

Overlord 1401

Chapter 1401: The Gathering of Three Saints

The two newcomers were none other than the master painter and calligrapher, Hua Ruren, and Madam Yu Huan. Both were eighth-stage Saints. Like Lei Wuqing, they had learned that Xiang Shaoyun was no longer considered human. However, they both knew that he had a god-grade weapon or even more god-grade treasures on him. Thus, they decided to chase after Xiang Shaoyun's trail to satisfy their greed. Both were top-tier Saints. If they worked together, they were confident Xiang Shaoyun would have no way of surviving.

Sensing the newcomers, Hu Detian roared, "Return to the clan and seal the mountain!"

With three powerful human Saints appearing at the same time, they had no choice but to hide so that they wouldn't be harmed by this conflict between humans. Hu Meihui pleaded for Hu Detian to help Xiang Shaoyun, but she was knocked unconscious by Hu Detian.

"Unless he can survive being hunted by the humans, don't even dream of having him become the fox race's son-in-law," said Hu Detian.

Things seemed to be becoming more and more dangerous for Xiang Shaoyun, but his strength was also increasing rapidly. A large amount of devilish energy converged in his devil pearl as his rune pulsed incessantly. Ruthlessness, bloodthirst, and all sorts of negative emotions erupted within him as his eyes turned scarlet.

Lei Wuqing's terrifying net of sword rays came after Xiang Shaoyun again and again, but Xiang Shaoyun managed to survive by releasing his Imperial Nether Domain to buy himself more time. In the domain, he could make use of the chains to smash apart all the incoming rays. But the situation did not last long, as the two newcomers had finally reached the battleground.

"Brother Wuqing, allow me to lend you a hand," said Hua Ruren as a massive ink brush appeared in his hand. With the brush, he jabbed at the empty space before him.

Like a master calligrapher finishing his final stroke in the air, he pointed at the air and instantly struck the Imperial Nether Domain. The domain nearly collapsed from that one jab. As for Madam Yu Huan, eight rings flew out of her arm and started striking the Imperial Nether Domain repeatedly, each ring carrying a terrifying might behind it.

Lei Wuqing remained silent and continued swinging his sword, unleashing a storm of sword rays that tore even the sky apart. The Imperial Nether Domain was sturdy and powerful, but it wouldn't last for long against the barrage of attacks from these top-tier Saints.

When cracks started appearing at the edge of the Imperial Nether Domain, Xiang Shaoyun finally completed his breakthrough. A powerful wave of devilish energy rippled out, instantly strengthening the domain and expanding its range. When the three Saints sensed the undulation in the air, they were overwhelmed with shock, and they hurriedly retreated far away.

At this time, Xiang Shaoyun withdrew his Imperial Nether Domain, revealing himself before their eyes. With the rune on his forehead constantly pulsing with a mesmerizing radiance, he looked incredibly charming. Having healed his wounds and increased his cultivation, he was completely capable of facing top-tier Saints with his devil cultivation.

Currently, Xiang Shaoyun was mounted atop a ghostrune. The ghostrune was none other than Gui Qi, who was now a Devil Saint. With the evolution of his bloodline, he looked incomparably extraordinary.

Having reached the fourth stage of the Devil Saint Realm, Gui Qi was much stronger than before. As he flapped his wings, a certain power rippled and surrounded the three Saints, attempting to confuse their minds. At the same time, a powerful soul attack shot toward Lei Wuqing.

The three Saints had powerful willpower, but they were not immune to Gui Qi's unique attack. Lei Wuqing was the only one of the three that remained unaffected. With his iron will, nothing could affect his mind. Furthermore, his saint soul was also powerful enough to resist Gui Qi's soul attack.

"Soul attack? Too weak," said Lei Wuqing with a cold snort. A blade formed in his saint soul's hand as his soul cut the incoming soul attack into pieces. At the same time, he charged toward Xiang Shaoyun.

He knew that Xiang Shaoyun could turn invisible. Thus, he aimed to defeat Xiang Shaoyun before that ability was used. Otherwise, he would have traveled this far for nothing.

Emotionless Sword, third stance, Severing All Relations!

Lei Wuqing's attack was merciless and powerful, seemingly capable of severing all relationships in existence. Nothing could stand in his emotionless path.

Xiang Shaoyun gazed at the emotionless attack in a detached manner, as though his dao of devils was the perfect match for the emotionless sword. He said, "Those without emotions are devils. You deserve death."

He then swung the Sky Measuring Ruler. The Sky Measuring Ruler was comparable to great saint-grade weapons. Although he wasn't used to it, it was still a decent weapon for him to test his new strength.

A boundlessly ruthless aura erupted from Xiang Shaoyun's body. The emotionless dao was akin to a child before an adult when met with the devil dao. As the devil pearl erupted with incomparably thick energy and the rune pulsed incessantly, the ruler attack was further strengthened, and it manifested a massive ruler phantom in the air. It was as though a bridge had manifested in the sky.

The Sky Measuring Ruler was a weapon Xiang Shaoyun had snatched from Uncle Lai. However, Uncle Lai seemed to have been unable to gain the ruler's acknowledgment. Not even the other Yu Clan members could fully master this weapon. Thus, in Xiang Shaoyun's hands, the ruler became even more powerful than before.

Wherever the ruler phantom reached, sword rays would shatter. Unfortunately, there were too many sword rays for the ruler to destroy. A decent number of sword rays still managed to reach Xiang Shaoyun.

With the gift of instincts fully activated, Xiang Shaoyun swung the ruler yet again, shattering all the sword rays that had managed to approach him. The collision had only forced him about 10 meters backward. He was finally able to stop Lei Wuqing's sword in a head-on collision.

His success boosted his confidence. As he licked his cold lips, Xiang Shaoyun sneered and said, "I shall enjoy this battle."

Mounted atop Gui Qi, he charged Lei Wuqing. The Yin Mother Sword appeared in his hand as he swung at Lei Wuqing. A destructive sword ray shot toward Lei Wuqing with a prowess that caused even the sky to change colors.

Lei Wuqing's face turned solemn. Instead of evading, he mustered all his strength and swung his sword as well, intending to test the strength of Xiang Shaoyun's sword. A single emotionless sword ray shot forth, containing a myriad of permutations and carrying a might far higher than all his previous attacks.

Chapter 1402: Go Together

As the two powerful sword attacks collided, an alarming amount of sword qi spread in all directions, transforming into a heavy rain of swords. The shiny rain of swords made the entire world look like it was filled with stars, creating an exceptionally enchanting sight.

The Yin Mother Sword was worthy of being one of the most powerful weapons in existence. When Xiang Shaoyun channeled his energy into it, it was completely capable of contending against Lei Wuqing's sword. It even gained a slight upper hand, leaving several deep scars on Lei Wuqing's body.

Lei Wuqing did not show any fear despite his injuries. A look of excitement covered his face as he said, "What an exceptional weapon. It must be mine!"

He then accelerated and continued attacking Xiang Shaoyun. He moved nimbly with his self-created Emotionless Steps. Each step he took was unpredictable, and a regular Saint wouldn't even be able to see his movements. As he moved, he swung his sword repeatedly, covering the sky with wave after wave of emotionless sword qi. It seemed impossible to escape the net of swords he had created.

Not far away, Hua Ruren and Madam Yu Huan wore solemn expressions. If they were the ones fighting Lei Wuqing, how long would they last?

Emotionless dao, it is indeed scary, thought the two inwardly.

Xiang Shaoyun was no regular Saint. He had the Imperial Nether Domain and had mastered numerous profundities. His gift of instincts allowed him to see through Lei Wuqing's footwork and sword qi. Utilizing his footwork intent and powered by the devil dao, he swung his Yin Mother Sword at the openings he saw with his gift of instincts.

