

## Overlord 1061

### Chapter 1061: It's Called Turbid Gas

Scarlet Flame Monarch was igniting himself with his lifebound flame, a flame that was no weaker than a high-tier unique flame. Di De was an earth cultivator, so he wasn't afraid of fire. However, even he was fearful when facing Scarlet Flame Monarch, who was fighting without regard for his own life.

### Overlapping Mountain Ranges!

Abruptly, numerous mountains manifested around Di De and protected him from Scarlet Flame Monarch's lifebound flame. Mountain after mountain crashed forward, trying to crush Scarlet Flame Monarch to death.

The clash of two powerful techniques created a calamity that seemed like the entire world was about to collapse. If this exchange happened down at the ground level, they would have created a large amount of destruction.

The intense battle resulted in both of them suffering heavy injuries. Di De was set alight by Scarlet Flame Monarch's lifebound flame and was forced to flee. He had to look for a hiding place to recuperate and remove the flame from his body, or he would be eventually burned to death.

Looking at the fleeing Di De, Scarlet Flame Monarch's aura dropped as he started coughing large mouthfuls of blood. His face seemed to have aged considerably in an instant. Evidently, he was now suffering from the backlash of using a forbidden technique. He had temporarily lost the ability to fight. Left with no choice, he also fled far away and sat down cross-legged to recuperate.

Meanwhile, Li Juetian was holding the absolute advantage against the Saint he was facing. Both he and his opponent were third-stage Heaven Battling Realm experts, but his Three Severing Slash Technique was boundlessly powerful, giving him the ability to punch above his class. Throughout the fight, his opponent could only remain in the defensive position.

However, it would still take him some time to kill his opponent. As for Grandpa Chen, he also held a clear advantage against his opponent. In fact, he was the first to kill his opponent among all the Saints battling.

After killing his opponent, instead of helping Scarlet Flame Monarch or Li Juetian, he prepared to return to Ye Chaomu's side and resume his guard duty. But at that instant, he sensed Old Urchin

soaring into the sky with an old man. Next, he sensed Granny Luo fighting a beautiful woman. Without any hesitation, he went to help Granny Luo.

Subsequently, even Di Batian and the old donkey took to the skies. One could say that the sky had been transformed into a massive battlefield. Grandpa Chen and Granny Luo should be able to easily kill the beautiful woman, but when Di Batian noticed what was going on, he went to help the beautiful woman. The old man fighting Old Urchin also rushed over.

With that, a chaotic battle erupted between the two groups. It did not seem like they would be able to end the battle anytime soon. As a whole, Granny Luo, Grandpa Chen, Old Urchin, and the old donkey were stronger. However, Di Batian wielded a high-tier saint weapon. With the old man and beautiful woman helping him, he was able to hold off against his opponents.

"I advise you to retreat immediately. I am a member of a hermit clan. Our Di Clan is about to end our seclusion soon. We have numerous Heaven Battling Realm experts, and we even have someone beyond that realm. If you leave, I can forget everything that has happened today. Otherwise, no place in the dominion will be safe for you," threatened Di Batian.

Of course, his opponents were no cowards, and they completely ignored his threat.

That was especially true for Old Urchin, who was completely fearless. He started cursing, "What the fuck is even the Di Clan? I have never heard of them. Today, I'll kill you guys and see if there will be any Di Clan members barking at me afterward. Old donkey, come, shower him with your fart!"

The old donkey screamed, "We need to be more scholarly. It's not a fart; it's called Turbid Gas."

As the old donkey said that, he farted and filled his surroundings with a revolting stench. Old Urchin was well prepared and had long sealed his sense of smell. He took the opportunity to launch an intense attack on Di Batian. He knew that Di Batian was the holy son-in-law's target. Only by killing Di Batian would they be able to end this war earlier.

Unfortunately, Di Batian was no pushover. He was someone who had grown his cultivation rapidly, reaching sixth-stage Heaven Battling Realm in a short time frame. Old Urchin might be stronger, but Di Batian was strong as well. He was entirely capable of defending against Old Urchin's attack.

More importantly, Granny Luo and Grandpa Chen had left the battlefield to go and protect Ye Chaomu. Instantly, their side weakened, making it even harder for the battle to come to a conclusion.

"Hey, hey, old woman, don't leave. Let's kill them first," shouted Old Urchin when he saw Granny Luo leaving.

The shout displeased Granny Luo, who glared at Old Urchin before sending a palm attack over. Old Urchin was already busy dealing with Di Batian's group. The sudden attack from his own people almost caused him to lose the fight.

Fortunately, he was strong enough to forcefully readjust his condition. He shouted, "Old woman, have you gone crazy? Why are you attacking your own people?"

"Who's your own people? Just say it if you're looking to die," replied Granny Luo sternly.

At this time, Grandpa Chen said, "Granny Luo, don't waste any time on him. We need to go down there and take care of the young lady."

Under Grandpa Chen's urging, Granny Luo finally left.

Old Urchin grumbled, "As long as we kill them, everyone will be safe. They are completely missing the big picture."

He finally stopped his childish antics and started facing Di Batian's group seriously, showcasing the might of Holy Hall's number two expert. The longer the battle went on, the more fearful Di Batian became. Inwardly, he thought, Where did that little bastard find so many helpers? All of them are so powerful as well. Things will get troublesome if this continues.

Over the years, Di Batian had accumulated strength not only to prepare for Di Clan's reappearance from seclusion but to also prove his worth. He hoped to regain the clan's approval. That was why he had recruited a group of Saints and worked hard to increase his cultivation.

He had managed to get the help of a Saint from the clan, and he had thought that even if Xiang Yangzhan was to return now, he would no longer have anything to fear. But it seemed like just Xiang Yangzhan's trash of a son alone was enough to cause him a massive headache. He felt extremely sullen at the thought.

Meanwhile, a chaotic battle was still ongoing at the ground level. Xiang Shaoyun's main body and clone attacked together using two saint weapons, killing one Devil Sovereign after another, gathering a massive number of devil cores. His attacks were terrifying, and he alone withstood a large majority of pressure from the devil army, reducing the casualties on his side.

Ye Chaomu was also displaying a terrifying combat prowess that was comparable to any peak Sovereign. With everyone working together, the devil army was being cleaned up. The Di Sect members who were watching the battle were completely stunned. They had thought that their sect master's backup plan would be enough to eliminate Xiang Shaoyun's side, and they now realized just how wrong they were.

"Not even the devil army can stop them. What should we do?" someone exclaimed in panic.

"Don't worry. Our formations are active. They won't be able to get through it quickly. The sect master will return in victory shortly."

"That's right. With the sect master out of seclusion, all is fine. No matter how strong Xiang Shaoyun's side is, it will all be pointless."

"Just think of how useless we are right now. Looks like we need to cultivate even harder after this."

## Chapter 1062: I Will Save All of You

At this moment, Xiang Shaoyun's main body had just streaked past two Devil Sovereigns with his Radiant Saint Sword and sliced them apart from their waists. In anyone's eyes, these Devil Sovereigns were incredibly powerful. But with Xiang Shaoyun's speed and saint weapon, he could slice them up like they were vegetables on a chopping board.

Of the opponents, a certain devil sable had given Xiang Shaoyun some trouble. It was as fast as lightning, and even when using his full strength, Xiang Shaoyun was unable to avoid its pursuit, allowing it to leave numerous bloody scars on his body.

Unless he called his clone over, he would have a hard time killing this particular devil. Ultimately, he was forced to release his Nether Soul Domain to deal with the devil sable.

The much larger group of devils were killed by Xiang Shaoyun's group of 300. Tens of Emperors and Kings on their side had perished during the battle.

Gong Qinyin had suffered some slight injuries as well. Her dao of the zither was unable to pose much threat to the devil puppets. If it wasn't for Xiang Shaoyun's clone protecting her, she might have even gotten herself killed.

Xia Liuhui was having a bad time as well. He might have grown rapidly and was capable of utilizing two powers in battle, but his weakness was a prolonged battle. Because of that, after killing a Devil Emperor, he was relentlessly assaulted by a different Devil Emperor to the point he couldn't even fight back. He looked quite miserable. If it wasn't for the fact that he was quick on his feet, he would have been killed.

