

Necropolis 1081

Chapter 1081: The Woman That Can't Be Seen

"What is it?" Wahuang frowned when she saw Lu Yun's expression.

"Can you really not see her?" He stared fixedly at the faceless woman.

This was no ghost or dead spirit. Neither of those would dare approach Lu Yun. However, he didn't sense the presence of the living from her either. He had no idea what she was.

Currently, the sixth level mortal realm cultivator attempting to pull the sword out was withering away at a speed visible to the naked eye. He swiftly shriveled up and dispersed into the air as a pile of dust.

Utter silence descended upon the scene at his demise. That cultivator was from the earth origin land and ranked first among mortal realm cultivators; he had the potential to become a sovereign.

The four origin sacred lands had come together in a line of defense to stand guard while he pulled out the sword and obtained the opportunity beyond the chaos. Instead, that glorious genius had died without even a whimper.

The cold grip of fear clenched around everyone's hearts as most concerning was that no one had any idea how that person had died.

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Wahuang was as white as a sheet. She'd sent only a projection of her replica here, but it was still equipped with the consciousness and vision of a sovereign. Despite that, she had no idea how that person had died.

"Is there really a faceless woman there like you say?" she asked again.

"She's left," Lu Yun heaved a sigh of relief. He hadn't called upon the Spectral Eye, but he'd really seen the woman and that she'd made a shushing gesture at him. Who is she?

"This Tomb of Heaven and Earth is really bizarre." Wahuang shook her head. "It looks like even the power of the six palaces can't control the events that happen here."

"Power of the six palaces?" Lu Yun blinked.

"Mmhmm." Wahuang nodded. "The monarchs of the six palaces have come together to utilize the highest orders of law to create the rules of trial, turning the tomb into an enormous testing ground.

"But it looks like the rules aren't able to fully dictate what occurs here. There are still many existences that can resist the rules," she mused.

"So that's what's going on here..." His new understanding of the six sacred palaces startled Lu Yun. It was incredible that they could use an entire tomb as an adventure zone when they worked in tandem. After all, the Tomb of Heaven and Earth contained the power to ascend beyond the chaos!

"Is that why the palaces know the truth about the zombie?" he asked.

“Yes. It’s also why I can pierce through the tomb and send a projection of my replica here. But if that faceless woman does exist, then the rules of trial here will fail, sooner or later.”

The faceless woman was certainly something outside the system. Her presence created a flaw in the rules, a hole that would continuously enlarge until the entire testing apparatus was brought down.

“What are you looking for here?” Lu Yun asked. “Since you know the truth about the zombie, then the trial can’t be to take the sword out...”

“That’s why I say the rules of trial are slowly getting out of hand and the area is facing imminent collapse,” Wahuang chuckled ruefully and turned gravely serious. “We don’t know what’s being tested either because an error has appeared in the system. That’s why I’ve projected my replica into the tomb. I’m also not the only one here to oversee the situation, the princes and princesses of the other five sacred palaces have also projected replicas here.

“We can’t let this zombie escape no matter what. It’s an existence exceeding the chaos and everything in the realm will suffer if it gets out, not just those within the tomb.”

“The faceless woman was preventing that man from moving the sword,” Lu Yun whispered.

Wahuang considered this quietly, then shook her head. “Did you notice how the genius of the earth origin land died? All of his vitality and essence was absorbed. That’s reminiscent of a terrifying power that materialized when the tomb first appeared and soaked in the vitality of the life forms around it.”

Lu Yun said no more; he understood that the faceless woman was no kind soul.

Wahuang’s form suddenly grew massive, answered by a corresponding increase in her peers of the other palaces. Six enormous projections surrounded the zombie, bringing their power down upon their mammoth quarry.

“ROAR!!” The female zombie opened its eyes and shot out two rays of poisonous green light from its green eyes, washing away the power of the six highest orders of the chaos.

It slowly stood up, dismissing the image of a woman and revealing itself in its green-furred glory. Twenty-five thousand kilometers tall, it’d formed a towering mountain when sitting down cross-legged. Now that it moved, it wafted out pungent waves of stench with its outstretched arms, blasting at the six princes and princesses.

Other cultivators around them fled for dear life. Everyone scrambled for shelter in all directions, but the ill wind that the zombie raised left no safety to be found. Countless souls died in the blink of an eye.

Humm!

The sword embedded in its head suddenly buzzed with great vigor. A stream of sword energy fell from the air and rammed into the zombie’s body through the sword. Wailing with pain, the zombie was laid flat on the ground before it had time to deploy its strength beyond the chaos.

The princes and princesses relaxed with relief. The strength the zombie had been bringing to bear was so horrifying that destruction of their replicas would be a given if they’d been hit, as well as horrific backlash onto their primary bodies.

“I know!” Lu Yun shrieked. “The goal of the tests isn’t to pull out the sword, but to call upon it to kill the zombie!”

His eyes were fixed on the sword in the zombie’s head. The faceless woman had materialized once again and a dreadful gaze landed on Lu Yun from some unknown origin.

Chapter 1082: Seeking Revenge

It wasn’t until this moment that Lu Yun realized where the source of the gaze was from—the huge green-furred zombie!

Rather than backing down, he took a forceful step forward and glared back at it. Hellfire blazed to life in his eyes at the same time, likewise releasing a wave of invisible pressure.

The green-furred zombie turned its head away from the force of the glare!

Noting the exchange with some surprise, Wahuang gently twisted around and shielded Lu Yun behind her.

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“The goal of the tests is to kill that zombie?” No one noticed Lu Yun’s movements thanks to Wahuang’s cover, and they also didn’t know why the zombie nailed to the ground had suddenly turned its head. However, they’d all heard Lu Yun’s words and were deeply troubled by them.

Very few knew that the testing rules existed; even the princes and princesses of sacred palaces had known only after they arrived on the scene. To require that participants kill a zombie beyond the chaos was beyond ridiculous!

The strongest beings here were only sixth level mortal realm. Demanding they kill something beyond the chaos was more far-fetched than the most unbelievable tale from the Age of Myth!

The six replica projections looked at each other, reading dire gravity in each other’s eyes. They could certainly determine the crux of the situation when even a second level mortal realm cultivator like Lu Yun could. Of one thing they were sure of, and that was a grave error had developed in the rules of testing. A task to kill a zombie beyond the chaos, even with the aid of a wondrous sword, was one for eternal overlords!

This wasn’t simply an unexpected twist cropping up in the plan. The six sacred palaces had planned out the Tomb of Heaven and Earth over countless chaos tribulations and envisaged all potential possibilities. They couldn’t have possibly overlooked a modification as large as this one.

After all, they’d dared even include existences beyond the chaos in their plans!

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“The disciple of the earth origin land unwittingly triggered the energy within the sword, which is why the faceless woman killed him,” Lu Yun whispered next to Wahuang. “That faceless woman is one with the zombie.”

“Forget that for now, put away hellfire and focus on the Myriad Inception Fist. Even sovereigns won’t be able to see through you then.” Another image of Wahuang loomed in front of the public eye while her replica stood next to Lu Yun and transmitted into his mind.

Startled, Lu Yun quickly called upon the Myriad Inception Fist and shaped it into a perfect circulation system within his body.