Xiang Shaoyun wasn't attacking with a saint-grade technique. Rather, he was using a true god-grade technique. Although he couldn't fully unleash the Yin Sword Technique's prowess because he was only using the devilish energy, the technique was still powerful enough to contend against Lei Wuqing.

As they clashed against each other, Xiang Shaoyun's confidence rose. Devilish energy shrouded his entire body as his combat strength continued to rise. Endless sword qi shot out, helping him to match Lei Wuqing evenly.

Sword qi clashed again and again, causing the world around them to shake violently. Lei Wuqing was definitely not a weak opponent. His combat strength was comparable to a Great Saint. Nobody below the Great Saint Realm was his match. His sword was emotionless, and each strike caused blood to flow.

With an outstanding weapon, his initial comprehension of the devil dao, his newly advanced cultivation level of third-stage Devil Saint Realm, and the rune, Xiang Shaoyun possessed the strength to contend against Great Saints. He had a terrifying ability to punch far above his class.

The two clashed again and again, causing sword qi to spread in all directions and the sky to darken. It did not seem like a victor was going to be decided anytime soon. Hua Ruren and Madam Yu Huan couldn't even enter the battlefield. Or, to be precise, the two were waiting for the perfect opportunity before making a move. They did not want to give up on Xiang Shaoyun's treasures so easily.

More and more sword wounds were left on Xiang Shaoyun and Lei Wuqing, but their battle intent only kept rising the longer they fought. Xiang Shaoyun did not want to keep this up, as there were two other powerful Saints waiting for an opportunity to strike. He had to find a way to drag them into the fight as well.

How did this kid become so strong? It must be all thanks to that weapon! thought Lei Wuqing.

With a swing of his sword, Xiang Shaoyun forced Lei Wuqing to retreat a bit before swinging at Hua Ruren and Madam Yu Huan.

"I thought you wanted to kill me? Come together," said Xiang Shaoyun as he became one with his sword and sent a massive amount of sword qi at the two.

"Audacious! This Saint will personally exterminate you, devil!" said Hua Ruren as he brandished his massive ink brush.

Instantly, a massive character was drawn in the air, and a powerful force rushed toward Xiang Shaoyun. This attack wasn't too much weaker than Lei Wuqing's attacks. Madam Yu Huan showed no fear as well. Her eight rings flew out, leaving a series of afterimages as a blue radiance covered the sky and destroyed all life in the sky.

Lei Wuqing did not mind their intrusion into the battlefield. A smile formed on his face as he thought, We should have joined hands long ago. He thought of taking this chance to perform a pincer attack on Xiang Shaoyun, but he stopped after some hesitation. Instead, he took this chance to heal some of his injuries and recover his energy.

In his mind, only after Xiang Shaoyun was tangled with Hua Ruren and Madam Yu Huan would he be able to deal the finishing blow. He needed some time to draw a plan.

When the attacks of Hua Ruren and Madam Yu Huan came for Xiang Shaoyun, Xiang Shaoyun swung his sword, stopping their attacks. The impact was so massive that his hand felt numb. The skin on his palm was torn from the impact, and his blood flowed.

He had exhausted too much of his strength fighting Lei Wuqing. With the addition of two opponents, he finally looked tired.

"I'll finish you off while you're down!" said Madam Yu Huan, overjoyed to see Xiang Shaoyun showing signs of weakness. She moved swiftly and sent all eight of her rings out, surrounding Xiang Shaoyun with eight rings that could cut everything in their way into nothingness.

As for Hua Ruren, he seemed to sense something, and he hurriedly retreated instead of advancing. Abruptly, Gui Qi showed himself and bombarded Madam Yu Huan with a series of soul attacks. At the same time, his pair of wings flapped repeatedly and assaulted Madam Yu Huan with an illusionary power. Caught by complete surprise, Madam Yu Huan's soul was struck, causing her body to go stiff temporarily.

A sneer formed on Xiang Shaoyun's mouth as he swung his Yin Mother Sword. With a flash, Madam Yu Huan's body was sliced apart. A terrifying scene unfolded as a rain of flesh and blood fell from the sky.

At this time, Lei Wuqing made a move as he roared, "Kid, die!"

Sword held in both his hands, a terrifying aura erupted from his body as he gathered all his energy into the tip of his sword. With one slash, a path of nothingness was created, and space was shattered. Nothing could stop this slash.

Even a Great Saint would fear such a slash. This attack was simply too terrifying. Not far away, Hua Ruren's entire body turned cold as he retreated again and again. Inwardly, he thought, Emotionless sword dao, severing all emotions. What a madman.

Xiang Shaoyun had just killed Madam Yu Huan when he sensed Lei Wuqing's sword coming. All the hair on his body stood on end, as he could feel that if he failed to stop this sword, he would die. He instantly released his Imperial Nether Domain, determined to stop it.

"I knew you would try this. Break!"

Chapter 1403: Nobody Can Take My Life

Not only did Lei Wuqing possess an astonishing combat strength, but he was also extremely smart. After his prolonged fight with Xiang Shaoyun, he was able to see that the Imperial Nether Domain was Xiang Shaoyun's final trump card. Thus, the goal of his attack was to force Xiang Shaoyun to release the Imperial Nether Domain before breaking it apart.

When the Imperial Nether Domain started appearing, his sword qi scattered instead of invading the domain. Only when the domain fully appeared did all the scattered sword qi explode simultaneously.

The sword qi was released with all of Lei Wuqing's strength. If even this attack failed to break Xiang Shaoyun's Imperial Nether Domain, Lei Wuqing would have no choice but to flee.

Hua Ruren could see what Lei Wuqing was trying to do. He raised his brow and said, "Let me lend you a hand!"

Break!

In the blink of an eye, Hua Ruren drew an ancient character for the word "break" in the air. The character carried an immensely destructive force as it shot toward Xiang Shaoyun's Imperial Nether Domain. The two attacks clashed against the Imperial Nether Domain, creating numerous cracks on the edge of the domain.

Pu!

A massive amount of blood spewed out of Xiang Shaoyun's mouth as his saint soul sustained a massive injury. Xiang Shaoyun immediately concealed himself, preventing his opponents from taking this chance to take his life.

"Hua Ruren, what are you still waiting for? Take out your 18 formation flags. Do you really want to see him escape?" shouted Lei Wuqing.

Without any hesitation, Hua Ruren took out his final trump card. Eighteen flags flew out and stopped at different spots, each suppressing a different area. This set of flags was known as the Heaven Suppressing Sacred Flag.

All 18 flags were top-tier saint-grade items capable of suppressing Great Saints and sealing the world. One could only imagine how powerful they were. All the ambient energy in the area started shaking before forming a barrier, fully sealing the area and making it impossible for Xiang Shaoyun to escape.

"Show yourself!" Lei Wuqing swung his sword again, unleashing massive destruction upon the area. He was determined to force Xiang Shaoyun to show himself so he could personally kill Xiang Shaoyun.

Hua Ruren was not standing idle either. He brandished his ink brush in the air and used the world as paper as he drew a bright-gold, dazzling painting that shone upon the area, as though he was going to imprint every inch of the area into his painting.

Invisible, Xiang Shaoyun felt a sense of despair, but the danger also forced an unyielding determination out of him. Inwardly, he roared to himself, You won't be able to kill me that easily!

He stopped hiding and swung the Yin Mother Sword at one of the flags. He had to first break the seal to have a chance of survival. Just as he attacked, both Lei Wuqing and Hua Ruren sensed his movements. Both immediately rained a barrage of attacks at him.

