

## Overlord 371

### Chapter 371: Dong Ziwan's Might

From Dong Ziming's words, Xiang Shaoyun had a rough idea of what was going on with the Dong Clan and Dong Ziwan. The Dong Clan was under assault by the Tai and Xing Clans, but they were still capable of fighting back. However, completely destroying the two clans proved quite impossible for them as well.

The two clans had always been their two strongest subordinate clans, and they occupied two of the most important cities of the Five Denseforest Cities. With the two working together, the Dong Clan now only had the remaining three cities under their control.

If the Dong Clan ancestor was still alive, the two clans would never dare to revolt. Unfortunately, the ancestor was dead, causing the two clans to break free and betray them. As for the Illusionary Palm Society, it was also a tier-5 organization. The Dong Clan was planning to form an alliance with the Illusionary Palm Society through marriage to solve their crisis, but Dong Ziwan had disobeyed the clan and had run away from home.

Dong Wu had been ordered to search for her and bring her back, but Dong Ziming had insisted on tagging along. Unfortunately for them, the Tai Clan's Emperors had found out and went after them, thus leading to their meeting with Xiang Shaoyun's group.

"Where is your sister?" Xiang Shaoyun asked.

He did not care about the Dong Clan and was only worried about Dong Ziwan's well-being. After all, they were companions who had gone through a dangerous situation together. He would not watch on if she was in trouble.

"From what the Tai Clan people were saying earlier, things are not looking very well for her either. She is probably at the Cleargrace Ridge not far from here. The Tai and Xing Clans have already sent their Kings over to capture her," replied Dong Ziming. From the tone of his voice and how he was addressing his elder sister by name, it was quite obvious he did not have a good opinion of her.

"Where is this Cleargrace Ridge?" Xiang Shaoyun asked.

"Go in that direction for half a day, and you will be there," said Dong Ziming without hesitation as he pointed in a certain direction.

Xiang Shaoyun then flew up and called out to Jin Wo, "Jin Wo, come with me. Devouring Ghost and Big Brother Du, stay behind to watch over them."

Jin Wo then transformed back into his beast form and started flying toward the ridge with Xiang Shaoyun on his back. Devouring Ghost was worried to let Xiang Shaoyun go without him, but after a slight hesitation, he had still decided to stay behind.

He had already killed three Emperors. It was unlikely that the enemy had sent out more Emperors to deal with a few youngsters. After all, Emperors were considered trump cards for tier-4 and tier-5 organizations and would not be casually mobilized. Thus, having Jin Wo alone by Xiang Shaoyun's side should be enough for now.

But he was still worried, so he told Du Xuanhao, "Follow them and protect the young master secretly."

Du Xuanhao did not wait and left directly.

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At the Cleargrace Ridge was a secluded and beautiful valley where flowers bloomed abundantly. The air was filled with the fragrance of flowers and the chirping of birds. Butterflies were fluttering about, and rabbits were hopping around on the ground. A young lady's melodious singing voice was ringing in the air; everything was like a scene out of a painting.

The Cleargrace Ridge was well-known for its exceptionally beautiful scenery with a lot of cities nearby. There were also very few demonic beasts, and one could say that it was a serene and peaceful place.

A graceful young lady was strolling amid the flowers, shutting her eyes occasionally to smell the fragrance in the air. From time to time, she leaned down to get a closer look of the beautiful flowers, her every move radiating boundless charm.

Her long hair swayed about as she walked barefoot, her skin as exquisite as ivory, her beauty irresistible. This young lady was none other than Dong Ziwan. She had appeared within the territory of Cloud Margin City back then because of her ancestor's death. The ancestor had always doted upon her, and in her sorrow, she took a trip to take her mind off the pain when he had passed away. That was how she had come to know Xiang Shaoyun.

"I wonder how that scoundrel is doing now," Dong Ziwan wondered as the image of a handsome face surfaced in her mind.

Back then, both of them had explored the zombie cave together. He had saved her, and had also taken advantage of her. Since then, she had never been able to erase him from her mind, which was why she had refused the arranged marriage with the Illusionary Palm Society. She already had someone in her heart.

Suddenly, a shout rang out in the air, "Young lady, leave! The people from the Tai and Xing Clans are here!"

An injured person could be seen flying over at a rapid speed. This was the same guardian elder from back then, Wu Lai. He was currently covered in blood, looking battered and exhausted. It was obvious he had just gone through an intense battle. Right after he arrived, about seven or eight figures appeared behind him. Mounted on powerful demonic beasts, they hovered in the sky above them.

"Haha, Dong Ziwan is indeed here!" shouted someone who was howling in laughter.

This person was a young man whose body was so sturdy he looked more like a beast than a man. He was about 27 or 28 years old, and his cultivation level was at the Skysoar Realm. He was mounted on a Demon King bluescale ox.

His name was Tai Kang, one of the top figures among the Tai Clan's younger generation. Behind him were three Tai Clan experts. As for the other four people in the group, they were from the Xing Clan. All of them were in the Skysoar Realm, with three of them being late-stage Skysoar Realm cultivators.

Dong Ziwan raised her head with an anxious look in her eyes and asked, "Tai Kang, Xing Mo, what is this? Are you rebelling?"

Dong Ziwan was unaware of what the two clans were planning back when she had fled home. If she had known, she wouldn't have put herself at risk like this.

"Haha, Dong Ziwan, looks like you are still clueless. The Tai Clan and Xing Clan are no longer the Dong Clan's subordinates. Be a good girl and hand yourself over," said the young man beside Tai Kang.

This young man was Xing Mo from the Xing Clan, a Skysoar Realm cultivator.

Wu Lai stood before Dong Ziwan and said, "Young lady, leave. I'll stop them!"

"It's too late," said Dong Ziwan. She was no idiot and could clearly see their situation. Although she was also a Skysoar Realm cultivator, it was unlikely that she would be able to escape so many Skysoar Realm cultivators.

"Smart girl. Since you are the number one beauty of the Five Denseforest Cities, I will let you come with us obediently. Disobey and you will suffer," said Tai Kang with a perverse look in his eyes. Dong Ziwan was genuinely the number one beauty of the Five Denseforest Cities. She had countless admirers, including Tai Kang.

"You are trying to threaten my father with me? I won't allow that," said Dong Ziwan, showing no fear whatsoever. A sharp dagger instantly appeared in her hand. She swiped the dagger at her own neck.

"Young lady, no!" Wu Lai cried out in alarm.

Unfortunately, his speed was greatly slowed due to his injuries, and he wouldn't be able to stop Dong Ziwan in time. The people in the sky were also astonished, clearly never expecting Dong Ziwan to be so resolute.

It's a pity, Tai Kang sighed inwardly. He had been planning to turn Dong Ziwan into his personal plaything after capturing her.

A monstrously powerful demonic aura suddenly surged out from somewhere, enveloping an area of several kilometers. The aura caused everyone's movement to turn sluggish.

A voice rang out, "Hey, cross-dresser chick, what troubles you so much for you to commit suicide?"

Cross-dresser! That was an absolutely graceless way to address someone. When Dong Ziwan heard it, she behaved like a cat whose tail had been stepped on. Her entire body shuddered, and her dagger dropped from her hand. She raised her head, her eyes radiating joy, as she stared at the golden dot coming from a distance.

The golden dot grew larger as it approached and finally revealed itself to be a massive gold serpentine crocodile emanating a boundless and dreadful demonic aura. A young man was standing on the gold serpentine crocodile emperor, and on his handsome face was a smile that was both charming and warm. It was a smile capable of making any maiden's heart flutter, and Dong Ziwan was no exception.

She had never expected to see Xiang Shaoyun here. She rubbed her eyes and muttered, "Am I dreaming?"

This place was quite far from the Cloud Margin City, and Xiang Shaoyun's timing was too much of a coincidence. Thus, his arrival had caught her completely by surprise. She felt like the heavens were really being kind to her, but she also started worrying if she would bring disaster to him.

When Wu Lai saw Xiang Shaoyun, excitement covered his face as he said, "It's that kid! H-he is actually standing on a Demon Emperor! Young lady, you're safe now!"

Wu Lai was an eighth-stage Skysoar Realm cultivator and thus had much sharper senses than Dong Ziwan, who currently had too many thoughts in her mind to think straight anyway. The Kings from the Tai and Xing Clans were still not aware of what was going on. They had no idea who that "cross-dresser" referred to.