That combined the power of the Dragonquake Scripture with the Myriad Inception Fist and transformed them into an even purer power of inception, obscuring everything having to do with Lu Yun.

He was now a true member of the sacred clan—a true Inception sacred clan member.

Wahuang breathed out in relief at this change. It would be very thorny if any of her peers saw through his identity; the Inception Palace alone wouldn’t be enough to protect him as their discussion moments ago had not gone unnoticed by the others.

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“Princess of Inception Palace, who is this behind you?” came a slightly aloof voice from the Nirvana contingent—the Nirvana princess.

“Since when do those of Inception Palace need to report to the Nirvana Palace?” Wahuang raked the Nirvana princess with a dismissive glance.

Ever since an Inception expert had thrown the son of the Nirvana princess into the tomb and his current status remained yet unknown, Nirvana Palace had opposed Inception Palace at every turn. Wahuang had even personally killed some Nirvana disciples who’d gone overboard in their provocation, so she was hardly kindly disposed toward her Nirvana counterpart at the moment.

“I hear that someone in this tomb is running amok with a fake Inception Palace identity, and that my son Mo Ke very likely died at his hands.” Another voice came from the direction of the Ethos contingent—the Ethos princess. She’d learned of her son’s death and his sword had been returned to her.

“A fake Inception Palace identity?” Wahuang’s expression darkened and she looked accusingly at the hundreds of Inception disciples behind her.

They shook and trembled like cicadas in the winter breeze. Huo Jun hadn’t suspected that Lu Yun was fake when he brought the wandering disciple back to camp, not until Ling Xiu raised her suspicions. Therefore, someone among the Inception disciples had preemptively brought word to the Ethos princess.

Huo Jun and Ling Xiu were likewise looking unpleasant. If their princess wasn’t present on the scene, they would be the ones in charge. A traitor appearing in their midst was a dereliction of their duties.

“I, I was only...” an Inception disciple took several shuddering steps backward. “Senior sister Ling Xiu suspected he was fake and there were already rumors that he might’ve killed junior brother Mo Ke. So I... that’s why... I...”

“There is no graver disappointment than you. Your cultivation will be destroyed and you are exiled from the palace!” Wahuang glowered broodingly.

Smack!

Huo Jun was even more decisive—he slapped the former disciple to a pulp with one palm strike. Destroying one’s cultivation while they were in the tomb was no different than sentencing him to death, so it was faster to just kill the traitor.

Betrayal called for the death sentence in the six sacred palaces; there was no room for mercy. After sharing information about Lu Yun with the Ethos princess today, that disciple could very well share more information about other matters tomorrow.

Most importantly was that Huo Jun hadn’t mentioned the connection between Lu Yun and Mo Ke upon his return.

“The death of my son has something to do with him. Hand him over, or else...” The Ethos princess narrowed her eyes at Wahuang.

“Or else what? You’ll fight me?” Wahuang snorted coldly. “And you, princess of Nirvana Palace? Our primary bodies aren’t too far from each other, why don’t we have at it? I’ll go where you two are.”

The princesses of Nirvana and Ethos Palace looked around uncertainly when they heard this. They were no match for Wahuang. She was the strongest among the six palaces after the six monarchs, and while everyone knew that she was the daughter of the Inception monarch, no one knew that her mother was the Creation monarch!

Being in possession of two great orders—inception and creation—destined Wahuang to be the strongest of the six palaces when she reached the level of a palace monarch. Out of everyone, she had the most hope of ascending beyond the chaos.

Even the joint efforts of her five peers wouldn’t put them at her level. However, none of them knew that she grasped two great orders. They all thought she was just the foremost genius of the chaos.

“I admit that I am no match for you.” The Ethos princess looked ready to murder someone. “But Ethos Palace will not stand down from this matter just like this!”

“Princess of Inception Palace, my son’s whereabouts are unknown also because of your disciples. Nirvana Palace will remember this slight as well!”

Chapter 1083: Trash

“Then remember it, and remember it well. Why don’t you remember it for the rest of your lives?” Wahuang burst out laughing when she looked at the Nirvana princess. “And, if Nirvana or Ethos Palace dares bully Inception disciples with an unfair advantage, then the two of you can remain in your palaces forever and never set a foot through your door.”

Startling killing intent exploded with her words. Her meaning was very clear. If Ethos and Nirvana Palaces dared bully those of Inception Palace from the position of a superior cultivation, she would destroy those two princesses!

“Princess of Inception Palace, don’t you think you’re being too tyrannical?!” The other three princes and princesses couldn’t bear to stand by idly any longer.

True, the Inception princess was very strong. The Creation prince was the only one who could rival her, and after his death, no one else could contend with her. If the Inception princess really wanted to kill them all, likely only the palace monarchs would be able to save them.

“Tyrannical?” The corner of Wahuang’s lips lifted and she sniffed, “So I’m tyrannical. What can you lot do about it?”

A variety of expressions flashed through the Inception delegation. They hadn’t thought that their princess would be openly hostile to her peers for the sake of protecting Lu Yun! Just who was this kid? Even if he could practice the Myriad Inception Fist and was a core disciple, it was over the top to threaten a slaughter of the other princes and princesses for him.

“Ahem!” Lu Yun walked out from behind Wahuang and cleared his throat. “Her Highness is very clear. If you don’t use a superior cultivation to bully Inception disciples, then she won’t do anything.

“If one of you with the same cultivation level as me kills me, then that’s my lack of skill and shame on Inception Palace. Our princess won’t care about me then.”

A few simple words were enough to defuse the tense atmosphere. Within the other sacred palace delegations, Ying Luo, Li Xue, Wang Shu, You Huoran, and Wei Yuan’s faces were a study of contrasts. They’d understood Lu Yun to be a fake Inception disciple, so they’d never thought that Lu Yun would peacefully be accepted into Inception Palace and be protected by their princess.

“I bet you that kid was lying to us!” Wei Yuan inwardly cursed with a laugh. He was extremely nervous that something would happen to either his palace’s princess or Lu Yun, but he couldn’t say anything at the moment. He wasn’t a core disciple, so if he took a stand for Lu Yun, the Nirvana princess would smack him dead with one slap.

“Senior brother, forget it. Burgeon Palace will not be involved in this matter,” transmitted Wang Shu when he saw that the Burgeon prince showed signs of allying with the Ethos and Nirvana princesses.

“...understood.” The Burgeon prince nodded.

Wang Shu was the youngest son of the Burgeon monarch—his status in the palace was greater than even a prince or princess. The Burgeon prince would never go against Wang Shu’s wishes in a situation like this, not to mention he didn’t really want to offend the Inception Princess.

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“By the way,” Lu Yun paused and sneered at the projection of the Ethos princess. “I trust that Mo Ke’s Icewater has returned to your hands. Being a connate treasure, Icewater will have recorded its previous owner’s cause of death. I’m sure you’ve already seen it for yourself.

“So why do you keep bothering me? Is there something I possess that you want as well?”

Dismay overcame him even as he said those words. Though he hadn’t refined Icewater, he’d utilized some special things when wielding the sword, such as the Dragonquake Scripture.

The Ethos princess must have discovered some traces of the scripture on the sword, which was why she continued to come for Lu Yun. As the foremost method in the chaos, though Wahuang and Qiu Luoyu could resist temptation and decline it, that didn’t mean everyone else could do the same.

