

Nine Star 3591

Chapter 3591

The Heaven Howling Battle Armor's runes flowed, and a rumbling sound rang out as if the Heavenly Daos were roaring. When Heavenly Dao energy poured into the armor, the entire battle armor seemed to merge with the Heavenly Daos.

Long Chen was secretly astonished. The Heavenly Dragon Divine Armor College's inheritance was truly terrifying. Could a battle armor really replace cultivation?

The battle armor was merged with heaven and earth. That was just like a normal cultivator's manifestation, no? They had the same result but through different processes.

It was no wonder that the Alldevil Star-Field's cultivators didn't care so much about cultivation. A single battle armor could completely make up for what they were lacking.

At this moment, the Heaven Howling Battle Armor's runes circulated on top of it. Long Chen suddenly realized that this Heaven Howling Battle Armor had Wang Zixu's manifestation carved into it. He was using the battle armor as a vector, turning his manifestation from illusory to solid.

"The creator of this armor was definitely an incomparable genius."

Thinking of this, Long Chen couldn't help prostrating himself in admiration toward the person who came up with this. The path of cultivation was truly endless. Countless geniuses constantly appeared, and any kind of cultivation when taken to the pinnacle could be a Major Dao.

Wang Zixu's aura soared after summoning the Heaven Howling Battle Armor. The space around him constantly twisted. It was like a volcano was about to erupt with power that could destroy heaven and earth.

Seeing Wang Zixu's unrivaled aura, those Assembly Elders smiled.

"Zixu is already capable of activating half of the Heaven Howling Battle Armor's runes in the Divine Lord realm. Once he advances to become a World King, he will be able to control the second generation Heaven Howling Battle Armor and match a Divine Venerate devil beast. Then will a little Aldevil race be anything to be afraid of?" said one Assembly Elder proudly, twirling his beard.

This Assembly Elder was an expert from the Wang family. As Wang Zixu's power was their Wang family's power, in his opinion, the dean's position would sooner or later be Wang Zixu's.

"Hmph, our Heavenly Dragon Divine Armor College has Wang Zixu, Xie Liuer, and Leng Hui. There are three peerless heavenly geniuses, all in the late Divine Lord realm. They will quickly reach the Immortal King realm. With the support of their battle armors, they can sweep through all the devil beasts within the World King realm then. There's no need for us to save the other powers. In a few years or decades, once all of them are ground down and weakened, our Heavenly Dragon Divine Armor College will be unrivaled. We will be the ones to right this chaos, saving the Aldevil Star-Field from its crisis. Then won't the entire star-field belong to us? Some people are too soft-hearted and don't have a vision that can see far enough," snorted another Assembly Elder.

Naturally, one of the people he referred to was the dean, Xue Yifan. The assembly felt that there was no need to worry about other powers. After all, the Heavenly Dragon Divine Armor College could defend against any dangers. The Aldevil race definitely wouldn't dare to attack their college first.

While the other powers were ground down by the Aldevil race, their Heavenly Dragon Divine Armor College would lie in wait. Once they were wounded, the Heavenly Dragon Divine Armor College would dominate. In the end, they would be the saviors of this world. Wasn't that the better decision?

As for the other powers, if they were grateful, then good. If they were resentful, who cared? History was written by the victors. At that time, the Heavenly Dragon Divine Armor College would reign supreme. Others had to follow them or die opposing them. Who would dare to do anything to them?

However, the dean stood his ground regardless of the assembly's opinion, forcing them to help the other powers. As a result, their Heavenly Dragon Divine Armor College was paying quite the price. The advantage of their natural stronghold was lost, and the Assembly Elders were very dissatisfied with that.

Seeing how powerful and shocking Wang Zixu's potential was, they were even more sure that their plan was the wisest and most far-sighted one.

Those Elders then casually glanced at Xue Yifan. They found that he was acting like he hadn't heard them and just quietly watched the martial stage.

On top of the martial stage, Guo Ran looked at Wang Zixu whose aura was like the sea. After that, he nodded.

"Not bad. You do have some smarts to summon your Heaven Howling Battle Armor first. Otherwise, you wouldn't even have a chance to summon it."

"Ignorant fool, hurry up and summon your Martial Heaven Battle Armor. Let me see if you've made any improvements in the garbage armor that you've modified countless times," snorted Wang Zixu.

Guo Ran's Martial Heaven Battle Armor was also very famous. That was because the Martial Heaven Battle Armor was completely unique. It was not one of the tens of millions of battle armors from the college's blueprints. It was Guo Ran's self-invented battle armor.

It had to be known that the Heavenly Dragon Divine Armor College's battle armors were all created by the most talented seniors. The runes, usage, and specifications were all very strict. Nothing could be the slightest bit off, or it would affect the final quality of the armor.

As for Guo Ran, he stubbornly clung to his own path, creating a battle armor that belonged to him alone. In truth, his battle armor was first invented on the Martial Heaven Continent. Through constant improvements, it had become his current Martial Heaven Battle Armor.

When Guo Ran first arrived at the college, he said that he would create his own armor and countless people mocked him.

After all, the first sets of armor that Guo Ran made were truly a joke. They were blasted away by a single punch from others.

However, Guo Ran was not discouraged and he persevered with his own style. He had constant failures and constant improvements. But despite countless failures, his determination was never shaken.

Guo Ran's willpower was the weakest except when it came to forging items. In that regard, he had astonishing perseverance. Furthermore, he was very confident in himself.

His Martial Heaven Battle Armor continuously grew stronger and more perfect. He rose step by step through people's mockery and jeering.

Relying on this battle armor, he won the dean's praise and became one of the four heroes of the college.

Furthermore, every little while, Guo Ran's armor would improve as if there was no limit to it. Guo Ran's potential was truly shocking. Hence, people very much wanted to know just how much Guo Ran had improved his Martial Heaven Battle Armor.

However, when people looked at Guo Ran, he simply shook his head. "Idiot, do you think that the Martial Heaven Battle Armor is all I have? You are wrong, very wrong. The Martial Heaven Battle Armor is just something I used to draw your attention. Do you know how hard I studied in the Heavenly Dragon Divine Armor College? If I didn't stand out, I wouldn't gain any support. But if I stood out too dazzlingly, I'd be killed by some old fellows who don't care about their faces. In the last few months, four late stage World King bastards have sneak attacked me, trying to kill me and probe my bottom line. You all thought that my Martial Heaven Battle Armor was my ultimate battle armor. Today, I will show you my strongest state."

Guo Ran was clenching his teeth by the end. Endless fury erupted from within his heart. After that, he extended a hand.

The next moment, black scales appeared, slowly covering his body. Moreover, every scale possessed its own independent rune. When every rune linked up, a terrifying pressure crashed out of the armor. This wave of wild devil qi gave people chills.

"This is a battle armor made from devil dragon black crystals! Where... where did he get devil dragon black crystals?!" exclaimed an Assembly Elder.

A devil dragon black crystal was one of the apex divine materials of the Alldevil Star-Field. It could be refined into devil dragon tungsten steel and was so hard that it was almost unbreakable. Even a tiny bit was worth an enormous amount of money. In the Heavenly Dragon Divine Armor College, there were only three battle armors on this level. They had been sealed for millions of years and had never been touched in all that time.

Furthermore, this black battle armor on Guo Ran's body was clearly newly made. The runes were still not fully carved, which meant that this armor was only half complete.

Suddenly, a black saber appeared in Guo Ran's hand. When Long Chen saw the form of that saber, his heart pounded wildly.

Chapter 3592

"Dragonbone Evilmoon!"

The shape of that black saber was precisely that of Dragonbone Evilmoon. Its shape, length, and size were all identical. Seeing it, Long Chen felt a painful pang in his heart.

Evilmoon had been his strongest weapon on the Martial Heaven Continent, and also his most trusted companion. Ultimately, it was destroyed in the final battle of the continent.

Now that Long Chen saw Evilmoon once more, he felt immense sadness but also a bit of gratification. It was like he was seeing the untameable Evilmoon again.

Dragonbone Evilmoon's shape was aggressive and ominous. Endless black qi came out of it, shaking people's hearts. Although Guo Ran had only imitated its outer appearance, it still stunned people.

With a black saber, black armor, and endless black qi, the current Guo Ran possessed a strange aura. This armor seemed to have come from hell. Standing on the martial stage, he was like an envoy that came to reap lives, an existence that could look down on all living things.

People only stared at him, dumbfounded. Even Xie Qianqian, Tu Hu, and the others didn't dare to believe what they were seeing. This was also their first time seeing Guo Ran in this state.

“Where did you get devil dragon black crystals?!” shouted Wang Zixu.

Devil dragon black crystals were far too rare. Even the entire Heavenly Dragon Divine Armor College didn’t possess enough of them to create a full battle armor.

