

## Overlord 1311

### Chapter 1311: Yu Caidie Is My Woman

Xiang Shaoyun had arrived at Yu Clan's encampment with Xiang Chenxi, Xiang Keren, Xiang Feidian, and the other Xiang Clan members. When they were near, they heard the conversation in the tent. Thus, Xiang Shaoyun couldn't control himself and had replied to them.

Right after he spoke, Yu Caidie rushed out of the tent joyfully and said, "Overlord, you're here!"

"Of course. If I wasn't here, you would have been married off to someone else already," replied Xiang Shaoyun.

He was becoming somewhat unhappy with the fact that Yu Caidie had compromised with the Yu Clan repeatedly. This time, he wanted to make things clear with the Yu Clan and take Yu Caidie away. He wanted to see who could stop him.

"I'll only be your wife," said Yu Caidie resolutely.

"Excellent. Come with me. Let's go together," said Xiang Shaoyun.

Just as Yu Caidie was about to walk forward, Yu Huayan's voice rang out, "If you really leave just like this, both of you will be hunted mercilessly by the clan. Think this through."

That was clearly a threat. Nobody could ignore Yu Huayan's words. Xiang Shaoyun raised his head and looked at Yu Huayan. Instantly, a massive pressure descended upon Xiang Shaoyun. He instantly understood that Yu Huayan was no ordinary person.

A Saint from the Xiang Clan immediately stepped forth, preparing to protect Xiang Shaoyun at any time. At this moment, Di Mie, Di Ganning, and Yu Youcheng also left the tent. All of them were sizing up Xiang Shaoyun. They wanted to see just what kind of person he was. He actually dared to ask for Yu Caidie directly in the Yu Clan's face? That was quite a bold action.

"It's not like I've never been hunted by your Yu Clan before. Feel free to bring it on. I'll allow your clan to taste what pain feels like. Unless you can send a Rebirth Realm expert after me, I'll go after you constantly," replied Xiang Shaoyun with a ruthless glint in his eyes.

In his previous life, the Yu Clan had also tried many times to stop him from being together with Yu Caidie. After slaughtering 36 of the clan's Saints and arriving before their gates, their ancestor was forced to personally make an appearance before Xiang Shaoyun finally withdrew. That episode was a disgrace for the Yu Clan.

Subsequently, he was finally able to be with Yu Caidie. The two clans eventually joined hands and waged war for the entire world. Unfortunately, after their enemies allied against the Xiang Clan, the Yu Clan withdrew without a fight. With that, the Xiang Clan was forced into seclusion. Thus, he did not have a good opinion of the Yu Clan.

He had already gained the backing of the Xiang Clan, the Holy Hall, and the angels. Although he couldn't fully control all these forces, he still had some confidence to face the Yu Clan.

"Audacious! I'll kill you right where you stand," said Yu Youcheng as he sent a palm attack at Xiang Shaoyun. He wanted to eliminate Xiang Shaoyun right then and there.

Since Yu Youcheng was in the Heaven Battling Realm, his attack was incredibly powerful. His palm tore through space and instantly arrived before Xiang Shaoyun. The Saint beside Xiang Shaoyun stepped forth and blocked the palm.

"You need to deal with me first before laying your hands on my little ancestor," said the Saint. He was no pushover either. Xiang Shaoyun was an extremely important individual for the Xiang Clan.

"Don't get too cocky. You have far from enough people to take on all of us," said Yu Youcheng.

"Enough. This is not the time to bicker endlessly. Xiang Shaoyun, defeat Di Mie if you can. You can then come to the Yu Clan with your marriage proposal. Do you dare agree to this challenge, Xiang Shaoyun?" asked Yu Huayan.

Xiang Shaoyun sneered and said, "You better ask that Mie-something guy instead. I'm the champion of the Devil Hunting Expedition. My combat strength far surpasses his. If he's too afraid to fight me, what's the point even if I agree?"

"What an egotistical bastard. Do you want me to snap your neck right where you stand?" said Di Mie ferociously.

Even someone with incredible patience would not be able to stay calm after such a provocation.

"Sure. Bring it on. Know that Yu Caidie is my woman. That will never change. Regardless of whether it is in our previous lives or our current lives, she is only mine. Nobody can stop this from happening," declared Xiang Shaoyun boldly.

Yu Caidie was incredibly moved by his words. She loudly said, "Overlord, I love you. I won't leave you even if death is the price!"

The people from the Yu Clan and the Di Clan wore unsightly expressions upon hearing her words. They had all gathered here to finalize the wedding between Yu Caidie and Di Mie. Her declaration of love for a different man was a slap to their faces.

"Is this the so-called sincerity of your Yu Clan? Haha. Interesting. Prince, let's leave. Hold the fight until after the Saintforce Realm closes. You can freely deal with this fellow then. However, it's not worth it fighting for a woman who doesn't even have you in her heart," said Di Ganning.

Those words reminded Di Mie of something, and he said, "Um. Let's wait until we leave the Saintforce Realm. After leaving the Saintforce Realm, I'll face you in a battle. I hope you can live until then."

The Di Clan then left without giving anyone from the Yu Clan a chance to say anything. Xiang Shaoyun did not bother stopping them. Looking at them, he had a complicated look as he thought, The Di Clan is quite a cautious clan.

He had thought that the Di Clan would fly into a rage out of humiliation. Surprisingly, they could maintain their calm. Few people could swallow their pride so easily. Di Ganning's final sentence had also brought a lot of trouble for the Yu Clan.

If they couldn't properly show their sincerity, the marriage between the two clans would thus be canceled. Yu Huayan did not seem bothered, but Yu Youcheng was infuriated. He wanted to keep the Di Clan people around, but they all ignored him.

"Yu Caidie, look at what you have done!" rebuked Yu Youcheng furiously.

Yu Caidie completely ignored him, acting as though she had heard nothing.

"Come with me and apologize to the Di Clan, or there won't be an end to this!" said Yu Youcheng as he reached for Yu Caidie.

But before he could grab her, Yu Huayan stopped him and berated, "Be very clear that it is the Di Clan that wishes to have a marriage with our clan. If we really apologize to them, what of our clan's prestige?"

"Be that as it may, the patriarch's order is already here. If we can't complete this task, what of the patriarch's prestige?" argued Yu Youcheng.

Yu Huayan did not say anything. Instead, she suddenly grabbed Yu Caidie.

#### Chapter 1312: Di Clan's Ambition

Yu Huayan was a pseudo-God. Nobody present could react to her sudden movement. Before Yu Caidie knew it, she was already captured.

"Release her!" Xiang Shaoyun's face turned gloomy when he saw that Yu Caidie had been captured.

"Don't worry. I won't harm her. At the very least, she will be safe until this is over," replied Yu Huayan. "After leaving the Saintforce Realm, if you can defeat Di Mie, I will help facilitate your marriage with Caidie. If you lose the fight, everything will be over for you. Even Caidie will land in Di Mie's hands."

Yu Caidie wanted to say something, but she had been sealed by Yu Huayan and couldn't even make a noise.

After some hesitation, Xiang Shaoyun said, "I hope you can keep your words. Otherwise, I won't mind paying your Yu Clan a visit."

He then left after looking at Yu Caidie one last time. He was confident he could take Yu Caidie with him if he wanted, but this wasn't the time. After entering the Saintforce Realm, his cultivation would definitely rise rapidly. At that time, he would have even more confidence in dealing with the Yu Clan. In any case, he was sure he could win against Di Mie no matter how strong Di Mie became.

"Kid, after ruining the marriage between our clan and the Di Clan, do you think you can leave just like that?" said Yu Youcheng. Unwilling to spare Xiang Shaoyun so easily, he decided to attack.

Xiang Clan's Saint naturally wouldn't allow Yu Youcheng to prevail. Not only did he block the incoming attack, he even counterattacked.

"Fight me!" challenged the Xiang Clan's Saint.

"You think I'm afraid of you?" replied Yu Youcheng as he flew into the sky with the Xiang Clan's Saint.

