

Overlord 301

Chapter 301: Fusing With the Soul Raising Stone

"All the ghostrunes seem to have gone missing? Did something happen?"

"Well, this will be the best time to go look for soul springs. We might be able to reap a great harvest with the disappearance of the ghostrunes."

"It has been two days since any soul spring was seen. Has something happened to cause both the soul springs and ghostrunes to go missing?"

"I don't care. The period of one month is almost up. I need to get at least one strand of soul spring before then."

...

Peace came suddenly to the Land of Soul Springs, and many people had a hard time adapting to it. Little did they know, both the soul spring and the ghostrunes had been completely harvested by one person. If news of what Xiang Shaoyun did spread, many would be in deep shock. Not only had he harvested the soul spring, he had even harvested the ghostrunes?

There were tens of thousands of ghostrunes, and a massive space would be required to store them all. Surprisingly, Xiang Shaoyun's Nether Soul Domain had enough space to fit them all. He even wondered if he was dreaming.

Only now did he realize that the Nether Soul Domain was the same as the astral cosmos sea. Both were essentially storage spaces in his body, with him being the master of both spaces.

As Xiang Shaoyun's soul power was equivalent to an eighth-stage Skysoar Realm expert's, he had a large space within his Nether Soul Domain. Even so, his Nether Soul Domain was still not big enough to keep all the ghostrunes. How then, had he taken all of them in?

It was thanks to the soul raising stone he was keeping in his Nether Soul Domain. Half a day ago, Xiang Shaoyun had agreed to bring all the ghostrunes with him. But after all the ghostrunes convened, he released his Nether Soul Domain only to find he did not have enough space for all of them. There were about 50,000 or 60,000 ghostrunes in total, and his Nether Soul Domain was not big enough for them.

While he hesitated, Devouring Ghost had said, "You have two methods to expand your Nether Soul Domain. First is by swallowing the ghostbloom, and the second is by fusing the soul raising stone with your Nether Soul Domain. I personally suggest the second method. If you can fuse the soul raising stone with your Nether Soul Domain, it will bring you great benefits now and in the future when you enter the Soul Foundation Realm."

It was a hard decision for Xiang Shaoyun to make. After all, he had promised Hua Cheng to bring her the soul raising stone. What should he tell her if he ended up using the stone for himself instead? Although he did not view himself as some upright gentleman, he was still someone who upheld his promises. Since he had promised Hua Cheng, he would not break it.

As Xiang Shaoyun hesitated, the ghostrune patriarch suddenly handed him an even larger soul raising stone.

"Master, I have another soul raising stone here."

Xiang Shaoyun had never imagined that the ghostrunes would actually have two soul raising stones, and the one being offered to him was more than double the size of the first soul raising stone they had given him.

"Looks like you haven't been completely honest with me," Xiang Shaoyun remarked with a gleeful laugh.

With this soul raising stone, he no longer had any worries. He directly placed a soul raising stone in his Nether Soul Domain. The moment the soul raising stone entered, the Nether Soul Domain started undergoing an astonishing transformation.

More than half of the soul raising stone's power was instantly absorbed by the Nether Soul Domain. The domain grew and expanded, the soul raising stone much more effective than Xiang Shaoyun had expected. Toward the end of the process, the soul raising stone's size had been reduced four or five times in size.

If previously Xiang Shaoyun's Nether Soul Domain was akin to a massive courtyard capable of holding 10,000 people, then his current Nether Soul Domain was akin to a massive village capable of easily holding all the ghostrunes.

The growth of the Nether Soul Domain also signified that Xiang Shaoyun himself had grown. His soul power soared, reaching a level equivalent to a peak Skysoar Realm expert's. The growth of soul gave him an extremely wondrous sensation, as if his very soul was floating up into the sky. In fact, he had a feeling his soul could grow even more if it wasn't for the limitation of his low cultivation level.

Xiang Shaoyun was pleased as he lamented inwardly, Fortunately I have Devouring Ghost with me. Otherwise, I wouldn't have known how helpful the soul raising stone would be to me.

He had just entered ninth-stage Transformation Realm, and with the growth of his soul power thanks to the soul raising stone, his new cultivation level had completely stabilized. Additionally, his eyes and ears had become sharper than before, and his senses had become much more sensitive. His detection range had also increased greatly. From now onward, ambushing him would be even harder.

At present, all the gostrunes were already inside the Nether Soul Domain. Xiang Shaoyun could sense that they were extremely content and comfortable there. If it wasn't for the gostrune patriarch restricting them, they would have started a wild celebration.

Some of the gostrunes had even directly broken through into the King Realm the moment they entered the Nether Soul Domain, which was completely outside of Xiang Shaoyun's expectations.

"The Nether Soul Domain is indeed a wondrous thing. If you can create an army of Nether Soul Puppets in the future, you will be able to dominate the world. Hahaha," said Devouring Ghost.

"Huh? I can even make Nether Soul Puppets?" Xiang Shaoyun was confused.

"Of course you can. But I don't really know that much about it. You are still too weak now. When you grow stronger and learn more, you will understand what it is all about," said Devouring Ghost. "Alright, let's leave this shitty place. I can't stand this place anymore."

"Ok, let's leave," Xiang Shaoyun agreed.

And thus, he started his journey out of the Land of Soul Springs.

There was about a week left before the one month period was over, and some of those who had gotten a soul spring for themselves had long departed. As for those who had not found any soul

springs, they were planning to make a final attempt to get one. Unfortunately, it had been a few days since any strands of soul spring were seen, and the people were becoming anxious as the one month deadline approached.

More and more people decided to throw caution to the wind and enter deep into the territory of the ghostrunes in hope of getting a soul spring. But even after going deep inside the territory, not a single ghostrune or soul spring was in sight, which caused the humans to become even more curious, and they continued exploring. One such group of people had stumbled upon Xiang Shaoyun who was on his way out.

Xiang Shaoyun was able to sense them hiding nearby waiting for him, but he did not care and continued treading ahead. With his strength, nobody here could stop him. When he approached them, the ambushers all came out of hiding. There were about a dozen of them; none were weaker than eighth-stage Transformation Realm.

"Haha, so it's the renowned Xiang Shaoyun? Let me pay him my respects," a crisp voice rang out in the air.

Xiang Shaoyun indifferently looked at the voice's owner and said, "I am Xiang Shaoyun. What do you want? Are you here to rob me of my soul spring?"

Chapter 302: You Think I Don't Dare to Kill You?

The group of people blocking Xiang Shaoyun's path were the members of Thousand Forest Academy. They were led by a young man of about 20 years old with a charming smile on his handsome face. Dressed gorgeously with a folding fan in his hand, his entire person emanated grace and elegance.

This person was none other than Lin Zihan the Playboy, a genius comparable to the likes of Zi Jingyun the Lightning Kid and Han Chen the Blackfrost Spear. He was flanked on both sides by two exceptionally beautiful women—a sight worthy of his title, the Playboy.

"Be at ease, Brother Xiang. The Thousand Forest Academy has always been friendly with the Cloud Pavilion. I, Lin Zihan, will naturally not cross the line I shouldn't cross," said Lin Zihan with a warm smile.

"Good to hear. Bye," Xiang Shaoyun cupped his hands and excused himself.

"Please wait a moment, Brother Xiang. You are just leaving the ghostrune territory. I wonder if you had found any soul springs? If you have some in your possession, may I propose a trade?" asked Lin Zihan.

"I don't have enough for myself," said Xiang Shaoyun indifferently.

"What is that attitude? Our Junior Brother Lin is speaking politely, yet you do not seem to appreciate it at all," said a woman beside Lin Zihan coldly.

"What makes you think so?" Xiang Shaoyun frowned.

"Since my Junior Brother Lin wants your soul spring, just hand it over," demanded the woman.

Lin Zihan cut her off. "Senior Sister Yan, don't speak nonsense. Since Brother Xiang does not have any extra soul springs, forget it."

"But getting a soul spring is vital for your breakthrough," said the woman with indignation.

"Haha, it's not like I won't be able to enter the Skysoar Realm without a soul spring. With my talent, I, Lin Zihan, won't have any problem entering the Skysoar Realm!" declared Lin Zihan confidently.

"I know, and I trust you. But a soul spring can greatly increase your speed. Let me get it for you!" said the woman.

She then walked toward Xiang Shaoyun and said, "Just offer a price. How many spirit crystals do you want? Or do you want any other treasures for it? Just name your price. I, Yan Yan, will not take no for an answer!"

