

Nine Star 3521

Chapter 3521

BOOM!

Long Chen's fist struck the winged devil race expert's palm like a bolt of lightning. A huge heaven-shaking explosion then erupted.

"If you dare to harm a single hair on her body, I will tear your corpse into ten thousand pieces and grind your bones to dust!" roared Long Chen. Black qi swirled out of his body, and his killing intent was overflowing. He was standing in front of Yu Qingxuan.

Seeing the berserk Long Chen protecting her, Yu Qingxuan was stunned. That winged devil expert had yet to release his aura, but he was definitely a terrifying mid stage World King. For her, Long Chen was willing to risk his life against such an opponent. Hence, she looked at Long Chen foolishly. Even her fear of the winged devil expert vanished.

Black qi gushed out of Long Chen's body, and killing intent raged in his eyes. His face was twisted in a fierce and malevolent expression.

As for that devil expert, he still had a faint smile. Eventually, the black qi coming from Long Chen's body slowly dissipated.

"You..."

Long Chen stared in shock at the winged devil expert.

That devil expert also pulled back his hand. He looked at Long Chen. "Just now, you were already bedeviled. When the thing that you want to protect the most is threatened, you transform into a devil. In truth, no matter how kind and good a person is, once their bottom line is touched, they will strike back with all their power, willing to pay any price. They won't mind becoming a devil either."

Only now did Long Chen realize that the devil expert was intentionally testing him. Furthermore, under the influence of the wine, he had activated his dark energy.

Curiously though, his heart-devil didn't take this opportunity to invade and take control of his soul. Long Chen was startled.

Yu Qingxuan was staring at Long Chen blankly and didn't say anything for a long time. This figure was deeply imprinted in her mind.

"Do you know? My devil race wasn't originally evil. It was the same as your human race. The majority of the time, it was kind. But when the devil race produced one expert, after he became the devil race's conviction, the devil race's desires limitlessly grew and inflated. In the end, it devoured our intelligence, and all the devil race's people became slaves to their desires. They lost their minds and their rationality. As a result, they could only act according to instinct, devouring other lifeforms to live. Do you know why my devil race became like this?" asked the winged devil.

Long Chen shook his head. He suddenly thought that this expert before him was extraordinary.

The devil expert indicated for him to sit down. He then poured more wine for Long Chen and said, "Because in the immemorial era, the devil race was the strongest, the leader of the ten thousand races. At that time, the devil race produced a supreme expert, the Devil Master. His appearance brought the devil race to unprecedented glory, but he also led the devil race down a path of no return. My winged devil race was originally the emperor race of the devil race, but now we've become walking corpses, becoming pawns used by others. I say all these things to you to impress upon you one point."

“What is it?” asked Long Chen.

“If one day your human race becomes the overlord of the world, then the devil race’s path will become your future.”

Long Chen’s heart pounded wildly. After a long time, he nodded. “That truly is possible. Human desires are also limitless. When there are no enemies inhibiting us, when we lose our sense of respect, we become unbridled, willing to do anything. However, I want to know. Did the devil race sink to this level solely due to that person called the Devil Master?”

The devil expert shook his head. “This matter implicates too much, so it cannot be said. Today, junior brother can count as a kindred spirit. Neither of us is a good person, so I merely wish to give you a warning. As for the Devil Master, as long as junior brother does not fall, you will sooner or later understand what kind of existence he was. We have destiny tying us together, and while I have nothing else to give you, you can have this little bit of wine. Please don’t refuse.”

The devil expert gave Long Chen hundreds of jugs of wine. So, Long Chen hastily thanked him.

He and Yu Qingxuan then left. This time, Long Chen didn’t continue onward. He brought Yu Qingxuan away, out of the Wine God Palace.

Long Chen had just left the Wine God Palace. Deep within the Wine God Palace, there was a location that on the Martial Heaven Continent would have been the residence of the High Priest.

There was an elder here as well. He wore white robes, and his hair was also white. He looked to have become a transcendent immortal, untouched by the dust of the mortal world.

“High Priest.”

Just then, the winged devil expert appeared and bowed to this elder.

Surprisingly, this elder was also a High Priest. The High Priest then looked at the winged devil expert and asked, “How was it?”

“I’m ashamed. Long Chen’s heart-devil is too strong to be rattled. Forgive this disciple for his powerlessness,” said the devil expert.

The High Priest shook his head. “Even with your power, you are unable to shake his heart-devil. Then the others have no chance at all. When Long Chen entered the Wine God Palace, the Wine God’s statue sensed it. That proves that he is the one that the Wine God prophesied. Seeing him entangled by a heart-devil, I thought that this was the guidance of the Wine God and that I was to help him. But even you were powerless. It seems that I misinterpreted the Wine God’s will. Long Chen has left now. Who knows what kind of additional variables will join the equation?”

The devil expert said, “Disciple gave him wine that contains the laws of the devil world. It can help him control his heart-devil, inhibiting its growth. This way, the Ghost Sovereign mark will not be activated so soon. Furthermore, disciple even mentioned the Devil Master in hopes of disturbing the lines of fate. Hopefully, the Ghost Sovereign will not make his move on Long Chen so early.”

The High Priest nodded. “You did very well. Throwing karma into chaos will help him conceal himself. The Wine God has not passed down an imperial edict in so long, and the palace master has also been silent. For the person that the Wine God prophesied to appear now, it seems that something major is about to occur.”

The High Priest extended his hand. His fingers moved slightly as if he was counting or calculating something. But in the end, he didn’t dare to finish calculating it. He slowly lowered his hand.

The moment that he put down his hand, his entire palm suddenly withered.

“High Priest!” The devil expert cried out.

“What powerful karma... Not even touching it is acceptable. If I truly tried to calculate it, I might have lost my life. It seems that the Heavenly Daos are about to completely change.” The High Priest looked at the empty air somewhat gravely.

...

Long Chen and Yu Qingxuan left the Wine God Palace. Seeing that Long Chen seemed to have suffered a blow, Yu Qingxuan took the initiative to talk to him, comforting him. When Long Chen became a devil and appeared in front of her, she wasn't afraid. Her heart actually felt particularly warm.

Long Chen smiled. “I’m fine. Let them wait. Once my cultivation base soars, I’ll carry out a ‘massacre’ of the Wine God Palace. All their wines will be mine.”

Seeing that Long Chen had returned to normal, Yu Qingxuan relaxed. She suddenly thought of something.

“Long Chen, did you come to the Dragon Blaze Prefecture for the Heavenly Flame Spirits as well?”

“The Heavenly Flame Spirits?” Long Chen was startled.

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Seeing that Long Chen was surprised, Yu Qingxuan curiously asked, “You didn’t come here for the Heavenly Flame Spirits?”

“I came here for you.”

“Nonsense.” Yu Qingxuan’s face reddened slightly.

“Hehe, that was a joke. I saw many people coming in this direction, so I felt like something major might be happening. I just came to take a look and didn’t expect to see you. After encountering you, I’ve run into one stroke of good luck after another! Oh, that’s right, I already said that we have to split our spoils fifty-fifty. Let’s divvy up the loot!” Long Chen took out the wines.

“No, no! The Wine God Palace’s seniors gave the wines to you. Furthermore, that Spirit race senior already gave me some wine. I’m already very satisfied.” Yu Qingxuan hastily refused.

Long Chen had fought with his wits against the masters of the Wine God Palace, and adding on his shameless face, he managed to con out these wines. She couldn’t possibly take advantage of him.

Long Chen persevered, trying to split the wines with her, but she shook her head the entire time. Long Chen didn’t force her. He just picked out a few dozen of the fine wines that suited her the most. There were a total of a hundred jugs.

Yu Qingxuan still tried to refuse, but Long Chen hardened his face. “If you don’t take it, that’s looking down on me.”

Only once she took it did Long Chen smile. He seemed just like a happy young man with any scheming ability. Infected by him, Yu Qingxuan also felt very happy.

“You mentioned Heavenly Flame Spirits. What are those? Why have they drawn so many flame element experts?” asked Long Chen after splitting the loot.