Normally, the divine material refined from devil dragon black crystals was used on the edge of the best divine weapons. It might be used for the edge of a saber or the tip of a sword to strengthen the weapon. Such a weapon would have a far greater strength when it came to shattering armor.

However, Guo Ran’s battle armor and saber were clearly made out of countless devil dragon black crystals. Thus, when he took out this set in front of everyone, everyone was completely dumbfounded. Wang Zixu’s voice even contained immense envy.

“Where did I get the devil dragon black crystals? Weren’t they given to me by you? Back in Crescent Moon Bay Devil Beast Trial, you hunted me down, and I ended up having to flee into a dangerous area, a devil dragon nest. There, I was chased down by countless devil dragons. I ended up fleeing to the bottom of their nest whereupon I saw a giant vein of devil dragon black crystals and spent a whole month excavating all of them. Hehe, do you not remember your expression from when I came out of the devil dragon nest and returned to the college? You failed to kill me, and I actually profited from the disaster. I slowly refined the devil dragon black crystals bit by bit, stealthily creating this Devil Dragon Battle Armor. After creating this armor, I swore that I would one day use the Dragonbone Evilmoon that I created from these devil dragon black crystals to cut off your head. That is the only way to express my thanks to you,” said Guo Ran, grinding his teeth.

Everyone’s heart pounded wildly. Back in the Crescent Moon Bay, Guo Ran had mysteriously vanished for over a month. They had thought that he had run into some mishap, but he still managed to return alive. At that time, Guo Ran was covered in blood, and half his body was gone. He appeared exceptionally miserable.

After Guo Ran returned, he never mentioned why he had vanished. At that time, people were very curious and made guesses.

Now that Guo Ran brought it up, they understood. So Wang Zixu had actually tried to kill Guo Ran in that hunting ground. But when Guo Ran fled, he ended up profiting, escaping to a devil dragon nest and gathering so many devil dragon black crystals.

Only now did people realize why Guo Ran had declared this to be a life-and-death match. So there was such enmity between the two of them.

“Bastard, devil dragon black crystals have always been considered divine materials by the college! Any disciple who finds any must immediately report it! Guo Ran, you selfishly hid these divine materials. You have violated the college’s rules and deserve ten thousand deaths!” howled the Assembly Elder from the Wang family.

Devil dragon black crystals were exceptionally precious. It could be used to create a top grade World Domain divine item. If a disciple obtained any or discovered the vein, they should report it to the higher-ups of the college. They could not keep them for their own use.

The college knew not to be stingy. Any disciple who handed them over would be given rewards. Anyway, devil dragon black crystals were one of the highest level divine materials, and in the hands of a disciple, it would be a waste of a natural treasure. From the refining process to using it to create divine items, a mistake in any step would ruin this treasure.

Hence, if an ordinary disciple obtained any devil dragon black crystals, they would choose to give them to the college to obtain things that they could use.

Furthermore, people had very few chances of obtaining any devil dragon black crystals. To get a single piece the size of a fist would make someone cry with joy. But the amount of essence that could be refined from a fist-sized chunk was only enough to make an embroidery needle.

However, Guo Ran had used devil dragon black crystals to refine a complete weapon and battle armor. People were unable to imagine just how many devil dragon black crystals he had obtained back then.

“Fuck your mother, you’re the ones who deserve ten thousand deaths! All of you are in cahoots, a real snake pit! You’ve repeatedly tried to kill me. Why should I give you a treasure that I obtained after barely surviving death? Let me tell you, I don’t feel the slightest affection for the Heavenly Dragon Divine Armor College! I’ve even thought that once I completed my divine armor, I would crush the entire Heavenly Dragon Divine Armor College!”

Guo Ran raised his head and roared. The anger that he had been suppressing for so long burst out like lava.

“You... you forget favor and kindness! I knew that you were trash from the start! A little lower world ascender, you all forget your sects in the end!” shouted the Wang family’s Assembly Elder.

“Xue Yifan, take a look! Is this the proxy dean that you chose? Do you hear him? He wants to destroy the entire Heavenly Dragon Divine Armor College!”

“Xue Yifan, you’ve grown muddled with age! Or are you blind? You actually chose him to be the proxy dean! Today, if you don’t give everyone an explanation, how do you have face to continue being the dean?”

The other Assembly Elders shouted their criticisms. Xue Yifan had tried to find trouble for them previously, and now they had a chance to turn the tables on him.

As for Xue Yifan, he continued to ignore the Assembly Elders. Even in front of countless eyes, he had no intention of explaining himself. Everyone was dumbstruck. Just what was going on? Was the dean really thinking about destroying the Heavenly Dragon Divine Armor College? How was that possible?

“Hahaha, do you see? Even now, you still have a bias against me for being a lower world ascender. You arrogant fellows, all of you are prejudiced idiots! For the assembly to be run by vermin like you, what hope is there for the Heavenly Dragon Divine Armor College? If it weren’t for the dean showing me favor, what business would the life and death of you idiots be to me? Why would boss and I work so hard for you? But since the boss agreed, I, Guo Ran, have accepted this work. I will carry it out. But I am no saint, nor do I know how to repay enmity with kindness. Our Dragonblood Legion only repays blood with blood, teeth for teeth. I will settle things right here right now! Dragon Blood Battle Armor!”

Guo Ran’s voice was icy and furious. After that, his Devil Dragon Battle Armor rumbled and countless scales lit up. A majestic dragon cry resounded throughout heaven and earth.

Also, the martial stage beneath Guo Ran’s feet crumbled and the void exploded. Following that dragon cry, Guo Ran seemed to have become a black devil god. He then charged at Wang Zixu. A black saber-image struck the top of the barrier and pierced right through it.

“What?!”

Even late stage World Kings stared in horror at that sight, completely stunned. Now, Long Chen’s pupils shrank slightly, and an expression of disbelief appeared in his eyes.

“This is... the first form of Split the Heavens?”

Chapter 3593

The aura of Guo Ran's attack was identical to the first form of Split the Heavens. Furthermore, that aura was just like Long Chen's when he used it.

Long Chen was stunned. He had tried to teach Guo Ran the core technique of the Heaven Splitting Divine Sect. In fact, he had tried to teach the others as well.

Long Chen hadn't hoped for them to learn the ninth form of Split the Heavens but just the principles behind it, that kind of unrivaled will. That was of great importance to an expert. The nine forms of Split the Heavens could be markers for their cultivation.

On the Martial Heaven Continent, the Dragonblood warriors were very close to the Heaven Splitting Divine Sect's disciples. They often drank together and exchanged pointers. They had almost no secrets between them. Thus, Guo Ran and the others might not be able to use the nine forms of Split the Heavens, but they had a great understanding of this technique.

What Long Chen hadn't expected was for Guo Ran to be able to unleash Split the Heavens in the immortal world. With the support of the Dragon Blood Battle Armor, the power of this attack even shocked Long Chen.

When this saber fell, it pierced through heaven and earth, and the barrier was cleanly cut through. This imposing aura that could even slay gods was the essence of Split the Heavens.

Wang Zixu was horrified. Even before Guo Ran's saber fell, that terrifying aura completely locked him down. Heaven and earth froze around him. In that instant, there was nowhere for him to go. If he wanted to live, he could only face it with all his power.

Guo Ran had compressed all of his power into this attack. Clearly, this attack would truly decide victory or defeat, life or death. This was a saber that did not care about anything else, either you die or I die.

"Heaven Howling Wrath, Heavenly God Slash!"

Wang Zixu roared along with the Heaven Howling Battle Armor. After that, countless runes lit up, their light flooding into his saber. A giant illusory saber-image then appeared to face Guo Ran's saber. It was another heaven-piercing saber that stretched into the clouds.

BOOM!

The two divine weapons slashed at each other in front of countless gazes. As a result, the heaven-shaking explosion from the collision made others feel like a sun had exploded in the middle of the martial stage. The blinding light stabbed their eyes painfully.

Terrifying astral winds then unfurled. Without hesitation, people summoned their battle armors. They had just put them on when they were blasted away by those astral winds.

The spectator stands were as weak as paper in front of these terrifying astral winds and were blown to bits.

Only Long Chen and Xue Yifan remained in their original locations. The others had been blown far into the distance.

When the astral winds weakened and the divine light faded, people saw that the martial stage had been destroyed. It no longer had its original form. The defensive barrier on top of it was gone without a trace.

People then looked at Guo Ran. The runes on his black armor were gone. This attack had exhausted all of its power.

Not too far in front of Guo Ran, in a small crack of the shattered martial stage, Wang Zixu was hacking up blood. His battle armor was gone, and half of his body was destroyed. He was staring in shock. His only remaining hand pushed him backward.

He no longer had any of his former arrogance. His whole body was quivering, and blood continued to gush out of his body.