Xing Mo was a person with a bad temper. He couldn't help but turn around, look at Xiang Shaoyun, and scold, "Where did this piece of trash come from? Get out of my face right now, or you will regret it."

Xiang Shaoyun shot him a nonchalant glance before telling Jin Wo, "Eat him."

With a sinister glint in Jin Wo's eyes, a dreadful serpentine tongue shot out of his mouth like a chain and instantly caught Xing Mo. The tongue moved incredibly fast, crossing a kilometer in a flash.

"Xing Mo, watch out!" Only now did the Kings beside Xing Mo realize what was happening, and they cried out in alarm. Unfortunately, they were too late. Xing Mo was already being pulled straight into Jin Wo's mouth.

"Ahhhh!" He cried out in fear and struggled incessantly. But before a Demon Emperor, his struggles were pointless. Just like that, he entered Jin Wo's mouth.

Crunch! Crunch!

As Jin Wo chewed, the dreadful and piercing sounds of bones being crushed rang out. The people from the two clans paled in fear as they finally realized that the gold serpentine crocodile might not be someone they could contend against.

"It's a Demon Emperor! Flee!" shouted a ninth-stage Skysoar Realm expert from the Tai Clan. He then dragged Tai Mo and fled.

The others also started fleeing. But how would Xiang Shaoyun let them escape? He barked a command, "Kill the strongest of them and leave a few weaker ones for me. They will be my target practice."

"Yes, your highness," said Jin Wo with a look of bloodlust on his face.

He was a demonic beast, and it was only natural for him to thirst for blood. He flew forward with his massive body, his boundless demonic aura spreading everywhere, his limbs shooting out in multiple different directions. Instantly, a few Skysoar Realm experts were crushed into clouds of blood, and blood rained from the sky. Only Tai Kang and two other Skysoar Realm cultivators were still alive, and they were all scared out of their wits.

"Move again and die," Jin Wo threatened. They no longer dared to move, and they stood still as they looked at Xiang Shaoyun and Jin Wo fearfully.

"W-who are you, sir? I-I am the second young master of the Tai Clan from the Five Denseforest Cities. We have more than 10 Emperors in our clan...," Tai Kang stuttered his background to them.

But Xiang Shaoyun completely ignored him and said to Jin Wo, "Watch over them. I am going to catch up with an old friend."

He then flew away from Jin Wo and landed before Dong Ziwan. With a smile, he said, "Long time no see. How have you been?"

Dong Ziwan's eyes were fixed on Xiang Shaoyun. A layer of mist covered them, slowly forming droplets of tears that then dripped down her cheeks.

When Xiang Shaoyun saw her tearing up, he quickly stepped forward. "Hey, cross-dresser, I know I had arrived just in time, but you don't have to be so touched, right?"

"You are the cross-dresser! Your entire family is the cross-dresser!" Dong Ziwan shouted back indignantly before rushing forward and punching Xiang Shaoyun in anger. He stood there and let Dong Ziwan do as she wished.

Bang! Bang!

Dong Ziwan's gentle fists rained down on Xiang Shaoyun, but it did not seem like she was actually trying to hurt him. Rather, she behaved more like a playful lover. After a while, when she saw Xiang Shaoyun smiling, she blushed and said, "You annoying bastard! The only thing you ever do is bully me!"

She then stepped on Xiang Shaoyun's foot.

"Arrrghhh!" Xiang Shaoyun cried out miserably, shocking Dong Ziwan.

She quickly apologized, "S-sorry, I-I used too much strength accidentally!"

Both Dong Ziwan and Xiang Shaoyun were now Skysoar Realm cultivators, and they were not even fresh Skysoar Realm cultivators. They were both at least in the second stage. It had been less than two years, and she had actually reached this level from late-stage Transformation Realm. She had quite a monstrous talent in cultivation, it would seem.

"Haha, just kidding," Xiang Shaoyun laughed.

For some reason, each time he was with Dong Ziwan, he had the urge to tease her. In his heart, she was already a good friend.

Dong Ziwan transformed into a furious lioness again and roared in Xiang Shaoyun's face, "Overlord Xiang, you are so annoying!"

Back then, Dong Ziwan had been dressed up as a man when she had met Xiang Shaoyun. They had drunk together, and Xiang Shaoyun had also given her a fake name. Even until now, she still knew him as Overlord Xiang.

Xiang Shaoyun flinched slightly before shifting the topic, "What do you plan to do with them?"

Dong Ziwan turned her head to look at Tai Kang and the others. An anxious look surfaced on her face as she said, "I want you to spare one of them. He is the second young master of the Tai Clan. Since they are making a move against my Dong Clan, we might be able to use him as leverage against the Tai Clan."

"Since that is the case, I will spare his worthless life. But he still needs to suffer some," said Xiang Shaoyun with a nod. He turned to look at Wu Lai and asked, "Are you the one who had once saved me outside Cloud Margin City?"

About a year and a half ago, when Xiang Shaoyun, Gong Qinyin, and the others had gone to the Flame Mountain to look for the millennium earthcore fire, a King from the Wen Clan had attempted to kill him. Someone had saved him during the crucial moment, and he had never known who that mysterious savior was. But now that he saw Wu Lai again, a sense of familiarity hit him, resulting in him guessing that Wu Lai was the one who had helped him.

Wu Lai answered, "Yes, but I only did that to repay you for protecting the young lady."

### Chapter 373: Who Are You Calling a Fool?

Xiang Shaoyun did not say anything much after confirming that Wu Lai was the one who had saved him back then. Since he had only acted for the sake of Dong Ziwan, there was no need to thank him.

Xiang Shaoyun merely offered a nod before going over to Tai Kang's group of three. "You three, attack together. If you can defeat me, you are free to go."

"Kid, have you gone mad? You can't do that!" Wu Lai complained.



"Audacious!" Jin Wo glared at Wu Lai and berated, "Watch how you speak to his highness!"

Wu Lai immediately shut his mouth when he sensed the powerful demonic aura Jin Wo was releasing. Inwardly, he asked himself, How did this kid get a Demon Emperor as his mount? And this kid himself has also reached the Skysoar Realm! Did he stumbled on some fortuitous encounter or something?

He still remembered that back when he had first met him, Xiang Shaoyun was still a fresh Transformation Realm cultivator. In less than two years, he had actually reached the third-stage Skysoar Realm. That was quite an astonishing speed.

Meanwhile, the three survivors were overjoyed to hear Xiang Shaoyun's offer.

Tai Kang quickly asked, "Are you telling the truth?"

"That does not matter. This is your only choice. If you are not willing to fight, I can get my mount to eat you all up immediately. But if you fight me, perhaps you have a chance of survival," said Xiang Shaoyun with a faint smile.

He had not fought anyone since his breakthrough. These three would be just nice for him to test his current combat prowess, which was why he had Jin Wo spare them. Of the three, Tai Kang was a third-stage Skysoar Realm cultivator. As for the other two, one was a second-stage Skysoar Realm cultivator while the other was a fourth-stage Skysoar Realm cultivator. Not even a fourth-stage Skysoar Realm cultivator would wish to challenge a group like this. As a third-stage Skysoar Realm cultivator, would Xiang Shaoyun be able to face them?

"If that is the case, attack!" Tai Kang knew he had no other choice, so he could only do as told.

In any case, he had already come up with a plan. So long as he could drag things out long enough for the Emperors of his clan to arrive, all would be fine. Little did he know that Xiang Shaoyun's group had already killed the Tai Clan Emperors a short while ago.

When Tai Kang gave the command to attack, the second-stage King volunteered himself, "Young master, let me test his strength."

The second-stage King was wielding a golden baton, and as he channeled his energy into it, a golden dragon flew out of it toward Xiang Shaoyun. A King was capable of utilizing the spiritual

energy of the world and could draw energy from their fate stars, gaining access to a formidable power through the combination of multiple sources of energy.

Xiang Shaoyun merely stood there, showing no reaction to the incoming attack. When the attack was about to reach him, a golden energy wall materialized around him and blocked it.

Rumble!

A series of explosions rumbled out.

When all the dust settled, Xiang Shaoyun could be seen standing there completely fine. With a look of disdain, he said, "That isn't even enough to scratch my itch."

