

Overlord 1031

Chapter 1031: Are They Really Siblings?

Xiang Shaoyun left the Hundred Beasts Mountain with Little White. Following Little White were an old demon and several Demon Sovereigns. One could say that Xiang Shaoyun had obtained a group of powerful helpers from this trip.

Inwardly, Xiang Shaoyun lamented, What a good brother to have.

The group returned to Xia Hamlet. However, Xiang Shaoyun had the demonic beasts wait outside the hamlet, as he was afraid that they would harm the humans. He only brought Little White and Money into the hamlet. As far as he was concerned, the two were his brothers, and their races were no longer an issue.

Xia Liuhui had met Little White before, so he was naturally overjoyed to see Little White again. Little White did not dislike Xia Liuhui. Rather, he quite liked Xia Liuhui as a person.

And when he saw Tuoba Wan'er and Gong Qinyin, Little White greeted obediently, "Sister-in-law." The two were extremely pleased to be greeted that way.

If they weren't aware that Little White was actually a demonic beast in human form, they would probably start introducing some girls to him.

In the blink of an eye, three days passed. Ye Chaomu finally arrived.

Ye Chaomu arrived with her 13 eagles, an old woman, and a middle-aged man of few words. They all had their auras concealed, but when one looked at them, one would still feel like they were surrounded in a divine radiance that gave each of them an extraordinary demeanor.

Even so, in Ye Chaomu's presence, they no longer seemed as remarkable. She was akin to a pearl in the dark night. Wherever she went, she would shine brilliantly.

She was seated atop a green-eyed cat. She wore a skintight black outfit, displaying her gorgeous figure with curves in all the right places. Anyone seeing her would wonder if she was a masterpiece created by the heavens.

Her long hair cascaded down her neck and gently drifted about. Her face was enchantingly beautiful, causing anyone looking at her to have a sense of inferiority. From afar, she looked like an ethereal fairy. She was both angelic and seductive; her beauty couldn't be described with words alone.

When the people stationed near Xia Hamlet saw Ye Chaomu's group, they went on high alert as though a great enemy had arrived. After all, the newcomers were too powerful, and they had no idea if the newcomers were friends or enemies. Fortunately, Du Xuanhao had met Ye Chaomu before. He immediately stopped the turtle and the toad, telling them to not make any reckless moves.

"Who is this girl? She looks so good. I feel inferior just looking at her," exclaimed Hua Cheng in admiration.

Du Xuanhao replied, "This is young master's sister."

He then rushed forward, saluted Ye Chaomu, and said, "Greetings, Miss Ye. I am Du Xuanhao, someone under the young master's command. We met before."

Ye Chaomu's eyes gleamed as she answered calmly, "Um. You may rise. Is my big brother here?"

"Yes. I'll show you the way," said Du Xuanhao respectfully.

For some reason, he felt timid facing Ye Chaomu, as though her presence was too much for him.

"It's fine. My big brother is coming out," said Ye Chaomu as a charming smile bloomed on her face.

But soon, the smile vanished. That was because, apart from Xiang Shaoyun, she also saw the two beauties by his side. She felt displeased seeing them.

"Little Mu, you're finally here!" Xiang Shaoyun called out in joy.

He rushed forward, his heart filled with joy. In his heart, Ye Chaomu was the person closest to him. Although they weren't biologically related, that did not stop them from having a strong relationship.

Ye Chaomu got off the green-eyed cat and jumped toward Xiang Shaoyun as she cried out, "Big brother!"

She dove into his arms unhesitatingly. She buried her bountiful chest right into Xiang Shaoyun's body, allowing him to feel clearly just how much she had grown. Xiang Shaoyun, who originally had no distracting thoughts, immediately felt a flame rising within him. The girl in his arms was simply too charming.

Of the many women he had met, Yu Caidie and the frozen women were probably the only ones that could compare with her. Even Tuoba Wan'er and Gong Qinyin were somewhat lacking compared to her. However, Xiang Shaoyun couldn't really put into words just where they were lacking.

It was at that moment that Xiang Shaoyun sensed a thick devilish aura in Ye Chaomu's body. Others might not be able to sense it, but when he hugged her, some sort of indescribable resonance formed between them.

What is going on here? Does Little Mu have devil blood in her just like me? wondered Xiang Shaoyun inwardly.

"Big brother, I missed you!" said Ye Chaomu as she hugged him tightly.

The others might have thought that this was merely a normal interaction between siblings, but Xiang Shaoyun sensed a different sentiment from her voice. After all, Ye Chaomu once made it clear that she really liked him. The love she had for him was not the familial type. Rather, it was the type between a man and a woman.

Xiang Shaoyun quickly threw away all the distracting thoughts and gently stroked her head as he said, "I missed you as well, little sister."

His emphasis on "little sister" was an attempt to remind both of them that they were siblings, not lovers. Of course, he deeply cared for her. However, he had always viewed himself as her elder brother and had never intended to have a romantic relationship with her.

Ye Chaomu let go of Xiang Shaoyun, and as she looked at his face that was right before her, she planted a kiss on his lips unhesitatingly. Xiang Shaoyun was completely stunned. The people around them were stunned as well.

"Liuhui, a-are they really siblings?" asked Tuoba Wan'er, finding it hard to accept.

"I guess so, b-but they aren't really biologically related," said Xia Liuhui gloomily.

Back when he had first seen her, he had fallen deeply for her. Alas, he had lacked confidence and did not have the courage to court her. Also, Ye Chaomu had shown Xiang Shaoyun affection back then. As a bystander, he saw everything clearly.

At this time, Xia Yingying said, "My young lady and Young Master Xiang might refer to each other as siblings, but the young lady loves him deeply."

Xia Yingying had been staying by Ye Chaomu's side for a while. She deeply worshipped her, and she believed that Ye Chaomu and Xiang Shaoyun were meant for each other. She would speak the truth despite knowing of the relationship between Xiang Shaoyun and the two women by his side.

Tuoba Wan'er and Gong Qinyin exchanged glances, a look of vigilance in their eyes.

Chapter 1032: Undying Devil Clan Bloodline

Everyone had come to fulfill the seven-year promise. They did not gather in the hamlet for fear of disturbing the villagers. Instead, they gathered at a hill not far away. Duo Ji had left seclusion as well. After several days of closed meditation, he had regrown his severed arms and reforged his bones. It was as though he had been granted a new body. He looked more than 10 years younger, and his aura reached the very peak of his cultivation realm.

When Little Guo Po saw the recovered Duo Ji, hope was reignited in his eyes, and his trust in Xiang Shaoyun reached an unconditional level.

Xiang Shaoyun swept his gaze past everyone present before saying, "Today, I gather all of you here to give me a helping hand at regaining what was mine. I hope everyone can work with a common purpose and take down the thieves occupying the Ziling Sect. This young master will be immensely thankful for the help you are going to render."

Most of the people present did not have any sense of belonging to the Ziling Sect. But since it was Xiang Shaoyun's request, they would comply unconditionally.

"We will do our very best to help you, young master," they all replied in a uniform manner.

"Very good. Listen to me. We will move out separately. Be careful to not go together so that we don't give them the chance to catch all of us at once. We will reconvene after arriving at the Ziling Sect. At that time, we can charge in together," said Xiang Shaoyun.

He then started sending them away in groups, reminding them to keep their identities hidden. The first group was led by Du Xuanhao. He had Hua Cheng, Han Pojun, and Gong Qinyin go with him. The second group consisted of Tuoba Wan'er and Old Urchin, and they brought Xia Liuhui and Zi Changhe with them. The third group would be Xiang Shaoyun, Ye Chaomu, Little White, and the others.

