

## Overlord 1281

### Chapter 1281: Slaughter Every Last One of You

Was Xiang Shaoyun dead? Naturally not. With the Nether Soul Dragon Headband, he could survive even a God Realm expert's attack. A Great Devil Saint wouldn't be able to kill him so easily.

However, he still didn't feel too well. His clone was blasted far away, the damage causing his soul power to drop sharply. Before anyone could realize it, his clone turned into a specter and merged back into his main body.

He was afraid that someone would mount another sneak attack on him at this time. He could hardly survive another attack in his current condition. The moment his soul returned to his body, his face paled. Without any hesitation, he dissolved some soul spring water to replenish his soul power.

He could not afford to be careless on the battlefield. When he dissolved the soul spring water, he also absorbed the ambient devilish energy in the air. He even swallowed a devil core to accelerate his recovery.

After obtaining a devil cultivation, he had formed a devil core. However, he had formed a devil pearl instead of a regular devil core. Despite his irregular core, he was still able to absorb devilish energy.

Xiang Shaoyun had killed a lot of Devil Sovereigns in the Devil Domain, so he had quite a collection of devil cores. Energy exhaustion was the last thing he needed to be worried about. At this time, the God Realm experts were still fighting, but they were no longer on the same battlefield.

The regular devils remained and started searching the area. They would not allow even a single dark devourer devil to survive. Of the three clans, the Imperial Nether Clan had suffered the most casualties. About 100 of them had come, and 40 had perished, including several princes and princesses.

Second to them was the Diabolic Dragon Clan. About 100 of them had come, but despite arriving later than the Imperial Nether Clan, they had still lost over 10 diabolic dragons.

If they had come earlier, they would have suffered even more losses. As for the Undying Devil Clan, they had not lost even a single member. The three clans started combing through the area. The baleful blood poison was cleared while they searched every nook and cranny of the area.

Finally, they confirmed that there were no survivors. They separated into their respective groups as they prepared to leave. There wasn't much interaction between the three clans, as though they were complete strangers.

Before long, the God Realm experts returned. Among them, an undying devil announced, "The Dark Devourer Clan has been exterminated."

Everyone roared at the same time, "The Dark Devourer Clan has been exterminated!"

"Well done. Let's leave," said the undying devil.

At this time, a Devil God from the Diabolic Dragon Clan said, "Mo Wufeng, my clan is interested in getting some undying grass from your clan."

The undying grass was a god-grade plant exclusive to the Undying Mountain. Generally, this plant would not be traded out of the clan unless some incredible treasure was offered. After all, the undying grass was something that could save even a God Realm expert's life due to its unique properties.

With a diabolic dragon asking for undying grass publicly, all the Undying Devil Clan and Imperial Nether Clan members were stunned. Everyone knew that the Undying Devil Clan viewed the undying grass as their ultimate treasure, and it wasn't something they would give out easily.

The undying devil named Mo Wufeng glanced at the diabolic dragon coldly and said, "Xie Lou, do you want to die?"

His words were laced with killing intent, and an overbearing aura erupted from his body, causing the sky to shake.

"Haha, of course I don't want to die. Everyone knows that the Undying Devil Clan values the undying grass more than your own lives. I naturally wouldn't dare to steal from you. I'm proposing a trade," said Xie Lou.

"Does the Diabolic Dragon Clan even have anything worth trading for our undying grass?" said Mo Wufeng with disdain.

"Yes, we don't have anything you're interested in, but we have someone you're definitely interested in. Bring that girl over," said Xie Lou. As he said that, he tore the space beside him, allowing a diabolic dragon to fly out from within. Tied up on the dragon was an exceptionally beautiful woman. She had long black hair, eyes as bright as stars, fair and tender skin, and a flawless figure.

Xiang Shaoyun was busy healing himself when he looked over. His eyes widened as he exclaimed inwardly, Mumu!

This woman was none other than Ye Chaomu. After Xiang Shaoyun reclaimed the Ziling Sect, Ye Chaomu had returned to Wuxie Valley. She had been gone since then. Xiang Shaoyun had originally thought that Wu Xie had kept her behind so that she could focus on cultivation.

He had thought of visiting her, but he was also afraid that he would bring trouble to her. Thus, he had put it on hold until now. But after so many years, she had actually appeared in the Devil Domain's seventh layer. He even wondered if he was seeing things.

To make things worse, Ye Chaomu seemed to be held captive by the Diabolic Dragon Clan. He was infuriated. Only when he saw that she seemed unhurt did he manage to suppress his anger.

Ye Chaomu's appearance shocked many Undying Devil Clan members. They stared at her forehead, staring at the rune on her forehead. This rune was something nobody could replicate. Furthermore, an aura that was similar to theirs could be felt from it. That aura made it impossible for them to focus on it.

Mo Wufeng roared furiously, "Xie Lou, what is the meaning of this? You dared kidnap someone from our clan? Are you trying to start a war?"

This time, the aura he released became even scarier. It was as though a natural calamity was about to happen.

"Calm down, Mo Wufeng. Are you sure she's your clan member?" asked Xie Lou.

"Nobody can replicate our undying rune. Release her, or we'll consider this a declaration of war!" demanded Mo Wufeng furiously.

As he said that, the undying devils behind him stepped forth and unleashed their auras. The Undying Devil Clan had always been extremely united. Due to their low numbers, they had a strong sense of unity.

"But she came from the human territory," said Xie Lou. "Ask the fellows behind you. Does anyone know her at all? Which family is she from?"

The undying devils sank into thought as they started trying to sense Ye Chaomu's bloodline.

After several verifications, Mo Wufeng said, "She is one of us. Release her, and we will pay you 100 million devil saint crystals as a reward."

"Haha, we don't need that. We only want a stalk of undying grass," said Xie Lou.

"Xie Lou, don't be too greedy!" said Mo Wufeng coldly.

"No haggling, or we'll kill her," said Xie Lou.

"If you dare touch even a hair on her, I'll slaughter every last one of you!" a domineering voice rang out.

## Chapter 1282: She's My Woman

Xie Lou was a God Realm expert, leading the Diabolic Dragon Clan's group in this mission. He, Mo Wufeng, and Ming Cigeng could speak on equal grounds because they were the strongest participants in this mission.

He was instantly infuriated when he saw that someone else actually dared to speak such words to him. Xie Lou and the others looked toward the source of the voice. Everyone was curious to see who was brave enough to speak like that to a God Realm expert.

What they saw was a young man charging over with a blood-soaked robe draped over his shoulders and a curved sword in hand. The young man was none other than Xiang Shaoyun. He had remained silent earlier to observe and heal up. Only after putting on his blood-soaked robe and drawing the Yin Mother Sword did he make a move. For Ye Chaomu, he did not mind activating the robe and slaying some dragons.

"A junior from the Imperial Nether Clan?" Xie Lou frowned doubtfully.

"Nineteenth prince, don't get involved in this," persuaded Ming Cigeng as he stood before Xiang Shaoyun.

Despite Xiang Shaoyun's status in the clan, Ming Cigeng wouldn't allow him to provoke a war between the Diabolic Dragon Clan and Imperial Nether Clan.

"Lord Cigeng, I won't back off from this. She's my woman!" said Xiang Shaoyun firmly.

The other devils were confused at his words. Meanwhile, Ye Chaomu was looking at Xiang Shaoyun in an agitated manner. She couldn't speak, but the shock in her eyes couldn't be hidden.

"Ming Cigeng, control your people. If you can't, I won't mind swallowing him alive," said Xie Lou with disdain in his eyes. He looked at Mo Wufeng and said, "Mo Wufeng, I thought your clan always prioritizes those with your blood? This girl is obviously a child your clan left behind somewhere. She has a lot of potential for growth. Is she not worth even a stalk of undying grass?"