“The Heavenly Flame Spirits will periodically appear in the Heavenly Flame World inside of the Dragon Blaze Prefecture. Furthermore, this time it is special. The Heavenly Flame World descends upon the Dragon Blaze Prefecture once every thirty-six thousand years, and the Heavenly Flame World contains Heavenly Flame Spirits. They are terrible spirits of heaven and earth that desire to destroy the world. Every time the Heavenly Flame World descends, it is a tribulation. However, later on, people found that those wicked Heavenly Flame Spirits were actually a great opportunity to flame cultivators. If they are subdued, they can purify your flame energy. Last time, you gave me the Heavenly Rainbow Flame, but although it is my life’s flame, it requires a great deal of energy for me to merge with it. Just relying on myself, it would be impossible to accomplish it without a hundred years of cultivation. But if I can subdue enough Heavenly Flame Spirits, it will be possible to resolve that. What is your core flame?” asked Yu Qingxuan.

“Me? I still don’t have a core flame,” said Long Chen after a moment of stunned silence. He truly didn’t have a core flame, nor did he need one. He had Huo Linger.

“Long Chen, you don’t even have a core flame, but...” Yu Qingxuan didn’t know what to say.

“I don’t have a core flame, but that doesn’t mean that I don’t have a powerful flame. It’s just that my cultivation style is different from yours. Let me tell you a secret. I have a flame that is even more powerful than the Heavenly Rainbow Flame,” whispered Long Chen, looking around to make sure that no one else was around to hear it.

Yu Qingxuan laughed. “You’re lying!”

She thought that Long Chen was afraid that she would have a guilty conscience, which caused him to lie. She didn't realize that he was telling the truth.

Seeing the emotion deep in Yu Qingxuan's eyes, Long Chen wasn't in a rush to prove himself. He had to leave a deep enough impression in Yu Qingxuan's heart first so that she wasn't swindled away by others.

In order to make Yu Qingxuan happy, he constantly cajoled her, telling her jokes that made her laugh. Her mood soon improved.

Seeing her smiling like a blooming flower, Long Chen swore to himself that he would protect her forever. He would make sure that this smile remained on her face eternally. He wouldn't let her suffer the slightest grievance again.

"Let's go back to the Dragon Blaze Prefecture. Otherwise, those two Elders will get worried," said Yu Qingxuan. After forming hand seals, a war chariot decked in dazzling gold and jade appeared.

"Oh wow, so this war chariot was yours?" Long Chen's jaw dropped. This was the war chariot that had drawn his attention back then, the World Domain war chariot.

"You recognize this war chariot?" asked Yu Qingxuan.

"No, I don't recognize this war chariot. But I recognize its master," laughed Long Chen.

Yu Qingxuan laughed. "This war chariot was something that my master used in his youth. After I obtained the Heavenly Rainbow Flame, he gifted it to me as a reward. Let's get on!"

“Hehe, then I’ll definitely have to enjoy this ride. After all, a portion of this reward should be thanks to me!” Long Chen laughed and stepped into the war chariot.

Yu Qingxuan knew that Long Chen was saying that on purpose. She was getting used to Long Chen’s humorous way of talking.

“Damn, this really is luxurious!” Long Chen was stunned. This war chariot had several parts, all made out of materials for World Domain divine items.

Even the seats, tea table, carpets, and the rest were covered in runes. This war chariot was essentially a mobile fortress.

Although Long Chen had strengthened the seventh branch academy to the greatest level, looking at this war chariot, he found that only the owner of this chariot had the right to brag.

Every part of the war chariot had runes carved into it. Once those runes were all activated, it would be a supremely terrifying killing item.

Seeing Long Chen’s shock, even Yu Qingxuan, who was normally indifferent to such a thing, felt a trace of pride.

As the war chariot shot through the air, there wasn’t the slightest sound of it piercing through space, nor were there the slightest shaking or jolts. Seeing the scenery rapidly falling into the rear, Long Chen was amazed.

“Long Chen, this time, let’s go together into the Heavenly Flame World!” said Yu Qingxuan.

Seeing Long Chen stare at her blankly, Yu Qingxuan blushed and said, “I just meant that we can gather the Heavenly Flame Spirits together, looking after each other.”

“Either way is fine,” said Long Chen with a smile. The double meaning of his words made her blush even harder.

Long Chen looked at Yu Qingxuan and said, “If you’re with me, I hope that you can relax slightly. I have no crazy demands for you. I just hope that you can be happy. I don’t want you to feel any pressure because I will never ask you to repay anything.”

“Why... Why do you treat me so well?” Yu Qingxuan saw Long Chen’s sincerity. She then thought of how Long Chen had appeared to protect her in front of the winged devil race expert. As a result, her heart warmed.

“Because I owe you... I owe you far too much. I can spend several lifetimes trying, but I’ll never be able to fully repay you,” said Long Chen.

“Why do you say such a thing?” asked Yu Qingxuan. She clearly didn’t have memories of her former life.

“Whatever I say, it won’t matter. Just tell me, do you trust me?” asked Long Chen.

Yu Qingxuan nodded. “Although I still don’t understand you, I know that you won’t harm me.”

Long Chen smiled. "Then that's enough."

Yu Qingxuan's answer was the greatest acknowledgment he could obtain. Hence, Long Chen felt energy filling him.

When Yu Qingxuan's war chariot descended upon the Dragon Blaze Prefecture and the two of them came out, Long Chen instantly sensed countless pairs of eyes filled with killing intent staring at him.

Looking at those gazes, Long Chen smiled.

Chapter 3523

"You have an enmity with the Soaring Dragon Company?" Yu Qingxuan put away the war chariot and looked at those people that were glaring at Long Chen in front of the city gates. From their robes, she could tell their status.

"No, no enmity. We're of the same profession. Perhaps we end up with some clashes as we conduct our business," said Long Chen, shaking his head like a rattle.

"You do business?" asked Yu Qingxuan with disbelief. Even now, she didn't know what Long Chen did. Did he have a collaboration with the Soaring Dragon Company?

"Yes, I suppose. We're all just doing business. Then con others, and I loot what they con. It should be said to be mutually beneficial," said Long Chen.

"You dare to take the Soaring Dragon Company's things?" Yu Qingxuan was shocked and covered her mouth, staring at him in disbelief.

“Didn’t I tell you? Alchemy is my side occupation, and my main occupation is looting!” said Long Chen solemnly.

Back then, she had thought that he was just spouting nonsense. Now that he repeated it, she didn’t quite know what to believe.

“Long Chen, you really did come here. Will you let yourself be captured, or do you need us to do it?” Four third Heavenstage World Kings stepped forward, surrounding Long Chen as soon as he appeared.

Those four third Heavenstage World Kings unleashed their powerful auras, instantly drawing countless people’s attention.

Long Chen lazily looked at them and indifferently said, “There’s no need to wonder if I’ll let myself be captured. If you want to, go ahead and make your move.”

“Long Chen, if you really have guts, then leave the Dragon Blaze Prefecture and have a fair fight with us!” shouted one of the World Kings. Clearly, they didn’t dare to fight in this place. They didn’t dare to offend the city lord.

“A fair fight?”

Long Chen wasn’t the only one who laughed. Countless people who came to see the disturbance also laughed when they heard that four third Heavenstage World Kings were demanding a fair fight with an early stage Divine Lord.

Although the Soaring Dragon Company did possess a certain level of prestige, in this Dragon Blaze Prefecture, there were ten thousand races standing tall and multiple major powers. People weren't afraid of the Soaring Dragon Company.

They might not be a friend of Long Chen's. But hearing a World King challenge a Divine Lord to a fair fight, they wondered if that World King's head was still alright.

Even Yu Qingxuan laughed. This person truly was amusing. He talked without using his head.

That World King also sensed that he had misspoken, but he couldn't take his words back. His face burned.

"Long Chen, the Soaring Dragon Company is powerful. It's not good to provoke them. Why don't I use my status as a member of the Blazing Heaven Divine Sect to ask the Elders to mediate things for you? If you return what you took, wouldn't it be good for everyone?" whispered Yu Qingxuan. This was for Long Chen's own good. It had to be known that the Soaring Dragon Company was extremely wealthy. Offending them was not something to do for fun.

"Thank you, but there can be no mediation between us. You have to know, this world has no reasonless love and no causeless hate. Can you trust me?" Long Chen looked at Yu Qingxuan.

Yu Qingxuan smiled. "I, of course, trust you."

"Then that's good. Let me handle this matter. Don't worry about me. Oh, your two Elders have come." Long Chen just happened to see Yu Qingxuan's guards appear.

The two of them immediately came over to Yu Qingxuan's side. After that, they became like statues, just standing there with their eyes closed.