“Hmph.” The princess’ expression shifted. She had indeed seen signs of the Dragonquake Scripture on the sword, which was why she was here now. But now that the Inception disciple raised things out in the open, this put her in an awkward spot.

The vaunted princess of a sacred palace and a sovereign using her son as an excuse to steal a junior’s treasure? If word of this got out, it would be a devastating blow to the dignity and authority of Ethos Palace.

“Are you looking for the Dragonquake Scripture?” Lu Yun decided to have everything out in the open.

This drew a response from all of the other princes and princesses, including Wahuang. The Nirvana princess narrowed her eyes. Chi Wuxia had seen the Dragonquake Scripture in the hands of a half step Inception sovereign before disappearing. She hadn’t believed it at first, but the various actions of the Ethos princess demonstrated that the Inception Palace very likely did possess the Dragonquake Scripture.

“This is the Tomb of Heaven and Earth, the final resting place of that mythological realm. How much is a Dragonquake Scripture worth here? As strong as it is, it’s only the greatest method of the chaos.

“If we go back countless chaos tribulations to the peak of the chaos dragons, back to when they possessed it, we see that the method didn’t help them ascend beyond the chaos either.” Lu Yun looked at them all, thick disdain in the curl of his lips. “But right here, right now, a heritage superior to the Dragonquake Scripture is close at hand. A great dao beyond the chaos! And you’re all just ignoring it?”

He pointed to the zombie nailed to the ground by the sword.

“The six monarchs have come together and utilized the six highest orders to turn this entire tomb into a trial ground. They’ve decreased the level of danger here to its lowest, yet you don’t take advantage of this to retrieve a method beyond the chaos.

“Instead, you viciously bully a junior for a cultivation method that confines you to this plane of existence. What an utterly ludicrous notion!”

The crowd started.

“Hahahaha, you’re very right!” Wahuang laughed. “You’re all ridiculous beyond measure and a complete laughingstock. If my Inception Palace really possessed the Dragonquake Scripture, the chaos dragons would’ve risen long ago. That you trash dare lust after it would mean the chaos dragons would’ve razed Ethos Palace a long time ago.”

The Ethos princess brooded ominously while anger threatened to pop the Nirvana princess’ heart.

The sword energy from the skies was slowly fading away, allowing the zombie to return to a cross-legged position on the ground. The faceless woman on top of his head was still standing there, but Lu Yun remained the only one who could see her.

Chapter 1084: Do We Have a Shared Destiny?

“Alright, alright, that’s enough from all of us.” The Opposition prince stepped forward to smooth things over. “Whatever grudges that the Nirvana, Ethos, and Inception Palaces may have with each other, you three can settle them after we depart from this tomb.

“Our monarchs have spent countless chaos tribulations planning for the events of today, utilizing their power over the highest orders to create this testing ground. Our purpose here is to search for the way to ascend beyond the chaos!”

“Hmph!” The Nirvana and Ethos princesses looked at each other and harrumphed back to their altars, refusing to say another word. The remaining princes and princesses smiled wryly among themselves before returning to their camps as well.

“You really know how to stir up trouble for me, brat! Look at you mentioning the Dragonquake Scripture just like that. Aren’t you afraid of attracting people who want your head?” Wahuang glared ferociously at Lu Yun.

“I do think it’s better if I hand over the scripture to the Inception Palace though.” Lu Yun frowned slightly. “I can see the faceless woman probably because I practice it.”

“The Dragonquake Scripture was originally lost,” Wahuang didn’t respond to his suggestion. “Fuxi took its fragments into the great wilderness and was killed for his possession. After the three-eyed man obtained it, he wants to use it in a scheme against the six sacred palaces. He’s now being hunted by the descendants of the chaos dragons and likely isn’t long for this world.”

“Eh?” Lu Yun blinked.

“The original chaos dragons that owned the Dragonquake Scripture are extinct. Their remaining descendants are limited to nine in total.” Wahuang looked solemnly at Lu Yun. “Do you understand?”

“Do you mean... I’ll be hit with disaster as well?” This was incredibly unpalatable news. The Dragonquake Scripture was basically a curse!

Fuxi?

If Wahuang was the princess of Inception Palace, then Fuxi was obviously its prince and even stronger than his sister! However, he’d died to the three-eyed man when he brought the Dragonquake Scripture into the great wilderness. Most horrifying of all was that the destruction of the chaos dragons wasn’t due to a curse from the mythological realm, but from their own greatest combat art!

If even the strongest race within the chaos had died from owning the Dragonquake Scripture, then what the hell could Lu Yun do about it??

He might have the Tome of Life and Death, but he was still an ant at the end of the day. He didn’t have the strength to defy this level of bad luck!

“The Dragonquake Scripture was lost and you’ve brought it back to the chaos. That means you’re the creator of the modern version of the Dragonquake Scripture,” Wahuang said thoughtfully. “You’ll be fine, just like the initial creator of the scripture was fine. I didn’t tell you about this before because I didn’t want you to worry.”

Lu Yun stared straight into her eyes for confirmation. Wahuang didn’t dodge his look and continued, “I know there’s another incredible treasure on you. Fuxi came back to life because of it, right?”

“I also used it to save the three-eyed man once. If he tells the chaos dragons this, I’m a dead man walking,” Lu Yun admitted forthrightly.

“Don’t worry, when the pureblood chaos dragons return to the chaos, these mixed breeds will no longer exist,” Wahuang declared meaningfully. She patted Lu Yun gently on the shoulder. “If the curse of the Dragonquake Scripture activates on you, I’ll die before you do.”

Lu Yun looked silently at Wahuang without saying anything.

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“Her Highness is patting a man’s shoulder!” Unable to hear what was being said on the altar, the Inception disciples flared with envy when they saw their princess’ gesture.

The Inception princess was holy and pure in their eyes, never having anything to do with a man. But not only had this kid been allowed onto her bed, she was even touching him! It felt like the world was spinning around these disciples.

“Is he possibly her bastard son?” someone mumbled.

Smack!

Ling Xiu slapped him before he even finished his question. The disciple fell silent with embarrassment and didn’t dare say anything else.

“Alright, let there be no wild speculations from any of you.” Wahuang turned around. “Lu Yun is the last disciple my father will ever take and the future prince of Inception Palace.”

“What...” The crowd drew a collective gasp of shock when they heard this. He was the future prince of Inception Palace? This was an extremely important position that aided the monarch in grasping the highest order of their law. He would answer to only the monarch of their faction!

As much as they found this difficult to accept, the disciples didn’t voice anything other than reacting with general surprise. They were just mortal realm disciples of Inception Palace, so very far removed from the Inception princess. If it wasn’t for the unexpected occurring in this trial, resulting in a projection of the princess’ replica, they wouldn’t even have the right to look upon her face.

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“The faceless woman is absorbing the vitality of all beings that die here. If she absorbs enough life force, she could probably help the zombie break free,” Lu Yun suddenly brought up. “Therefore, we need to work together as quickly as possible to eliminate the zombie!”

“Mhmm.” Wahuang inclined her head but didn’t say anything. Since she couldn’t see the woman, she didn’t know what to do.

