

Overlord 311

Chapter 311: Fury of the Qilin

"Haha, good! Bring it on!" Xiang Shaoyun roared with laughter and swung his saber at Devil Fairy.

Although unleashing the attack earlier had exhausted about half of his energy, his battle intent was surging, and he was having too much fun to stop. Using the Overlord's Nine Nether Steps, he danced about the two black ribbons sent by Devil Fairy while swinging his saber repeatedly, trying to sever them.

However, the black ribbons were made of silk produced by Demon King dark silkworms. Thus, they were extremely durable, and coupled with Devil Fairy's energy fused into them, they could attack with great power and were able to contend against Xiang Shaoyun's saber attacks.

As the number one genius of the Devil Blood Society, Devil Fairy had an impressive combat prowess comparable to Wu Longfei's. Xiang Shaoyun battled her, failing to immediately defeat her. They appeared evenly matched, presenting the sight of an intense battle to the onlookers.

Meanwhile, Wu Longfei was standing to the side, his expressions changing constantly as resentment filled his heart. Xiang Shaoyun had yet to fully defeat him, but with Devil Fairy's sudden interruption, it would now seem that he had lost the fight. In fact, quite a number of people were whispering among themselves about that. He heard everything clearly, and his heart was filled with indignation.

"Since you want to fight against two opponents alone, I shall grant your wish," said Wu Longfei as he charged toward Xiang Shaoyun.

"Xiang Shaoyun, show whatever trump card you have left or you will die now!" Wu Longfei roared and sent numerous sword energies toward Xiang Shaoyun. He attacked with full power immediately, not giving Devil Fairy any chance to take the credit for defeating Xiang Shaoyun.

At this time, Hua Honglou asked Liang Zhuangmin anxiously, "Do we help?"

"No, this is Brother Yun's battle for glory. Nobody can get involved in it," said Liang Zhuangmin. "In any case, I really want to see how strong Brother Yun is. I believe he will be the final victor."

Xiang Shaoyun had been like a deep pond with endless secrets ever since they had met. At the ghostrune territory, Xiang Shaoyun had helped him get the earthstone heart. He then went on to enter and leave the ghostrune territory alone, defeated Lightning Kid and the Four Divinity Swords, and now, he had even achieved the feat of standing his ground against Wu Longfei and Devil Fairy. In fact, he seemed even stronger than Wu Longfei.

What would he do next? Would he defeat both Wu Longfei and Devil Fairy? Liang Zhuangmin really wanted to know the answer.

Meanwhile, the other battle was still progressing even though not many people were paying attention to it. Both Chen Zilong and Wu Chi were using their full strength. The battle was intense, and they were equally matched. Both of them had suffered injuries, and it did not look like a victor would emerge anytime soon.

Chen Zilong was only a late ninth-stage Transformation Realm cultivator, slightly lacking in comparison with Wu Chi who was a peak Transformation Realm cultivator. If the fight dragged on, Wu Chi would hold the advantage. Dragging it on wouldn't be beneficial for Chen Zilong. Thus, he decided to end the battle with one final clash.

"Wu Chi, if you can survive this attack, I will admit defeat," Chen Zilong said. An apparition of a qilin appeared behind him while his arms started shining with a red radiance. Finally, dreadful scales started growing on his arms.

That was the true form of the Qilin Arms. Wu Chi could see that Chen Zilong was about to use his trump card. He started chanting a scripture, causing the golden barrier around him to grow thicker and stronger. At the same time, his palms shone with a resplendent gold as a Buddhist symbol formed.

Fury of the Qilin!

Chen Zilong slammed his arms forward, sending a thick tongue of qilin flame out. The flame proceeded to take the form of a fire qilin before charging toward Wu Chi. Hissing sounds filled the area due to the sheer temperature of the flame that was comparable to even the millennium earthcore fire. It was a flame powerful enough to turn even king weapons to slag. At the same time, Wu Chi unleashed his attack as well.

Buddha's Paradise!

He slammed his palms forward, and as he did so, the apparition of a Buddha appeared behind him. The Buddha slammed his massive palms forward as well, sending a bright gold Buddhist symbol toward the fire qilin.

Rumble! Rumble!

The two attacks clashed, creating a massive shockwave. Both attacks were shockingly destructive. Initially, the two attacks were evenly matched. But gradually, the apparition of the Buddha started dimming. On the other hand, the fire qilin still looked as vigorous as ever with an intense flame raging around it.

"Roar!"

Like he had been possessed by a qilin, Chen Zilong's eyes turned red. He looked like a terrifying madman that had lost his mind and was about to murder Wu Chi. In truth, Wu Chi had been able to slightly suppress Chen Zilong at the beginning of the clash. But Chen Zilong had activated his qilin blood, causing his strength to instantly soar, forcing Wu Chi to retreat more than 10 steps backward while coughing blood.

Even with Wu Chi's retreat, Chen Zilong continued advancing. Wu Chi could no longer muster any strength to stop his opponent, and death was likely to be his fate.

"Senior brother!" Zhi Yong cried out in alarm. He wanted to help, but a middle-aged monk beside him stopped him, "Zhi Yong, you can't go. That person has turned mad. If you go, you will die."

"But I can't let senior brother die!" Zhi Yong was anxious.

"Wu Chi won't die," said the middle-aged monk confidently.

By the time Chen Zilong's fist arrived, Wu Chi's eyes were shut, and his palms were joined in front of his chest as if he was waiting for his death to arrive. Suddenly, Chen Zilong stopped, his fists pausing right in front of Wu Chi, sparing his opponent from the fate of death.

"Hu!" Chen Zilong withdrew his fists and released a long breath. His eyes slowly turned back to normal, so did his arms.

"Amitabha, thank you benefactor for letting me off leniently. It is my defeat," said Wu Chi forthrightly.

Chen Zilong nodded. "It was a good fight."

After he said that, he staggered and coughed a mouthful of blood. Instantly, his aura dropped. Wu Chi wasn't any better off. Although he stood with his back perfectly straight, blood was also dripping out of his mouth, evidence that his injuries weren't light either.

One could say that Chen Zilong had won at a great cost. If someone else attacked him right now, he would be completely helpless. Seeing that, Li Yaxuan quickly rushed over and stood guard over him.

Chapter 312: Trump Card Presentation

The battle between Chen Zilong and Wu Chi had ended. For the onlookers, it had been a satisfying battle to spectate.

"I had never expected that the Son of Qilin would be this strong. He was able to defeat even the Moha Cicada. Looks like the Cloud Margin Pavilion has gained yet another freakish genius."

"The Son of Qilin is not an exclusive member of the Cloud Margin Pavilion. To be precise, he is the descendant of the Chen Clan, the clan of an Emperor from the Cloud Margin City. He will only be staying in the Cloud Margin Pavilion to cultivate for a few years. In the future, he will be the pillar supporting the Chen Clan."

"Regardless, Chen Zilong will definitely grow to be an amazing individual."

"Look there, Xiang Shaoyun is even more impressive. He is fighting both Wu Longfei and Devil Fairy at the same time!"

"How is Xiang Shaoyun so strong that the two apex geniuses are actually willing to team up against him?"

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Xiang Shaoyun was fighting two opponents by himself. He had fully unleashed the power of his Overlord's Nine Nether Steps as he danced about while swinging his Purple Lightning Saber madly. He had to fight Wu Longfei's sword energies as he dealt with Devil Fairy's black ribbons. To do that, he was forced to muster all the astral energy he had in his body.

It was an extremely fulfilling battle for him, and his focus was at the highest it had ever been. Although Wu Longfei had been beaten back by Xiang Shaoyun before this, he did not acknowledge it as an actual defeat.

Facing Xiang Shaoyun again, he attacked with numerous sword energies that bombarded Xiang Shaoyun like a torrential hail. Anyone else would have been riddled with holes after being surrounded by so many sword energies. Just being able to survive was enough to demonstrate Xiang Shaoyun's prowess.

Devil Fairy was also showcasing her extraordinary talent. Her bright eyes were capable of dazzling all who looked at them, and the two black ribbons were like extensions of her body. She whipped them about relentlessly, attacking with both speed and strength.