"Long Chen, as the Darklight Heaven's High Firmament Academy's youngest Heaven Master and the youngest branch academy's Dean, you are actually willing to hide like a little tortoise in its shell. The face of the most ancient academy in the nine heavens and ten lands has been lost by you. If someone else was in your position, they would have long since killed themselves out of shame!" As the first elder of the Soaring Dragon Company had misspoken, his companion immediately helped him out.

As a result, his words shook countless people. They stared at Long Chen in disbelief. Even some experts of other races looked at Long Chen with stunned expressions.

Many people were fond of remembering the number one, the best. As for the High Firmament Academy, it was the nine heavens and ten lands' number one academy. Although it had declined, its name was known to countless people.

This was simply common sense. If you went out into the world without knowing anything at all, then perhaps it would be fine if you were from other races. But if you were from the human race and still didn't know anything, you would definitely be laughed at.

Within the ancient city, countless heads stuck out, looking toward the city gates. Amongst them were Feng Xiang, Zhao Mingxuan, Wu Yang, and the others. They were stunned to hear that Long Chen was a dean of the number one academy.

"How can that be?!"

Long Chen was so young. Whether it was in terms of cultivation base, experience, or ability, how could he hold the position of dean? Even if it was just the dean of a branch academy, that wasn't possible, no?

Yu Qingxuan was even more shocked. At this time, she thought of how Long Chen had said that he had conned a dean into making him a Heaven Master. She had always thought that he had been joking. So it was the truth, and it was even in the world's number one academy.

"News spreads quickly. You obtained my information so quickly? But so what? I'm not in the Darklight Heaven. Here, I'm no longer the dean of the High Firmament Academy. This provocation of yours is meaningless against me. Those so-called halos of light are unable to bind me. In the Violet Flame Heaven, I have no halos. I am by myself and have nothing else. So what are you going to do now?" said Long Chen disdainfully.

"Long Chen, you massacred innocent people, selling your soul for profit, not caring about morality. After killing people for their treasures, you actually tried to blame my Soaring Dragon Company. You are absolutely vile. A shameless person like you should simply be hunted down and executed by all the heroes of the land. My Soaring Dragon Company has raised the bounty on you to one billion immortal king crystals, a World Domain divine item, and making your killer the highest level V.I.P. of the Soaring Dragon Company. Whoever cuts off your head will gain fame and wealth in one move, in addition to removing a scourge from this world. Let me see just how long you can keep smiling!" sneered one of the World Kings.

Countless people gasped at that extravagant bounty. That would definitely draw countless experts against Long Chen. In their eyes, Long Chen was no longer a human; he was a moving pile of cash.

As for those with hostility toward him, for example, Zhao Mingxuan, Wu Yang, and the others, their eyes all brightened. They weren't lacking money, but they were lacking an excuse to kill Long Chen. Now, they smiled.

It wasn't just them. Countless experts turned their gazes to Long Chen, and some were already using their divine sense to investigate his fluctuations. It was extremely provoking.

"Using others to kill me? That's fine. I, Long Chen, will accept all challengers. Furthermore, in order to let everyone be at ease, let me say that there are no misgivings. I hereby announce to everyone here that

this beautiful fairy Qingxuan beside me is just an ordinary friend. Do not implicate her because of me,” announced Long Chen.

“Don’t pretend to be so loved. Someone about to die should think more about themselves!”

Chapter 3524

Zhao Mingxuan was the one who spoke so disdainfully. He appeared in the air and looked down on Long Chen.

“I’ve found you displeasing from the start. Now, I finally have a reason to kill you.”

Clearly, he didn’t care what kind of grievance there was between Long Chen and the Soaring Dragon Company. He didn’t care who was right and who was wrong. Even if the Soaring Dragon Company was framing Long Chen, it didn’t matter. He just needed an excuse. The cultivation world was just that rough and cruel.

“It just so happens that I also find you displeasing. The day you attack me is the day your head falls to the ground,” said Long Chen indifferently.

Zhao Mingxuan was definitely the one that Long Chen detested the most out of all of them. It was because he had dragged Long Chen’s father and mother into their argument. If it weren’t for Yu Qingxuan being present at the time, Long Chen would have killed him regardless of the rules.

Now, this hateful fellow had actually jumped out of his own accord. Long Chen also decided to definitely kill him. It just so happened that he needed an opportunity.

“Hopefully, brother Mingxuan can give me face and leave him to me. I hate him far more than you, don’t you think?” Wu Yang also stepped forward.

“Sorry, I really can’t concede when it comes to this. How about after I kill him, I split his corpse in half for you?” said Zhao Mingxuan with a smile.

“What use is half? Am I going to use it for stew? Whatever. But brother Mingxuan, I won’t let him off. At that time, whoever kills him will get the whole thing!” said Wu Yang, laughing.

Yu Qingxuan’s expression sank. These people were going too far. They were absolutely despicable, treating Long Chen as prey.

Other than Wu Yang and Zhao Mingxuan, all the others besides Feng Xiang came out. They all glared at Long Chen coldly, not bothering to conceal their killing intent in the slightest.

Yu Qingxuan was about to speak when Long Chen said, “You don’t need to persuade them. They won’t listen. I’m going to go into seclusion for a few days to sharpen my saber. Once the Heavenly Flame World opens, I will definitely slaughter all these ignorant animals to scare off the foolish monkeys.”

Long Chen waved goodbye to Yu Qingxuan. It was not good for him to stay by her side right now.

One reason was because people were constantly provoking him, making her angry. Many of them might even say that he was getting close to Yu Qingxuan for other motives.

He didn’t want to bring Yu Qingxuan any trouble, not even the tiniest bit. He didn’t want to draw her into his battle.

Yu Qingxuan had told him that the Heavenly Flame World would descend around a month from now. Hence, he wanted to use this time to raise his cultivation base.

Previously, he hadn't dared to increase his realm too quickly. But now he had the assistance of the Wine God Palace's wine. When the power of the wine and pills was merged, he wouldn't need to have so many misgivings.

"Alright. I'll be staying temporarily at the city lord mansion. If you need anything, remember to come find me. I will definitely help you," implored Yu Qingxuan.

Long Chen nodded. He then smiled at Yu Qingxuan and walked off to the city's western part. That was where the Huayun Trading Company's branch was.

Countless people smiled sinisterly at Long Chen as he walked away. It seemed that they all viewed him as prey. Some people even directly challenged him to life-and-death battles, but Long Chen ignored them.

His silence only caused people to grow more arrogant. They even began to hurl verbal abuses at him.

Long Chen couldn't help frowning. Without being aware of it, his fists were already clenched tightly beneath his sleeves. Killing intent brewed within his heart.

However, in the end, he managed to endure. Attacking right now wouldn't resolve any problems. Even if he killed a few people, it would only expose his own power. It wasn't worth it.

Furthermore, if he did, he would only be falling for the Soaring Dragon Company's trap. Tch, these suicidal fools wanted to die so badly. Then Boss Long San would make sure that their wish was achieved.

He originally didn't want to fight with people, but some people always wanted to climb over his body. Since they didn't know respect, they couldn't blame him for being merciless.

After a while, Long Chen found the Huayun Trading Company. In order to find some peace, he was preparing to have the Huayun Trading Company find a place for him to enter seclusion.

What he hadn't expected was for someone from the city lord mansion to come invite him, saying that they wished to offer him a training room for his seclusion.

That startled Long Chen. Was the city lord mansion not the Feng family's? What was going on? But in the end, Long Chen still refused. Ignoring whatever intention the city lord mansion had, he didn't want to disturb Yu Qingxuan during this time.

Yu Qingxuan had also said that this fight for the Heavenly Flame Spirits would be fierce, so everyone was in seclusion to enter their peak conditions.

Once the Heavenly Flame World descended, countless monsters that had been lying in the dark would appear.

The flame element heavenly geniuses of the various races would appear. They couldn't possibly let go of this chance that only appeared once every thirty-six thousand years. Even the dark world's experts would appear.

The various monsters of the six Daos would appear. Some heavenly geniuses even sealed themselves for thousands of years just to wait for this opening of the Heavenly Flame World.

Even with Yu Qingxuan's special status, even if she was guarded by two terrifying experts, she still had to be cautious. The dark world's experts viewed the immortal world's lifeforms as enemies. They wouldn't care about status.

Thus, this time, there would definitely be a storm of blood. The Heavenly Flame World would become a ruthless fighting ring. It was unknown how many people would be leaving their dead bodies inside for eternity, never capable of leaving.