She and her peers had been tentatively willing to work together when they first arrived in the tomb, but because of Lu Yun, that wasn’t a possibility anymore. Though a flaw had indeed developed in the system, the opportunity to ascend beyond the chaos was right in front of them. No one wanted their efforts to benefit another.

Wahuang was the strongest out of them, but any move she made could very well draw concerted resistance from the other five.

“I’ll go take a look,” Lu Yun offered.

“You? Go take a look?” Wahuang didn’t seem too pleased by the prospect.

Lu Yun sat down cross-legged and called upon the nascent spirit observation method; a projection of his body quickly appeared in front of him. He hadn’t planned on using any methods from the world of immortals in the chaos, but since Wahuang was here and had already proclaimed him the next prince of Inception Palace, what did he have to fear?

A variety of combat arts and cultivation methods abounded in the Inception Palace—no one would suspect that this was a method from the worlds.

“Be careful in everything you do.” Wahuang nodded when she saw Lu Yun’s projected image.

His projection appeared on the zombie’s head the next moment, in front of the faceless woman.

“What’s he doing up there, looking to die?” No one felt the inclination to do anything after the unexplained death of the earth origin disciple.

“That’s not his primary body, it’s a replica. He has some brains to think of using a replica. But how did he get up there so quickly?” The Ethos princess frowned.

A projected body was the combination of mental form, emanated strength of the nascent spirit, and speed of thought. It contained the fastest speed in the world. When Lu Yun thought of the zombie’s head, so did his projection follow where his mind traveled.

The projected body coalesced energy of heaven and earth when he was in the world of immortals. Now that he was in the chaos, it naturally collected pure chaos currents.

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“Shh.” Lu Yun placed a finger next to his lips and shushed the faceless woman, who jerked in surprise.

“How come I’m the only one who can see you? Do we have a shared destiny?” he smiled.

Chapter 1085: An Incomplete Soul

“Who is he talking to?” Though everyone had retreated several dozen thousand kilometers away from the zombie and the zombie was another dozen thousand kilometers away to begin with, such a distance was nothing to chaos creatures of these levels. They all paused when they saw Lu Yun’s behavior on the zombie’s head.

“There’s no one there. He’s either talking to the zombie or he’s playing some sort of trick.” The Nirvana princess stared fixedly at Lu Yun, trying to glean some clues about the Dragonquake Scripture from him. She had a hunch that the Inception disciple before them had something to do with the chaos dragon that Chi Wuxia had met earlier.

Slightly nervous, Wahuang snuck a glance at the Lu Yun next to her, but saw that he was as composed as always.

“What did she say to you?” she whispered.

“She doesn’t have a mouth, so she probably can’t talk.” Lu Yun shrugged as Wahuang leveled a deadpan stare at him.

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“Why am I the only one who can see you? What did you mean when you made the gesture for me to be quiet?” Lu Yun looked curiously at the faceless woman in front of him. It wasn’t until now that he realized the ripples of energy from her corresponded to sixth level mortal realm. That indicated that she was also affected by the rules of the trial and her staggering power was being constrained.

“I thought I could see you because I practice the Dragonquake Scripture, but now that I’m here, that has nothing to do with me being able to see you, does it?” Lu Yun arched his eyebrows at the faceless woman, who cocked her head as if she was regarding him.

There was still a layer of mist around her, obscuring everything about her other than a face without features.

“Is the zombie beneath us your primary body?” He stepped on the zombie’s head a few times.

Head remaining tilted to the side, the faceless woman nodded gently.

Lu Yun blinked, he hadn’t imagined that the woman would be actually willing to talk to him!

“Will you be free after the sword is removed?” he asked and the woman nodded again.

“But... do you know that a new spirit has been born within the zombie? It might eat you when it’s freed.” Lu Yun frowned.

He keenly sensed an impossibly large and irredeemably evil spirit within the zombie’s body. It wailed and shrieked with anguish at every second, raging with insurmountable lust to destroy everything and anything. If it broke free of its restraints, it would certainly commence massive bloodletting.

The faceless woman nodded gently again.

Brow furrowed tight, two black lights flashed through Lu Yun’s eyes. He opened the Spectral Eye without further ado as the faceless woman stood in front of him, not expressing anything else.

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“Your Majesty...” Lu Yun cautiously tugged Wahuang’s hem from his position on the altar.

“You can call me senior sister,” Wahuang smiled. “What do you need me to do?”

“Senior... sister,” Lu Yun chuckled ruefully. The Wahuang in front of him was the great goddess Nuwa, the ancestor of all Chinese people. She wanted him to call her senior sister? It all felt a bit surreal to Lu Yun. “Can you cover for me? I need to deploy a combat art to probe the faceless woman.”

His primary body was also looking at the faceless woman, but he had a feeling that she didn’t care about the projection in front of her. She’d kept her focus on the Lu Yun located on the altar.

“Alright.” Wahuang nodded and waved her hand. Radiance shimmered over the altar, concealing herself and Lu Yun.

Whoosh!

Hellfire blazed to life over Lu Yun and his eyes burned fiercely.

Hummm.

An enormous pair of eyes slowly opened in the void. Several thousand kilometers across, it reigned loftily aloof from everything and regarded the zombie with detachment.

“What is that?! Whose eyes are those??” someone shrieked to see a pair of eyes suddenly pop into existence. It wasn’t a real pair of eyes, but a manifestation by a powerful combat art.

“Princess of Inception Palace!” The other five assigned the disturbance to her since she’d suddenly shifted into action.

This was precisely the conclusion that Lu Yun wanted. His cultivation soared to new heights due to his current circumstances and he deployed death arts with incredible power. The pair of eyes in the air was a physical manifestation of the Spectral Eye. In that form, it could see much more than just information about life and death.

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“I see, your soul has separated from the soul of the zombie. You’re a living, breathing entity!” Lu Yun’s projection and main body spoke at the same time.

“You mean that faceless woman is alive?!” Wahuang’s expression changed.

He didn’t respond to her, instead continuing to talk to himself. “But your soul isn’t complete and you need the zombie to break free of the sword so you can retrieve your old soul.

“You’re the one behind the mysterious detachment of Ying Luo’s and my soul! Not only can I see you, but so can Ying Luo!” Lu Yun’s projection suddenly looked in the direction of the Creation Palace contingent.

Ying Luo was staring unblinkingly back at them and the faceless woman’s image was reflected in her eyes!

So Ying Luo can also see her.

Up until now, Lu Yun hadn’t been able to find the reason for their souls randomly separating from their bodies. But through the Spectral Eye, he finally identified why—the faceless woman had targeted them then!

She traveled through all corners of the Tomb of Heaven and Earth and continuously severed the souls of various life forms, attempting to make her fragmented soul whole. Lu Yun and Ying Luo were the only ones to escape from her clutches, but that meant they were able to see her since part of her power remained in their souls after succumbing to her combat art.

Ying Luo had also noticed the faceless woman after arriving here, but she opted to quietly observe the situation and didn’t raise a fuss. Her status in Creation Palace wasn’t high and she didn’t have the right to directly communicate with her princess.

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“Your current soul split off from your old soul, leaving most of your strength behind. If the zombie breaks free, you’ll be the first to die.” Lu Yun withdrew the Spectral Eye and enunciated carefully at the faceless woman. The five senses originated from one’s soul parts. Since she lacked any organs on her face, that meant her soul was incomplete.