"A stalk of undying grass for our own is definitely fine, but that young brother over there claims that she's his woman. Why don't you have a talk with him first?" said Mo Wufeng. As an accomplished schemer, he shifted the hostility and had Xie Lou clash with Xiang Shaoyun instead.

In truth, he was ready to give up a stalk of undying grass for this woman, but since an Imperial Nether Clan kid was creating trouble for Xie Lou, he didn't mind standing aside and enjoying the show.

Xie Lou was infuriated. He glared at Xiang Shaoyun, wishing for nothing more than to tear Xiang Shaoyun apart.

"Release her. If you refuse, I don't mind slaughtering all of you before taking her myself," said Xiang Shaoyun.

Xiang Shaoyun himself was prejudiced against the Diabolic Dragon Clan. Just the fact that they were the ones launching the invasion against the surface world this time was enough to annoy him. Now that they had even kidnapped Ye Chaomu, his hostility had only increased.

"Nineteenth prince, step back!" Ming Cigeng had not expected Xiang Shaoyun to be so rash. He berated Xiang Shaoyun and tried to seal him, not allowing him to say anything else.

"Nobody can protect you!" said Xie Lou as he narrowed his eyes and clawed at Xiang Shaoyun.

A God Realm expert from the Imperial Nether Clan hurriedly moved and blocked the attack.

"Is the Imperial Nether Clan trying to start a war?" Xie Lou roared.

The other diabolic dragons also rushed over, each of them emitting thick devilish energy as they braced themselves for battle. The Imperial Nether Clan people were alarmed, and they also readied themselves for a fight.

"Xie Lou, the matter between you and the undying devils has no—" said Ming Cigeng. He thought that he had successfully sealed Xiang Shaoyun.

The Imperial Nether Clan wasn't afraid of the Diabolic Dragon Clan, but they weren't exactly looking for a war with the dragons either. A war would only break the balance between the three clans.

However, before Ming Cigeng could finish his words, Xiang Shaoyun's body shook violently and broke the seal around his body. He then rushed toward the diabolic dragon carrying Ye Chaomu on his back.

Xiang Shaoyun moved at his top speed, instantly reaching and slashing the dragon with his Yin Mother Sword. Before the diabolic dragon could even react, his head was sliced off. A fountain of blood spurted out.

After freeing Ye Chaomu, Xiang Shaoyun wrapped his arm around her and asked, "Mumu, are you fine?"

"Big brother, you're too rash!" said Ye Chaomu. Instead of feeling happy that she had been saved, she was anxious.

"What kind of a man am I if I can't even protect you?" said Xiang Shaoyun firmly.

"Very well. Tear that kid apart," said Xie Lou as he was completely infuriated.

At his command, the diabolic dragons nearest to Xiang Shaoyun roared and charged him. Their roars were deafening, and the devilish energy emanating from their bodies was powerful enough to cause their surroundings to shake.

"Bring it on. I just happen to be looking for more blood to feast on," said Xiang Shaoyun as a look of bloodlust appeared in his eyes. The Yin Mother Sword shone brightly as he swung it at the incoming dragons.

Yin Sword Technique!

He used the Yin Sword Technique without any hesitation, instantly flooding the space before him with energy swords. The energy swords shot forward, cutting space itself into pieces.

Xie Lou's face sank as he roared, "Don't get too cocky, kid!"

Xie Lou could sense that Xiang Shaoyun was unleashing a strength to match a God Realm expert. His hand was forced, as he couldn't watch on as his fellow clan members rushed to their death. At this time, Mo Wufeng interfered and stopped Xie Lou.

"Mo Wufeng, you're seeking death!" Xie Lou naturally wouldn't hold back once he made a move. Without hesitation, he clawed at Mo Wufeng.

Mo Wufeng snorted as he said, "You deserve death for daring to kidnap a junior from our clan!"

Mo Wufeng threw both his fists out. It was as though two black stars were shooting forward, crushing through the two massive claw attacks.

"Die!" Xie Lou was angered even more. He started fighting with all his strength.

As for Xiang Shaoyun, he instantly killed two diabolic dragons and seriously injured three others. It was clear for all to see just how terrifyingly strong he was right now. The other diabolic dragons were furious to see their fellow clan members killed.

But with the Undying Devil Clan joining the fight and a God Realm expert obstructing Xie Lou, the Diabolic Dragon Clan members couldn't do anything to Xiang Shaoyun and Ye Chaomu. A new battle erupted on the battlefield.

"Lord Cigeng, what should we do?" asked an Imperial Nether Clan member.

Ming Cigeng hesitated slightly before saying, "It no longer matters if the nineteenth prince is at fault here. We need to work with the undying devils and defeat the diabolic dragons."

### Chapter 1283: Separating Again

Even if the Imperial Nether Clan was unwilling, they had to take part in this mess. The Diabolic Dragon Clan was instantly placed in a difficult position, with the Imperial Nether Clan making a move as well.

"Ming Cigeng, are you trying to become enemies with us as well?" said Xie Lou furiously.

"If you leave, this ends here. Otherwise, you can stay here forever," said Ming Cigeng decisively.

"Impossible. That kid from your clan killed some of mine. Unless he dies, this won't be over!" replied Xie Lou unyieldingly.

"Then you die," said Ming Cigeng as he joined hands with Mong Wufeng and attacked Xie Lou.

Mo Wufeng alone was enough to give Xie Lou a headache. With Ming Cigeng joining in, he had a very slim chance of winning.

"You won't be able to get our undying grass without paying the price!" said Mo Wufeng coldly as he increased the intensity of his attacks. He had been dissatisfied with Xie Lou since earlier.

The entire area seemed to be on the verge of collapse due to the intense battle. The strength of someone in the God Realm was much scarier than someone in the Saint Realm.

Xie Lou roared in an unresigned manner, "Fine, we'll retreat this once!"



He knew that if he didn't concede, none of his clan members could escape.

"You want this to be over with so easily?" said Mo Wufeng. He naturally wasn't willing to let this slide. The Undying Devil Clan might not have the numbers, but each one of them was a valiant fighter. With his strength, killing Xie Lou wouldn't be an issue. The other undying devils could also deal with the rest of the diabolic dragons. He had no reason to let Xie Lou and the others go.

"Mo Wufeng, don't push it!" said Xie Lou.

"Leave a limb behind, and I'll let this slide. Otherwise, we'll fight till the end," demanded Mo Wufeng firmly. "Nobody can be allowed to challenge the dignity of our clan!"

His demand was overbearing, making it clear that the Undying Devil Clan couldn't be provoked. Ming Cigeng remained silent. A smile hung on his face, as though he was watching a good show. The austere expression he had earlier was nowhere to be seen.

Xie Lou's pupils shrank. He then tore a limb off without a change in his expression. "I, Xie Lou, will remember this."

He then left with his clan members. Mo Wufeng and Ming Cigeng stopped their respective clan members from pursuing. Xiang Shaoyun was the only one acting like he hadn't heard anything. With an arm around Ye Chaomu, he swung his Yin Mother Sword, spilling even more diabolic dragon blood. His blood-soaked robe was soaked in even more blood, making him look like an unstoppable god of war.

"That hateful bastard!" Xie Lou roared furiously.

This time, he didn't need to do anything. Ming Cigeng forcefully suppressed Xiang Shaoyun and said, "Nineteenth prince, this has been settled!"

Xiang Shaoyun stopped moving and swept his gaze at the diabolic dragons coldly. He asked, "Will they let this slide?"