"Senior Sister Yan, come back!" Lin Zihan called out.

But the other woman beside him smiled and said, "Just let Senior Sister Yan get it for you. You are still too kind."

That caused Lin Zihan to hesitate.

Xiang Shaoyun shot Yan Yan an indifferent gaze and said, "I told you. I don't have any extra soul springs."

"Even if you only have one, that is enough. Take it out. We need it, and I am willing to buy it off you for 10,000 mid-grade spirit crystals. That is a fair price," said Yan Yan with an overbearing tone.

"Hehe, since it's such a fair price, you should buy it somewhere else instead. I have no need for spirit crystals. Alright, I'm leaving. Get out of my way," said Xiang Shaoyun with a sneer.

Yan Yan drew her sword and pointed it at Xiang Shaoyun before bellowing, "Are you really going to force my hand? Do you want me to kill you where you stand?"

But the moment she pointed her sword at Xiang Shaoyun, he flickered and dashed toward her at a speed too fast for her to react.

"Senior Sister Yan, watch out!" Lin Zihan's hairs stood on end as he cried out in alarm.

Unfortunately, his warning came too late. Xiang Shaoyun instantly grabbed Yan Yan's wrist before snatching her sword and pointing it at her neck.

"You want to rob me? I, Xiang Shaoyun, am not afraid of anyone!" said Xiang Shaoyun coldly.

Yan Yan couldn't even react; the sword was already pointed at her neck. Panic and indignation covered her face as she said, "J-just kill me if you dare!"

"You think I don't dare to kill you?" Xiang Shaoyun sneered. As he spoke, he applied some force with the sword. Only a tiny bit more force was required, and Yan Yan would be dead.

"Brother Xiang, please calm down. This is a misunderstanding. Let me apologize to you on behalf of my Senior Sister Yan. Let's forget about this," said Lin Zihan with a sincere tone.

Xiang Shaoyun couldn't really be bothered to hold a grudge against her, so he dropped the sword and walked away, ignoring Lin Zihan's group.

"Brother Xiang, the Myriad Sword Sect and Devil Blood Society are both looking for you. I heard they are waiting for you at the exit. Do watch out for them," Lin Zihan still couldn't help tipping off Xiang Shaoyun.

Xiang Shaoyun nodded and continued walking away.

After Xiang Shaoyun left, Yan Yan complained resentfully, "Junior Brother Lin, why did you give up on such a good chance to get a soul spring? If we worked together, we could definitely beat him!"

Lin Zihan waved his hand and said, "No. Even if we all attacked together, we still wouldn't be his match."

"Senior Brother Lin, why are you lowering yourself to praise others? This is not your style," said the other woman beside him.

"That's right. With your strength as a War King, you can definitely match him. With our help, it won't be hard to take him down," said Yan Yan in agreement.

Lin Zihan replied in a grave tone, "I haven't been able to see through this Xiang Shaoyun at all. Back then, when he defeated Lightning Kid and killed the Four Divinity Swords, I still had some confidence that I could fight him alone. But now, I have no confidence at all."

"Has he grown stronger? Even so, he will still be in the Transformation Realm. It is impossible for a human to become a King here," said the woman doubtfully.

"Yes, he is still in the Transformation Realm, and his cultivation level is still slightly lower than mine. But when he had defeated Lightning Kid and the Four Divinity Swords, he was still at the eighth stage of the Transformation Realm. Now, he is already at the ninth stage, whereas I'm at the peak Transformation Realm. Even with a higher cultivation level, I am definitely not his match, even with your help. We will only make ourselves a powerful enemy for no reason. Just from how easily he had snatched Senior Sister Yan's sword, that much is clear," said Lin Zihan.

The two women blanked out. They had been assuming that Xiang Shaoyun was a peak Transformation Realm cultivator all this while. But it turned out he was only at the eighth stage before this and had just reached the ninth stage.

If he was a War King while at eighth-stage Transformation Realm, he was most likely a Super War King now that he had reached the ninth stage. The three of them were definitely not enough to deal with a Super War King, and there was even a possibility that all of them would perish.

"Junior Brother Lin, let's continue exploring, then. We will definitely get a soul spring for you," said Yan Yan.

Lin Zihan waved his hand and said, "There is no need to keep going. I doubt we can find any. Let's just leave."

He then led the group away. He had decided to leave because he was confident Xiang Shaoyun was the key for him to get a soul spring. He did not believe that Xiang Shaoyun only had one strand of soul spring, and he had a feeling that befriending Xiang Shaoyun would be beneficial to him.

Chapter 303: Liang Zhuangmin and Hua Honglou Attacked

A large number of people were standing in a standoff near the Land of Soul Springs' exit. These people were the members of Cloud Margin Pavilion, Myriad Sword Sect, and Devil Blood Society. Currently, the Myriad Sword Sect and Devil Blood Society were surrounding the people of Cloud Margin Pavilion, not letting them leave. Of course, not all the members of these three organizations were here. Only a portion of them were.

"Bring it on. You people from Myriad Sword Sect and Devil Blood Society are trying to create trouble for my Brother Yun? Over my dead body!" Liang Zhuangmin's loud voice rang out.

Hua Honglou's voice also rang out, "That's right. The only reason you people are stopping us from leaving is to use us to force Shaoyun's hand. Do you think we will sit here and let you do as you wish? Red House members, heed my command. I hereby declare a blood feud against anyone daring to harm any of our people."

After separating from Xiang Shaoyun, Liang Zhuangmin and Hua Honglou had not left. Rather, they had stayed near the exit, waiting to provide any backup Xiang Shaoyun might need. As they waited, they kept hearing about Xiang Shaoyun, such as his victory over Lightning Kid and the Four Divinity Swords. Words of his might spread far and wide, his reputation soaring to a level comparable to the likes of the super geniuses such as Devil Fairy, Wu Longfei, and Wu Chi.

While they were rejoicing on his behalf, they were surrounded by the Myriad Sword Sect and Devil Blood Society. The Myriad Sword Sect was using the excuse that they were here to avenge the Four

Divinity Swords. Since Liang Zhuangmin and Hua Honglou had a good relationship with Xiang Shaoyun, they became the targets of their revenge as well.

As for the Devil Blood Society, they would naturally not miss out on a chance to act against Xiang Shaoyun. They knew Devil Face had been killed by Xiang Shaoyun, and they also knew about how Xiang Shaoyun had killed three of their overseers at the Moon Gazing Platform.

All that Xiang Shaoyun had done gave them enough reason to act against Liang Zhuangmin and Hua Honglou. However, the Myriad Sword Sect and Devil Blood Society did not have a good relationship with each other either. Thus, apart from surrounding the Cloud Margin Pavilion people, they hadn't done anything yet.

Chu Chunyu opened his eyes wide and demanded, "If you surrender, I can consider sparing you people when Xiang Shaoyun arrives. Otherwise, none of you will leave alive!"

"Those are some big words. Not even Wu Longfei would dare speak like that with me. Who do you think you are?" Liang Zhuangmin said as he stepped forth and sent a majestic yellow aura crushing down on Chu Chunyu.

About a dozen Free Society members were gathered around Liang Zhuangmin, and although their overall strength was not as great as the Red House's, they were still a force to be reckoned with.

"Hmph. Fine, I'll see how strong you bugs are," said Chu Chunyu before drawing his sword and stabbing it at Liang Zhuangmin.

Chu Chunyu's strength was similar to Huo Linfei's, or to be precise, he was slightly stronger. The moment he attacked, he was like a viper that aimed straight for Liang Zhuangmin's vitals.

"Open your eyes wide and see clearly!" Liang Zhuangmin said and lifted his axe before swinging it at Chu Chunyu.

The weapons clashed, creating a series of sparks in the air. The result of the clash was that Chu Chunyu's sword was deformed, and Chu Chunyu was sent flying. As for Liang Zhuangmin, like a barbaric dragon, he pressed on toward his opponent. Even so, Chu Chunyu did not feel any fear. Moving nimbly like a slithering snake, he avoided Liang Zhuangmin's pursuit before countering with more than 10 stabs of his sword.

Cling! Clank!

The stabs hit, but none of them were able to pierce Liang Zhuangmin's energy barrier.

"F*ck off!" Liang Zhuangmin bellowed and channeled more power to his axe. He swung the axe continuously, sending one axe energy after another, each a dreadful strength capable of crushing mountains. He seemed unstoppable.