The black ribbons only needed to slightly touch a stone to reduce it to powder. If a human was hit, that human would most likely be reduced into a pile of mincemeat. Devil Fairy was using a pair of black ribbons as weapons because she cultivated an extremely rare technique called the Chaotic Devil Dance.

The Chaotic Devil Dance was a battle technique exclusive to female cultivators where strips of clothes served as weapons. A person using this technique could create a scene akin to a dance of devils, hence the name. Not only did this technique look impressive, it was also capable of sowing confusion in others and possessed an extremely destructive might.

She did manage to land a few hits on Xiang Shaoyun, and if it wasn't for the armor he was wearing, he would have suffered grave injuries. Under the relentless barrage of attacks from Wu Longfei and Devil Fairy, the armor was showing signs of breaking as cracks were starting to appear on it.

Although the armor was of a high grade, Wu Longfei's Flying Celestial Sword and Devil Fairy's ribbons weren't ordinary weapons either. They had a quality comparable to the armor, and with such intense battle, it was understandable why the armor would start breaking down.

"They are so powerful. All these freaks!" cursed Lin Zihan who was watching at a certain corner.

He had been confident that his strength was among the top of his peers. But upon witnessing the battle of Xiang Shaoyun, Wu Longfei, and Devil Fairy, he suddenly had a feeling that his strength was far from enough.

"Senior brother, don't forget yourself! You are stronger than all of them!" said a smitten young woman beside Lin Zihan.

Lin Zihan smiled helplessly and said, "I can last a hundred moves against them. Beyond that, I will definitely be the one to lose."

"Hmph. Xiang Shaoyun is going to suffer now that he's facing two of them together," said Yan Yan with a scathing tone.

"Xiang Shaoyun, I thought you could defeat both of us together? But if this continues, you will be the one defeated," said Wu Longfei.

"I don't think he stands any chance," said Devil Fairy as she whipped her black ribbons repeatedly. The entire sky was filled with black ribbons, sealing all of Xiang Shaoyun's escape routes. She was clearly intending to keep the pressure up and defeat Xiang Shaoyun once and for all.

On top of that, Wu Longfei's sword energies were encircling and attacking Xiang Shaoyun relentlessly from all directions in a way that was extremely hard to defend against. Even a third-stage Skysoar Realm expert would suffer defeat when these two geniuses teamed up. In the eyes of everyone present, Xiang Shaoyun was merely struggling hopelessly. If he insisted to keep fighting, death would be his only fate.

"I can't watch anymore. I'm going to help!" Hua Honglou was about to do something as she couldn't stand watching as Xiang Shaoyun was killed.

Liang Zhuangmin quickly stopped her and said, "Calm down, sister. Brother Yun has yet to use his full power."

"What do you mean he's not using his full power? He is nearly dead already!" rebuked Hua Honglou.

"Just keep watching. Those two will be the ones to lose," said Liang Zhuangmin confidently.

It was at this moment that Xiang Shaoyun suddenly spoke, "Hahaha, if this is all you got, there is no point in continuing this ruse."

He circulated his energy, gathered his breath, and roared.

"Roar!"

A terrifying roar reverberated through the area. The dreadful sound wave blasted both Wu Longfei and Devil Fairy, greatly impacting them. They were able to retreat in time, but they still felt their blood roiling inside them.

Then, White Tiger Wings sprouted out of Xiang Shaoyun's back, and his Purple Lightning Saber was replaced by the Overlord Skyslaying Saber. He soared to the sky, and not even the wounds all over his body could hide how impressive he looked.

All the onlookers were shocked.

"H-how is he flying? Is he a half-beast?"

"Idiot. Open your eyes wide. He is using a pair of energy wings, not real wings. So is that his trump card?"

"How did he do that? Does he have a unique flying battle technique? If that is the case, his victory is more or less guaranteed against Wu Longfei and Devil Fairy."

"No wonder he has such confidence. So it turns out he has a trump card like this. With something like this up his sleeve, what can his opponents do?"

"Sure, flying is good and all. But don't forget that Wu Longfei and Devil Fairy have both killed true Skysoar Realm cultivators before. I doubt Xiang Shaoyun will be able to stay in the air for long. The moment the duration ends, won't he still suffer defeat?"

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"What a surprise," lamented Wu Longfei.

"You scared?" Devil Fairy sneered.

"Scared? Me? If he dares to come, I will immediately cut his wings off. I'll see how he can fly then," declared Wu Longfei overbearingly.

"Yes, we shall kill him then. I am very interested in that flying technique," said Devil Fairy.

Once again, the two attacked Xiang Shaoyun.

"Bring it on. I won't take advantage of you guys by abusing my ability to fly. This will be a defeat both of you will accept wholeheartedly," said Xiang Shaoyun resolutely.

He took a deep breath and shut his eyes, fully connecting himself with the Overlord Skyslaying Saber. He had already figured out why he hadn't been able to reach a deeper phase of human weapon unity with the Purple Lightning Saber.

It was because the Purple Lightning Saber was not his fate weapon. As for the Overlord Skyslaying Saber, because he had personally reforged the saber and had nourished the saber for a long time in his astral cosmos sea, his aura had fused with it, and a direct connection had long been established between him and the saber. Because of that, he was confident he could achieve the energy steering stage with the Overlord Skyslaying Saber.

Chapter 313: Final Clash

Wu Longfei and Devil Fairy no longer held anything back. They knew that flight had granted Xiang Shaoyun a great advantage over them. They were going to make good use of this chance when Xiang Shaoyun was still not intending to defeat them by staying airborne.

Eight Directions Sword!

Wu Longfei became one with the Flying Celestial Sword and thrust it forward eight times in a row. Eight sword energies of about 100 meters long were created, each shooting at Xiang Shaoyun from a different direction with an incredible might.

Devil Dances Over the World!

Devil Fairy started dancing like a black fairy, her black ribbons flying everywhere as they tossed and turned like a pair of demonic dragons trying to devour the world. The sword energies worked with the demonic dragons and surrounded Xiang Shaoyun, trying to tear him apart.

The onlookers were watching in suspense. They were clear that if placed in Xiang Shaoyun's current position, none of them could survive. They did not believe Xiang Shaoyun could survive either.

Hua Honglou was gripping her fists so hard her nails were digging into her flesh and causing her to bleed. It was obvious how anxious she was right now. Liang Zhuangmin was similarly nervous as he tightened his grip on his axe, prepared to charge out and help Xiang Shaoyun at any time.

As for the injured Chen Zilong, he couldn't be bothered to heal up. Rather, he was standing with Li Yaxuan's support as he focused on the battle, awaiting the final result. In the midst of the intense barrage of attacks, Xiang Shaoyun's eyes remained shut, as if he was trying to sense something.

His White Tiger Wings flapped repeatedly, creating ripples of vicious gold energy that protected him against the attacks of Wu Longfei and Devil Fairy. Xiang Shaoyun had tempered these wings many times, and now, they possessed astonishing defensive prowess. At the same time, they were also extremely nimble.

Nearly half of the sword energies were destroyed by the wings. Even the sword energies that survived and reached Xiang Shaoyun's energy barrier had been greatly weakened and were unable to deal him much damage.

As for the Devil Fairy, although her black ribbons were powerful, the force from the flapping wings were able to distort their trajectory. At the same time, the vicious gold energy the wings released was sharp enough to damage the black ribbons.

That brought Xiang Shaoyun some time which he utilized to comprehend Wu Longfei's energy steering stage. He kept scanning the trajectories of the sword energies, trying to understand how the sword energies were being controlled. While doing so, he also wrapped his senses around his saber, entering the human weapon unity stage, trying to understand the connection between him and his saber.

The sword energies were sent out from the sword, but in truth, they originated from the sword's wielder. Therefore, one could say that the sword energies were a part of the person as well and that the sword merely acted as a medium to enhance their might.

At that realization, Xiang Shaoyun finally started sending his energy into the Overlord Skyslaying Saber. The reforging of the Overlord Skyslaying Saber had been completed with both purple and gold energies. Thus, it was completely capable of accepting the power of lightning and gold into it, becoming a dual elemental weapon.