Xiang Shaoyun ignored the fight and continued leaving. He was confident that the Xiang Clan's Saint would be fine.

"Little ancestor, I think we should let the clan send the marriage proposal on your behalf. That might be a better idea," suggested Xiang Chenxi cautiously.

"This is my private affair. The clan does not need to be concerned with it. In any case, the clan is still not strong enough to face the Yu Clan," said Xiang Shaoyun as he waved his hand. He then tossed the saintforce token toward Xiang Chenxi and said, "Take this. Your strength might not be much, but entering the Saintforce Realm will allow you to grow rapidly."

Xiang Chenxi was stunned.

"Little ancestor, th-this is too valuable for me!" said Xiang Chenxi.

Everyone knew how valuable a saintforce token was, yet Xiang Shaoyun had so nonchalantly tossed one to him. He couldn't even believe what he was seeing. Nobody would be so generous.

"Just take it. Grow as fast as you can. The clan needs more strength. Otherwise, the clan won't be able to face the potential enemies we might face upon leaving seclusion," said Xiang Shaoyun with a heavy tone.

With the Celestial Alliance and the Di Clan appearing one after another, Xiang Shaoyun had a feeling that the world would not remain peaceful for long. Sure, the Xiang Clan wasn't weak, but it

wasn't strong enough either. Xiang Chenxi stopped hesitating and kept away the saintforce token. Inwardly, he was filled with gratitude toward Xiang Shaoyun.

Originally, Xiang Shaoyun wanted to give the token to someone closer to him. But after thinking it through, he decided to give it to Xiang Chenxi instead. With this contribution, he hoped to erase some of the guilt he had toward the clan.

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At the Di Clan's encampment, Di Mie wore a gloomy expression as he said, "Uncle Ning, why did you stop me from killing that kid immediately? With his strength, killing him is as easy as a walk in the park."

Di Ganning clasped his hands on his back and asked, "Between short-term satisfaction and long-term benefits, which is more important?"

Di Mie answered, "Long-term benefits are naturally more important. But I don't think he's even worthy of being my rival."

"It's good to be confident, but I can clearly sense a strength that can't be underestimated in that kid's body. He wouldn't have been able to surpass you in the ranking otherwise," said Di Ganning.

Di Chuan also chimed in, "That's right. I saw his fight with Xue Buyi. That kid has a lot of secrets."

"Do I really need to wait until the Saintforce Realm closes before I can kill him? I need to obtain the phoenix physique," said Di Mie.

"Of course. Therefore, it's best we don't give that kid the chance to survive until the Saintforce Realm's opening," said Di Ganning with a sharp glint in his eyes.

"I'll go deal with him," Di Chuan offered.

"No. It's better to let those assassins deal with something like this. What's the point of doing it ourselves?" said Di Ganning. "We can put the marriage with the Yu Clan on hold for now. After the prince leaves the Saintforce Realm and enters the Heaven Battling Realm, the time to complete the marriage will arrive. After 100,000 years of seclusion, our Di Clan will finally emerge again."

"The great emperor of our clan has awakened. Nobody can stop us," said Di Mie.

"The Western Desert used to belong to us. Now that we are leaving seclusion, it is necessary to join hands with the Yu Clan. However, they aren't pushovers either. They have remained low-profiled for so many years not because they are gathering strength but because they are too shrewd. They will forever not stand at the front lines of any conflict. Therefore, they are definitely planning to have us be the vanguard even though we're going to share what we conquer with them. They can keep dreaming about that," said Di Ganning.

"What does the clan plan to do for now?" asked Di Mie.

"The clan intends for you to become the brightest cultivator among your peers. With your name, we will recruit more talented young cultivators and form a youth army. You can then take the throne. With the clan's support, you will become the number one emperor of the Western Desert after hundreds of years. For now, your focus should be on entering the Heaven Battling Realm, not wasting time bickering with that kid. Only by becoming a Saint will you have a chance to step into the Rebirth Realm," said Di Ganning solemnly.

"That's right. Prince, your noble self bears an important mission. Do not disappoint the clan. You can't afford to make even one mistake moving forth," said Di Chuan.

Di Mie nodded. "I will live up to the clan's expectations."

"Good. In the coming year, you don't have to stay in the Devil Domain. I'll take you somewhere and further strengthen your foundation so you can break through more easily after entering the Saintforce Realm. If you can break through while still in there, you can even take some time consolidating your cultivation and grow even more," said Di Ganning.

Di Chuan asked, "What should we do about the Yu Clan?"

"They will solve this issue themselves. I believe they won't miss this chance of allying with us," said Di Ganning confidently.

### Chapter 1313: Green Ghost's Transformation

After leaving the Yu Clan's encampment, Xiang Shaoyun did not leave the fort directly. He wanted to wait for Lady Shura. He was confident that she would be fine. In any case, he also needed to

make use of the thick devilish energy around the fort to further his devil cultivation. He wasn't too far away from the Devil Saint Realm.

Although he would find himself unwelcomed among humans if it was exposed that he also cultivated devilish energy, devil cultivation could serve as a trump card that would save his life during critical moments.

Before he knew it, half a month passed. Lady Shura had finally returned from the Devil Domain. When she lost contact with the Overlord Legion in the Devil Domain, she was still an eighth-stage Dragon Ascension Realm cultivator. She had now reached first-stage Soul Foundation Realm, which was quite a big improvement.

She no longer wore the mask she used to wear all the time. Her seductive appeal, brown skin, and athletic body could provoke the primal desire to conquer in all men. When she appeared, many men wanted to hit on him. But they all withdrew upon seeing her cold and detached expression.

Xiang Shaoyun had been waiting at the exit. The moment Lady Shura appeared, he walked up to her and asked in a concerned manner, "Is everything fine?"

When Lady Shura saw Xiang Shaoyun, a gentle smile appeared on her cold face, "I'm fine. Sorry for making you worried, overlord."

"Um. Let's go back," said Xiang Shaoyun as he wrapped his arm around her waist.

The surrounding men who were checking out Lady Shura howled in grief. Their hatred for Xiang Shaoyun deepened. He was conquering one beauty after another. They even started feeling like he was a bully.

Before Xiang Shaoyun and Lady Shura could go far, some masked people appeared before them. They respectfully said, "Young Master Xiang, Lady Shura, the sect master wishes to meet you."

Here, only Ghostface Sect members would be walking around with masks. Lady Shura did not give a reply immediately. Instead, she looked at Xiang Shaoyun, awaiting his answer.

After a slight hesitation, Xiang Shaoyun said, "Sure, let's go meet Green Ghost."



He then left the fort with Lady Shura and the Xiang Clan. After returning to Bloodsin City, he headed straight for the Ghostface Sect. The Xiang Clan members did not follow him into the Ghostface Sect. Instead, they waited outside the sect.

When Xiang Shaoyun and Lady Shura approached the main hall, Green Ghost walked out from inside and said, "Young Master Xiang, Lady Shura, you're here!"

Lady Shura greeted, "Greetings, sect master."

"There's no need to be so courteous with your family," said Green Ghost. It was rare to see him so friendly.

Xiang Shaoyun cupped his hands and greeted Green Ghost, "Lord Green Ghost, it has been a while. You still look as good as ever."

Xiang Shaoyun didn't really like Green Ghost that much. Of course, he didn't dislike Green Ghost either. No matter what, Green Ghost was still Devouring Ghost's disciple.

"Young Master Xiang is too kind. I'm an old man. The future belongs to you," said Green Ghost politely. "Come, let's have a seat inside the hall."

Xiang Shaoyun didn't know why Green Ghost was being so polite, but he could guess that Green Ghost definitely had something important to discuss with him. Inside the hall, Green Ghost asked about Devouring Ghost. Xiang Shaoyun did not hide anything and told him the truth.

"Lord Green Ghost, I believe you're not meeting us just to ask about Devouring Ghost. Just get straight to the point," said Xiang Shaoyun. He wasn't interested in wasting more time beating around the bush.