Xiang Shaoyun's sword attack caused the flag to be on the brink of breaking. After all, the Yin Mother Sword was a powerful weapon that had granted Xiang Shaoyun the combat prowess of a Great Saint. Unfortunately, before he could break the seal, the attacks of Lei Wuqing and Hua Ruren arrived, forcing him to defend himself.

In the blink of an eye, more than 10 deep wounds were left on Xiang Shaoyun's body. His blood sprayed everywhere while his bones became visible, looking incomparably sorry.

Blinded by his greed for the Yin Mother Sword, Lei Wuqing attacked continuously and sent countless sword rays at Xiang Shaoyun's sword-wielding hand, trying to snatch the sword. As for

Hua Ruren, he continued drawing in the air, aiming to smash Xiang Shaoyun's organs into pieces with each strike of his, not holding back at all.

It did not seem like Xiang Shaoyun would be able to last long under their assault. After all, he had no way of summoning more nether yin devils while his Imperial Nether Domain had been broken. Even his Invisible Nether had been countered by them. Without the three abilities, what could he rely on?

Am I going to die already? thought Xiang Shaoyun to himself.

He had never felt so helpless before. He really hoped that someone would come out and lend him a hand, but that was nothing but a dream. Nobody but himself could help him, and nobody was more reliable than himself.

"If I don't want to die, nobody can take my life! Scram!" Xiang Shaoyun roared as his focus landed on the primal inception energy in his astral cosmos sea. Only then did he recall that this power still remained in his body despite the destruction of his stars. With a roar, he drew out the primal inception energy and swung the Yin Mother Sword.

Instantly, the Yin Mother Sword radiated with a nine-colored radiance. The destructive power transformed into countless sword rays that flooded the area, riddling the sky with countless holes, creating a vacuum in the area. Nothing could stop the destructiveness of the most primal of powers.

Before the two Saints could even understand what was happening, they were completely swallowed by the endless nine-colored sword qi. Lei Wuqing defended himself with all his strength, releasing a massive amount of sword qi that collided against the nine-colored sword qi. Alas, his sword qi was instantly torn through like paper. As for Hua Ruren, the character and painting he was drawing in the air were destroyed before they could be completed.

The terrifying power bombarded the 18 flags, instantly causing the seal to shatter into pieces. The seal was thus broken. Not even the Sky Suppressing Sacred Flag could suppress the overlord!

Primal inception energy was the most primal of energy, a combination of nine different energies. It was a rank higher than primal chaos energy and could blend into any weapon and be used with any battle technique. Any weapon and battle technique would be even more powerful when used with primal inception energy. Not a single energy could compare with primal inception energy in terms of sheer power.

That was why the Yin Mother Sword could unleash the power of a peak Great Saint upon being used with primal inception energy. Even a pseudo-God would have to take a step back in the face of such power.

By the time the numerous sword qis receded, only a massive vacuum was left in the sky. Two Saints had defended themselves with all their strength, but they had still been injured so heavily that they were as good as crippled.

Lei Wuqing's Emotionless Sword was nowhere to be seen. As for his body, only half of it remained. A massive amount of blood constantly flowed out of his body. If it wasn't for his excessive strength, such a heavy injury would have been enough to kill him. As for Hua Ruren, his stomach had been split open, and his body was nearly cut in two. His organs were visible from the deep wound, presenting a revolting and terrifying sight.

Chapter 1404: Sky Measuring Step

Xiang Shaoyun's nine stars might have been crippled by Daoist Wudao, but his astral cosmos sea had remained, and he could still store things inside it. Thus, his astral cosmos sea was still working fine.

He had thought that the destruction of his stars would cause the energy in his astral cosmos sea to slowly fade away as well. But he found that all the different energies in his astral cosmos sea were still there. Of course, they had remained stagnant and had not grown.

Because of that, he attempted to draw the primal inception energy during his moment of crisis. Sure enough, the primal inception energy did not disappoint him. He could still utilize it, and he instantly dealt a heavy blow to his two opponents.

At this moment, Xiang Shaoyun, Lei Wuqing, and Hua Ruren were all heavily injured. However, the latter two had suffered much heavier injuries than Xiang Shaoyun. After all, the primal inception energy was too destructive. It was much more terrifying than the emotionless sword dao. After being damaged by the primal inception energy, the two were having a hard time even recovering their life force.

Xiang Shaoyun roared with laughter and said, "And now, both of you will die!"

Once again, he drew out the primal inception energy and swung the Yin Mother Sword. Lei Wuqing and Hua Ruren were greatly frightened and hurriedly started fleeing at the cost of igniting their life essences.

Xiang Shaoyun first swung his sword at Lei Wuqing. This fellow had been most insistent on pursuing him. He definitely wouldn't allow this fellow to flee. Meanwhile, Gui Qi was in charge of pursuing Hua Ruren, disturbing him with soul attacks to prevent him from fleeing farther away.

Although Lei Wuqing had used a saint-grade medicine to quickly heal, he still had difficulty moving due to losing half his body. The primal inception energy mercilessly chased after him, killing him and destroying his saint soul without even giving him a chance to beg for his life. With that, the Emotionless Sword perished.

After Xiang Shaoyun killed Lei Wuqing, Xiang Shaoyun's gaze landed on Hua Ruren. He ignored his injuries and, leaving several afterimages behind, hurriedly caught up. Hua Ruren was already half-crippled. With Gui Qi's constant interruption, Hua Ruren had no way of escaping. If it wasn't for the fact that his strength was far beyond Gui Qi's, he would have already been killed.

When Hua Ruren sensed Xiang Shaoyun's approach, he panicked and hurriedly pleaded, "Spare me!"

Xiang Shaoyun sneered and said, "Why didn't you consider sparing me earlier?"

He then raised his sword.

Hua Ruren said, "I-I'm an important official in the Dusk Dynasty. My master is the grand teacher of the state. If you kill me—"

The sword landed before he could finish his words, ending his life. The master painter and calligrapher, Hua Ruren, had perished.

As the three Saints died one after another, dark clouds gathered in the sky. A red rain poured down, alarming all the beasts in the area. They all hid in fear. The deaths of Saints had caused even the heavens to weep!

The red rain poured on Xiang Shaoyun's body, washing off the blood and cleansing his mind, allowing him to understand that to survive, he had to aim for the peak of martial strength.

In the Fox Range, Hu Detian and the other fox elders were thoroughly shocked when they sensed everything that had happened in the sky. They had not imagined that Xiang Shaoyun would be so powerful. Not even the demonic foxes could pose a threat to him. If he really went against them, their only hope would be to awaken their grand elder.

"Looks like this kid can't be underestimated," said Hu Detian with a sigh.

"Patriarch, why don't we take this chance to kill him. In his current condition, he won't be able to last long against us," proposed an elder.

"Absolutely not. If we fail, we will be bringing disaster to ourselves. It hasn't been easy for the fox race to survive until today. We can't afford to be hit with another disaster," said Hu Detian. "We'll think of what to do if he remains stubborn."

Hu Detian did not dare to look down on Xiang Shaoyun. In fact, he appreciated Xiang Shaoyun's talent. It was truly unfortunate that this kid was a devil. Devils would not be allowed to live in the dominion. He did not want to turn the entire fox race into a public enemy.

As Xiang Shaoyun floated high in the sky, Xiang Shaoyun's wounds were healing rapidly, and he was becoming more and more disheartened. The constant battles had greatly exhausted him in both body and mind. He wondered if he could survive the next round of assault. He recalled that his master had promised to handle everything for him. Why did it seem like nothing had changed? He took out the Sky Measuring Ruler and swung the Yin Mother Sword at it.

Clank!

With a bright spark, the old cracks on the Sky Measuring Ruler enlarged. With another swing of the Yin Mother Sword, the ruler broke. Just like that, Xiang Shaoyun destroyed a weapon equivalent to a great saint-grade weapon.