Innate purple lightning and vicious gold energy blended together in the saber while the presence of dragon and tiger surged to a terrifying level. Just as Wu Longfei and Devil Fairy approached Xiang Shaoyun for the kill, his eyes finally opened. At that moment, it was as if two sharp sabers were shooting out of his eyes.

"Time for my counterattack!" Xiang Shaoyun roared and swung his saber.

The slash instantly gave birth to a howling purple dragon and a roaring white tiger. The two beasts charged forward along with the destructive saber energy, destroying Wu Longfei's sword energies and cutting Devil Fairy's black ribbons into shreds.

Rumble! Rumble!

A series of deafening explosions rumbled on while a thick presence of dragon and tiger covered the area. The ferocious and valiant aura was incredibly shocking, making everyone feel like a true King had arrived to look down upon them all—a King none dared to disobey.

The onlookers all gasped in shock.

"I-is that Xiang Shaoyun's attack? W-why is it so scary? That dragon and tiger feel like they are real! What an overbearing attack!"

"Has he been suppressing his strength all along just for this one moment of counterattack? I doubt even a third-stage King could survive."

"That's right. This attack is too scary. Look, my saber is vibrating without my control. Is this happening because of how powerful his saber intent is?"

"Wu Longfei and Devil Fairy won't be defeated just like this, right? It will be way too shocking if that's the case."

"Since when has the Cloud Margin Pavilion gotten such a genius? He sure has been hiding himself well all this while."

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"I knew Brother Yun wouldn't lose. What kind of strength is that? It's so scary!" Liang Zhuangmin cried out in excitement.

He could sense very clearly that not even his strongest defense could survive that attack. Hua Honglou was also smiling with excitement, her eyes looking like the eyes of a young girl in love right now.

Beside Lin Zihan, Yan Yan paled as she muttered, "T-this Xiang Shaoyun is so scary!"

She had offended Xiang Shaoyun previously. If he decided to kill her, not even the Thousand Forest Academy would be able to take revenge on her behalf.

"Now you know? We can only make friends with someone like this. Never make him an enemy," said Lin Zihan with a sigh. He was still feeling somewhat indignant, but he had no way of ignoring the strength Xiang Shaoyun had just displayed.

Inwardly, he told himself, Looks like I need to enter the Skysoar Realm as soon as possible. Only by breaking through before them will I have a chance to pull ahead.

Meanwhile, Wu Longfei and Devil Fairy were panicking. They were already using their full strength, yet Xiang Shaoyun had suddenly erupted with his own energy steering stage, greatly increasing the might of his saber intent. It instantly destroyed their attacks, causing them to be incapable of stopping his advance.

Wu Longfei's sword energies were completely suppressed, and he was instead being attacked by saber energies. He couldn't stop the incoming attacks, causing numerous cuts to be left on him as he was sent flying and coughing blood.

Devil Fairy wasn't doing much better either. Her black ribbons had been shredded, her energy black dragons destroyed. She wrapped layers of black ribbon around her in an attempt to block the incoming saber energies, but her defenses crumbled apart under the assault.

Numerous wounds were left on her, her armor destroyed, and even the black veil on her face had fallen, revealing an incredibly alluring face. She was indeed a remarkable beauty that was even prettier than Hua Honglou.

Her eyes seemed capable of pulling anyone into a trance. Everything about her, from her rosy complexion to her lovely lips and swaying black hair, radiated endless charm. She was a beauty through and through.

Chapter 314: One Slash to Take Three Lives

Both Wu Longfei and Devil Fairy were sent flying as their armors crumbled apart before they crashed heavily into the ground with fountains of blood sprouting out of them.

Xiang Shaoyun remained standing, but his White Tiger Wings dimmed and gradually vanished. With the Overlord Skyslaying Saber in his hand, he smiled. "I win."

He did not press on, but he wasn't afraid of their counterattack either. If he could defeat them once, he was confident he could defeat them twice. The crowd sank into silence, waiting for Wu Longfei's and Devil Fairy's responses.

Wu Longfei struggled back to his feet, but his injuries were too heavy, and he could no longer fight. Using his sword as a crutch, he forced himself to remain standing. Looking at Xiang Shaoyun with a complicated expression, he said, "Y-you're right. It's our loss."

Before Devil Fairy had joined the fight, he was already nearly defeated. However, he had been unwilling to accept it. This time, he had suffered a complete defeat, and there was no denying it.

Because Devil Fairy had joined the fight halfway, she had been able to protect herself better than Wu Longfei. She was thus able to protect her vitals. As a result, her injuries weren't as bad as Wu Longfei's. Looking at Xiang Shaoyun with bright eyes, she said, "You are very strong. I will challenge you again at the Skysoar Realm."

She then turned and dashed in the direction of the exit, ignoring her injuries. It was evident she was still capable of combat, but she was uninterested in fighting on as it was completely pointless.

The people of the Myriad Sword Sect quickly surrounded Wu Longfei, afraid that Xiang Shaoyun would kill him. Liang Zhuangmin and Hua Honglou were about to do the same for Xiang Shaoyun when an arrow suddenly shot toward Xiang Shaoyun. The arrow was too fast and few people even noticed it.

"Brother Yun (Shaoyun), watch out!" both Liang Zhuangmin and Hua Honglou cried out at the same time.

Xiang Shaoyun had just finished a major battle and was definitely exhausted as of this moment. Thus, this was the perfect chance to assassinate him. Just as the arrow was about to hit, he stepped to the side and avoided it as if he had a pair of eyes on the back of his head. Even so, he had not cleanly avoided the attack, as a bloody wound had been left on his shoulder, the pain having caused his face to twist.

Swish! Swish!

A series of arrows followed, as if the attackers were not going to give up before killing Xiang Shaoyun. This time, Liang Zhuangmin and Hua Honglou no longer stood there in shock. They both rushed over and smashed the arrows away.

"Coward! Are you courting death?" shouted Lin Zihan from Thousand Forest Academy as he dashed toward the attackers.

Because the ambushers were attacking from a spot near him, he was able to immediately detect them. There were three of them, and they fled immediately once they were found.

"Where do you think you are going?" Lin Zihan moved at a speed worthy of his status as the number one expert of his generation in the Thousand Forest Academy and caught up to the three in a flash before waving his fan at them.

One of the attackers suddenly turned around and shot an arrow at Lin Zihan. The arrow was fast, arriving before Lin Zihan in the blink of an eye. Lin Zihan's pupils shrank as he was forced to shift the trajectory of his fan to block the arrow instead. That short delay allowed the three to pull far away from him.

Just as the three were thinking they were safe, a figure suddenly descended from the sky above them. A frosty voice rang out, "You think you can escape me? Dream on!"

The newcomer was none other than Xiang Shaoyun. The three lifted their heads and saw him raising his saber. With a slash, saber energy filled the air above them, and numerous bolts of lightning rained down at them.

They were greatly shocked, and they quickly erected their defenses in hope of blocking the saber energy. Unfortunately for them, Xiang Shaoyun was one who had reached the human saber unity stage. His saber intent was unstoppable, and it tore through their energy barriers like paper.

"NO!"

The three howled indignantly, but that did not change their fate. Three heads were separated from their bodies.

Bang! Bang!

When the three heads landed on the ground, they exploded into three clumps of blood mist, presenting a rather disgusting sight. As for the three headless corpses, they remained standing, bathing in the shower of their own blood.

Xiang Shaoyun's attack was clean and efficient, killing three people instantly without wasting any time. That feat once again shocked many people. Lin Zihan bore witness to that feat from a close distance, and it was so fearsome he couldn't help but shiver.

He swallowed and thought to himself, I thought he was already incapable of combat, but looks like he still maintains a scary combat prowess.

Xiang Shaoyun landed on the ground and smiled at Lin Zihan as he said, "Thank you for the help. I will remember this favor."

"Haha, Brother Xiang is too polite. I only helped because I don't like despicable people like them," said Lin Zihan with a hearty laugh.

"No matter what, I will remember this favor," said Xiang Shaoyun solemnly.

At this time, Liang Zhuangmin and Hua Honglou also arrived.

"Brother Yun, are you fine?" asked Liang Zhuangmin.

"Don't worry, big brother. I'm fine," said Xiang Shaoyun.