Xiang Shaoyun originally wanted to have Ye Chaomu head over first with the 13 eagles and the other two experts. However, Ye Chaomu insisted on staying by his side. She also said that since Di Batian knew her, a fight would break out the moment she entered the city. She claimed that only by traveling alongside Xiang Shaoyun would they be able to show their determination in regaining the Ziling Sect.

As for Little White, it went without speaking that he would travel with Xiang Shaoyun. That was because he had several powerful demonic beasts following him, and there was no way they would allow the demonic beasts to travel independently. As for the turtle and the toad, they only listened to Xiang Shaoyun, so they naturally tagged along. The end result was the creation of this strongest group.

Tuoba Wan'er and Gong Qinyin also wanted to stay with Xiang Shaoyun, but they knew how important this mission was, so they did not dare to make any demands. And with that, they had set off in separate groups.

Xiang Shaoyun did not stay around either, and he started moving. Before returning to the Ziling Sect, he had to first go to an important location. That place could possibly help him reach the Soul Foundation Realm in the shortest time possible, giving him more confidence when attacking the Ziling Sect.

Along the way, Ye Chaomu stood beside Xiang Shaoyun atop Money. The two stood side by side as though they were a match made in heaven. She remained silent, but her gaze remained focused on him, making him feel uneasy.

"Little Mu, why are you staring at me? It's not like you have never seen me before," said Xiang Shaoyun as he rubbed his nose awkwardly.

"Yeah, but I never tire of looking at you," said Ye Chaomu somewhat bashfully.

Xiang Shaoyun frowned and said, "Little Mu, be serious."

"I am serious. Like I once said, I like you," said Ye Chaomu seriously.

Xiang Shaoyun reiterated, "But we are sib—"

Before he could finish his words, Ye Chaomu hugged and kissed him again, completely shutting his mouth. This was the second time she had kissed Xiang Shaoyun. He was somewhat aroused, and he found himself not wanting to part from her lips.

We're not offending public morality doing this, right? wondered Xiang Shaoyun inwardly.

Ye Chaomu released Xiang Shaoyun and looked into his eyes with her bright eyes. Xiang Shaoyun looked away, not daring to meet the invasive gaze. He was fearless, but this little devil here was someone he was afraid of.

"Big brother, although we refer to each other as siblings, we are not actual siblings. Also, I can feel the raging devilish aura within you. You must have sensed the same from me as well. We are the same, and we belong together! We are the real match made by heaven!" said Ye Chaomu seriously.

"Little Mu, why do you even have devilish aura in you?" asked Xiang Shaoyun in confusion.

"And why do you have the same?" Ye Chaomu questioned him back.

Xiang Shaoyun gave it some thought before replying, "Half my bloodline probably comes from the Imperial Nether Clan. I think I got that from my mother."

He might keep this secret from others, but he would not hide anything from Ye Chaomu. She was one of the people he trusted most.

"I should be similar, then. However, the bloodline I have is of the Undying Devil Clan," said Ye Chaomu.

Xiang Shaoyun was stunned. The Undying Devil Clan and the Imperial Nether Clan were paramount devil clans. He was greatly surprised to learn that both he and Little Mu actually possessed their bloodlines.

The Undying Devil Clan was known for their undying bodies. Their innate talents were incredibly powerful. It was no wonder that Ye Chaomu had been able to progress so rapidly in cultivation. She was now a second-stage Soul Foundation Realm cultivator, still much stronger than Xiang Shaoyun.

"What was wrong with father? He had me and picked you up. Did he do all that deliberately?" muttered Xiang Shaoyun doubtfully.

"That must be the case. He intended us to be together," Ye Chaomu went back to the initial topic.

Xiang Shaoyun felt defeated. He said, "Little Mu, you are a little evil spirit that can conquer any heart. Even your big brother is not immune to your charm. But you should know that I already have a lot of women by my side. Stop messing around, ok? Find a better man than me. You can do it."

"Is there even such a man in the world?" Ye Chaomu asked.

Xiang Shaoyun replied awkwardly, "There must be one or two of them out there."

"You sure?" Ye Chaomu pressed on.

Xiang Shaoyun clenched his teeth and said, "I doubt so. But there are probably a lot of men that are only slightly inferior to me."

No man would admit to being inferior to other men.

"That's it, then. I only want a man as outstanding as you. I don't like those that are slightly inferior," said Ye Chaomu earnestly.

"Enough, we should stop talking about this. Is Lord Wu Xie aware of the devil blood in you?" Xiang Shaoyun shifted the topic.

Chapter 1033: Buried Monarch Mountain

Wu Xie was Ye Chaomu's master, also the publicly known number one expert of the Celestial King Province. Even within the entire Western Desert, he could still be considered an extremely important individual. Of course, Xiang Shaoyun learned all that from his father. He was unaware of whether it was the actual truth.

Ye Chaomu nodded. "He has known of this long ago."

"Oh, did he say anything about it?" Xiang Shaoyun blanked out slightly.

"What can he say? Apart from the occasional times he comes to teach me some techniques, he is almost always absent, always acting all mysterious," said Ye Chaomu, who did not seem to care much about her master.

It left Xiang Shaoyun speechless.

"Enough about all that. Big brother, have you investigated Di Batian's latest situation?" Ye Chaomu asked.

Xiang Shaoyun shook his head. "No."

He had not been to the Celestial King Province for many years, so he did not have the latest updates regarding the Ziling Sect and Di Batian.

Ye Chaomu said, "Di Batian changed the Ziling Sect's name to Di Sect two years ago. He has been recruiting numerous experts, creating a sect that is no weaker than the Ziling Sect at its peak. Additionally, his personal strength has also soared. Defeating him won't be easy."

"Looks like that dog has managed to grow decently," said Xiang Shaoyun with a sinister look in his eyes.

"But you don't have to be too worried. I brought two super experts with me. They will be able to kill Di Batian," said Ye Chaomu confidently.

"Um. The two of us can accomplish anything by working together," said Xiang Shaoyun confidently.

After taking several detours, they finally started approaching the Celestial King Province. Each province was made up of hundreds of cities. Thus, each province was incomparably vast. Without teleportation formations, one would probably take years to traverse a single province.

Xiang Shaoyun's group did not even have the chance to rest. They had traveled day and night, trying to reach the Celestial King Province at the fastest speed possible. After reaching the Celestial King Province, they started heading for the Ziling Sect, or to be precise, the Di Sect.

They were all forced to conceal their whereabouts and appearances, as they did not want to alert their enemies. Otherwise, their operation would probably fail when success was within sight.

Time passed, and one day, they arrived at a place called the Buried Monarch Mountain.

The Buried Monarch Mountain was, in actuality, an ancient mountain range that was extremely expansive. It was much larger than the Hundred Beasts Mountain Range. Countless demonic beasts resided here, and numerous devilish plants could be found as well. Very few people dared to casually enter the Buried Monarch Mountain.

This place also wasn't that far from the Di Sect. In fact, after going around the mountain range, one would be able to reach the sect. One could even say that the Buried Monarch Mountain fell within the Di Sect's sphere of influence.

It was rumored that an ultimate monarch was buried in the mountain range and that his inheritance could be found here, hence how the range came to be known as the Buried Monarch Mountain.

Many had explored the Buried Monarch Mountain over the years, but no one had ever gotten the so-called inheritance. Was there really an inheritance here? Only Xiang Shaoyun knew the answer.

Leading Ye Chaomu and the rest, he headed straight for a certain spot in the completely uninhabited mountain range. It was the same place he had accidentally reached during his childhood, the place where he had obtained the Overlord's inheritance.

He was now sure that he was the Overlord's reincarnation. Knowing that, he had to return and reclaim all that was his. That was his only way of increasing his combat strength as much as he could in the shortest time possible, and it was also the source of his confidence in successfully taking his revenge.