She stood quietly in front of his projection and didn’t respond with anything. Suddenly, Lu Yun darted forward and grasped the sword hilt, ready to shift it.

The faceless woman trembled and struck out at Lu Yun’s image.

“Come help!” His primary body took to the air and shot toward the zombie’s head.

At almost the same moment, Ying Luo, Li Xue, Wang Shu, You Huoran, and Wei Yuan moved as well. They charged to the zombie’s head and convened with Lu Yun, instantly reforming the Thousand Obliteration Formation of the Six Royals.

Chapter 1086: Transforming into an Akasha Ghost

The power of inception, ethos, burgeon, creation, opposition, and nirvana coalesced in the void as six radiant chaos stars. Shimmering curtains of light enveloped the zombie and the faceless woman standing on its head.

As the formation took full effect, the aura of Lu Yun and the others expanded furiously until they exceeded sixth level mortal realm. When that happened, a variety of reactions ran through those on the scene at this impossible sight of unity and power.

“What is... those six... what’s with them?!” The princes and princesses of the sacred palaces widened their eyes at their peers, reading similar stunned surprise from each other.

“What a strong formation, they’ve combined the six sacred powers as one!” murmured Wahuang while she looked at the six surrounding the zombie.

Sovereigns didn’t normally take notice of mortal realm creatures. Even those with potential to become sovereigns were unworthy of attention as long as they remained below that realm. However, the sovereigns on the scene were also shaken when the Thousand Obliteration Formation of the Six Royals came together.

The scope of this formation was too grand. If six sovereigns deployed it, they would probably instantly possess strength beyond the chaos. But with the state of the realm now, this was a far-fetched tale that would never happen.

More than the six sacred powers needed to come together for the formation to operate—close partnership was an even more vital ingredient. Six people like this simply just didn’t exist in the current sacred palaces.

Each sacred palace fought for its own benefit, and conflict had broken out countless times over the years when they vied for the newly born sovereigns in the chaos. The attitudes between the various princes and princesses on the scene were indicative of everything, and also representative of their six monarchs.

That six of their disciples could deploy this formation was already a miracle in their eyes. It was also because of this that You Huoran hadn't offered the formation to the Opposition Palace. If he had, it would've been forever sealed away and never seen the light of day.

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"I see a woman without a face!" Light of six different colors flashed through Wei Yuan's eyes and he frowned slightly. "What strong killing intent! She's coming at us!"

"We'll kill her if she dares come over!" You Huoran roared with laughter. "The thing that killed the kid from the earth origin land is her, isn't it? We'll use her to baptize the formation!"

Wei Yuan wasn't the only one to see the woman, all of the Six Royals could see her as well.

"Kill!" The six looked at each other and dove at her from six directions like six brilliant stars. Rays of resplendent radiance sealed off the premises.

Roaring and snarling, the zombie tried to struggle to its feet. However, the sword in its head kept it firmly pinned to the ground. Suddenly, the faceless woman charging at the Six Royals jerked to a halt and turned toward Lu Yun. A brush appeared in her hand, one that dripped with blood for ink.

She raised the brush to her face and started drawing, scrawling an uncommonly crude face over her blank canvas. It seemed to be both laughing and crying and stared soullessly at the source of her troubles.

"What?!" Lu Yun screeched to a halt and he gaped incredulously at the woman.

"An akasha ghost!" Shock crossed the faces of the other five. This was a real akasha ghost, not one of the pale imitations created by the ghost ancestor.

No one knew what akasha ghosts were; their legends had existed in the chaos before the mythological realm existed. Lu Yun and the others seemed to be witnessing the birth of one right before their eyes.

"Stop, stop right now!" roared Lu Yun as he looked at the eerie face. "I can help you reform your soul, but all is too late if you turn into an akasha ghost!"

He'd often come across akasha ghosts in the world of immortals, but compared to the one in front of him, the group of akasha ghosts in his world was just a bunch of children. They were in a completely different league.

Staring mournfully at him, the faceless woman didn't seem to hear Lu Yun.

"Waugh!!" she shrieked and sent sound waves that took tangible form through the air, rippling in all directions.

"An akasha ghost!" When the crowd saw this, the princes and princesses once again projected larger than life images of themselves forward. Experts of the sacred palaces also walked out from the shadows, staring nervously at the sudden appearance of the akasha ghost.

The Six Royals had surrounded her in their midst, but her horrifying presence deepened with each passing second. Her might climbed to a point where even sovereigns regarded the situation with a pale face.

“She’s a full akasha ghost now, kill her!” shouted Wei Yuan as the power of nirvana on him heightened to another level. He blasted out with all sorts of Nirvana combat arts, sending them into the formation.

Bolstered by the five other sacred powers, a black rose blossomed in the air and dyed the void black. Its petals were the sharpest of black blades and scissored viciously at the akasha ghost.

As strong as the ghost was, it was also constrained by the rules of trial and held to sixth level mortal realm. But the second the black rose neared her, she scattered apart as a huge ghostly face, reappearing as an embedded image in the air and looking woefully down on the six.

The black rose of nirvana puffed into nothingness the moment it touched the face. Discomfort twisted Wei Yuan’s face at the backlash and blood trickled out of his mouth.

The face in the air opened her mouth and spewed out a crimson flood. All sorts of negative emotions howled and wailed within the flood—despair, fear, depression... Color drained out of Ying Luo, Li Xue, Wang Shu, You Huoran, and Wei Yuan’s faces when the flood barreled out. Already injured by his earlier blow, Wei Yuan wanted to vomit from the onslaught and desperately needed to commit suicide.

However, the tide of negativity dispersed in the next second. The images of their princes and princesses had descended protectively in front of them.

“You six get to the sword and use it to destroy the zombie. We’ll handle the akasha ghost.” Wahuang stood with her robes fluttering in the void, her stunning grace visible for all to see.

Chapter 1087: With Fist as Blade

Six tremendous pillars of light blossomed from the six altars of the sacred palaces, forming an enormous boundary that protected the area’s denizens. Apart from the six princes and princesses and Lu Yun’s friends, no one else could draw close to the zombie, not even Huo Jun or Ling Xiu.

Those of the nine sacred lands had to flock to the palaces for protection as well. Countless people looked at the six young disciples, great envy and admiration in their eyes. Those six were just second level mortal realm, but they could fight side by side with sovereigns!

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As strong as the Thousand Obliteration Formation of the Six Royals was, the akasha ghost was even stronger. The great formation that the Six Royals put together shook like paper in front of the dreadful ghost. They could only manage to barely protect themselves from the horrific sound waves and flood of negativity.

However, that was still more than all of the other mortal realm cultivators present could do.

“Understood!” shouted the six when they heard Wahuang’s command and they shot for the zombie’s head.

Hummm.

A loud hum echoed through the air as crimson ripples oscillated through the air. Zombies poured out of the ripples and collected in a tide of zombies that churned in their direction.

"The zombie floods... come from her!" Lu Yun connected the dots.

"Be careful, these floods are stronger than the ones we encountered before!" Ying Luo yelled when heretofore unfelt pressure descended upon her.

"I'll take point. Ying Luo and Li Xue, hold down my flanks. Bring up the rear, Wang Shu. Wei Yuan and You Huoran, you two stay flexible and be ready to support anyone who needs it!" Lu Yun shouted.