Chu Chunyu no longer dared to meet Liang Zhuangmin head on and was forced to retreat and shift his combat method to a hit-and-run style instead. He was worthy of being someone who cultivated the power of wind, as he held advantage over Liang Zhuangmin in terms of speed, and he was confident his speed would grant him victory.

However, Liang Zhuangmin's brute strength was too great. Even after numerous hit-and-run attempts, Chu Chunyu was still unable to break through Liang Zhuangmin's defense. Instead, he was forced to retreat again and again, the impact from the axe energies causing blood to drip from his mouth.

While this battle was ongoing, the Myriad Sword Sect people also swarmed those of the Free Society. Chu Chunyu had gathered over 40 Myriad Sword Sect members, and with their number, they held the advantage over the Free Society members.

Liang Zhuangmin, who was winning his fight, was forced to shift his attention away from Chu Chunyu and attack the other Myriad Sword Sect members instead. That was the only way to reduce the pressure on the Free Society members.

Liang Zhuangmin was extremely valiant, capable of fighting 10 people alone. His defensive barrier was impenetrable, and only king weapons would pose a threat to him. Thanks to his mighty defense, he did not need to bother blocking or dodging any attacks. He only attacked again and again, planting fear in the hearts of the Myriad Sword Sect members.

If it wasn't for the Chu Chunyu's continuous hit-and-run attempts distracting Liang Zhuangmin, the Myriad Sword Sect would definitely have suffered great losses under Liang Zhuangmin.

Meanwhile, Hua Honglou had also engaged Mo Sha in a fight. Both of them were peak Transformation Realm experts and War Kings. They were evenly matched, and their fight was becoming intense.

Hua Honglou was extraordinarily skilled with the sword. She sent strands of fiery sword energy flying, creating explosion after explosion in the air. They were like blooming fireworks wreaking destruction. As for Mo Sha, he wielded a saber and swung it repeatedly, creating sandstorms that filled the air and reduced visibility.

Rumble! Rumble!

Sounds of explosion rang out repeatedly as two differing energies splashed everywhere.

Likewise, the Red House people also engaged the Devil Blood Society people in battle. It was a pity that Chen Zilong was not present. Without him, the combat prowess of the Red House was greatly reduced, and they were placed in a disadvantaged position the moment the battle started.

"Brothers of Free Society, break off and leave the Land of Soul Springs!" Liang Zhuangmin commanded as he could no longer continue. The pressure he faced was too great, as he had to fight while protecting his men at the same time.

He had already killed four Myriad Sword Sect members, but he had also sustained some injuries from Chu Chunyu's continuous hit-and-run strikes. If he was forced to continue protecting his men, he would eventually suffer defeat.

Hua Honglou also gave the same order, telling the Red House people to leave. Faced with the prospect of death, some of their members who feared death started fleeing the battlefield. Of course, there were also some who did not fear death and insisted on staying behind.

Hua Honglou was distracted trying to take care of her companions, and she was finally hit by Mo Sha's concealed weapon. She wailed in pain, and Liang Zhuangmin, hearing it, became anxious. He shouted, "Sister-in-law, I'll come help you!"

"You can't even help yourself, let alone her," said Chu Chunyu, who unleashed his trump card and stopped Liang Zhuangmin from leaving.

"Damn you!" Liang Zhuangmin was fuming. With a roar, he channeled even more power to his axe and attacked, vowing to first kill Chu Chunyu before doing anything else.

Meanwhile, Mo Sha seemed to have transformed completely into a sandstorm that slammed down at Hua Honglou. "Die, b*tch!"

Because the concealed weapon had struck Hua Honglou's vitals, she was currently completely helpless. Seeing the incoming attack, she shut her eyes in resignation and muttered, "Farewell, Shaoyun."

It was at this moment that a loud voice rumbled in the air, "Touch even one hair of hers and you will die a horrible death."

Chapter 304: Rescuing the Beauty, Battling Mo Sha

The voice appeared like a sudden thunderclap. It rumbled on, and the suddenness of it stunned Mo Sha for a split second. It was at that moment that a beam of finger energy struck Mo Sha's Mad Sand Saber to the side, saving Hua Honglou from the fate of death. Next, a figure could be seen dashing over at a speed so fast a trail of afterimages followed behind him.

"It's Shaoyun!" Hua Honglou cried out jubilantly as she opened her eyes again.

"Hmph. No one can save you!" Mo Sha snorted coldly as he swung his saber down again. He was not going to give up on this rare chance to kill Hua Honglou. But the newcomer had already arrived behind him, and a golden punch was unleashed straight at Mo Sha's back.

Mo Sha could feel the newcomer's surging momentum; the overbearing force gave him an intense feeling of danger. If he carried through attacking Hua Honglou, that punch would proceed to blast him into mincemeat. He thus decided to instead defend, diving to the side to just barely avoid the punch.

The newcomer did not press on. Rather, he pulled Hua Honglou back onto her feet and dragged her to the side. The strong and reliable arms around Hua Honglou gave her an unprecedented sense of security.

"Can you still hang on?" Xiang Shaoyun asked the pale Hua Honglou.

Hua Honglou had an amazing figure, and her bountiful chest was currently resting against Xiang Shaoyun's chest. The faint fragrance about her caused his heart to thump. She was a woman capable of stirring a man's bestial instinct.

"I-I'm fine," replied Hua Honglou with her arms around Xiang Shaoyun's neck.

A slight blush covered her pale face, making her look even more beautiful and lovable. Xiang Shaoyun was about to say something in reply when Mo Sha came shouting with a brand new attack, "Xiang Shaoyun! You're finally here! Die!"

Billowing Sandstorm!

A massive tsunami of sand appeared and swept forth. Mo Sha's combat prowess was comparable to Devil Face's, or to be precise, he was slightly stronger. He was most likely one of the Devil Blood Society's hidden geniuses. With Hua Honglou in his arms, Xiang Shaoyun dodged the attack.

"You're fast, but how long can you keep this up?" Mo Sha said as he sent a series of saber energies flying toward Xiang Shaoyun.

Mo Sha attacked mercilessly, each of his attacks containing the might of a War King. However, with the Nether Soul Domain, Xiang Shaoyun was able to see all the attacks' trajectories clearly. He dodged repeatedly, causing Mo Sha's attacks to keep hitting nothing.

Hua Honglou said, "Put me down. Ignore me for now."

"Don't worry. Even with you in my arms, I can still defeat him," Xiang Shaoyun replied. He stopped avoiding, drew his Purple Lightning Saber, and swung it at Mo Sha.

He was not holding anything back and utilized his saber intent the moment he attacked. The seemingly casual swing of his saber gave rise to an exceptionally breathtaking saber energy. The saber energy slammed right into the attack's weak point, causing Mo Sha's attack to crumble. The saber energy weakened, but it still continued on toward Mo Sha's abdomen.

Bang!

The attack landed and sent Mo Sha flying away. However, Mo Sha wasn't harmed; he had merely been sent flying by the impact. He clearly had on a high-grade armor. Otherwise, that slash would have been enough to kill him.

Xiang Shaoyun did not hesitate and pressed on with another slash at Mo Sha's head. He would not stop before killing his opponent. With his recent breakthrough, Xiang Shaoyun's speed and attack had become even more overbearing. In the blink of an eye, he arrived right before Mo Sha, greatly shocking him.

"You won't be able to kill me that easily!" Mo Sha roared and sent a concealed weapon shooting out of his sleeve. The sneak attack was incredibly fast, something almost impossible to guard against.

"Watch out for the concealed weapon!" Hua Honglou cried out, but her warning came too late, as the concealed weapon had already reached Xiang Shaoyun.

Just as the attack was about to hit, Xiang Shaoyun shifted the trajectory of his saber and blocked the attack.

Clank!

The concealed weapon met the saber, creating a spark and a crisp clank.

"How is that possible?" Mo Sha cried out in disbelief. His sneak attack had never failed, and he had decent success rates against even Skysoar Realm experts. But it had actually failed against Xiang Shaoyun.

Thanks to his newly evolved gift of instincts, Xiang Shaoyun's reaction time was even faster than before. In fact, he noticed the sneak attack the moment Mo Sha activated the concealed weapon. Otherwise, he would have been hit by the attack. It wouldn't be an exaggeration to say that Xiang Shaoyun's reaction time was even faster than regular Kings.

"Time for you to go to the afterlife," said Xiang Shaoyun coldly as he prepared to continue attacking. It was at this moment that several Devil Blood Society members appeared and sneak attacked him, forcing him to turn around and deal with them instead.

Rumble! Rumble!