Ye Chaomu had assumed that Xiang Shaoyun was trying to reach the Ziling Sect by taking a detour, but the more they traveled, the more unlikely that seemed to be the case. She finally asked, "Big brother, why did we come here?"

"I'm here to take back what was once mine. I need you guys to stand guard for me when I'm doing so," said Xiang Shaoyun.

Ye Chaomu nodded and asked no other questions. As Xiang Shaoyun entered deeper into the mountain range, they encountered more and more beasts. There were also the occasional devilish plant attacks. One could say that danger came in all shapes and forms in the Buried Monarch Mountain.

If the group wasn't strong enough, they would have a hard time taking even a step forward. Xiang Shaoyun couldn't even imagine how he had reached the place when he was a child.

When they neared their destination, they sensed a different group of people stationed not far ahead.

Xiang Shaoyun became anxious at the possibility that his previous life's inheritance had been discovered by someone else. He remembered that the place had been sealed alongside Big Black's disappearance back then. Nobody should be able to find his inheritance. Had some expert come searching for his inheritance?

They concealed their aura, and Ye Chaomu sent the middle-aged man following her to scout ahead. The middle-aged man moved like a gust of wind, then soon returned and whispered to her ear. He then resumed standing silently by her side.

Ye Chaomu said to Xiang Shaoyun, "Big brother, there are about 20 or 30 people ahead, and their cultivation realms are between the Dragon Ascension Realm and the Soul Foundation Realm. They seem to have discovered the entrance to a secret space. They are sealing the surroundings while preparing to explore the secret space."

"Looks like the place I'm heading to has still been discovered. But it doesn't matter. Even if they enter, they won't find anything," Xiang Shaoyun muttered to himself. "Let's go over directly. If they are Di Sect members, just kill them all. If they are others, chasing them away will be enough."

He considered the area as his personal territory. He did not need to skirt around others when he had enough strength at his side.

When they approached the mountain ridge ahead of them, someone appeared before them and shouted, "This place has been occupied by the Hong Clan. Everyone else should piss off, or don't blame us for being merciless."

"Hong Clan? The same Hong Clan from Ziling City?" asked Xiang Shaoyun doubtfully.

"That's right. It's good that you know about our Hong Clan. Get lost. This is not the kind of place you can approach," the person shouted again.

Xiang Shaoyun waved at the strong-ape and Aikai. He commanded with a sinister gleam in his eyes, "Kill them all. Leave nobody alive."

Back then, the Hong Clan had received great care from Xiang Yangzhan. Their patriarch was even appointed the governor of Ziling City. But when Di Batian rose up in rebellion, the Hong Clan was the first to help him and kill the Ziling Sect loyalists. It was something Xiang Shaoyun had never forgotten.

At Xiang Shaoyun's command, the strong-ape and Aikai charged out and instantly killed the two people standing in their way. The people blocking their way were merely Dragon Ascension Realm cultivators. They were nothing before Sovereigns.

The attack alarmed the Hong Clan members who were in the midst of exploration. They charged over and roared, "Who dares to challenge the Hong Clan?"

Chapter 1034: Furious Resentment

The Hong Clan's second leader, Hong Litao, was personally leading the expedition. He was a fourth-stage Soul Foundation Realm expert. Three other Soul Foundation Realm experts were with him as well, and the rest were Dragon Ascension Realm cultivators.

The Hong Clan had discovered the secret space when one of their Sovereigns, who was proficient in formations, discovered something unusual about the place. After some deductions, they confirmed that there was a secret space.

Of course, they had only found some clues regarding the secret space. They had yet to open it. Their plan was to report their findings to the Di Sect if they couldn't swallow the entire secret space for themselves.

The moment Xiang Shaoyun saw Hong Litao, his eyes turned red, and intense killing intent burst out of him. The time for revenge was approaching, and when he saw an enemy from his past, the hatred he had suppressed over the years was finally unleashed.

When Hong Litao and his men arrived and saw the group of experts, their vigilance rose. Hong Litao even spoke politely, "May I ask where you're from? Are you aware that this is the Di Sect's territory? We have placed this place under lockdown. Aren't you showing us too much disrespect by blatantly killing our people?"

"Is that so? Hong Litao, have you forgotten this young master? Looks like an important person like you is quite forgetful, huh?" said Xiang Shaoyun with a sneer.

When Hong Litao's gaze landed on Xiang Shaoyun, he blanked out slightly. His eyes widened as he exclaimed, "Y-You're Young Master Xiang Shaoyun?"

"Ahhh, so you're still not blind, it seems," said Xiang Shaoyun mockingly.

"Haha, how can I be blind? So long as I can capture you, I will be rewarded great merit upon returning," said Hong Litao as he roared with laughter. He stopped thinking and grabbed for Xiang Shaoyun.

Hong Litao could sense that the people before him were strong, so his goal was to gain the initiative by striking first. He would capture Xiang Shaoyun before thinking about what to do next.

Ye Chaomu wanted to help Xiang Shaoyun, and the others wanted to do the same. However, Xiang Shaoyun stopped them and said, "Don't make a move. I'll kill him with my own hands!"

He had waited a long time for this. Hong Litao would be the first person he used to appease the spirits of the dead Ziling Sect loyalists.

As Hong Litao reached for Xiang Shaoyun, Xiang Shaoyun also pounced forth like a ferocious tiger. His body unleashed a terrifying burst of vicious energy, and a massive amount of golden energy swept forth toward Hong Litao.

Hong Litao could see that Xiang Shaoyun had reached peak Emperor Realm, but when Xiang Shaoyun attacked, he realized that he had underestimated him. A white tiger materialized and roared at him, unleashing an oppressive pressure that made his heart shiver.

"This is not possible! Die!" Hong Litao roared and unleashed all his strength as he met Xiang Shaoyun's attack head on. He was determined to capture Xiang Shaoyun.

Alas, his energy was nothing before Xiang Shaoyun—it shattered the moment it collided with Xiang Shaoyun's energy. He was unable to pose any threat to Xiang Shaoyun. Blood sprayed from his outreached hand after he came in contact with the white tiger energy. He was in so much pain he wanted to retreat immediately.

Xiang Shaoyun naturally wouldn't let his prey escape. He grabbed Hong Litao's shoulders and crushed them. He then slammed Hong Litao onto the ground and stepped on him.

Everything happened in the blink of an eye, filling all the onlookers with disbelief. Hong Litao himself couldn't believe what was happening to him either. How could a mere Emperor harm a fourth-stage Sovereign like him?

He released his soul foundation in an attempt to suppress Xiang Shaoyun. However, Xiang Shaoyun behaved like a late-stage Soul Foundation Realm expert and counter-suppressed him to the point he couldn't even move despite his countless struggles.

"I'll let you experience death by a thousand needles," said Xiang Shaoyun ruthlessly as the flux goldthorn energy surged out from him and invaded Hong Litao's body.

Hong Litao was immediately assaulted with the sensation of being stabbed by countless needles. He wailed in pain, looking incomparably miserable. Only then did Hong Litao's men wake up from their shock. They attempted to make a move against Xiang Shaoyun and rescue Hong Litao.

"Kill them all," Ye Chaomu commanded. A sharp look appeared in her eyes as she waved her hand at the 13 eagles behind her.

The 13 eagles charged forward. All 13 Sovereigns attacked at the same time, sweeping through their opponents like a scythe through weeds, easily completing their task.

In the past, the 13 eagles were mere Emperors. After all these years, they had all become Sovereigns. One could see just how talented they were. Their sole purpose of existence was to protect Ye Chaomu. Without considerable talent, they would have been replaced long ago.

Hong Litao finally fainted from the pain. Xiang Shaoyun couldn't even be bothered to turn him into a puppet, and he directly killed him. Among the Di Sect members, he only needed Old Winter and Old Summer to act as his spies.