"Those three seem to be Lightning Alliance members. Damn it!" said Hua Honglou after throwing the three corpses a glance.

"It doesn't matter who they are. I won't regret killing them," said Xiang Shaoyun indifferently.

"Looks like Lightning Kid is still very unhappy about his defeat," said Liang Zhuangmin.

"If he wasn't backed by Lightning King, the vice pavilion master, I would definitely teach him a lesson when I get back," said Hua Honglou resentfully.

"Just ignore him. I need to find a place to heal up first, so I'll be staying in here for maybe two more days," said Xiang Shaoyun with a slightly pale face.

Although he still had some combat prowess left in him, he wouldn't be able to last much longer. The repeated battles had forced him to use his trump cards. On top of that, he had also suffered serious injuries. Even moving was very difficult for him now. He wasn't willing to leave just like that anyway. What would he do if someone was waiting outside to kill him?

He had made himself too many enemies when he had challenged the Lightning Alliance. Otherwise, he wouldn't have suffered an ambush by a King when entering the Land of Soul Springs.

When Xiang Shaoyun left Liang Zhuangmin and Hua Honglou's protection, the crowd finally broke out into a flurry of discussions.

"That Xiang Shaoyun is now undeniably the strongest of this generation. Even Wu Longfei and Devil Fairy have been defeated. He is an insanely freakish genius in cultivation."

"I have never expected that a dark horse would appear. Looks like the reputation of the Cloud Margin Pavilion will be growing from now onward."

"Apart from Xiang Shaoyun, they also have Chen Zilong. If they can enter the Skysoar Realm, they will definitely be the strongest in that realm as well."

"People like them are geniuses that will forever surpass their peers. People like us should just focus on more dependable methods of breakthrough."

Chapter 315: Tragedy of the Lightning Emperor

While the geniuses of the various organizations were fighting hard in the Land of Soul Springs, a powerful aura of breakthrough suddenly soared out of the Cloud Margin Pavilion. The aura enveloped the entirety of the Cloud Margin Pavilion, absorbing all spiritual energy in the radius of 1,000 kilometers. Additionally, strands of astral energy rained down from the sky above, presenting an enchanting sight.

The entire Cloud Margin Pavilion was shaken by that, including those elders who were in secluded cultivation. Everyone wanted to know who was breaking through. Finally, all gazes converged at a certain important location of the Cloud Margin Pavilion.

"This aura...it feels like it belongs to the vice pavilion master, the Lightning King. Has he broken through into the Emperor Realm?"

"That must be it. He has been in secluded cultivation since two years ago, and he had vowed to not leave before breaking through. Looks like he has succeeded. Our Cloud Margin Pavilion has obtained yet another Emperor. We are one step closer to becoming a tier-4 organization. This is worthy of celebration!"

"Haha, the Lightning King has become the Lightning Emperor. This is really an enviable feat. With the prowess of lightning energy, even other Emperors need to be careful around him."

"Let's go wait for the Lightning Emperor to come out of seclusion. This is a joyous occasion!"

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Those in the Lightning King faction were all overjoyed, while those with a bad relationship with them were all envious, but they hid their envy well. Numerous factions of differing sizes existed within the Cloud Margin Pavilion, presenting a complicated political landscape. It was normal that inner struggles existed.

A few hidden auras could be sensed standing guard in several directions. They were guarding the Lightning King in his final moments of breakthrough. These people were the Emperors of the pavilion, and they did not mind doing the Lightning King an easy favor while he was breaking through.

When all the spiritual energy had been absorbed, lightning bolts started appearing from the sky above. The lightning bolts descended to the world below, but they had not formed naturally. Rather, they were being forcefully drawn down by someone.

Rumble! Rumble!

Everyone could feel their hearts thumping along with the thunderclaps, as if the lightning bolts were striking their hearts. By the time the lightning bolts stopped appearing, a purple figure soared to the sky. Laughter rang in the air as the figure shouted, "HAHA...I, Lightning King, have finally become an Emperor...HAHAHA!"

Lightning Emperor's laughter filled the entire Cloud Margin Pavilion, and even some experts in the Cloud Margin City could hear his voice as well. His strength was evident for all to see.

"Congratulations, vice pavilion master, for becoming an Emperor," numerous voices rang out to congratulate him.

An Emperor was an existence far beyond many others. Each Emperor had a strength to overturn seas and rivers, capable of miraculous feats. This was a realm many Kings longed to reach.

Lightning Emperor's breakthrough was an event the entire Cloud Margin City had to pay attention to. Even the experts from the many nearby cities would come to congratulate him. This was a glory brought by strength.

"Haha, you are all too kind," said Lightning Emperor, overlooking everyone from high up in the sky.

The Lightning Emperor looked like he was about 40 years old. He had a square face, short hair, a pair of sharp eyes, and a sturdy body. Electric currents were swirling all over him, and his entire person seemed filled with power with a clear overbearing aura about him.

The moment he had broken through, he had reached late first-stage Skysoar Realm, skipping the early and middle first stage. This was quite an impressive feat. Right at this moment, a group of people appeared from a distance. They were heading toward the Cloud Margin Pavilion. Moving at an extremely fast speed, they arrived in front of the Cloud Margin Pavilion shortly after they were seen.

The Lightning Emperor had just become an Emperor and was extremely high-spirited. When he saw someone having the galls to directly fly toward the Cloud Margin Pavilion, which was a sign of provocation, he decided to use these newcomers as a target to establish his dominance and showcase his new strength as an Emperor.

But before he could even do anything, a voice filled with contempt rang out from someone among the newcomers. "Oh look, a country bumpkin. He's so happy after a tiny breakthrough. Truly a frog in a well."

"Where is this trash from? You dare challenge the Cloud Margin Pavilion and speak presumptuously? Today, this Emperor shall teach you a lesson. You shall witness this Emperor's might," said Lightning Emperor with a cruel light in his eyes.

He then flew toward the group of newcomers before slamming a lightning palm toward them. The lightning palm was the size of a hill and contained the destructive might of lightning capable of destroying mountains. This was the power of a Dragon Ascension Realm expert.

The Cloud Margin Pavilion people all raised their head to look at the palm. They could sense a mighty pressure coming from it, and many of them nearly knelt down from the pressure alone. However, this attack, which was so very dreadful and powerful, was nothing for the group of newcomers. One person flew out from among them and sent a translucent fist toward the palm.

Bang!

Lightning Emperor's palm attack was directly shattered by the punch without hurting even one person. On the contrary, he was forced to retreat from the terrifying punch.

He was overwhelmed with shock as he cried out, "A Dragon Ascension Realm expert! How is this possible?"

"You actually dared to provoke us? Get out of my face!" the person sneered coldly before sending a palm at Lightning Emperor. The palm was much more powerful than the palm Lightning Emperor sent earlier. In a flash, it arrived before Lightning Emperor.

"Lightning Emperor, retreat!" someone from the Cloud Margin Pavilion warned.

Unfortunately, the warning came too late as the palm struck before Lightning Emperor could do anything. With a wail, he was sent flying into the Cloud Margin Pavilion's grounds like a fly that had been swatted.

He ultimately crashed into a mountain, creating a massive crater. The entire mountain shook from the impact. All of Cloud Margin Pavilion were dumbfounded. They had not expected that so soon after breakthrough, before the Lightning Emperor could even enjoy the prestige and glory his breakthrough brought him, he would be swatted away like a bug. It was now evident that the newcomers were much more terrifying than Lightning Emperor.

At this time, four figures flew out of the Cloud Margin Pavilion. They were the pavilion's four greatest Emperors, consisting of Hua Cheng the Zither Empress; Murong Qing, the previous generation's pavilion master; Yue Yuze, the current pavilion master; and Luo Zihan, a previous generation elder.

Of the four, the strongest was Hua Cheng the Zither Empress. She was already a fourth-stage Dragon Ascension Realm expert. As for Murong Qing, he was also at the fourth-stage whereas Yue Yuze was at the third-stage and Luo Zihan was at the first-stage. One could say that these four were the pillars of the Cloud Margin Pavilion, the pavilion's strongest combatants.