Lightning energy spread everywhere along with saber energy, wreaking havoc and causing wails to ring out incessantly. Mo Sha took the opportunity to reorganize himself before activating his trump card.

"I, Mo Sha, have just made my existence known. How can I suffer defeat so soon? Die!" he roared and pushed his strength to his limit. The saber in his hand shone brightly as he swung it, sending a boundless saber energy forward.

Desert Storm!

Instantly, the entire area seemed to have transformed into a desert in the midst of a sandstorm. Numerous tornadoes formed, and like a dragon, they laid waste to the area, displaying the might of a natural calamity.

Mo Sha had once been lost in the desert for a month. In the midst of thirst and exhaustion, he had stumbled upon an intense sandstorm, and it was then that he had come to comprehend this technique. It was an attack strong enough to endanger even second-stage Skysoar Realm experts. Both Xiang Shaoyun and Hua Honglou could sense the attack's terrifying might.

Hua Honglou cried out in alarm, "Shaoyun, run!"

"The word run does not exist in my dictionary," said Xiang Shaoyun. His eyes turned sharp, and with a roar, he raised his Purple Lightning Saber. Innate purple lightning surged out of his body, forming a roaring purple dragon.

Lightning Slash From the Clear Sky!

An incomparably overbearing power of lightning clashed with the sandstorm, causing the sandstorm to scatter in defeat. The lightning burnt Mo Sha, sending him flying and coughing up blood. His body twitched repeatedly, looking extremely sorry.

"Why is he so strong!" Mo Sha was in disbelief.

He had personally witnessed the fight between Xiang Shaoyun and Lightning Kid. Back then, he had judged that he was definitely a match for him, but now, that did not seem to be the case anymore. Xiang Shaoyun had obviously grown stronger.

"Die." With one hand wrapped around Hua Honglou, Xiang Shaoyun raised his saber with his other hand before slashing down at Mo Sha.

Chapter 305: Mighty Liang Zhuangmin

"You want to kill me? Dream on!"

It seemed like Mo Sha's fate was already sealed, yet he still maintained such confidence. It was clear he still had an unrevealed trump card. Right as Xiang Shaoyun's saber was about to reach Mo Sha, Mo Sha crushed something in his hand.

Bang!

The moment it was crushed, an indescribable power erupted out of nowhere. The eruption forced Xiang Shaoyun to temporarily withdraw from Mo Sha, with Hua Honglou still in his arms. Fortunately, the eruption did not seem to be especially destructive. It seemed like it was meant to be disruptive rather than destructive. When everything settled, Xiang Shaoyun found that he had already lost sight of Mo Sha.

"What is going on?" Xiang Shaoyun frowned.

Hua Honglou was also in astonishment as she had no idea how Mo Sha had vanished in such a situation.

"It's a distraction technique, also known as a concealment technique. It is a technique capable of helping one escape instantaneously. He is currently fleeing toward the exit," Devouring Ghost's voice rang out in Xiang Shaoyun's head.

With his reminder, Xiang Shaoyun extended the detection range of his Nether Soul Domain in the direction of the exit. Sure enough, he found the fleeing Mo Sha.

Xiang Shaoyun was about to give chase when Hua Honglou said, "Shaoyun, put me down. Please help my brothers and sisters of the Red House."

"I don't need to put you down to help them, though. I don't feel safe leaving you alone right now," said Xiang Shaoyun before heading toward the chaotic battlefield. Like a wolf that had entered a flock of sheep, his Purple Lightning Saber swept everywhere, killing Devil Blood Society members left and right.

"Ahhhh!"

Blood and flesh of Devil Blood Society members flew everywhere. Not one of them was his match, and in the blink of an eye, about six of them were killed. It was only now that the Devil Blood Society people noticed that Mo Sha was gone.

It broke the little fight they had left. They scattered everywhere, trying to flee the battlefield. Meanwhile, since Liang Zhuangmin knew that Xiang Shaoyun had arrived, he no longer held anything back. With a renewed vigor, he focused on his fight with Chu Chunyu.

"You damned kid! Only knowing how to use others as your cover...it's time for you to learn the consequence of provoking me. Die!" Liang Zhuangmin roared and swung his axe repeatedly, sending numerous Myriad Sword Sect members flying everywhere before charging at Chu Chunyu.

Chu Chunyu was frightened by Liang Zhuangmin's aggression, but he still forced himself to calm down and face Liang Zhuangmin, hoping he could obtain victory through his superiority in speed.

Alas, although Liang Zhuangmin wasn't advantageous in terms of speed, when he erupted at full power, his speed was still not something that could be underestimated. Like a barbaric dragon, he charged left and right, forcing Chu Chunyu to retreat again and again. Each time he neared Chu Chunyu, he would suddenly erupt in power and swing his axe madly.

Roiling Earth Dragon!

Like an earth dragon, Liang Zhuangmin's axe energy burst out of the ground, causing an earthquake and displaying a might comparable to a real dragon as it filled the air with dust and pebbles.

Staring at such a terrifying axe energy flying toward him, Chu Chunyu was completely gripped by fear. He had a feeling that no matter what he did, he wouldn't be able to escape, and his only option was to brace himself for collision.

Thousand Twisting Snakes!

He stabbed his sword forward 49 times, creating 49 energy vipers that shot forward and twirled around the earth dragon, all of them biting and tearing at the dragon. However, the dragon was too big and too brutishly mighty. The vipers were instantly crushed; not one of them could stop its advance.

Rumble! Rumble!

The axe energy in the form of a dragon crushed all obstacles and finally arrived before Chu Chunyu and cut him into two, killing him on the spot.

His blood dyed Liang Zhuangmin's body in red, but Liang Zhuangmin still roared with laughter and said, "Not even Wu Longfei can act too cocky before me. Who do you think you are?"

Chu Chunyu's death shocked the Myriad Sword Sect members.

"Come on here! You guys wanted to kill every last one of us, right? Your daddy will send every one of you to the afterlife!" Liang Zhuangmin bellowed at the Myriad Sword Sect members.

He attacked again, sending his overbearing axe energy out. Two people were killed instantly before the axe energy crashed into the ground and left behind a deep cut. No matter how one looked at Liang Zhuangmin, his strength was not something a mere Transformation Realm cultivator should possess.

Liang Zhuangmin was insanely strong, worthy of being a person once known as the number one under Skysoar Realm in the Cloud Margin Pavilion. The Myriad Sword Sect members suffered the same fate as the Devil Blood Society members. They couldn't stop Liang Zhuangmin's advance, and with the shock from Chu Chunyu's death, they started fleeing.

And thus the battle came to an end. The Red House and Free Society lost nearly half their members, while the Myriad Sword Sect and Devil Blood Society had also lost a lot of their people. One could say it was a battle where both sides had suffered great losses. If Xiang Shaoyun had not arrived when he did, the battle might have ended very differently.

"Haha, Brother Yun, good thing you arrived just in time. If something happened to my sister-in-law, I wouldn't be able to forgive myself," said Liang Zhuangmin.

"It is all my fault. Both you and Honglou have been dragged into my troubles," Xiang Shaoyun said guiltily.

"What bullshit is that? They were obviously trying to rob your soul spring. That is not your fault," said Liang Zhuangmin. "How is my sister-in-law?"

"She's injured and poisoned," said Xiang Shaoyun with a frown.

Earlier, he only knew that she was injured, but he had no idea she was poisoned as well. Otherwise, he would have prioritized healing her first before resuming the fight. Fortunately, she cultivated the power of flame, which offered some resistance toward poison. Thus, for now, her condition was stable.

She was currently healing at a quiet spot. The other Red House members were doing the same. As for their dead comrades, the only thing they could do was sigh. The Land of Soul Springs was a cruel place where death was common. One would have nobody to blame if one ended up dead due to lack of strength.

"It is my fault for not protecting them well enough," Liang Zhuangmin blamed himself.

Xiang Shaoyun waved his hand. "Don't say that. They have more people, and we already did very well to even emerge victorious. Moreover, Honglou was injured by a concealed weapon. It is very hard to guard against something like that. It's just too bad that the leader of the Devil Blood Society group managed to escape."

"He won't be able to escape us forever. Let's go out and kill him!" Liang Zhuangmin said.

"Yes, he won't be able to escape us forever, so there's no need to rush it. We can set out after Honglou recovers," said Xiang Shaoyun.