As for Tuoba Wan'er, she had only suffered some light injuries. Meanwhile, Ye Chaomu was completely fine. The devils around her seemed to greatly fear her for some reason, and she was able to easily kill them all.

After eliminating the devil army, Xiang Shaoyun's group was greatly exhausted. Fortunately, the Di Sect members were too afraid to leave the formations and face them, or they would have suffered even more.

Xiang Shaoyun's clone returned to his main body, and he rapidly consumed some spirit crystals and herbs to replenish his energy. He had to stay in peak condition at all times. After taking a breather, he rushed toward the Di Sect.

"I'll repeat one more time. Those who surrender will be spared, or don't blame me for slaughtering the entire sect," shouted Xiang Shaoyun.

It no longer mattered to him if Di Batian would survive. He had to retake the sect. This was a desire that had been buried deep in his heart for a very long time. A son should never lose what his father had built.

"Xiang Shaoyun, don't get cocky. My father will be back soon. Just you wait," Di Youguang shouted back.

"Is that so? Fine, I'll just have to kill you before your father returns," said Xiang Shaoyun coldly as he sliced through the formation with his chakram. The chakram was a saint weapon, and it had a special attribute that allowed it to penetrate space. Naturally, it could also slice through formations.

Xiang Shaoyun easily entered the formation, completely stunning Di Youguang and the others. He advanced one step at a time, radiating a thick killing that subjected the Di Sect members to an unbearable pressure. Some of them staggered and collapsed from fear right then and there. It was obvious how much Xiang Shaoyun's presence had matured.

Di Youguang was a Sovereign, but he did not have the courage to face Xiang Shaoyun. He begged for help from First Gold and the other guardians, "Golden Guardians, help me!"

"Not even your father can save you," said Xiang Shaoyun as he attacked.

First Gold shouted, "Xiang Shaoyun, don't be reckless! Do you want Elder Yao and Yao Qian to die as well? Men, bring both of them here!"

Xiang Shaoyun frowned. He knew about Elder Yao's imprisonment, but in order to sabotage the formations, he hadn't been able to get in contact with them. And that tiny negligence placed the two in danger.

"That's right. Bring them here. Also, bring those people in the prison here as well. They are all Xiang Yangzhan loyalists," shouted Di Youguang in joy.

Are there actually other survivors? wondered Xiang Shaoyun in surprise.

Back then when Di Batian had betrayed them, he had watched the loyalists die one after another with his own eyes. He was forced to leave the sect, and he had no idea if there were any survivors among the loyalists.

Soon, someone brought Elder Yao and Yao Qian over.

When Xiang Shaoyun saw them this time, he felt an entirely different emotion than when he saw them earlier. This time, he was revealed before them, and they could see each other.

"Young master!" Yao Qian exclaimed when she saw Xiang Shaoyun, and tears started dripping down from her eyes.

She had liked him since childhood. Back then, she had only looked ordinary and failed to catch Xiang Shaoyun's eyes. He had always treated her like a maid. And since she knew that she could

only live to 18, she had never hoped for more either. After Xiang Shaoyun went missing, every day felt like a year. She longed greatly to meet him once again and to confess her feelings to him.

And now, Xiang Shaoyun had reappeared before her. He looked even more handsome and extraordinary than before, and he was now a much more outstanding individual. Her heart was filled with affection, and as far as she was concerned, she would have no regrets even if she were to die right this moment after getting one last look at him.

Elder Yao shivered slightly as he said, "Young master, you shouldn't have returned so quickly."

Xiang Shaoyun looked at the two and said, "Grandpa Yao, Little Qian, don't worry. I will save all of you."

"Xiang Shaoyun, don't do anything stupid. I can easily kill the two of them," threatened Di Youguang as he hid behind Elder Yao and Yao Qian.

"Xiang Shaoyun, if you dare to do anything, they will die as well," said First Gold as he pointed in a certain direction.

As he said that, a few unkempt prisoners were brought out. Their auras were extremely weak. With their messy hair and the dirt all over their bodies, it was hard for one to see their actual appearances. Even with his superb eyesight, Xiang Shaoyun was unable to immediately recognize who they were. However, he had a vague feeling that they were all Ziling Sect loyalists.

"Raise your heads. Your trash young master is back to visit you," berated First Gold.

They raised their heads and revealed their eyes, which were devoid of emotion. Only when their gazes landed on Xiang Shaoyun did some splendor return to their eyes.

"Y-Young master?" called one of them weakly with a hoarse voice.

Xiang Shaoyun tried to see who it was, but the person's face was deformed, so he couldn't see who it was. It greatly saddened Xiang Shaoyun, and he asked, "Which uncle is this?"

"Haha, it's really the young master. I'm your Third Uncle Pang," he said, howling in laughter.

## Chapter 1063: All of You Will Die

Not far away, Duo Ji exclaimed in surprise, "Old Pang, is that really you? You're still alive?"

This Third Uncle Pang's name was Pang Tongyuan, and he was a senior figure in the Ziling Sect like Duo Ji. Moreover, he was Xiang Yangzhan's advisor in the past and had been in charge of putting forward plans and ideas for the sect. He was the one who had come up with many good methods of administering the sect.

In fact, he was the one who had noticed signs of Di Batian's rebellion and had warned Xiang Yangzhan to be on guard against Di Batian's ambition. At the time, Xiang Yangzhan was at the peak of his power. Thus, he did not think much of the warning. Xiang Yangzhan felt that with his strength far beyond Di Batian, Di Batian wouldn't dare to rebel.

But after Xiang Yangzhan went missing from his duel with Shangguan Wusheng, Di Batian rebelled. Pang Tongyuan was spared because Di Batian greatly admired his wisdom. Alas, Pang Tongyuan refused to serve Di Batian. Thus, he was kept in prison and was subjected to constant torture, making it so that living was worse than death. Pang Tongyuan had not imagined that he would have a chance to see Xiang Shaoyun return, and he was gratified by what he saw.

"Third uncle, it's really you!" Xiang Shaoyun called out as tears started dripping from his eyes.

In the past, the person he hated most in the Ziling Sect was none other than this Third Uncle Pang. This was because Third Uncle Pang had always disliked how Xiang Shaoyun would waste all his time in leisure and nothing else. Each time this third uncle saw him, he would be subjected to a harsh scolding that would greatly embarrass him.

At first, Xiang Shaoyun constantly complained to his father about the scoldings he received, but his father never did anything about it. On the contrary, his father supported this third uncle as well, telling the third uncle to discipline him more. At one point, he even developed an innate fear toward this third uncle.

Years had passed since then. When Xiang Shaoyun saw his third uncle once again and saw how badly his third uncle had been tortured, his heart ached greatly. Now that he had grown up, he knew full well that Third Uncle Pang only had good intentions back then. Third Uncle Pang was only so strict with him due to love, yet Xiang Shaoyun ended up disliking this third uncle. For that, Xiang Shaoyun's heart was filled with regret.

Tears streamed down his cheeks. His heart was pained at the thought of his third uncle's sufferings, and he was remorseful that he had not listened to this third uncle in the past. He hated himself for it.

"Get on your knees, Xiang Shaoyun, if you don't want to see your third uncle losing his head," threatened First Gold, who could see just how much Xiang Shaoyun cared for Pang Tongyuan.

"Kill me if you have the guts. Now that I have seen how capable a man the young master has grown into, I can die with no regrets," said Pang Tongyuan unyieldingly.

"Is that so? I'm afraid your beloved young master wouldn't bear to see you die. Hahaha," said First Gold smugly.

"Young master, i-ignore us! Kill all of these traitors!" said a different loyalist who had similarly been brought out of prison.

The other loyalists were also prepared to die. None of them wanted to live, and they all started saying the same thing.

"Xiang Shaoyun, do you want them dead or alive?" asked First Gold, ignoring what they were saying.

Xiang Shaoyun's eyes turned red with bloodlust, and he yelled, "They will all stay alive, while all of you will die!"