Green Ghost sank into a short silence before he said, "Lady Shura, leave for a bit. Allow me to have a chat with Young Master Xiang."

"Go on. I'll leave," said Lady Shura with a nod before exiting the hall.

After she left, Green Ghost went straight to the point. "I know that you have regained your sect. I greatly regret the fact that I wasn't able to help back then. I hope to forge an alliance with you. I wonder if you'll be willing to agree?"

Back then, he had refused Devouring Ghost's request to help Xiang Shaoyun with retaking the Ziling Sect. He was already used to his life as a leader. How would he be willing to hand over the leadership to someone else so easily?

But the more Green Ghost heard about Xiang Shaoyun, the more his mind changed. Eventually, Xiang Shaoyun had become the Devil Hunting Expedition's champion, causing Green Ghost to regret his previous decision.

He had been paying attention to Xiang Shaoyun over the years. From a King Realm cultivator, Xiang Shaoyun had advanced at a terrifying speed and taken only 10 years to reach the Soul Foundation Realm.

As the Devil Hunting Expedition's champion, it was also undeniable that Xiang Shaoyun had outstanding combat strength. After entering the Saintforce Realm, he would definitely experience rapid growth and reach the Heaven Battling Realm. As Xiang Dingtian reincarnated, he could very well reach the Rebirth Realm, also known as the God Realm, in the future.

And thus, Green Ghost was filled with regret. Why would he feel regretful? It was because if he relied on himself, reaching the Rebirth Realm would be almost impossible. But if he could obtain Xiang Shaoyun's help in the future, he would have a better chance at reaching the Rebirth Realm.

That was the reason for his change in attitude. After all, one wouldn't obtain immortality before becoming a God. Even a Great Saint would have a limited lifespan. Green Ghost had reached the very peak of the Saint Realm. Taking even one step forward was extremely difficult. He badly needed some guidance. Although Xiang Shaoyun was still quite weak, he was once a Rebirth Realm expert. An expert like this would be able to provide Green Ghost with the required guidance.

Xiang Shaoyun had a slightly complicated look in his eyes as he said, "Alliance? Seems like a good idea."

"That's right. The Ghostface Sect has 5,000 members and countless experts. If you agree, we will be allies from now on. We can then help each other when required. That would be beneficial for both of us. What do you think?"

Xiang Shaoyun smiled and said, "Lord Green Ghost, you should know that the Ziling Sect is still growing. We are still lacking in terms of members. I'm afraid we are unworthy of being your ally."

"Not at all. With your genius in cultivation and the help of my master and the others, you will be able to soar to the heavens soon enough," said Green Ghost flatteringly.

Xiang Shaoyun sank into thought before saying, "Forget the alliance. Your Ghostface Sect is located in Bloodsin City, while I'm based in Ziling City. We're too far away from each other. It's pointless to ally with each other."

Green Ghost was slightly stunned. He had not imagined that his suggestion would be rejected.

"Of course, if the Ghostface Sect wishes to become the Ziling Sect's subsidiary organization, I might consider agreeing," said Xiang Shaoyun.

#### Chapter 1314: Green Ghost Concedes

Green Ghost's eyes shrank upon hearing Xiang Shaoyun's offer.

"Young Master Xiang, I don't think that's within my scope of consideration," said Green Ghost in an unresigned manner.

Xiang Shaoyun indifferently said, "I know you're not willing to answer to someone else. I won't force it. As for the help you once gave me, I'll think of ways to repay you. Don't worry. As for my relationship with Lady Shura, you don't need to say anything about it, and it will ensure that things stay friendly between us."

Xiang Shaoyun then left the hall. Green Ghost wore a gloomy expression. As the Ghostface Sect's master, he was one of the most respected people in Bloodsin City. After being treated with such disregard, he was naturally unhappy. Looking at Xiang Shaoyun's back, he hesitated whether he should say something. The little pride he had within him was keeping his mouth shut.

Suddenly, Xiang Shaoyun stopped, turned around, and said, "By the way, your master has reached Heaven Battling Realm. I believe it won't be long before he regains his peak strength. Feel free to visit him at the Ziling Sect at any time."

His words thoroughly destroyed the final bit of pride Green Ghost had. He called out, "Young Master Xiang, please wait."

Xiang Shaoyun stopped and waited for Green Ghost's answer.

Green Ghost walked up to Xiang Shaoyun and dropped down to one of his knees before saying, "Green Ghost is willing to have the Ghostface Sect become your subsidiary organization and serve you with everything I have. Please accept my vow."

Green Ghost had relented! He wasn't afraid of Xiang Shaoyun, but he wished to obtain Xiang Shaoyun's help to break through into the next realm. His master, Devouring Ghost, was slowly regaining his peak strength. He also had a martial uncle, Scarlet Flame Monarch, who could also provide him with guidance.

With those two, Xiang Shaoyun would be able to stabilize his organization and regain his glory from his previous life. Green Ghost did not wish to miss out on the chance to share the glory, even if he had to become someone else's subordinate.

Xiang Shaoyun nodded with a satisfied smile on his face. "Haha, Green Ghost, you really do know how to follow where the wind blows. I'd thought you were someone who was only willing to stay here forever."

"Young Master Xiang, you're a giant among men whose ambitions are set on the grand stage of the world. Someone like me naturally can't compare. I was shortsighted and wasn't able to help you in the past. From today onward, I'll no longer shrink from my duty," said Green Ghost solemnly.

Xiang Shaoyun helped Green Ghost up and said, "Don't worry about it. You're Devouring Ghost's disciple, and he's akin to my brother. You will have plenty of chances to help us in the future. As long as you do what is required of you well, a day will come when your name is known far and wide."

"I'll thank you in advance, Young Master Xiang," said Green Ghost.

If anyone else heard this conversation between a fourth-stage Sovereign and a peak Saint, that person would start doubting the world.

"Good. Your first task is to gather up most of your people and move to the Ziling Sect," Xiang Shaoyun gave his first command.

Green Ghost was somewhat unwilling as he asked, "Young Master Xiang, is there a need to be in such a rush?"

He had just vowed his allegiance to Xiang Shaoyun. His sect was supposed to remain as a subsidiary organization, but it seemed like his sect was going to merge with the Ziling Sect.

"You really think that I'll try to steal your people? I simply don't want to see the organization you had painstakingly built over the years crumble apart. Chaos will come from the Devil Domain soon. The Bloodsin City will turn into a battlefield. I'm afraid not even your Ghostface Sect can survive this chaos."

"Are you sure, Young Master Xiang?" asked Green Ghost doubtfully.

"Of course. Just trust me," said Xiang Shaoyun confidently. "But the chaos will take some time to come. You can take your time to make your arrangements. However, you need to complete your withdrawal from the city within one year. In any case, staying in Bloodsin City won't help your growth anyway. This place has been polluted by devilish energy."

Green Ghost was slightly relieved. He nodded and said, "I'll listen to you, Young Master Xiang. The Ghostface Sect will fully withdraw from Bloodsin City."

"I'll have Devouring Ghost arrange a new place for your people. You don't need to merge with the Ziling Sect. You'll remain as the Ghostface Sect's master. You only need to do as required when the time comes," said Xiang Shaoyun.

"I'll follow your arrangements," Green Ghost agreed.

"Um. I'll be returning to the sect. Devouring Ghost will work with you in regards to the migration," said Xiang Shaoyun before leaving.

Green Ghost personally showed him the way out. Xiang Shaoyun was in an excellent mood. He had not imagined that Green Ghost would decide to pledge allegiance to him at this time. This was a good thing for him. With these new allies, the forces under his control would become even more powerful.

Xiang Shaoyun brought Lady Shura and the people from the Xiang Clan back to the Ziling Sect. There were some things that he needed to put in order before he could enter the Saintforce Realm without any worries.