The instant the Sky Measuring Ruler was broken, a clump of radiance hovered out. Numerous ancient characters floated out of the clump, joining into a sentence: To measure the immensity and height of the sky, to measure the width of the heavens, to measure the depth of the cosmos, to measure the boundless universe...

Xiang Shaoyun fixed his gaze at the ancient characters, imprinting every single one of them into his mind. The moment he memorized them, the characters vanished into nothingness.

As Xiang Shaoyun shut his eyes, the characters appeared in his mind again and again. He seemed to see a certain figure taking a walk. With one step, that figure crossed a massive river. With another step, they traversed a mountain range. With one step, the world was measured. Nothing could stop that step, not even the world itself. Only the boundless universe was worthy of being measured by that step.

After an indeterminate amount of time, three characters were left in Xiang Shaoyun's mind: Sky Measuring Step. This was a footwork technique, a top-tier god-grade technique. He could see that this technique was even better than the Overlord's Nine Nether Steps he practiced during his previous life. After all, the Overlord's Nine Nether Steps was more than just a footwork technique, whereas the Sky Measuring Step was a pure footwork technique. The two were different in essence.

In his previous life, he had managed to master the first two stages of footwork intent. With this Sky Measuring Step, he would be able to reach the final stage, the so close yet worlds apart stage.

Xiang Shaoyun started walking. With one step, it was as though the gap on the ground beneath him was shortened. At the same time, it also seemed like he was moving with the wind. He moved at an incredibly fast speed, yet he wasn't satisfied. He mustered all his strength and continued walking.

One step. Two steps. Three steps. Each step was faster than before, and each step crossed a wider distance than before. Xiang Shaoyun looked incredibly carefree, as though he was riding the wind itself. Nothing in the world seemed capable of stopping his advance. At the same time, he also seemed to be measuring the height of the sky and reaching the horizon with one step.

Chapter 1405: Updated

So close yet worlds apart!

That was the final stage of footwork intent, the stage where one's footwork would be at the fastest. At this stage, nothing could stop one's advance. The Sky Measuring Step was definitely a top-tier god-grade technique. The moment one comprehended it, one would automatically enter the third stage of footwork intent, gaining a speed defying human understanding.

For Xiang Shaoyun to comprehend this technique so fast, apart from his intelligence, his deep comprehension of footwork intent also played a great role. Thus, he was able to quickly reach initial mastery in the Sky Measuring Step, allowing his footwork to reach a level far beyond many of his peers.

He could not contend against peak Saints or Great Saints in terms of speed. If he still had his wind energy, he might really surpass Great Saints. After all, wind energy had the greatest affinity with the Sky Measuring Step. Only with wind energy would he perfectly display the speed of the so close yet worlds apart stage.

Xiang Shaoyun moved faster and faster before eventually arriving at his original position. He howled with laughter and said, "It truly is surprising that I would obtain a god-grade footwork technique accidentally. As the saying goes, after great danger, fortune comes in strides."

As Xiang Shaoyun descended from the sky, his hair whipped about, and his body carried an overwhelming bearing. A uniquely attractive fiendish aura radiated from his body, as though the prince of devils was descending from the sky. At this moment, he proved fatally attractive to all women.

As he waved his arm, the items of the three Saints he killed started flying toward him, including the Emotionless Sword, the Heaven Suppressing Sacred Flag, and the eight rings. They were all his spoils of war.

He kept them all away before returning to the Fox Range. With one step, he arrived before the central mountains. He said, "Please open the barrier or don't blame me for being impolite."

He was being extremely overbearing because he now had the strength to back his words.

He had gained much from his battle with the three Saints. His comprehension of the devil dao had become even deeper. Even without using the Imperial Nether Clan's abilities, he could still contend against peak Saints. He was now far stronger than all the Imperial Nether Clan's Devil Saints. Even the strongest princes would not have his combat strength at the same cultivation level.

The energy barrier around the demonic foxes faded away. Several figures flew out, with Hu Detian in the lead.

"You're very strong, but if you really want to take my daughter away by force, us demonic foxes are no pushovers either," said Hu Detian gloomily.

No matter what, he was unwilling to let Hu Meihui leave. She had awakened the eight-tailed bloodline and would be the one to lead the demonic foxes to rise in power in the future.

"She's my woman. She naturally has to come with me," said Xiang Shaoyun as the Yin Mother Sword appeared in his hand once again. He looked ready to attack.

His action gave Hu Detian and the fox elders a great fright. Even if all of them worked together, they might not be this devil's match.

Hu Detian trembled in anger as he roared, "Don't force me to awaken the grand elder. No matter how strong you are, he'll suppress you!"

"Cut the nonsense. Hand Meihui over or don't blame me for using force," said Xiang Shaoyun firmly.

After repeated battles, his confidence was on a brand new level. Nobody could make him retreat, and he would welcome all battles. Hu Detian was infuriated. This was probably the most overbearing son-in-law in existence. Just as a fight was about to break out, a figure rushed over. It was a Demon Sovereign from the fox race.

"Patriarch, I bring the latest news," said the Demon Sovereign.

"Say it," said Hu Detian.

"We have just received news that the humans have stopped hunting Xiang Shaoyun. They claim that he is not a devil. Rather, he is the direct disciple of a certain lord guardian," said the Demon Sovereign.

As he spoke, he glanced at Xiang Shaoyun before quickly looking away. Clearly, he knew that this young man was the so-called Xiang Shaoyun. Xiang Shaoyun blanked out slightly before reaching for the Demon Sovereign.

"Stop!" Hu Detian roared and clawed at Xiang Shaoyun, afraid that Xiang Shaoyun would kill his clansman.

However, Xiang Shaoyun was too fast. Hu Detian's hand only struck an afterimage while Xiang Shaoyun already had the Demon Sovereign in his hand. He asked, "What did you just say? Repeat it!"

When the Demon Sovereign sensed Xiang Shaoyun's terrifying strength, he paled from fear. While trembling, he said, "Th-the humans have w-withdrawn your wanted status and also clarified that you're not a devil but a true human."

"Are you sure?" Xiang Shaoyun was becoming excited.

"Xiang Shaoyun, withdraw your aura. Are you trying to kill him?" Hu Detian shouted.

The demonic fox in Xiang Shaoyun's hand was on the brink of collapse. Xiang Shaoyun's aura was too suppressive for him to endure.

Finally, Xiang Shaoyun withdrew his aura and released the demonic fox in his hand. "Tell me everything you know."

Xiang Shaoyun spoke in a commanding tone, projecting his dominance directly to the demonic fox's heart. The demonic fox did not dare to disobey and told Xiang Shaoyun everything he knew.

It turned out that the Dragon Phoenix Academy's lord guardian had personally delved deep into the Devil Domain and slaughtered five Devil Gods. All by himself, he suppressed the Western Desert's Devil Domain entrance, alarming the entire dominion.

With five Devil God corpses in his hand, the lord guardian declared to the world that Xiang Shaoyun was his direct disciple, not a devil. Xiang Shaoyun had merely refined some devil blood to obtain the Imperial Nether Clan's abilities. If a God Realm cultivator dared to lay a hand on him ever again, the lord guardian would slaughter the God Realm cultivator like he had slaughtered the five Devil Gods.

At the time, someone questioned the lord guardian for protecting a devil. But he had barely finished asking his question before he was completely obliterated. The lord guardian had acted domineeringly, instantly attracting the attention of the numerous superpowers. They all started spreading the news to avoid their own people from offending the lord guardian.

