produced such a terrifying disciple, which filled him with an inexplicable shock from the bottom of his heart.

The purple-robed young man before him, no matter how one looked, appeared to be only around twenty-five years old.

Even if a profound cultivation could suppress aging and he took particular care of himself, his real age would not exceed thirty.

This was something Rey Jones was certain of.

It was for this reason that he felt so incredibly shocked and incredulous.

"Let's go!"

Following Wyatt Barnes's call, Rey Jones continued to travel with the group of four towards the 'central area' of the Martial Emperor's Secret Treasure.

However, along the way, his gaze frequently wandered to Wyatt Barnes.

This young man, who could be described as an 'unparalleled genius,' had actually killed Megan Coldring who had the advantage of the 'Power of Earth'...

How strong must his actual strength be?

"Thank goodness I never thought of snatching the 'Profound Mystery Fragment of the Ninth Level Blade' from his hands... otherwise, it would definitely have been me who died, not him!"

Thinking back to the first time he met Wyatt Barnes, and the 'trade' they conducted, Rey Jones couldn't help but feel a bit terrified.

He remembered that trade very well.

He had exchanged his 'Profound Mystery Fragment of the Ninth Level Earth' for Wyatt Barnes's 'Profound Mystery Fragment of the Ninth Level Blade.'

At that time, in his eyes, Wyatt Barnes was just a simple-minded youth from a Third-Rate power with negligible strength, not worth mentioning.

Thinking back to when he left and was 'teaching' Wyatt Barnes, Rey Jones's face couldn't help but feel a bit hot.

"And this time... I'm fortunate that I didn't covet the 'Triple Emperor Realm Wind Profound Mystery Fragment' in Elder Brother Ling Tian's hands. Otherwise, there's no saying that I would be able to obtain the 'Profound Mystery Fragment' for my Sect, let alone whether I would be able to survive."

With this thought, Rey Jones felt an additional wave of trepidation.

"I used to worry about Ledger Leigh coveting the 'Profound Mystery Fragment' in Elder Brother Ling Tian's hands and making a move against him... Ledger Leigh's strength is on par with mine, but in this 'Martial Emperor's Secret Treasure,' he would be inferior to Megan Coldring!"

Rey Jones laughed at himself, feeling he had seriously underestimated Wyatt earlier, "Elder Brother Ling Tian could even kill Megan Coldring... If Ledger Leigh dared to provoke Elder Brother Ling Tian, there would be no doubt, a definite dead end!"

Rey Jones's thoughts, of course, were unknown to Wyatt Barnes.

Wyatt was now fully focused on reaching the 'central area' of the Martial Emperor's Secret Treasure that lay ahead.

For him, it was a place of the unknown.

Unknown and, therefore, the most terrifying because anything could happen there.

"According to the message left by that Martial Emperor expert, in the central area of his Martial Emperor's Secret Treasure, there's a palace... That place is where he finished his life."

Wyatt Barnes recalled the information he had gleaned from the message left by the Martial Emperor expert after entering the Martial Emperor's Secret Treasure.

"Getting the three 'Profound Mystery fragments' inside that palace definitely won't be easy!"

Wyatt had a very strong intuition about this.

Of course, the reason for this intuition was the memories he had integrated from the Martial Emperor of Reincarnation.

According to the thoughts recorded in the Reincarnation Martial Emperor's memories, if a Martial Emperor powerhouse had truly left behind their resting place along with their 'Emperor Realm Profound Mystery fragments,' they would certainly not make it easy to obtain.

In the eyes of a Martial Emperor powerhouse, only the most exceptional individuals deserved to receive their 'Emperor Realm Profound Mystery fragments.'

"Hmm?"

Three days later, Wyatt suddenly stopped in his tracks, and the other four people beside him also came to a halt, standing by his side.

They had discovered that there was no path ahead.

They were now in a spacious cave.

On each side of the cave, there were three openings leading to other caves. They looked perplexed, unsure of which opening was the route to the central area of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure.

"Shall we separate and explore the paths?"

Brady Yellow was the first to suggest.

"That's the only way now."

Wyatt nodded in agreement, then his gaze fell on the opening farthest to the left, "I'll go that way."

"Rey Jones should go that way."

Immediately after, Wyatt gazed toward the opening farthest to the right and said to Rey Jones.

Rey Jones nodded, with no objections.

"Brady, Walter Simmons, Brother Graham... the three of you stick together and explore any opening. No matter the outcome, let's reconvene here after one day."

Wyatt then turned to address Brady Yellow, Walter Simmons, and Brian Graham.

Considering the safety of the three, who were the weakest among the five of them, Wyatt decided they should stick together.

"Alright!"

The three of them quickly agreed.

"Hmm."

Wyatt nodded to the four, then transformed into a streak of purple lightning, darting into the far-left cave opening, rapidly scouring the interior to investigate the situation.

Rey Jones also leaped forth, entering the cave opening on the far right.

Brady and the other two entered another opening.

Just as they set off, a figure suddenly appeared in front of an outermost cave opening—a stout figure.

"Rey Jones... this time, I want to see how you'll protect Wyatt!"

The owner of the stout figure was none other than 'Ledger Leigh.'

Ever since splitting from Wyatt and the others that day, he had made his way alone toward the 'central area' of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure and had arrived here.

After arriving, with the speed propelled by the force of a thousand ancient Horned Dragons, he quickly identified the correct path leading to the 'central area.'

The correct path was right behind the cave opening on the far right, the same one Rey Jones was investigating.

Just as he was about to continue forward, after confirming the correct route to the 'central area' of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure, a flash of inspiration struck him, realizing this might be his chance.

A chance to kill Wyatt and to obtain the 'Profound Mystery fragment' that Wyatt possessed!

"Level Eight Emperor Realm Thunder Profound Mystery fragment!"

Within Ledger Leigh's eyes flickered an insatiable greed. His figure surged with motion, his body wreathed in purple lightning, as he rocketed forward, vanishing into the leftmost cave opening.

His target was 'Wyatt.'

To be precise, it was the 'Level Eight Emperor Realm Thunder Profound Mystery fragment' in Wyatt's hands.

Naturally, Wyatt was unaware of Ledger Leigh lurking here, let alone that Ledger Leigh was now hot on his trail.

Whoosh!

Once Wyatt entered the leftmost cave, he unleashed his full Origin Force, his four 'realms' following him like a shadow. He seemed to transform into a giant sword wrapped in earthy yellow power, purple lightning, and cyan energy winds.

Swish!

The giant sword cleaved through the air, shuttling through cave after cave, eager to determine if this was the path to the central area of the Martial Emperor's secret treasure.

Time silently passed.

A half day had swiftly gone by.

By now, Wyatt had thoroughly scoped out this area—a 'dead-end maze' with no exit other than the way back.

"I should head back... perhaps they have found some clues."

Thinking thus, Wyatt turned back.

Just as he was nearing the entrance of the cave, Wyatt's swift figure came to an abrupt halt, his eyes coldly falling on the stout young man not far away.

"Ledger Leigh!"