The Xiang Clan hoped that Xiang Shaoyun could return to the clan first, but he refused. Nothing was more important than seeing his son. It had been three years. His son had probably grown into a little kid. If he remained missing, that kid probably wouldn't even know who his father was anymore.

With the teleportation formations connecting the Ziling Sect and the Holy Hall, it wasn't too hard for him to visit his son. After traveling for a day, Xiang Shaoyun suddenly felt like he was being tailed. He had Lady Shura, Xiang Chenxi, Xiang Keren, and Xiang Feidian with him. The others had been sent away. The people on their tail were definitely enemies.

"Take care of yourself. There will be an attack soon," transmitted Xiang Shaoyun as he released his saint soul unhesitatingly.

It was at this time that a massive palm suddenly descended from the sky. The palm was astonishingly powerful, as though the sky itself was collapsing, threatening to flatten everything beneath it. No ordinary Saint could release such an attack. This person was at least a third-stage Heaven Battling Realm cultivator.

"Kill!" Xiang Shaoyun's clone roared and charged the incoming palm.

Space itself crumbled apart as Xiang Shaoyun's clone charged into the sky, his energy surging toward the attacker like an endless current. The attacker had not expected Xiang Shaoyun to be so strong. He hurriedly retreated in panic.

#### Chapter 1315: Rat Assassins Reappear

"Trying to flee? Dream on!" Xiang Shaoyun sneered and soared into the sky at an astonishing speed before clawing the attacker.

His combat strength was not to be underestimated. Space itself was torn apart like a piece of paper as his attack landed on the attacker's body. The ambusher tried his best to escape, but Xiang Shaoyun's aura was completely locked onto him. He was unable to escape as Xiang Shaoyun's fingers clawed his chest and lifted him up.

Damn it! I thought he was only a fourth-stage Soul Foundation Realm cultivator! Why is he so strong? cursed the attacker inwardly.

He struggled with all his strength to no avail. Xiang Shaoyun wrapped his fingers around the attacker's neck with one hand before punching the attacker's belly with his other hand.

Pu!

A second-stage Heaven Battling Realm cultivator was beaten to the point he was coughing out blood.

"Who sent you to kill me?" questioned Xiang Shaoyun.

The attacker had a stubborn look on his face as he said, "Release me, or you will be met with endless assassinations!"

"Still so cocky?" Xiang Shaoyun was unhappy and started beating the Saint Realm attacker.

Not even in his dreams had the Saint thought that Xiang Shaoyun would be so strong. He was beaten so badly he couldn't even remember his mother's name. He helplessly received the beating, his blood spilling. Apart from self-detonating, there was nothing else he could do.

"Answer my question, or I'll snap your neck and destroy your soul," said Xiang Shaoyun.

"L-let me go if you have the guts! This won't end well for you!" threatened the attacker unyieldingly.

"Hahaha. Rest assured, I won't kill you. In fact, everything you have will be mine," said Xiang Shaoyun as he roared with laughter. He started chanting the Nether Dragon Soul Curse, sending one symbol after another toward the Saint's forehead.

In the past, Xiang Shaoyun couldn't control Saints. Now that his combat strength had reached a level far beyond ordinary Saints, he could easily control a third-stage Saint like this. The Saint had

been sealed by Xiang Shaoyun and had also been seriously injured. The curse symbols were able to easily invade the Saint's soul before directly taking over the soul.

As Xiang Shaoyun had already awakened his devil cultivation, his affinity with the Nether Dragon Soul Curse had reached a brand new level. Thus, his Nether Dragon Soul Curse had become much more powerful than before.

The third-stage Saint couldn't even put up any resistance before he fell completely under Xiang Shaoyun's control. The curse subjected the Saint to a terrible torment, forcing him to give up any resistance.

"Time to talk. Who are you?" asked Xiang Shaoyun.

"I'm an elite assassin from the Rat Assassins. My code name is Hidden Rat. I was tasked with a mission to assassinate you," answered the Saint honestly.

"Rat Assassins? So you guys are still around," muttered Xiang Shaoyun with a sigh.

In the past, he had been the Rat Assassins' target for a period of time. After entering the Dragon Phoenix Academy, he learned that Huo Xudong was their seed. Eventually, he killed Huo Xudong, putting an end to the conflict between the two. Surprisingly, before he went looking for the Rat Assassins for revenge, they came after him again.

Xiang Shaoyun continued questioning Hidden Rat. He wanted to know the culprit behind the assassination attempt. Eventually, he found out that the culprit was the Di Clan. Although Hidden Rat did not know the client's name, from his description of the client, Xiang Shaoyun was sure that the client was from the Di Clan.

"Very well, Di Clan. I won't forget this," said Xiang Shaoyun as his eyes flickered with a cold glint.

Xiang Shaoyun descended from the sky with the Saint. Lady Shura and the Xiang Clan people were becoming nervous. If Xiang Shaoyun's main body hadn't stayed with them, they would have flown into the sky to help with the fight. When they saw his clone returning with a third-stage Saint, they were all stunned.

"Little ancestor, wh-what's going on?" asked Xiang Chenxi.



"Nothing. This is an assassin from the Rat Assassins. But he's now mine," said Xiang Shaoyun after his clone returned to his body.

"Rat Assassins? That's an extremely troublesome organization to deal with," said Xiang Keren with a frown.

"Yeah. Someone wanted me dead, but the assassin they sent was a tad bit too weak," said Xiang Shaoyun.

"Who's the culprit? How audacious! Let's kill that person," said Xiang Feidian.

"Let's go. I'll deal with this myself. It's pointless for us to go after the culprit. This will be solved in the future," said Xiang Shaoyun.

Since Xiang Shaoyun had the highest status among them, they did not propose anything else. After several days of travel, they finally reached Ziling City. The first thing Xiang Shaoyun did was to return to the Ziling Sect. When the sect learned of his return, the higher-ups hurried over to meet him.

In recent years, the sect has been growing stably. They hadn't obtained too many new members, but the sect's overall strength had grown considerably, all thanks to Devouring Ghost's hard work in training their members. One could say that Devouring Ghost had given his all to help Xiang Shaoyun with the sect.

At present, the sect had Pang Tongyuan, Old Yao, Devouring Ghost, the turtle, and the toad as guardians. With these people, the sect was able to operate smoothly.

As for Xiang Chenge, he had become the sect's protector as well. He had been cultivating peacefully while awaiting Xiang Shaoyun's return. Xiang Chenge had wanted to follow Xiang Shaoyun to the Devil Domain as well, but Xiang Shaoyun had insisted that he stayed in the sect.

After returning to the sect, Xiang Shaoyun had Xiang Chenge arrange the accommodations of Xiang Chenxi, Xiang Keren, and the others. Apart from that, he did not pay attention to anything else. He wanted to first head for the Holy Hall to visit Tuoba Wan'er and his son.

"Young sect master, you don't need to leave. The young madam and little young master are in your residence," said Pang Tongyuan.

"Wan'er and Lingtian are in the sect?" Xiang Shaoyun was overjoyed.

"Yes. They came half a year ago," said Pang Tongyuan.

"Very well. I'll go meet them. We'll talk later," said Xiang Shaoyun happily before leaving for his residence.

But before he reached his residence, he heard pleasing zither music ringing in the air. Overjoyed, he said, "I heard that Qinyin had returned from the Devil Domain. Looks like she had also safely returned."

Previously, Gong Qinyin had entered the Devil Domain with Xiang Shaoyun. Upon learning of his subsequent disappearance, she had left the Devil Domain in a dispirited manner.

#### Chapter 1316: Father Is a Bad Man

In Xiang Shaoyun's residence, Tuoba Wan'er, Gong Qinyin, and a four-year-old boy were gathered together. Tuoba Wan'er was playing with the boy, while Gong Qinyin was playing a tune with her zither. The presence of the two absolute beauties caused the picturesque scenery in the residence to lose color.

Within the courtyard, a boy could be seen running around in a lively manner. The occasional laughter mixed with the zither music to form a warm scene in the courtyard. Xiang Shaoyun couldn't bring himself to enter the courtyard and ruin the scene. He waited until the music ended before he entered.