The number of lord guardians in existence could be counted on one hand. Each of them was the guardian of the dominion. Thanks to them, the masses were able to live a stable life in the dominion. Such a person had the blood of countless devils in his hands. Thus, the disciple of such a person was naturally no devil. Perhaps the lord guardian was right. Xiang Shaoyun had merely refined some devil blood and gained some devil abilities, resulting in him being misunderstood as a devil.

Chapter 1406: Worthy Son-In-Law

Xiang Shaoyun was not a devil! Those words were spread throughout the dominion. Everyone received that news, including the foreign races. Xiang Shaoyun was the direct disciple of a lord guardian. That news shook numerous superpowers.

In the dominion, the title lord guardian signified someone at the peak of existence. A disciple of such a person would undoubtedly have a bright future. Even if one couldn't become the strongest of all, one would still be able to become an incredibly powerful God.

From Xiang Shaoyun's performance against the numerous Great Saints at the Heavenly Snow Mountain, who among his peers could hope to be his match? News of him recently killing over 40 Saints hadn't even spread. Otherwise, the public's evaluation of him would probably be even greater.

One could say that not only had Xiang Shaoyun become one of the strongest up-and-coming experts of the dominion, but he had also gained a status that allowed him to raise his head high even among the Saints of all the superpowers.

All that was thanks to the lord guardian. The lord guardian was the one who had returned Xiang Shaoyun his place among the humans, allowing him to once again stand in broad daylight. That was the prowess of a lord guardian. Nobody would dare question one.

A layer of mist covered Xiang Shaoyun's eyes as he clenched his fists and roared to the sky, "I, Xiang Shaoyun, am not a devil!"

His voice reverberated throughout the Fox Range. All his negative emotions were vented out, leaving behind only righteousness and honor.

Hu Detian was now looking at the youth before him in a brand new light. Inwardly, he thought, This is quite a fine young man.

After a long while, Xiang Shaoyun calmed himself. His eyes became incomparably clear as he muttered, "Thanks, master."

He had never stopped believing that his master would do something for him. He also knew clearly that what his master decided to do would be extremely dangerous. Even so, he had not expected that his master would go deep into the Devil Domain to slay Devil Gods. That was an act of madness. A

slight carelessness would have turned his master into the prey of the strongest devils in the Devil Domain.

At the very least, the Nether Monarch was probably no weaker than his master. He believed that the Undying Devil Clan and Diabolic Dragon Clan also had experts of such a level. Fortunately, everything was over. The lord guardian had utilized his overwhelming strength to warn the world that his disciple was not a devil. Thus, all the restrictions imposed upon Xiang Shaoyun were moved as though the clouds had moved aside to reveal the moon. The curtain covering the world had been lifted for him.

"Xiang Shaoyun, this is worthy of celebration!" said Hu Detian.

At this time, the look in Xiang Shaoyun's eyes when looking at Hu Detian was much gentler than before. He bowed and said, "Father-in-Law, please don't stop me and Meihui from being together. I promise to protect her with my life."

He was finally behaving humbly, an attitude a son-in-law should have.

Hu Detian laughed. "Worthy son-in-law, well said. I believe you can do what you promise. Come, I'll show you our place."

The fox elders around Hu Detian wore confused expressions, but they soon understood what Hu Detian was doing. Their attitude toward Xiang Shaoyun thus changed as well. Gaining such a talented human as the fox race's son-in-law was in itself worth celebrating.

Xiang Shaoyun understood the reason for their change of attitude. He did not seem displeased. Rather, he was in a good mood as he followed the group into their headquarters. Buildings with human architecture and cave dwellings of demonic cultivators could be seen in the fox race's place. Numerous unique plants were growing in the surrounding mountains. This was a decent place for one to cultivate.

It was rumored that demonic foxes were crafty and fickle. The main formation of the fox race was an illusion formation, which seemed to be proof of their crafty and fickle nature. If a regular person came here, the person would immediately lose their mind.

Under Hu Detian's lead, Xiang Shaoyun arrived at a certain cave dwelling. Inside the cave dwelling seemed to be an entirely different world. The cave was akin to a paradise, illuminated by nine pearls

the size of a human head. Hanging on the cave walls were numerous ancient yet elegant paintings. The gorgeous decorations gave the cave a unique atmosphere.

"Men, invite the princess out," said Hu Detian after sitting down.

He also had some people serve some spiritual fruits and water to Xiang Shaoyun. Additionally, he also arranged for some fox ladies to sing and dance to welcome Xiang Shaoyun's arrival. One could say that he had arranged quite a grand welcoming ceremony for Xiang Shaoyun. Xiang Shaoyun knew very well that he had only received such a welcome due to his master. Hu Detian wouldn't have accepted him so easily otherwise.

Thank you, master, thought Xiang Shaoyun inwardly.

Soon, Hu Meihui arrived, further elevating the atmosphere in the cave. Sounds of joyful laughter filled the cave.

After the feast, Hu Detian solemnly said, "Worthy son-in-law, Meihui is my beloved daughter. I now hand her to you. Do not let me down."

"Don't worry, Father-in-Law. I'll treat her well," promised Xiang Shaoyun solemnly.

A bashful look covered Hu Meihui's face, but she was incomparably contented and inwardly joyful. She finally had a companion as well.

"Good," said Hu Detian. "Although your issue has been solved, Meihui has just awakened her eight-tailed bloodline. I'm afraid she still can't leave with you yet. I plan to have the grand elder lend her a hand and push her to an even higher height. Hopefully, she will be able to obtain the nine-tailed bloodline with the grand elder's help."

Hu Detian spoke seriously, as he truly hoped that Hu Meihui would be the hope of their race.

"Don't worry, Father-in-Law. Shaoyun is not an ignorant person. I'll prioritize Meihui's future," said Xiang Shaoyun. "But I also hope to stay here for a period of time."

"Haha, this place will be your home in the future. Feel free to stay or leave," said Hu Detian with a chortle.

"I'll be intruding on you, then, Father-in-Law," said Xiang Shaoyun.

He intended to stay not only for Hu Meihui's sake but also to spend some time cultivating in peace. He needed to heal his saint soul and temper his saint body. This would be the perfect opportunity for him to wait for the entire world to know of his cleared name before leaving.

And thus, Xiang Shaoyun settled down at the Fox Range and lived a joyful life with Hu Meihui. Hu Meihui was born charming, akin to a natural born temptress. There was a period of time where Xiang Shaoyun only indulged in pleasure and forgot his home and duty. Because of that, his strength stagnated. However, that did not matter because his rest allowed his devil pearl to stabilize from his repeated breakthroughs.

Chapter 1407: Farewell and Departure

Within a certain delicate bamboo building at the Fox Range was a couple nestled against each other. The man was smart and handsome while the woman was mesmerizing and beautiful. This was a perfect couple that would be the source of envy for countless people.

"Husband, I'm entering seclusion soon. Will you continue staying here?" asked Hu Meihui after feeding Xiang Shaoyun a piece of spiritual fruit.

Dressed in a thin light muslin outfit, her flawless body was perfectly accentuated, a sight that would cause many men's blood to boil.

As Xiang Shaoyun slowly chewed on the fruit, he looked down at her and smiled. "I need to do something in the Central Region. I'll come visit you again when I'm done."

"Are you not going to take me with you?" asked Hu Meihui.

"You can come with me if you want, but with your bloodline evolution, I'm afraid your father and other clansmen would not allow you to leave," said Xiang Shaoyun.

"I don't care. I only want to be with you," said Hu Meihui.

"That's not difficult at all. Just wait until I return to the sect. I'll build a teleportation formation connecting the sect and this place. We will be able to see each other at any time," said Xiang

Shaoyun. "I have a feeling chaos is coming soon. Both of us need to grow as strong as possible, as surviving the chaotic times will be hard."