"Who dares to create trouble at our Cloud Margin Pavilion?" bellowed Yue Yuze the current pavilion master.

"Oh wow, there's actually such a beauty here in this tiny city? Not bad, not bad at all." Instead of answering Yue Yuze, one of them actually looked at Hua Cheng with a lusty look in his eyes.

Chapter 316: Cloud Margin Pavilion's Disaster

The people that had arrived at the Cloud Margin Pavilion were none other than the group led by Linggu Haonan. They had just come from the Martial Hall Palace. They had failed to find Xiang Shaoyun at the Martial Hall Palace, and through the Soul Searching Technique, they found that Xiang Shaoyun had perished at the Golden River Valley.

They were all stunned by the news. Unwilling to accept that as the truth, they headed toward the Golden River Valley. They searched the entire Golden River Valley and had even smashed a way open to the underground cave. When they did that, a massive amount of vicious gold energy leaked out, giving them a fright.

They couldn't even find Xiang Shaoyun's corpse and thus couldn't be sure if he had really died. They had then decided to come to the Cloud Margin Pavilion instead, thinking of using the resources available to the Cloud Margin Pavilion as a local tyrant to search for Xiang Shaoyun. That would be much better than searching by themselves.

If they couldn't find Xiang Shaoyun here as well, they would be left with no choice but to return and report to the sect. Surprisingly, they sensed someone breaking through into the Dragon Ascension Realm the moment they arrived. And that was the start of tragedy for the newly advanced Dragon Ascension Realm cultivator. One ought to admit that Lightning Emperor was both lucky and extremely unlucky at the same time.

"I don't care who you are. Leave the Cloud Margin Pavilion immediately. Otherwise, don't blame us for what we are going to do next," said Yue Yuze toward the person lusting after Hua Cheng.

The person being spoken to was Yun Feng, a subordinate of Linggu Haonan. He was among the weakest in the group. Even as one of the weakest among them, he possessed a strength comparable to Hua Cheng. It was clear how powerful Linggu Haonan's group was. That was also why Yue Yuze had not dared to attack. He was afraid that doing so would attract calamity to the Cloud Margin Pavilion.

"Haha, what are you going to do? Bring it on. Do I look like I'm afraid?" Yun Feng howled with laughter.

"Don't push it too far," said Yue Yuze with a frown.

Before Yun Feng could say anything, Linggu Haonan commanded, "Yun Feng, stand down." He looked at Yue Yuze and said, "We are here to look for someone. Ask your disciples whether any of them have heard of the name Xiang Shaoyun."

Right after he said that, a slight trace of astonishment appeared on Hua Cheng's face, but she quickly hid it. She thought she did a good job hiding her shock, but Linggu Haonan had still noticed her change of expression.

"We have never heard of that name. You can leave now," Yue Yuze replied promptly.

"Haha, are you sure?" Linggu Haonan smiled. His gaze landed on Hua Cheng, and he said, "Beauty, do you know anything?"

Hua Cheng did not know why they were looking for Xiang Shaoyun, but her intuition was telling her they were harboring evil designs.

Thus, she replied with "I don't."

"Hehe, beauty, you are being dishonest here," said Linggu Haonan with a laugh before abruptly sending a palm downward. The palm attack looked extremely casual, but it had the might of a collapsing mountain.

Rumble!

An entire area of the outer pavilion was flattened by the palm, turning the people and buildings there into smithereens.

"Ahhhh!"

The lucky disciples who survived started crying out in panic. The sudden attack had frightened them badly and had killed about 300 people and destroyed an area of several hundred meters in size. It almost felt like a natural calamity had struck the pavilion instead of a palm strike. Instantly, the Cloud Margin Pavilion was filled with panic.

"Activate the defensive formation immediately!" Murong Qing, the previous generation pavilion master, commanded.

The elders quickly went to their stations and activated the formation. Instantly, a shining barrier of light covered the entire Cloud Margin Pavilion.

Linggu Haonan did not continue attacking. Rather, he looked at Hua Cheng and asked, "Beauty, do you really not know Xiang Shaoyun?"

"You fiends, I won't spare you for what you did!" Hua Cheng shouted furiously. A zither appeared in her hands, and her fingers started plucking at the strings.

Hua Cheng was known as the Zither Empress, and her weapon of choice was the zither. She played a crisp and sweet tune, the melody carrying with it an indescribable might that dazed Linggu Haonan and his men.

Hua Cheng then increased the speed at which she played the zither, her sound waves creating 18 weapons that shot toward Linggu Haonan's group. Each of the weapons were powerful enough to destroy mountains.

Just as the weapons were about to strike Linggu Haonan and his men, clarity suddenly returned to Linggu Haonan's eyes. He waved his hand, sending a curtain of light blasting forward.

Rumble! Rumble!

A series of explosions ensued, the force causing the entire area to shake.

"The dao of zither? Interesting. Unfortunately, you are still not strong enough," said Linggu Haonan with a faint smile before he looked back and commanded, "Zhu Jinxi, step forth. Seize that woman."

"Yes, commander!" answered Zhu Jinxi.

But before he could do anything, Yun Feng said, "Commander, let me deal with her."

"No. She already has some accomplishments in the dao of zither. Even if you can defeat her, it will take some time. I don't have the time to wait. You can deal with the others if you want," said Linggu Haonan.

"Yes, commander," replied Yun Feng, who did not dare to disobey his commander.

"The two pavilion masters and Elder Luo, please retreat for now. Let me deal with them," said Hua Cheng. She increased the speed she was playing the zither, sending a series of sound attacks toward her opponent. Her sound attacks, capable of dazing people and driving them crazy, seemed capable of penetrating everything, and they appeared to be everywhere.

"Die, woman!" Zhu Jinxi's cultivation level was a stage higher than Hua Cheng's. While resisting the sound attacks, he charged forward while protecting himself with an energy barrier that completely protected him against the sound attacks. He then swung his massive hammer at Hua Cheng.

Hua Cheng retreated while playing the zither, sending numerous weapons formed of sound waves toward the incoming hammer. But the hammer was too strong; her attacks were all smashed apart as it continued toward her.

Hua Cheng's face paled from fright. She had never expected that her opponent would be so powerful. After all, she was already one strong enough to battle those above her cultivation level. Even so, she was completely helpless before this person.

Just as Hua Cheng was about to fail avoiding the strike, a saber slash appeared from the horizon and flew straight at Zhu Jinxi. It was an extraordinary slash, so powerful all of Zhu Jinxi's hairs stood on end when it came.

Chapter 317: Saber Emperor to the Fight

The saber energy moved swiftly and arrived in a flash.

Linggu Haonan shouted a warning, "Jinxi, watch out!"

Zhu Jinxi was forced to withdraw his hammer and swing it at the incoming slash instead.

Bang!

The two attacks collided, creating a deafening sound that rumbled and reverberated throughout the area. A sharp pain assailed Zhu Jinxi's hands as the impact of the collision tore his skin and threw

his hammer away. Hua Cheng took advantage of the presented opening and plucked the zither strings, sending an array of sound attacks at Zhu Jinxi.

The combined attacks wounded Zhu Jinxi's body and ears, causing him to wail in pain as a large amount of blood gushed out of him. Yun Feng, who was supposed to be attacking Murong Qing and Yue Yuze, was forced to switch his target and attack Hua Cheng, preventing her from continuing her attack on Zhu Jinxi. Not daring to be too reckless, Yun Feng dragged Zhu Jinxi and retreated as soon as he blocked Hua Cheng's attack.

"Well done. You dare resist us? Are you not afraid of getting slaughtered?" said Linggu Haonan with a cold gaze.

Their search for Xiang Shaoyun had been met with numerous complications. Because of that, he was already in a bad temper. Now that someone in this small city was actually opposing them, his fury surged.

At this time, the newcomer who had helped Hua Cheng had finally arrived from the distance. He was like an excellent saber; his entire person emanated an aura so sharp it was hard for one to look straight at him.

He looked about 30 years old, and his face was resolute, his bearing proud and lofty. With a crude-looking saber hanging on his back, he emanated the aura of a remarkable saber master. If Xiang Shaoyun was here, he would call this person Saber Emperor Du Xuanhao in shock.