“He lost! Wang Zixu actually lost!” People couldn’t believe their eyes.

Wang Zixu was the head of the Four Heavenly Dragon Heroes. He had also inherited his family’s strongest Heaven Howling Battle Armor. His power was unimaginable, but he actually lost to Guo Ran.

“The head of the four heroes lost to the bottom of the four heroes.”

“Furthermore... it was in one move...”

Countless disciples’ voices quivered. Some people who had looked down on Guo Ran before and provoked him now felt terror.

Xie Liuer and Leng Hui were also terrified. Although they were conceited, they knew that their power was truly inferior to Wang Zixu’s.

But the powerful Wang Zixu was defeated in one move by Guo Ran, his battle armor destroyed and his body on the verge of death. They looked at Guo Ran and then at the calm dean. After that, they looked at Long Chen who still had his hands clasped behind his back, his face like a bottomless well. Their hearts thudded. The heavens of the Heavenly Dragon Divine Armor College were about to change.

Upon thinking of how they had constantly opposed and suppressed Guo Ran's development, cold sweat dripped down their backs.

The sound of metal boots stepping on the martial stage rang out. It was like thunder striking people's hearts. Guo Ran walked over to Wang Zixu with his saber.

"You... don't come here... Grandpa... save me!"

Wang Zixu cried out in terror. His voice already contained a sobbing tone as he hastily looked to his family members for aid.

"Stop!"

A figure flew through the air, rushing at Guo Ran. It was a late stage World King in golden armor who came to save Wang Zixu.

Although Guo Ran had defeated Wang Zixu with that attack, his armor's runes had dimmed. He had clearly used up all his energy and could not stop the attack of a late stage World King.

Furthermore, based on this elder's speed and manner, it seemed that he was planning on killing Guo Ran. Hence, Tu Hu, Xie Qianqian, and the others cried out in shock. They wanted to go help Guo Ran, but they were too far. They couldn't make it.

However, that late stage World King had just approached the martial stage when a flame sword slashed down. His body along with his battle armor was cleanly cut in half. The next moment, the ruined battle armor fell to the ground along with a charred corpse.

Just like that, a late stage World King was slain. Only at this time did people look up in the sky to see a beautiful woman with a flame sword in her hand. Flames continued to gush out of her body.

“This is a life-and-death match. Did you take this to be a joke? Of course, if anyone else is tired of living, then come interfere. Let’s see if your neck is tougher, or if Huo Linger’s True Fire Sword is harder,” said Long Chen coldly.

Huo Linger stood there, flames weaving beneath her feet. She was truly like a flame goddess. After absorbing the Yan Xu Flame, Huo Linger with the True Fire Sword was not much weaker than Long Chen.

People stared at Huo Linger in horror. They had never seen a flame spirit before and had no idea who this beautiful young woman with raging flames around her was. However, based on Long Chen’s tone, she was clearly their companion.

People were more shocked than ever. Guo Ran was already terrifying enough, but Guo Ran’s boss was even stronger than him. Not only that, this flame maiden had also appeared, killing the Wang family’s late stage World King without the slightest effort.

“Guo Ran, I’m begging you, let me off. We are from the same sect. Spare my life...” What no one had expected was that since Wang Zixu couldn’t flee and no one was coming to save him, he actually knelt on the ground, kowtowing like a bird pecking for food.

Guo Ran’s armor was retracted, revealing his face. He then looked at Wang Zixu fiercely.

After that, a lone black saber stabbed through Wang Zixu's chest and out his back.

Chapter 3594

Guo Ran's heart didn't soften in the slightest in front of Wang Zixu's begging. His saber pierced through Wang Zixu's chest, and he lifted him off of the ground just like that.

"Stop!"

The Wang family's people roared furiously. The Wang family was extremely powerful in the Heavenly Dragon Divine Armor College, possessing tens of thousands of experts. But they only dared to roar and not a single person dared to step forward.

That was because the death of their late stage World King at the hands of Huo Linger had completely broken their courage. In the end, when they saw a truly ruthless person, they didn't dare to move.

As for the Assembly Elder of the Wang family, his eyes almost popped out of their sockets. Wang Zixu was their Wang family's greatest genius in history, and he was also their only hope. If Wang Zixu died, their Wang family would fully decline.

However, an old fellow like him was powerless to save Wang Zixu, and veins throbbed on his forehead. He could only roar at Xue Yifan.

"Xue Yifan, are you blind? How can you allow your disciples to slaughter each other?!"

"Hahaha!" Not waiting for Xue Yifan's reply, Guo Ran raised his head and laughed. "Disciples aren't allowed to slaughter each other? And yet, when he tried to kill me, I didn't hear you say a single thing!"

So his life is important, but mine is that of an ant? Let me tell you, even if the heavens collapse right now, with my boss present, I will still kill Wang Zixu. No one can save him.”

Guo Ran lifted Wang Zixu into the air with his saber. His expression was rather frightening.

Long Chen sighed inside. Guo Ran had been suppressed for too long and was completely erupting today. This was precisely the day Xue Yifan had been waiting for. Regretfully, this little fellow knew how to endure far too much and only dared to release this fury after Long Chen arrived.

“Guo Ran, don’t kill me! I beg you! I don’t want to die, I want to live! As long as you don’t kill me, I’m willing to be your attendant! I’m willing to be your servant! I only ask that you spare my life...!”

Wang Zixu was held in the air. With every word, a sharp pain ran through his body. But with his life in Guo Ran’s hands, he was powerless. Face? He didn’t care about it any longer and begged for mercy.

“If you had known that this day would come, would you have acted the same way? You bullied me, humiliated me, and blocked my cultivation path. I was able to endure all of this because cultivation is inherently unfair. But you are completely unforgivable. You killed my brother. Do you know how Tu Bao died?” thundered Guo Ran, clenching his teeth as he stared at Wang Zixu.

Hearing Tu Bao’s name, Tu Hu’s body shook. That was his little brother that had passed back in the hunting grounds. However, Tu Hu had always thought that his brother died to the devil beasts. Only now that Guo Ran mentioned him here did Tu Hu learn just how unjust Tu Bao’s death was.

“You damnable bastard, you actually used his life to threaten me and force me out. Brother Tu Bao was so enraged that he killed himself to stop you. Do you still remember my words from back then? I swore that I would cut off your head as a sacrifice to his spirit,” snarled Guo Ran, killing intent exploding out of him.

“No-!” Wang Zixu let out a cry of despair.

Guo Ran suddenly pulled his saber out of Wang Zixu's body and slashed it through the air. Wang Zixu's head instantly flew off.

However, there was no blood because Wang Zixu's blood had long since run dry. This one slash did not just cut off Wang Zixu's head but also extinguished his soul. The genius of the Wang family was fully dead.

Grabbing Wang Zixu's head with one hand, Guo Ran looked up into the heavens and roared, "Brother Tu Bao, I, Guo Ran, have accomplished my promise to you...!"

After that roar, Guo Ran began to bawl. Tu Hu and Tu Bao were his closest brothers here. They had started following him before he even began to stand out simply due to having similar characters. In spite of the dangers of following him, they had still done so.

During that hunting trial, Guo Ran had long since known that those people would try to suppress him. Hence, he had hidden himself at the start, not wanting to face Wang Zixu. At that time, if he were to fight Wang Zixu, he would simply be sending himself to his death.

However, who would have thought that Wang Zixu would be so exasperated as to actually capture Tu Bao in order to threaten Guo Ran?

At that time, Guo Ran had been hiding in the dark. But even knowing that he couldn't beat Wang Zixu, he was prepared to fight Wang Zixu to the death when Tu Bao directly self-detonated in his rage. Guo Ran could only just watch as his brother died in front of him.

After that, Guo Ran's exploding killing intent directly exposed his location. It was at this time that Wang Zixu chased him all the way to a dangerous place like the devil dragon nest.

Having vanquished his mortal enemy, Guo Ran should be happy. But thinking of how powerless he had been that he couldn't even save his own brother, he simply wept in grief.

Long Chen walked onto the stage and patted Guo Ran's shoulder. Of everyone here, he was the one capable of understanding Guo Ran's emotions the best.

Guo Ran had never wanted to be the boss because he was unwilling to endure having such power. That profound feeling of powerlessness could tear a person's heart apart. But there was nothing he could do. After all, Tu Hu, Xie Qianqian, and the others all relied on him. If he fell, they also wouldn't have good endings.

The pressure on Guo Ran, the pain in his heart, only he could understand. Yet, he had to act like he had a plan to give everyone confidence, while he himself wasn't sure how long he could endure. That feeling was completely unbearable to him. Now that he had avenged Tu Bao, the emotions that he had suppressed for so long erupted.

"Don't cry. That's about enough. Brother Tu Bao's spirit definitely wouldn't want to see you like this," comforted Long Chen.