However, for the Heavenly Flame Spirits, those people were willing to throw their lives away. The Heavenly Flame Spirits could completely change a person's fate. Cultivators weren't afraid of dying, but they were afraid of being surpassed by others.

Thus, even if the Soaring Dragon Company hadn't come this time, Long Chen and Yu Qingxuan would still have to go into seclusion to prepare for the Heavenly Flame World.

It was simply that this incident caused the two of them to split up and go into seclusion.

Having denied the city lord mansion's invitation, Long Chen went into seclusion in the Huayun Trading Company. This made him feel a bit more at peace.

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Within the city lord mansion, the city lord was looking out at the scenery outside the window. He was silent.

As for his son, Feng Xiang, he was quietly standing behind him. He had waited half an incense stick's worth of time, but his father had not said anything.

"Father. Did you need me for something?" Feng Xiang asked.

"I told you to go invite Long Chen. Did you go?" said the city lord indifferently, not even looking back.

"I sent someone to invite him, but he didn't come," answered Feng Xiang.

"I told you to go, not to send others to go. Xiang-er. You really disappoint me." The city lord sighed.

"Father, I don't understand. Why do you care so much about that little fellow? In order to accomplish your mission, do you know how Wu Yang and Zhao Mingxuan look at me now? I no longer have the slightest face in front of them. While they are targeting Long Chen, you want me to personally go to Long Chen's door and invite him? How am I supposed to live afterward?" Feng Xiang's expression was a bit unsightly. He felt very resentful inside.

"Fine. You really are beyond cure."

The city lord finally turned to look at Feng Xiang and shook his head.

"Pass down my orders! Starting today, Feng Ling is the future city lord!"

Upon hearing this, Feng Xiang's expression became exceedingly ugly. He was enraged.

“Why are you doing this?!”

Suddenly, the city lord’s hand caught Feng Xiang’s throat, and a sharp killing intent instantly enveloped Feng Xiang.

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The aura of Feng Xiang’s father erupted. In front of him, Feng Xiang was as tiny as an ant. The latter didn’t even dare to move. He could only stare in shock and terror at his father.

His father looked at him coldly. “If you weren’t my son, I would kill you right now. You fool, twice you didn’t understand my intentions. I sacrificed my face to give you an opportunity, and you wasted it. You treated it as nothing more than wind blowing past your ear. Do you know that these two opportunities were for you to form a good relationship with Long Chen? You failed twice, so how could I entrust the Dragon Blaze Prefecture to a fool like you? How could I leave the Feng family to you? If you continued offending Long Chen, let alone you, even the entire Feng family would be dragged in.”

Feng Xiang stared at his father in shock. Although Long Chen seemed a bit different from others, he had never displayed his true power. Furthermore, he didn’t give off much pressure. As a result, Feng Xiang had never felt him to be very powerful.

Long Chen looked like someone who relied on his face and mouth to con others. Hence, Feng Xiang hadn’t expected his father, a grand seventh Heavenstage World King, to be so afraid of Long Chen.

“I told you to read more, study more, but you just kept hanging out with a group of scoundrels. The way you brag and laud each other makes me turn red just by hearing it. Do you know the history of the High Firmament Academy? Do you know why the High Firmament Academy declined? Do you know why the High Firmament Academy is now down to only their main academy when their branches were once spread throughout the nine heavens and ten lands? Do you know what it signifies for Long Chen to be

the youngest dean of the High Firmament Academy? Do you know who the High Firmament Academy's opponent is? You don't know anything! Yet you think yourself infallible. You are so foolish that no medicine can cure you. After today, I will tell everyone that you have been stripped of your status as the son of the city lord. You are now expelled from the Feng family. Starting today, all of your actions have nothing to do with my Feng family," said the city lord coldly.

"Father...!"

Feng Xiang was struck dumb. He hadn't expected his father to be so ruthless. He actually expelled him from the Feng family.

Feng Xiang then fell to the ground as if he had lost all his bones. Looking at his father, he felt like he was in a nightmare. He didn't dare to believe this.

"Do you see? After you lose your status as the son of the city lord, you are nothing. Let alone going to other star-fields, even within the Dragon Blaze Prefecture, without the protection of the city lord mansion, you might end up a random corpse on the street at any time. Long Chen was someone who dared to cross heavens to come here. He dared to become enemies with the powerful trading company, even plundering and killing their experts. Do you dare? All you do is rely on the city lord mansion's prestige to abuse others. Do you think that I am a blind person who can't see all of that? How many times have I subtly warned you? But you just continue acting the same, barely even trying to cover up your actions. Do you take me for a fool? What I could give you, I can also take away from you. Don't you think yourself as very powerful, very amazing? Fine, then your chance has come! You've abused quite a few people. Now that you've lost your position as the son of the city lord, let me see just how long you can survive," said the city lord.

"Father, Xiang-er knows his mistakes! Father, please, give me another chance!" pleaded Feng Xiang, truly afraid.

"I didn't give you just one chance, but unfortunately, you didn't appreciate it. Scram. Someone come and toss Feng Xiang out! Starting today, he has no connection to my city lord mansion!"

Two World Kings immediately appeared. They looked at Feng Xiang sympathetically.

“Feng Xiang. Let’s go.”

They had previously always called him young lord. Now that he was not the son of the city lord, even the way they called him changed.

“Father, please! Don’t abandon me! I am your son!” Feng Xiang cried out and kowtowed so hard that his forehead bled.

Although he was bleeding, it was nothing more than a trick. With his cultivation base, this was clearly intentional to soften his father’s heart.

Regretfully, his father didn’t even look at him. Feng Xiang was then dragged out.

However, just as he was about to be thrown out, his father’s voice coldly rang out.

“If you are still alive in three years, I will consider letting you rejoin the Feng family. If you do die, it has nothing to do with anyone.”

“Many thanks, father! Many thanks!” Feng Xiang was delighted but that delight quickly faded.

The city lord mansion issued a public proclamation of this news. As a result, countless people were shocked, not knowing what had happened.

Everywhere within the city, Feng Xiang was a hot topic. Wherever he went, people stared at him oddly.

Those people that were normally respectful when they saw him were now staring at him differently. Although it wasn't very exaggerated, it was still incredibly clear to Feng Xiang that they were delighting in his misfortune.

Feng Xiang clenched his teeth and vanished from the streets.

Within the city lord mansion, a beautiful woman watched Feng Xiang vanish and she sighed.

"Aren't you being too cruel to Feng Xiang?"

"No. I am giving him his last chance. If he still doesn't properly cherish it, then there is no saving him," said the city lord. This woman was Feng Xiang's mother.

"Are you really so afraid of that Long Chen?" she asked.

The city lord looked at her coldly. "A mother really can't see so far when it comes to their children. Shut your mouth. If Feng Xiang was allowed to continue acting this way, then after the opening of the Heavenly Flame World, there might not be a Feng family any longer. If you're not afraid, you can scram with your son. I won't stop you."

"You...!" Her expression sank. After that, she stormed off.

"I hereby announce that during this time, it is forbidden for anyone in the Feng family to have any dealings with Feng Xiang! Anyone who breaks this rule will be expelled from the Feng family. Remember, this includes everyone!" shouted the city lord.

"Yes!"

The city lord stood atop the mansion by himself, overlooking the giant prefecture city. His expression was solemn.

After a bit, he took out a jade tablet. Runes flowed on top of the jade and they condensed into the shape of a dragon.

From the city lord mansion, the entire Dragon Blaze Prefecture looked like a coiling dragon. But the dragon on the jade was starting to change slightly. There were some differences.

"Ever since Long Chen arrived, the fengshui of the Dragon Blaze Prefecture has started changing. It is fluctuating intensely. This is a moment of life and death, and no one can predict what will happen. One mistake and it will be an irrecoverable calamity!"

The city lord sighed as he looked at the jade. The position of the city lord mansion was precisely on the head of the dragon.

Time passed bit by bit. The Dragon Blaze Prefecture grew increasingly lively as more and more lifeforms entered the city.

However, countless bizarre lifeforms also appeared outside of the city. Many of them possessed strange auras. They clearly weren't lifeforms of the immortal world.

After a month, in the west of the Dragon Blaze Prefecture, a crack suddenly appeared in the void. When that crack appeared, countless experts came out of seclusion.

"The Heavenly Flame World is about to descend!"