"Husband (overlord)!" Tuoba Wan'er and Gong Qinyin cried out happily when they saw him.

Xiang Shaoyun smiled and said, "Wan'er, Qinyin, I'm back."

"I know you would be fine," said Gong Qinyin with a smile, her previous anxiousness nowhere to be seen.

Prior to this, she had entered the Devil Domain with Xiang Shaoyun. She had eventually mastered the dao of devilish tune, gaining the ability to control the devils' state of mind, making it easier for her companions to slaughter the devils they encountered.

After separating from Xiang Shaoyun, she remained in the Devil Domain to train. That lasted until she heard of Xiang Shaoyun's disappearance. She then separated from the Overlord Legion and left the Devil Domain alone.

Xiang Shaoyun's disappearance had adversely affected her state of mind. If she had forced herself to stay in the Devil Domain, she would have probably ended up dead. She had firmly believed that Xiang Shaoyun would survive. She was sure that Xiang Shaoyun was someone capable of miracles.

Of course, her main reason for leaving was because she didn't want to distract him from whatever he was facing. After all, she was still too weak compared with everyone else in the Devil Domain. She did not wish to be anyone's burden. Thus, she returned to the Ziling Sect. In any case, she had already gained much from her trip to the Devil Domain.

Xiang Shaoyun had already made her promise to leave the Devil Domain the moment something went wrong. Since he wouldn't have any trouble leaving on his own, she only needed to do as told.

Xiang Shaoyun gave the two women a big hug and smiled as he said, "Haha, it feels good to see the two of you!"

The two women blushed.

"You're a bad man! Let go of my mother and Aunt Qinyin!" a sharp voice suddenly rang out.

When Xiang Shaoyun lowered his head, he saw a little boy glaring at him furiously. The boy was none other than his son, Tuoba Lingtian. Xiang Shaoyun was happy to see his son. He let go of the two women, crouched down, and hugged Tuoba Lingtian.

However, Tuoba Lingtian hurriedly jumped aside and shouted, "Bad man, you're trying to kidnap me? I'll tell my great-grandpa about this! He'll beat you up!"

Tuoba Wan'er hurried over and told Tuoba Lingtian, "Tian'er, don't be afraid. This is your father."

Tuoba Lingtian nestled in Tuoba Wan'er's arms and inquisitively looked at Xiang Shaoyun. He asked, "I-is he really my father?"

Xiang Shaoyun smiled and said, "Haha, of course. Come on, give your father a hug."

"I-I don't want to!" Tuoba Lingtian tightened his arms around his mother and said, "Great-grandpa said that Father is a bad man that never visits! I don't want to hug you!"

Xiang Shaoyun's face twitched as he cursed the hall master inwardly.

"Son, don't listen to your great-grandpa. Your father was busy with work. See, I came back the moment I was free. Come, give your father a hug," said Xiang Shaoyun.

Tuoba Wan'er also pleaded, but as far as Tuoba Lingtian could remember, he had never seen his father before. Xiang Shaoyun was practically a stranger to him. Thus, he had a hard time accepting this father.

When Xiang Shaoyun tried to forcefully give him a hug, he started crying, causing Xiang Shaoyun to have a gloomy expression. Tuoba Wan'er could only helplessly bring their son back into the room.

Looking at Xiang Shaoyun's disappointed expression, Gong Qinyin said, "Overlord, you can't be too hasty with children. He has your blood in his veins. You only need to spend some time with him, and he'll quickly grow closer to you."

Xiang Shaoyun nodded before asking, "How long has it been since you returned from the Devil Domain? If I hadn't heard about your departure from the others, I would have assumed that you were still in the Devil Domain."

Gong Qinyin replied with a question, "Are you thinking that I'm a woman who would run before a battle?"

Xiang Shaoyun smiled. "Of course not, silly."

"In the Devil Domain, I can't be of any help. My existence is a burden for everyone. After learning of your disappearance, I felt lost and decided to leave. I wanted to wait for you at the fort, but the

devilish energy was too thick, so I returned to the sect. I hope you won't blame me for leaving early," said Gong Qinyin.

Xiang Shaoyun lightly stroked her hair and said, "You did the right thing. The Devil Domain is not suitable for your cultivation. I'm happy that you can return safely. Too many had died in the Devil Domain."

Gong Qinyin was relieved to hear that Xiang Shaoyun did not blame her. Xiang Shaoyun did not stay long in the courtyard. He returned to the grand hall and summoned the sect's higher-ups. He needed to know about the sect affairs during the past three years.

After three years of growth, the sect had discovered two ore veins at the Buried Monarch Mountain Range. The two discoveries served to increase the sect's income. The yellowvein layered stone mine discovered by Little White had also helped enrich the sect's coffers.

Qian Furen had displayed his commerce capabilities and earned a decent amount of wealth for the sect. He had even prepared enough materials for a new teleportation formation. One could say that Qian Furen's status within the sect was constantly growing. His status was now second only to the likes of Devouring Ghost, Pang Tongyuan, and Old Yao.

The sect's key positions had also been filled. Each person with a managerial position would be responsible for something different. Devouring Ghost personally maintained these people's loyalty, ensuring that the key positions wouldn't fall into the hands of enemy spies. Of all the things Xiang Shaoyun had learned, the news regarding a certain tier-7 organization had grabbed his attention.

In the Celestial King Province, the Ziling Sect wasn't the sole tier-7 organization. Brightflower Chamber, a tier-7 organization, was also based within the Celestial King Province. Unlike the Dragon Society, they wished to form an alliance with the Ziling Sect.

Their alliance proposal had been delivered to the sect. On the proposal were also the birth dates and information of 18 young women. So long as the Ziling Sect agreed to the proposal, Xiang Shaoyun would be allowed to freely pick one of the women to be his wife or concubine. This was their show of sincerity.

Xiang Shaoyun couldn't understand what the Brightflower Chamber was aiming for. Thus, he asked for more clarification from Pang Tongyuan. He did not believe that the Brightflower Chamber would propose an alliance out of nowhere.

## Chapter 1317: Disciple Guiding

Brightflower Chamber was quite an elegant name. In reality, it was indeed a place filled with picturesque charm. A clear river ran through their headquarters, and numerous decorated ships constantly moved about on the river. At the river's shore were rows of willow trees gently swaying in the wind. Gifted scholars and beautiful ladies could be seen strolling at the shore. Numerous brightly lit buildings ran alongside the river. From within the buildings, sounds of laughter could be heard occasionally. This was a place filled with a unique serene charm.

A place like this was best suited for one to live a peaceful and silent life. Many people coveted this territory of the Brightflower Chamber, but due to the Brightflower Chamber's strength, nobody dared to challenge them. Even back when Xiang Yangzhan had first established the Ziling Sect, he had not dared to intrude upon the Brightflower Chamber's territory. It was obvious that the Brightflower Chamber was no pushover.

Thus, the sudden alliance proposal by such an organization was quite puzzling. After listening to Pang Tongyuan's explanation, Xiang Shaoyun finally understood the reason for their proposal. Something had happened to their chamber master.

Brightflower Chamber's strongest expert was naturally their chamber master. Since something had happened to him, the chamber started feeling a sense of crisis. They were afraid that powerful enemies would attack them and that the people under their rule would revolt. Thus, they had decided to ally themselves with the Ziling Sect.

However, Xiang Shaoyun was having a hard time believing that explanation. After all, the Brightflower Chamber had a much longer history than the Ziling Sect and definitely had some trump cards of their own. How would they crumble apart so easily just because something had happened to their chamber master?

"Put this on hold for now. Continue observing and investigating the Brightflower Chamber before we come to a decision," said Xiang Shaoyun.

"Yes," Pang Tongyuan answered.

Next, Xiang Shaoyun asked about Scarlet Flame Monarch. Devouring Ghost had not received any news from Scarlet Flame Monarch. Fortunately, Scarlet Flame Monarch's jade slip was still shining, proving he was still alive.