Liang Zhuangmin nodded and stopped talking. He also needed to heal up. While Liang Zhuangmin, Hua Honglou, and the others were healing themselves, Xiang Shaoyun heard news that Devil Fairy had challenged Wu Longfei and that Chen Zilong had challenged Wu Chi. They would battle before the one month period was up, and it would be how they would decide who among them was the actual number one under the Skysoar Realm.

Chapter 306: Can You Move Your Hand Now?

It had always been publicly acknowledged that Wu Longfei, Devil Fairy, and Wu Chi were the strongest of their generation. As for Chen Zilong, like Xiang Shaoyun, he had suddenly emerged in

the Land of Soul Springs. With his overbearingly powerful Qilin Arms, he defeated Han Chen the Blackfrost Spear from the Black Ice Palace, making a name for himself.

Now, Chen Zilong was challenging Wu Chi the Moha Cicada from Buddha's Path Temple. Not many people possessed that kind of courage. As for Wu Longfei, he was known as the number one young swordsman, a person who had comprehended sword intent. One slash of his was capable of changing the world and the heavens.

For someone his age, such a strength was enough to dominate all his peers. The Devil Fairy was the number one genius of the Devil Blood Society with numerous trump cards up her sleeve. Just the fact that she dared challenge Wu Longfei was proof of her strength.

Xiang Shaoyun felt his blood boiling hearing about the challenges being thrown about. Who wouldn't want to be number one among one's peers? Sure, reputation might be vain and empty, but it was still something one could be proud of.

Forget it. These quarrels between children are beneath this young master. My opponents should be those at the Skysoar Realm and beyond, Xiang Shaoyun ultimately told himself.

After leaving the Land of Soul Springs, it would be time for him to depart from the Cloud Margin Pavilion. Otherwise, he would risk being discovered by his enemies. He planned to look for a place to cultivate and reach the Skysoar Realm first. After that, he would seek Devouring Ghost's advice on how to grow even faster. That was his current priority.

His intuition was telling him that those traitors were getting near. If they were still not here after searching for him for so long, they would all turn into the Ziling Sect's greatest source of embarrassment.

After half a day of recuperating, Liang Zhuangmin was brimming with vitality again. He had only sustained some external injuries in the first place and a few internal injuries. After some bandaging and rest, he had mostly recovered.

The others had not recovered as quickly, but they had still recovered enough to regain mobility. They all gathered and waited for the command to leave. The ones here were the ones who had stayed loyal and remained in face of danger and overwhelming odds, and they were decent comrades to have.

Liang Zhuangmin told the few Free Society members left to leave and return to the outside world. Out there, with Cloud Margin Pavilion elders watching over them, they would be safe. As for the Red House members, they all waited for Hua Honglou to wake up before making a decision.

However, Hua Honglou seemed to be in bad shape. Her aura was weakening, and a shade of black covered her face. It was obvious she had failed to push out the poison within her and had even allowed the poison to spread. Xiang Shaoyun and Liang Zhuangmin became anxious when they saw her condition.

"She does not seem to be doing well," said Liang Zhuangmin.

Xiang Shaoyun frowned. "Big brother, can you stand guard for us? I will help her expel the poison."

After saying that, he walked over and lifted Hua Honglou as he said, "Honglou, hang on. I'll help you expel the poison."

Hua Honglou opened her eyes and blinked weakly in response. Xiang Shaoyun then brought her to a concealed spot and helped her sit down in the lotus position before doing so himself. He then studied Hua Honglou's injuries and found that the wound was near her heart. The moment the poison spread to her heart, she would die.

"Your flame power is not enough to expel the poison. Let me transfer a strand of millennium earthcore fire to you. Refine it and expel the poison," said Xiang Shaoyun.

Hua Honglou nodded weakly. Xiang Shaoyun then placed his hand on the wound.

"Uhhh."

Hua Honglou groaned with an expression of pain on her face. Inwardly however, she was feeling extremely bashful. The spot where Xiang Shaoyun had placed his hand was too sensitive, and with his large hand, he had cupped the entirety of a certain spot on her chest.

That spot felt extremely nice to touch. It was a handful, and coupled with Hua Honglou's groan, Xiang Shaoyun felt his blood stirring. Fortunately, he knew his current priority. He quickly cleared his mind of all distracting thoughts before sending a strand of Yun Flame's energy toward the wound. He controlled the strand of energy carefully, as the strand must travel slowly and bit by bit. Otherwise, he would burn Hua Honglou's heart before expelling the poison.

With the strand of energy from Yun Flame, a large portion of the poison was instantly cleared. The poison was pushed away from her heart, but it started spreading to other parts of her body instead.

Xiang Shaoyun focused on protecting Hua Honglou's heart with the flame energy, not allowing the poison to continue damaging her heart. His other hand gripped Hua Honglou's hand as he sent a tiny strand of Yun Flame's energy there. "Immediately refine this strand of millennium earthcore fire and use it to fight the poison."

Hua Honglou did not delay and quickly circulated her cultivation method. The strand of energy caused her pain, but she still drew it into her stars and started refining it. Expression of pain appeared on her face, but the pain was still bearable for her.

After all, this strand of flame was sent over by Xiang Shaoyun, and it was relatively mild. Otherwise, it would be almost impossible for her to tame and refine it.

Hua Honglou had always been a genius cultivator. She was able to quickly refine the flame energy, and she started circulating it around her body to combat the poison. However, she did not have enough flame energy and so she requested more from Xiang Shaoyun.

At the request, Xiang Shaoyun sent a bigger strand of Yun Flame's energy over. Borrowing her previous experience, Hua Honglou was able to quickly refine this strand of energy. The flame power within her strengthened, and more of the poison was cleared from her body.

This continued for a few times until finally, Hua Honglou regained a rosy complexion. Evidently, she had fully expelled the poison in her body. Her aura seemed to have grown as well, and it seemed like she was going to enter the Skysoar Realm soon. She finally opened her eyes, looking at the face right in front of her, etching that handsome face in her mind.

"How are you?" Xiang Shaoyun asked.

"I'm fine now," said Hua Honglou.

"Do you want to double check? You can't be careless. This poison does not fear ordinary flames, so it is obvious how strong it is," advised Xiang Shaoyun seriously.

"Um, I know. I have already checked a few times. I think I'm good," Hua Honglou said.

"Good. It's good that you're fine. Otherwise, I would have lost a bed warming maid just like that!" lamented Xiang Shaoyun.

"I'm fine, so can you move your hand now?" Hua Honglou asked as she looked straight at Xiang Shaoyun.

"Uhm...oh...I was worried that there might still be some poison left in you. I'll remove my hand now," said Xiang Shaoyun.

He then grudgingly removed his hand from Hua Honglou's chest.

But after he removed the hand, Hua Honglou said, "In truth, if you want to continue putting your hand there, I won't blame you."

Xiang Shaoyun had the urge to put his hand back on her chest, but it was too bad she had already stood up and walked away.

Chapter 307: Wu Chi and Zhi Yong

Three days before the end of the one month period.

During the final three days, the people searching for soul springs had mostly gathered near the exit. They all looked dispirited. It was clear they had all failed to find any soul springs.

"The entire ghostrune race has vanished along with the soul spring. Have the ghostrunes gone into hiding with the soul spring? Damn it!"

"Yeah, I found nothing when I entered the ghostrune territory two days ago as well, and I hadn't found any soul springs either. Damn it!"

"I waited on the Moon Gazing Platform for a long time and did not get any soul springs either. Looks like the soul spring has really vanished."

"Perhaps there are only limited strands of soul spring in existence, and only a few strands would be produced every 10 years? We haven't been able to find anything because there were none left for this batch?"

"Forget it. Wu Longfei is going to battle Devil Fairy, and Wu Chi will battle Chen Zilong. These will be two battles worth watching."

"I think Wu Longfei will definitely be the final victor. His sword intent is stunningly powerful."

...

As they gathered in wait, it did not take long for the people to shift their focus to the coming battles between geniuses. Xiang Shaoyun, Liang Zhuangmin, and Hua Honglou had stayed as well. They wanted to see for themselves how the two battles would end.

Initially, Xiang Shaoyun and Liang Zhuangmin weren't interested in watching the battles. They had only stayed at Hua Honglou's request. After all, Chen Zilong was a Red House member. If he could emerge victorious, that would bring great prestige to the Red House, and their status in the Cloud Margin Pavilion would grow as a result.

Xiang Shaoyun and Liang Zhuangmin agreed, as they did not want to spoil her mood. Presently, Chen Zilong and Li Yaxuan had appeared as well, and they headed directly to Hua Honglou.