Countless eyes lying in the dark instantly opened.

Chapter 3526

BOOM!

Suddenly, the void exploded and a giant figure appeared in the sky. It was a three-foot golden crow that had spread its wings, covering heaven and earth. It was like a blazing sun illuminating the heavens.

"Hahaha, the Heavenly Flame World is about to open! All the Heavenly Flame Spirits are mine! My Golden Crow race will once more climb to the peak of the ten thousand races!"

Wu Yang's voice rang out. He then transformed into a giant Golden Crow, flames burning around his body, giving off shocking pressure.

The Three-Foot Golden Crow was said to be the son of the sun, so his manifestation was precisely a blazing sun. Also, the Golden Crow Flame was ranked seventeenth of the Heavenly Flame Rankings. It was also one of the extremely rare Heavenly Flames that could be passed down.

The Golden Crow Flame was also called the Sun Flame by the Golden Crow race. However, in reality, it wasn't the Sun Flame because the Sun Flame was ranked sixth on the Heavenly Flame Rankings.

However, there was a definite connection between the two of them. The Golden Crow Flame could constantly grow as it was cultivated. The manifestation would also go from one sun to nine suns. That was the acquired Sun Flame.

The Sun Flame could be split between acquired and innate. The acquired one referred to one that was cultivated to that level. But an innate one was born from heaven and earth, a flame that only appeared at great historic moments.

The innate Sun Flame was something that only existed in legends. There weren't many records throughout history about it.

On the other hand, the acquired Sun Flame had appeared many times throughout history, and all those that had acquired Sun Flames came from the Golden Crow race.

Wu Yang had also been in seclusion all this time. As soon as he came out, he displayed his true body, and three blazing suns burned behind him. His aura was astonishing, shaking countless experts.

"Long Chen, have you washed your neck?" Wu Yang spread his wings and shouted loudly.

As flames filled the heavens, a hole was incinerated in the world. After that, Zhao Mingxuan's figure appeared within those flames.

Behind him was a palace that was like a burning oven. All the flame runes of heaven and earth gathered around him.

“Wu Yang, you are snatching my business. I already said that Long Chen’s life is mine. You’re not being sincere,” laughed Zhao Mingxuan.

“The legends are true! The Raging Flame Heavenly Palace’s Zhao Mingxuan controls the rank thirteen Heavenly Flame, the Heaven Burning Divine Flame! It can burn the void and pierce holes in the walls between worlds.”

When they saw Zhao Mingxuan’s flame burning even the void, everyone was shocked. This flame was absolutely terrifying.

As more and more experts came out of seclusion, all the experts that had been in the Fallen Immortal Pavilion with Long Chen appeared, showing off their own flames. They were all famous existences on the Heavenly Flame Rankings.

“This Long Chen is doomed. With so many people targeting him, even if they just spit some saliva on him, they’ll still drown him.” Seeing so many people come out of seclusion and challenge Long Chen, they all felt like Long Chen was doomed.

If it was someone else, they probably wouldn’t even have the courage to leave the city with so many people targeting them.

However, people felt like Long Chen was no random character. The youngest dean of the number one academy of the nine heavens and ten lands couldn’t be ordinary. Someone who dared to plunder the Soaring Dragon Company definitely couldn’t be a nobody.

Hence, everyone wished to see how Long Chen would react to these people. Regretfully, Long Chen still wasn’t responding.

Feng Xiang also appeared, but his appearance didn't cause a single ripple. Although he also controlled a Heavenly Flame, no one looked at him.

Wu Yang, Zhao Mingxuan, and the others didn't even look at him. Back then, when he took the initiative to speak to Long Chen, they already started to look down on him.

Now, Feng Xiang was stripped of his status as the son of the city lord. These people actually thought that the city lord was also turning his back on him as he had lost his face by talking to Long Chen, causing the city lord to throw him away.

Before this, they called each other brothers. But since Feng Xiang had lost his special status, they felt that Feng Xiang had also lost his qualifications to stand alongside them.

Yu Qingxuan also came out, and the first thing she did was ask about Long Chen. But hearing that he had yet to come out of seclusion, she couldn't help feeling a bit worried. She was also extremely dissatisfied with Wu Yang, Zhao Mingxuan, and the others' provocations toward him.

Although Long Chen hadn't explained his grievance with the Soaring Dragon Company, she trusted that there must be a good reason. Long Chen had to have his reasons.

As for Wu Yang, Zhao Mingxuan, and the others, now they pretended to be on the side of justice and found an excuse to kill Long Chen. She was very angry. This was the pinnacle of shamelessness.

The thing that worried her the most was that Long Chen had just entered the Divine Lord realm, but Wu Yang and the others were already late stage Divine Lords. Long Chen was at an immense disadvantage in terms of realm.

Despite not knowing him for a long time, she sensed that while he acted humble, he was actually very prideful inside. If she came out to help him, while these people might not dare to do anything to Long Chen, she was worried about harming Long Chen's ego. She just wanted to help him but couldn't do anything.

One day, two days, three days passed. The crack in the void grew larger and larger, and raging flames spurted out of it. Countless experts had already run over to that crack and started absorbing that flame energy.

The flames that came out of the cracks might be looked down upon by the supreme experts, but to ordinary cultivators, it was already considered something good.

Furthermore, as time passed, the flame energy grew stronger. If they didn't get a good spot at the start, all the good spots would be taken by others.

The majority of the Dragon Blaze Prefecture's experts ran over to the spatial crack and began absorbing its flame energy.

As for Wu Yang, Zhao Mingxuan, and the other heavenly geniuses, they also came early, not to absorb that flame energy, but to be in a good spot when the time came. Other than that, they wanted to wait for Long Chen here. They were planning on eliminating him here without even giving him a chance to enter the Heavenly Flame World.

However, after waiting and waiting, their expressions started to grow solemn. That was because lifeforms from various races had appeared. They didn't even recognize some of those lifeforms, and some of these lifeforms had auras that made their hearts pound.

There were also some lifeforms from unclear origins wearing cloaks and masks, concealing their auras. But they gave off a very sinister feeling. People assumed that they were likely from the dark world.

The Chaotic Star Sea was a world of chaos, and there were many places with connections to other worlds. Experts from other worlds would enter the Chaotic Star Sea. Of course, some experts from the Chaotic Star Sea would sneak into their worlds as well.

Thus, this was truly a land of chaos. Furthermore, there were many areas of the Chaotic Star Sea led by lifeforms from different races. Many places were forbidden for the human race to set foot in.

Even the native experts of the Chaotic Star Sea had not gone to most of the places in the Chaotic Star Sea because it was simply too dangerous.

When these lifeforms of unknown origin appeared, many people's hearts shook. They instantly grew more cautious.

On this day, the spatial crack suddenly rapidly widened, forming a giant spatial gate. Everyone grew excited. This signified that the Heavenly Rainbow World was about to open.

"Fairy Qingxuan has come!" People recognized Yu Qingxuan's war chariot.

"Long Chen has also come!"

Another cry rang out. People finally spotted Long Chen's giant Minghong Saber.

Chapter 3527

Long Chen arrived, still wearing the same black robes and carrying the Minghong Saber on his back. Countless people's gazes were on him.

His appearance startled quite a few people because they assumed that Long Chen had stealthily fled.

After all, he was being targeted by so many terrifying experts. If Long Chen didn't want to die, then he would definitely run.

Now that he had appeared, they were shocked by his guts and started to admire him. Whether or not he could leave the Heavenly Flame World in one piece, that arrogance of his had definitely given people a newfound level of respect for him.

Wu Yang, Zhao Mingxuan, and a few others smiled cruelly when they saw him. They already viewed him as prey.

"Interesting. In one month, you forcibly raised your cultivation base from the first Heavenstage of the Divine Lord realm to the fourth Heavenstage. To rise three realms in one month is truly surprising. But even so, Long Chen, you can't escape your fate of being slaughtered today," sneered Zhao Mingxuan.

Amongst the rest of them, even the weakest cultivation base was someone at the seventh Heavenstage. As for Zhao Mingxuan, he was at the ninth Heavenstage. He could completely suppress Long Chen in terms of realm.

Long Chen ignored Zhao Mingxuan. It was like he didn't see any of them, and he looked at Yu Qingxuan who appeared at the same time as him. The two of them exchanged a smile.