"Since we're working with the undying devils, they have no choice," said Ming Cigeng.

"Leave. The Diabolic Dragon Clan will not forget this," said Xie Lou as he glared at Xiang Shaoyun.

The Diabolic Dragon Clan had suffered humiliation. They all remembered Xiang Shaoyun, and he would be their future prey. When Xiang Shaoyun saw the diabolic dragons retreat, he heaved a breath of relief. At that moment, his strength dropped back to his original strength. Ming Cigeng and Mo Wufeng could see what was happening with Xiang Shaoyun. They both guessed that his change in strength had something to do with the blood-soaked robe.

"Little brother, you have done the Undying Devil Clan a favor. You can hand her over now. We won't harm her," said Mo Wufeng.

Xiang Shaoyun was once again on alert.

"Nineteenth prince, do you really know her?" Ming Cigeng did not try to make Xiang Shaoyun hand over Ye Chaomu. Instead, he tried clarifying the truth.

"Of course. She's my woman," said Xiang Shaoyun firmly.

Ye Chaomu said, "Yes, he's my man. It's only natural that he helps me." She looked at Mo Wufeng and said, "I'm willing to go with you. Don't make things difficult for him."

Mo Wufeng was surprised to see Ye Chaomu comply so readily. He smiled and said, "No problem. I won't do anything to him."

He could feel that Ye Chaomu was a pure undying devil. He recalled the child the clan had lost about 30 years ago. He wondered if this was the same child. If this was really her, then her identity wouldn't be simple.

"Mumu, you don't need to go with them," said Xiang Shaoyun seriously.

It hadn't been easy for him to find a chance to leave the seventh layer. He wasn't willing to see Ye Chaomu become stuck in the seventh layer.

Ye Chaomu did not say anything. She looked at Mo Wufeng and Ming Cigeng and said, "Can we speak in private?"

Mo Wufeng and Ming Cigeng left with the others tactfully, giving Xiang Shaoyun and Ye Chaomu enough space. They weren't worried that the two would escape.

"Mumu, how can you agree to stay? I can bring you away!" said Xiang Shaoyun.

Ye Chaomu grabbed his hand and shook her head. "Big brother, I really want to stay. I'm not the same as you. I'm a pure undying devil."

After saying that, her face paled somewhat. Evidently, this was a cruel fate that she herself wasn't willing to face. She was worried that Xiang Shaoyun would dislike her because of that.

Xiang Shaoyun gently said, "Whoever you are, you're still my woman. As the saying goes, if you marry a chicken, follow the chicken. If you marry a dog, follow the dog. You need to listen to me as well. With my appearance here, you should also know my relationship with the Imperial Nether Clan. Perhaps this is what fate intends for us."

"Big brother, you're the best," said Ye Chaomu as she nestled into Xiang Shaoyun's embrace. "Big brother, allow me to be stubborn this one time. I really want to know my past. And I want to know my parents, too. I believe we can meet again in the future."

Xiang Shaoyun could understand her feelings. Which child wouldn't miss their parents? He had once longed greatly to meet his mother as well, and his wish had only been fulfilled recently. He understood how she felt.

"Fine, stay if you want. I believe you'll be able to see your parents," said Xiang Shaoyun. As the Imperial Nether Clan's nineteenth prince, it wouldn't be too difficult for him to come look for Ye Chaomu in the future.

"Big brother, we'll meet again," promised Ye Chaomu as she kissed him.

## Chapter 1284: Second Mission

"Ming Cigeng, is that kid a human or an imperial nether devil? He looks so weird," asked Mo Wufeng while Xiang Shaoyun was conversing with Ye Chaomu.

Ming Cigeng replied indifferently, "Nineteenth prince of our clan, personally appointed by the Nether Monarch."

Mo Wufeng raised his brow in astonishment. "Personally appointed by the Nether Monarch? No wonder he has so many tricks up his sleeve. Looks like your clan has gained an outstanding young man."

"What do you mean? You think everyone else in our clan is useless?" Ming Cigeng was unhappy.

"You have a lot of clan members, but few of them are as capable as that kid," said Mo Wufeng.

"What about that little girl? Is she really an undying devil?" Ming Cigeng shifted the topic.

"Yes. She is a pureblood," said Mo Wufeng with a sigh.

"No wonder Xie Lou dared to ask for a stalk of undying grass. I would do the same as well," said Ming Cigeng.

"It's not that we're not willing to part with a stalk of undying grass, but he shouldn't threaten us with her. If he had willingly handed her to us, we would have gifted him the undying grass he wanted," said Mo Wufeng.

Ming Cigeng did not say anything, but he believed Mo Wufeng. Powerful clans like theirs attached great importance to glory. The Diabolic Dragon Clan had merely created unnecessary trouble for themselves by threatening the Undying Devil Clan.

Of course, if Xiang Shaoyun hadn't started the fight and forced the Imperial Nether Clan to join in, the Undying Devil Clan would have had to compromise.

Finally, Xiang Shaoyun finished talking to Ye Chaomu. They were unwilling to part with each other, but they also knew they couldn't say too much here. The time for them to part had arrived. Ye Chaomu left with the Undying Devil Clan.

As for Xiang Shaoyun, he stood there and gazed at her until she left her vision. His eyes were filled with indignance. Inwardly, he swore, A day will come when I stand at the very peak, becoming the master of all races. Nobody will dare to defy me!

Ye Chaomu might have voluntarily followed the Undying Devil Clan members, but he still wasn't happy to see her going with them. He hated this feeling of helplessness, this feeling where his life wasn't within his grasp.

"Nineteenth prince, let's go," said Ming Cigeng. He did not blame Xiang Shaoyun for what he did earlier. Rather, he had a soft look in his eyes.

Although Xiang Shaoyun had caused them to offend the Diabolic Dragon Clan, it wasn't a big deal for the Imperial Nether Clan. Even if the three clans were working together against the Dark Devourer Clan, it wasn't like they were living together in complete harmony. Conflicts still occurred between them. In fact, Xiang Shaoyun had actually won them some honor by killing several diabolic dragons in a row.

More importantly, Xiang Shaoyun had an extraordinary relationship with Ye Chaomu. If she could really become a part of the Undying Devil Clan, they could probably deepen their relationship with the Undying Devil Clan through Xiang Shaoyun. This would be beneficial for the Imperial Nether Clan.

Despite their low numbers, each undying devil was a freak capable of fighting several opponents of the same cultivation level at the same time. Even the Imperial Nether Clan was wary of them. Because of all that, Ming Cigeng did not blame Xiang Shaoyun for what he did.

Xiang Shaoyun bowed to Ming Cigeng and said, "I have caused trouble for the clan. I'll tell the Nether Monarch about this."

"Um. This is no big deal. The Nether Monarch won't blame you. Furthermore, you have killed five dark devourer devils alone. You have only contributed to our clan!" said Ming Cigeng. They then headed back to the clan.

This time, Xiang Shaoyun did not need to share a mount. He had his own mount, Gui Qi. By now, none of these Imperial Nether Clan members dared to look down on Xiang Shaoyun anymore. They didn't even dare to approach him for fear of disrespecting him accidentally.

Xiang Shaoyun was only a peak Devil Sovereign yet could easily kill Devil Saints. He even dared to offend Devil Gods. His deeds were so great they found them unbelievable even now.

Xiang Shaoyun couldn't be bothered about what the others thought of him. The battle earlier had greatly exhausted him. He had to focus on recovery. He also wanted to reach the Devil Saint Realm as soon as possible. At that time, he would have another trump card against Saints after returning to the surface world. After all, his blood-soaked robe could only be used one more time.