Chen Zilong looked incredibly heroic and was filled with spirit. His eyes burned with an intense battle intent; he looked completely ready for a big fight. As for Li Yaxuan, she was as mesmerizing as ever. She left a trail of pleasant fragrance in the air as she walked, causing the people around her to be filled with infatuation. The two were akin to Prince Charming, the center of attention wherever they stood.

Li Yaxuan held Hua Honglou's hand and asked, "Big sister, is everyone well?"

"We are all well. We are only staying behind to cheer for Zilong," said Hua Honglou. She looked at Chen Zilong and said, "Zilong, you look very well. Seems like you are fully prepared for this battle. I am confident you will win."

"Haha, of course. I will be the victor," declared Chen Zilong with a confident laugh. He then looked at Xiang Shaoyun and said, "Xiang Shaoyun, after my victory over Wu Chi, it will be your turn to fight me."

"You want to fight me that much?" Xiang Shaoyun asked.

"Of course! In fact, I want to battle you more than I do Wu Chi, Overlord Xiang!" Chen Zilong said seriously.

Xiang Shaoyun blanked out slightly before smiling and saying, "Looks like you have figured it out after all."

He then looked at Li Yaxuan. After all, she was the only one here who was aware of his fake identity.

Li Yaxuan quickly explained, "That's not me. He figured it out himself."

"I have always felt that you looked familiar. After witnessing your fight with Lightning Kid, I figured out who you were," said Chen Zilong.

"Hehe, sure, if you want a fight, I don't mind," said Xiang Shaoyun nonchalantly.

"Oh? You are not bothered at all. Are you looking down on me?" Chen Zilong asked grudgingly.

Xiang Shaoyun smiled. "Of course not. Focus on your coming battle first."

At that moment, a group of monks from Buddha's Path Temple arrived. The Buddha's Path Temple members had always been united. There were about 300 of them, all of them dressed in Buddhist robes. Thus, they were very conspicuous the moment they appeared.

The person leading them was a young, heroic-looking monk. He walked with steady steps, and he had a serious expression with no smile on his face. Walking at his side was a mischievous-looking young monk. This young monk gave off a feeling that was a complete opposite from the first monk. He looked sloppy, and a youthful smile hung on his face at all times.

These two were Wu Chi the Moha Cicada and Zhi Yong the Little Honest Monk. There was nothing special about Wu Chi's appearance, but Zhi Yong's appearance was completely in contrast with his nickname, the Little Honest Monk. In fact, he looked like a crafty, scheming monk.

"Wu Chi, you are finally here. I thought you had escaped in fear!" Chen Zilong bellowed the moment he saw Wu Chi.

One ought to admit that Chen Zilong was a battle fanatic. He could no longer wait for his battle with Wu Chi to start.

"Amitabha. Benefactor, why do you insist on continuing this worthless struggle?" said Wu Chi with a flat tone.

"What do you mean by worthless struggle? I am challenging you fair and square. If you don't want to fight, just admit that you are inferior to me," said Chen Zilong.

"Hey, benefactor, do you want to fight me instead?" asked Zhi Yong with a big smile on his face.

"Where did this brat come from? Piss off!" Chen Zilong said.

Zi Yong looked to be about 14 or 15 years old. Coupled with his short height, he did look rather bratty.

"Benefactor, I doubt you can even beat a brat like me. How are you worthy of challenging my senior brother?" Zhi Yong continued speaking with a smile on his face. He did not seem to mind Chen Zilong's rudeness at all.

In fact, he was speaking provocatively, clearly trying to force Chen Zilong to fight him instead.

Wu Chi interrupted, "Zhi Yong, stand down. You are not a match for this benefactor."

"Senior brother, you are underestimating me. Let me prove myself by beating him!" said Zhi Yong before attacking directly.

He might be young, but his attack was shockingly fast and strong, arriving before Chen Zilong's chest in a flash. Chen Zilong had not expected it at all. In fact, attacking so suddenly like that was the same as a sneak attack, and as a result, the attack almost struck.

Chen Zilong was able to barely avoid the punch, but just as he was about to counterattack, Zhi Yong used all four limbs and launched a series of dazzling attacks at him.

Bang! Bang!

Zhi Yong was too fast, and his attacks were too violent. Not many people could survive his onslaught. Chen Zilong was able to react speedily. A defensive barrier formed around him as he defended himself against the barrage of attacks.

"Not bad, kid. But you have selected the wrong opponent," roared Chen Zilong, who was furious at the fact that a kid like Zhi Yong had forced him onto the defensive. His aura grew as the apparition of a fire qilin appeared behind him.

Chen Zilong was not known as the Son of Qilin for nothing.

But just as Chen Zilong was about to counterattack for real, Zhi Yong stopped attacking and quickly retreated. "I'm tired of this. Fine, my senior brother will fight you."

"Are you messing with me, kid?" Chen Zilong was fuming.

It was at this moment that the Myriad Sword Sect and Devil Blood Society people arrived, signifying that both Wu Longfei and Devil Fairy had arrived as well.

Chapter 308: Xiang Shaoyun, Do You Dare Battle Me?

Wu Longfei walked in front of the Myriad Sword Sect group in a calm and unhurried manner. His arms were crossed over his chest, and his Flying Celestial Sword was between his arms as if he was hugging the sword. Resting there, the sword looked in complete harmony with him, as if it was an extension of his body, like the human and sword were one.

About 200 Myriad Sword Sect members followed behind him, a sharp, majestic sword aura emanating from the group. As for Devil Fairy, although there were also a lot of Devil Blood Society

members behind her, she was not walking with them. Rather, it looked like she was trying to leave them and walk alone in front.

A black veil covered her face, revealing only a pair of enchanting eyes capable of tugging at one's soul. The combination of her eyes and her captivating figure was enough to daze any man. With the four combatants having arrived, the crowd formed a massive ring around them, waiting for the battles to start.

"Wu Longfei, Devil Fairy, Wu Chi, and Chen Zilong are all the strongest of our generation. It makes the most sense to select the number one below Skysoar Realm cultivator from among them."

"No, I disagree. Have you forgotten about Lin Zihan the Playboy from Thousand Forest Academy? His Thousand Scattering Palm is quite powerful. There's also Xiang Shaoyun from Cloud Margin Pavilion. Hasn't he defeated Lightning Kid and the Four Divinity Swords? Only if the two are included in this battle will I agree that the victor will be the undisputed number one below Skysoar Realm."

"It's pointless to speculate. Let's just see how strong they are."

...

Chen Zilong was going to pick a fight with Zhi Yong, but Wu Longfei and Devil Fairy's arrival caused him to no longer feel like wasting his time with the brat anymore.

He looked at Wu Chi and bellowed, "Wu Chi, step out and fight me. Stop hiding like a coward!"

"Go, senior brother! Beat him into a spineless qilin!" Zhi Yong shouted. It was as if he was afraid that Chen Zilong wouldn't be agitated enough.

"Amitabha, I shall exchange some pointers with this benefactor then," said Wu Chi with a flat tone before walking toward Chen Zilong.

"Come! I have been waiting a long time for this!" Chen Zilong shouted, his battle intent surging. He charged straight at Wu Chi with an apparition of an overbearing qilin following behind him.

Facing the attack, Wu Chi stood steady like a mountain. His entire body shone with a golden radiance as a golden energy barrier covered his body. At the same time, he slammed both his palms forward, sending a Buddhist symbol formed of energy flying toward the incoming opponent.

Bang! Bang!

In the blink of an eye, the two geniuses engaged each other in fierce combat. Two different energies spread across the battlefield as they clashed again and again. Chen Zilong had been fed qilin blood at a young age, and he had a pair of Qilin Arms that seemed unstoppable. He sent punch after punch with enough might to destroy mountains and rivers, displaying a might even some Skysoar Realm cultivators would find it hard to withstand.

Although Chen Zilong was a powerful War King, Wu Chi did not have his reputation for nothing. The fact that he was placed on the same height as Wu Longfei and Devil Fairy made it clear how strong he was.

His Buddhist cultivation had reached an extremely high level. In a casual manner, he released one Buddhist battle technique after another to combat Chen Zilong. He also knew punching and kicking battle techniques, which caught Chen Zilong by surprise.

In terms of pure combat experience alone, Wu Chi seemed to have the advantage. However, Chen Zilong was not an opponent so easily beaten. He was the descendant of an Emperor. Thus, he knew a variety of battle techniques as well. It did not take him long to stabilize himself against his opponent's variety of attacks. He started displaying the might of his Qilin Arms, his attacks so savage cracks were appearing around Wu Chi's golden barrier.