Immediately, he released the Nether Soul Domain. Everyone in the vicinity was wrapped in it, completely isolated from the outside world. These were Ziling Sect loyalists, and Xiang Shaoyun had to protect them at all costs. He would not let them die.

First Gold and Di Youguang were greatly alarmed. They had thought that Xiang Shaoyun would submit with hostages in their hands. This space that had appeared out of nowhere seemed too suspicious, and they couldn't even react before they were trapped within it.

"Kill them!" First Gold shouted in alarm.

But before they could even touch the hostages, chains shot out from all directions, giving them a great fright. They were forced to deal with the chains since they weren't interested in getting tied up

by the chains. Alas, Di Youguang was too weak and couldn't put forth any sort of effective resistance. He was the first to be captured.

"Guardians, save me, quick!" he shouted in panic.

"Like I said, not even your father can save you," said Xiang Shaoyun coldly. He then dragged Di Youguang out of the Nether Soul Domain and slashed him into two from his waist right in front of everyone else.

The Di Sect members went limp from fear.

"I repeatedly said that those who surrender would be spared. Since all of you have refused to surrender, don't blame me for showing no mercy," said Xiang Shaoyun as he erupted with thick killing intent.

At his words, the Di Sect members scattered in all directions in panic.

"The sect master has lost another son! Is his family line going to completely end here?"

"This must be karma. In the past, the sect master tried to kill Xiang Shaoyun. And now, karma has returned to bite him."

"This is a world where the strong trample upon the weak. Since the sixth young master is weaker than Xiang Shaoyun, he only has himself to blame for his death."

"Why is the sect master not back yet? He needs to come back and deal with this little bastard already."

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When faced with strength they couldn't resist, the Di Sect members descended into a chaotic mess that completely lacked teamwork. More importantly, a large portion of them used to be Ziling Sect members. They were the ones who had submitted to Di Batian out of their fear for death. Few of them had any sort of backbone.

As for the new members, they hadn't been in the sect long enough to have a sense of belonging. Only a few people were truly loyal to Di Batian, but Xiang Shaoyun had already killed off most of them.

That was why the Di Sect members had sunk into such a disorderly state, failing to unite and put forth any resistance against Xiang Shaoyun.

In Xiang Shaoyun's Nether Soul Domain, First Gold and some other people were finally tied up by the chains. They were now completely at his mercy.

The three remaining Golden Guardians might be strong, but they were greatly suppressed in the Nether Soul Domain. With the ghostrune Sovereign in the domain, they couldn't resist his soul attacks. Thus, the endless chains eventually captured all of them.

Even Xiang Shaoyun's clone was in the domain. Just the clone alone was strong enough to defeat all of them in the domain.

"You are a cocky bunch, but all of you will die here today," said Xiang Shaoyun coldly as he swept his gaze through the three guardians.

"Let us go alive, or the high monks from the Righteous Buddhist Sect will not spare you," said First Gold, who was now sounding much less confident.

Xiang Shaoyun had been intending to kill them, but he stopped when he heard them mention the Righteous Buddhist Sect. He asked, "You come from the Righteous Buddhist Sect?"

"That's right. We're all from the Righteous Buddhist Sect. You can't even begin to imagine how powerful the sect is. It is much more powerful than the Di Sect. You better release us. We are willing to forget all of this. Don't get into trouble you can't handle," said First Gold. He thought that Xiang Shaoyun would fear the Righteous Buddhist Sect's reputation, and he saw some hope in surviving this incident.

"Sure, I can spare you from death, but you still need to be punished," said Xiang Shaoyun with his eyes narrowed. He proceeded to torture them until they were on the brink of death. Then, he used the Nether Dragon Soul Curse to put all three of them under his control. He was going to use them to gather information about the Righteous Buddhist Sect since he still had something he needed to do there.

## Chapter 1064: Dwarf Ambush

Xiang Shaoyun managed to enter the Di Sect, kill Di Youguang, and place the three Golden Guardians under his control. One could say that he had already broken through the fortress that was the Di Sect. He released Pang Tongyuan, Old Yao, Yao Qian, and the others from the Nether Soul Domain. As for the three Golden Guardians, he still needed some time to exert full control over them. The other Di Sect members trapped in the Nether Soul Domain were all killed.

He walked toward Pang Tongyuan and Old Yao before kneeling down remorsefully. "Third uncle, Grandpa Yao, I'm sorry."

A man should never kneel easily. One could bend the knees for the heavens and one's parents, but the same should not be done lightly for others. For him to kneel down before these two, it was clear how sorry he felt.

"Good child, get up. For you to be able to rise again and stand up among your peers, all the sufferings your third uncle has endured are nothing," said Pang Tongyuan in a gratified manner.

Why was he so strict with Xiang Shaoyun in the past? Because he hoped to see Xiang Shaoyun succeed in life like his father.

Now that Xiang Shaoyun had grown into a capable individual, he was filled with sincere joy.

Old Yao also said in a gratified manner, "That's right. If the sect master were here, he would be very happy as well. After spoiling you for so many years, you were still able to discard your shame and rise through hard work. This is rare."

Xiang Shaoyun felt touched and remorseful. Even now, the two seniors did not blame him. Instead, they appreciated what he did, leaving him completely speechless.

At this time, someone beside them stuttered, "Y-Young master, d-do you remember me?"

Xiang Shaoyun looked at the face that was covered in dirt, and asked doubtfully, "You are?"

He didn't remember too many of them, especially when this person's physical appearance was in such a mess. He only saw this person as a Ziling Sect loyalist.

"Young master, I'm..." the person trembled as he slowly walked toward Xiang Shaoyun while talking, and Xiang Shaoyun listened with full attention. Xiang Shaoyun even stepped forth to help the person stand properly.

But when the person got near Xiang Shaoyun, a sharp blade abruptly shot out of his sleeve and aimed for Xiang Shaoyun's heart. It was an incredibly sharp blade, a sovereign-grade weapon. When being stabbed at such a close range, anyone would have a hard time dealing with it. Because Xiang Shaoyun wasn't on guard against him, the blade reached his chest.

"Young master!" Pang Tongyuan, Old Yao, and Yao Qian cried out in alarm.

Who would have guessed that there was a spy among the prisoners? The attacker was overjoyed, thinking that he had succeeded in assassinating Xiang Shaoyun. Unfortunately for him, a crisp sound brought him back to reality.

Instead of stabbing into Xiang Shaoyun's heart, the blade in his hand snapped. He immediately realized that Xiang Shaoyun was wearing high-quality armor. Otherwise, a sovereign weapon would have easily reached Xiang Shaoyun's heart.

Xiang Shaoyun was wearing the Radiant Saint Armor. In fact, the moment Di Batian appeared, he had had the armor on to prepare himself for the worst. Surprisingly, his cautiousness had paid off. Otherwise, this stab might have taken his life.

When Xiang Shaoyun recovered from his shock, an unhesitating punch slammed toward the attacker's face. But the spy was well prepared and immediately did a backflip before fleeing far away.

"You won't be able to escape," said Xiang Shaoyun as he transformed into a storm and gave chase, sending countless blades of wind toward the fleeing person.

The attacker turned out to be a master of disguise. His body shape started changing rapidly, and he transformed into a dwarf less than a meter tall. He then escaped into the ground.

"A dwarf!" Xiang Shaoyun snorted coldly, stamping the ground and releasing a burst of earth profundity. Nothing in the ground could hide from his senses, and with the numerous formation eyes buried underground, he took control over one of them and detonated it.

Boom!

The abrupt explosion startled the people around him, and a figure was blasted out of the ground. It was none other than the dwarf. The explosion had destroyed half his body, and his blood was everywhere. His upper torso still struggled to escape, but it was unfortunate that he did not have the ability to regrow his body.

Soon, he died.

Xiang Shaoyun ignored the dwarf corpse and scanned the other prisoners, trying to see if there were other imposters among them.

"Young master, are you fine?" asked Pang Tongyuan and Old Yao.