After crying for a while, Guo Ran felt like all those emotions that he had been holding back were released. After he stopped crying, he seemed to be a completely different person, as if a curse had been undone. Tu Bao's death had always been a heavy weight on him.

"Xie Liuer, Leng Hui, don't you also refuse to recognize me? If you want to challenge me, I definitely won't retreat. Anyone who wants to fight me can come right now!" Guo Ran wiped away his tears, took a deep breath, and pointed his black saber at them, his gaze sweeping across the crowd.

Xie Liuer and Leng Hui's expressions changed. They didn't dare to make a sound. Wang Zixu was dead, and they all knew their own power levels. How could they dare to challenge Guo Ran?

As for the others, there was no way that they could challenge him. Although there were others amongst the senior generation who were stronger than Wang Zixu, according to the college's rules, they were not qualified to challenge Guo Ran.

Furthermore, they weren't blind. The winds of the Heavenly Dragon Divine Armor College had completely changed. If they stepped out now, it would be no different from courting death.

Anyone with a brain could see that the dean was supporting Guo Ran. He had publicly torn off any pleasantries with the assembly. Moreover, Guo Ran had shaken everyone by killing Wang Zixu. Now, the dean would be making his move on the assembly. The entire Heavenly Dragon Divine Armor College was probably about to go through a cleansing.

If they came forward to challenge Guo Ran at this time, it would be opposing the dean. If that happened, they definitely wouldn't have a good ending.

"Although the two of you also targeted me, you never killed my brothers. Due to our relationship as fellow disciples, as the proxy dean, I won't cause trouble for you because you didn't give me a reason to kill you. But some people won't have that ending. Zhao Guangdi, Yue Changhui, Li Xiaochong, Gu Yi..."

After Guo Ran listed off over thirty names, those disciples' expressions all changed.

"Come out and face your death!" shouted Guo Ran. After that, an uproar erupted.

Chapter 3595

The people that Guo Ran had named were all well-known geniuses within the Heavenly Dragon Divine Armor College. Although their fame didn't reach the level of the Four Heavenly Dragon Heroes, they were so famous that almost every disciple recognized them.

They were Wang Zixu's left and right hands. For Guo Ran to shout their names at this time, was he planning on completely eradicating Wang Zixu's faction?

"Guo Ran, what do you think you're doing? As soon as you become proxy dean, are you going to abuse your position for personal reasons and wipe out anyone who opposes you? Are you trying to become the tyrant of the Heavenly Dragon Divine Armor College?" shouted an Assembly Elder.

Guo Ran coldly snorted, "If I was abusing my position, I'd have directly dragged out Xie Liuer and Leng Hui. Other than Wang Zixu, I hate them the most."

Xie Liuer and Leng Hui turned pale. They understood that they had bullied Guo Ran too hard previously. Now, Guo Ran had a grudge against them.

"However, the path of cultivation is not one of kindness. There are only limited cultivation resources, and naturally everyone fights for them. In this fight, the winners are kings, and the losers have no right to complain. Although they suppressed and targeted me, they did it openly and only against me. Although I hate them, I have no reason to kill them. But the people that I named just now, they are all accomplices to evil. During my time here, they've done so many unconscionable acts with Wang Zixu. Every single one of them has the blood of other disciples on their hands. They thought that they would be able to commit atrocities because they were with Wang Zixu. Let me tell all of you, you are now reaping the seeds that you planted. Today is the day of settling karma. Shouldn't you hurry up and accept your deaths? What are you waiting for?" shouted Guo Ran.

People looked through the crowd at the people that had been named. All of them were quivering badly, their eyes full of terror.

Suddenly, those people knelt on the ground. One of them shouted, "Dean Guo Ran, we were controlled by Wang Zixu! We admit we did many bad things, and we know that our sins cannot be forgiven. But I hope you can give us a chance. Let us die on the battlefield. We are willing to be the vanguard and charge into the devil beast army. Let us do one final thing for the Heavenly Dragon Divine Armor College to repay the favor of raising us."

Hearing that, everyone was moved. These people were all elites amongst elites. To kill them just like this was truly a pity.

If what they were saying was true, then they had repented and would use this kind of death to show their dignity. Quite a few people were nodding their heads inside. To know their wrongs and change, that was acceptable. After all, this was a special circumstance, and they couldn't be inflexible. They needed to use whatever resources they could.

"A nice dream. In life, there are some bottom lines that people cannot touch. If they are touched, they must pay the price. There is no room for negotiation. Do you think establishing some merit will protect your lives? Is there really such a nice thing in this world?" snorted Guo Ran.

Hearing Guo Ran's rejection, that person furiously shouted, "In life, who commits no wrongs? We trusted Wang Zixu, and that was the only reason we were drawn off of the correct path. Can it be that as proxy dean, you won't give anyone any chances? Have you never made any mistakes?!"

Guo Ran disdainfully said, "That was due to your own idiocy. You wanted to follow Wang Zixu? In other words, you're pushing all the responsibility onto a dead person. That in itself is the conduct of a coward. Do you lack a brain? Are your eyes blind? You simply listened to Wang Zixu's orders, is that so? Then what is the point of your head? I am from the Dragonblood Legion, and even my boss, the highest commander of the Dragonblood Legion, has told us, 'If one day I go astray and massacre the innocent, if you are powerless to convince me to return, then do not hesitate. Take advantage of while I still trust you to stab me in the back and kill me. Do not feel any guilt in your hearts. Do not feel bad. If you really

are unwilling to part, then you can also die alongside me. In the next life, we can once more be brothers.”

These words moved everyone present. Even the calm dean was astonished. Everyone looked at Long Chen.

A peerless expert was capable of saying such words? It was truly shocking. Wasn't it said that all true experts had absolute confidence in themselves? How could they have doubts about themselves?

“You are you, but we are us! The college raised us, spending endless blood and sweat. Could it be that the academy is going to kill us just like that? Does the college not know how to be pragmatic? If we die on the battlefield, we can lessen the casualties of the Heavenly Dragon Divine Armor College! We don't want to use merit on the battlefield to make amends. We just want to use the final light of our lives to repay the college! Why is that unacceptable?!” shouted that man emotionally.

Now, everyone felt caught in a difficult position. These heavenly geniuses had harmed their own sect. It didn't matter what the reason was, it was unforgivable.

However, killing them like this really was a pity. Furthermore, for them to want to repay the college in their last moments was correct. When people were about to die, they could do something good first. Quite a few people wanted to plead for mercy for them as well.

“The main thing is that if you do go to the battlefield, will you become turncoats at the last moment?”

At this moment, Long Chen, who had been quiet all this time, finally spoke, causing everyone to jump with his words.

“You... you... you’re spouting nonsense, slandering people! How could we do something so shameless?!” shouted that person in shock and fury.

Suddenly, he let out a startled cry. He was dragged over by an invisible force and landed on the martial stage.

“AHH!” He screamed as flames enveloped his body. Those flames weren’t burning him, and yet his screams never stopped. It was as if he was enduring unimaginable pain.

“This move of mine is called the Heavenly Flame Soul Refining Heart Questioning Art. No one can lie under the effect of this technique. Do your best,” said Long Chen indifferently. He then glanced at Guo Ran.

Guo Ran was first startled, but then understood that Long Chen wanted him to ask the questions. He loudly demanded, “What is your name?”

“Gu Yi!” that screaming disciple hastily answered.

Curiously, after he answered the question, he stopped convulsing, as if the pain had vanished.

“Who is your father?”

“Who is your mother?”

“How many wives does your father have? Which one looks the most beautiful? Which one has the best figure? Aiya!”

Guo Ran’s questions ended up resulting in Long Chen kicking him. Long Chen now had the urge to beat him. What kind of time was it? Millions of eyes were on him, so what was he asking such a thing for?

“Boss, I was first asking some questions that everyone knows the answer to! That way, it proves that he can’t lie and proves that your Heavenly Flame Soul Refining Heart Questioning Art is effective!” claimed Guo Ran, feeling aggrieved.

Long Chen was speechless. This fellow was the epitome of soft mud not being able to turn into a wall. Xue Yifan actually wanted to turn him into a hero, but this fellow simply didn’t have the making for such a thing. He couldn’t even ask a few questions before getting sidetracked.

Xue Yifan’s expression was also rather odd. It seemed that he wanted to smile, but at this solemn time, he couldn’t. Otherwise, he wouldn’t be able to maintain the situation.

When Guo Ran stopped asking questions, Gu Yi began convulsing and screaming again. He suddenly shouted, “Please, kill me! I can’t endure it any longer! I’ll tell you anything, anything you want! I’m a mole that the Luo clan nurtured! It’s not just me in the college, there are many others as well!”

“What?!”

These words caused a huge clamor amongst the crowd. People stared at Gu Yi in disbelief.