"How about this? Heaven Ripping Dragon!" the second-stage King roared indignantly as he mustered all his strength to release a new attack. At the same time, the golden snake he was mounted on also spat out a powerful clump of golden energy. The two attacks combined, forming a golden dragon that shot toward Xiang Shaoyun.

The golden dragon bared its fangs and brandished its claws, as if it was going to rip the entire world apart. This was the second-stage King's strongest attack, and its offensive prowess was comparable to the attack of a third-stage Skysoar Realm expert.

Tai Kang and the fourth-stage King stared at Xiang Shaoyun, trying to see if he could survive. The two also prepared themselves to join the battle at any moment.

"Overlord Xiang, watch out!" Dong Ziwan cried out in alarm.

"Don't worry, young lady. He's a third-stage King, a stage higher than you," said Wu Lai.

Facing the new attack, Xiang Shaoyun still had the same sneer on his face as he said, "This attack is far too weak compared to a natural lightning bolt."

With the defensive barrier of the Six Goldplate Manual floating around him, Xiang Shaoyun charged into the incoming attack. Everyone else viewed it as suicide and started wondering if he had gone mad. Yet another explosion erupted, hiding Xiang Shaoyun from everyone's view.

"Haha, so he's just some suicidal fool?" the second-stage King roared with laughter.

"Who are you calling a fool?" Xiang Shaoyun suddenly appeared in front of the King and grabbed his neck.

The King's face instantly flushed red as fear filled his heart. With great difficulty, he spoke, "I...I..."

"Go!" Tai Kang and the fourth-stage King finally moved in, attacking from Xiang Shaoyun's back.

Tai Kang leaped off his bluescale ox, sending a series of illusionary sword energies flying toward Xiang Shaoyun with his Bluescale Sword. Only one of the sword energies was real, but it was hard to ascertain which was it.

Seven Illusionary Killing Swords!

The fourth-stage King did not hold anything back either. They had no other way out, and their only hope was to capture Xiang Shaoyun and use him as a hostage. Wielding a fiery sword, the fourth-stage King released a tongue of boundless, destructive flame toward Xiang Shaoyun.

Chaotic Meteoric Flame!

The two powerful attacks shot toward Xiang Shaoyun, not giving him any chance of escaping. At the last moment before the two attacks arrived, Xiang Shaoyun used the second-stage King as a shield and blocked the two attacks.

He had thought that using one of them as a shield would make them hold back, but he had underestimated their ruthlessness. They did not care about the second-stage King, and they continued attacking.

"Six Goldplate Manual!" Xiang Shaoyun roared and pushed his defense to the peak to take the incoming attacks head on.

Combined with his king aura, the defensive barrier protected his entire body.

Cling! Clank!

A barrage of attacks blasted Xiang Shaoyun, turning the second-stage King into a cloud of blood before they struck the barrier and produced a series of crisp sounds. His defense was good enough to withstand the bombardment of natural lightning bolts, yet it did not last long before the combined attacks of the two before him. The instant his barrier crumbled, he moved away with his Overlord's Nine Nether Steps and clawed with both his hands.

Seven Scorching Sun Claws, Gold Tearing Stance!

Two fiery energy hands raked forward, heading toward one attacker each. The raging flame energy and the sharp claws reached them instantly. Tai Kang was unable to move away in time, and four bloody scars appeared on his chest. The fourth-stage King, not doing any better, had a chunk of flesh ripped off his body.

#### Chapter 374: Controlling Tai Kang

Xiang Shaoyun was a Super War King when he was a Transformation Realm cultivator. Now that he was a third-stage Skysoar Realm expert, his combat prowess had grown even more dreadful.

Tai Kang and the fourth-stage Kings were decent combatants, and when working together, they were quite powerful. But the most they could do was tear through Xiang Shaoyun's barrier. It was quite unlikely that they would be able to stop his attack as well.

Tai Kang was gravely wounded, and the fourth-stage King had also sustained a certain degree of injury. Fear covered their faces as they finally understood why Xiang Shaoyun had given them this chance to fight him. It turned out he had full confidence in dealing with them.

"You won't be able to kill us without paying a price!" roared the fourth-stage King as he waved his fiery sword repeatedly, sending a flaming tornado toward Xiang Shaoyun.

The area about 100 meters around Xiang Shaoyun was completely submerged in flame. The raging flame did not seem ordinary either. Instead, it seemed like some sort of beast flame or unique flame. Alas it was still not as powerful as Yun Flame. Thus, its effectiveness was greatly reduced.

An intense hunger erupted from Yun Flame, telling Xiang Shaoyun what it wanted.

"Not bad at all. You actually have a unique flame? That will make a decent meal," said Xiang Shaoyun with a smile before releasing Yun Flame. Instantly, a thick tongue of flame surged out and charged into the surrounding flame.

Bang! Bang!

In the blink of an eye, Yun Flame cleanly devoured all the flame in the area, and the attack failed to do anything to Xiang Shaoyun. Taking the opportunity, Xiang Shaoyun charged forward and attacked with his Seven Scorching Sun Claws. This time, his claws were infused with Yun Flame's power, greatly enhancing their offensive prowess. The fourth-stage King tried his best to resist but was unable to stop the claw attack that seemed to be coming from all directions.

"What a terrifying flame!" The fourth-stage King could sense Yun Flame's terror, and with a shout, he turned and fled.

"Can you escape?" Xiang Shaoyun sneered as he instantly appeared right above the King. Yun Flame's power poured out of him and immediately turned the King into a fireball.

"Ahhhh!"

The fourth-stage King tried using his king aura to block the attack but failed. His body started burning, and even the insides of his body burned as well, putting him in an anguishing pain. He did all he could to struggle, but he was completely helpless and was ultimately burned to ash.

Tai Kang's entire body went cold as he sank into complete despair. When Xiang Shaoyun looked at him again, he unhesitatingly did a 90-degree bow and begged, "I beg you to spare me. I am willing to carry out any orders you have."

Although Tai Kang was confident he could battle even a fourth-stage King, he was not confident he could defeat Xiang Shaoyun. Furthermore, a Demon Emperor was standing right to the side. Tai Kang no longer dared to resist, and he quickly conceded. Inwardly, he kept questioning, Why are my clan's Emperors still not here yet?

"You will be willing to do anything?" Xiang Shaoyun asked with a toying tone.

"Yes, I only ask that you spare my life," said Tai Kang with a fearful look.

"Hehe, too bad I don't trust your words." Xiang Shaoyun shook his head with a smile on his face. His eyes turned cold. "But I will give you a chance to live."

A curse then flew out of the Nether Dragon Soul Headband in his head toward Tai Kang. The curse sank into Tai Kang's head and took on the form of the Nether Dragon Soul Headband before slowly wrapping itself around his soul.

Tai Kang was overwhelmed with fear. He tried to resist, but the Nether Dragon Soul Headband was too powerful. No matter what he tried, he could not prevent his soul from being shackled.

"Ahhhh!"

When the secondary Nether Dragon Soul Headband was done wrapping itself around Tai Kang's soul, Xiang Shaoyun started chanting the mantra of the curse, causing Tai Kang to grip his head and yell in pain.

The pain was too much for him. He started smashing his head against the ground in his attempt to reduce his suffering, but all his struggles were in vain. Blood poured out of his head as he struggled bitterly, presenting a miserable scene that caused one's hair to stand on end.

Both Wu Lai and Dong Ziwan were shaken. None of them knew what Xiang Shaoyun was doing to torture a King so much. After a while, Xiang Shaoyun finally stopped chanting. As for Tai Kang, he had also stopped damaging himself. He lay on the ground with a look of incomparable grief on his face. He simply couldn't accept that as a second young master of the Tai Clan, he had actually fallen so low. He had a feeling that his life was no longer his.

"Stop feigning death. Get over here," commanded Xiang Shaoyun.

The command seemed to have reached the depths of Tai Kang's soul, and he was completely unable to defy it. He quickly stood up and rushed to Xiang Shaoyun.

"Are you still waiting for the Tai Clan Emperors to save you? Too bad, we have already killed the three Emperors. You can forget about them," said Xiang Shaoyun, who finally knew what Tai Kang was thinking about after imprinting the curse in him.

As he lost all hope, Tai Kang's face turned ashen.

"Stay by my side obediently and you might suffer less as a result. Otherwise, I will make sure you live a life worse than death," said Xiang Shaoyun as he looked at Tai Kang with disgust.