After killing Hong Litao, he said to Ye Chaomu and Little White, "Lock this place down. Before I leave, nobody is allowed to approach."

"Don't worry, big brother. From now on, not even a fly will be able to get through," Ye Chaomu promised.

"Be at ease, boss. Not a single beast will dare make a sound in the span of 10,000 kilometers," declared Little White domineeringly.

Xiang Shaoyun nodded at them before walking ahead by himself. Soon, he arrived before a massive old boulder. Looking at the dense weeds around it, he lamented inwardly, How nice would it be if Big Black was still alive?

His profundity of earth seeped into his surroundings as he started sensing the situation underground. He was searching for the formation planted here. After obtaining his inheritance from two lifetimes ago, his understanding of formations had increased significantly. His mind was filled with countless formations, and he was able to easily sense the formation undulations deep in the ground.

As he focused, he immersed himself with the profundity of the formation. He then dripped a drop of his blood essence onto the ground, using it to explore and activate the hidden formation.

If he tried forcing his way through the formation without using his blood, the secret place would end up destroyed. Sure enough, with the introduction of Xiang Shaoyun's blood, energy of a similar origin started pulsing from under the ground. The formation activated, and shining lines spread across the ground. Soon, a door of light appeared before his eyes.

He stepped into the door unhesitatingly. The moment he stepped through, the door vanished as though it never existed. Xiang Shaoyun had entered an unknown secret space.

Chapter 1035: Rest in Peace, Big Black

This was an underground cave and a secret space constructed through spatial techniques. Only a cultivator at the Heaven Battling Realm and above would be able to understand the profundities behind the creation of such a secret space.

The space was clean with a refreshing breeze. When one breathed, one could practically smell the natural spiritual energy in the air. Formation runes covered the walls of the cave, and hidden within the runes were powerful killing formations.

Relying on his blood essence, Xiang Shaoyun was able to travel unimpeded. Soon, he arrived at the cave's central area. There, some memory fragments started surfacing, and an imposing figure appeared in his mind. The figure was nothing but a soul clone, yet it emanated an aura so imposing one would not dare to look straight at it.

The figure was seated atop a massive black horse. With a saber in hand, he held his head high and spoke to the sky, "I, Xiang Dingtian, dominate the world. However, the numerous organizations of the world actually worked together to make me suffer heavy losses. Unfortunately, I perished from their joint attack. Even so, my will to fight will never be extinguished. In my next life, I will return and sweep through the dominion!"

That figure was none other than Xiang Dingtian. After his death, Xiang Dingtian had left his inheritance here, waiting for himself to return in his next life and inherit all his memories. As for how he knew he would reincarnate, it involved an even greater secret and was a puzzle that would not be unraveled so easily.

Here, Xiang Shaoyun seemed to have transformed into a different person. He strode forward, and as he looked at his surroundings, warmth filled his eyes.

There weren't a lot of items in his surroundings. At a certain corner was a piece of withered purple wood. Below the withered wood was a clump of crackling lightning energy. It looked weak, but that was because it had been sealed. It actually contained a terrifyingly destructive might. Some random items could also be found around the place, and they were each extremely rare materials.

However, Xiang Shaoyun did not seem to pay much attention to them. He was focused on a certain altar and a pile of horse bones in a certain corner. He walked toward the pile. Even as a pile of bones, the dead horse still looked bold and majestic.

Xiang Shaoyun gently stroked the bones as a sorrowful look surfaced on his face. He said, "Big Black, little did I expect that when we met again, you would already be a pile of bones. In the past, you were by my side as we conquered the world and accomplished numerous outstanding military deeds together. This Overlord is really sad to see you end up like this."

As he spoke, a curtain of mist started clouding his eyes. He couldn't hide the intense sorrow he was feeling. Big Black was a nimbus horse, the king among horses that was comparable with the likes of celestial horses.

Back then, Xiang Dingtian was fortunate enough to earn the horse's loyalty, and the two looked at each other as true brothers. But now, Big Black was dead and could no longer return to life.

After mourning on the ground for two hours, Xiang Shaoyun finally picked up the dimmed demonic core from the horse's head. He muttered, "When I encounter your race in the future, I will pass on your demonic core, allowing you to live a new life!"

He then dug a big hole and buried the bones. When he finished, he bowed and said, "Rest in peace, Big Black."

The phantom of a majestic black horse appeared in the cave. It gazed longingly at Xiang Shaoyun as it slowly faded away. Xiang Shaoyun took some time to gather his emotions. He then walked silently to the altar.

He knew that this was where he could recover his memories from his previous life. He had already received one memory inheritance when he was a child. However, he was too weak back then to receive too many of the memories. Now that he was an adult, he could accept them all.

He stepped onto the altar and activated the formation on it. Rays of light shone from the altar, and soon, a phantom formed. The phantom transformed into a clump of light and seeped into his head.

The phantom was the memory inheritance Xiang Dingtian had left behind prior to his death. It contained everything he had learned and comprehended in his life. It would allow Xiang Shaoyun to recall it all, helping him progress further in his cultivation at a faster speed.

Numerous memories surged into his soul. He learned about his past, and his soul grew in strength. After all, the memory inheritance left behind by Xiang Dingtian also contained a portion of his soul power. Both of them were the same person, so Xiang Dingtian's soul power was naturally capable of enhancing Xiang Shaoyun's soul.

There seemed to be no limit to Xiang Shaoyun's soul. After all, he had the soul raising stone in his Nether Soul Domain. The soul raising stone was a stone extremely beneficial to one's soul. It could nourish and enhance one's soul, helping one's soul to remain full of vitality. Because Xiang Shaoyun's soul was a filthless soul that had attained a solid form, it was much easier for him to fuse with the incoming soul power.

Xiang Shaoyun wasn't paying any attention to his strengthening soul. He was focused on the memories he was receiving. They were not the entirety of Xiang Dingtian's memories. They only contained the most important events of his life, such as his cultivation method, his brothers and friends, his enemies, and the situation back then when he was surrounded and killed by all those people who had joined hands.

The memories were deeply imprinted into Xiang Shaoyun's mind, and he could no longer forget them even if he wanted to.

After an indeterminate amount of time, he recovered from his state of recollection. He sighed and said, "A lifetime as an overlord, a lifetime as a legend, only to end up being killed. Ultimately, I was too weak back then. If I had been able to take a step further, everything might have been different. In this life, I must reach the very peak before I even consider taking my revenge."

The current Xiang Shaoyun wasn't exactly the same Xiang Dingtian. With the Light of Wisdom, he was much more rational than Xiang Dingtian had expected. The Xiang Dingtian from back then was too arrogant. He had even tried to establish a Xiang Dynasty, and he had suffered the consequences of his arrogance.

For now, Xiang Shaoyun did not have such high ambitions. He also understood the limits of his current strength. He was much more practical in his decision making. He ignored all his recovered memories. Although he was tangled with his past life, he also felt that he was a brand new person. He was not the same person from his past two lives.

Sure, Xiang Shaoyun was related to them, but they would not be the main factors influencing his actions in his current life. He would be the main character of this life, not them.

Xiang Shaoyun then walked to the withered purple wood. He picked it up, and instantly, lightning energy covered his body.

"A piece of 10000-year-old lightning strike wood. This will be the ultimate treasure to help me cultivate my lightning power," said Xiang Shaoyun.

Chapter 1036: Soul Foundation Forging

Back when Xiang Shaoyun was still a Martial Hall Palace disciple, he had once obtained a tiny piece of lightning strike wood. However, the piece he had obtained back then was far inferior to the one he was currently facing.

The one before him was most definitely a lightning strike wood that had taken 10,000 years to grow, one that had been baptized by time and had only been created after being struck by countless lightning strikes. It was a true unique wood capable of summoning tens of thousands of lightning bolts.