After a few days, the group smoothly returned to the Imperial Nether Clan. Upon arrival, Ming Cigeng went to report to the Nether Monarch about the mission. He also brought Xiang Shaoyun with him. After giving a short report to the Nether Monarch, Ming Cigeng was sent away. He had been worried that the Nether Monarch would punish him, but he was actually let off so easily. He heaved a breath of relief at that thought.

After Ming Cigeng left, the Nether Monarch said, "I know what you did. As for the second mission, bring this thing to the surface, look for our branch family, and hand it to their leader. If you can't complete the mission in five years, you can forget your mother."

Sure enough, the Nether Monarch wouldn't let go of Xiang Shaoyun so easily. Ming Fu had now transformed into a hostage. Xiang Shaoyun had no other choice. He received the item silently and found that it was a black stone. It looked ordinary, and it didn't feel like anything special. However, he was sure that it hid a great secret that only a few people could uncover.

He was in no rush to investigate the stone. He put it away and said, "I'll complete the mission."

He had no idea what the Nether Monarch had in mind. He also had no idea if this mission would threaten the surface world. He only needed to leave this place.

As for everything else, he could always solve them in the future when he had sufficient strength. He left the Imperial Nether Palace and went back to his palace. He still didn't know what he should tell his mother.

As soon as he returned, Ming Fu walked out of her room. Her smile brightened considerably, and she said, "I knew my son would return victorious!"

"Mother," Xiang Shaoyun called out as he stepped forth and gave Ming Fu a hug. He softly said, "Mother, I'm leaving the Devil Domain."

Ming Fu's face stiffened. She then forced herself to continue looking happy as she said, "Yes, it has been a while. It's time you go back, or your father will be worried."

Xiang Shaoyun still hadn't told her that his father was missing. She had thought that everything was still fine with Xiang Yangzhan.

"Sorry, Mother. I will definitely bring you out one day. Our family will reunite," said Xiang Shaoyun solemnly.

"Just the occasional visits from you is enough to make me happy," said Ming Fu as she gently stroked Xiang Shaoyun's face. As she thought of her coming separation from her son, tears dripped from her eyes.

## Chapter 1285: Return

Finally, Xiang Shaoyun could leave the seventh layer of the Devil Domain. He was reluctant to part with his mother, but he was also joyful that he had finally regained control over his fate. The person sending Xiang Shaoyun off was Ming Helian.

One could say that their status had undergone a complete turnaround. In the past, Ming Helian was the one who had captured Xiang Shaoyun. Now, he was respectfully sending Xiang Shaoyun off.

Xiang Shaoyun didn't bother blaming Ming Helian. Ming Helian was now his butler and had never done anything excessive to him. He had already forgotten about the kidnapping.

Along the way, Xiang Shaoyun asked about the fourth, fifth, and sixth layers. He knew that the three layers were the core of the Devil Domain and had the largest concentration of devils. The devils on these layers were powerful and could only be commanded by the three clans.

Naturally, each of the three clans had their respective subordinate clans, so none of the clans could fully control all of them. Since Xiang Shaoyun had offended the Diabolic Dragon Clan, he had to avoid the Diabolic Dragon Clan's subordinate clans if he did not want to be assassinated.

He wasn't interested in spending more time in the Devil Domain anyway. With Ming Helian by his side, they traveled at their top speed. He did not forget to memorize the route to make it easier for him to return in the future.

Quite a few exits led to the upper layers, but some exits were known only to the devils. Xiang Shaoyun was using one of these secret routes. With the Imperial Nether Clan's unique rune on his forehead, no devils dared to obstruct his path, allowing him to smoothly arrive at the third layer.

Ming Helian wanted to send Xiang Shaoyun all the way to the first layer, but Xiang Shaoyun rejected the offer. With his current strength, nothing in the third layer could harm him. Ming Helian couldn't command Xiang Shaoyun, so he could only obey.

"Take care of my mother, or I'll be looking for you the next time I return," reminded Xiang Shaoyun.

"Yes, nineteenth prince. I will do my very best and take good care of the lady," said Ming Helian with a bow.

After Ming Helian left, Xiang Shaoyun withdrew his rune. He had no intention of exposing himself as an Imperial Nether Clan member anytime soon.

"I wonder how the others are doing," Xiang Shaoyun muttered to himself as he rushed in a certain direction.

He had been in the Devil Domain for three years. The Devil Hunting Expedition was nearing its end. He had no idea how everything was right now. He had to find someone and figure out what had happened during his absence.

During his search, he encountered many devils. Some of them seemed capable of sensing the powerful devil bloodline he had, so he faced very few devil attacks. As for those blind enough to attack him, he naturally wouldn't hold back. He killed every single one of them. He wouldn't stop killing devils just because he was now an Imperial Nether Clan prince.

In fact, the Devil Domain was a cruel place. The strong would always be right, and those with high-tier bloodlines like the Imperial Nether Clan would never allow the lesser races to offend them. Any offenders would be killed.

So long as Xiang Shaoyun didn't blatantly murder Imperial Nether Clan members, he was free to kill any devil he wanted. After a day, he finally found traces of humans battling against devils. He hurriedly rushed over.

Xiang Shaoyun did not recklessly charge into the battlefield. Instead, he observed from afar. When he saw the people on the battlefield, he blanked out in astonishment. One person and two sabers, slaughtering all the incoming devils, sending flesh and blood flying in all directions.



That person had a straw hat on his head. Under the hat was a steadfast face. He was clad in a crude martial outfit, revealing his destructive muscles. Each move of his was accompanied by saber intent as he slaughtered all who stood in his way.

His entire person was akin to an unsheathed saber. A green radiance emanated from his body, and a vague dragon phantom was visible around him. The dragon accompanied his sabers, unleashing an unstoppable might. With a few slashes, more than 10 devils collapsed onto the ground.

He's incredible, thought Xiang Shaoyun inwardly.

He found that this person was only a sixth-stage Soul Foundation Realm cultivator, but the man still easily sliced apart the peak Devil Sovereign as if they were vegetables. Xiang Shaoyun was a fourth-stage Soul Foundation Realm cultivator, but not even he could kill peak Devil Sovereigns so easily.

From his observation, he found that each slash of the man's saber looked simple yet wasn't simple at all. Each of his saber strikes was sharp and accurate, never missing a single hit.

Xiang Shaoyun believed that his combat sense was excellent, but this person had an even more impressive combat sense. After a short while, over 100 devils were killed. The ground was filled with puddles of blood, as though this was a scene from hell.

After the man killed all the devils, he glanced in Xiang Shaoyun's direction before proceeding to collect all the devil cores one by one. After he was done, he started harvesting the devils' body parts. He seemed incredibly fussy and wouldn't even give those below the sovereign grade a second glance.

Xiang Shaoyun knew that the man had noticed him, so he decided to stop concealing himself. He walked out and praised, "Excellent saber techniques!"

The man continued harvesting the corpses as though he had not heard anything.

Xiang Shaoyun wasn't angered. He knew that people with such strength would often be proud and aloof. It wouldn't be easy for him to approach such a person.

"Since we're lucky enough to meet each other, why don't we have a drink? It's on me," offered Xiang Shaoyun.

This time, the man spoke, "Get lost!"

He didn't speak much, but his words were laced with thick killing intent, as though he was going to kill Xiang Shaoyun as well if Xiang Shaoyun kept bothering him.

Xiang Shaoyun smiled and said, "What's the point of keeping to yourself? This is a 1,000-year-old liquor. It's an excellent liquor!"