He had sensed the perverted thoughts Tai Kang had toward Dong Ziwan. Although Xiang Shaoyun had not fallen for Dong Ziwan, he still viewed her as a good friend. Thus, it was only natural that his opinion of Tai Kang would drop.

"Yes, yes, I will obey your every command." Tai Kang had no choice but to concede. He no longer dared to scheme, as all his thoughts could now be read. No matter what, there would be hope so long as he remained alive.

Xiang Shaoyun returned to Dong Ziwan's side and said, "You can now do anything you want to him. I guarantee that he won't dare to resist."

But Dong Ziwan did not even spare Tai Kang a glance. She looked at Xiang Shaoyun with a bright gaze and said, "You have actually grown so strong! Your cultivation level is even a stage higher than mine!"

"Haha, of course. This young master is destined to one day reach the top of cultivation. Surpassing a cross-dresser like you is nothing much at all," said Xiang Shaoyun smugly.

"Stop calling me a cross-dresser, or I won't forgive you!" Dong Ziwan complained resentfully.

"Fine, fine, I'll stop messing with you, Brother Dong Zi," said Xiang Shaoyun with a serious look on his face.

She glared. "Brother? I'm not your brother! I'm a woman! I'm Dong Ziwan! Or you can call me Ziwan!"

"Ok, I'll call you Ziwan," said Xiang Shaoyun. "Come with me. Someone from your clan has been injured. I am only here because they had told me where you were."

Chapter 375: Overlord Is My Nickname

When Dong Ziwan heard what Xiang Shaoyun said, she immediately went along with him to Dong Ziming. As he was under Dong Wu's protection, Dong Ziming wasn't too badly injured. After a period of rest, he had recovered greatly. In fact, he had recovered enough to start scheming. He approached Devouring Ghost. Devouring Ghost kept his eyes shut, as if he was completely unaware that Dong Ziming was walking toward him.

Dong Ziming knew how strong Devouring Ghost was, so he stopped walking when he was about 10 paces away and asked, "Hey, you want a more powerful backer?"

Devouring Ghost remained still and gave no response whatsoever, as if he had heard nothing. But Dong Ziming was clear that Devouring Ghost had heard him and was merely ignoring his question.

Thus, he continued persuading, "The Dong Clan is the overlord of the Five Denseforest Cities, and we have scores of Emperors in the clan. Our ancestor is a top-tier Emperor, and as the son of the clan leader, I occupy an important position in the clan as well. If you are willing to come under my wing, I will promise to allocate you enough resources to push you further in your path of cultivation. You will enjoy glory and honor in the Five Denseforest Cities, and might even be able to reach a height where you can do as you wish in the entirety of the Soaring Dragon Province—"

"Shut it!" Devouring Ghost suddenly barked.

Dong Ziming felt like a thunderclap had erupted in his head. His eyes blurred as a burst of dizziness hit him. Blood trailed out of his seven apertures, and he collapsed in pain, his face covered with fear.

"If not for the young master's command, you would already be a dead man," said Devouring Ghost, his eyes pulsing with a green radiance like two clumps of ghostfire.

A mere tier-5 organization was far from enough to poach Devouring Ghost. At this time, Dong Wu woke up from his cultivation. He dragged his injured body to Dong Ziming's side and heaved a sigh of relief when he saw that his young master was still alive.

He then looked at Devouring Ghost and asked, "Sir, may I ask who you are exactly? Have you never heard of the Dong Clan from the Five Denseforest Cities?"

The Dong Clan was a large clan with decent fame in the Soaring Dragon Province. Only organizations of the same or higher tiers would dare show them contempt. Dong Wu was trying to figure out Devouring Ghost's background so he could decide his next course of action.



"That is not something you need to know," Devouring Ghost answered, the same green radiance pulsing from his pair of eyes. "Just know that in the eyes of my young master, your Dong Clan is nothing. If it wasn't because he knows someone from your clan, we couldn't even be bothered to care about your affairs."

Dong Wu was stunned. From Devouring Ghost's words, he could judge that they probably came from an organization much more powerful than them and that Xiang Shaoyun was most likely someone with an exalted status. It was at this moment that Jin Wo returned with Xiang Shaoyun, Dong Ziwan, and Wu Lai.

"Young master," Devouring Ghost stood up and greeted respectfully.

His action reaffirmed Dong Wu's guess. When he saw Dong Ziwan, he was overjoyed as he thought, Looks like we will have to rely on the young lady to solve our clan's crisis.

"Devouring Ghost, what's going on with him?" asked Xiang Shaoyun as he pointed at Dong Ziming.

"Nothing. I had just placed him in his place. That's all. He was actually thinking of poaching me with the name of their Dong Clan. The nerves of him," said Devouring Ghost.

"Oh, well, he has no one to blame but himself then," said Xiang Shaoyun. He had spoken to Dong Ziming for a bit earlier and was aware that he was simply a flippant young master, completely different from the kind and innocent Dong Ziwan.

Dong Ziwan asked Dong Wu, "Grandpa Wu, are you fine?"

"Little Wan, Grandpa Wu won't die from this, but I owe my life to your friend. Otherwise, both me and Little Ming would currently be dead," said Dong Wu with a grateful smile.

"Thank you, Overlord Xiang," said Dong Ziwan solemnly.

"Don't worry about it," said Xiang Shaoyun nonchalantly.

Only then did Dong Ziwan shift her attention to her brother. There was a slight trace of worry on her face, but she did not seem particularly distressed about her brother's injuries. She couldn't even be bothered to go near Dong Ziming, and she instead asked Dong Wu, "Is Dong Ziming fine?"

"He's fine. It's just a momentary unconsciousness," answered Dong Wu awkwardly.

Only actual members of the Dong Clan would know that Dong Ziwan and Dong Ziming were actually siblings of the same father but different mothers. The two weren't exactly close. The only reason Dong Ziming had even come out to look for Dong Ziwan was so he could berate her when she was found.

"Good. You may take him back now," said Dong Ziwan.

"Young lady, we came out to look for you. The Tai and Xing Clans have rebelled. The clan leader is very worried about you. Ziming is the same. Let's go back together," persuaded Dong Wu with a hopeful expression.

"Go first. I'll be right behind you," said Dong Ziwan. She knew how serious things were becoming.

When Dong Wu saw that Dong Ziwan was insisting to not return together with him, he did not force her. He nodded and dragged his injured body toward Dong Ziwan before he lifted him and left.

After the two left, Xiang Shaoyun said, "Things are looking bad for your Dong Clan. Let me escort you back."

"No, I can go back myself," said Dong Ziwan. A hopeful look appeared on her face as she asked, "Overlord Xiang, can you tell me your real name?"

Dong Ziwan was no idiot. She had long known that Xiang Shaoyun had given her a fake name.

Xiang Shaoyun rubbed his nose and laughed dryly. "Xiang Shaoyun. Overlord is my nickname."

"Xiang Shaoyun. I will call you Shaoyun if we still have the chance to meet in the future," said Dong Ziwan, a look of reluctance to part on her face.

She then called out to Wu Lai, "Uncle Wu Lai, let's go."

She then soared to the sky and left for the Dong Clan with Wu Lai. The only reason she had rejected Xiang Shaoyun's offer was because she knew the Tai and Xing Clans must have prepared sufficiently before revolting. She did not want to plunge him into danger.

One ought to admit that Dong Ziwan truly had a kind heart. However, Xiang Shaoyun followed her without a second thought. He was not one to do nothing when a friend was in trouble.

But Devouring Ghost stopped him through voice transmission, "Young master, don't go. There is something I need to tell you."

The solemn tone caused Xiang Shaoyun to turn back and ask, "What is so important that you need to say it now? She is my friend. I can't watch on without helping."

He was making it clear that Devouring Ghost should not bother persuading him against following Dong Ziwan.

"I am going to break through soon, and I need someone guarding me during my breakthrough," Devouring Ghost said. He added, "That girl's clan needs a powerful ally. When I reach eighth-stage Dragon Ascension Realm, I will no longer fear anyone in the same realm."

"How long do you need?" Xiang Shaoyun asked.

"Three days. No more than that," Devouring Ghost answered firmly.

Xiang Shaoyun agreed, "Ok. We will stand guard for you. Break through as quickly as possible."

#### Chapter 376: Devouring Ghost's Breakthrough

Both Dong Ziwan and Wu Lai were on their way back to Dong City, the leading city of the Five Denseforest Cities. On their way back, Wu Lai couldn't resist asking, "Young lady, you could have invited that kid to come with us. Why didn't you?"