Since Xiang Shaoyun wanted to cultivate the power of lightning, this piece of lightning strike wood would help him summon endless lightning bolts to enhance his cultivation. He would no longer need to use all his effort just to summon a limited number of lightning bolts. What he could do personally was far from what the lightning strike wood could do. Furthermore, such a piece of 10,000-year-old lightning strike wood could easily summon mutated lightning bolts.

Before Xiang Shaoyun could do anything, he noticed a mutated lightning power near him. After putting the lightning strike wood away, his gaze landed on the clump of sealed purple energy. Its origin surfaced in his mind.

"Starfall lightning, an extremely rare mutated lightning power, one that can destroy even stars. This is the seed of a lightning power unique to me in my previous life," said Xiang Shaoyun in excitement. He was about to release the lightning seed, but he hesitated and stopped. Instead, he pushed another drop of his blood essence out and imbued the lightning seed with it.

He had to first form a resonance with the lightning seed before he could refine it for his own use. Otherwise, with his current strength, he wouldn't be able to withstand any backlash that might arise if the lightning seed were to reject him.

The moment his blood seeped into the starfall lightning, electrical currents crackled about and instantly destroyed the drop of blood. He frowned at the sight of that. This was the seed of the lightning power he had tamed in his previous life. It should already be infused with his aura. Why was it rejecting his blood?

"Is it because my blood essence in this life is different from my past life's blood essence? Is that why it is rejecting my blood?" Xiang Shaoyun muttered doubtfully.

After spending some time in thought, he pushed out another drop of blood essence. This time, he wrapped the innate lightning energy of his lightning bone around the drop of blood, hoping to form a resonance with the starfall lightning this way. Sure enough, after using his lightning bone, the starfall lightning reacted and stopped resisting his blood essence.

Now, Xiang Shaoyun only needed to remove the seal to proceed with fusing with the starfall lightning. However, he still didn't dare to. He was afraid that he wouldn't be able to withstand its power, and this was not a good time to make an attempt. He wanted to first break through into the Soul Foundation Realm before absorbing the starfall lightning, which would be the most optimal method.

Once again, he shifted his attention to the pile of materials on the ground. The pile contained beast materials, man-made materials, and numerous natural treasures. They were all rare treasures that had been preserved for a long period of time, and each was incredibly valuable and rare.

After searching about for a bit, he picked up a purple stone from the pile. Joy covered his face as he said, "Lightning motion stone, a high-tier material for forming one's soul foundation."

Each high-tier material was extremely hard to find. During his previous life, he had accumulated some treasures for himself, and this lightning motion stone was one of them. With the black tides mystic stone, primal divine stone, and the lightning motion stone in his possession, he had soul foundation forging materials of seven elements in his hands. He still lacked materials of the wind and light elements before he could form a soul foundation of nine elements.

A soul foundation like that was unheard of, but Xiang Shaoyun wanted to give it a try, as he had a feeling he would succeed. He started searching through his personal collection. Soon, his gaze landed on the yin wind stone. This was something he had gotten from the Sinister Wind Den. It was capable of gathering wind, but it was only a mid-tier material.

Fortunately, from the pile of gifts given to him by the angel priest, he found a high-tier material of the light element, the calming divine stone.

"The yin wind stone is somewhat lacking, but it is still a mid-tier material. Used with all the other materials I have, I should be able to forge a top-tier soul foundation," said Xiang Shaoyun, who decided to use the materials he had to forge his soul foundation.

He immediately put his decision into action. He gathered all the materials together and started the forging process. Soul foundation forging was an important step in the path of cultivation. Many people didn't even know how to forge a soul foundation, and they all imagined it to be an incredibly hard process.

In truth, the process wasn't that complicated, but there were two conditions that one must meet before proceeding with the forging process. Firstly, one's soul must reach a level where one could fuse one's soul power into the materials. Without reaching that level, one would never be able to enter the Soul Foundation Realm.

Secondly, one's spirit and energy must be one. In other words, one's soul and energy must fuse and resonate with one another. Only then would one be able to turn the materials into one's soul foundation. So long as one fulfilled both those conditions, forging a soul foundation wouldn't be hard.

With his memories from his past life, he already had experience in soul foundation forging. He was in perfect condition and had all materials prepared. This would be the best time for him to forge his soul foundation.

Xiang Shaoyun breathed for a bit as the nine stars within him started shining brightly. Strands of energy flowed toward his head, forming a roaring nine-colored dragon. His soul also infused the nine-colored dragon with his soul power, forming the strongest spirit energy. He then released the Nether Soul Domain and used it to cover the stones. The nine-colored dragon coiled around the materials and started fusing with them.

Generally speaking, the materials he was using were incomparably tough. One would not be able to refine them with ordinary methods, but since Xiang Shaoyun wanted to forge his soul foundation, he had to fuse them all. And to do so, he had to form a resonance between them, dissolve them, and then combine them. For that, comprehension of the profundities of powers was necessary.

Instantly, the profundities of gold, wood, water, flame, earth, wind, lightning, light, and darkness resonated with each other. Strands of astral energy weaved around the materials, and the energies contained in the materials were pulled out and fused with their respective profundity. Slowly, all the different energies combined into a single clump of energy, fusing and gradually turning into a platform. The platform looked rather crude, and much work still needed to be done to it.

Xiang Shaoyun had to slowly infuse all he knew into it, leaving his soul marks on it to form a true soul foundation. In the future, as he grew in strength, he would leave more soul marks on the soul

foundation. With that, he would be able to add more layers to his soul foundation. Each layer and soul mark would represent his growth in strength.

Chapter 1037: Sudden Phenomenon

The soul foundation was a solid object, and it was also a part of a cultivator's body due to the presence of the cultivator's soul power in the soul foundation. One could say that the soul foundation was one of the greatest and most unique traits of human cultivators.

After laying his soul marks down, Xiang Shaoyun forced together the black tides mystic stone, primal divine stone, lightning motion stone, yin wind stone, calming divine stone, and the other materials, creating soul marks of nine colors. The marks pulsed with a nine-color radiance. Any other cultivator would be completely dumbfounded if they saw this scene.

Since the dawn of time, few cultivators had ever successfully forged a soul foundation while cultivating nine powers. From how things were progressing with Xiang Shaoyun's soul foundation forging, it seemed he was slowly edging toward success.

While the materials were fusing with the soul marks, Xiang Shaoyun had a sudden ominous feeling.

He discovered that the materials weren't able to fully fuse together, and they had merely been forced together. Such a fusion would not form a true soul foundation, and it might even cause him to fail to break through. If that happened, he would suffer grave consequences, such as dying with a head explosion or suffering a drop in strength due to a cultivation backlash.

Xiang Shaoyun grew nervous. Failing to maintain calm in such an important process would result in great consequences. Fortunately, his soul was powerful enough to forcefully seal the disarrayed mesh of energies and materials together and prevent them from deviating in behavior.

Xiang Shaoyun had undergone many tribulations; thus, he could quickly calm his mind when encountering a problem. His Light of Wisdom activated as his brain raced for a solution.

"I did not forge the soul foundation wrong, so is it the material fusion that is causing the problem here? Or perhaps I still lack something in my spirit energy that makes it so that I can't become one with these materials?" Xiang Shaoyun questioned himself repeatedly, trying to look for an answer.

Soon, he thought of an idea, and he immediately tried it. He pulled out the primal inception energy from his astral cosmos sea and sent it into his head. The primal inception energy was an energy

created through the fusion of nine energies. He believed that this energy would help him fully fuse all the materials.

Sure enough, when the primal inception energy entered the mix, the materials started fusing for real. The situation improved considerably, and carving the soul marks became much smoother. The spirit energy and the materials started slowly coming together.