The battle had just started, yet it was already so intense. The crowd gasped unceasingly as they witnessed the fight. The battle was intense, and none of them would be able to defeat the other anytime soon.

At this time, Devil Fairy extended her challenge to her opponent, "Wu Longfei, do you dare battle me?"

Devil Fairy's voice was extremely pleasant to the ears. Some odd power seemed to be contained in her voice, causing numerous men to feel extremely comfortable the moment they heard her. It was a voice so tender one wouldn't be able to bring oneself to harm the owner of the voice.

Wu Longfei did not react, acting like he hadn't heard her at all. Instead, he looked in a certain direction and shouted, "Xiang Shaoyun, do you dare battle me?"

It stunned the people there. They did not understand what was happening. Xiang Shaoyun himself was also stunned by this sudden challenge. He had been paying attention to Chen Zilong and Wu Chi's battle. Why was someone suddenly challenging him?

He shot Wu Longfei a glance and gave an indifferent reply, "I'm busy. And I'm not interested anyway."

He then continued watching the ongoing battle. His attitude triggered the Myriad Sword Sect members.

"Xiang Shaoyun, who do you think you are? You should be honored that our eldest senior brother is challenging you. You dare to reject the challenge? Do you want me to cripple you?"

"Eldest senior brother, why waste your time on some nobody? He should be the one challenging you, not the other way around."

"That's right. Eldest senior brother, ignore the nobody. Let's subdue the girl from Devil Blood Society first."

"Yeah. Eldest senior brother, you are showing him too much respect. Sure, he is rather capable, but he is still not worth your time."

...

Wu Longfei ignored all of them and kept his eyes locked on Xiang Shaoyun. "Xiang Shaoyun, do you dare to battle me?"

"Idiot." Xiang Shaoyun rolled his eyes.

Beside him, Hua Honglou raised her brow and said, "Wow, you sure are overbearing. I am liking you more and more."

She then hugged Xiang Shaoyun's arm like they were a pair of lovers.

"Hey, you are molesting me under broad daylight!" Xiang Shaoyun grumbled.

Hua Honglou glared at him. "Yes, so what? What can you do about it?"

After saying that, she rubbed her bountiful chest against Xiang Shaoyun's arm, causing his blood to stir.

"Looks like he does not care about you. Let me see what he's made of," Devil Fairy said calmly. She then walked in a graceful manner toward Xiang Shaoyun.

Liang Zhuangmin stood in front of Xiang Shaoyun and said, "To fight my Brother Yun, you have to defeat me first."

Liang Zhuangmin was already itching for a fight after seeing Chen Zilong and Wu Chi's battle. Now that an opponent was delivering herself to him, he would definitely not miss out on it.

"But I don't want to hurt you," said Devil Fairy with a sweet tone. Her tone of voice was able to reach straight into one's heart, causing one to take pity on her.

"Haha, do you think your Enrapturing Voice will work on me?" said Liang Zhuangmin with a hearty laugh.

"Big brother, just step aside. I will deal with this myself," said Xiang Shaoyun.

"Hehe, kid, are you only saying that because she is pretty?" said Liang Zhuangmin with a perverted smile. He looked at Hua Honglou and continued, "My sister-in-law will be jealous!"

"Ohh, but I will be even happier if he can subdue her," said Hua Honglou in a magnanimous manner.

Chapter 309: Saber and Sword, Fighting for Glory

"Stop arguing. Both of you can come at me together," suggested Devil Fairy calmly with the same pleasant voice.

Inwardly however, she wasn't as calm. She had challenged Wu Longfei only to be ignored, and when she challenged Xiang Shaoyun, he showed her utter contempt. She had decided to use Xiang Shaoyun to vent her anger.

"Alright. Stand back for now," Xiang Shaoyun said seriously before pushing Liang Zhuangmin and Hua Honglou to the side and stepping forth himself.

He shot Devil Fairy a glance before shouting at Wu Longfei, "Both of you can come together!"

The moment he uttered those words, a seemingly unrivaled presence surged out of him. Apparitions of a dragon and a tiger appeared around him as the aura of a Super War King roiled out.

"Roar! Roar!"

The roars of the dragon and tiger reverberated throughout the area, shocking everyone there. They could clearly sense Xiang Shaoyun's combat prowess. It felt like a true Skysoar Realm expert had appeared instead of a War King.

Like Liang Zhuangmin, Xiang Shaoyun had begun itching for a fight after witnessing the battle between Chen Zilong and Wu Chi. With Wu Longfei and Devil Fairy challenging him one after another, he could no longer suppress his battle intent.

"I have long known that Brother Yun is an outstanding cultivator, but I have never expected him to be so strong. I am feeling pressured now, being the big brother of such a person," said Liang Zhuangmin with a look of praise on his face.

Hua Honglou's eyes rippled with emotions as she said, "Yeah. He is very strong. No wonder Lightning Kid and the others are not his match."

Previously, she only had a good opinion of Xiang Shaoyun. But now, one could say that Xiang Shaoyun had conquered half her heart. Which woman wouldn't like a man so heroic and outstanding?

"You are still not worthy enough to face two of us at the same time," said Devil Fairy. She then attacked. Like a fairy, she moved with nimble steps as her clothes drifted about in the air. Her hands reached forward and two strips of black cloth shot out of her sleeves toward Xiang Shaoyun.

Whoosh! Whoosh!

The two strips of cloth shot out like two black dragons, arriving before Xiang Shaoyun in the blink of an eye. But when the clothes were about to wrap around him, everyone found that the Xiang Shaoyun standing there was an afterimage and that his real body was nowhere to be seen.

"I thought you challenged me? Come! By herself, she is not my match. She won't be able to make me use my full strength," Xiang Shaoyun shouted at Wu Longfei as he slashed his Purple Lightning Saber at Wu Longfei.

Saber intent!

The saber energy glided through the air with an astonishing speed and arrived before Wu Longfei instantly.

Wu Longfei leaped to the sky and dodged the slash. He howled with laughter and said, "Haha, I was right! You have indeed comprehended saber intent!" He then begged Devil Fairy, "Devil Fairy, let me fight him first. I will fight you after defeating him."

Wu Longfei had always been a prideful person. Although he wanted to fight Xiang Shaoyun badly, it was beneath him to team up with someone.

"No, both of you have to attack together. Otherwise, this will be a boring fight," declared Xiang Shaoyun boastfully.

Devil Fairy glanced at the two before she giggled and said, "Hehe, you two can fight it out. I'm fine just watching."

She then walked away. A helpless look appeared on Xiang Shaoyun's face as there was nothing he could do about it.

"Xiang Shaoyun, you are an arrogant person. I hope you have the strength to back it up," said Wu Longfei.

"Cut the nonsense. Come. I'm a busy person," said Xiang Shaoyun as he beckoned provocatively at Wu Longfei.

"Sure, pay attention," said Wu Longfei. Instantly, his entire presence shifted like a sword leaving its sheath. Strands of sword energy swirled around him, kicking up a cloud of dust. Similar to Xiang Shaoyun, a clear aura of a War King surged out from him, powerful enough to shock everyone there.

When Xiang Shaoyun sensed that Wu Longfei seemed to be even stronger than he had expected, he grew excited. Looks like his comprehension of sword intent is beyond my comprehension of saber intent, thought Xiang Shaoyun inwardly.

Wu Longfei was a sword genius and had comprehended the sword intent a few years ago. After a few years of further cultivation, he could no longer find a match among his peers. As a sign of respect to a rare worthy opponent like Wu Longfei, Xiang Shaoyun raised his saber in front of him. He became one with the saber, turning the saber into an extension of his body as a majestic saber intent surged out of him.

Xiang Shaoyun and Wu Longfei stood facing each other. Rather than two humans, they looked like an exceptional saber and an outstanding sword facing each other. The sabers and swords of the observers started stirring, as if some sort of resonance had formed with the saber and sword standing there.

"Both of them have reached the human weapon unity phase. Wu Longfei has been in this phase for a while now, but it is quite surprising that this Xiang Shaoyun, who had appeared out of nowhere, has also comprehended saber intent. No wonder he is so arrogant."

"Looks like our eldest senior brother had known about Xiang Shaoyun's saber intent since long ago. That was why he was determined to fight Xiang Shaoyun. He has always been seeking a worthy opponent."

"Yeah. Eldest senior brother won't easily make a move at all. He would usually fight only those at the Skysoar Realm, and since this Xiang Shaoyun knows saber intent, he is also worthy of battling our eldest senior brother. Even so, he is definitely not our eldest senior brother's match."