"In a month, you managed to rise three realms. That's amazing." Yu Qingxuan was pleasantly surprised to see Long Chen's cultivation base. His aura was vast like a sea and exceptionally steady. There were no signs of it being hollow or unstable.

It had to be known that the Divine Lord realm was comparatively slow in progress. To rise three realms in just a month would be like plucking out sprouts to make them grow taller. It would definitely cause an unstable foundation.

However, there were no signs of such a thing in Long Chen's aura. That made Yu Qingxuan click her tongue in wonder. She was happy for him.

"The wine of the Wine God Palace isn't famous for nothing. That senior with the ruler qi in particular, his wine is especially miraculous," said Long Chen with a smile.

Long Chen had combined medicinal pills and wine during this time. With the two of them helping each other, with the right arrangement, it was possible to draw out each other's potential and increase both of their effects.

Furthermore, since he was in the early stage of the realm, his progression was naturally faster. If it weren't for the fact that advancing to the Divine Lord realm had caused his body to change immensely, causing him to need to stabilize it first, he could have long since reached the late stage by crazily consuming medicinal pills.

Now, his body had essentially stabilized. With the help of the Wine God Palace's wine, in truth, he had advanced to the fourth Heavenstage seven days ago.

However, he didn't continue advancing. Once his cultivation base rose to the fourth Heavenstage, the astral power of his 108,000 stars explosively grew.

During this time, Long Chen had also been consuming Violet Tower pills. As a result, the Alioth Star had become completely violet. Moreover, the star clouds around his 108,000 stars were denser, and their violet qi was more solid.

From outside, Long Chen's Dantian appeared to be a star sea. The violet qi was like auspicious clouds floating between the stars, containing a mysterious energy. When the violet qi entered his stars, Long Chen understood just how powerful this star sea was.

With the nourishment of the violet qi, these stars seemed to obtain new life. As they began to transform, every star became like the mouth of a spring, with power gushing out endlessly for Long Chen's use. As for the violet qi, it was precisely the key to activating these springs.

Furthermore, this violet qi didn't just bring him divine flame energy, as it contained spiritual yuan as well. Adding on his original stores of spiritual yuan that had explosively grown after advancing, he was no longer worried about running out of spiritual yuan.

This time, when Yu Qingxuan looked at Long Chen, she saw that his gaze was full of ease and confidence. Even against this endless army of experts, he was like a calm lake, with not even a ripple on the surface.

"That senior really is amazing." When this person was mentioned, Yu Qingxuan nodded. That elder seemed to be from the same generation as her master. Hence, his origins were definitely frightening.

Long Chen and Yu Qingxuan walked shoulder to shoulder. One in black robes and the other in a black dress; a handsome man and a beautiful woman. They were like a golden couple that had descended from the heavens. It was unknown just how many jealous gazes glared at the two of them at that moment.

Fairy Qingxuan's name had long since spread throughout the Violet Flame Heaven. Whether it was her background, her looks, or her talent, she was a peak heavenly chosen, someone who toppled over countless elites.

Hence, for Long Chen to now be standing alongside her, laughing and talking while whispering secretly with her, many people almost had flames burst out of their eyes.

Fairy Qingxuan was said to be the Blazing Murasaki Flower. The idea that this flower might land in someone's home was something countless people had daydreamed about. Countless handsome youngsters were pursuing her.

However, while Yu Qingxuan's character was warm, she was only politely courteous to everyone and had yet to get close to anyone. It was precisely due to this that those young men had kept their dreams, thinking that they still had a chance.

Therefore, for Long Chen to suddenly appear and swirl away fairy Qingxuan, who kept others at a polite distance, it was like he had bewitched her. They had never seen her talk and laugh with someone like this.

Long Chen had essentially crushed the flame of hope in countless people's hearts. How could they not be enraged?

The most infuriated man here was Zhao Mingxuan. He had directly threatened Long Chen, and the latter simply ignored him, treating him as nothing more than thin air. It was a silent insult that was even harder to bear than a direct one.

And yet, he couldn't directly turn against Long Chen because Long Chen was talking with Yu Qingxuan. If he interrupted him now, it would offend Yu Qingxuan.

He wanted to kill Long Chen but didn't want to offend Yu Qingxuan. This was all to keep a trace of that dream alive. Anyway, he also couldn't offend Yu Qingxuan's background.

For Yu Qingxuan to arrive with Long Chen, she had essentially added another halo around Long Chen, making countless experts jealous, yet unable to express it.

When they arrived at the Heavenly Flame World's gates, Long Chen sensed countless sharp gazes filled with killing intent. Looking over, he saw that it was a group of masked, cloaked lifeforms.

"Long Chen, you killed millions and millions of members of my race! Your hands are dyed in their blood! Good, I'm glad I got to meet you here!" One of those lifeforms slowly took off his mask.

When he took off his mask, startled cries rang out. Expressions of terror appeared on countless people's faces.

He had bull horns on his head and eyes like golden lanterns. When he spoke, golden sparks flew out. The laws of the Heavenly Daos actually began to twist around him. Moreover, flames began to appear around his body after he took off his mask. The temperature in the air instantly rose.

"Golden eyes! The Immemorial Flame Devil!"

A startled cry rang out as someone recognized this lifeform. It was a member of the devil race, and it was one possessing an immemorial bloodline. He actually didn't even wait for the gates to open, instead showing his true face right outside. As a result, people stared in shock at Long Chen.

Chapter 3528

“Sorry, I’ve killed countless lifeforms in my lifetime, especially those from the devil race. I really can’t remember them all. Which race are you looking to avenge? I feel like it’s very funny. Whether it’s in the mortal world or the immortal world, it’s your devil race that attacked my human race countless times. If someone should be looking for revenge, it should be me!” said Long Chen indifferently, looking at that Immemorial Flame Devil.

“This lord will give you a chance to fight. Have a one-against-one fight against this lord to decide your life and death,” said that Immemorial Flame Devil icily.

“I don’t mind. As long as you want to die, you can pick the time and place. I will fulfill your wish.” Long Chen shrugged.

His enmity with the devil race was carved into his bones. On the Martial Heaven Continent, he had witnessed countless innocent humans being slaughtered by the devil race. Those scenes could never be erased from his mind.

“Unacceptable!”

Unexpectedly, Zhao Mingxuan actually spoke up for Long Chen.

“Long Chen’s life is mine. I don’t care what race you’re from, it means nothing in front of me.”

“You don’t care about your life, is that it?” That Immemorial Flame Devil turned to Zhao Mingxuan, the golden light in his erupting. He seemed like he might attack at any moment.

“There’s no need to argue here. Whatever enmities you have can be settled inside of the Heavenly Flame World, no? What’s the point of arguing when you can’t even fight here?”

Another lifeform spoke. This was a greater demon with an astonishing Blood Qi, and it was also a terrifying existence.

“There really is no need. Fighting here is just showing off in front of others. After a little scuffle, both sides spit out some harsh words, and that’s it? What’s the point? Let us wait until we enter the Heavenly Flame World before people start throwing around words of life and death. We can just see who is laughing in the end,” sneered someone else.

This place did not just have heavenly geniuses. Their various protectors were also here, and it was unknown how many World Kings were hidden among them.

If something unexpected happened here, they would definitely interfere to protect their own race’s disciples.

If the other side was too powerful, they would just activate a transportation talisman. Then the old fellows of those major forces would also appear.

Such a sight often occurred in past descents of the Heavenly Flame World. When those old monsters appeared, all they did was spit words at each other without actually fighting. That was because all sides were restrained by everyone. They wouldn’t really fight.

However, once they entered the Heavenly Flame World, it would be different. The outer region did permit World Kings to enter, but the deeper area was restricted by laws that only allowed Divine Lords to enter.

The Heavenly Flame Spirits only appeared in the depths, so that was where the real fighting would occur. With no World Kings to interfere, life and death would be decided by each individual's true power.

Furthermore, the depths of the Heavenly Flame World did not just have terrifying flame spirits that would cause carnage. The most terrifying thing was the fellow members of the same race who would kill each other just to get an advantage.

Thus, the only person you could trust once you entered the Heavenly Flame World was yourself. That was a true lawless world.

Although the heavenly geniuses here were all Divine Lords, not all of them were youngsters. Some of them were old monsters that had been sealed for many years. They also knew that there was no way a fight would occur here, so they couldn't even bother to pay attention to this argument.

Hearing that, the Immemorial Flame Devil sneered, "Fine. I'll settle things with you in the Heavenly Flame World."