Their formation didn't have a defined pattern and they could realign themselves in any combination they wished. The one that Lu Yun was calling for was undoubtedly the strongest one for the situation.

"No!" Ying Luo and Li Xue objected. "I'll take point!"

Li Xue shouldered her way forward to take Lu Yun's position. The front of the formation was the most dangerous and had to endure all of the pressure. A single lapse of concentration could lead to the leader's demise.

Li Xue was the strongest without a doubt out of the six. Thus, she immediately stepped forward to put herself down for the task.

Boom!

Lu Yun didn't respond and stayed firmly in place. He blasted forward with a huge shadow of a fist, decimating everything within a thousand kilometers.

"The Myriad Inception Fist!" The other five and many of the remaining cultivators watching the fight gasped in recognition.

The Myriad Inception Fist was the greatest combat art of Inception Palace. There were only three boxing methods to it, but endless combat arts could be derived from it. It was also a nod to how all things were born from three and contained the true meaning of the order of inception.

No one had ever seen such terrifying strength come from a second level mortal realm disciple deploying it. He'd cleared out all of the zombies that his shadow fist touched! Even the princes and princesses briefly looked on in a daze.

"Her Highness seems to have just passed it onto him..." Ling Xiu muttered blankly at the emerald after shadow slowly fading away in the air.

"That's the difference between us and geniuses," Huo Jun breathed out in a long exhale. "Our cultivation levels are higher than him, but we would never be his match in the same realm. No wonder Her Highness said he's the next prince."

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The might of Lu Yun's punch overawed everyone. Li Xue and Ying Luo swiftly took protective stances on the wings and protested no longer. The six shifted into the formation they'd practiced within the corpse qi and stayed within thirty meters of each other, scything through the zombie flood like a sharp blade.

Lu Yun deployed the three forms of the Myriad Inception Fist to their utmost. Within hell, the six paths of his nascent spirit agitated with great activity and theorized new combat arts from it at a furious pace.

Boom!

Boom!

Boom!

Shadowy fists punched forward in steady succession, blasting zombie after zombie into pieces.

“Ahhhhh!!” Lu Yun suddenly roared as the shadow of a dragon appeared over his head. The meaning of the Myriad Inception Fist was melding with the dragon. It was Lu Yun’s first move of his own sword dao—Dragonrise!

He’d combined the Myriad Inception Fist with his own sword dao!

Lu Yun trembled and stepped forward with another punch, a shadow that seemed both sword and dragon erupting from his fist. This dragon shadow bore the heaviness of a punch and the sharpness of a blade. With the two combined, a devastating power exploded from his move.

The Thousand Obliteration Formation of the Six Royals flared with its greatest potential and the same devastating power undulated over the five others as well. Though the punch came from Lu Yun’s hand, it brought with it the entire strength of the formation, as if all six were behind the blow.

The void became nothing.

“What... was that?!” Five pairs of eyes met each other and they stopped in stunned silence. All of the zombies in front of them were gone—blown to pieces by Lu Yun’s blow.

“That...” The six princes and princesses attacking the akasha ghost paused as well.

“Is this the true strength of the Myriad Inception Fist?” The Ethos princess quailed, killing intent appearing in her eyes when she looked at Lu Yun again.

She’d only wanted to glean the whereabouts of the Dragonquake Scripture from him before, but she now wanted him dead after seeing the kind of strength he could bring to bear. If he was allowed to fully come into his own, he would be a second Inception princess!

At that point, it would be the Inception Palace ruling over the six sacred palaces, and she already had a grudge with him.

Wahuang frowned slightly, the only person to know that Lu Yun hadn’t employed the strength of just the Myriad Inception Fist just now, but also the Dragonquake Scripture!

She’d never practiced the method, but Fuxi had researched it. She’d seen similar energy from her brother before, but Lu Yun’s version was something that belonged completely to him. He’d even comprehended a brand new realm from it, something beyond the capabilities of the original Dragonquake Scripture.

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Thus leveraging the formation's power, Lu Yun destroyed the zombie flood and brought the group to the zombie and the sword in its head.

"Let's go!" He jumped up without hesitation and landed on the zombie's head. The sword was trembling violently as it sought to keep the giant zombie under control.

Off to the side, the faceless woman turned berserk and reformed her physical body. Still clutching the strange brush, she broke through the blockade and came for the Six Royals.

Chapter 1088: Brush

"Stop her!" Wahuang looked around urgently. She hadn't thought that the akasha ghost would suddenly erupt with so much power that she'd break through their blockade.

Though their quarry was on the loose, the rest of the princes and princesses were slow to react, apart from Wahuang and the Burgeon prince. The other four didn't devote all of their efforts into stopping the akasha ghost as Ying Luo, Li Xue, You Huoran, and Wei Yuan weren't particularly important in their palaces. It didn't matter if those disciples died.

In contrast, they were much more willing to have Lu Yun die. No one wanted to see the emergence of another personage on par with the Inception princess or the late Creation prince.

Only Wahuang and the Burgeon prince were fully attempting to stop the akasha ghost—Wang Shu was the son of the Burgeon monarch. If he died in front of the Burgeon prince, their monarch would absolutely remove the prince from his position.

They quickly arrived at the zombie's head and set up an enormous defensive barrier in tandem, wanting to drag the ghost to a halt.

"Waughhh!!" Fully transformed into an akasha ghost, the remaining presence of the living faded from the faceless woman, replaced by a dense ghostly nature.

An akasha ghost wasn't an ordinary ghost, so Lu Yun's hellfire and Tome of Life and Death were unable to control it. A group of ghosts had even once invaded hell and almost destroyed it. Therefore, all Lu Yun would be doing now if he used hellfire would be to intensify the ghostly nature of the akasha ghost in front of him.

"Princess of Creation Palace, come help!" Taking the full brunt of a blow, Wahuang's replica wavered and almost crumbled away. She was only present in the tomb in replica form and it couldn't support too much of her strength. The akasha ghost, however, was present in her primary body, despite being confined by the rules of trial.

The ghost shrieked and sent waves of negativity in all directions, fracturing the boundary that Wahuang and the Burgeon prince had set up together. The Creation princess frowned, but remained where she was without taking further action.

"Princess of Inception Palace, though our sacred palaces are close to each other, I cannot endanger the lives of thousands of others at a time like this. Not for the sake of one or two disciples." She suddenly withdrew her projection and returned to her altar, focusing on the outside boundary around the premises.

Wahuang took a deep look at her counterpart and smirked coldly without a response. The akasha ghost's attention was on the zombie's head, as was the main direction of her offensive. She wasn't sparing any effort for anyone other than Lu Yun and his little group. The Creation princess was just making use of the situation to further her agenda and refusing to take to the field again.

"Additionally, Creation Palace is indeed too close to Inception Palace. After the death of our prince, our strength is a far cry from what it once was. We are affected by you in all matters and if this continues, Creation Palace will become a puppet of Inception Palace sooner or later." The Creation princess suddenly flared with righteousness, "The monarch pays no attention to the affairs of the realm, but as the princess of Creation Palace, I have a duty to protect our interests!"