"I'm fine. Third uncle, Old Yao, please wait a moment. I'll destroy the formations and get my people in," said Xiang Shaoyun. He now had his guard up.

Pang Tongyuan and Old Yao understood that Xiang Shaoyun was doing what was necessary. They helped Xiang Shaoyun check if the other prisoners were legitimate Ziling Sect loyalists.

Xiang Shaoyun had long fully grasped the formations in the sect. Using the profundity of earth, he destroyed numerous formation eyes, causing the formations to all collapse. His army thus gained entry into the sect.

"Big brother, are you fine?" asked Ye Chaomu anxiously.

"I'm fine," Xiang Shaoyun answered. He commanded the others, "Deal with the others. Those who surrender will be spared."

He knew that the remaining Di Sect members were disloyal people who were completely unreliable, but he did not want to slaughter the entire sect. He still needed someone to remain and do the clean up. He would wait for his father to return before deciding on what to do with them.

Xiang Shaoyun's people spread in all directions as they dealt with the Di Sect members. Only those closest to him remained by his side.

A loud explosion erupted high in the sky, as though the sky was falling on them. Wielding a saint weapon, Di Batian flew down and swung at the Di Sect.

"You want to regain the Ziling Sect? I'll let you and the sect perish together," said Di Batian. He had sensed Di Youguang's death, and he could no longer let Xiang Shaoyun continue living. He was going to risk heavy injuries just to eliminate Xiang Shaoyun.

With a swing of his sword, it was as though the very sky was raining swords down upon them. A domineering rainbow of swords descended, blanketing the sky with an incredibly destructive force, greatly pressuring everyone below it.

This was the might of a sixth-stage Heaven Battling Realm cultivator—a might no ordinary person could compare to. If the attack landed, not only Xiang Shaoyun and his people but also the Di Sect people would be killed. From this attack, one could see just how ruthless Di Batian was.

Old Urchin and the others who were battling Di Batian earlier couldn't do anything in time, as Di Batian had slightly delayed them with a major technique before flying down toward the sect. Just as everyone was about to be killed, the old demon who had remained beside Little White at all times finally made his move.

Granny Luo, who had returned in secret, also revealed herself and made a move. Two Saints making a move together should be enough to block Di Batian's destructive attack.

## Chapter 1065: Terrifying Owl

Among the tigers, Little White's status was unparalleled. Understandably, the old demon sent to him by the tiger patriarch was a top expert from the clan. The arms of the old demon were akin to sharp blades. As he brandished both arms, two terrifying beams shot out with a might that was even slightly stronger than Di Batian's attack.

The two beams crossed and surged into the sky with an incredibly sharp aura that threatened to slice the sky itself into pieces. Numerous strands of energy swirled in the sky, each capable of instantly killing an ordinary Sovereign.

Granny Luo also wasn't any weaker than Di Batian. She did not dare to hold back because she couldn't let the incoming attack harm Ye Chaomu. She pointed her scepter at the sky repeatedly, manifesting numerous oddly-shaped flowers that completely crushed through Di Batian's attack.

Every move a Saint made could result in an astonishing destructive force or even cause a shocking phenomenon to manifest. It was a sight to behold.

Deafening explosions rumbled on and on as a chaotic mess of energy spread in all directions. The people on the ground felt like a massive calamity was about to descend upon them. They coughed up blood and collapsed onto the ground, and some mountains in the area were flattened.

Xiang Shaoyun and the others erected their strongest defenses, afraid that they would suffer the same fate as the others who had been injured by the shockwaves. If it wasn't for the fact that the old demon and Granny Luo had paid particular attention in protecting the spot they were at, they would have been assaulted by the strongest of the shockwaves.

"You dare threaten his highness's safety? Die!" the old demon was infuriated. With a roar, he charged Di Batian.

Prior to this, he did not want to make a move, as he wanted to focus on protecting Little White. Now that Di Batian was trying to kill Xiang Shaoyun, Little White, who was standing beside Xiang Shaoyun, would suffer collateral damage. The old demon could no longer stand still.

Di Batian had not imagined that there was still such a powerful Demon Saint on the ground. He did not dare to face the old demon, and he instead moved in a certain direction.

"Where do you think you're going?"

"I won't flee. I only want you to taste true despair," replied Di Batian with a sneer.

Instantly, he reached the Di Sect's forbidden zone, which was created by Xiang Yangzhan. Not even Di Batian could enter it in the past. Over the years, as he grew in strength and obtained the Di Clan's help, he eventually managed to break through the zone's seal.

Inside, he learned the zone's secret. Today, he was going to fully lift the seal and unleash the terrifying being in the zone.

When Xiang Shaoyun sensed what Di Batian was doing, he cried out in alarm, "Stop him! Don't let him break the forbidden zone, or all of us will die!"

He had been hearing about the danger of the forbidden zone from his father since young. Nobody was allowed to even approach the zone since it was a source of calamity. When he saw Di Batian heading there, he had an ominous feeling. After numerous sounds of explosions, Di Batian fully opened the forbidden zone.

The old demon did not care. He continued chasing after Di Batian and swung both his arms like they were a pair of sharp weapons in his attempt to kill Di Batian. As for Granny Luo, she did not give chase. Her only task was to ensure Ye Chaomu's safety.

Just as the old demon was about to reach Di Batian, a terrifying aura surged out of the forbidden zone. A terrifying pressure descended upon everyone in the area. The sky itself changed color, and the old demon sensed an intense threat coming from the zone. He immediately retreated, not daring to take a single step forward.

Roar!

A roar that sounded like it had come from the depths of hell rang out. It caused everyone's hair to stand on end. Everyone in and near the sect felt the heavy pressure descending upon them and realized that an unparalleled fiend was about to show itself.

"Haha, Lord Owl, awake from your seal!" said Di Batian as he roared with laughter.

The being sealed in the zone was a top-tier owl of the owl clan. The owl was a peak Saint, and it was unknown just how Xiang Yangzhan had trapped it in the zone in the past.

Di Batian was releasing the owl, hoping that the owl could kill Xiang Shaoyun and all the Saints with Xiang Shaoyun. He could no longer be bothered about the consequences of releasing the owl.

A massive silver figure soared into the sky. A pair of wide silver wings flapped repeatedly, and a pair of crimson eyes scanned the area. Nothing was capable of hiding from this pair of eyes. The figure was an immense silver-winged owl. It emanated a thick evil aura that suffocated everyone in the area.

The Saints still battling in the sky all stopped fighting upon sensing the terrifying aura and returned to the ground. Scarlet Flame Monarch, Li Juetian, Grandpa Chen, Old Urchin, and the old donkey had all survived.

As for Di Batian's side, Di De had fled, and Li Juetian's opponent had been killed. Only an old man and a beautiful woman survived, but both had sustained severe injuries. One could say that Xiang Shaoyun's side had obtained a complete advantage over his enemies. If they were given more time, even the old man and the beautiful woman would be killed.

"What a terrifying owl. Young lady, we need to leave immediately," said Granny Luo gravely.

Without any hesitation, she started taking Ye Chaomu away.

Ye Chaomu shouted, "Granny Luo, take my big brother and the others as well."

She would not escape alone. She would only escape with Xiang Shaoyun.

"Little Mu, leave with the others. I won't leave," said Xiang Shaoyun with a decisive look on his face.

"If my big brother doesn't leave, I won't leave either," said Ye Chaomu firmly.

Xiang Shaoyun said, "Little Mu, don't be stubborn. You need to leave. Everything here has been built by father with his blood and sweat. I will either take it all back today or die here."

Xiang Shaoyun remained stubborn. He steeled his heart to stay with the Ziling Sect so long as there was a single grain of sand, a single inch of land, or even a single blade of grass remaining.

The old demon also returned and immediately dragged Little White away, completely ignoring his protests. Little White struggled to no avail.

"Boss!" Little White howled indignantly.

He did not want to be a deserter. He wanted to stay with his boss. Unfortunately, the old demon did not care. He only cared for Little White's well-being.

"Young master, we need to leave first," said Scarlet Flame Monarch weakly.