This sneer was not just for Long Chen but also the entire human race.

"Brother, if you need any help, just say the word."

Suddenly, a large figure walked toward Long Chen. What shocked everyone was that it was an expert of the Lava Giant race.

The Lava Giant race was also a spirit race, and he actually stood by Long Chen's side. It had to be known that the Lava Giant race was an enormous race, and they were very protective of their own people. They weren't easy to provoke.

"Many thanks. But I feel like I can handle my own matters. I appreciate your kind intentions." Long Chen cupped his fists.

"No need to thank me. My Lava Giant race is also a member of the Stone Spirit race. You've helped the Stone Spirit race before, so you are a kind person. I am willing to help you," said the Lava Giant.

Long Chen was startled. He suddenly thought of the Heaven Merging Stone Spirit race's expert that he had released. Long Chen had even given him a name, Shi Tongtian.

He hadn't expected the Lava Giant race to also be a part of the same race as the Heaven Merging Stone Spirit race. Furthermore, this Lava Giant could actually tell that Long Chen had helped one of his people before. But Long Chen didn't want him to be drawn into his personal grievance.

That was because just now, Long Chen had noticed quite a few races glaring at him with killing intent. They were unwilling to show their true selves at the moment, and it wasn't just the devil race. There was the Blood race, the Nether race, and others.

In other words, he would be attacked from all sides once he entered the Heavenly Flame World. Although this expert's aura was very terrifying, Long Chen didn't wish for him to be affected.

That Lava Giant was quite stubborn though, directly saying that anyone who wanted to make things hard for Long Chen would have to face him first.

That gave quite a few people a sense of pressure. The Lava Giant race was not an existence that they wished to provoke. Their race was spread throughout the nine heavens and ten lands, and they were also very united. If one was provoked, the rest would also be provoked. The wrath of the Lava Giant race wasn't something that just anyone could endure.

Yu Qingxuan smiled when she saw the Lava Giant race stand by Long Chen. That proved that he was a good person. He had helped many people.

Long Chen helplessly thanked the Lava Giant. He then walked toward the Heavenly Flame World's gates alongside Yu Qingxuan.

The closest space next to the gates had long since been occupied. But slightly further away, there were still some empty spots.

However, if you wished to reach those spots, you had to pass through the encirclement of people. The two of them had just started walking through when someone blocked their way.

"Sorry, but I will only permit fairy Qingxuan to pass. I won't let a murderous villain who kills people for their treasures to pass."

This was a ninth Heavenstage Divine Lord, and he looked at Long Chen with obvious loathing and disdain.

Seeing this, Yu Qingxuan was enraged. These people were actually labeling Long Chen as such a villain just because of some words from the Soaring Dragon Company. It was absolutely vile.

Long Chen couldn't help sighing and shaking his head.

Seeing him sigh and shake his head, that person sneered, "Do you not know what you've done? By standing beside fairy Qingxuan, it is like you are placing a turd beside a beautiful flower. If I wasn't afraid of blaspheming a fairy, I would wring off your head long ago."

That person's expression grew sinister. His eyes were full of hatred and envy.

"Don't force me." Long Chen once more shook his head.

"So what if I force you? I am the Amethyst Firmament Gate's--"

Immediately, Long Chen's hand reached out like a bolt of lightning toward that person's neck.

Just as Long Chen's hand was about to touch his neck, that person sneered sinisterly.

All of a sudden, two strange snakes appeared on his shoulders, biting down on Long Chen's wrist.

Chapter 3529

The two snakes appeared out of nowhere. Furthermore, it was just as Long Chen's hand was about to grab his neck. This sudden sneak attack couldn't be defended against.

The two snakes bit their fangs deeply into Long Chen's arm. However, Long Chen's hand was still tightly clenched around that person's neck.

“The Amethyst Firmament Gate’s spirit flame divine beast, the Flame Spirit Python!” Startled cries rang out.

“Long Chen’s doomed. The Flame Spirit Python’s venom is incomparable. Anyone bitten by it will have fire poison invade their hearts. There’s no cure,” added another person who knew the Flame Spirit Python’s terror.

As soon as someone was bitten by a Flame Spirit Python, its fire poison would instantly spread throughout their entire body. Even the soul would be ignited. All those struck by it would definitely die.

People felt pity for Long Chen as this was truly a sinister play. That person had intentionally baited Long Chen into attacking him. It was a trap.

However, people quickly realized something was off. No matter how those two pythons bit his arm, Long Chen’s hand was still tightly holding that person’s throat. Moreover, the latter’s sinister smile gradually became one of confusion and fear.

Suddenly, the two pythons on Long Chen’s arm exploded, shattering like ice statues. They then fell to the ground in bits of ice, but the ice didn’t melt when it landed on the ground. Instead, it pierced through the ground, leaving tiny holes. It was as if that ice contained a terrifying heat that directly melted the rock.

“Why not just live properly? Why do you just have to get yourself killed? For fame? For profit? I have no enmity with you, so why did you want to kill me?” Long Chen looked at that shocked expert apathetically.

Huo Linger had completely refined the Ice Soul. Although it couldn't be said that she was the Ice Soul, she was already able to control a trace of the Ice Soul's power.

Although it was just a trace, that was the divine flame ranked eighth on the Heavenly Flame Rankings. Its ranking was even higher than the Heavenly Rainbow Flame. Hence, this kind of fire poison was a joke in front of Long Chen.

Even without the Ice Soul, with Huo Linger's power, that so-called fire poison was nothing more than a snack.

Seeing this bewildering scene, everyone was stunned. The experts that were together with that person finally had their expressions change.

"Long Chen, stop! That is our Amethyst Firmament Gate's future gate master. If you dare to harm a single hair-!" shouted the third Heavenstage World King of the Amethyst Firmament Gate.

"Then what? Will you dare to come to the High Firmament Academy for revenge?" Long Chen lightly.

That person was instantly left speechless. Although their Amethyst Firmament Gate did have some power, in the Chaotic Star Sea, they were only a middling power. In terms of fame, they could not compare to the oldest academy of the nine heavens.

"Don't talk crap! Release the junior gate master! Then we can treat it as if nothing happened!" shouted that World King.

Long Chen ignored this elder and then turned to Yu Qingxuan. "I'm sorry."

“What is it?” Yu Qingxuan was startled. Why would he suddenly apologize to her?

“In truth, I’m not some good, kind person. My kindness is reserved only for those who are kind. To evil people, I can only be more evil than them. I have never claimed to be an emissary of righteousness. But I will do my best to slaughter all the evil lifeforms that come at me.”

The next moment, Long Chen’s arm quivered and that junior gate master instantly exploded in body and soul.

The death of their junior gate master infuriated the elder in charge of protecting the Amethyst Firmament Gate’s disciples. With a furious roar, he unleashed his divine might.

However, even before he fully entered combat state, Long Chen’s saber fell, bringing those fluctuations to an end.

The sound of a saber returning to its sheath shook the heavens. Within this silent world, it was as loud as thunder.

That elder’s aura vanished. His finger was pointed at Long Chen as if he wanted to say something, but without saying anything, he plummeted to the ground, his corpse splitting into two halves.

This elder was truly a fool. When fighting against others, at this close distance, he actually unleashed his aura over anything else. What enemy would give you time to warm up like that?

Clearly, this was an elder who had eaten too much and lived too peacefully, relying on his fame and cultivation base. His battle will had already regressed. Long Chen naturally wouldn't give him any chance.

At this moment, the other experts of the Amethyst Firmament Gate were dumbfounded. That elder was their deputy gate master, and he was also the only one capable of constructing the spatial gate to draw in the reinforcements of the Amethyst Firmament Gate.

However, he was already dead. As they had no backer now, they stared in horror at Long Chen, afraid that he would also kill them.

Long Chen had just killed a third Heavenstage World King with a single stroke of his saber. Although that World King was a fool, Long Chen's movements were clean and effective. There wasn't the slightest waste.

That relaxed expression of his even after he killed a World King shook countless experts. This was a true expert that had experienced countless battles.

"I'm really sorry. Maybe I tricked you. Maybe I'm not the person that you thought I was." Long Chen apologized to Yu Qingxuan, whose expression truly was a bit unnatural.

He knew that Yu Qingxuan had a kind and gentle character. She couldn't bear to kill people normally. However, Long Chen didn't want to pretend to be someone that he wasn't, nor could he pretend.