"Do you think I should have had him come along?" Dong Ziwan asked.

"Of course. They have three powerful Emperors and would be of great help to our Dong Clan," answered Wu Lai directly.

"But have you ever thought that they are not even members of the Dong Clan? Why should we drag them into our mess?" Dong Ziwan asked.

Wu Lai was rendered speechless. He had only viewed things from the Dong Clan's perspective and had not considered a different perspective.

"Let's go. Our Dong Clan has stood tall for a few thousand years. How can the mere Tai and Xing Clans take us down," said Dong Ziwan without expression.

But in truth, she also longed that Xiang Shaoyun would come along with her. Although she still wouldn't allow him to put himself in any danger, that gesture was still one that would warm her heart. But now that Xiang Shaoyun wasn't even trying to follow, she felt rather sad.

Perhaps in his heart, I am just a regular friend, sighed Dong Ziwan inwardly.

Xiang Shaoyun was naturally not a person so heartless. He was simply busy guarding Devouring Ghost with Du Xuanhao and Jin Wo. Devouring Ghost had occupied Linggu Haonan's body, a body that was once belonged to a ninth-stage Dragon Ascension Realm expert. The cultivation level had subsequently dropped to the seventh-stage after the takeover.

The drop was due to a conflict in the different elements the two cultivated and because Devouring Ghost's soul foundation had not fully recovered. After a period of recovery and accumulation, coupled with the unique materials from the Emperors he had killed, he finally reached a point where he could advance into the next stage.

This advancement also meant that part of Linggu Haonan's astral energy would be converted to an element suited for Devouring Ghost, allowing him to better display his combat prowess.

A large amount of dark elemental astral energy converged at the entrance of the cave Devouring Ghost was cultivating at. The energy came in a massive amount, as if the entire sky was turning black.

The boundless energy turned into a storm, completely enveloping the area. It would be immediately apparent to any expert passing through that someone was breaking through, which was why Devouring Ghost needed Xiang Shaoyun and Jin Wo to stand guard for him.

Xiang Shaoyun focused on studying the energy converging in the area; a chilly and uncomfortable sensation enveloped his body.

The power of darkness has always been viewed as an evil power, but what's truly evil is the person wielding the power, not the power itself, Xiang Shaoyun lamented inwardly.

In the future, he would also need to cultivate the power of darkness. Studying the available energy around him would benefit him greatly. He focused on sensing each variation the energy underwent, trying his very best to adapt himself to it, making preparations for the day when it was his turn to absorb dark energy as well.

In truth, during his regular cultivation, he had always been absorbing the energies of nine different elements. But apart from lightning, gold, and fire, he had only been able to absorb a small amount of the other elements. He was waiting for the correct timing to arrive before he started absorbing more of the other six elements.

In a flash, three days passed. More and more energy converged in the area, ultimately turning into a clump of black storm before it surged into the cave. All the dark energy in the air was drawn in along with the entirety of the spiritual energy found within several kilometers.

This was what a late-stage Dragon Ascension Realm expert required when breaking through, and it was quite a terrifying scene. Even Xiang Shaoyun was clicking his tongue in astonishment. As for Du Xuanhao, he was filled with excitement. Both of them were lamenting inwardly how powerful the converging energy was.

Shortly after, a massive power erupted from the cave, creating clouds of dust and pebbles at its mouth. Then, Devouring Ghost flew out.

"Haha, I have further improved my fusion with this body!" Devouring Ghost howled with laughter.

"Looks like the breakthrough has been smooth," said Xiang Shaoyun with a smile.

"Um. This body is lacking in talent, but still decent. After I perfect the fusion, I will be able to start focusing on returning to my actual cultivation realm," said Devouring Ghost joyfully.

"That's good to hear. Let's go to Dong City now," said Xiang Shaoyun.

"Ok. I can now deal with even peak Dragon Ascension Realm experts," said Devouring Ghost confidently.

Although Devouring Ghost was currently only an eighth-stage Dragon Ascension Realm cultivator, a monster who had lived for over 10,000 years like him could easily fight those above his cultivation level.

And thus, Xiang Shaoyun headed to Dong City with Devouring Ghost, Du Xuanhao, and Jin Wo. The Dong City was the leader of the Five Denseforest Cities, with the other four cities being the Tai, Xing, Wu, and Lin Cities.

The five clans had always been led by the Dong Clan, whose ancestor was a peak Dragon Ascension Realm expert when he was still alive. He was only a step away from entering the Soul Foundation Realm, becoming a true Sovereign.

Unfortunately, when he went somewhere dangerous in search of a chance to break through, he failed to find any of the fortuitous encounters he sought and had instead gotten himself gravely injured. Ultimately, he died.

With the death of the ancestor, the power balance shifted greatly, and the Tai and Xing Clans' ambitions grew. The two clans then joined hands to rise up in revolt. As for the Wu and Lin Clans, they were the weakest of the five, and although they were loyal, they couldn't pose a threat to the Tai and Xing Clans.

Presently, Dong Ziming and Dong Wu were at the Dong Clan estate. The clan leader, Dong Zhuoyue, was listening to their briefing on how the Tai Clan Emperors had hunted them.

Dong Zhuoyue was a middle-aged man of about 40 years old. He had a handsome and scholarly face with a pair of flirtatious eyes that made it clear he was quite a playboy back in the days.

"Uncle Wu, you are saying Little Wan's friend is stronger than you?" Dong Zhuoyue said, his eyes lighting up with a bright glint.

"To be precise, it's the followers of Little Wan's friend. Without them, we would already be dead. Moreover, that person had been able to easily kill three Tai Clan Emperors. I think he is probably a late-stage Dragon Ascension Realm expert," Dong Wu analyzed.

"Good, very good. Where are they?" Dong Zhuoyue asked.

"I think they will most likely come back with Little Wan?" Dong Wu said uncertainly.

It was at this moment that someone reported Dong Ziwan's return. Dong Zhuoyue immediately summoned her to the meeting hall.

"Little Wan, it's good that you are back. Your father has been worried sick for you," said Dong Zhuoyue with a doting look in his eyes. Although Dong Zhuoyue was a playboy, he still treated his children decently.

"Sorry for making you worry, Father," answered Dong Ziwan, somewhat unenthusiastically. Although her father treated her decently, she still felt distanced from him due to her mother's death.

"Um. The Tai and Xing Clans are rebelling. Just stay home for now," said Dong Zhuoyue. He asked, "Right, I heard from your Grandpa Wu that you have some friends over? Where are they?"

### Chapter 377: Clan Emergency

The current Dong Clan was in a state of emergency. The Tai and Xing Clans could attack at any moment, and any single Emperor they could get to help would be extremely important. Dong Zhuoyue naturally hoped that Dong Ziwan's friends could help their family survive their crisis.

Unfortunately, Dong Ziwan gave him a disappointing answer, "They did not come."

Dong Zhuoyue's face turned unsightly.

To the side, Dong Ziming berated her, "How can you act that way? Our clan is in a crisis. Why won't you help your clan?"

He showed no respect whatsoever to his elder sister and acted as if she was the ultimate sinner for not inviting Xiang Shaoyun's group.

Dong Ziwan shot Dong Ziming a cold glance and retorted, "If a war breaks out, I will fight at the front line. Do you dare to do the same?"

"Of course I dare! But I am still too weak. If I was an Emperor, I would definitely slaughter all those people from the Tai and Xing Clans," claimed Dong Ziming. "Don't you try to shift the topic. Quickly go get your friends. They can serve us!"

"They are not members of the Dong Clan!" Dong Ziwan said coldly.

"You...Father, look at her! Does she even care about the clan? She's not willing to do anything to help!" said Dong Ziming.

"Little Wan, if your friends are really capable, you need to get them to help us. We will definitely reward them handsomely when the war is over," persuaded Dong Zhuoyue earnestly.

"I can not put my friends in danger. In any case, we have already separated," said Dong Ziwan firmly.

"I saw how much he cares for you! You are the one not wanting the best for your own clan!" Dong Ziming fanned the flame.

"This is a waste of time," said Dong Ziwan who was tired of bickering with Dong Ziming.

"Alright, we will stop speaking about that. Little Wan, what do you think of that proposal? That young master from Illusionary Palm Society really likes you a lot...," Dong Zhuoyue said.