"Young sect master, second brother will be fine. Don't worry," said Devouring Ghost.

"Um. I believe that when he returns, he will return with his peak strength," said Xiang Shaoyun with a nod. After a slight pause, he sent everyone away, leaving only Devouring Ghost behind. He then told Devouring Ghost about the Ghostface Sect.

"That unfilial disciple is not completely hopeless, it seems. He still managed to realize what was good for him. Otherwise, a day would come when he regrets his decision," said Devouring Ghost with a sharp glint in his eyes.

"The Di Clan is going to leave seclusion soon, so they will definitely come looking for trouble. I need to establish a teleportation formation connecting us with the angels and the Xiang Clan as soon as possible. Otherwise, we will be destroyed the moment a war breaks out. They are very strong," said Xiang Shaoyun solemnly.

"I'll assist you with all my strength!" vowed Devouring Ghost.

"Um. How about Big Brother Du? Is there any news from him?" asked Xiang Shaoyun.

"Nothing for now, but he should be fine. He's probably still tempering his saber mastery," said Devouring Ghost.

"Alright. Moving on, I still need you to handle the external affairs. At the same time, don't neglect to increase your strength. Chaos is coming soon," said Xiang Shaoyun solemnly.

He then went to see his disciple, Guo Po. Guo Po had grown into a young man filled with vitality. His body had developed nicely, giving him a sturdy appearance. As for his cultivation, he was now at the late-stage Transformation Realm. His progress had been rapid.

When Guo Po saw Xiang Shaoyun, he immediately knelt down and said, "This disciple greets his master!"

"You may rise," said Xiang Shaoyun with a satisfied nod.

When Xiang Shaoyun first healed Guo Po's leg, Guo Po was still at the Astral Realm. In only a few years, he had reached the late-stage Transformation Realm. His talent was quite astonishing.

Furthermore, his foundations were firm, granting him far more strength than a regular Transformation Realm cultivator. His achievement was all thanks to the few teachers tasked with instructing him. After Xiang Shaoyun gave Guo Po some tests, he was decently happy with this disciple but wasn't fully satisfied. Thus, he decided to personally teach his disciple.

"Pay attention. Each move must be simple and concise. Make sure your moves aren't flashy and empty. Control your strength precisely, exerting your strength appropriately in different situations. Be flexible between feints and real attacks. Do not be overly reliant on your battle techniques' set movesets. Relying on them will only restrict the strength of your moves and adversely affect your results in battle.

"When utilizing your astral energy, use your heart to feel your energy circulation. Ensure a complete grasp over the circulation and feel the change around you. Merge into the world around you, become a part of the natural world, allowing your astral energy, body, will, and techniques to become one."

...

Xiang Shaoyun imparted what he knew to Guo Po, hoping to fix Guo Po's shortcomings and allow Guo Po's cultivation to progress even faster. Guo Po had always been smart. At first, he did not understand Xiang Shaoyun's teachings, but after spending some time thinking, he slowly understood what he was taught. The more he learned, the more he realized that his master's strength was beyond his imagination. With that, his respect for his master rose significantly.

"Alright. What I taught you today will take you some time to digest. From now on, apart from cultivating hard, you also need to read more. Don't focus only on cultivation. Gaining knowledge is also important," reminded Xiang Shaoyun.

Next, Xiang Shaoyun imparted the Limit Stimulation Technique to Guo Po, granting Guo Po a body tempering technique. He hoped that Guo Po could even surpass him in the future. After Xiang Shaoyun finished teaching his disciple, he returned to his residence and tried getting close to his son again.

This time, he called Vicious One, Vicious Two, and Vicious Three over. The three little birds were now massive. They had all reached the Emperor Realm, looking incredibly majestic.

At first, Tuoba Lingtian was afraid of the three ferocious birds. But when Xiang Shaoyun promised to bring him flying into the sky, he braced himself and stepped forth. After Xiang Shaoyun helped him onto Vicious One's back, instead of being afraid, he started laughing joyfully.



Xiang Shaoyun was also laughing happily. He could finally play with his son. The feeling of being with his kin was incredibly comfortable. Both Tuoba Wan'er and Gong Qinyin smiled in a gratified manner when they saw the father and son pair happily spending time together.

"Son, let these three birds become your playmates from now on. What do you think?" said Xiang Shaoyun.

"Will they bring me to the sky every day?" asked Tuoba Lingtian.

"Of course. They are extremely obedient," said Xiang Shaoyun. "Son, your name is Lingtian. Your great-grandpa gave you this name, hoping that a day will come when all land under the sky comes under your rule, hoping that you will gain the ability to freely roam the world. Therefore, you can't rely on them only. You need to obtain the ability to freely travel everywhere with your own strength, understand?"

"Since those were Great-grandpa's words, I will definitely rule all land under the sky in the future," said Tuoba Lingtian with a clear look in his eyes.

#### Chapter 1318: Brightflower Chamber's Envoy

After spending several days with his son and women, Xiang Shaoyun busied himself again. Instead of cultivating, he utilized both his main body and clone to strengthen the formations within the sect, greatly increasing the defensive and offensive capabilities of the formations. Only by turning the sect into an impenetrable fort would the sect remain safe.

At the same time, he also laid out the formations leading to the Xiang Clan and the angels. Previously, he had obtained a batch of resources from the Xiang Clan. If it wasn't for the Devil Hunting Expedition, he would have completed the teleportation formation leading to the clan. Three years had passed since then. With the growth of his cultivation, laying out teleportation formations became a much easier task for him.

With his main body and clone working together, he laid out the formations at an astonishing speed. While working on the formations, he was able to enter a human heaven unity state, a feat only formation grandmasters could accomplish. Even he himself was shocked when he realized what he was doing.

Perhaps this was the effect of recovering his memories from two lifetimes ago. He was merely regaining the formation mastery he once had. In a flash, two months passed. Not only had Xiang

Shaoyun upgraded the sect's formations, but he had also completed the teleportation formations leading to the Xiang Clan and the angels.

Just as Xiang Shaoyun was about to start connecting the nodes leading to the Xiang Clan, the envoys from the Brightflower Chamber arrived. As the sect's main decision-maker, Xiang Shaoyun had to meet the envoys. That was a matter of etiquette.

After taking a bath and putting on clean clothes, Xiang Shaoyun arrived at the grand hall. When he saw the envoys, he was astonished. The envoys were actually 18 beauties, each of them incredibly attractive. Even someone who had seen much of the world like Xiang Shaoyun would be stunned upon seeing the 18 beauties.

While Xiang Shaoyun was observing the beauties, they were studying him as well. He was handsome and capable and had a certain bearing that was both charming and sinister at the same time. They were completely stupefied when they saw him. They had seen many talented youths, but Xiang Shaoyun was still the most extraordinary youth they had seen.

"This is our young sect master," introduced Tian Ji.

Recently, Tian Ji had been slowly taking over Pang Tongyuan's job. After all, Pang Tongyuan still carried a sickly body. As Pang Tongyuan's disciple and Xiang Shaoyun's attendant, it was only natural that Tian Ji would appear in the grand hall.

After the 18 beauties bowed to Xiang Shaoyun, one of them said, "I heard before that the Ziling Sect's young sect master is a giant among men who had risen above all others during the Devil Hunting Expedition. Today, I have learned that the rumors were true. You are truly someone worthy of respect."

The woman who had spoken was probably the leader among the 18 beauties. She was the prettiest of the bunch and was a Soul Foundation Realm cultivator. Her name was Liu Yanran. She fixed her gaze at Xiang Shaoyun with her luminous eyes, which seemed to fully showcase her adoration for Xiang Shaoyun. A regular man would instantly be embarrassed upon meeting such eyes.

Xiang Shaoyun replied indifferently, "There's no need to keep praising me. Just get straight to the point."