"Holy son-in-law, we need to leave. This silver-winged owl has a vigorous life force and is extremely powerful. Not even all of us combined will be its match," persuaded Old Urchin.

"Trying to leave? Dream on. Lord Owl, now that you have regained your freedom, why are you not eliminating all of them? They are all your enemies, people brought here by Xiang Yangzhan's son. Are you not going to pay Xiang Yangzhan back for imprisoning you here all those years ago?" yelled Di Batian at the silver-winged owl, who remained motionless.

#### Chapter 1066: This Is the Son of My Benefactor

The silver-winged owl was giving off too much pressure to everyone there. After Di Batian said those words, the people on Xiang Shaoyun's side grew even more nervous. They started retreating, not daring to stay there any longer.

The fastest to run were the villains from the Bloodsin City. They were notorious criminals, and it was already extremely out of character to help Xiang Shaoyun with this invasion. Now that something had happened, they were naturally the first ones to flee. They were definitely unwilling to throw their lives away for Xiang Shaoyun.

The second fastest to flee was the Skeleton Gang. They might have been hand-picked for this expedition, but they also weren't people of high moral standing. If they were, they wouldn't have ended up at the Bloodsin City in the first place.

The third fastest to flee were the Demon Sovereigns brought by Little White. They definitely weren't about to die for Xiang Shaoyun. Even the Sovereigns sent by Tang Zhan were leaving. They saw no need in dying together with Xiang Shaoyun.

And with that, only those closest to Xiang Shaoyun remained instead of being scared away by the silver-winged owl. The Heaven Battling Realm experts at Xiang Shaoyun's side were on high alert, prepared to flee at a moment's notice. After all, they weren't confident they could do anything to the owl even if all of them were to work together.

The silver-winged owl blinked its crimson eyes several times before flapping its wings and flying in Xiang Shaoyun's direction.

"This is bad! Young master, we need to leave!" roared Scarlet Flame Monarch as he tried dragging Xiang Shaoyun away. Unfortunately, the backlash he had suffered from the battle had greatly weakened him. He couldn't even drag Xiang Shaoyun away.

At this point, even the Old Urchin didn't have the leisure to take care of Xiang Shaoyun. His priority was to protect Tuoba Wan'er. Granny Luo and Grandpa Chen also forcefully brought Ye Chaomu away. Not a single Heaven Battling Realm expert remained by Xiang Shaoyun's side, leaving him all alone.

Di Batian sneered, "Die, little bastard."

Is this the end? thought Xiang Shaoyun with a sigh when he sensed the silver-winged owl's aura lock onto him.

He shut his eyes, awaiting his fate.

"You're Xiang Yangzhan's son?" asked the silver-winged owl instead of killing Xiang Shaoyun directly, a powerful voice rumbling out of its mouth.

The question surprised Xiang Shaoyun. He opened his eyes and nodded. "Absolutely. Do whatever you want to me. I'm ready."

"Grandpa Urchin, please go save the holy son-in-law," Tuoba Wan'er yelled from far away.

"That owl is too scary. Your Grandpa Urchin can't do anything," said Old Urchin with a sigh.

Ye Chaomu also shouted at Granny Luo and Grandpa Chen, "Why aren't you helping my big brother? I don't want him to die!"

"Young lady, don't make things difficult for us. We are only in charge of your safety," said Grandpa Chen as he lowered his head.

"Only someone at the very peak of the Saint Realm can deal with that owl. We are still too lacking to face such an opponent," said Granny Luo.

As for Li Juetian, he had long fled far away. He would definitely not sacrifice his life for Xiang Shaoyun.

Scarlet Flame Monarch had the highest loyalty, and he mustered the final bit of strength he had. His aura locked onto the silver-winged owl as he threatened, "Owl, don't do anything rash, or I will detonate myself and kill both of us!"

Scarlet Flame Monarch had decided to throw all caution to the wind. He would save Xiang Shaoyun even if he had to die. Xiang Shaoyun was greatly touched. This was indeed a loyal brother from his previous life.

The silver-winged owl threw Scarlet Flame Monarch a glance and said, "If you were at your peak strength, I might be scared of you. But you are currently nothing. Keep quiet."

When Scarlet Flame Monarch heard those words, his aura scattered.

With a remorseful look, he said, "Y-Young master, Scarlet Flame is useless."

"Don't say that. Retreat with Devouring Ghost. Let me have a chat with this Lord Owl," said Xiang Shaoyun.

For some reason, he had the feeling that the silver-winged owl did not intend to kill him. Perhaps things would take a turn for the better.

Di Batian also sensed the same, so he shouted again, "Owl, why are you not killing them yet? What are you waiting for?"

"Noisy," berated the silver-winged owl.

The owl's murderous voice rumbled toward Di Batian. The space around Di Batian instantly collapsed, creating a terrifying energy storm around him and kicking up a massive cloud of dust and pebbles. Just a single shout from the owl was already so powerful. It was clear just how powerful he was.

Di Batian had not imagined that the silver-winged owl would actually attack him. He swung his saint sword repeatedly, stopping the sound waves. However, he was still sent flying away while

spewing blood. The old man and beautiful woman with Di Batian were given a fright. They hurriedly rushed over to help Di Batian.

"Why is this happening? Are you stupid, owl? That little bastard is your enemy. Why are you attacking me?" roared Di Batian unhappily.

He had thought that so long as he released the owl, he would be able to eliminate Xiang Shaoyun and all his people. But things had turned out differently from his expectation.

"Haha, how laughable. This is the son of my benefactor. Since when was he my enemy?" the owl roared with laughter. "I think you're my actual enemy."

After saying that, it roared once again in Di Batian's direction, sending out sound waves that were much more terrifying than before. Space cracked and collapsed, and a tsunami of wind swept through the land, causing numerous mountains to collapse. The resulting shockwaves killed many people in the area.

On the other hand, Xiang Shaoyun and those on his side suffered no damage. Evidently, the silver-winged owl had intentionally protected them. Di Batian and the two Saints by his side were having a bad time.

They defended with all their strength, forming numerous defensive barriers to no avail. Left with no choice, they could only retreat while avoiding the incoming sound waves. Alas, the sound waves were boundlessly powerful, rendering them completely helpless.

"I'll block the owl! You two run!" the old man roared and mustered all his strength to block the sound waves, trying to buy some time for Di Batian and the beautiful woman.

"Damnable owl! Damnable little bastard! A day will come when I tear all of you into pieces," Di Batian roared madly before fleeing with the beautiful woman.

The owl had actually forced Di Batian to flee? Nobody could understand what was happening. Even Xiang Shaoyun was confused.

The old man who tried blocking the owl was ground into mincemeat by the sound waves. The silver-winged owl was definitely a peak Saint. Otherwise, it wouldn't be so powerful.

## Chapter 1067: Everything Changes With Time

"What in the world is happening?" The surviving Di Sect members were completely confused.

"The sect master seems to have released something terrifying, but that thing seems to have chased him away?" someone replied.

"I think so as well. What's going on exactly?" muttered someone gloomily.

The Di Sect members sank into despair. Even with only Xiang Shaoyun present, they felt like they had no way of surviving. With the terrifying owl added into the mix, they stood no chance. They were only momentarily stunned before they started madly fleeing in all directions.

They could only pray that the silver-winged owl would not pay attention to nobodies like them and spare them out of kindness. They were right, as the silver-winged owl wasn't bothered about them.

However, Xiang Shaoyun would not let them leave so easily. He shouted, "Those who dare to run will be killed without mercy."

His voice reverberated in the area, and most of the people stopped fleeing. However, a small portion ignored him and continued fleeing. They weren't even able to get far before Devouring Ghost and his blood demon clone hunted them down.

Du Xuanhao and Han Pojun similarly made their move. After all, they had to respond to Xiang Shaoyun's words.

As for the silver-winged owl, it did not chase after Di Batian, as though Di Batian mattered little to it. It looked down at Xiang Shaoyun and asked, "You don't seem to be afraid of us?"

"I was already ready to die. What am I afraid of?" replied Xiang Shaoyun nonchalantly.