The primal inception energy was an ancient energy that had existed before heaven and earth existed. Xiang Shaoyun was probably the first person in history to have ever artificially created such power. And with the assistance of that energy, his soul foundation finally completed the fusion process flawlessly.

In the space within his head, the numerous materials weaved around each other under the control of his energy, ultimately turning into an endlessly revolving clump of nine-colored radiance. He was free to shape the clump as he wished into its final form.

Toward the end, he forged a flat millstone with the materials and energies, and the end result of it looked like a nine-colored shining disc. Nine energies flowed within it, making the disc look mythical. His soul was seated cross-legged right at the middle of the disc, becoming one with the soul foundation. His aura started growing.

After all, those rare materials he had used to fuse the soul foundation all contained their respective unique powers. When they became one with Xiang Shaoyun, he would naturally benefit from the process. The primal divine stone, in particular, gave him the biggest benefit, as the aura of the stone's power was the scariest of all the materials.

Xiang Shaoyun had a sensation that his soul was about to leave his body and soar into the night sky. Abruptly, nine bright stars appeared beyond the sky, and mystical strands of nine-colored radiance descended toward the secret space.

The nine-colored radiance was incredibly dazzling, at times looking like a soaring dragon and pouncing tiger and, at other times, a dancing phoenix and crying tortoise. The river of stars in the sky was reversed, as though a brand new universe was opening up. It was an incredibly shocking phenomenon, and even Ye Chaomu and the others in the vicinity were completely stunned by what they were seeing.

"The appearance of a phenomenon! What kind of soul foundation is big brother forging?" muttered Ye Chaomu with astonishment.

"Nine stars and nine energies descending together. Looks like the young master is really going to forge the strongest soul foundation. The heavens are truly fair. If the sect master sees this, he will be gratified!" said Duo Ji, getting emotional.

Little White, the turtle, the toad, and the others were completely stunned. That was especially true for the 13 eagles and the two Heaven Battling Realm experts. They had never even heard of such a shocking phenomenon appearing during soul foundation forging. They renewed their view of Xiang Shaoyun, and they started believing that Xiang Shaoyun would one day rock the entire world.

Nine different colors covered the area, and all living things in the area started recovering from all sorts of damage. Withered plants started budding once again, while the existing plants were filled with even more vitality.

The humans and demonic beasts in the area felt like they were showering in some divine radiance as their bodies and souls experienced an amazing sensation that was as comfortable as a bath in a hot spring. The phenomenon lasted for an indeterminate amount of time as the radiance slowly seeped into the secret space. Finally, everything returned to normal.

In the secret space, Xiang Shaoyun was wrapped in a divine radiance of nine colors. Numerous auspicious beasts circled him—a dragon and a phoenix roaring and crying, a qilin swallowing the world. One living being after another came into existence, and even mountains and hills manifested around him.

Everything converged into his soul foundation, fusing the nine rare materials into a single nine-colored soul foundation. The numerous phenomena that had appeared around him were branded onto the soul foundation, resulting in a soul foundation emanating an ancient and primal aura.

Instantly, Xiang Shaoyun's entire bearing changed into a more dignified one. Nine entirely different energies swirled around him. He looked like the child of heavens, with a charm and temperament that no words could accurately depict. After seven days and nights, the numerous auras around him were finally fully withdrawn into his body.

He opened his eyes, revealing two penetrating orbs that were akin to the sun and the moon that could see through everything. Nine-colored radiance rippled out of his eyes as though two rainbow beams had shot out, rainbows containing the boundless intricacies of the universe.

As of that moment, Xiang Shaoyun had taken that crucial step forward, forging his soul foundation and becoming a first-stage Soul Foundation Realm cultivator. He was not even a regular first-stage Soul Foundation Realm cultivator as he had reached peak first-stage in one go, advancing at an alarming rate.

That was a benefit he had gained from all the phenomena that had appeared around him. In fact, if he hadn't intentionally suppressed his cultivation, he would have broken through into an even higher level of cultivation.

At that moment, his soul foundation had formed, and the phantom of a dragon had appeared on his spine. It was as though the dragon was holding his spine upright, turning him into someone who would face the world with his back straight. Nobody would be able to miss his domineering presence in his current condition.

The draconic aura had fully matured, and his soul foundation had been successfully forged. After 10 years of hard work, he had finally stepped through this crucial barrier, becoming a Sovereign. One could say that very few people had a cultivation speed as fast as him. He now wielded a combat prowess no weaker than any late-stage Sovereign, and his soul was unimaginably powerful.

Chapter 1038: Ziling City

Xiang Shaoyun clenched his fists as he muttered with calm eyes, "After 10 years of hard work, I finally reaped my gains today. Although I am still weaker than that old dog Di Batian, I am no longer fearful of him. I will kill every last one of his nine sons to avenge the deaths of the elders and my fellow sect members!"

He sent a sweeping glance at his surroundings and collected everything he could. He then looked at Big Black's burial spot and said, "Rest in peace, Big Black. I will visit you again in the future."

He then waited no longer and left using the formation in the secret space. The formation was incredibly exquisite as one would only be able to enter using his blood essence. If anyone tried entering through force, the secret space would be destroyed in its entirety. When Ye Chaomu, Duo Ji, Little White, and the others once again saw Xiang Shaoyun, they blanked out.

Looking at the extraordinary bearing he carried, they instantly felt that they were facing a divine being that they would never be able to approach. Just looking at him caused them to feel inferior, as though he was a divine being from the heavens while they were mere commoners. The clear distinction of inferior and superior beings made them feel uneasy.

Ye Chaomu was the only one who could fully ignore what she was feeling. She approached and looked at him with a look of infatuation. "Big brother, you're even more handsome now. I love you so much."

She then pounced on him and hugged him, not caring the slightest bit about how others were looking at them. Xiang Shaoyun rubbed his nose awkwardly, but he didn't push her away. He knew her well, and he was aware that he had to let her do as she pleased.

"Alright, I'm done with my affair here. Time to enter the Ziling City," said Xiang Shaoyun as he looked in a certain direction with a sharp glint in his eyes.

It had been 10 years, and the rage in his heart was burning fiercely.

Ye Chaomu held his hand and stood alongside him as she said, "Big brother, we will definitely retake Ziling Sect."

"Yes. Nobody can hope to stop our advance," said Xiang Shaoyun with a nod.

The group wasted no time and started heading toward the Ziling City in a grandiose fashion. However, they wouldn't be charging into Di Sect with just this group. First, they would group with the others before gathering their firepower to deal with the Di Sect.

Xiang Shaoyun could no longer hold his excitement. Inwardly, he thought, Father, if you're still alive, please come back and watch how your son regains everything you have built.

The Ziling City was now known as the Di City. This was a flourishing city. Even the civil strife back then did not affect the city's prosperity. Numerous high buildings stood tall everywhere, and all sorts of stores selling numerous eye-catching products littered the city. Powerful cultivators with all sorts of weapons on their backs and gorgeous carriages pulled by powerful demonic beasts filled the streets, showcasing the city's domineering might.

Here, the Di Clan was a true hegemon, while the Hong Clan was a local tyrant. Over the years, the Di Clan had focused on their inner affairs to consolidate Di Sect's power. Thus, the city's administration had been basically handed over to the Hong Clan. The Hong Clan patriarch, Hong Liliang, was the current city governor.

He was a henchman that had started following Di Batian a long time ago. Thanks to Di Batian, he now occupied the governor's position. Back when Di Batian rose up in rebellion, Hong Liliang was the first person to show his support to him. He had also been one of those pursuing Xiang Shaoyun at that time.

Xiang Shaoyun had only been able to escape to the Soaring Dragon Province after braving through numerous dangers. One could say that Xiang Shaoyun harbored a great grudge against Hong Liliang and his clan. They were among his first targets to be eliminated.