That's right. This person was none other than Du Xuanhao the Saber Emperor, one of the top three experts of the Cloud Margin City. He was a late-stage Dragon Ascension Realm expert with combat prowess far beyond Hua Cheng. It was no wonder he could defeat Zhu Jinxi with a single move.

"Brother Du!" Hua Cheng cried out in excitement when she saw who the newcomer was. Apart from her, the three other Emperors of Cloud Margin Pavilion were also overjoyed to see him. They all believed that with Du Xuanhao here, their crisis would be over.

Du Xuanhao nodded at Hua Cheng before glancing at Linggu Haonan's group. He asked, "Who are they? Why are they attacking you?"

"We don't know. They claimed to be looking for someone, but when they failed, they decided to destroy the Cloud Margin Pavilion instead," said Hua Cheng.

"Hehe, it doesn't matter who we are. What's important is that you tell us where that person is, and we will leave immediately after. Or else, today is the day this place faces destruction," said Linggu Haonan coldly. He looked at Du Xuanhao with contempt and added, "Not even a seventh-stage Dragon Ascension Realm cultivator can change that."

The moment Linggu Haonan said those words, the faces of the Cloud Margin Pavilion people turned unsightly. If even the seventh-stage Dragon Ascension Realm was not a high enough cultivation level, how strong were these people?

"Is that so? Interesting, I really want to see how strong you are," said Du Xuanhao.

"Looks like you won't be obedient without first being taught a lesson. Fine, attack together. I alone will crush everyone here," said Linggu Haonan, who had finally decided to attack personally.

He did not have the patience to waste any more time. If the Dragon Society found out they had crossed the border, they would be the ones to suffer.

"I alone am enough," said Du Xuanhao. He focused his gaze on Linggu Haonan and erupted with strength, causing a fiery saber energy to soar out of him.

As of this moment, he was the saber, and the saber was him. He was displaying the true form of saber intent.

"Saber intent? No wonder you are so confident. But that is still not enough," remarked Linggu Haonan with his eyes narrowed as he provoked Du Xuanhao with his middle finger.

"Open your eyes wide and see what I got, then," said Du Xuanhao. His aura reached the peak, and he drew the saber hanging on his back, sending a slash toward Linggu Haonan.

One Slash to Destroy the World

The slash unleashed a fire elemental saber energy several hundred meters long. It tore through the air toward Linggu Haonan. It was an extremely powerful attack, and it filled the Cloud Margin Pavilion people with hope.

Linggu Haonan's response was to do something many viewed as madness. He actually reached out to grab the saber energy. A sparkling white radiance covered his hand as he grasped the saber energy, shocking the people there.

"Break!" With a howl, the saber energy was crushed in his grip.

Du Xuanhao did not cower from that display. He charged toward Linggu Haonan while swinging his saber repeatedly. This time, he attacked without holding anything back. Each slash was more powerful than the slash before, his flame energy more powerful than even the millennium earthcore fire.

Each of his slashes contained the principle of reducing complexity to simplicity, his saber containing a boundless might capable of easily killing eighth-stage Dragon Ascension Realm experts.

Du Xuanhao was also one who was capable of fighting those with a higher cultivation level. That was the source of his confidence. Linggu Haonan was forced to finally take Du Xuanhao seriously. A Silverfox Saber appeared in his hand as he sent numerous silver saber energies forward, crushing all the attacks sent by Du Xuanhao.

The two sabers clashed, creating a series of explosions up in the sky. The might of the explosions felt like actual mountains were crumbling down, filling the Cloud Margin Pavilion people with fear.

After defeating Du Xuanhao's attacks, Linggu Haonan streaked through the air toward him. He swung his saber, releasing a saber energy that was even more terrifying than what Du Xuanhao had sent earlier. The saber energy transformed into a seven-tailed silver fox. The fox bared its fangs and arrived before Du Xuanhao in a flash at a speed too fast for him to react.

Bang!

Du Xuanhao was able to forcefully block the attack, but he felt like a mountain was crushing down on him. A mouthful of blood spurted out of his mouth.

Sphhlt!

Not even someone as strong as Du Xuanhao could stop Linggu Haonan. It was evident how terrifying Linggu Haonan was.

"So what if you know saber intent? With absolute strength, I can slaughter you like slaughtering a fowl," said Linggu Haonan with contempt. He resumed his attack, seemingly not intending to spare his opponent.

Hua Cheng was greatly alarmed. She quickly played her zither, sending some sound waves toward Du Xuanhao. When the sound waves reached Du Xuanhao, he roared, and his aura surged to a brand new height.

Kill!

Chapter 318: Leaked Whereabouts

Symphony of Saber.

Entering the battlefield, saber in hand. Blade of the saber, feasting on the blood of enemies; spreading one's might far and wide, nobody dares to disobey...

That was the gist of the battle intent contained within the tune Hua Cheng was playing. It made Du Xuanhao feel like he was currently in a battlefield, causing him to forget everything and to focus only on killing the enemy before him with an unyielding determination.

Du Xuanhao erupted with all the combat prowess available to him, including the hidden potential he had yet to discover. His eyes turned bloodshot as he started slashing his saber madly. The power behind his slashes grew, instantly filling the entire sky with saber energies that encircled and attacked Linggu Haonan.

Linggu Haonan had evidently not expected Du Xuanhao to suddenly grow so strong. The growth of strength combined with the saber intent was now enough to be a threat to him. After blocking a few attacks in a row, his energy barrier was broken by the saber energy, and a wound was left on his shoulder, causing him to become infuriated.

"A damnable bug like you dares to wound me? Die!" He roared and unleashed more power and swung the Silverfox Saber madly, destroying Du Xuanhao's saber energies. He then used a powerful saber technique that created numerous silver foxes that pounced on Du Xuanhao from all directions.

Illusionary Fox Massacre!

The foxes possessed the ability to trap others in illusions, and they were also capable of powerful physical attacks. Having his potential pushed out by the zither tune, Du Xuanhao's saber intent reached a brand new level as his saber flew out of his hand and attacked through his will. He had actually reached the saber steering stage.

The crude-looking saber enlarged to over a thousand times in size, crushing everything in its way. The silver foxes were directly destroyed by the saber, which was immune to their illusionary attacks.

"How is this possible?" Linggu Haonan was filled with disbelief.

He did not stay shocked for long, however, as he once again attacked with a different technique. The two sabers clashed fiercely as saber energies hailed down on the world below, causing the Cloud Margin Pavilion's defensive barrier to tremble unceasingly.

This was a battle between top Emperors. Without the defensive barrier, just the shockwaves from their battle was enough to destroy the entire Cloud Margin Pavilion. To the side, Hua Cheng turned more and more pale as time went on, and blood dripped out of the fingers she was using to play the zither.

It was obvious the battle song she was playing was exhausting a great amount of energy, to the point even a Dragon Ascension Realm cultivator like her was having a hard time with it. Du Xuanhao seemed capable of sensing that Hua Cheng had reached her limit. With a roar, he gathered all his power into his saber and unleashed one final attack at his opponent.

Destroyer of Sun and Moon.

It was a slash that seemed capable of destroying both the sun and the moon, an incredibly terrifying attack. A massive amount of raging flame was unleashed, and it felt as if the entire world had been ignited.

Even Linggu Haonan feared the dreadful attack as he quickly retreated and jabbed his finger in the direction of Hua Cheng. The jab was extremely fast and hard to notice. Not even Murong Qing, Yue Yuze, and Luo Zihan, who were standing guard around Hua Cheng, could react in time. The only thing they heard was a wail from Hua Cheng before she dropped from the sky with her zither. Blood was gushing out of her.

"Hua Cheng!" Murong Qing cried out in alarm. He flew over and grabbed her and the zither, stopping their fall.

"Br-Brother Duan..." Hua Cheng called weakly.

Without the support of the battle song, Du Xuanhao instantly grew weaker, and the attack he was about to release was canceled. The abrupt cancellation caused him to suffer a backlash, sending him flying away while coughing up blood with a pale face.

"Die!" Linggu Haonan slashed his saber at Du Xuanhao.