"Alright. I'll reach the Saint Realm as quickly as possible. I do not want to be a burden to you," said Hu Meihui solemnly. She then reached for Xiang Shaoyun's lower body with a mischievous smile. "Husband, pamper me one more time."

Xiang Shaoyun smirked, "What a temptress!"

He then pushed her down. Before long, sounds of pleasure filled the bamboo building.

...

After Hu Meihui entered seclusion, Xiang Shaoyun finally had some free time for himself. He had stayed in the Fox Range for an entire month. During this time, he had slowly recuperated his saint soul. His third-stage Devil Saint Realm cultivation had also been fully consolidated. Instead of leaving immediately, he remained in the bamboo building and meditated on his gains from his battle with the three Saints.

He had only been able to defeat them after borrowing the Yin Mother Sword's prowess. Without the sword, he wouldn't have been their match. He had to make that clear to himself so that he wouldn't become overconfident. Because he didn't want to develop a reliance on tools, he needed to rely less on his equipment in the future. Having such a reliance wouldn't be beneficial for his growth.

It was also during that battle that he discovered the prowess of the profundity of the devil dao. That was what gave him the strength to contend against top-tier Saints as a third-stage Devil Saint. However, the profundity of the devil dao also had a massive disadvantage. It would cause one to lose one's reason, turning one into a bloodthirsty killer. That wasn't a good thing for him, as he could easily turn into a monster that would murder the innocent.

Only when he gained full control over the profundity of the devil dao would he be able to free himself from the effect of negative emotions and turn the profundity of the devil dao into his tool.

During his seclusion, Xiang Shaoyun repeatedly attempted to control the profundity of the devil dao and deepen his understanding of the devil dao while maintaining a rational mind.

After numerous attempts, he had obtained decent gains. He learned that so long as his will was strong enough, the profundity of the devil dao would be fully under his control and wouldn't control him. He needed a strong willpower, an unyielding and unswerving faith that nothing could sway.

Xiang Shaoyun's path of cultivation had granted him a powerful will, especially after using the Limit Stimulation Technique multiple times. The Limit Stimulation Technique had granted him a willpower that was as durable as any Saint's. But to fully control the profundity of the devil dao, his willpower was still not strong enough.

He was clear that just an accusation that he was a devil by the masses had successfully changed his state of mind. He had to know himself better and maintain his true self. Regardless of whether he was a devil or a human, he was still the same person. Only upon achieving that would he be able to push his willpower to the peak.

Upon understanding that, Xiang Shaoyun started tempering his willpower. Unlike cultivation, willpower was not something that only needed hard work to become strong. Rather, one needed to persevere and press on in the face of difficulties. With the passage of time, one's willpower would eventually reach perfection.

At that thought, Xiang Shaoyun's gaze landed on his astral cosmos sea. He found that the primal inception energy had become much thinner after using some in the previous battle. It was only a matter of time before he used it all up. He no longer had his nine stars, which he could use to generate new primal inception energy.

"Master had forbidden me from using the astral grass because he wanted me to figure out the path of uniting nine powers. I have gained considerably studying the Desolation mantra, but I'm still clueless as to how to fully unite my nine powers. What am I supposed to do now?" muttered Xiang Shaoyun in a vexed manner.

If he consumed the astral grass, he would regain his stars and obtain the ability to replenish his primal inception energy.

Since he wouldn't be able to settle this issue anytime soon, he decided to stop thinking about it. Now that he no longer needed to hide his devil abilities, nobody below the Great Saint Realm could pose a threat to him. Without any threat to his life, he could slowly contemplate his path. A day would come when he created a path unique to himself.

He stood up and headed toward the fox patriarch's cave dwelling. When the demonic foxes standing guard before the cave saw him, they greeted him and then went to report his arrival. He was here to bid farewell.

After entering the cave, he went straight to the point, "Father-in-Law, I'm leaving today. I'm heading to the Righteous Buddhist Sect to get something done. I'll visit again in the future."

"Righteous Buddhist Sect? On of the top three Buddhist sects in the dominion?" asked Hu Detian, astonished.

Xiang Shaoyun nodded and said, "Yes. I promised to deliver an item to the Righteous Buddhist Sect. I also want to take this chance to witness the scenery of the Central Region."

"Feel free to go. Your name has already been cleared, so there shouldn't be any issues," said Hu Detian. "But I received some news not long ago. The organizations behind the Saints you had killed might be trying to secretly move against you. You need to be careful."

"Don't worry, Father-in-Law. A lot of people want my life, but I've still lived to today. Nobody can take my life," said Xiang Shaoyun confidently.

With his Imperial Nether Clan abilities, apart from God Realm experts, nobody could really kill him.

Chapter 1408: Imperial Nether Clan's Misery

The dominion was separated into nine regions of differing sizes. Collectively, the nine regions formed a certain balance, becoming a sacred land of cultivation. In a certain remote location at the extreme south of the dominion was a place called the South Divine Devil.

During ancient times, this place was sparsely populated. Most of the people living here were of non-human races. The place was desolate and had one of the worst living conditions in the dominion.

After a certain ancient war, an additional race appeared here. This race was known as the Imperial Nether Clan, and they were the ones who had started that ancient war. During the war, the imperial nether devils had eventually broken through the humans' defensive line and settled down on the surface world.

The humans had tried exterminating these imperial nether devils many times, but their attempts had been fruitless. Eventually, the humans were forced to acknowledge the Imperial Nether Clan's right to live in the South Divine Devil.

However, the South Divine Devil was also the only place the Imperial Nether Clan could live. They only occupied land the size of a province. They hadn't expanded and had not committed any mass murders against the humans either. Because of that, the humans eventually got used to their presence on the surface world.

The South Divine Devil was covered in thick devilish aura, but the devilish aura wasn't as thick as the aura in the Devil Domain. Even so, it was thick enough for the Imperial Nether Clan's inhabitation.

There, numerous castles with architecture similar to the Imperial Nether Clan's buildings in the Devil Domain's seventh layer could be seen. This was an architectural style unique to the Imperial Nether Clan.

In a certain main hall, several figures were present and currently discussing a certain issue. Seated atop the highest seat was an incredibly old imperial nether devil. He was obviously in his late days and would reach the end of his life soon.

Each of the imperial nether devils present was incredibly old. All of them practically looked like they were halfway to the grave already and gave off a thick feeling of death. However, the look in their eyes was still as penetrative as ever. Even a Saint would be plagued with discomfort upon meeting their gazes.

If news spread that all these people were Devil Gods, the world would be shocked. After all, those at the God Realm were known to have endless lifespans. Why did all these people radiate such a thick death aura?

"Did all of you hear about that news?" asked the old imperial nether atop the highest seat.

The others nodded. One of them said, "A human youth has obtained our clan's bloodline."

"Send someone to bring him back. I have a feeling that he might be the hope for our continued survival," said the oldest imperial nether devil. He sighed and said, "It has been hundreds of thousands of years since I last returned home. I wonder how they're doing."

As he lamented, the others also sank into lamentation. They were all homesick. Back then, they had mustered all their strength to enter the dominion, hoping to conquer a piece of land for themselves on the surface world. They succeeded, but they learned that the dominion was simply unsuitable for the imperial nether devils.

This was also a bad place for them to raise the next generation. Unless they could fully join the surface world with the Devil Domain and fill it with devilish energy, the surface world would never be a suitable habitat for the imperial nether devils.

It was unfortunate that they learned of that fact too late. They could no longer return. The only thing they could do was work as hard as they could to either adapt to their new living condition or join the surface world with the Devil Domain. Unfortunately, all their hard work had been for nothing.

Although the humans had allowed them to reside on the surface, they were constantly watched. The moment they tried anything, the humans would do their best to kill all the imperial nether devils.