"Hehe, interesting," said the silver-winged owl with a shrill laugh.

It wasn't being sarcastic, as its voice had always been shrill.

"So, what do you want?" Xiang Shaoyun asked.

"What do I want?" the silver-winged owl asked itself. "Where is Xiang Yangzhan? Tell him to come speak to me."

"If my father was around, I wouldn't have needed to be the one throwing orders around," replied Xiang Shaoyun.

"Is he dead?" asked the silver-winged owl, narrowing its eyes.

"I don't know. He has been missing for about 11 years," answered Xiang Shaoyun with a sigh.

"No wonder he hasn't visited me for a while. No wonder that kid assumed I was your father's enemy," said the silver-winged owl with a regretful tone. It then spread its wings and soared into the sky. Before flying away, it gave the place it had stayed in for so many years one last look and muttered, "Looks like it's time to leave."

"Lord Owl, you can always stay," Xiang Shaoyun cried out.

"Everything changes with time. There is no point in me staying. We'll see each other again if fate wills it," said the owl before flying away, instantly vanishing into the horizon with a flap of its wings.

Xiang Shaoyun blankly stared into the horizon for a long time. This was definitely not the kind of ending he had imagined at the start of this expedition. He had thought that he would be able to kill Di Batian, but it turned out that he had been too wishful.

Not only had Di Batian recruited many Saints, but he had also had the devil army and the dwarf assassin in waiting. One trick came after another, as though he had long prepared himself for the attack. If it wasn't for Xiang Shaoyun's ample preparations and the numerous help he had received, he might have lost the war.

Xiang Shaoyun felt regretful that he hadn't been able to kill Di Batian. However, he had still managed to chase Di Batian away and reclaim the Ziling Sect, so this entire attack hadn't been for nothing. Much of the knot in his heart had been untied.

After the silver-winged owl left, Ye Chaomu, Tuoba Wan'er, Little White, and the others returned one after another.

"Sorry, big brother," apologized Ye Chaomu while knitting her sleeves like a child who had done something wrong.

Tuoba Wan'er also said guiltily, "Holy son-in-law, you may scold me. I shouldn't have left."

"Beat me up, boss. I should have stayed," said Little White sullenly.

They had all been brought away during Xiang Shaoyun's dangerous moment, and they were extremely unhappy about it.

Xiang Shaoyun looked at them and smiled. "Don't blame yourself. This is not your fault. We're all fine, right?"

Xiang Shaoyun had matured greatly as a person, and he could understand their helplessness well. They all had their own guardians, and they weren't exactly left with a choice at times. Only when they gained sufficient strength would they be able to freely make their own decisions.

Ye Chaomu, Tuoba Wan'er, and Little White were slightly placated upon hearing his words.

"Di Batian was forced to leave, and we don't know when he'll return. Let's wrap this up," Xiang Shaoyun shifted the topic.

He headed toward the main peak's grand hall. Many of the mountains and buildings in the area had been destroyed by the battle, and the entire sect was in a mess. Fortunately, the main peak's grand hall hadn't suffered much damage. After 10 years, he could finally step into this place openly.

Xiang Shaoyun's heart was filled with melancholy.

He swept his gaze across the imposing hall, looking at the familiar environment. He couldn't help but sigh, "Father, I'm back. However, most of your people and the foundation you have built are no longer here. I will create an even stronger foundation for you and push the sect into a tier-8—or even a tier-9—organization, spreading our might throughout the entirety of the dominion."

He made the vow relatively calmly, and this was more like setting himself a goal rather than making a solemn vow. Additionally, this was his way of doing something about the guilt he felt toward his father.

Xiang Shaoyun stepped into the hall and looked at the luxurious decorations inside. His gaze landed on the jade throne at the tallest point of the hall. He walked over and sat down.

People started coming in, and when they saw Xiang Shaoyun seated high on the throne, they bowed and greeted, "Congratulations, young master, for your return."

Their voices reverberated in the hall, breathing some life into the empty hall.

Xiang Shaoyun raised his head and said, "Be at ease. Take some rest." He looked at Devouring Ghost and Ye Chaomu before saying, "Gather the surviving Di Sect members. I have something to say to them. Also, Little Mu, take some people to search the storages of the numerous pavilions. Try to preserve as much of the inventory as possible."

"Yes, young master," Devouring Ghost replied before leaving with Celestial Skeleton and a few others.

As for Ye Chaomu, she brought the 13 eagles and did as told. Xiang Shaoyun then had Pang Tongyuan, Old Yao, and Yao Qian brought over. After having Old Urchin remove the seal on Old Yao, he gave Pang Tongyuan some herbs to heal up.

Pang Tongyuan refused the herbs. "Young master, don't waste these treasures. My stars have all been destroyed. I am going to remain a cripple for the rest of my life. The pill from Old Yao is enough for me to survive for a while."

"What? You lost all your stars?" Xiang Shaoyun exclaimed in alarm.

#### Chapter 1068: I Can Get Some for You, Young Master

A cultivator's innate stars were akin to their life. Without innate stars, a cultivator was as good as a cripple. One would not be able to gather astral energy and could no longer set foot on the path of cultivation. That was what had happened to Pang Tongyuan. After being captured by Di Batian, his innate stars were destroyed, making him a cripple. The other prisoners suffered the same fate.

When Xiang Shaoyun learned that, he grasped Pang Tongyuan's hand sorrowfully and said, "Third uncle, it's all my fault."

Pang Tongyuan smiled. "Don't apologize, young master. The only one to have ever wronged me is that dog, Di Batian. Just be sure to take revenge for me in the future, and I will have no regrets."

"Don't worry, third uncle. Wherever Di Batian runs to, I will tear him into pieces," Xiang Shaoyun vowed.

"Good, good. All is good as long as you have that intention," said Pang Tongyuan.

Xiang Shaoyun looked at Old Yao and asked, "Grandpa Yao, is there no way to help third uncle?"

"There is, but it's extremely difficult," said Old Yao after giving it some thought.

Xiang Shaoyun hurriedly asked, "What's the method?"

"Finding the legendary saint herb, the astral grass. With that herb, one can reform one's stars," said Old Yao.

Just the fact that the astral grass had the word astral in its name proved how impressive the plant was. It also reminded Xiang Shaoyun of the records he had once read.

There were two types of astral grass. One was called the minor astral grass, and the other was called the major astral grass. The minor astral grass was classified as saint medicine, while the major astral grass was classified as something beyond the saint grade, the god grade.

Both the grasses were extraordinary plants that grew through absorbing astral energy. A different astral grass would result from a different grade of natural star. Astral grasses were extremely rare, only growing at the core of a star. In fact, there were stars where not even a single blade of astral grass grew.

Because of that, the astral grass was a herb that only existed in the legends. Very few people had actually seen it, so Old Yao's reply placed great pressure on Xiang Shaoyun.

"Don't bother, young master. Saint herbs are extremely rare. Don't waste your time looking for one. In my current condition, I will have no problem living a few more years," said Pang Tongyuan, who seemed to have accepted his fate.

Xiang Shaoyun did not know what to say, and his heart was filled with guilt.

Scarlet Flame Monarch, who had been silent, interjected, "It's really not that hard to find astral grass. Just wait until I recover to my peak strength. I can get some for you, young master."

"For real?" Xiang Shaoyun was overjoyed.

"Of course. Astral grass might be rare, but stars aren't exactly hard to find. I just need to put some effort into it," said Scarlet Flame Monarch.

"That's good to hear!" Xiang Shaoyun was glad.

Pang Tongyuan's expression shifted as he finally saw some hope. Next, Xiang Shaoyun sent Duo Ji to settle Pang Tongyuan and the other loyalists in the sect. The loyalists might be crippled, but Xiang Shaoyun would not mistreat them.

"Grandpa Yao, Little Qian, it has been hard on you," said Xiang Shaoyun as he finally found some time for them.

"Not at all, young master. I'm already happy that you didn't see us as traitors," said Old Yao.

"How would I? If I can't even trust you, who else can I trust? It's all thanks to you that I can have my current accomplishment," said Xiang Shaoyun somewhat awkwardly.