"I would rather fight to the death than marry him!" declared Dong Ziwan firmly.

"See that, Father? This is your beloved daughter!" Dong Ziming continued fanning the flame.



Just as Dong Zhuoyue was about to lose his temper and berate Dong Ziwan, sounds of explosion reverberated through the air. Someone then shouted, "This is bad, clan leader. Emperors from the Tai and Xing Clans are attacking!"

"Audacious! Heed my command. Gather all our Dragon Ascension Realm experts and prepare to face the enemies," shouted Dong Zhuoyue as he smashed the table in front of him apart in anger.

He then ignored the others in the room and flew away. He looked scholarly and refined, but he was in fact a tier-4 Dragon Ascension Realm expert. Dong Wu wasted no time and flew out as well.

Outside the Dong Clan, a group of Emperors had arrived from the Tai and Xing Clans. Each of them was mounted on a powerful beast, and they started attacking the moment they arrived, barraging the city barrier.

Rumble! Rumble!

Dong City's barrier was not to be underestimated, as the ancestor and the clan's various Emperors had erected it a long time ago. The Tai and Xing Clans would need to spend some time if they wanted to break through it.

The people of the Dong City were greatly frightened by the attack, confused as to what was happening. The Dong Clan would not shrink from the fight. After all, they were the leader of the five cities, and it was unlikely for them to stay in hiding with enemies at their gates.

Dong Zhuoyue charged out and shouted, "Tai Changhe, Xing Liefeng, how impudent of you! You dare attack the Dong Clan?"

Tai Changhe and Xing Liefeng were the leaders of their respective clans, and neither was much weaker than Dong Zhuoyue.

Dong Zhuoyue was a playboy who had spent much of his time on women. Because of that, he did not really have much advantage over the two in terms of cultivation realm. On the other hand, Tai Changhe and Xing Liefeng were both as talented as Dong Zhuoyue and worked hard on their cultivation. And the hard work showed.

With the leader of the Dong Clan being only slightly stronger than the two clan leaders, people started having the impression that it would be the start of the Dong Clan's decline, thus the two clans' invasion.

The two clans had brought a total of 40 Emperors, whereas the Dong Clan only had 32 Emperors. In terms of numbers, the two clans had the advantage. As for the number of Kings, the two clans also had a number comparable to the Dong Clan as well. With the forces they could put together, it was understandable why they dared to revolt against the Dong Clan.

"Over the years, the Dong Clan has been growing more and more useless. It's time the Five Denseforest Cities got a new leader," said Tai Changhe coldly.

"If you are smart, surrender. The Dong Clan of today is no longer the Dong Clan of the past," said Xing Liefeng.

"Bullshit. You two are thankless wretches. If it wasn't for our ancestor taking care of you back then, would you have such accomplishments?" said Dong Zhuoyue.

"It doesn't matter what you say. Today, the Dong Clan shall cease to exist. Kill!" Tai Changhe commanded with a ruthless look in his eyes.

At the command, the Emperors of the two clans attacked. Naturally, the Dong Clan fought back, and a massive battle erupted in the sky. Countless explosions of numerous colors erupted, causing the people in the city below to all hide in fear.

Unfortunately for them, the city was currently sealed and none of them could escape. They would only regain their freedom after the battle ended.

The Dong Clan was an old clan with a decent amount of accumulation. Presently, a previous generation elder was slaughtering numerous people with a broken sovereign weapon.

Sovereign weapons were even rarer than emperor weapons, and even tier-5 organizations would rarely have one. Generally, they only appeared in organizations of tier-6 and higher.

This previous generation elder was Dong Qinggu, a ninth-stage Dragon Ascension Realm expert only a tiny bit away from reaching the peak. He was the current strongest combatant in the Dong Clan.

"Die, traitors!" said Dong Qinggu with a broken Clearmoon Mirror in hand. Numerous beams of light shot out of it, each of the beams comparable to the might of a peak Dragon Ascension Realm expert's attack.

"Ahhhh!"

The two clans lost a large number of people to the mirror. After all, among tier-5 organizations, a peak Dragon Ascension Realm was enough to suppress all resistance.

"Don't you get too cocky! Witness the Tai Clan's Waterwheel Suppression!" shouted an old Tai clansman as he tossed out a wheel-shaped weapon. It was emanating a dense vicious yin water energy, clashing with Dong Qinggu's Clearmoon Mirror.

The wheel-shaped weapon was also a broken sovereign weapon no weaker than the Clearmoon Mirror. On top of that, the Xing Clan took out a peak emperor weapon and joined in on the assault on Dong Qinggu.

"You asked for it! I shall let you witness the true sovereign weapon of our Dong Clan!" Dong Zhuoyue shouted and took out his clan's prized treasure, a sovereign weapon, and joined the battle. The Dong Clan had just gained a small advantage in the battle when some new experts joined the battlefield on the other two clans' side.

## Chapter 378: Harsh Scolding

The battle between Emperors was world-shaking to witness. Countless energy explosions erupted all over the sky, and numerous energies rained down like meteors, turning many buildings and objects below into dust.

If it wasn't for the formation protecting Dong City, the entire city would have been reduced to rubble by now. There were enough Emperors here to easily destroy a city. The people from the Dong Clan had never experienced such a crisis.

They all watched on anxiously, worried that their defenses would fall. However, they were completely helpless to stop the army of Emperors. Initially, the Dong Clan was able to put up a decent fight, but the opposing two clans' reinforcements had beaten them terribly.

The reinforcements consisted of only five Emperors, but each of them was a late-stage Emperor. One was at the ninth stage, one at the eighth stage, and the last at the seventh stage.

Even among tier-5 organizations, late-stage Emperors were rare. With the sudden inclusion of five of them, the tides of battle changed greatly. Although a ninth-stage Dragon Ascension Realm expert from the Dong Clan had subsequently rushed back to join the battle, things were still looking bleak for them.

The ninth-stage Dragon Ascension Realm expert who had joined the battle late cried out in alarm, "You are members of the Illusionary Palm Society. Are you colluding with the traitors?"

This expert was from the same generation of their ancestor. His name was Dong Zhongyuan, and he had been traveling the lands all this while. He had recently been summoned by the clan and had thus returned.

"You only know this now? It's too late. Today, the Dong Clan shall cease to exist," said an old man from the Illusionary Palm Society with a sneer.

This old man was a ninth-stage Dragon Ascension Realm expert. His name was Zhong Xuduo, a cultivator with an impressive mastery over the Illusionary Palm. He attacked, sending a rain of palms toward Dong Zhongyuan. The palms seemed to be everywhere and looked near impossible to defend against.

Dong Zhongyuan was forced to use all his power to deal with the attack and was completely incapable of helping the others from his clan. As for Dong Qinggu, he was currently under attack by a group of top Emperors from the opposing two clans, his broken sovereign weapon no longer granting him as much superiority over his powerful opponents. Their final hope was the sovereign weapon in Dong Zhuoyue's hand.

Dong Zhuoyue was a fourth-stage Dragon Ascension Realm cultivator. Equipped with a proper sovereign weapon, he was able to force Tai Changhe and Xing Liefeng to retreat repeatedly. He had even killed two early Emperor Realm experts from the opposing clans.

"Come at me, traitors! I will slaughter all of you!" The longer Dong Zhuoyue fought, the madder he became. With a sovereign weapon, he was able to unleash a combat prowess comparable to a peak fifth-stage Dragon Ascension Realm expert. Only late-stage Dragon Ascension Realm cultivators could face him currently.

At this time, a seventh-stage Dragon Ascension Realm expert from the Illusionary Palm Society flew over and yelled, "Step aside. I'll deal with him."

The sovereign weapon Dong Zhuoyue was using had caught his eyes. If he could snatch the weapon for the Illusionary Palm Society, it would be considered an accomplishment of great merit.

However, the people from the Dong Clan were no idiots. There were constantly other Dragon Ascension Realm experts around Dong Zhuoyue to back him up. They would not allow anyone to get their clan treasure. In the Dong Clan estate, many pairs of eyes were witnessing the battle in the sky, and a lot of them were beginning to have the urge to join the battle as well. The fate of their clan relied on this battle, and none of them wanted to sit around doing nothing.

At this time, Dong Ziming started criticizing Dong Ziwan again, "This is all your fault. If you had called your friends over, with their help, our clan wouldn't be in such terrible condition. If our clan loses this battle, you are the reason!"