Chapter 3596

Gu Yi’s words shook everyone. The only one whose expression didn’t change was Xue Yifan. It was as if he already knew about it long ago.

“Bastard, you traitor! You’re the one who caused the death of my second brother! Die!”

A streak of light flew toward Gu Yi. It was a golden arrow unleashed with maximum speed, and it arrived in front of Gu Yi almost as soon as it was unleashed.

Fortunately, Guo Ran was prepared and swung his saber, shattering the arrow.

“Is he also one of the spies?” asked Guo Ran.

“Yes!”

Gu Yi directly replied in the affirmative. Only when he answered the questions did the soul burning fire settle.

When this person's attack failed, he suddenly grabbed an elder and pointed his weapon at the elder's head, shouting, “I’m innocent! This is clearly Gu Yi slandering others! Don’t force me!”

Despite saying that he was innocent, all his actions proved that he was a traitor.

The entire crowd tensed. Every person summoned their armor.

At this moment, Long Chen also put away his flame technique. He couldn't be bothered to keep it up. Just looking at the dean's current expression, he knew that the dean had known this long in advance, and that everything was within his control.

Just as the dean had previously said, he had laid the road for Guo Ran, just waiting for Guo Ran to erupt and walk down it. Guo Ran was supposed to be the hero saving the Alldevil Star-Field from calamity, but Long Chen's arrival caused the plan to change. As expected, wise people had terrifying restraints.

Suddenly, the traitor that had captured an elder stiffened. His battle armor slowly fell from his body, and he found himself unable to move. "What... what is going on?!" he cried out in terror.

At this moment, the dean finally stood up. Looking at that person, he said, "Yu Qingquan, one hundred and ninety-seven years ago, you met a woman and were seduced by her beauty. You were willing to become her captive. Afterward, she revealed her origins, informing you that she was a descendant of the Luo clan, Luo Min, and that the Luo clan was going to do some heaven-shaking matter. At that time, you were afraid because you realized that she only approached you as a spy. However, you did not manage to resist her allure. After that, the Luo clan's promises to you swayed your heart, and you became a pawn of the Luo clan within my Heavenly Dragon Divine Armor College. It was only three years after you became a pawn that you noticed that it wasn't just you. Even within the assembly, there are three people bought by the Luo clan. Am I right?"

The man called Yu Qingquan was shocked. This was all top secret. Even he himself didn't remember the exact timing, but Xue Yifan was not the slightest bit off.

"Yu Qingquan, how dare you?! I call you brother, but you betray us! Tell us, do you even have a conscience?!" roared a late stage World King.

Yu Qingquan seemed to instantly age for decades. He knelt on the ground and knew that it was over for him.

“Whoever is a spy, step forward yourselves. Don’t force me to name you one by one. Don’t hold onto wishful thinking and bluff your way out. I will only give you one chance. Whether or not you can grasp it is up to yourselves,” said Xue Yifan, looking over at everyone.

“Ah, fine, fine. Youngsters must be wary of fighting, middle-aged people must be wary of perversion, and old people must be wary of greed. As expected, the words of the ancients do not deceive me. I hoped to bring my family to glory, but instead I will go down in history for my infamy. Haha, I have let down my ancestors!”

An Assembly Elder suddenly laughed miserably. After that, he struck his own head, killing himself.

His corpse then fell to the ground. A light breeze blew, blowing up some dust and dirt, giving this world a mournful touch.

Quite a few people lowered their heads and stepped forward. Seeing those people, everyone was stunned. There were hundreds of them.

They had never dreamed that a glorious power like the Heavenly Dragon Divine Armor College would be infiltrated to such an extent.

Furthermore, these people all possessed certain power within the college. They were powerful figures in their own right. Only people like this had value to the Luo clan.

After an incense stick’s worth of time, there were three hundred and forty-seven people to step forward. Seeing so many spies amongst them, the Heavenly Dragon Divine Armor College’s experts felt a chill. Their hearts were cold, as were their backs.

Tu Hu, Xie Qianqian, and the others' jaws dropped. They were unable to believe it. There were several elders amongst these people that they were familiar with. For them to admit to being spies now, these people felt like they were in a nightmare.

"No one else? I'll give you another incense stick's worth of time. This is your last chance." Xue Yifan looked over everyone once more before indifferently closing his eyes.

After that, no one else stepped forward. Time passed bit by bit, and the millions and millions of experts didn't make a sound. There was only the sound of nervous heartbeats and breathing.

"So the dean is actually so amazing that everything is within his control." Guo Ran stood beside Long Chen with an admiring expression.

When that incense stick's worth of time passed, Xue Yifan slowly opened his eyes and sighed.
"Everyone's fate is their own. I gave you your chance, but you didn't cherish it. Don't blame me then."

Xue Yifan formed hand seals. Suddenly, terrified cries rang out within the crowd. The armor that certain people were wearing began to contract on their owners until they were crushed into head-sized clumps of metal.

"What?!"

This scene horrified people. Over ten battle armors had destroyed themselves? That was an alarming sight for them. It dumbfounded people.

Xue Yifan shook his head. "At such a time, instead of thinking of repentance, you were still hoping to muddle your way through. It is clear just how blinded by greed you are. There is no saving you. Every

single one of you, every time you encounter the Luo clan, every time you do any exchange with them, I am aware of it. When people get old, they lose interest in most things, but gossip and talking are always interesting. Without keeping a grasp on that, I would be failing in my duty.”

Xue Yifan’s words fell in every single person’s ears. At this moment, no one dared to continue underestimating this ever-amicable dean who always seemed absent-minded. Only now did they realize what a terrifying existence he was.

“For the rest of you that have stepped forward, congratulations, you saved your lives. Take off their armor and hand them to the discipline hall.”

Dozens of people came forward, taking those people’s armor. What shocked people was that these people were all late stage World Kings, and no one else recognized them. Now, they felt that the dean was even more unfathomable.

“Starting today, dean Guo Ran has full authority within the Heavenly Dragon Divine Armor College. I formally announce that the Heavenly Dragon Divine Armor College is entering a state of war. Anyone who questions dean Guo Ran’s decisions will be punished to the harshest degree.”

After saying that, Xue Yifan turned and left, leaving behind countless experts staring in shock at Guo Ran. The heavens of the Heavenly Dragon Divine Armor College had just changed.

Chapter 3597

The Heavenly Dragon Divine Armor College was fully shaken. The discipline hall spent three days collecting evidence. As a result, of the three hundred and forty-seven traitors, nineteen of them were executed for causing the deaths of their fellow sect members.

The rest had reported secrets of the Heavenly Dragon Divine Armor College to the Luo clan. Although that was also a betrayal, the Heavenly Dragon Divine Armor College had not made any major movements during this time, thus they had not suffered any losses.

Even when Tu Hu's group was suddenly ambushed, in truth, that mission was no secret. It couldn't even be blamed on those people, as the information could have been gathered elsewhere.

In other words, although the Heavenly Dragon Divine Armor College had had so many traitors, Xue Yifan still managed to control things. During the time that the Alldevil Star-Field was sealed, the college didn't make any major movements, resulting in these spies not contributing any value to the Luo clan. It was all under control.

The discipline hall's judgment came down as soon as the three days were up. Other than the nineteen people that were executed, the rest were also punished. Some had their cultivation bases crippled, some had the mark of traitors branded on them, and some were imprisoned. Even those that hadn't managed to cause any real damage to the Heavenly Dragon Divine Armor College were expelled.

When the sentencing came down, countless people begged and wailed for mercy. These experts that were normally arrogant and aloof, experts that possessed great authority within the college, no longer had any of their previous dignity. It made people sigh that it was a shame. But sympathy did not quell their rage.

Originally, the sentencing of the discipline hall should be personally overseen by Guo Ran. That was to show off his dignity as the proxy dean.

However, Guo Ran detested such things and refused to go. He was not planning on being the dean. Now that Long Chen had come, he felt that he no longer needed to think about anything other than living happily.

While the discipline hall sentenced the traitors, Guo Ran, Long Chen, and the others returned to Guo Ran's residence. Tu Hu, Xie Qianqian, and the others gathered those that they trusted for a grand feast in celebration.

Although Guo Ran had been the weakest of the four heroes, as long as a person was strong enough, they would still have quite a few followers.

Other than Tu Hu, Xie Qianqian, and the others that he absolutely trusted, there were quite a few other loyal followers. Having slain Wang Zixu, he had satisfied all of them.

Although Guo Ran had wept and bawled on the martial stage, which was a bit embarrassing and damaging to his image, those who understood him knew that it was his grief due to not being able to protect Tu Bao. Hence, none of these people felt Guo Ran to be embarrassing. They only felt even closer and even greater reverence for him.