"Being able to witness the fight between two individuals who have comprehended human weapon unity makes this trip worth it."

...

Most of the people were focusing on Xiang Shaoyun and Wu Longfei, and it felt like the battle between Chen Zilong and Wu Chi was being ignored. Both Xiang Shaoyun and Wu Longfei attacked at the same time.

Xiang Shaoyun swung his Purple Lightning Saber, sending a saber energy formed of purple lightning through the air. Wu Longfei instantly drew his sword and sent a gray sword energy flying forward.

Rumble!

The saber and sword energies clashed loudly; the impact of the collision sent rocks and soil flying everywhere. Both of them were only attacking casually, yet their attacks were already incomparably dreadful. Ordinary Transformation Realm cultivators wouldn't be a match for them at all.

Xiang Shaoyun and Wu Longfei dashed into each other, their saber and sword meeting each other repeatedly.

Cling! Clank!

A series of sparks were created midair, saber and sword energies rippling all over the area like blooming fireworks, the entire battle a stunning sight.

Xiang Shaoyun was one with the Purple Lightning Saber; each swing of his saber was smooth and forceful. With the power of lightning suffused within his saber, his slashes were extremely ferocious and destructive.

Wu Longfei was also displaying a prowess worthy of his title as the Flying Celestial Sword. His sword was extremely nimble and lithe, each slash was almost undetectable, always stabbing at his opponent from the most tricky angle.

Both of them held a different superiority over the other, and they appeared evenly matched. As the battle raged on, Wu Longfei was the first to find a chance to unleash the might of his sword. He was worthy of being someone who had comprehended sword intent for many years.

Chapter 310: Changing Weathers

"Not bad at all, Xiang Shaoyun. Try taking this move!" Wu Longfei grew increasingly excited as he fought. With a shout, he unleashed the first serious attack since the start of their fight.

Sword energy surged out and formed a sword tornado of several dozen meters tall that tore ahead toward Xiang Shaoyun. The rocks and pebbles in the way were all turned into powder, showcasing the attack's dreadfulness.

There was not much difference between this attack and a natural disaster. Even the crowd started retreating. None dared to get near the battlefield, and fear filled the eyes of each of them. Finally, they bore witness to the true might of Wu Longfei.

Xiang Shaoyun's eyes flared with an intense battle intent as he roared with laughter, "Haha, interesting! Interesting!"

He leaped into the air and lifted his Purple Lightning Saber. It shone brightly with a raging innate purple lightning, and he slashed the saber down, releasing a saber energy that looked like a bolt of lightning.

Lightning Slash From the Clear Sky!

The rumbling lightning shot down with a might capable of destroying mountains. The two attacks collided, giving rise to a series of explosions. The world shook as the deafening explosions rumbled, shocking all the onlookers.

In the eyes of many people there, these two attacks were powerful enough to be considered ultimate trump cards. But in the eyes of the two combatants, it was merely the start of their fight.

The saber attack destroyed Wu Longfei's sword tornado, but the scattered sword energies suddenly turned around and homed in toward Xiang Shaoyun. They seemed to be completely under Wu Longfei's control. It was a control only achievable through deep comprehension of sword intent.

At that moment, it was as if the entire world was filled with sword energies. Each sword energy was powerful enough to kill second-stage Skysoar Realm experts, and with a few hundred of them here, not even third-stage Skysoar Realm experts could survive this attack.

"What a terrifying sword intent," Liang Zhuangmin couldn't help crying out in surprise.

He had a feeling that even with his full power, he wouldn't be able to defend against the sword energies.

"Will Shaoyun be able to survive that attack?" Hua Honglou was worried.

Meanwhile, Devil Fairy had a solemn expression on her face as she watched the battle, as if she was trying to think of a way to defeat the sword attack.

Completely surrounded by the sword energies, a purple and gold barrier covered Xiang Shaoyun's body. At the same time, he released his presence of dragon and tiger and wrapped it around himself, bolstering his defense. Only then did he start madly swinging his saber at the incoming sword energies.

He was able to destroy most of them, but he still missed some. They directly pierced through his defenses and stabbed into his flesh. A terrifying wound was left on his shoulder, causing him to hiss in pain. Not only was that wound painful, it also gave Xiang Shaoyun the feeling that he had been defeated in a clash of intents.

This is the energy steering stage! That can only mean that he is very close to reaching the weapon steering stage. If he can do that, then I, Xiang Shaoyun, can definitely do the same! Xiang Shaoyun told himself. He fully activated his Nether Soul Domain, imprinting all the sword energies in his mind as he tried comprehending how Wu Longfei was exercising his control over the sword energies.

Xiang Shaoyun was one who had comprehended saber intent. After observing how Wu Longfei was steering his sword, he started gaining comprehension. He was able to sense clearly that the sword energies all originated from Wu Longfei's Flying Celestial Sword, and Wu Longfei had long become one with the Flying Celestial Sword, greatly simplifying the process of controlling the energies.

Equipped with a vague understanding of how it worked, Xiang Shaoyun tried controlling the saber energy released from the Purple Lightning Saber only to find himself failing. Meanwhile, the sword

energies kept barraging him, reducing his clothes to strips and leaving numerous bloody cuts on his body.

"Haha, Xiang Shaoyun, I thought you were amazing? So amazing you were challenging both our eldest senior brother and Devil Fairy at the same time? Haha, you overestimate yourself. Just die already!"

"Yeah, you think you're really unrivaled? Our eldest senior brother is the one who is unrivaled. Where his sword intent reaches, who dares to cause strife?"

"The Flying Celestial Sword is really powerful. He has already reached the energy steering stage. When he reaches the Skysoar Realm, he will definitely reach the sword steering stage. At that time, nobody can hope to be his match!"

"Xiang Shaoyun is doing well lasting this long. Too bad he had been too cocky earlier."

...

The onlookers started discussing among themselves. In their eyes, Xiang Shaoyun was as good as defeated.

"Time for you to lose," said Wu Longfei. He stamped his foot on the ground and shot forth like a bullet. He stabbed his Flying Celestial Sword repeatedly, aiming at Xiang Shaoyun's vitals.

Wu Longfei was extremely fast and arrived before Xiang Shaoyun in a flash. There, all the sword energies in the surroundings converged on his sword before he sent a majestic sword energy shooting forward.

The sword energy glided through the air, leaving a deep cut on the ground wherever it passed. After facing the rain of sword energies, Xiang Shaoyun was immediately faced with such a dreadful attack. He could feel all the hairs on his body stand up.

That attack was enough to kill even third-stage Skysoar Realm experts. And it was at this moment that Xiang Shaoyun finally erupted with his real strength. Purple lightning surged out of him as he drew all the lightning energy in his first star before slashing his Purple Lightning Saber at the incoming sword.

Second stance of the Nine Overlord Skyslaying Saber Technique: Changing Weathers!

The moment the attack was launched, the entire world seemed to lose its luster, turning into a silent, black-and-white world. In this black-and-white world, the only sound and color was the rumbling, raging lightning energy.

Xiang Shaoyun had only been able to use the first stance, Lightning Slash From the Clear Sky, all this while. With his recent breakthrough, he was finally able to use the second stance.

Each stance of the Nine Overlord Skyslaying Saber Technique was more powerful than the stance before. Each slash contained a world-shaking might, and although Xiang Shaoyun was unable to unleash the technique's true prowess, just a tiny bit of its true prowess was enough to awe countless people.

Rumble! Rumble!

The saber and the sword clashed repeatedly, the shockwaves of the collisions spreading everywhere, forcing the onlookers to move farther away from the battlefield. Ultimately, the purple saber energy prevailed over the majestic sword energy. The sword energy started shattering inch by inch as the saber energy continued on toward Wu Longfei.

Shock covered Wu Longfei's face. He wanted to retreat, but it was too late. Wu Longfei's sword intent was powerful, but he still wasn't confident he could block this dreadful saber. During this moment of crisis, a black figure suddenly appeared, sending two black beams shooting toward the saber energy.

Bang! Bang!

The saber energy had already weakened considerably from the collision with the sword energy. Thus, it shattered after it was hit by the black energy, resolving Wu Longfei's crisis.

"Devil Fairy, why did you interfere?" Wu Longfei bellowed resentfully.

"But he had challenged both of us. What's wrong with me attacking then?" Devil Fairy gave a short reply and proceeded to attack Xiang Shaoyun.