Facing Dong Ziming's irrational criticism, Dong Ziwan did not know what to say. If she had really called Xiang Shaoyun's group here to participate in such a hopeless battle, then she would truly be a terrible friend. After all, there were too few of them. It was not like they would be of much help even if they had come. Instead, they would have been plunged into danger as well.

"Are you staying silent because you are feeling guilty? You are the same as your mother, a selfish wretch!" Dong Ziming continued berating her.

At this time, a woman with decent looks heard him and asked, "Ming, what happened?"

This woman was Dong Ziming's mother, Yan Li, a peak Skysoar Realm cultivator. Dong Ziming then loudly narrated the simplified version of all that had happened. When the Dong Clan people heard, their faces turned unsightly.

As for Yan Li, she pointed at Dong Ziwan with a cold expression on her face and scolded, "The clan is in a crisis. Since you have good friends capable of helping, why didn't you bring them here? The entire clan is suffering because of you! After the battle is over, I will make sure to tell the clan leader to punish you!"

Other people who had not dared to scold Dong Ziwan earlier started joining in as well.

"Young lady, you should have focused on the bigger picture. Since you have Emperor Realm friends, you should have recruited them to the Dong Clan and got them to help us."

"That's right. This is the time we need an ally most. If we can't survive this crisis, everything will be over for our clan."

"What's the point of saying all that now? The young lady has always been a stubborn person. If she hadn't refused the marriage with the Illusionary Palm Society, how would they have helped the traitors?"

"Young lady, you are really at fault this time. The ancestor had doted on you for nothing."

...

Faced with the barrage of criticisms, tears started dripping down Dong Ziwan's cheeks.

Inwardly, she questioned herself, Have I really been selfish? Have I really ignored the plight of the clan?

Rumble! Rumble!

Yet another rumbling explosion sounded, and finally, the defensive barrier of the Dong Clan broke. With the barrier's collapse, the bulk of the two clans' armies started charging into the city, attacking the Dong Clan estate.

Numerous Dong Clan Kings flew out and fought back. Astral energy explosions started erupting everywhere. The battle of Kings thus began as well. Up in the sky, the Dong Clan Emperors grew anxious when they noticed what was happening down below. The people below were all their family members and successors, and they naturally did not wish for anything bad to happen to them.

"Haha, this is the end of the Dong Clan. Kill!" Tai Changhe roared with laughter.

The other Emperors were similarly excited. Their auras surged as they resumed their attacks on the Dong Clan Emperors whose morale had been shaken. With their low morale, the battle became increasingly one sided in the invaders' favor.

Dong Ziwan felt her heart bleed as she watched. A resolute look covered her face as she muttered, "I will prove my loyalty to the clan even if I have to die!"

She then charged into the battlefield with her sword raised. Alas, she was only a second-stage Skysoar Realm cultivator. What could she possibly do to save the Dong Clan?

Meanwhile, three humans and a Demon Emperor were rushing toward the Dong Clan at a rapid speed.

### Chapter 379: Prompt Reinforcement

The Demon Emperor heading to the Dong City was none other than the gold serpentine crocodile. Standing on his back were Xiang Shaoyun, Devouring Ghost, Du Xuanhao, and their hostage, Tai Kang. The group had gone straight to Dong City after Devouring Ghost's breakthrough.

When Devouring Ghost sensed what was happening in the city, he told Xiang Shaoyun, "Young master, a group of Emperors are fighting ahead of us. Looks like that girl's clan is not doing very well."

"Are there any Sovereigns participating in the battle?" Xiang Shaoyun asked with a frown.

He had also sensed the fierce battle ahead of them. Although his senses were not as sharp as Devouring Ghost's, he was able to sense enough to see that the Dong City was under siege.

Despite that, he maintained his calm and did not rush over recklessly. If there was a Sovereign there as well, he would not be able to help Dong Ziwan. It was not that he was afraid of death, but charging right toward a Sovereign was simply stupid. Both Devouring Ghost and Du Xuanhao were still not strong enough to fight Sovereigns. Going over if there was a Sovereign would be tantamount to suicide.

That was the reason for Xiang Shaoyun's question.

Devouring Ghost frowned and focused for a bit. He then smiled and said, "No Sovereigns. In fact, there aren't even any peak Dragon Ascension Realm cultivators. The strongest are only some ninth-stage Dragon Ascension Realm cultivators, and the rest are Emperors of different stages. I can handle them."

"Good. Let's not delay, then. Go!" Xiang Shaoyun commanded.

"Young Master Xiang, you can't join the battle of Emperors. How about we go into the city and take a look? In any case, we need to figure out which of them are the actual Dong Clan members since we don't know them," suggested Du Xuanhao.

"Oh, that's not a problem. We can just ask him." Xiang Shaoyun gestured at Tai Kang. "Point out the members of the Tai and Xing Clans."

Tai Kang was now under Xiang Shaoyun's full control. Thus, when they approached the battlefield, he started pointing out the members of the Tai and Xing Clans without any hesitation.

"Things are looking bad for the Dong Clan," Du Xuanhao sighed.

"A clan with this strength is merely an early tier-5 organization," said Devouring Ghost with contempt.

"Alright. Devouring Ghost, Big Brother Du, time for you to get some exercise. I only need Jin Wo by my side," said Xiang Shaoyun.

Devouring Ghost had reached the eighth-stage Dragon Ascension Realm and was confident he could now battle peak Dragon Ascension Realm experts. As for Du Xuanhao, he was a peak seventh-stage Dragon Ascension Realm expert. With his saber intent, he could easily kill those of the same stage and put up a fight against those above his stage. As long as there were no Sovereigns present, Xiang Shaoyun believed that they would be able to bring the two enemy clans a nice "surprise".

"Good. Only through battle will I be able to adapt to this body faster," said Devouring Ghost with a smile, his battle intent surging.

He then turned into a specter and rushed into the battlefield. Du Xuanhao's battle intent was also surging. Like a sharp blade that had left its sheath, he stabbed straight into the battlefield. After he had begun cultivating the Scorching Sun Manual and Eighteen Scorching Sun Sabers he had obtained from Xiang Shaoyun, his strength had grown considerably. He was becoming impatient to test his current combat prowess.



Devouring Ghost and Du Xuanhao joining the battlefield changed the tides of battle yet again. Using powers of darkness and light, Devouring Ghost attacked, sending out two different colors that worked together perfectly like the combination of yin and yang to unleash an even more terrifying attack, instantly killing an Emperor the moment he joined the battle.

Additionally, he was also constantly moving around with his wondrous footwork, his body like a specter nobody could catch. After killing the first Emperor, he went on to attack a late-stage Dragon Ascension Realm cultivator from the Xing Clan. The late-stage Dragon Ascension Realm cultivator reacted quickly but was still incapable of stopping Devouring Ghost's onslaught. He was killed before he could put up much resistance.

"Haha, this is refreshing!" Devouring Ghost roared with laughter.

The Dong Clan Emperor he had saved quickly thanked gratefully, "Thank you, lord, for your help!"

He did not know who Devouring Ghost was, but since he was there to help, he was a friend. Devouring Ghost couldn't be bothered to reply, and he moved on to a new target. Meanwhile, Du Xuanhao cut a way into the battlefield with an ordinary-looking saber and directly cleaved a Tai Clan Emperor fighting Dong Wu into two. Blood sprayed everywhere.

When Dong Wu saw who his savior was, he said joyfully, "Y-you are Little Wan's friend! This is great!"

Du Xuanhao ignored him and instead charged an eighth-stage Dragon Ascension Realm expert from the Illusionary Palm Society. He displayed a courage worthy of his title as the Saber Emperor, directly picking an opponent with a higher cultivation level than him. Not many people had this kind of courage.

First stance of the Eighteen Scorching Sun Sabers, Rising Scorching Sun!

Du Xuanhao directly utilized the Eighteen Scorching Sun Sabers, a true sovereign technique that was terrifyingly powerful. A fiery saber shot out, emanating a blinding brightness like the sun. The eighth-stage Dragon Ascension Realm expert reacted instinctively and dodged to the side with the fastest speed he could muster. Unfortunately, he was too slow, and one of his arms was sent flying.

"AHHH!" The pain of a severed arm caused the eighth-stage Dragon Ascension Realm expert to cry out in pain.