Even though he was the lowest of the four heroes, he treated those beneath him as brothers. Thus, even though Guo Ran's side was targeted on all sides, there were still hundreds of people willing to follow him.

These hundreds of people had gathered to celebrate him. They were even happier than Guo Ran about him becoming the proxy dean. They no longer needed to be bullied.

Now, when others looked at them, they would look with reverence. Others that had treated them badly before were now extremely courteous. As for those that had bullied them, they were now full of terror and unease. Those gazes were truly refreshing to them.

Guo Ran was also excited. He had no interest in being the dean, but the feeling of having vented all of his emotions was amazing.

Long Chen wasn't stingy. He directly took out a few jugs of wine and distributed them for the celebration. But he didn't give them bowls to drink out of. Instead, he distributed small cups, otherwise, everyone would go crazy for it.

This was the Wine God Palace's wine. Let alone seeing it before, many amongst these people had not even heard of the name of the Wine God Palace. As soon as this wine entered their stomachs, the powerful wine energy spread throughout their bodies, reinvigorating them. Their essence, qi, and spirits merged, promoting each other. That feeling felt like paradise.

Although they didn't know what this wine was, they knew that a wine that could increase their power just from drinking it had to be an absolute treasure. Long Chen had told them to sip it slowly. Feeling that this wine was too precious for them, they didn't feel good drinking more of it. Every person only drank three cups before stopping.

Long Chen smiled when he saw that. "I have plenty of wine, and it's enough to bathe in. Don't worry about my costs. I told you to drink it slowly because I didn't want you to rush and not digest it. If you directly collapsed from being drunk, you would miss this rare chance. This is divine wine, and it has the best effect the first time you drink it. As long as you don't collapse from it, drink as much as you want. But if you feel like you're going to collapse, take a break before drinking more."

Hearing that, those disciples were delighted and began drinking slowly once again. Every time they drank a cup, they felt their bodies change. That feeling was euphoric.

"Boss really is the boss. Following you, there's food and drink. I don't have to worry about anything!" Guo Ran laughed delightedly as he drank this fine wine.

"That's right, you little fellow. How did you manage to merge Split the Heavens with your battle armor?" asked Long Chen.

Guo Ran chuckled, feeling very pleased. “Hehe, I’m not bragging, but other than myself, no one else could have imagined this. In my Devil Dragon Battle Armor, I created eighty-one core parts to take the place of the body’s acupuncture points. Then I found a suitable path through the 108,000 scales to embed runes. Boss, I won’t lie to you, this took endless testing and experimentation. The failures are definitely greater than a million. But I persevered and I succeeded.”

Guo Ran was unable to use the nine forms of Split the Heavens himself, but he was very smart and split the unleashed power into three parts: the inner, middle, and outer.

The inner was his own body, the middle was the portion connecting his body and his battle armor, while the outer was his armor’s scales.

Split the Heavens was too ferocious. His physical body wasn’t strong enough to endure the strain that it placed on the body. But relying on the battle armor, without the physical body as the lead, there was no way to activate the Split the Heavens.

Guo Ran had blazed his own path, using his physical body as the start of the attack, his battle armor as the support, and his saber as an extension. Through countless failures, he finally found his own unique activation method.

Guo Ran didn’t possess Long Chen’s powerful physical body, nor did he feel such an affinity for the Heavenly Daos. Hence, once he used Split the Heavens, he would receive a backlash from the Heavenly Daos. But this fellow had designed a set of runes to block off the backlash of the Heavenly Daos, placing all the strain on his battle armor, while he himself suffered no pressure.

After hearing this explanation from Guo Ran, Long Chen couldn’t help feeling admiration for him. At least, this fellow had some good points. At the very least, when it came to forging, he was willing to work hard.

It had to be known that Split the Heavens was a Battle Skill from the mortal world. The immortal world's laws were different, so the original activation method no longer worked.

Even Long Chen had spent a long time testing in the immortal world before finding a method for unleashing it.

As for Guo Ran, he was unable to even use this technique. But just based on the principles, he managed to use the first form of Split the Heavens with his armor. This fellow was undoubtedly a genius in this regard.

"Regretfully, my Devil Dragon Battle Armor can't even be considered a half-finished product. There are still many arrangements that I haven't finished. It's like a bottomless pit of potential that I haven't tapped into. Boss, are you poor or rich right now?" Guo Ran's eyes suddenly brightened.

"I suppose I can count as rich!" said Long Chen.

"How rich?"

"The Soaring Dragon is my family. I can take out anything from them," said Long Chen with a laugh.

Guo Ran's eyes widened. "Boss, the Soaring Dragon you're talking about, is it the Soaring Dragon Company?"

"Yes. That's my personal treasury. Although the majority of the treasures are still stored there, I've withdrawn a few. Just tell me what you're lacking right now!"

Long Chen laughed. Could it be that Guo Ran had known that he had too much money to spend, so Guo Ran was helping him take care of this problem?

“Hahaha, boss, as long as you have money, I’m not afraid of anything!”

Guo Ran raised his head and laughed heroically. His Devil Dragon Battle Armor had endless potential. As long as he had money, he could increase his combat power limitlessly. Hence, Guo Ran’s confidence soared.

Chapter 3598

“Heavens, this is dragon blood essence gold! High purity hundred refinement mithril! Double essence fire wind copper...!”

Long Chen was taking out all the forging materials he had plundered from the Soaring Dragon Company. When they all appeared on the ground in their private room, Guo Ran’s eyes almost popped out.

Guo Ran was a forging grandmaster, and ordinary materials were no longer able to enter his eyes. But the materials that Long Chen simply tossed to the ground were treasures that he had dreamed of obtaining.

“Boss, do you really have a collaboration with the Soaring Dragon Company? Why didn’t that little fellow Qian Duoduo inform me?” asked Guo Ran, feeling vexed.

“Qian Duoduo? You are in communication with him?” asked Long Chen in surprise.

Guo Ran was also surprised and asked, “Boss, did you not first find Qian Duoduo before looking for me? Qian Duoduo has an important position in the Soaring Dragon Company. I thought that...”

When Long Chen said that the Soaring Dragon Company was his personal treasury, Guo Ran had thought that it had a collaboration with him just like the Huayun Trading Company. After all, Qian Duoduo was present there and could pull some strings for Long Chen.

Just half a year ago, Qian Duoduo had come to the Alldevil Star-Field, representing the Soaring Dragon Company to buy some resources from the hands of the major powers.

At that time, although the Alldevil Star-Field’s situation had started to grow serious, it wasn’t so severe. The outside world and the Alldevil Star-Field’s experts still had opportunities to travel between star-fields.

When Qian Duoduo came to the Heavenly Dragon Divine Armor College to talk about business, he recognized Guo Ran. The two of them instantly began to weep on each other’s shoulders.

The news of Long Chen in the Darklight Heaven was also transmitted to Guo Ran by Qian Duoduo. The latter was in the Soaring Dragon Company, which was a competitor of the Huayun Trading Company. As a result, he naturally wouldn’t miss any news that came from the Huayun Trading Company.

Qian Duoduo had asked Guo Ran how he was back then. At that time, Guo Ran was having a difficult time, and he hadn’t entered the four heroes yet.

Mentioning it now, it was rather funny. Qian Duoduo had come with countless guards and attendants, while Guo Ran had been doing so badly that he didn’t even have the face to see him.

At that time, Guo Ran had simply said that everything was going fine in the Heavenly Dragon Divine Armor College. When Qian Duoduo asked him what he needed, thinking of using his personal authority to get Guo Ran some benefits, Guo Ran thickened his face to the point of saying that he wasn't lacking anything, rejecting Qian Duoduo's help.

Afterward, Qian Duoduo left, but he would often send letters to Guo Ran to maintain communications. But in the last two months, the Alldevil Star-Field was fully sealed off, which cut off all kinds of communications with the outside world.

Long Chen had never expected Qian Duoduo to be doing so well in the Soaring Dragon Company. He actually had such an important position that he was surrounded by guards wherever he went.

Back then, Qian Duoduo had met Long Chen in the sect's recruitment trial. He then sold Long Chen a map, and that was how they had met. Long Chen felt that this fellow was truly good as an accountant, so Long Chen had him take charge of the entire Dragonblood Legion's financial affairs.

Qian Duoduo was a natural business expert. Back then, Zheng Wenlong had even joked about taking Qian Duoduo away. For him to waste away as a fighter in the Dragonblood Legion was a waste of a genius.

"How did this fellow end up in the Soaring Dragon Company? With his smarts, wouldn't he be in a good spot if he went to the Huayun Trading Company?" asked Long Chen.

"Hehe, boss, you don't know? I actually asked the same thing. Why don't you guess what he said? He said that the Soaring Dragon Company doesn't conduct its business cleanly, and he is preparing for when the opportunity comes to suck up their wealth and leave. He wants to reestablish the savings of the Dragonblood Legion," said Guo Ran with a chuckle.