The death aura on their bodies was due to repeatedly battling human guardians, and the battles had left them with incurable injuries. Additionally, they were also in charge of supplying the younger generations with devilish energy and were already extremely exhausted.

To make things worse, their younger generations only grew weaker and weaker. The latest generation couldn't even reach the Devil Saint Realm, let alone the Devil God Realm. If this continued, this branch of the Imperial Nether Clan would eventually cease to exist.

Therefore, they urgently wanted to return to the Devil Domain. They missed their home and did not want to die in a foreign land. The sole new Devil God in the past 10,000 years was sent out of the South Divine Devil to look for Xiang Shaoyun. They believed that this young man would be their hope to return to the Devil Domain.

...

Xiang Shaoyun naturally wasn't aware of all that. He had just reached the Fox Range and was heading toward the Righteous Buddhist Sect. He had obtained the Limit Stimulation Technique from Zang Yuan in a certain secret space. There, he had promised Zong Yuan to deliver Zang Yuan's sarira back to the Righteous Buddhist Sect. Over the years, he had been too busy to do so. Now was the perfect time to complete that task.

Xiang Shaoyun was in no hurry. He first went to the nearest city to figure out if news of his identity had spread far enough. From Hu Detian, Xiang Shaoyun learned that he would arrive at the Dusk Dynasty's territory after leaving the Fox Range.

The Dusk Dynasty was one of the seven biggest dynasties of the Central Region. It occupied dozens of large cities and was ranked fifth among the seven greatest dynasties. Every organization capable of developing into a dynasty was incredibly powerful, and no organization would rashly offend a dynasty. These dynasties had a terrifying accumulation of power and wealth, and only the superpowers could compare with them in terms of overall strength.

The nearest city to the Fox Range was Wind City. Like Icecross City, it was a border city flourishing with numerous travelers. When Xiang Shaoyun arrived at Wind City, he did not bother hiding his whereabouts. He went to the busiest restaurant and feasted, indulging in the pleasure of life. He listened on as the surrounding people talked about the latest news of the world. Among the numerous topics talked about was the topic of Beiming Tianpeng's pursuit of him.

"Xiang Shaoyun killed over 40 Saints consecutively, showcasing an impressive combat strength far above his peers. He is worthy of being known as a king among Saints. Fortunately, it was ultimately proven that he is a human. If he's really a devil, that will be a calamity for us humans."

"That's right. I had not expected that Xiang Shaoyun was actually the direct disciple of a legendary lord guardian. It is normal for such a person to learn some devil abilities. After all, he is someone who has merged even nine different powers."

"I heard Xiang Shaoyun was crippled at the Heavenly Snow Mountain? Can he recover his astral cultivation? If he can't, that would be a loss for humanity."

"That's a baseless worry. Since he's a disciple of a lord guardian, how can he not recover?"

"True. I heard he's heading toward the Central Region. I wonder if I'll be lucky enough to see this genius king among Saints up close."

Chapter 1409: What's the Point of Pretending to Be Me?

When Xiang Shaoyun heard the crowd talking about his feats, a bright smile formed on his face as the tiny bit of worry he had in his heart was cleared.

Looking at the crowd that was still discussing him enthusiastically, he smiled and said, "Everyone, I'm Xiang Shaoyun."

The moment he said that, the crowd looked at him. Dressed in a black outfit and seated in a confident posture, Xiang Shaoyun flashed a bright smile that sent all the women in the restaurant into a reverie.

Unfortunately, someone immediately berated him, "If you're Xiang Shaoyun, I'm lord guardian. What a shameless kid."

Someone else said, "That's right. Recently, countless pretty boys have been pretending to be Xiang Shaoyun to deceive young women. You do look quite handsome, but that's all you are. A pretty boy. Are you not ashamed of pretending to be Xiang Shaoyun?"

The crowd started scolding Xiang Shaoyun one after another, giving him the urge to dig a hole to hide in. How did he become a fake Xiang Shaoyun? Even so, he did not mind their words due to his good mood. He continued drinking and eating.

At this time, a voice rang out from outside the restaurant, "I heard someone was pretending to be me in this restaurant. Let me see with my own eyes just who has the nerves to do so."

A handsome person walked through the door. Beside him were two beautiful women. Instantly, he became the center of attention. That young man did look decent. Like Xiang Shaoyun, he was dressed in black. His long, black hair cascaded down his shoulders while his eyes emanated a gloomy aura. He even had a rune on his forehead, a rune that greatly resembled the Imperial Nether Clan's rune. In his hand was a black fan, and his entire body radiated a unique aura that also resembled devilish energy.

Xiang Shaoyun looked at the man curiously as he thought, My horizons have been broadened. This guy does resemble me.

He had not imagined that a day would come when people would pretend to be him. But this person was seemingly going way overboard in his disguise. The people in the restaurant all believed that the newcomer was Xiang Shaoyun. After all, the newcomer resembled the legendary Xiang Shaoyun too much.

"This must be the actual Xiang Shaoyun. He truly looks extraordinary."

"That's right. Look at that rune on his forehead. That is the rune unique to the Imperial Nether Clan. No ordinary person can have something like that."

"The kid from earlier is going to suffer. Now that he has encountered the real Xiang Shaoyun, he will either be killed or crippled."

"It is rumored that Xiang Shaoyun can kill even Great Saints. It is truly lucky of us to be able to set our eyes on someone like him."

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The fake Xiang Shaoyun walked inside the restaurant with the two women. His eyes emanated a heavy pressure that only someone at the Sovereign Realm could release. Apart from Xiang Shaoyun, nobody in the restaurant had reached that realm. None of them could sense that the newcomer was a fake Xiang Shaoyun. All of them were certain that the real Xiang Shaoyun was fake.

Under the crowd's guidance, the fake Xiang Shaoyun's gaze landed on Xiang Shaoyun. He walked up to Xiang Shaoyun and shouted, "Kid, you dare pretend to be me? How brave of you! Drop to your knees and kowtow to this overlord. If I'm happy, I'll consider sparing your life."

"Are you sure you're Xiang Shaoyun?" asked Xiang Shaoyun.

"Audacious! You dare question me?" berated the fake Xiang Shaoyun. He unleashed his aura and pressed it down on Xiang Shaoyun. With his Sovereign Realm cultivation, he could suppress everyone in Wind City. Thus, he had the strength to convince the majority of the people in the city that he was Xiang Shaoyun.

Xiang Shaoyun's fame was too high and was the perfect name one could use to court the ladies as of late. After all, not anyone could be the disciple of a lord guardian. The people in the restaurant retreated one after another upon sensing the fake Xiang Shaoyun's aura. They were prepared to enjoy the good show that was about to unfold.

Meanwhile, the real Xiang Shaoyun remained completely unaffected. He looked at the two women flanking the fake Xiang Shaoyun and asked, "Both of you believe he's Xiang Shaoyun as well? Have you been lied to?"

The two beauties blanked out slightly. One of them, a woman in yellow, said in an uncertain manner, "He should be telling the truth, right?"

"Dearest Huang Yiyi, of course I won't lie to you. Just you wait. I'll teach this kid a lesson with my devilish power. You will see for yourself whether I'm lying or not," said the fake Xiang Shaoyun as he slammed his palm down toward Xiang Shaoyun's head. His attack was ruthless, clearly aiming for Xiang Shaoyun's life.

Just as the palm was about to land, Xiang Shaoyun moved. Nobody could see his movement. All everyone could see was a chopstick piercing through the palm.

"Ahhh!"

The fake Xiang Shaoyun grabbed his bloody palm and wailed in pain. As a third-stage Sovereign, he had never expected to have his palm penetrated by a chopstick. After all, not even regular emperor-grade weapons could harm him. He finally realized that he had encountered a terrifyingly strong young man.