Just now, the junior gate master of the Amethyst Firmament Gate had provoked him. If Long Chen had endured it, that junior gate master wouldn't have let things go and would have continued to insult Long Chen repeatedly. He would eventually touch upon his parents. After that, Long Chen would still be made to attack.

Furthermore, the longer he restrained himself, the more his negative emotions would grow. That would produce more dark energy, and his heart-devil would grow stronger. He had no other choice.

Yu Qingxuan shook her head. "There's no need for you to apologize to me. I am not you. My master's light protects me, so no one will bully me. But you don't have that protective light. You can only bare your fangs to protect yourself."

"Thank you."

Long Chen smiled, feeling a bit moved. Originally, he was afraid that his actions would cause Yu Qingxuan to dislike him. He hadn't expected her to understand him.

"Why do you thank me?" asked Yu Qingxuan with a smile.

"Because I said that I wouldn't let anyone hurt you. That includes me. If I did something that made you feel bad, that would be the greatest sin," said Long Chen as if relieved from a heavy burden.

"Shut up! Long Chen, you murderous bastard, you dare to act so unashamedly here?!"

Seeing that Long Chen was showing off and still openly flirting with Yu Qingxuan, Zhao Mingxuan was unable to endure any longer. He raged with killing intent.

"Is using despicable means to sneak attack someone whose Blood Qi has regressed something very heroic?! If you're a real man, you won't hide behind a woman! Come out and have a fair fight with me!"

Zhao Mingxuan could not endure any longer. He found that Yu Qingxuan was being bewitched by this fellow. He had to kill Long Chen as soon as possible.

Otherwise, if this continued, then the bewitchment would be too deep, and even if Long Chen was slain, it would be too late. Hence, Zhao Mingxuan could no longer wait.

However, before Long Chen could reply, the void shuddered. The Heavenly Flame World's gates slowly opened as countless runes appeared on them.

When the spatial gates opened, endless flame energy gushed out and this world instantly became a sea of fire.

Furthermore, at this time, countless experts fought through that current of flames to charge through the gates.

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The Heavenly Flame World was open, so countless experts charged through the current, rushing toward that spatial gate as fast as possible.

The various protectors of the major forces also charged in. All of them could enter the Heavenly Flame World. The question was whether or not they could endure the roasting of the Heavenly Flames.

At this moment, Long Chen and Yu Qingxuan exchanged a glance. Yu Qingxuan said, "Let's go together."

Long Chen nodded. Along with Yu Qingxuan and her two guards, they entered through the gates.

Clearly, Yu Qingxuan was doing this out of the kindness of her heart. She was afraid that other World Kings would suddenly attack Long Chen at this time. With the two of them together, the others would be restrained by her status. At the very least, they wouldn't attack him here.

Yu Qingxuan was most worried about this aspect. There were far too many terrifying existences hidden here. Who knew whether or not the Soaring Dragon Company had sent some terrifying World Kings as well?

Long Chen was grateful for Yu Qingxuan's invitation. She was acting carefully, showing consideration for his face.

The four of them then charged through and quickly approached the core of the gates. After that, a huge whirlpool appeared.

Once they entered the whirlpool, that would be the true Heavenly Flame World. However, after entering this whirlpool, space became chaotic, and people would be sent to different locations.

If they wanted to stay together, they needed to be close and form a powerful force field. That way, the four of them would be guaranteed to land in the same place.

Those two fourth Heavenstage World Kings were already forming hand seals. Layers of divine light enveloped the four of them. However, Long Chen suddenly stepped outside of this light.

"Long Chen, you...!" Yu Qingxuan was shocked.

“Qingxuan. Thank you for your kindness, but let us part here. This world has many ugly things that I don’t want you to see.” Long Chen smiled at her and waved his hand. His figure then vanished within the whirlpool.

Yu Qingxuan stared blankly at the spot where Long Chen had vanished. She didn’t quite understand his words.

“He doesn’t want you to see a bloody scene. This person is a true expert, a warrior that crawled out of mountains of corpses and seas of blood. You cannot imagine what he has experienced. It’s because not everyone in this world is as fortunate as you. This world’s cruelty is not something you can fathom,” said one of her elders.

These two elders had watched Yu Qingxuan grow up and were more familiar with her character than anyone else. They helped explain Long Chen’s motive when they saw that she didn’t quite understand.

At first, they had been vigilant toward Long Chen. This youngster was too dangerous. In the Fallen Immortal Pavilion, when Zhao Mingxuan provoked him, his heaven-shaking killing intent even made their hearts pound. It was at that moment that they realized they had misjudged them, and that he was actually an extremely terrifying existence.

Just before this, they had seen the killing intent of countless experts from countless races when Long Chen appeared.

Based on their knowledge and these experts’ spiritual fluctuations, the two elders could tell that these lifeforms all came from different worlds. For them all to form killing intent toward Long Chen on sight meant that Long Chen had killed far too many people of their races. This enmity was something that had sunk into their souls.

At first, they were unable to understand why the oldest academy in the world would make a youngster a dean. Even if it was just the dean of a branch, that was playing around too much. But now they found that this youngster called Long Chen was definitely not simple.

These two elders also entered the spatial whirlpool with Yu Qingxuan. As a result, they had only come out of the other side when they saw a giant heavenly saber slash down, bringing with it a rain of blood.

“It’s Long Chen!”

Yu Qingxuan cried out. After that saber-light, Long Chen transformed into a bolt of lightning that vanished from everyone’s sight.

Up in the sky, there were dozens of World Kings covered in blood, fear in their eyes.

“It’s the Soaring Dragon Company’s people,” said one of the elders beside Yu Qingxuan, frowning.

“Interesting. They really are stingy. Although they announced that huge bounty, they want to save the money for themselves. It’s too bad that rather than eating the meat, they broke their teeth instead.” The other elder shook his head.

Clearly, these people had come prepared, first entering the Heavenly Flame World to catch Long Chen off-guard. That way, they would keep the one billion immortal king crystal reward.

Regretfully, their plans went awry, and their trap couldn’t stop Long Chen. Looking at the charred corpses on the ground, it seemed that they had lost quite a few experts.

Some experts, who happened to see this scene, jumped in shock. This Long Chen was actually terrifying.

But after breaking through their blockade, Long Chen immediately fled. Hence, many World Kings with more powerful auras wanted to attack but had no chance.

“Ignore them. Let’s go.”

The two elders only glanced for a moment before bringing Yu Qingxuan away.

This place was a channel, and the other side of the channel was the true Heavenly Flame World.

Their field of view rapidly widened as they passed through. They then saw a fiery world.

This was a scarlet world composed of ragged stone piles. Wild flames gushed through this world, weaving between heaven and earth. Occasionally, flaming meteorites would descend and smash into the ground.

The ground here was made of tough stone, and the air was filled with the scent of fire. If a non-flame cultivator were to come here, they probably wouldn’t be able to last even a few breaths.

After progressing through the Heavenly Flame World for an incense stick’s worth of time, the World Kings all came to a pause. There was a barrier up ahead that they couldn’t cross.

If they forcibly tried to, the flame energy would multiply on top of them. Even World Kings couldn’t endure it. They could only send their disciples to this point.

“Be careful. Other than yourself, don’t trust anyone,” implored one of Yu Qingxuan’s elders.

“That Long Chen isn’t bad,” complimented the other elder. However, the other one glared at him.

Yu Qingxuan’s face reddened slightly. The two of them had seen through Long Chen’s feelings toward her. She then hastily agreed and rushed off deeper into the Heavenly Flame World.

Once Yu Qingxuan entered the depths of the Heavenly Flame World, the two of them found a place for themselves to sit by the barrier. They patiently waited.

It wasn’t just them. The other World Kings were doing the same.

However, what people found unexpected was that the Soaring Dragon Company’s people also came. Their spiritual fluctuations were active, and they seemed to be discussing something.

“It seems that they’re still worried that Long Chen won’t die. They’re going to make sure that he’s a tortoise caught in a jar,” said one elder.

“I keep feeling like this matter isn’t so simple. Look!”

The other suddenly pointed into the distance. They saw a lifeform pass through the spatial wall, merge into heaven and earth, and vanish without a trace.

As a result, both of their expressions grew solemn. They were bewildered.

“This time, something unimaginable is probably going to appear within the Heavenly Flame World. Qingxuan is in danger. We must tell her to be careful. No, we have to report this to the sect master!”