Liu Yanran was surprised by such blunt words. She had no choice but to swallow all the sweet words she had prepared.

"Young Master Xiang is quite a straightforward one. Yanran shall be honest, then. The Brightflower Chamber wishes to ally with the Ziling Sect, and I believe you're already aware of that. However, we have waited for the reply for quite a while. Therefore, we're here today to seek your confirmation. What do you think of the proposal? Or perhaps you look down on us and find the alliance beneath you?" asked Liu Yanran.

Xiang Shaoyun replied, "Miss, it's not that serious. The Ziling Sect and the Brightflower Chamber have never been involved with each other and have coexisted in peace. Is that not good enough? The sudden alliance proposal caught us off guard. That's why we're having a hard time making a decision."

"Is that really the case?" asked Liu Yanran.

"Of course. I believe you are clear that we have just undergone a great change not long ago. We have finally managed to catch a break, so we really don't have the ability to get involved in anything else. Of course, if you're really interested in allying with us, you would have to tell me the benefits we stand to gain from agreeing. With benefits, allying won't be an issue. But if the alliance will only bring us trouble without any benefits, I'm afraid we won't be able to agree," said Xiang Shaoyun bluntly.

In other words, they were open to forming an alliance. However, they would only agree if there were benefits and no trouble.

The woman said, "After forming an alliance, we naturally need to advance or retreat together. What's the point of forming an alliance otherwise? It's rather unfair if you only want benefits and no trouble."

A different woman said, "That's right. If you ally with us, we will definitely help when required. With our help, not even the Dragon Society would dare to provoke you anymore."

The beauties were quite eloquent, singing endless praises to the alliance, as though forming an alliance with the Brightflower Chamber was the smartest choice the Ziling Sect could ever make.

Xiang Shaoyun smiled with a look of disdain in his eyes. Liu Yanran noticed Xiang Shaoyun's expression. She couldn't help herself and asked, "Young Master Xiang, what do you think about the alliance?"

Instead of replying, Xiang Shaoyun looked at Tian Ji and said, "Bring the young ladies to their accommodations. Treat them well. Don't let anyone think that we don't know how to treat our guests well."

"Yes, sect master," replied Tian Ji respectfully. "Young ladies, please come with me. A banquet has been prepared for you."

"Young Master Xiang, what is the meaning of this? Are you looking down on us?" asked Liu Yanran in an unresigned manner.

Xiang Shaoyun waved his hand and said, "Not at all. You must be tired after spending so much time here. Let's have some food. If you have anything to say, feel free to inform my people. I have something else I need to attend to."

He then left, completely ignoring the 18 beauties. Their expressions changed when they saw him leave without hesitating. They had a feeling that their proposal had already been rejected.

"Young Master Xiang, you're being too disrespectful," shouted Liu Yanran furiously.

Xiang Shaoyun stopped, turned around, and solemnly said, "If you really want to form an alliance, show some sincerity. Otherwise, you may leave. I don't have the time to keep bickering with you."

### Chapter 1319: Yanran Will Be Your Woman

Upon hearing Xiang Shaoyun's words, Liu Yanran's expression changed several times. She had not imagined that Xiang Shaoyun would be so blunt with his words. This meeting had taken a direction none of them had expected.

Just as Xiang Shaoyun was about to leave the hall, Liu Yanran withdrew her pride and said, "Please wait, Young Master Xiang. The Brightflower Chamber needs the Ziling Sect's help."

Xiang Shaoyun stopped and smiled before saying, "You're finally willing to be honest?"

Liu Yanran nodded and said, "Young Master Xiang is too wise. If Yanran continues playing tricks before you, it would be disrespectful. Are you willing to give me a chance to explain my story?"

Xiang Shaoyun went back to his seat and sent the others away. Liu Yanran also sent the other beauties out of the hall. Only the two remained.

"You can talk now," said Xiang Shaoyun nonchalantly.

"I believe you must have investigated us before. Something had happened to our chamber master, and things aren't looking too well for the chamber. Thus, we hope to form an alliance with your sect and consolidate our strength together," said Liu Yanran.

Xiang Shaoyun bluntly replied, "If you're going to continue saying such empty words, we can stop this meeting."

Liu Yanran bit her lips and said, "Young Master Xiang, our Saint Realm elders had all died in the Devil Domain. Our subordinates are also stirring and creating trouble. I have no way of keeping the peace for long. I only hope that you will be willing to lend us a helping hand. When everything settles down, the Brightflower Chamber will be the Ziling Sect's most faithful ally."

She was finally speaking the truth. Xiang Shaoyun could see that she was being forthright from the look in her eyes. He was also aware that many Saints had headed into the Devil Domain prior to the Devil Hunting Expedition. Those Saints were mainly in charge of stopping the advance of the Devil Saints. It wasn't surprising that the Brightflower Chamber's Saints had perished in the Devil Domain.

However, he couldn't understand why they would have all their experts hunt devils. Wasn't that the same as digging their own grave? Xiang Shaoyun lightly tapped his armrest with his fingers as he sank into thought. The tapping sounds seemed to reach Liu Yanran's very heart, making her even more nervous.

Only now did she notice that this handsome young man was emanating an extremely strong pressure. In fact, when she faced him, it was as though she was facing one of her Saint Realm elders. But Xiang Shaoyun's cultivation level should be similar to hers, so the pressure didn't make any sense.

"I believe you. But what do I stand to gain from helping you?" asked Xiang Shaoyun.

"What do you need? You can freely pick one out of my 17 sisters as your woman. I believe any of them can serve you well," said Liu Yanran.

"You think I lack women?" asked Xiang Shaoyun with a smile. "I don't want them. I want you."

Facing Xiang Shaoyun's aggressive gaze, Liu Yanran trembled. She bit her lips and said, "If you're willing to help, Yanran will be your woman."

"Sigh. Looks like your Brightflower Chamber is really in quite a bit of trouble," said Xiang Shaoyun with a sigh. "Are you not afraid that I'll take this chance to take over the Brightflower Chamber?"

Liu Yanran paled. "Young Master Xiang, I doubt you're the kind of person who would step on someone who is down."

"Nobody would dislike having more territories," said Xiang Shaoyun nonchalantly. "Offer some benefits, or you may leave."

Liu Yanran was feeling extremely gloomy. After saying so much and even offering herself, Xiang Shaoyun still wasn't willing to agree. She was getting distressed.

"The Brightflower Chamber owns a unique place called the Brightflower Land. It is a unique place where a mirage called Brightflower Landscape will appear every 10 years. The landscape can help one comprehend the dao and increase one's cultivation. In about three months, the Brightflower Landscape will reappear. If you can lend us a hand, we're willing to allow you to enter the Brightflower Land once. I believe that place will help your cultivation," Liu Yanran finally showed some sincerity.

Xiang Shaoyun had long heard of a unique secret land owned by the Brightflower Chamber. However, nobody knew where the place was. In fact, nobody knew if such a place existed. His interest was piqued by what Liu Yanran said.

"Very well. I wish to enter with five other people. If you agree, we can form this alliance. The Ziling Sect will help solve your internal issues," said Xiang Shaoyun.

"That won't work. Only three people can enter that place at once," said Liu Yanran.

"Don't be so quick to reject. We can go in batches. After 10 years, I'll send three more people there," said Xiang Shaoyun with a smile.

Liu Yanran was speechless. She had not imagined that this was what Xiang Shaoyun was aiming for. She didn't know what to say. Xiang Shaoyun continued listing a few other conditions. He wouldn't make his sect work hard just so a few people could enter the Brightflower Land. He also needed some other benefits. After all, Saints were required to help the Brightflower Chamber. A price must be paid.

Liu Yanran's face turned unsightly when she heard all the conditions. She had never imagined that a young man like this would be so greedy. He was basically asking for two years worth of the Brightflower Chamber's income.

"There, that's all I need. If you can't make the decision, feel free to tell me later. I'll spend some more time here. But after I enter the Saintforce Realm, I'm afraid you won't be able to find me anymore. Nobody else in the sect would dare to make this decision on my behalf," said Xiang Shaoyun.