Long Chen's heart warmed. Qian Duoduo was only an ordinary warrior of the Dragonblood Legion, but he was always thinking of the Dragonblood Legion. To have such a brother, this life had been worth it.

“Boss, with these materials, I can spend a long time upgrading my armor. You should know that my Devil Dragon Battle Armor can be repeatedly upgraded. I’ve only set up a tenth of the runes, and I don’t know how strong it will be at its full potential. However, I still haven’t figured out all the designs, so I don’t quite dare to be rash. After all, once those runes are carved, they can’t be changed. I really want to find Xia Chen. If I can get his help, there are several problems that can be instantly resolved,” sighed Guo Ran.

Forging was something that Guo Ran had immense talent in, but runes weren’t his specialty. Although he had also learned many inscription techniques, as that aspect related to forging, he was lacking compared to Xia Chen. Even though in the Heavenly Dragon Divine Armor College, Guo Ran had reached the peak in this regard even amongst his peers, he knew that he was a far cry compared to Xia Chen. He could forge the complete Devil Dragon Battle Armor, but he couldn’t inscribe all the runes without Xia Chen’s aid.

The current runes that he had inscribed only occupied a very small portion of the armor. He didn’t dare to inscribe too many because the current Devil Dragon Battle Armor was like a sheet of white paper. He wanted to wait until Xia Chen was present before finishing the design. Without the complete design, he only inscribed the most basic runes.

“That’s fine. Just improve your basic runes so that you can unleash the maximum power of your physical body, and that’ll be enough. As for Xia Chen, I feel like he shouldn’t be that hard to find. Once the matter in the Alldevil Star-Field ends, we’ll go find him. Then the three of us brothers will join forces to handle a major affair,” said Long Chen.

As soon as Long Chen found Guo Ran, he thought of a certain possibility. That mysterious dragon expert had brought them into the immortal world and scattered everyone throughout the nine heavens and ten lands. The weird thing was, Guo Ran was skilled in forging, and he just so happened to fall into the Alldevil Star-Field where the Heavenly Dragon Divine Armor College was.

If that was not a coincidence, then the others must have been sent to places that suited their strengths. In this case, Xia Chen would be sent to the place most suitable for him. In the Violet Flame Heaven, Long Chen happened to know of a place that stood at the pinnacle of runes and formations.

“Really?” Guo Ran instantly grew excited.

“He should be close, but let’s not think about that right now. Focus on raising your power quickly. I came to the Alldevil Star-Field for two goals. One is to gather certain ingredients for alchemy, while the other is to experience the power of the Alldevil race. I want to see what connection they have with Lord Brahma,” said Long Chen.

Hearing that Long Chen wanted medicinal ingredients, Guo Ran immediately sent people to check the storehouses. It went without saying that no one dared to ignore the orders of the current Guo Ran. They were very quick, and in just half a day, all the ingredients that Long Chen needed were gathered.

Seeing the mountains of medicinal ingredients, Long Chen nodded. Coming here was the right choice. Having come to the source, the precious and rare medicinal ingredients weren’t difficult to obtain at all.

This still wasn’t enough for Long Chen, but he wasn’t worried. This was only the stock in the Heavenly Dragon Divine Armor College. The other powers must have quite a bit in their hands as well. As long as Long Chen got them all, he estimated that it would be enough to condense the Violet Tower Star.

“Senior apprentice-brother Guo Ran, Xie Liuer and Leng Hui are outside asking to see you. Do you wish to see them?”

After Guo Ran took out all the ingredients for Long Chen, the two of them walked out of the room. Tu Hu immediately gave them a report.

“Tell them to scram. Why do I need to see them?” said Guo Ran darkly.

Tu Hu immediately turned, but Long Chen shook his head. "Call them in. You can't hide from them forever. You have to face some things directly."

Tu Hu looked at Guo Ran. Hence, Guo Ran helplessly said, "Go. It's not like I dare to not listen to boss's words."

Tu Hu left and Long Chen patted Guo Ran's shoulder. "If you can't get over your anger, when you meet them, you can always give them a beating. I will support you."

"Really?" Guo Ran was delighted.

"Definitely!"

Guo Ran laughed when he heard that and walked out with Long Chen.

Chapter 3599

"This is how you admit your past mistakes?"

When Guo Ran saw Xie Liuer and Leng Hui, he found that they didn't have much shame on their faces. It was different from the sight of them kowtowing and crying as they begged for mercy, which was what Guo Ran had been imagining.

“No, we aren’t here to admit to our mistakes. We came to discuss the war and how to join forces against our common enemies,” said Leng Hui.

Xie Liuer added, “The path of cultivation is one where experts strive to defeat each other. Experts are not born that way but are made through competition. This competition is a path every king must take. It doesn’t matter whether the competition is good or bad; it is an iron law that the strong win and the weak lose. The winner is the king, and since you’ve won, you are the king. We came to express our respect for the king, but that doesn’t mean that we did anything wrong before.”

Guo Ran was struck speechless. When did these two gain such clever tongues? He actually had no words to counter them.

They had clearly suppressed him and left him furious, but from their words, it was as if he had to be grateful and thank them for it.

“Experts are respected in the cultivation world, so who doesn’t want to become an expert? To become an expert, you can only continuously challenge other experts. Only then can you make the greatest improvements. We do not believe that we have done anything wrong,” said Leng Hui.

“Bullshit! If you wanted to challenge experts, why didn’t you challenge Wang Zixu?! You’re clearly challenging soft persimmons!” raged Guo Ran.

“Are you a soft persimmon?” asked Xie Liuer.

“You...”

Guo Ran was once more left at a loss for words. He didn’t know how to respond.

Long Chen smiled. “The two of you have memorized your script very well. It’s rare for people to prepare themselves like this.”

Leng Hui and Xie Liuer’s calm expressions twitched when they heard that.

Guo Ran exclaimed, “No wonder you two are so eloquent today! This little Leng fellow, you normally just keep repeating the same arrogant words of crap, but you’re actually talking reason today. So you came prepared!” Guo Ran had originally been feeling like these two were acting a bit odd today. Other than saying arrogant words, these two never talked so clearly to him.

After being exposed by Long Chen, the two were a bit panicked, but they had already come and could only thicken their faces. Leng Hui clenched his teeth and said, “That’s simply natural. To lower one’s head to an expert is not embarrassing. If you want to humiliate us, then go ahead and humiliate us like we did to you. We can endure it.”

“Fuck, if you put it like this, I won’t even be in the mood to do it! It seems that you calculated everything perfectly, eh?!” raged Guo Ran.

How could you slap someone who wanted to forge a good relationship with you? Guo Ran was not a person with a vast heart, but if people were going to come to him and ask to be humiliated, there was no way he could do it. Hence, he found himself angry, with nowhere to vent.

The two of them didn’t say a word in response to this. They had clearly come with various preparations in their minds.

It seemed that the seniors behind them had given them pointers. Moreover, they had used various moves to harass Guo Ran. Having accurately judged Guo Ran’s character, they came up with a plan first.

“Leave it be. Guo Ran has told me about your matters. You guys have grievances between you, but it is only the result of finding the other side displeasing and not to the point of touching the bottom line. There is still room to discuss things. With powerful enemies right before us, I hope that everyone can temporarily put aside their past grievances and focus on our common enemies. Let us resolve the crisis before us before discussing anything else,” said Long Chen.

“Boss, you’re going to make me suffer this grievance silently?” demanded Guo Ran a bit unhappily.

“There’s no other way. If you want to wear the crown, you have a heavy responsibility on your shoulders. You should learn from the dean. He endured for thousands of years before he finished his arrangements this time,” said Long Chen with a smile.

“Then why can’t you ever endure? You were the ones who taught us to go all-out no matter what, to look down on life and death, and that the Dragonblood Legion can eat anything except a loss,” said Guo Ran stubbornly.

Long Chen angrily clapped him on the back of his head. “Your wings have toughened enough to stand up against your boss, huh? You’ve endured for over a year, and now you talk about going all-out and looking down on life and death?”

Guo Ran’s neck contracted upon being struck. Still aggrieved, he said, “Didn’t I only endure because I had no other choice back then? Now that boss is here, why do I still have to endure?”

Long Chen was speechless. He was about to reply when Xie Liuer and Leng Hui suddenly walked forward. They got down on one knee in front of him and cupped their fists.

“Dean Guo Ran, if you are displeased inside, then the two of us apologize for everything right here.”

This formality immediately made Guo Ran feel a bit embarrassed. He hastily said, “I, Guo Ran, am not such a petty person. Get up. I just... I just... I just don’t feel happy inside. Why were you allowed to bully me so brazenly, but now that it’s my turn to vent, I can’t? What kind of justice is this? Can it be that this is the tribulation fated to come into my life?”