He then took out a jar of liquor and started drinking. He had obtained the liquor from the Holy Hall. As the son-in-law, it wasn't hard for him to get some good liquor from the hall.

While Xiang Shaoyun was drinking, a sharp energy saber approached his throat. The attack was incomparably fast, akin to a viper that had attacked suddenly from concealment. Just as the saber was about to reach Xiang Shaoyun's throat, he moved aside and avoided the slash.

"That's rude. I offered you a drink, yet you tried to kill me?" said Xiang Shaoyun with a smirk.

In truth, he had been itching for a fight.

#### Chapter 1286: Song Tiandao

Song Tiandao, a domineering name that meant celestial saber. A person with this name would either be an unyielding person or someone who would die early. Song Tiandao was a master at blades. His saber attacks were exceptionally impressive, as though he could breathe life into his very blade. Someone like him was worthy of having such a name.

Ever since witnessing Song Tiandao's saber mastery, Xiang Shaoyun had been itching for a fight. He also used a saber. He believed that he was exceptional at sabers as well. Thus, he wanted to exchange some pointers with the man who was also a saber master.

Song Tiandao had not expected that Xiang Shaoyun would be able to evade his attack. His eyes flickered with astonishment, but he quickly hid his shock. He said, "Get lost if you don't want to die."

"What if I refuse to get lost?" asked Xiang Shaoyun provocatively.

"If you can take a hit from me, you may stay," said Song Tiandao as he drew his saber.

His saber was unsheathed at an incredible speed. This attack was similar in style with Bu Feng, the Sword of Speed Xiang Shaoyun once met. However, Song Tiandao's saber was much heavier, instantly arriving before Xiang Shaoyun's head.

Xiang Shaoyun reacted immediately and moved away with Phantom Shift. Even so, his shoulder was still struck. A wound opened, and his blood slowly seeped out. If he was any slower, he would have been hacked into two.

What a fast saber, thought Xiang Shaoyun in astonishment.

Xiang Shaoyun might be shocked, but Song Tiandao was even more shocked. That slash of his could easily kill a Sovereign. This fourth-stage Sovereign was actually able to avoid it?

"You may stay," said Song Tiandao. He did not say anything else and started walking away.

Xiang Shaoyun blanked out momentarily before drawing his saber and slashing at Song Tiandao.

He became one with his saber, his attack streaking forth like a bolt of lightning. Instantly, the attack reached Song Tiandao, causing Song Tiandao's pupils to shrink. Song Tiandao swung his saber, forcefully stopping the incoming slash.

"You're courting death!" Song Tiandao frowned. He stomped his foot against the ground and darted forth, pouncing on Xiang Shaoyun like a dragon. With his saber in hand, he started madly slashing at Xiang Shaoyun.

Song Tiandao never held back when fighting. His saber was akin to an extension of his body. Each slash was accompanied by a powerful saber intent, his attacks akin to a furious storm that couldn't be stopped.

This was the strength of someone who could easily kill peak Sovereigns. There was no doubt that Song Tiandao was an incredibly talented cultivator. Countless saber rays criss-crossed and formed a

net, making it impossible for Xiang Shaoyun to escape. Xiang Shaoyun's eyes shone brightly as lightning energy erupted from his body. Raising his saber, he slashed at the incoming saber.

Clank!

In the blink of an eye, the two sabers clashed over 100 times. Each clash created a blinding spark and spread destruction in all directions. Song Tiandao's saber was fast and heavy. Without the gift of instincts, Xiang Shaoyun wouldn't have been able to see the incoming slashes. His arms were numb from the collisions, increasing the pressure he felt from this opponent.

"Comparable to a pseudo-Saint," Xiang Shaoyun made a judgment about Song Tiandao's strength.

Song Tiandao had only used one saber thus far. Even then, he had displayed a strength capable of killing peak Sovereigns. With his second saber still hanging on his back, it was obvious he had yet to use his true strength. It was clear enough that he had the combat strength to match a pseudo-Saint.

He was only a sixth-stage Soul Foundation Realm cultivator. If he could match a peak Sovereign, Xiang Shaoyun wouldn't be so surprised. But this person could match a pseudo-Saint. That was incredibly terrifying. Not even the top geniuses of the four academies could do any better than him in terms of combat strength.

Both Xiang Shaoyun and Song Tiandao were astonished by each other. Song Tiandao had not imagined that Xiang Shaoyun would have such mastery over the saber. Xiang Shaoyun could even fight him head on with a saber. This was too shocking for him.

"Pretty impressive, but too bad your cultivation is too low. Otherwise, you might be qualified to help me hone my saber," said Song Tiandao as he increased the intensity of his attack. Wave after wave of energy sabers flew forward. The green energy sabers swept through the sky like a roaring dragon, reducing everything around them into dust.

The pressure Xiang Shaoyun felt grew stronger and stronger. He was forced to fully activate his lightning bone and lightning star. However, that still wasn't enough. He was forced to borrow the natural lightning bolts from the sky before he could block Song Tiandao's saber.

Numerous explosions erupted as countless energy sabers flew in all directions. Not only did Xiang Shaoyun's lightning saber contain saber intent, but it also contained the profundity of lightning. With a swing of his saber, Song Tiandao was surrounded by a sea of lightning.

The attack gave him a fright. He had not imagined that Xiang Shaoyun's attack would be so powerful. Not only could Xiang Shaoyun summon lightning bolts in the Devil Domain, but his saber intent had also reached the second stage. Song Tiandao was starting to feel pressured. His opponent was only a fourth-stage Soul Foundation Realm cultivator. If Xiang Shaoyun's cultivation was a stage or two higher, he probably wouldn't be a match for Xiang Shaoyun.

"You're qualified to see my second saber," said Song Tiandao. His battle intent grew as he drew his second saber. With a saber in each hand, he charged Xiang Shaoyun.

With two sabers, Song Tiandao's attack became even more destructive. His sabers were akin to two dragons that constantly charged forward, leaving numerous massive cuts on the ground and slashing the surrounding mountains into pieces.

Song Tiandao was worthy of his name as he seemed really capable of cleaving the sky with his saber. Even with the gift of instincts, Xiang Shaoyun had a hard time dealing with such fast saber attacks.

Xiang Shaoyun bombarded the two dragons with countless lightning bolts, eventually destroying the two dragons, proving that he was superior in terms of destructive capabilities. With his current strength, he could only fight a peak Sovereign. If he wanted to defeat Song Tiandao, who could match a pseudo-Saint, he had to muster even more strength from his stars.

Complete Destruction!

Severing Mountains and Rivers!

The more Xiang Shaoyun fought, the more excited he became. He continuously used the different stances of the Nine Overlord Skyslaying Saber Technique in his attempt to deal Song Tiandao some damage.

However, with two hands, Song Tiandao calmly dealt with whatever Xiang Shaoyun threw at him. He slashed through one attack after another, leaving numerous wounds on Xiang Shaoyun's body. Just as he thought that he was about to win, the energy around Xiang Shaoyun changed.

Fiery Lightning Storm!

## Chapter 1287: Fierce Fight Between Geniuses

The powers of wind, lightning, and flame instantly became a natural calamity that was much scarier than the earlier sea of lightning. The power of wind broke the shackles of lightning and flame, greatly increasing the destructiveness of the two powers.

Song Tiandao had not imagined that Xiang Shaoyun would be someone who cultivated multiple powers. The sudden change caught him by complete surprise. However, he was still able to react. His sabers speedily spiraled around his body, slashing at the incoming energy bombardment. He protected himself with all his strength.

Xiang Shaoyun naturally wouldn't allow him to escape so easily after he deliberately changed powers. Wind seemed to be everywhere, helping the lightning and flame break through the sabers to land on Song Tiandao's body.