As a commander of his group, he was actually forced into such desperation by an Emperor of a tiny city. He could not accept that, and the only way to vent his anger was to kill Du Xuanhao.

"Halt!" At this moment of crisis, a new expert arrived along with a furious voice.

A series of overbearing fist energies appeared and hailed down at Linggu Haonan, forcing him to shift his focus from killing Du Xuanhao to protecting himself.

"Who dares to get in my way? Are you tired of living?" cursed Linggu Haonan.

An old man appeared noiselessly beside Du Xuanhao and said, "I don't know who you are, but this is the Cloud Margin City, not a place you can do whatever you want!" The newcomer seemed to be even stronger than Du Xuanhao, and he was surrounded by a boundless aura.

"Brother Chen, you're here!" Murong Qing cried out in excitement.

The newcomer was none other than the ancestor of the Chen Clan, Chen Jiayan. He was the number one Emperor of the Cloud Margin Pavilion and was an eighth-stage Dragon Ascension Realm expert. Chen Zilong was his descendant.

Apart from Chen Jiayan, two other Emperors of the Chen Clan had also arrived, greatly boosting the number of Emperors on Cloud Margin Pavilion's side. Of course, in terms of overall strength, they were still incomparable to Linggu Haonan's group. However, they no longer looked like some easy pickings.

"Do you think you are enough to stop us?" asked Linggu Haonan.

"Sure, you are very strong. But we will not sit idly as we are killed," said Chen Jiayan unyieldingly.

"Commander, just slaughter them all!" suggested Yun Feng.

Linggu Haonan narrowed his eyes as he stared at Chen Jiayan. Ignoring Yun Feng, he said, "You only need to tell us where to find a certain person. We will then leave immediately. Otherwise, all of you will die today."

Inwardly, he cursed, If it wasn't for that old bastard Duo Ji luring the elders away and the Demon Emperors that had killed many of us at the Hundred Beast Mountain Range, I wouldn't even need to bother talking to them like this!

"We really don't know who Xiang Shaoyun is!" repeated Yue Yuze.

"You don't know, but that doesn't mean she does not know either," said Linggu Haonan as he pointed at the injured Hua Cheng.

"Hua Cheng, if you really know who Xiang Shaoyun is, tell them what you know," persuaded Murong Qing.

A look of hesitation covered Hua Cheng's face. She was completely unwilling to reveal Xiang Shaoyun's whereabouts.

"If you want everyone here to die for him, feel free to keep hiding the information. We still have other methods of locating him," warned Linggu Haonan.

With great difficulty, Hua Cheng finally spoke, "He is not here. He has gone to the Land of Soul Springs."

"Where is the Land of Soul Springs?" asked the overjoyed Linggu Haonan.

"I know that. Let me tell you," said Yue Yuze, who proceeded to give Linggu Haonan the location of the Land of Soul Springs.

"See? All this trouble could have been avoided if you had told us earlier," said Linggu Haonan.
"Consider yourself lucky. We will be taking our leave."

Thus, they left for the Land of Soul Springs at top speed.

Chapter 319: I Have a Few Strands of Soul Spring Here

After Linggu Haonan's group left, Chen Jiayan, Du Xuanhao, Hua Cheng, Murong Qing, Yue Yuze, Luo Zihan, and the others heaved a sigh of relief. Just Linggu Haonan was already a difficult opponent for them. If his subordinates attacked as well, it was very possible that all of them would have died there.

"Brother Murong, what's going on exactly? Who is that Xiang Shaoyun to have so many experts searching for him?" asked Chen Jiayan.

Murong Qing shook his head bitterly and said, "I am clueless as well. Perhaps only Hua Cheng knows who he is." He continued after a slight pause, "Old Luo, please check on Lightning Emperor. He has just broken through and was struck down before he even got a chance to stabilize his cultivation base. I hope he's fine."

"Lightning King has broken through? No wonder I felt some intense undulations from here earlier," said Chen Jiayan in astonishment.

"Yes, but they had beaten him up. I don't know if he's even alive right now," said Murong Qing with a sigh.

"It's a pity. Just hope for the best," said Chen Jiayan. He looked at Hua Cheng, but when he saw her injuries, he couldn't bring himself to question her about Xiang Shaoyun. Rather, he spoke gently, "Hua Cheng, Du Xuanhao, both of you have sustained serious injuries. Go back and focus on recovering. We don't know if they will suddenly change their mind and return. I need to go take a look at the Land of Soul Springs since my clan's Zilong is there as well. If those madmen decide to slaughter children as well, things will get troublesome."

He was about to leave with the two Chen Clan Emperors when Murong Qing stopped him.

He said, "I'll go with you. Our Cloud Margin Pavilion disciples are there, so I need to be there as well."

Before they left, Hua Cheng spoke weakly, "Xiang Shaoyun is a young man with a bright future, also my godbrother. If possible, please do help him."

"Who is he? How has he provoked such powerful enemies?" Murong Qing asked.

Hua Cheng shook her head. "I don't know much. The only thing I know is that he was a disciple from the Martial Hall Palace."

"How can a tiny organization like the Martial Hall Palace provoke such powerful existences? You better forget that young man from now on. Otherwise, the entire Cloud Margin Pavilion will suffer because of him," said Murong Qing grudgingly. He then left with the Chen Clan and the others.

"Is Xiang Shaoyun a young man of about 17 years old?" asked Du Xuanhao.

Hua Cheng nodded. "Yes, he is a genius in saber who has comprehended saber intent. I was planning to recommend him to be your disciple, but something like this has happened instead."

"Hehe, he has rejected me long ago," said Du Xuanhao with a helpless smile. He continued, "Go back to the pavilion and rest up. I am going over to take a look as well."

Before waiting for Hua Cheng's reply, he set off in the same direction Murong Qing's group had left. Although he was quite badly injured, he was still well enough to travel. In any case, he had already consumed some healing pills and liquid.

...

In the Land of Soul Springs, after defeating Wu Longfei and Devil Fairy, Xiang Shaoyun's reputation spread far and wide. The disciples of the numerous organizations could only gasp at his prowess. One thing many couldn't forget was the pair of White Tiger Wings Xiang Shaoyun had shown. All of them believed that it was a powerful flying technique, which stirred many people's greed.

For any cultivator, a flying battle technique was extremely beneficial to have. Therefore, some people started planning to capture Xiang Shaoyun before he recovered and snatch the flying battle technique from him.

Unfortunately for those people, Xiang Shaoyun was guarded by Liang Zhuangmin and Hua Honglou. They took care of anyone who tried anything against him. They were both among the strongest cultivators in the Land of Soul Springs, and it was almost impossible for these regular cultivators to prevail over them.

Furthermore, even Lin Zihan had volunteered to stay behind and stand guard while Xiang Shaoyun healed up. Because of that, they did not even have to worry about being overwhelmed by the sheer number of their enemies.

After beating away two attempts, no one else dared to try anything anymore.

After two days, Xiang Shaoyun recovered considerably. But he still needed some time to fully heal up as he had sustained too many injuries, even if he had healing pills and spirit spring water.

Nevertheless, he had recovered enough to protect himself. He had benefited greatly from the battle. He constantly visualized the battle between him and Wu Longfei and Devil Fairy, trying to see what he had done wrong and what his opponents had done right, slowly growing his combat sense and experience.

There are too few variations in my attacks. Looks like I need to increase my arsenal of battle techniques, Xiang Shaoyun thought to himself.

He possessed Yun Flame within him, yet he hadn't been able to use much of Yun Flame's power during his battle with Wu Longfei and Devil Fairy. It had been quite a waste to have such a treasure within him. Because of that, he found the need to increase the number of battle techniques he knew, and he also needed to improve the battle techniques he did know.

But that was something he could only deal with after leaving the Land of Soul Springs. He stood up and walked toward Liang Zhuangmin and Hua Honglou.

"Brother Yun, how are you feeling?" Liang Zhuangmin asked.

Xiang Shaoyun smiled. "Yes, much better."

"That's good to hear. Let's leave. This is the final day before the exit shuts. If we don't leave, we will be stuck in here for 10 years," Liang Zhuangmin said.

"Too much time will be wasted if we stay here for 10 years. Let's go," Hua Honglou said.