Guo Ran pulled the two of them up. Although he still grumbled, his expression had improved quite a bit. This action of theirs had instantly dissipated quite a bit of his resentment.

In truth, Guo Ran was not planning on doing anything much to the two of them. He needed to take on a certain attitude, and this solemn apology was precisely what he needed.

Long Chen smiled slightly. The advice that their seniors had given these two was well done. Even the tempo was grasped very well.

Furthermore, kneeling on one knee was a specific etiquette given by disciples to the dean. Guo Ran was the proxy dean, his status equivalent to the dean’s.

If they went on both knees, it would be begging for mercy. As heavenly geniuses, the two probably couldn’t accept such humiliation, but this other etiquette was acceptable, and it could also resolve Guo Ran’s resentment. Their seniors truly had good heads.

Guo Ran raised the two of them. The three of them then exchanged a glance and couldn’t help but burst into laughter. This one laugh caused all the hostility in their hearts to vanish.

Humans were very curious lifeforms, their emotions inexplicable. Sometimes, they could be consumed by vengeance until death, and sometimes they could wipe away grievances with a laugh.

“Dean Guo Ran, we know that you’re unhappy inside, and so are we. You said that you are an ascender from the lower world who didn’t bring anything with you. But we have our families, our seniors, and our special resources. That’s the only reason we managed to reach our current height. But you, with nothing, still managed to charge your way up. How could we feel that this is just? If we were surpassed by you, wouldn’t we be laughingstocks? So how could we not suppress you?” said Leng Hui helplessly.

Guo Ran laughed at them, feeling much better inside. This was another way of praising him. This little fellow always liked hearing other people praising him. He was quite vain.

“Alright, then since we have buried the hatchet, let us sit and discuss the battle plan!”

Long Chen got to the important point, as he didn’t have that much time to waste. The Alldevil race was related to Lord Brahma. There might be some secret within that could be useful to him, so he had to quicken the pace. He could feel that the closer he got to the truth, the closer he got to danger.

Chapter 3600

“The great dean himself has said that the battle plan will be left to dean Guo Ran. We just need to listen to orders, and we’ll do whatever dean Guo Ran tells us to do. There’s no need for our opinion,” said Leng Hui.

Long Chen had killed Wang Zixu, and the dean had taken that chance to strike while the iron was hot, eliminating the spies within the college. They were no fools. They could see that the dean was planning on raising Guo Ran as his successor. Guo Ran would be the dean in the future, and the current dean had prepared the path for him.

The current Guo Ran was truly soaring like a shooting star. Anyone who went against him now would be an idiot. Thus, the two of them could only lower their heads.

“I only listen to my boss. Planning? I can’t be bothered. I’m just in charge of leading the battle!” Guo Ran shook his head and pushed the responsibility onto Long Chen, following things just like he had in the Dragonblood Legion.

“Then we’ll listen to senior apprentice-brother Long Chen,” said Leng Hui nonchalantly.

Surprisingly enough, Long Chen shook his head. “Since everyone has buried the hatchet, we will be comrade-in-arms in the future. Let us speak truthfully. Guo Ran is only a temporary proxy dean. If nothing unexpected happens, the future dean will be chosen amongst the two of you. Thus, while this battle appears to be something that the dean prepared for Guo Ran, in truth, it is for you two. The ones to profit the most will be you two.”

“What?!”

Xie Liuer and Leng Hui jumped in shock. “You mean that you’re going to leave? Can it be that not even the position of dean can hold you back?”

“How funny. Can a little college bind me, Guo Ran? That must be a joke. I am the general of the Dragonblood Legion! Even if I tell you now, you won’t understand. Let me put it to you this way: when the Dragonblood Legion gathers once more, when we fight throughout the nine heavens and ten lands, you will understand what real glory is. Do your best to suck up to me now because once my boss overlooks the heavens, I, Guo Ran, will also rise! I’m not going to be someone that anyone can suck up to then!” exclaimed Guo Ran proudly.

Xie Liuer and Leng Hui both had expressions of disbelief. The Heavenly Dragon Divine Armor College was a famous and glorious existence. Just how much reverence did the dean of such an existence possess? But Guo Ran actually didn’t want that title.

“Getting back to the point, Guo Ran’s position is temporary. If the two of you can do a good job and stand out above the masses in this battle, then unless someone even more outstanding appears in the Heavenly Dragon Divine Armor College, the position of dean will fall to the two of you. Thus, you cannot just listen to orders. You have to make yourselves the main characters, make yourselves stand out. Most importantly, you have to look after everyone properly. Don’t just stand in the shade of a big tree. Otherwise, once this tree leaves, if you haven’t made any contributions at all, how will you win over everyone?” said Long Chen.

“Understood. Many thanks for your pointers, senior apprentice-brother Long Chen!” said Leng Hui gratefully.

The reason why they had constantly suppressed Guo Ran as best as they could was precisely for the future position of dean.

Hence, now that Guo Ran had expressed that he had no interest in that position, and Long Chen had even reminded them to take advantage to stand out and make a name for themselves, they were completely won over.

When the two of them submitted to Guo Ran, that was because they had no choice. But with this, they were completely revitalized. They immediately followed Long Chen’s instructions and went to organize their own people, preparing for battles.

Seeing them leave so excitedly, Guo Ran chortled, “Boss really is the boss. Now you’ll direct me, and I’ll direct them. I just need to move my lips and nothing else. Hehe, I really like this feeling. The two of them have to listen to me, hahaha! I’m getting excited just by thinking about it. You know, I feel like if I were to use this opportunity to express myself to that girl Xie Liuer, she really might agree. Maybe I should try it?”

Guo Ran’s wretched smile at this time definitely required a beating.

Long Chen rolled his eyes at him. This little fellow only dared to talk and brag, but he didn’t dare to try anything.

However, now Guo Ran would be able to order them around, and the two of them wouldn’t dare to hesitate in the slightest. It could count as allowing him to vent.

“Guo Ran, tell me the truth. What do you think about the Heavenly Dragon Divine Armor College?” asked Long Chen solemnly.

Guo Ran sank into thought. “If it was before, I would say that the Heavenly Dragon Divine Armor College was rotten to the bone and could not be cured. But now that I’ve witnessed the dean’s methods, I realize that what I saw was not the complete Heavenly Dragon Divine Armor College. The college still has a great deal of power in reserve. Everything is under the dean’s control, and it has immense potential. What is it boss? Are you interested in raising this college?” Having followed Long Chen the longest, Guo Ran had a certain understanding of how Long Chen thought.

“Alright then. Since that’s the case, I’ll put in some effort to raise them.” Long Chen thought about it and made his decision.

...

“What? Cultivate a different cultivation technique? That is unacceptable!” Within the assembly hall, there were hundreds of elders. When Guo Ran proclaimed the addition of a new cultivation technique to the Heavenly Dragon Divine Armor College, the entire assembly erupted in an uproar.

Of the assembly’s twelve Elders, three were executed and six were imprisoned. So, only three were participating now. Since that was the case, Guo Ran had to gather all the elders of the college to announce this.

As a result, this announcement caused almost everyone to shoot up and oppose it. One elder said, “Dean Guo Ran, this cannot be done. I know you have good intentions, but how can the rules created during the founding of the Heavenly Dragon Divine Armor College and passed down for tens of millions of years be changed just like that?”

“Exactly! If something happens, the college will decline. The rules that our ancestors passed down cannot be broken.”

All those elders panicked when they heard Guo Ran’s announcement. They could not accept such a reality.

“I called you over to announce this matter, not to discuss it with you. All you need to do is carry out my orders. This is war. Anyone who goes against my orders will be executed. If my orders cause harm to the college, then I, Guo Ran, will kill myself to atone for my sins. But if someone goes against my orders, then don’t blame me for not being courteous and not caring about seniority. Alright, all of you can disperse.” After saying that, Guo Ran turned and left.

The next day, Guo Ran’s group of hundreds of followers were gathered by him. Amongst them were Xie Qianqian, Tu Hu, and the others.

They were all incomparably excited. That was because Guo Ran had told them that Long Chen would be teaching them a new cultivation technique, one that could shake heaven and earth. Hence, all of them were filled with anticipation.

It had to be known that the reputation of Guo Ran’s boss had long since shaken their ears. Long Chen had only been in the college for a few days, but Guo Ran had undergone such an amazing transformation. In their eyes, Long Chen seemed to be an omnipotent existence.

“I will pass down the Starry River of the Sky Art to you. Starting today, you will be the strongest starry river warriors of the Heavenly Dragon Divine Armor College.”

Looking at those expectant gazes, Long Chen smiled. If the Starry River of the Sky Art was combined with the Starry River Battle Armor, just what kind of glorious light would it produce?