Retreat!

The fake Xiang Shaoyun decisively decided to retreat. He didn't even dare to say anything else. Only by fleeing would he perhaps be able to preserve his life. However, would Xiang Shaoyun allow him to flee? With a casual wave of his hand, Xiang Shaoyun grabbed the fake Xiang Shaoyun and smashed the fake Xiang Shaoyun's head into the table.

Boom!

The table shattered into pieces. Everyone in the restaurant was stunned. The whole situation had reversed so fast that they couldn't even react. Wasn't Xiang Shaoyun a Great Saint killer? Why was he being beaten so easily? At this point, even an idiot could see that this was a fake Xiang Shaoyun.

"What's the point of pretending to be me?" said Xiang Shaoyun with a sneer.

"R-release me, or the Devil Cultivating Sect won't spare you!" threatened the fake Xiang Shaoyun.

"Devil Cultivating Sect? What in the world is that?" asked Xiang Shaoyun doubtfully. His energy rushed into the fake Xiang Shaoyun's body and crippled the fake Xiang Shaoyun's cultivation.

Someone like this deserved death. He was already being lenient by only crippling the imposter. The fake Xiang Shaoyun wailed incessantly while Xiang Shaoyun casually tossed the fake Xiang Shaoyun out of the restaurant as though he was tossing some trash out.

He left some spirit crystals on the table and said, "Boss, I'll pay for the damages."

He then vanished into thin air.

Chapter 1410: Imperial Dusk City

The restaurant erupted with sounds of discussion after Xiang Shaoyun vanished. They finally realized that the so-called Xiang Shaoyun was a fake, while the stronger youngster was probably the actual Xiang Shaoyun. They felt greatly regretful for failing to befriend such an outstanding young man.

At this time, Xiang Shaoyun was already on the city streets, strolling around in a carefree manner. This kind of feeling where he wasn't rejected by his own was what he loved the most. But before he could go far, he sensed two people tailing him. The two were none other than the beauties who were with the fake Xiang Shaoyun earlier.

"Why are you following me? Are you trying to get revenge for that fellow from earlier?" asked Xiang Shaoyun.

The two were beautiful and elegant, both Dragon Ascension Realm cultivators. From their cultivation, one could see that they both came from a decent background.

The woman called Huang Yiyi said, "Excuse me, are you really Xiang Shaoyun?"

Xiang Shaoyun smiled and said, "That doesn't matter. Just come at me if you want to avenge him. If not, this is where we separate."

The woman in blue smiled and said, "We only want to thank you for exposing the fake Xiang Shaoyun. I'm Zhong Ling from Wind City's Zhong Clan. May I have your name?"

The woman called Zhong Ling seemed to be the more polite one. Instead of pushing for Xiang Shaoyun to admit his identity, she asked for his name.

Xiang Shaoyun smiled. "Hello. I'm never afraid to admit who I am. I'm precisely Xiang Shaoyun. Of course, you can consider me a fake Xiang Shaoyun as well. If there's nothing else, I'll be taking my leave."

"What's the rush, Mr. Xiang? We're your admirers!" pledged Zhong Ling tenderly.

"That's right. It is rumored that you reign above all your peers. Both of us are willing to become your companions and stay with you until our deaths," said Huang Yiyi.

Xiang Shaoyun waved his hand and showed them a carefree back as he said, "Thank you, but this is more than I deserve."

When he finished his words, he vanished into nothingness. The two couldn't even sense his presence anymore.

They stood blankly with deep disappointment in their hearts. Such a youth had boundless prospects. It would be great fortune for them if they could stay by his side. Unfortunately, they were unable to pique his interest. As for Xiang Shaoyun, he had arrived at Imperial Dusk City using Wind City's teleportation formation.

The Righteous Buddhist Sect had branch temples within the various dynasties, including in the Dusk Dynasty's Imperial Dusk City. The branch at Imperial Dusk City, in particular, was one of their seven major branches. One must obtain the acknowledgment of one of these branches in order to head to the main temple.

Imperial Dusk City was the Dusk Dynasty's capital and one of the Central Region's 10 major cities. The city occupied a large territory, filled with gorgeous and majestic ancient buildings. The streets within the city were wide, and powerful cultivators mounted on demonic beasts were frequently seen in the city. As a whole, the city looked incredibly imposing.

The Dusk Emperor was a terrific emperor. It was said that this emperor had cultivated the Divine Imperial Dusk Sutra to the eighth stage and was a true Great Saint. Each Dusk Emperor who had cultivated this technique to the ninth stage was an exceptionally powerful God Realm expert. These people would then abdicate the throne and become the grand emperor instead.

At present, the younger generations of the Imperial Dusk Clan were growing up one after another. The first prince and the second prince had also cultivated up to the seventh stage of the Divine Imperial Dusk Sutra and were powerful Saints. Both were also popular candidates to be the next Sunset Emperor.

It was also said that the third prince was unwilling to fall behind his two brothers. After entering the Dragon Phoenix Academy, the third prince had cultivated hard. He had reached the sixth-stage Sovereign Realm and would probably return to the dynasty before long. As for the other princes, they were temporarily too young to compete for the throne.

Xiang Shaoyun knew that both Huang Tianji and Huang Xiaoyue came from the Dusk Dynasty. He had some grudges with the two and only hoped to not attract more trouble in the city.

Unfortunately, the moment he arrived, a group of riders rushed toward him. They were all mounted on dragonblood horses and clad in golden armor, looking incredibly majestic. They were imperial guards, granted with the authority to punish and even execute anyone they deemed fit within the dynasty.

The group of 49 riders arrived before Xiang Shaoyun. The leader looked at Xiang Shaoyun from high above and asked, "Are you Xiang Shaoyun?"

Xiang Shaoyun frowned and ignored the leader. He wasn't too pleased with the leader's attitude.

"I'm asking you a question! Are you Xiang Shaoyun?" shouted the leader.

The 48 riders behind him unleashed their imposing auras. All 49 auras combined into a heavy pressure that caused the surrounding pedestrians to flee far away.

"Who are you to question this overlord?" replied Xiang Shaoyun unyieldingly.

"Audacious! Do you know that we're the imperial guards? This is our turf. When we ask a question, answer! Otherwise, you will be charged with disrespecting the dynasty and will be punished with death!" said the leader in an overbearing manner.

The leader was quite strong. He was a peak Sovereign while those behind him were all Sovereigns as well. They were probably the elites of the imperial guards. Even in the Central Region where spiritual energy was thick and draconic aura was plentiful, it still wasn't easy to form a group this powerful. Only a powerful dynasty like the Dusk Dynasty could form one.

"Scram!" Xiang Shaoyun gave a simple reply.

He then released his devilish energy. A powerful Devil Saint aura erupted from his body and turned into a storm that blasted all the riders away. Not one of them could remain on their mounts.

"Audacious! You dare attack the imperial guards? You better submit now, or you won't be able to leave the Imperial Dusk City alive!" roared the leader furiously.

Pa!

He was answered with a slap across his face. A red palm print was left on his face, and several of his teeth were sent flying away. The leader had not expected Xiang Shaoyun to attack. That was no different than slapping the entire imperial clan across the face.

"Scram, or I'll cripple all of you!" said Xiang Shaoyun as a ruthless aura erupted from him.

It did not matter if these people were here to look for trouble, as he found their attitude annoying.

"Very well. Stay here if you have the guts. You will regret this," said the leader as he hopped back on his mount and left with the rest of the imperial guards.

Looking at their departing backs, Xiang Shaoyun seemed to have understood something. He thought to himself, Looks like some trouble can't be avoided no matter what. Very well. I'll see for myself if my master's name is enough to suppress an imperial teacher.