At present, Hong Liliang was in a meeting with several other people in the governor's manor. Hong Liliang was a rosy-faced middle-aged man. He looked righteous and fair, a person that one could easily trust.

Seated on the governor's seat, he looked at the people across him and asked, "Why is Litao still not back here? Nothing had happened there, right?"

"I doubt so. Lord Litao went there with so many experts. Even if they can't enter, they will still be able to leave," replied someone.

"That's right. The Buried Monarch Mountain Range only has some powerful demonic beasts. Not many existences there can threaten Lord Litao. Perhaps they will return in honor in a day or two," said someone else.

"I hope so," said Hong Liliang with a sigh. "The sect master has recently decreed that everyone should take note of that little bastard's whereabouts. He might be returning for his revenge at any time. The moment he is discovered, we are to kill him without asking any questions. Additionally, take note of any strangers. That kid will probably come with helpers. We don't want to be caught with our pants down."

"Governor, is that little bastard really still alive?" asked someone anxiously.

"Yes, he has been living very well, in fact. I heard he is an Emperor already. He had even killed the eighth young master," replied Hong Liliang.

"What? He's actually brazen enough to kill the eighth young master?" exclaimed someone in shock.

"The grudge between them can't be resolved anyway. Who wouldn't he kill? That's why he is definitely coming back for his revenge," said Hong Liliang.

Just as someone else was about to speak, a series of sounds broke out from outside the room. However, the noise went away as quickly as it had come. Hong Liliang and the others instantly sensed something ominous and smelled blood in the air. They stood up and sent their senses outside, trying to figure out what was happening.

At the same time, Hong Liliang pointed at someone and commanded, "Go take a look outside."

The selected person did not dare to disobey and left immediately. He was never seen again, as though he had vanished without a trace.

"Dang Er, Dang Er, are you dead? Come back and report your findings," Hong Liliang shouted unhappily.

No reply came, and his heart thumped as he sensed that something big might have happened.

"Lord governor, why don't we go out together?" proposed someone.

"Sure, let's go. Don't tell me all the guards are dead," said Hong Liliang with a solemn nod.

Just as they were about to leave, a phantom shot inside through the door, giving them a fright.

Bang!

When the phantom crashed onto the ground, they noticed that the phantom was none other than the person they had sent outside. He was dead. Before they could recover from their shock, several other phantoms flew in, causing them to hurriedly dodge aside in panic. It turned out that the phantoms were all corpses.

"Impudent! Who dares to kill members of the governor's manor?" Hong Liliang berated with a frown.

Hong Liliang was a sixth-stage Soul Foundation Realm cultivator. In Di City, he was considered a local tyrant of high status. Since even someone with his strength couldn't sense what was going on outside, one could only imagine just how strong the intruders were. He could feel a chill creeping up his spine. And when he recalled the little bastard he was talking about earlier, he wondered if the little bastard was here already.

Sure enough, a young man and a young woman strode in not long after. They were akin to a match made in heaven, and both looked like they had descended from the heavens. They emanated a bearing and presence that made one lower one's head before them. The pair was none other than Xiang Shaoyun and Ye Chaomu, who had just come from the Buried Monarch Mountain Range.

"It's really you, little bastard!" Hong Liliang exclaimed in alarm.

He had been notified that Xiang Shaoyun was about to return, but he had not imagined that his return would be so soon. After all, when he had received the news, Xiang Shaoyun was still an Emperor. He believed that Xiang Shaoyun would probably focus on his cultivation for a while before returning.

"Little bastard? Tsk, tsk. Look how naturally that term rolls off your tongue. You truly are Di Batian's most loyal dog," said Xiang Shaoyun with a sinister look in his eyes.

"Hmph. Don't think that you can act all arrogant before me just because you have grown a little in your cultivation. Luo Mingdeng, take both of them down. We will return to the sect with them for more merits," commanded Hong Liliang coldly.

"Yes, governor!" answered a third-stage Soul Foundation Realm cultivator. He then charged toward Xiang Shaoyun and Ye Chaomu.

Luo Mingdeng was merciless in his attack, grabbing for them with two fiery claws. His claws contained an earth-shattering might, and a regular person would have great difficulty blocking it.

Just as the claws were about to strike them, Xiang Shaoyun took a step forward and grabbed the two claws. He accomplished the feat with such casualness that it appeared similar to grabbing something from his own pocket. Before Luo Mingdeng could react, he found that both his arms had been tightly grabbed.

Luo Mingdeng pulled with all his strength, but he felt as though the toughest of pincers were holding his arms down. They wouldn't budge no matter how hard he pulled.

Xiang Shaoyun had no interest in wasting any time on a nobody such as this. He exerted some force with his hands and instantly snapped both of Luo Mingdeng's arms.

Crack!

With both his arms broken, Luo Mingdeng wailed in pain.

"Everyone, attack! Show no mercy!" Hong Liliang commanded as he charged Xiang Shaoyun and Ye Chaomu. He knew that Xiang Shaoyun had come harboring ill intentions. Furthermore, the two seemed rather powerful. He had to create a big scene so that the people in the city would notice what was happening at the governor's manor. Only then would the Di Sect be warned.

However, Xiang Shaoyun would definitely not give him the chance. The entire governor's manor was sealed off by the Heaven Battling Realm experts Ye Chaomu had brought. Nothing happening here would leak outside the manor.

Xiang Shaoyun did not wish to waste any time to prevent any mishaps from happening. He released his soul foundation and slammed it into the charging Sovereigns. The moment he released his soul foundation, strands of nine-colored divine radiance filled the hall as an indescribable pressure crushed down on everyone present, causing them to tremble involuntarily.

"W-What kind of soul foundation energy is this? It is so terrifying!" Hong Liliang exclaimed in alarm when he found himself suppressed.

"Kill!" Xiang Shaoyun steered his soul foundation and roared, a terrifying power bursting out of his soul foundation. The soul marks on the foundation displayed the terrifying might of the numerous offensive techniques he knew and rained destruction onto the Sovereigns in the room.

Xiang Shaoyun wanted to see for himself just how powerful his soul foundation was and if it could be used to battle those with higher cultivation levels.

His soul foundation emanated an ancient aura that was incredibly oppressive. A river of stars formed, and numerous powerful demonic beasts manifested. One phenomenon after another appeared, each with an unrivaled prowess.

The Sovereigns present lost the courage to even release their soul foundations. They tried resisting with their own bodies and suffered miserably. Xiang Shaoyun's soul foundation was comparable to a late-stage Sovereign's soul foundation, instantly crushing two Sovereigns into a pile of mincemeat. They were not a match for him.

A few of them forcefully withstood the pressure, but most of them were already bleeding from their seven orifices and were barely hanging on.

"I refuse to believe that your one-layered soul foundation would be unstoppable! Break!" roared one of the Sovereigns as he released his two-layered soul foundation. He gathered his soul power within his soul foundation and sent it crashing toward Xiang Shaoyun's soul foundation.

The two soul foundations collided, and it was as though an egg had crashed into a rock. Not only did his soul foundation fail to suppress Xiang Shaoyun's, his soul foundation even cracked and delivered him a strong backlash.

"Ridiculous," said Xiang Shaoyun with derision as he sent his soul foundation forward and exterminated the Sovereign.

Xiang Shaoyun's soul foundation was scarily powerful. The surviving Sovereigns despaired and contemplated fleeing. Not even Hong Liliang wanted to continue the fight. He wanted to flee and report the incident to the sect before doing anything else.

Alas, Xiang Shaoyun's attack came too fast. His one-layered soul foundation enlarged, and it erupted with an even more terrifying energy. The energy enveloped the fleeing Sovereigns, not giving them the chance to escape.