Bzzt! Bzzt!

Song Tiandao's clothes were reduced into ashes, revealing an upper body filled with scars.

"Kill!" Xiang Shaoyun roared as he continued erupting with three different powers, slashing his saber forward mercilessly without giving Song Tiandao any respite.

He knew very well that if he didn't take Song Tiandao down now, his opponent would come back with even greater strength after getting a short break. Xiang Shaoyun showed no mercy, aiming for Song Tiandao's vitals. One could not afford to be careless against a genius like this.

Eventually, Song Tiandao grew furious because he couldn't accept being pushed around by a cultivator whose cultivation was lower than his.

"A commendable opponent. You're worth all my effort," said Song Tiandao. Dragon roars started coming out of his arms, as though two azure dragons were roaring at the sky. He slashed with both his sabers, unleashing two even scarier energy sabers.

Double Dragons' Roar!

This was a terrifying saber technique that was absolutely a saint-grade battle technique. The two azure dragons seemed to have come alive, crushing through Xiang Shaoyun's attack before rushing toward him.

Fortunately, Xiang Shaoyun moved away in time, or the two dragons would have been enough to kill him. The two stood far apart from each other, staring at each other. A decent amount of wounds could be seen on Xiang Shaoyun's body. His clothes were badly damaged, making him look rather sorry. In truth, his injuries were light. After all, he was someone who had killed even Saints. His combat experience wasn't any less than Song Tiandao's.

As for Song Tiandao, he wasn't any better off. His upper body was bare, and many wounds could be seen on his body. It was obvious the two were almost on par with each other. As they regarded each other, the two did not attempt to attack. Rather, they stood silently, waiting for the other party to show an opening. It was at this time that a group of devils rushed toward them.

"Feast on the humans!" roared the devil leading the group.

There were about 500 devils in the group. Their approach caused even the ground to shake. Some flew, some ran on the ground, and some burrowed underground. They did not take long to reach Xiang Shaoyun and Song Tiandao.

The two did not seem to have noticed the devils. They only had each other in their eyes. Just as the devils were about to attack, the two moved. Instead of attacking the devils, they attacked each other. They held nothing back and fought with all their strength.

Xiang Shaoyun did not face Song Tiandao head on. Utilizing his unparalleled speed, he moved around Song Tiandao, slashing his saber from numerous directions. His powers also constantly changed, bombarding Song Tiandao with numerous different power combinations.

Song Tiandao wasn't too slow either. No matter what, his cultivation level was two stages higher. He was able to keep up with Xiang Shaoyun, causing the two to start fighting at a rapid speed.

Clank!

Sabers clashed constantly while powerful shockwaves kept rippling out, hitting the devils and causing them to wail incessantly. The devils tried to mount a sneak attack, but the two had instead evaded the devils before attacking each other. While fighting each other, they did not forget to slaughter the devils that dared to approach them.

The constant explosions arising from their clashes were akin to fireworks. The devils were furious. They wanted to pull back and attack from afar, but the two humans constantly moved toward the devils even while fighting each other.

Golden Fury!

Flamewater Discordance!

Two Dragons Snatching the Pearl!

Furious Dragon Flips Its Body!

...

One ought to admit that these two were absolute geniuses. Each attack was released with incredible mastery. Their attacks looked simple yet complicated, and the prowess of their attacks was far beyond what their peers were capable of.

More and more devils died to their shockwaves. One could say that instead of killing the two humans, the devils had instead transformed into training partners. They were completely incapable of harming the two. The leader of the group was infuriated. It charged over with the strongest Devil Sovereigns under its command in its attempt to eliminate the two humans.

Terrifying devilish energy erupted from their bodies. Poison and numerous other attacks merged together and shot toward the two humans. They were confident the two humans wouldn't be able to survive their joint attack. It was at this time that several energy sabers flew toward them.

Whoosh!

Instantly, the sabers sliced through them like a hot knife through butter. After killing the devils, Xiang Shaoyun and Song Tiandao resumed their battle. The fight lasted three days and three nights, causing massive destruction in the area and slaughtering countless devils. With the intensity of their battle, it was impossible for them to stop before deciding on a victor.



"Time to end this. Witness my third saber," said Song Tiandao as he unsheathed his third saber.

Instead of wielding the third saber with his hands, it flew out by itself like it was alive. Akin to an azure dragon, it slashed at Xiang Shaoyun.

Azure Dragon Slash!

This was Song Tiandao's trump card, also the strongest stance of the Azure Dragon Saber Technique he used. The instant the third saber flew out, the two sabers in his hands flew out, transformed into azure dragons, and slashed at Xiang Shaoyun.

Three sabers came from three different directions, not giving Xiang Shaoyun any chance to escape. This attack had exhausted all of Song Tiandao's strength and could threaten even a Saint.

With Song Tiandao's cultivation of sixth-stage Soul Foundation Realm, it was incredibly impressive of him to display such strength. Xiang Shaoyun naturally didn't dare to hold anything back. He directly used his primal inception energy and blasted the incoming attack.

Overlord Skyslaying Saber, sixth stance, One slash to destroy the heavens and earth!

Chapter 1288: Together Against the Devils

Xiang Shaoyun's mastery over the Nine Overlord Skyslaying Saber Technique had reached an extremely high level. He was only using the sixth stance because his current cultivation could only support his usage of up to the sixth stance. Even so, when he powered the technique with the primal inception energy, he unleashed a slash that was even more destructive than pure lightning energy.

The nine-colored saber cleaved through the air with an unstoppable might capable of carving through the world itself. The nine-colored saber clashed with the three azure dragons, instantly creating a blinding spark. Space around the sabers collapsed, sending shockwaves rippling in all directions. Saber after saber was destroyed and recreated as the two clashed against each other.

"Three as one, kill!" Song Tiandao's eyes turned red as he mustered all his astral energy, combined his three sabers, and slashed forward.

The three azure dragons fused, becoming a single stronger azure dragon. It was as though an actual azure dragon had descended upon the battlefield, projecting boundless might. Xiang Shaoyun also

swung his saber, sending waves of primal inception energy crushing forward. It crashed against the azure dragon.

Xiang Shaoyun hadn't touched the primal inception energy for the past three years. Thus, he had accumulated a large amount of it. He had no problem using it repeatedly. And with that, the two sent their energies out repeatedly, colliding against each other again and again.

Whoosh!

Eventually, the two separated and stood hundreds of meters apart. Both were coughing blood, their aura much weaker than before. Even now, they were still evenly matched. As they stood there looking at each other, appreciation for the other party rose in both of them. Just as they were about to resume their fight, a powerful aura erupted not far away from them. The aura was approaching rapidly, clearly belonging to an existence in the Saint Realm.

"Two puny humans had actually created such a commotion? Looks like you're both geniuses among humans. This Saint shall slay both of you," a Devil Saint said while roaring with laughter.

This was an eight-handed bewildering devil that had just broken through into the Devil Saint Realm. The eight-handed bewildering devil was an extremely tricky opponent. It stood straight on two legs and had a triangular head with one eye, three noses, and one massive mouth. On its torso were eight hands. With blisters all over its skin, it had an incredibly disgusting appearance.

The eight-handed bewildering devils were considered extremely strong in the third layer, but they were low in numbers. Most of them resided in poisonous environments and would rarely roam around.

As for this eight-handed bewildering devil, it had left its lair after sensing Xiang Shaoyun and Song Tiandao's battle. It had recently broken through into the Devil Saint Realm and needed to replenish itself with some human blood.