"You are not from the Dong Clan! Who are you?" the injured Emperor asked in fear as he retreated.

"A dead man does not need to know my name," Du Xuanhao gave a cold reply before swinging his saber again.

He was one who had comprehended saber intent. Combined with the Eighteen Scorching Sun Sabers, he did not need to fear any eighth-stage Dragon Ascension Realm experts. The injured Emperor was completely incapable of escaping him and was soon killed off.

It was at this time that the two clans and the Illusionary Palm Society finally realized that help had arrived for the Dong Clan. Their faces sank. Nevertheless, they did not retreat immediately. After all, they had been holding the advantage in the battle, and they did not believe that just these two could reverse the situation.

Meanwhile, the Kings were battling each other in the city. Although the battle was not as shocking as the battle of the Emperors, it was still bitter and desperate. Both parties had suffered large casualties, and the two clans did not hold any advantage. After all, this was the Dong Clan's turf, and the Dong Clan had been able to kill a lot of people from the two clans by relying on their formations.

Dong Ziwan was the daughter of the clan leader and was eligible to enjoy the protection of the formations. However, she had taken the initiative to charge right into the battlefield. She was only a second-stage Skysoar Realm cultivator, but the combat prowess she displayed was rather impressive relative to her actual cultivation level. Unfortunately, that was not enough for this battlefield.

Sphhlt!

A Tai Clan member struck her with a saber, causing her to collapse on the ground and cough up blood. If it wasn't for her armor, she would have died.

"The Dong Clan's young lady is indeed a great beauty. What a pity that this great beauty is going to fall under the hands of me, Tai Long," said a fourth-stage King from the Tai Clan with a ruthless look on his face.

Dong Ziwan shut her eyes, waiting for her death when suddenly, a shout rang out, "Nobody can kill her!"

## Chapter 380: That Man Can't Be Offended

The one who had just shouted was none other than Xiang Shaoyun. Riding on Jin Wo's back, he dove down toward Dong Ziwan. Jin Wo's serpentine tongue shot out, directly pulling the fourth-stage King trying to kill Dong Ziwan into his mouth before swallowing him. Xiang Shaoyun then hopped off Jin Wo's body and landed before Dong Ziwan. Dong Ziwan stared at Xiang Shaoyun, who had dropped from the sky, tears trailing down her cheeks.

Previously when they had parted ways, Xiang Shaoyun had not tried persuading her to stay, nor had he tried tailing her. It had made her sad even though she was the one who had insisted to part. Then again, women would rarely say what they had in mind. With Xiang Shaoyun appearing in her moment of crisis, it was impossible for her to not be touched.

"Are your injuries bad?" Xiang Shaoyun, assuming that she was suffering from grave injuries when he saw her crying, anxiously took out some spring water and offered it to her. "Quick, drink this spring water."

"I-I'm fine." Dong Ziwan shook her head and did not take the offered spring water.

"You're not fine. Look at the blood on you. Take it." Xiang Shaoyun frowned and directly fed the spring water to Dong Ziwan's mouth without giving her a chance to say no.

Dong Ziwan was an easily embarrassed person and the gesture instantly turned her face red. Nevertheless, she stopped resisting and swallowed the spring water.

"What a slut. The clan is in a crisis, yet you still have the time to be all affectionate with some wild man? You are an embarrassment to the clan!" berated Yan Li, who was hiding in their clan's formation when she saw what the two were doing.

Dong Ziwan glared at Yan Li and replied furiously, "You vixen! If you have the guts, come out from hiding and fight alongside the Dong Clan's sons and daughters! Who are you to criticize me when you are just hiding in the safety of a formation?"

Dong Ziwan had always had a good temper, but she couldn't stand Yan Li anymore.

Yan Li was left speechless for a moment. In her anger, she pointed at Dong Ziwan and said, "Y-you dare scold me? I won't forget this!"

"You think I'm afraid of you? You don't even have the blood of the Dong Clan in your veins. It is not your place to tell me what to do," countered Dong Ziwan unyieldingly, completely unlike her regular self.

Yan Li was about to talk back when Dong Ziming suddenly stopped her. Timidly, he said, "Mother, stop. That man can't be offended."

"Which man?" Yan Li asked in confusion.

"The man beside her. He has powerful Emperor followers. Look at that Demon Emperor; it's his mount. Looks like he is here to help our clan," explained Dong Ziming with a low voice.

His fear of Xiang Shaoyun after being slapped still lingered. Yan Li hesitated for a bit before deciding to remain silent.

Inwardly, however, she was telling herself, So what if he has some Emperors? Just wait until this crisis is over. I will definitely teach that slut a lesson.

Xiang Shaoyun shot Yan Li and Dong Ziming a cold glance and instantly understood that Dong Ziwan did not seem to have it easy in the Dong Clan. But now was not the time to think about that. The battle was still raging.

Jin Wo tried to stand in front of Xiang Shaoyun and Dong Ziwan to protect them, but since there was also a Demon Emperor among their enemies as well, he was forced to deal with the Demon Emperor instead. Because of that, there was now no Emperor guarding Xiang Shaoyun. When the two clans noticed, they took the chance to attack him.

A third-stage King rushed over, mounted on a Demon King panther. He seemed to have become one with his mount, and they attacked together, sending a combined attack toward Xiang Shaoyun and Dong Ziwan. Dragging Dong Ziwan along, Xiang Shaoyun quickly dodged the attack.

"Tai Kang, get into the midst of your Tai Clan and start killing them," Xiang Shaoyun commanded through mental transmission.

Tai Kang was now under Xiang Shaoyun's full control. He did as told and sneaked into the midst of the Tai Clan and started backstabbing them. Even so, Xiang Shaoyun did not put much hope on Tai Kang. Instead, he took Dong Ziwan and moved behind the third-stage King attacking them. He then gathered a clump of dreadful lightning power into his free hand and blasted the King's back with it.

Lightning Bolt Fist!

Xiang Shaoyun had reached a level capable of fully unleashing the power of the Lightning Bolt Fist. A lightning fist shot forth and completely enveloped the King and his mount in lightning.

Bang!

The destructive lightning power instantly burned the King and his mount to crisp.

"Let go of me. I will fight alongside you!" demanded Dong Ziwan firmly.

Xiang Shaoyun glanced at the solemn look on her face and let her go. He smiled and said, "Remember to not be a burden this time."

Back when they had explored the cave together, Dong Ziwan had a higher cultivation level, yet it had been Xiang Shaoyun who had taken care of her.

Dong Ziwan replied, "Don't worry. I will show you my real strength."

A green energy surged out of her body, quickly healing her wounds. At the same time, her combat prowess increased. This was her true strength. Earlier, she had only been thinking of dying in battle. Now that she wanted to continue living, her heart calmed, and she was finally able to release her true strength.

Xiang Shaoyun's eyes lit up as he said, "Splendid. Let's fight together."

And thus, the two charged into the battlefield and started fighting the two enemy clans' Kings. In the battlefield, late-stage Kings were battling each other while the weaker Kings were also fighting each other. In other words, Xiang Shaoyun and Dong Ziwan were only met with Kings no higher than the fifth stage when they joined the battle.

Xiang Shaoyun had just broken through not long ago, and such opponents were perfect for him. His first opponent was a middle-aged woman. Holding a Windcracker Sword, she sent numerous wind elemental energies slashing toward his vitals. The wind attacks moved at an incredible speed. Each sword energy moved like the wind and was hardly discernible. If it wasn't for Xiang Shaoyun's overbearing combat prowess and fast reactions, he would not have been able to avoid this series of attacks.

"Good. Let me experience how the power of wind tastes like," said Xiang Shaoyun. He had suddenly recalled the wind comprehension he had gotten back at the Martial Hall Palace and suddenly had the urge to learn more about the power of wind.

The power of wind was not only capable of increasing one's movement speed. As demonstrated by this middle-aged woman, it could also quicken one's attacks, letting one unleash attacks that others could not guard against. Xiang Shaoyun's comprehension of wind deepened, slightly increasing his attacking speed.

Gold Helix Fist!

A revolving golden fist shot out like a drill, instantly reaching the woman's stomach. She could not avoid it in time, and just like that, a bloody hole formed in her stomach. She wailed miserably before speedily retreating. Xiang Shaoyun pressed on, but the woman's husband arrived and shouted, "Don't you dare harm my woman! Die!"