"Young Master Xiang, don't you think that your conditions are somewhat unreasonable?" asked Liu Yanran.

"If that's what you think, I won't force you. Feel free to leave," said Xiang Shaoyun. As he held the initiative, he wasn't even bothered with trying to persuade Liu Yanran.

Liu Yanran was feeling terrible. She had expected that Xiang Shaoyun would ask for a lot from them, but his conditions were still far too much for her to accept. She took her leave and told Xiang Shaoyun that she would give him an answer in half a month.

Xiang Shaoyun happily saw her off in a friendly manner. In fact, he was really in an excellent mood. What the Ziling Sect lacked currently were numerous different resources. He was naturally happy to see that the Brightflower Chamber could provide them with some badly needed resources.

In truth, forming an alliance with the Brightflower Chamber would also help them. The alliance would also be a show of force for the Dragon Society. One could say that this alliance would benefit them greatly.

Naturally, he had also considered taking over the Brightflower Chamber. But he soon rejected that idea. The Ziling Sect couldn't even fully consolidate their existing territory yet. Expanding at this time would be unwise.

#### Chapter 1320: Xiang Clan's Patriarch

After Liu Yanran left, Xiang Shaoyun had his people make the preparations to help the Brightflower Chamber. He was confident that Liu Yanran would ultimately accept his terms. It was at this time that Green Ghost arrived with a number of people.

The sect badly needed talents. Green Ghost and his men had arrived in time. They would be the best choice to provide the Brightflower Chamber with the help they needed. After meeting Green Ghost, Xiang Shaoyun had Devouring Ghost deal with Green Ghost. He himself resumed his work on the teleportation formations.

He called Xiang Chenge over and started connecting the spatial nodes leading to the Xiang Clan. For an unknown reason, Xiang Shaoyun kept having the feeling that he was running out of time. Something was telling him that the entire world would descend into chaos soon.

If the Ziling Sect wanted to stay independent, they needed enough strength. Otherwise, destruction would be their final fate. After about half a month, Liu Yanran came to the Ziling Sect once again. Unfortunately, Xiang Shaoyun wasn't around. Tuoba Wan'er was the one receiving her. Liu Yanran finally understood why Xiang Shaoyun was unmoved by her beauty. It turned out that he had such a wife. It was unsurprising that he didn't care for their looks.

With Tuoba Wan'er taking Xiang Shaoyun's place in the negotiation, Liu Yanran intended to take this opportunity to reduce the conditions. However, Tuoba Wan'er was no idiot. She firmly followed Xiang Shaoyun's words and refused to take even a step back. Liu Yanran had no choice but to agree.

After reaching an agreement, the two signed a pact. Next, Tuoba Wan'er brought Devouring Ghost back to the Brightflower Chamber to announce the alliance between the two organizations.

As the young madam of the sect, Tuoba Wan'er had more than enough status to be the Ziling Sect's representative. Unfortunately, the Brightflower Chamber viewed it as a lack of sincerity and tried making things difficult for her.

Only when Green Ghost stepped forth and released the aura of a peak Saint did they shut their mouths. Green Ghost was one of the tyrants dominating the Western Desert's Bloodsin City. He had



a formidable combat strength that even an organization like the Brightflower Chamber had to look up to.

And thus, Tuoba Wan'er announced the alliance between the two organizations before suppressing the Brightflower Chamber rebels, solving their inner turmoil. Tuoba Wan'er fully displayed her potential as a successful career woman. As a late-stage Sovereign, her bearing surpassed the bearing of many Brightflower Chamber experts.

As a woman, she was able to quickly become close to Liu Yanran. They soon became akin to sisters, planting the seed for the Brightflower Chamber's eventual submission to the Ziling Sect.

"Sister Wan'er, your Ziling Sect is indeed powerful. Without your help, we couldn't have suppressed those traitors," said Liu Yanran gratefully.

Tuoba Wan'er held Liu Yanran's hands and said, "You don't have to be so courteous. Since we have been rewarded appropriately, we naturally need to do our job well. What do you plan to do next?"

"What else? We're going to try to grow strong as quickly as possible. Otherwise, it will be hard to keep the Brightflower Chamber stable," said Liu Yanran.

"Um. I wish you the best of luck in going through this bad patch. The Ziling Sect will always be available to help. If we need help, I hope you can also lend us a hand," said Tuoba Wan'er.

"Don't worry, sister. We're allies," promised Liu Yanran.

Meanwhile, Xiang Shaoyun wasn't the least bit bothered about the business with the Brightflower Chamber. He was confident that Tuoba Wan'er, Devouring Ghost, and Green Ghost would be able to complete the task well.

He visited the Xiang Clan's place once again. This time, he received completely different treatment. Numerous key clan members came out to welcome him. Even Xiang Youjing personally came out to greet Xiang Shaoyun, and he told Xiang Shaoyun that the patriarch had returned.

When Xiang Shaoyun was forcefully taken to the clan, the patriarch wasn't around. Now that the patriarch was back, he could finally meet the patriarch. Xiang Shaoyun arrived at the main hall and saw a heroic middle-aged man seated on the main seat. The man had an imposing stature that caused many to not dare to even look directly at him.

He was Xiang Gaoming, who had just returned after training outside the clan for 10 years. He had gone beyond the Great Saint Realm, becoming a true Rebirth Realm cultivator. Of course, nobody was aware of that yet.

"You're really our ancestor, Xiang Dingtian reincarnate?" asked Xiang Gaoming.

His imposing aura surged out violently. It seemed like he was trying to suppress Xiang Shaoyun, but at the same time, it also seemed like he was trying to test Xiang Shaoyun's actual strength.

Xiang Shaoyun remained still, as though he was a lofty and motionless mountain. He gazed at Xiang Gaoming calmly and said, "Since you already have an answer, what's the point of this?"

"Hmph. I still need to make sure. Our Xiang Clan will not accept the appearance of a little ancestor out of nowhere," said Xiang Gaoming as he abruptly reached for Xiang Shaoyun's head.

With Xiang Gaoming's strength, if Xiang Shaoyun wanted to resist, he had to use his blood-soaked robe. Otherwise, he would be completely helpless. However, he did not wish to use the robe as he only had one final usage left. It would be too much of a waste to use it for this occasion. He remained still and ignored Xiang Gaoming. Just as Xiang Gaoming's palm was about to reach his head, the palm stopped.

"Why didn't you resist?" asked Xiang Gaoming.

"If I had my previous life's strength, I could kill you with only one finger," said Xiang Shaoyun coldly. "I have some trump cards I can use against you, but I don't want to waste my trump cards for something like this."

"Are you not afraid that I'll kill you?" asked Xiang Gaoming.

"Your attack does not carry any killing intent. At most, you're only slightly furious," said Xiang Shaoyun.

"Even if I don't kill you, I can still search your memories," said Xiang Gaoming.

"You can try, but you won't feel too good after trying," said Xiang Shaoyun.

"Fine. Come with me. There's someone who can definitely figure out if you're really our ancestor reincarnate," said Xiang Gaoming. He wasn't interested in bickering with Xiang Shaoyun. Instead, he brought Xiang Shaoyun to the clan's forbidden zone.

Xiang Shaoyun showed no hesitation and followed Xiang Gaoming. Soon, they arrived before the eight ancestral statues. Someone was waiting there for them. From how that person was dressed, he seemed to be a youngster. With his hands clasped behind his back, he gazed at Xiang Dingtian's statue. Standing there, it was as though he had become a part of the world around him. If one wasn't paying attention, one wouldn't even notice him.

Clad in purple clothes, he was incomparably graceful. His lofty figure was akin to a straight pole that reached for the heavens. Motionless yet imposing, his mere presence seemed capable of dominating the world around him. This was no ordinary person.

The moment Xiang Shaoyun saw him, his eyes turned emotional, and he shouted, "Purple Lightning!"