Xiang Shaoyun and Song Tiandao were almost fully exhausted from their fight. Thus, it did not seem likely that they would still be able to defeat a Devil Saint. Even so, neither shrank from the fight.

"If you can still move, kill him together," said Xiang Shaoyun.

Song Tiandao did not reject the offer. He nodded and swung his three sabers. This attack was obviously much weaker than before, but he still had the same resolute look in his eyes. Xiang Shaoyun did not stand around doing nothing. He had much more strength remaining compared to Song Tiandao. Instead of using his saber, he used the Cosmos Dao Destroying Fist. Two different attacks were sent flying toward the devil.

"You dare resist? I'll capture you and eat you alive," said the devil with a sneer. Its eight hands reached out and stretched indefinitely, gathering a large amount of devilish energy before colliding against the two incoming attacks.

The devil was confident it could easily erase the two attacks, but his arms turned numb upon contact with the two attacks. He discovered that the two attacks weren't weak at all. At the same time, Xiang Shaoyun and Song Tiandao charged in two different directions, one aiming for the devil's head while the other aimed for its lower body, displaying impressive coordination.

The devil waved its arms around, surrounding its body with terrifying devilish energy before sending the energy out. Instantly, the two attacks shattered. It might be a newly advanced Devil Saint, but it was still a Saint. It far surpassed any regular Sovereigns.

It slammed its eight palms out at the same time, rupturing space and blasting the two away. Then, the arms extended endlessly and reached for their necks. The arms moved rapidly, instantly reaching them before they could put up any defenses. The devil grabbed their necks and wrung them. If it wasn't for the fact that their bodies were tough enough, they would have died.

"Hehe, die," said the devil smugly. Just as it was going to deal the finishing blow, the two unleashed their trump cards.

A chakram suddenly appeared in Xiang Shaoyun's hand as he swung at the devil's arm. An additional azure dragon saber appeared before Song Tiandao and slashed at the devil's arm. They both used a saint weapon at the same time, instantly spilling the devil's blood. The devil had not expected the two to have saint-grade weapons. It wailed in pain and released its grip.

"Kill!" Xiang Shaoyun roared as he threw the chakram forward.

Song Tiandao became one with his saber, his aura rose to his peak, and he took a step forward, delivering one simple slash. The chakram vanished into thin air, while the azure dragon saber transformed into a dragon. The two saint weapons were fast and powerful, instantly reaching the devil. Feeling threatened, the devil was forced to put up its defenses.

Because Xiang Shaoyun wasn't using any devilish energy, the chakram was easily punched aside. However, Song Tiandao's saber was terrifying enough to attract most of the devil's attention.

Xiang Shaoyun naturally wasn't willing to let Song Tiandao do all the heavy lifting. A different weapon appeared in his hand. It was the Radiant Saint Sword, and he unleashed the Dazzling Sky Sword Technique, releasing an attack that was far stronger than the chakram attack. With the two geniuses working together, the devil suffered a miserable fate. It had thought that it could easily take down these two humans, but with their saint weapons, the two had actually left it battered and exhausted.

"I refuse to believe that I can't kill both of you!" The devil roared and decided to use its trump card.

At this time, Song Tiandao suddenly became one with his saber and released the most stunning attack he had ever unleashed—Man Saber Dragon Transformation!

Roar!

This time, not only his saber had transformed into a dragon but also his person as he charged the devil. Xiang Shaoyun released a dazzling sword radiance, disturbing the devil's vision to help Song Tiandao land his hit.

#### Chapter 1289: It's My Fault for Not Being Your Match

Song Tiandao's full-powered attack was incredibly powerful, instantly severing four of the devil's arms. Even its head was nearly chopped off. After unleashing that attack, Song Tiandao collapsed weakly onto the ground. A look of indignance surfaced in his eyes. He had not imagined that the devil would be able to move slightly before the attack landed, suffering only some injuries instead of being outright killed.

The devils wailed in pain, but the pain also caused it to go berserk. It reached for Song Tiandao in anger with its four remaining arms, completely forgetting Xiang Shaoyun. After releasing the blinding radiance, Xiang Shaoyun had vanished.

Because of that, when he reappeared from an unexpected angle, the devil was caught by complete surprise. Just as the devil's attack was about to reach Song Tiandao, Xiang Shaoyun's attack arrived.

Dazzling Sky Sword Technique, sixth stance, Demonstration of Might.

Xiang Shaoyun erupted with all his strength as the Radiant Saint Sword shone with a blinding radiance. The sword cleaved toward the devil with an unstoppable might. At the same time, Xiang Shaoyun released the aura of his saint soul and suppressed the devil, not giving it a chance to escape.

By the time the devil sensed the incoming danger, it could no longer move. After all, it had already sustained heavy injuries. With the restraining effect of light and the suppression of Xiang Shaoyun's saint soul, this wouldn't end well for it. Xiang Shaoyun's sword heavily struck the devil's head, instantly turning the head into mincemeat. With that, the devil was killed. After killing the devil, Xiang Shaoyun landed on the ground. Apart from his slightly unstable aura, he seemed completely fine.

When Song Tiandao saw that, his pupils shrank as he said, "I lost."

Of the two, he was the one lying on the ground. Despite having his own unique method of healing himself, the astral energy he had exhausted would take some time to recover. As an upright man, he readily accepted his defeat.

Xiang Shaoyun looked at him and said, "Neither of us lost."

In truth, if he fought using only his astral energy, he wouldn't be any better than Song Tiandao. Their battle, which had lasted three days and three nights, was proof of that. Of course, it would be an entirely different story if he were to use his trump cards. He had a feeling Song Tiandao might still have some powerful trump cards hidden, so he had no intention of continuing the battle.

He wanted to have a fight with Song Tiandao, but he didn't want to kill him. Rather, he respected Song Tiandao as an opponent. If he could have Song Tiandao work for him, there would be no worry that the Ziling Sect wouldn't rise in power in the future.

However, he knew that a genius like Song Tiandao definitely had an extraordinary origin.

"A loss is a loss. I won't find any excuses for myself," said Song Tiandao as he crawled back up. He looked at Xiang Shaoyun and said, "Are you the Xiang Shaoyun who had defeated Dugu Qiubai?"

Xiang Shaoyun raised his brow as he said, "You know me?"

"Years ago during the battle between the four academies, your name had spread far and wide. Apart from you, I can't think of anyone who can use nine different powers," said Song Tiandao.

Xiang Shaoyun smiled in a carefree manner. "Haha, so I'm actually quite popular? Brother, that was quite a refreshing fight earlier. Do you have any recent updates on the Devil Hunting Expedition?"

"No, I never pay attention to those things," replied Song Tiandao flatly.

Xiang Shaoyun was rendered speechless. From Song Tiandao's words, Xiang Shaoyun concluded that Song Tiandao was someone who only focused on his saber. He naturally wouldn't pay attention to anything else. Asking this person was simply a waste of time.

Song Tiandao said, "Devil Concubine and Yu Caidie are both looking for you. They even offered a very attractive reward for anyone with information about you."

Xiang Shaoyun palmed his own forehead and said guiltily, "I actually forgot about them. Do you know where they are?"

"No," Song Tiandao replied.

"Fine. Continue with your healing. I'm leaving," said Xiang Shaoyun. He knew that it was pointless to ask more. He was confident he would see them again at the fort after the Devil Hunting Expedition was over.

"I'm Yu Caidie's fiancée," said Song Tiandao.

Xiang Shaoyun staggered and nearly fell onto the ground.

"Say that again?" Xiang Shaoyun turned around with a murderous look in his eyes.

Yu Caidie was his woman in his previous life. That would remain the same in this life. Nobody could change that. The good impression he had of Song Tiandao vanished completely, replaced by a murderous intent.