"Screw this! If I have to die, I'll drag you down with me!" shouted a Sovereign. He roared and swung his weapon at Xiang Shaoyun's soul foundation with all his strength.

Using the soul foundation, Xiang Shaoyun unleashed his Seven Scorching Sun Claws and tore the Sovereign's arms apart before clawing at the Sovereign's chest. Blood sprayed everywhere, and the domineering flame energy invaded his body before turning him into a human torch. The others weren't able to escape either. In a few breaths, all of them were killed.

Their struggles were completely pointless since Xiang Shaoyun's soul foundation was too powerful. His foundation also seemed immune to any attack they launched, rendering them completely helpless.

Before long, Hong Liliang was the sole survivor. He wanted to escape, but when he found himself locked in, he finally realized that there were more people outside. He finally sank into despair.

"I refuse to believe that your soul foundation is indestructible!" said Hong Liliang as a sharp sword appeared in his hand. Harnessing the power of his six-layered soul foundation, he swung the sword at Xiang Shaoyun.

He was using a top-quality sovereign weapon. Although the sword was incomparable to a saint weapon, it was still excellent among sovereign weapons. In fact, it was strong enough to pose a threat to any cultivator below the Saint Realm.

However, Xiang Shaoyun showed no fear. He gathered all his power into his Overlord Skyslaying Saber and started madly swinging the saber at Hong Liliang. At the same time, his soul foundation formed a connection with the stars beyond the sky, supplying him with an unending supply of energy that made him even stronger than before.

"Today, you will be the first sacrifice to my war banner. Next, Di Batian will be following you to the afterlife," said Xiang Shaoyun with a roar as he smashed through Hong Liliang's energy and swung the saber at Hong Liliang's head.

Chapter 1040: Occupying the Governor's Manor

Hong Liliang was a sixth-stage Soul Foundation Realm cultivator. He was able to erupt with incredibly powerful might, but he couldn't resist a first-stage Soul Foundation Realm cultivator like Xiang Shaoyun. He was split into two, and his blood dyed his surroundings red.

"This is what happens to traitors," said Xiang Shaoyun coldly with the saber in his hand after withdrawing his soul foundation.

He had slaughtered everyone in the governor's manor without creating too much of a commotion. In fact, the pedestrians outside walking by the manor didn't even notice anything off.

After all, the two Heaven Battling Realm experts brought by Ye Chaomu had sealed the entire manor. Unless one was an expert of the same cultivation level, one wouldn't be able to sense anything.

Alas, there happened to be just one Heaven Battling Realm expert in the city. He sensed that something was going on in the governor's manor, but instead of going to the manor, he left the city quietly and headed for Di Sect.

The Di Sect, originally the Ziling Sect, was constructed atop a series of mountains. The ethereal buildings littering the mountains, the flying divine cranes, and the hanging waterfalls made the sect look like some sort of celestial palace in paradise. It was a holy land of cultivation with thick spiritual energy in the air. When cultivating at the Di Sect, one would have a much quicker cultivation speed.

The moment the Heaven Battling Realm expert appeared above the sect, he was detected. A voice rang out, "Which friend is visiting the Di Sect? Kindly show yourself."

"I, Di De, request a meeting with the sect master," replied the Heaven Battling Realm expert.

"So it's Lord Di De. Please come in. I'll inform the sect master immediately," answered someone below.

Soon, Di De was brought to the main hall with the treatment of an honored guest.

Di Batian's main body wasn't here, but his clone was present. Two of his sons were with him as well. From this, one could see that Di De definitely had considerable status.

"Big Brother De, what a surprise to see you personally here. My apologies as my main body can't be here," said Di Batian politely.

Di Batian did not look the slightest bit domineering. In fact, he looked rather scholarly. On his handsome face was a genial smile that could easily make one form a favorable opinion of him at first sight.

In fact, this image was why Xiang Yangzhan had placed so much trust in him and had made him the deputy sect master in the past. Alas, it was obvious what he did with the trust he was given.

"Batian, you aren't in the sect right now?" asked Di De with a frown.

"I am, but I'm on the verge of a breakthrough, so my main body won't be able to move around for now," said Di Batian.

"I see. I have something I need to inform you. The ancestor sent me to let you know that our Di Clan is going to leave seclusion soon. At the time, your sect will be an important base of operations for the clan. You will be in charge of making preparations for that. Do not create any problems. This relates to our clan's return to society. We will not allow any mistakes," said Di De solemnly.

"Don't worry, Big Brother De. I have been prepared for many years. The only thing missing is the clan's return," replied Di Batian. "However, has the ancestor reached a decision on my prior proposal?"

"He did ask about it. He has decided that everything your branch had done in the past shall be forgiven. All of you will be allowed to return to the clan. Also, you will remain the highest command in this sect," said Di De.

"Good. I will be awaiting the arrival of our brothers and sisters from the clan," said Di Batian in excitement.

He had both his sons and some other people attend to Di De. His main body would be able to leave seclusion soon.

At this time, Di De said, "Something seems to have happened in your city. I think some Heaven Battling Realm experts are fighting at a place that is probably the governor's manor."

When Di Batian heard his words, he frowned and asked, "Is that so?"

"My senses are definitely right. Is someone making a move on you?" asked Di De.

Di Batian said, "Don't worry, Big Brother De. I will send someone over immediately. It might only be some misunderstanding."

He then sent some underlings to investigate Di City. He also commanded the sect to be on high alert to prevent any mishaps from happening.

The people sent to the governor's mansion were Old Winter and Old Summer. They were both powerful individuals, but in Di Batian's eyes, they were two old men past their prime. They had little room for growth, so he would often send them out on missions to make full use of them before they became completely useless.

After taking over the governor's manor, Xiang Shaoyun sent his men out to contact the others and had them gather at the manor.

"Big brother, are we going to attack the Di Sect immediately?" asked Ye Chaomu as she nestled into Xiang Shaoyun's chest.

"We will definitely attack the sect, but I am going to take over the city first and rename it Ziling City. I want Di Batian to slowly soak in the fear and remorse of what he had done," said Xiang Shaoyun.

"Um. I'll support you in everything you do. The 13 eagles will take over the city guards and put the entire city under their control," said Ye Chaomu obediently.

"Sure, go do it. We still need some people to keep order in the city anyway. I don't want to ruin everything here," replied Xiang Shaoyun.

In the past, he was an overbearing young master in the city. He wondered how many people in the city still remembered him. Regardless, he would still retake everything that should be his.

As the 13 eagles moved out, those in leadership positions in the city were all captured. Travel in and out of the city was restricted, and the people in the city grew nervous because they could all sense that something was going to happen.

Meanwhile, Tuoba Wan'er, Gong Qinyin, and the others gathered in the city. As for Scarlet Flame Monarch and the Skeleton Gang members, they did not reveal themselves. However, they were already hidden within the city, awaiting Xiang Shaoyun's command.

Old Winter and Old Summer swiftly reached the city, but Xiang Shaoyun immediately sensed them.

The two went to the governor's manor at the same time. When Duo Ji saw them, he shouted, "You two old dogs are sending yourselves right to hell. I'll kill you!"

Duo Ji bore a deep hatred for the two. In the past, they had pursued him relentlessly. If he hadn't been strong enough, they would have killed him.

Just as Duo Ji was about to attack, Xiang Shaoyun's voice rang out, "Old drunkard, let them enter."

"Young master, they..." Duo Ji turned around in confusion.

Xiang Shaoyun waved his hand and said, "They are working for me now."

Duo Ji blanked out, and he had no choice but to let the two enter the manor.

"I really can't see through the young master anymore," muttered Duo Ji helplessly after recovering from his shock.

When Old Winter and Old Summer entered the manor, they knelt deferentially before Xiang Shaoyun and said, "Greetings, young master."