"Then, do you mean to say that you represent the Creation Palace right now and are formally breaking ties with my Inception Palace?" Wahuang was drawing upon the strongest power she could at the moment. Her hair was undone and her flowing black locks turning inky green, the vast power of inception flared from her body.

The Burgeon prince was likewise exerting himself to the greatest effort possible with his replica. He was calling upon so much energy that cracks were snaking through his form.

Though the incredibly ferocious akasha ghost in front of them was constrained to sixth level mortal realm, her every move and gesture hit at the peak of possibility for that realm. She happened to be just a bit stronger than Wahuang and the Burgeon prince. In other words, the akasha ghost was invincible in this tomb!

The two replicas fighting her would fall before long, and the ripples from their clash also continuously buffeted Lu Yun and the others. They were forced to draw closer together and operate the Thousand Obliteration Formation of the Six Royals at full force to defend against the terrifying onslaught. That left them with no ability to continue trying for the sword.

"The brush!" Lu Yun roared. "The brush in her hand is the source of her power. If we take the brush away, she'll revert to her previous state!"

Two beams of dense black light discharged from his eyes, accompanied by two thin streaks of blood. The Spectral Eye ran at its maximum. If he raised its power one iota further, his eyes would explode.

"The faceless woman isn't the akasha ghost, the brush in her hands is!" he shouted.

"Open!!" Wahuang yelled, the apex of inception revolving upon her. Three shadowy forms suddenly split off from her body and began a display of the Myriad Inception Fist.

Imprint of Firmament!

Void of Sun and Moon!

Image Attending Form!

The three boxing methods combined as one and focused upon her. When she moved next, a thousand punches seemed to fill the air as well.

The akasha ghost set aside her attack of the emotions and drew near the princess for close quarter combat. She immediately crushed all of Wahuang's images!

“Do it!” Wahuang suddenly appeared behind the ghost and grabbed at the brush.

The akasha ghost whirled around and smashed her hand on Wahuang’s face, but that left enough room for the Burgeon prince to sneak in.

He reached out and grabbed the brush.

“Eh?!” Eyes widening with shock, a strange power churned into his body and blurred his consciousness.

Wahuang evaded another blow by the skin of her teeth, but she regarded the scene with horror. The Burgeon prince’s features were starting to change into a crudely drawn ghost face, one that laughed and cried at the same time.

Shuddering, she flashed in front of her peer and sent him flying with a kick. The face that looked like a child had drawn it began to fade away, returning the Burgeon prince’s own face to him.

“What was that?!” he gasped with shock.

Wahuang glowered ominously and she narrowed her eyes, staring fixedly at the akasha ghost in front of her.

However, the ghost remained focused on Lu Yun and the others.

Chapter 1089: Destroying a Zombie

“All of this is a result of that brush.” Lu Yun looked at the akasha ghost—or rather, the brush in her hands. That was the source of everything and it currently dripped with viscous ink that looked like blood.

“No!” He received a nasty shock when he looked up again. The akasha ghost had somehow arrived in front of the giant zombie and was raising the brush to its face.

The copy of the akasha ghost in front of Wahuang and the Burgeon prince was slowly fading away.

“Don’t let her succeed! If that zombie turns into an akasha ghost, the sword will no longer be able to keep it down!” Lu Yun’s voice rose an octave in his urgency.

“What?!” Shock filtered through the crowd at his words. Turn the zombie into an akasha ghost?

The faceless woman was confined to sixth level mortal realm because it was affected by the rules of trial. However, as the mission of the trials, the zombie was under no such restriction!

“Stop her!” Wahuang yelled and flashed in front of the ghost, blasting out with the Myriad Inception Fist.

Unfortunately, there was another layer of light around the ghost now that protected her. Wahuang’s attack didn’t even shake it.

The Burgeon prince and the others quickly strode forward, but all was too late. Sixth level mortal realm strength couldn’t touch the ghost anymore.

“The sword!” shouted the Ethos princess and she flew toward the sword in the zombie’s head.

Bam!

The layer of light surrounding the akasha ghost swiftly enveloped the rest of the zombie. When the Ethos princess rammed into it, she bounced right back. Despite that, none of them gave up. The six of them attacked the curtain of light in a frenzied rush, but to no avail.

Despair crept into their expressions after another round of futile hammering.

“Retreat, retreat out of the tomb! We need to leave before the zombie turns into an akasha ghost!” shrieked the Creation princess. She was truly afraid. An akasha ghost beyond the chaos could destroy them with a simple thought!

“Run? Where can we run to?” snorted Wahuang. “We can’t escape an existence beyond the chaos just by leaving the tomb.”

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“Hmph!” Lu Yun struggled out of the formation and deployed the Boundless Step. The curtain of light that could withstand six sovereigns didn’t seem to exist to a death art. He immediately landed on the zombie’s head.

“RAHHHHH!!” he roared and smashed his palm down on the sword.

Hummmmm.

An enormous pillar of sword light descended from the skies and pierced through the zombie’s head. Ugly fractures snaked down from the point of impact in the zombie’s crown.

“Waugh!!” Concentrating on drawing the ghostly face, the akasha ghost wailed with sudden anguish as blood flowed out of her orifices.

The sword that’d immobilized the zombie seemed to be bolstered by a new strength. Brilliant splendor erupted from the blade as it threatened to slice the zombie in half.

Lu Yun’s hand remained on the sword’s edge while he furiously circulated the power of inception, feeding it into the blade. The brighter the splendor grew, the more it cut into the zombie.

The akasha ghost that the faceless woman had transformed into suddenly floated to the zombie’s head, her eerie face staring right into Lu Yun’s face.

Everyone present held their breath. They couldn’t do anything, not with the curtain of light there. Lu Yun had bypassed it with a death art and the strength of the Tome of Life and Death, but there was nothing that anyone else could do.

Wahuang was the palest out of them all. If Lu Yun died here... she wouldn’t know what to do. Setting aside how important he was to Inception Palace and the immortal dao, she couldn’t let him die purely on the basis of their friendship.

The situation looked incredibly dire for Lu Yun at the moment. One had to continuously supply the sword with energy if they wanted to use it. All of his previous efforts would be wasted if he let go, and the zombie on the verge of death would recover as well.

“Release the brush and return to who you were, the real you. I’ll reform your soul for you,” Lu Yun huffed at the akasha ghost approaching him.

The faceless woman had something to do with the zombie, so the sword slicing into the zombie also injured her to a certain degree. But still, there was nothing he could do to deter her. Though bloody tears trailed down the woman’s cheeks, her steps remained firm and she resolutely approached Lu Yun.

“Wait, wait!” he protested at seeing her come closer. “Even though the zombie is one with you, you’ve broken free of it. You’ll remain alive even if it dies!”

She completely ignored him. Now thirty meters away from him, this was a distance that didn’t even register for an akasha ghost. Her hand gently lifted up, terrifying power already concentrated on its palm.

Now that he was no longer part of the Thousand Obliteration Formation of the Six Royals, Lu Yun was only second level mortal realm. This strike would completely obliterate him.

The akasha ghost’s true cultivation level was beyond the chaos, so her attack would be intimately connected to karma. She’d be able to shatter even the six paths of his nascent spirit located in hell!

However, her hand froze a hair’s breadth away from Lu Yun’s head and deep fear burrowed out of the face that was both laughing and crying at the same time.