Song Tiandao repeated, "I'm Yu Caidie's fiancée."

"You'll die," said Xiang Shaoyun sternly.

His saint soul erupted with power as he focused on Song Tiandao. Any movement would be met with his saber. With his devil blood, when he released his devilish energy, he became much stronger than earlier.

Just as he was about to attack, Song Tiandao said, "You really were hiding your strength. It truly was my defeat."

Xiang Shaoyun frowned and said, "I don't have the time to joke around."

"The Song Clan is indeed going to have a marriage with the Yu Clan. They were also interested. In a way, I'm her fiancé. But I hereby give her up," said Song Tiandao. "It's my fault for not being your match."

"Smart choice. You would have lost your head otherwise," said Xiang Shaoyun. He then spun around and left.

He also finally knew where Song Tiandao came from. Song Clan of the Eastern Pass, an ancient clan that was one of the most powerful organizations in the Eastern Pass. It was a clan on equal footing with the Yu Clan.

Xiang Shaoyun had known about the Song Clan since his previous life. They were famed for their saber techniques, but he had not encountered them in his previous life.

After all, members of that clan had always maintained a low profile. They seemed to stand aloof from worldly affairs, but they had merely been biding their time and gathering strength. Perhaps they were finally ready to make their appearance on the world stage. If Xiang Shaoyun didn't want Yu Caidie to be married to someone else, he had to show sufficient strength.

The Devil Hunting Expedition was about to end, and the Yu Clan would reward the person placing first in the expedition. Xiang Shaoyun needed to do something. Regardless of what the Yu Clan had in mind, this was a bargaining chip he had to obtain before he could try anything else.

"Anyone trying to steal my woman will die!"

## Chapter 1290: Eighteen Blood-Robed Warriors

After leaving Song Tiandao, Xiang Shaoyun stopped looking for more people to ask about the Devil Hunting Expedition. It didn't matter what he found out as it was too late for him to do anything. He only needed to return to the surface and he would get the information he wanted.

He didn't care about his contribution points, but he wouldn't hesitate to kill any devils daring to block his path. He didn't really care much for those regular devils. Just his Imperial Nether Domain alone was able to easily kill hundreds of them. One could say that his current speed of earning contribution points was unrivaled.

He directly devoured any devil core he obtained. He was already a peak Devil Sovereign. It wouldn't take him long to become a Devil Saint if he wanted. Unfortunately, he didn't have enough time. The Devil Hunting Expedition was going to end soon. He had to return. Everything else would have to wait.

On his way to the second layer, he killed no less than 4,000 devils, including over 300 Devil Sovereigns. He wasn't even trying; these were all the devils that had attacked him. It was quite unbelievable that a mere fourth-stage Soul Foundation Realm cultivator could kill that many devils alone.

Anyone else would have to use all their strength to kill a single Devil Sovereign, but that was like a stroll in a park for Xiang Shaoyun. He was simply unrivaled below the Saint Realm. At the second layer, the devils he encountered became even weaker. He couldn't even be bothered to hit back when attacked. He rushed straight toward the first layer.

Along the way, he encountered a group of Overlord Legion members. They had suffered disastrous losses and only had about a dozen left. Even these survivors were badly injured and looked incredibly miserable. However, they seemed to have undergone a complete transformation as well. Through their experience in the Devil Domain, it was as though each of them was emanating an indescribable and sharp aura.

When they saw Xiang Shaoyun, it was as though they were seeing their family. All of them were overjoyed. Xiang Shaoyun was also happy to see them. He naturally brought them along as he returned. Along the way, he listened to them as they talked about what had happened in the past three years.

The four academies had lost about half their disciples to the expedition. One could say the expedition was an incredibly cruel training session for all the disciples. As for the survivors,



everyone had gained something. Even those who had not increased their cultivation level had still greatly sharpened their skills and gained valuable experience for their future cultivation.

As for the Sovereigns who weren't from the academies, many had died as well. During the expedition, about a dozen individuals had also spread their names far and wide through their impressive accomplishments. Some were hidden geniuses, some were already well-known, and so on. Every one of them was an individual with shocking combat strength.

It was rumored that each of them had the strength to kill a Saint. This wasn't a rumor that could be taken lightly. Additionally, one particular matter had also attracted Xiang Shaoyun's attention. Due to his disappearance, Devil Concubine and Yu Caidie had offered huge rewards for any information about him. News of that had also spread far and wide.

Why were so many people paying attention to it? Because both of them had claimed that he was their man. For many people, the news was alarming.

Devil Concubine was the number one beauty of the True Martial Academy, while Yu Caidie was Dragon Phoenix Academy's number one beauty. Both of them were the brightest stars in this expedition. They were also exceptionally talented in cultivation. Just gaining one of them would cause countless men to be jealous. How was Xiang Shaoyun worthy of having both of them for himself?

And thus, Xiang Shaoyun became a household name. Many wanted to see just how he looked like for two beauties to topple over him. People started digging out all the information about him. Abandoned disciple of the Dragon Phoenix Academy, champion of the competition between the four academies, fusing nine different astral energies, young sect master of Western Desert's Ziling Sect—all these were exposed. His success in fusing nine powers received the most attention.

After all, it was common knowledge that cultivating nine powers was a dead end. Therefore, everyone was interested in how Xiang Shaoyun had achieved the impossible. Additionally, the admirers of Devil Concubine and Yu Caidie also declared that they would challenge and defeat Xiang Shaoyun the moment they encountered him. They vowed to prove that Xiang Shaoyun wasn't a good match for the two.

After finding out about all that, Xiang Shaoyun laughed it off, not caring one bit. With his current strength, nobody below the Saint Realm could give him any trouble. Leading the Overlord Legion members, he smoothly reached the first layer. There, they started heading toward the fort.

At the first layer, Xiang Shaoyun encountered more and more humans. Most of them were on their way back, and some were able to recognize Xiang Shaoyun. After all, generous rewards had been offered for his whereabouts. His picture had long been spread everywhere.

Just as the group was about to reach the fort, some people appeared before them. The newcomers were 18 Sovereigns. They all wore the same outfit, making it clear that they were from the same organization.

The leader pointed at Xiang Shaoyun and shouted, "You're Xiang Shaoyun?"

From how aggressive the newcomers were behaving, it was clear they were looking for trouble. The Overlord Legion members were on full alert. Each of them was a genius cultivator, but none of them had entered the Soul Foundation Realm. Facing 18 Sovereigns at the same time, the pressure they felt was rather big.

Someone in the group recognized the newcomers. He transmitted to Xiang Shaoyun, "Overlord, these are the Eighteen Blood-Robed Warriors. It is said that everywhere they go, rivers of blood will flow."

Upon hearing that, Xiang Shaoyun focused on the newcomers and found that there really was a thick bloodlust about them. Such bloodlust could only form after countless killings. Xiang Shaoyun judged that the eighteen were vicious and merciless individuals.

"Are you deaf? Did you not hear my question?" the leader berated.

The leader was the strongest of the group, a ninth-stage Soul Foundation Realm cultivator. With a crimson saber in hand, he looked incredibly ferocious. The others did not look like pushovers either. None of them was weaker than the seventh-stage Soul Foundation Realm. It was no wonder they could cause rivers of blood to flow wherever they went.

Xiang Shaoyun stepped forth and indifferently said, "Yes, I'm Xiang Shaoyun. Can I help you?"

"You're Xiang Shaoyun? Excellent. I'll give you two choices. First, admit that you're a maggot unworthy of Lady Yu Caidie. Second, die," demanded the leader.