"Um, we need to leave. But there's no rush," said Xiang Shaoyun. He looked at Lin Zihan and said, "Are you looking for a soul spring?"

Lin Zihan answered earnestly, "If Brother Xiang only has one, then forget it. But if you have more, I do wish to trade for one of them."

Hua Honglou interrupted before Xiang Shaoyun could reply. "Lin Zihan, does no one in your Thousand Forest Academy have one? Shouldn't you be trading with your own people instead?"

Lin Zihan had a helpless smile as he said, "If that were the case, things would have been much simpler. Our entire academy did very badly this time."

"Well, the soul spring is too precious, and we don't have enough for ourselves. I think you should just forget it," answered Hua Honglou on Xiang Shaoyun's behalf.

Lin Zihan sighed. "True. I'll be taking my leave, then. I believe I can still enter the Skysoar Realm relying on myself."

With a disappointed look on his face, he turned to leave.

It was then that Xiang Shaoyun called out to him and said, "Brother Lin, wait a minute. Here, I have a few strands of soul spring here. Take them."

He handed Lin Zihan a jade bottle containing a few strands of soul spring.

"Shaoyun, where did you get so many of them? Why are you giving them to him?" Hua Honglou asked.

"From the moment Brother Lin decided to help me, he has been my friend. What are a few strands of soul spring compared to a friend?"

Lin Zihan finally recovered from his shock and said, "T-these are for me?"

Chapter 320: Where Did This Barking Dog Come From?

Lin Zihan did not need anyone to tell him how valuable a single strand of soul spring was. He found it hard to believe that Xiang Shaoyun was so generously giving him a few strands for free.

"Take it." Xiang Shaoyun pushed the bottle into Lin Zihan's hand before telling Liang Zhuangmin and Hua Honglou, "Let's go. Time to leave this place."

"Haha. Yes, let's go," Liang Zhuangmin laughed. He did not feel dissatisfied just because Xiang Shaoyun had given Lin Zihan a few strands of soul spring. Instead, he felt that Xiang Shaoyun was a forthright and generous person—traits he liked in a person.

Liang Zhuangmin wanted some soul springs for himself as well, but he already had the earthstone heart. That would be enough for him to break through into the next realm. In any case, he was sure Xiang Shaoyun had more, and he would get a cut no matter what.

Lin Zihan only recovered from his shock after Xiang Shaoyun's group was far away from him. He quickly chased after them and said, "Xiang Shaoyun, I will accept this big present of yours. I don't have anything decent to give you as repayment, but I will remember this and return the favor in the future!"

"If you consider me a friend, don't mention repayment again," said Xiang Shaoyun with a wave of his hand.

He had a lot of soul spring water on him, and the few strands he gave was nothing for him. Lin Zihan was moved by that and nearly hugged Xiang Shaoyun and cried on his shoulders then and there.

Although he was confident he could enter the Skysoar Realm, it might take him a year or two, or even longer. His breakthrough would be much later than the others, and once that happened, it would be hard for him to keep up with the other geniuses.

The soul spring Xiang Shaoyun had given him solved this issue. Thus, he now considered Xiang Shaoyun his benefactor. On their way out, Hua Honglou couldn't resist looking at Xiang Shaoyun with resentment as she asked, "Why are you giving them out so generously? At the very least, you should have traded for something of equal value."

Xiang Shaoyun gave a solemn reply, "He helped me. Thus, he is worthy of receiving my help. Turning it into a transaction will change the entire flavor of the gesture."

Hua Honglou wanted to retort, but when she saw Xiang Shaoyun's serious eyes, she swallowed her words. Instead, she grumbled, "You and your ideals. I better get my share of soul springs later as well."

"Haha, both you and big brother will get your cut," said Xiang Shaoyun with a laugh.

"I knew Brother Yun wouldn't forget us," said Liang Zhuangmin gleefully.

Soon, they arrived before a shining door. They stepped through it to reach the outside world. The moment Xiang Shaoyun arrived outside, Devouring Ghost roared with laughter in his head, "Hahahahaha...I am finally out of that shitty place...hahahahaha."

Xiang Shaoyun could feel his excitement, and it filled him with grief for some reason, as if he was feeling sad on behalf of Devouring Ghost for his fate of having been trapped in there for so long.

He barely knew Devouring Ghost, so it was weird that he would feel that way. He shook his head and calmed his emotions. He then set off toward the Cloud Margin Pavilion's group with Liang Zhuangmin and Hua Honglou.

The participants could do what they wanted in the Land of Soul Springs, but out here, they must not create trouble. That was a rule set by the numerous organizations. Of course, the rule was not absolute as rule breakers would always exist.

The moment Xiang Shaoyun arrived at the outside world, he sensed numerous gazes focus on him. His feats had evidently spread out here as well. The elders had learned of what happened from their disciples.

They had never expected that an unknown kid like this would defeat the Lightning Kid, Four Divinity Swords, Wu Longfei, and Devil Fairy. That was too shocking. He was simply trampling all over his peers.

Someone with such talent was almost guaranteed to be a King in the future, and it was only a matter of time before he became an Emperor as well. A few people were rushing toward Xiang Shaoyun.

"Little bastard, are you Xiang Shaoyun?" a shout echoed in Xiang Shaoyun's ears.

Xiang Shaoyun looked at the newcomers and saw that they were riding devil blood bats. It was clear they were from the Devil Blood Society.

He frowned and said, "Where did this barking dog come from?"

He would show respect when given the same. Likewise, those showing him disrespect would receive the same from him.

"Bastard, you dare scold this King? I shall kill you!" shouted the furious Devil Blood Society elder.

At this moment, the Cloud Margin Pavilion elder arrived and said, "Devil Blood Society, are you trying to start a war here?"

No matter what, Xiang Shaoyun represented the Cloud Margin Pavilion in the Land of Soul Springs. If the elder let others kill him, it would be an embarrassment to the Cloud Margin Pavilion.

"This has nothing to do with you. Scram, or we fight!" berated the Devil Blood Society elder.

"Hmph. You are provoking someone from the Cloud Margin Pavilion, and you dare claim this has nothing to do with us? Do you think we are afraid of you?" said the elder.

"Very well. We fight," said the Devil Blood Society with a ruthless glint in his eyes.

"Hold on, what is your quarrel with Xiang Shaoyun?" asked He Luo, the other Cloud Margin Pavilion elder.

"Hmph. Are you not aware of what he had done in the Land of Soul Springs?" said the Devil Blood Society elder coldly.

"It is normal for there to be casualties when fighting for soul springs," said He Luo.

"If that is all, we will simply accept the loss. But he had actually killed our genius disciple Devil Face. This is a grudge that must be settled. Move out of the way, or we can start a war right now," said the Devil Blood Society elder.

"Haha, what a joke. So only your people can kill, but we can't fight back? Are you dumb?" sneered Hua Honglou.

Xiang Shaoyun had killed Devil Face while saving her. She naturally had to speak for him.

"That's right. If the Devil Blood Society can't accept any losses, you shouldn't have entered the Land of Soul Springs. Ohh, you want revenge for your dead? Fine, come at us," said the first Cloud Margin Pavilion elder.

"I was only planning to kill this kid, but since you insist to butt in, war it is then!" said the Devil Blood Society elder with an intense murderous intent.

Just as a fight was about to break out, He Luo berated Xiang Shaoyun, "Xiang Shaoyun, what are you waiting for? Kneel down and await your punishment! Do you want to see a war starting over you?"

"Elder He, what is this?" asked the other elder in confusion.

"I don't feel the need to make such a big ruckus over this. Just let Xiang Shaoyun kowtow to the Devil Blood Society and beg them to spare him. I believe that will be enough for the Devil Blood Society," declared He Luo bluntly.

Even the Devil Blood Society people were stunned. But they soon understood that He Luo most likely disliked Xiang Shaoyun as well. Otherwise, he wouldn't say something like that.

If Xiang Shaoyun was to kowtow to them in public, how could he face others in the future? It would likely be the end of his cultivation heart. Future advancement would be near impossible for him.

"Yes. If he kowtows and begs for forgiveness, we might spare him," the Devil Blood Society elder agreed.