He had indeed doubted Old Yao's loyalty, but the doubt had been completely dispelled.

Old Yao sighed and said, "I remember that when I used to place you in the medicine bucket, you were still a tiny kid. In a flash, you're now a handsome adult. I have survived these years because Di Batian needed my help to refine pills for him and manage his many herbs. I can't abandon Yao Qian either, so I opted to stay. Without my care, she would probably be dead already."

"Grandpa, it's my fault for being your burden," said Yao Qian.

"Silly child. So long as you can keep living, your grandpa will be happy," said Old Yao with a genial look on his face.

"Grandpa Yao, Little Qian, let's stop talking about all the sad things. With me here, everything will get better," Xiang Shaoyun comforted them. "Go back and rest first. I'll have a talk with the survivors and see if they're willing to stay and work for me."

"You're not afraid of betrayal, young master?" asked Old Yao.

"If they are capable enough to stab me in the back, I will accept it," declared Xiang Shaoyun domineeringly before walking out of the grand hall.

The Di Sect members had all been gathered in one place. There were still many survivors, including the regular disciples, overseers, and managers, totaling to about 7,000 people. For a tier-7 organization, this really wasn't a big number. They had suffered high casualties after the numerous battles, and the subsequent shockwaves from the Saints had killed thousands of them. These survivors were the lucky ones.

When they saw Xiang Shaoyun, they lowered their heads instinctively as a sense of fear rose within them. Only some of the younger ones were looking at Xiang Shaoyun curiously, trying to see just who had destroyed their sect and chased their powerful sect master away.

"This young man is the youth who had chased our sect master away? He doesn't look like a villain at all."

"He is so handsome and cool, like a child of the heavens. His charm is sweeping me off my feet."

"Stop getting all smitten with him. He might kill us all. He really doesn't look ruthless."

"You can never judge a book by its cover. He might look righteous, but he is someone with the heart of a beast. If he wants to do something to us, we must fight to the end and not compromise."

"That's right. He is definitely going to try something against me with my good looks. Unless he takes me as his wife, I won't agree!"

...

When Xiang Shaoyun heard the conversation between the youths, his face sank. Inwardly, he thought, Is this young master that kind of man? Ignorant kids.

He swept his gaze through them and released his presence. A heavy pressure descended upon them as he said, "Among you, some know me, and some do not. It doesn't matter. Let me inform you that before this sect was the Di Sect, it was the Ziling Sect. The founder of the Ziling Sect was Xiang Yangzhan; the deputy sect master was Di Batian. I am Xiang Yangzhan's son, Xiang Shaoyun.

"About 11 years ago, Xiang Yangzhan went for a duel at Wumo Pass and did not return. Di Batian stole the throne and murdered many sect loyalists. He also pursued me like a stray dog. Luckily, I survived. After 10 years, I've returned to reclaim what my father built and kill the traitorous dog, Di Batian.

"Unfortunately, Di Batian managed to escape, and I was only able to kill his son and some of his loyalists. Now, I don't plan to kill every last one of you survivors. I am not someone who enjoys killing. I will be giving you three options. First, serve me, and I will support your growth as a cultivator with all my strength. Second, cripple your cultivation and leave. Third, kill yourself."

#### Chapter 1069: Give Me a Hug

One could say that Xiang Shaoyun was very benevolent to the members of the Di Sect. Anyone else in his position would have killed them all.

"Xiang Shaoyun, I don't care about your reason for occupying our sect. Dream on if you want us to submit. I demand to leave immediately," said someone unyieldingly.

He then took the lead to leave, and some other people followed him. But before they could go far, Devouring Ghost's blood demon clone appeared before them like a specter. The blood demon transformed into several blood demons before pouncing on them to consume their blood.

They wailed and struggled to no avail. Eventually, they were all reduced into a pile of human skin. It was a gruesome scene for many Di Sect members. Some of the youngsters started vomiting, and some started trembling in fear. Having their blood consumed was way too scary a way to die.

"Don't be afraid, everyone. I am the killer, not my young master," said Devouring Ghost after withdrawing his blood demon.

Devouring Ghost stood behind Xiang Shaoyun like the most faithful of servants. When the people of the Di Sect looked at Xiang Shaoyun once again, their eyes were filled with dread. Since Xiang Shaoyun had such an evil person by his side, it was clear that he was an evil person himself.

"I am willing to submit and serve you with my life, sect master," someone hurriedly made a stance.

With someone taking the lead, most of them hurriedly knelt down and swore their loyalty as well, "I am willing to submit and serve you with my life, sect master."

Of course, some were still indignant, but when they saw so many people kneeling, they hurriedly knelt. They planned to serve him temporarily before looking for a way to flee safely.

Naturally, that was something Xiang Shaoyun had expected. He did not fear their betrayal. In any case, recruiting them was only a stopgap measure. He still needed to recruit his own people into the sect.

"Excellent. Elder Duo Ji will be in charge of settling all of you down. Remember to obey his command, or the consequences will be severe," said Xiang Shaoyun indifferently. "Also, from now on, this place is called the Ziling Sect, not the Di Sect. If I hear anyone claiming to be from the Di Sect, they will be executed without mercy."

He then ignored them and returned to the grand hall. Duo Ji had Xia Liuhui help him as they started making arrangements for the former Di Sect members.

"Master, can I get some rest first?" asked Xia Liuhui, who was trying to look for a chance to slack off.

"Get your ass to work if you're not dead. When you take over my position in the future, be sure to serve the sect master well," said Duo Ji as he gave Xia Liuhui a kick.

"Fine, fine, I'll get to work now," said Xia Liuhui as he hurriedly scrambled back on his feet.

And thus, the two got to work and started dealing with the former Di Sect members. Meanwhile, Xiang Shaoyun personally arranged the accommodations for Ye Chaomu, Tuoba Wan'er, and Gong Qinyin.

Behind the grand hall was the rear court where the sect master resided. Xiang Shaoyun settled them there. In any case, they could be considered his women, so it didn't matter that they stayed there.

As for Scarlet Flame Monarch, Old Urchin, and the others, they each went looking for a random temporary residence. In any case, there were a lot of houses in the sect, so they could easily find a place to stay. They were cultivators, and something like accommodation was really a minor issue that they weren't bothered about.

Afterward, Xiang Shaoyun did not stop to rest. He wandered around the sect and restored the formations, which he had destroyed. Some of them could no longer be repaired. However, some had only suffered minor damage and would work fine so long as he replaced their formation eyes.

Formation eyes would either be made of spirit crystals or demonic cores, and they acted as the node that connected all the formation lines together. When connected, the node and lines could unleash the formation's power, which could be either offensive or defensive in nature.

After multiple battles, Xiang Shaoyun was greatly exhausted. But with the astral cosmos sea, he had consumed a decent amount of spirit crystals and herbs to replenish his energy. With his comprehension of the nine profundities, he could continuously absorb the ambient energy around him to replenish himself, which was why he still had the energy to repair the formations.

"Looks like I can only focus on repairing the main formation for now. The other smaller formations will have to wait," muttered Xiang Shaoyun after taking a look at all the formations. He decided to prioritize the formation that was right before the main peak.

He had detonated several of the main formation's formation eyes, so it had suffered quite a lot of damage. However, the main formation also contained the highest-grade formation, and it was capable of offense and defense. The formation would be extremely useful once it was functional again.

First, Xiang Shaoyun replaced the damaged formation eyes. Next, he rearranged the formation lines while adding additional complicated formation lines to the formation. The new lines would effectively enhance the formation's might, making it even stronger than before.

Xiang Shaoyun had not known about formations in the past, but after regaining his memories from two lifetimes ago, he had awakened great mastery over formations out of nowhere. Thus, he could now easily lay out any formations he wanted.

After half a day, Xiang Shaoyun managed to fully restore the main formation. As for the small formations, he ignored them for now. He headed toward Old Yao and Yao Qian's residence. Over the years, Old Yao had stayed relatively peacefully in the sect, so he knew more about the sect. They needed to talk, and Xiang Shaoyun also wanted to find out more about his father.