A tiny door had opened in Lu Yun’s left hand, and from it wafted a presence that completely terrified her. The presence of the hadal hell!

“Ahhh!!” she screamed and whirled around, vanishing on the spot.

Hummm.

Great sword energy blossomed from the sword in Lu Yun’s hand and finished slicing the zombie in half. Still reeling from shock, he slowly closed his left hand and dismissed the tiny Gates of the Abyss.

“It’s over? That... worked?” he gingerly breathed out, not anticipating that a desperate gamble of the hadal hell would actually rebuff the akasha ghost. “The akasha ghosts in the world of immortals have no idea what that hell is. It would seem that only the chaos creatures are afraid of it...”

The sword that’d restrained the zombie returned to a regular weapon size and landed in Lu Yun’s hand.

Chapter 1090: Abandoning Sword

“Wait, is everything over?” The crowd milled around uncertainly, caught off guard by the sudden end of the momentous clash. Who would’ve thought that things would be so neatly taken care of by a single one of Lu Yun’s moves?

“How did you pierce through the curtain of light earlier, and what was the door in your hand?” demanded the Ethos princess. She was swiftly followed by an ardent Nirvana princess.

“What, are you trying to pressure a disciple of my Inception Palace?” Wahuang sneered and stood firmly in front of Lu Yun, staring down the other two.

“Princess of Inception Palace, there’s two of us and only one of you,” the Nirvana princess said meaningfully after a glance at the Creation princess.

Under any other circumstances, the Creation princess would’ve long stepped forward to support the Inception princess. However, she’d officially broken off every tie on behalf of the Creation Palace earlier, so all she did now was stand to the side and watch with glee.

Having saved Wang Shu, the Burgeon prince would do nothing else. The remaining Opposition prince didn’t have a reason to help the Inception princess either.

“Princess of Inception Palace, this disciple is very strange. Don’t you want to get to the bottom of his secrets?” As the standoff drew out, the Creation princess finally ventured her opinion.

“Your Highness!” Ying Luo turned white as a sheet and regarded her princess with alarm.

“I’ll kill you if you dare say another word,” came the aloof response.

Color draining from her face, Ying Luo trembled and kept her mouth shut.

“Out with it if you want the sword in my hand. What’s with all the excuses?” Lu Yun took a step forward and raised his newly obtained treasure.

This sword was plainly an existence beyond the chaos, a treasure born not of the realm. He could vaguely feel an immense heritage brewing within the sword, one that exceeded the chaos!

Shockingly enough, the energy ripples from the sword bore traces of similarity to the faceless woman from before. However, she’d vanished for now, so he didn’t have the opportunity to verify this. Still in the status of an akasha ghost, she’d entered another trial ground to continue her quest of making her soul whole again.

Time was not on her side. If she didn’t do so as soon as possible, she would become a real akasha ghost and never find her way back to herself again.

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The cultivators around them brightened when they saw the sword in Lu Yun’s hand. The legacy to ascend beyond the chaos was in this sword, and even if it wasn’t, this was still a supreme treasure. It had slain a zombie that’d evolved beyond their realm!

In comparison, Lu Yun’s Dragonquake Scripture, the method by which he’d bypassed the curtain of light, and that strange door in his hand just now were no longer that important. The way to set foot into the next plane of existence and break free of the shackles of their existence was what everyone yearned for!

Avarice also dawned in the eyes of the Ethos and Nirvana princesses. They took a step forward in unison, bearing down on Lu Yun. However, Wahuang remained staunchly in place, her flowing locks once more turning an inky green.

“All of you, stop!” shouted the Opposition prince. “Have you forgotten that this is a testing ground? Anything gained here belongs to the bearer alone. If you rob someone of their treasure through superior cultivation, the six monarchs will make you answer for it!

“Don’t forget that they’re observing everything happening here through the six orders!”

His exhortation made the two princesses jerk to a halt. They’d been temporarily blinded by greed.

“Fine! Fine, fine.” The Ethos princess breathed heavily, glared at Lu Yun, and dismissed her replica.

“The rules of testing here have returned to normal, so I won’t remain any longer and interfere in the affairs of mortal realm cultivators. We have our own opportunities to seek out.” The Opposition prince smiled at Lu Yun, surveyed the surroundings, then dismissed his replica.

The other princes and princesses smiled ruefully at each other before departing. They weren’t here to look for opportunities, but to repair the rules of testing here and protect the disciples of their faction.

“Alright, I’m off. When you leave the tomb, take this back to the Inception Palace with you.” Wahuang handed a medallion over to Lu Yun and left as well. She wasn’t worried about his safety.

Once all the princes and princesses had gone, everyone’s gaze snapped to Lu Yun. Scintillating light glinted sharply from the sword in his hand. While the princes and princesses couldn’t take it from him out of consideration for the rules, no such restrictions applied to mortal realm cultivators.

Lu Yun was just a second level mortal realm cultivator. Though he was an Inception disciple, did it look like they would care about that once the treasure was in hand?

The chaos was boundless without end. They could dive into a random hiding spot after obtaining the inheritance and make it impossible for the six palaces to find them.

Sensing the unfriendly gazes around them, Ying Luo, Li Xue, Wang Shu, You Huoran, and Wei Yuan immediately clustered to Lu Yun’s side. The hundreds of Inception disciples shifted closer as well.

“Are you betraying the palace, Ying Luo?!” Those from the Creation Palace regarded Ying Luo unpleasantly. Their princess had just officially broken off friendly ties with Inception Palace.

Ying Luo chewed on her lip and responded resolutely, “Junior brother Lu Yun and I have gone through life and death together, and we are part of the oath sworn Six Royals. I will personally beg forgiveness for my actions later, but today, I will not mind even my death!”

The power of creation slowly rose from her.

“How noble these words sound, that you don’t mind even your death!” sneered her peers.

“It looks like Creation Palace was ready to make enemies out of us a long time ago. And the rest of you useless shits, you can come at us all together!” Huo Jun stepped forward, wholly unafraid of facing over a hundred thousand cultivators.

Apart from the six sacred palaces, the nine sacred lands were also in attendance, as well as some other factions of the chaos. There were even wandering cultivators present, and they wished to obtain Lu Yun’s sword more than anyone else.

There were only five hundred Inception disciples on this trip and they were all gathered at this spot. No one was afraid or shrank back from facing enemies that numbered a hundred times more than them.

“Hold on,” Lu Yun interjected. “What you guys want is this sword and the inheritance within, right?”

He caught everyone's eye by waving the sword around. It was just over a meter long and seemed slightly ordinary, like any other sword. The keen light of its edge was already beginning to fade.

"If you want it... then take it!" Lu Yun suddenly tossed the sword out.

"What?!" Most people didn't comprehend Lu Yun's actions. By the time they understood what had just happened, the sword had already landed in their midst.

"Get it!" someone yelled. Combat arts exploded within the crowd and the first person to lay hands on the sword was instantly vaporized.

A terrifying and chaotic melee immediately broke out.

"You..." Huo Jun stared dumbly at Lu Yun, not knowing what to say. The kid had just given up his opportunity, just like that?

"Do you see that? Look at how many people are dying with each blink of our eyes," Lu Yun sighed. "If I hadn't given up that sword, that would be us. Instead of us being a public target, they can have fun killing each other."