When he arrived at Yao Peak, he saw Yao Qian sitting alone at a certain corner while tearing a flower apart petal by petal, muttering, "Like, doesn't like, like, doesn't like..."

Xiang Shaoyun did not know what she was doing. He noiselessly came beside her and asked, "Little Qian, what are you doing?"

"Ahhh. N-Nothing," said Yao Qian, who was given a fright because she hadn't noticed him coming. Her face also blushed when she noticed that it was him.

She stood up, but her body was so weak that she staggered and nearly collapsed onto the ground. Xiang Shaoyun swiftly caught her, and it was unknown if Yao Qian was light-headed or not, but she actually fell right into his embrace.

"Little Qian, are you fine?" Xiang Shaoyun asked anxiously.

"I'm fine. Young master, I was only feeling a tad bit dizzy," answered Yao Qian weakly.

Xiang Shaoyun could feel that something was wrong. When he took a reading of Yao Qian's pulse, he sensed that her pulse was extremely weak and inconsistent with random pauses. Her breathing was also completely disarrayed.

Xiang Shaoyun's expression shifted, and he shouted, "Grandpa Yao, where are you? Something is happening to Little Qian's body!"

Old Yao immediately rushed over from Yao Hall.

"What happened to Little Qian?" Old Yao asked in panic.

"Her pulse is weak, and her breathing is disarrayed," Xiang Shaoyun replied.

"I-I'm really fine. Young master, j-just give me a hug," said Yao Qian weakly. Blood flowed from the corner of her mouth.

Chapter 1070: There Is Hope for Little Qian

"Don't talk, Little Qian. I'm hugging you. You'll be fine," said Xiang Shaoyun anxiously.

Xiang Shaoyun had many playmates during his childhood, but only Yao Qian was left. He really did not want to lose her as well.

"I-I am happy..." said Yao Qian with a look of satisfaction.

She could feel how near death was, but she did not feel any fear. For her, just dying in Xiang Shaoyun's arms made death worth it.

"Young master, open Little Qian's mouth. I'll feed her some medicine," said Old Yao hastily.

Xiang Shaoyun hurriedly did as told, and Old Yao immediately stuffed a pill inside her mouth. He said, "Young master, lay her down."

Xiang Shaoyun obeyed and laid Yao Qian on the ground. However, she tightly grabbed his arm, unwilling to leave him.

"Y-Young master, d-don't leave me," she said.

"Don't be afraid, Little Qian. I'm not leaving. I will always stay by your side," Xiang Shaoyun replied.

"Good. I'm very tired. I'll take a short nap," said Yao Qian as she slowly shut her eyes.

Xiang Shaoyun asked Old Yao, "Grandpa Yao, how is Little Qian?"

"Take her back to her room first. I'll tell you later," said Old Yao with a dark expression.

Xiang Shaoyun nodded and carried Yao Qian back to her room. After placing her on the bed, he took another reading of her pulse. Only after sensing that her condition had improved did he calm down.

He walked out of the room with Old Yao before asking, "Grandpa Yao, Little Qian does not seem to be doing very well."

"I know, but it hasn't been easy for her to live this long. She was supposed to die when she turned 18. The yang returning pill I refined for her is no longer very effective," said Old Yao bleakly.

He only had one granddaughter. If Yao Qian was dead, he wouldn't know what to do with his life anymore.

"What is wrong with Little Qian? Is it her physique?" Xiang Shaoyun asked.

"Yes. She has an innate soul deficient physique. Every human has three ethereal souls, the heavenly soul, the earthly soul, and the mortal soul. She was born with only two of these souls, lacking the mortal soul. The mortal soul is also known as the life soul. Thus, she was born with not much life in her. It is already a miracle for her to live until today," said Old Yao.

Xiang Shaoyun was somewhat confused. He knew that each human had three ethereal souls and six corporeal souls, but he had never heard of someone being born with a missing soul.

In truth, the so-called three souls did not mean that a human had three full souls. To be precise, the three were the three parts of a single soul, respectively corresponding to the primordial spirit, the yang spirit, and the yin spirit. What Yao Qian lacked was the yin spirit, a congenital deficiency that resulted in a short lifespan.

"Is there no other way of saving her? Even a dead person can be resurrected, to say nothing of someone still alive. There must be a way," said Xiang Shaoyun, unwilling to accept her fate.

"You're right. Even the dead can be resurrected, so it should be easier for someone still alive," replied Old Yao with a nod. "Her condition is similar to Tongyuan—as in they both need saint medicine to survive. The saint medicine she needs is not as rare as the astral grass, but it is still

extremely rare. Furthermore, we need the kind of saint medicine that is extremely beneficial for one's soul for it to work."

"Saint medicine beneficial for the soul?" Xiang Shaoyun was overjoyed, and he took out a saint soul fruit. "I have a saint soul fruit here. It will definitely help Little Qian. Quick, let her use it."

Old Yao trembled at the sight of the fruit.

He stared at the fruit in Xiang Shaoyun's hand as tears flowed from his eyes. He said, "T-This is really a saint soul fruit? The saint fruit that is boundlessly useful for the soul?"

"Absolutely!" said Xiang Shaoyun firmly.

"Good, good. There is hope for Little Qian! There is hope for Little Qian!" said Old Yao in excitement.

"I'll feed her the fruit," said Xiang Shaoyun as he prepared to return to the room.

Old Yao recovered from his shock and stopped Xiang Shaoyun. He asked, "Young master, this is saint medicine. It can quickly help your soul reach the level of a Saint. It is invaluable. A-Are you really giving it to Little Qian?"

Old Yao was a Soul Foundation Realm expert, but with his strength, getting saint medicine was incredibly hard. He also knew very well how valuable saint medicine was. Thus, he found it hard to believe that Xiang Shaoyun would give the saint fruit to Yao Qian.

"This concerns her life. How will I joke around?" said Xiang Shaoyun.

"No, that's not what I meant. This is saint medicine. I don't even know if Little Qian and I will be able to repay you," said Old Yao.

Xiang Shaoyun realized what he meant and said, "I was confused by what you meant, but even saint medicine is still medicine. Its function is to help others. Grandpa Yao, you have always been loyal and devoted. You have never betrayed the sect. Your loyalty is worth more than saint medicine. Furthermore, I grew up with Little Qian. How can I watch her as she dies?"

"Good, good. The sect master has a good son. I was right about you. Although you were naughty back then, I always knew that you were loyal to your people, just like your father. Let me thank you on behalf of Little Qian," said Old Yao, overwhelmed with joy. He even tried kneeling down to thank Xiang Shaoyun.

Xiang Shaoyun hurriedly held him up and said, "There is no need for this, Grandpa Yao. I have always viewed you as my grandfather. If Father found out that I accepted your kneel, he would probably skin me alive."

"Hehe, fine, fine. I won't stand on ceremony, then. Give me the fruit. I will refine it into medicine. Only then will its worth be maximized, and we won't waste its excessive medicinal power by using it raw," said Old Yao with a joyful smile.

"Will that work?" Xiang Shaoyun asked.

"Of course. But to refine it, I need the assistance of a Saint. Otherwise, I alone won't be able to complete the refinement. If I succeed, I will be able to refine at least three or five pills. The medicinal power of each pill will be weaker, but it will be of use for more than one person," said Old Yao.

"That's great," said Xiang Shaoyun with a nod.

If they could get several saint pills from this one fruit, more than one person would benefit. With that, the value of the saint soul fruit would be maximized.

"But we still have another problem. I also need a high-tier flame to use during the refinement. Otherwise, the success rate will be low," said Old Yao with a frown when he recalled something else.

"Will this be good enough?" asked Xiang Shaoyun as he manifested Yun Flame.

"Looks like Little Qian's end has yet to come. This is more than enough," said Old Yao in excitement when he sensed Yun Flame's prowess.

He then started preparing for the refinement and gathered the other materials.

As for Xiang Shaoyun, he muttered in contentment, "So what if it's a saint fruit? So long as Little Qian can be saved, I will be willing to use as many saint fruits as needed."