

Overlord 431

Chapter 431: Meeting of Enemies

The Bloodsin City was filled with murderous and ruthless individuals with terrible tempers, but they needed the companionship of women to relieve their stress, and brothels had naturally become the perfect place to serve that purpose.

But in a city like Bloodsin City, operating a brothel was not something one could easily do. A brothel without sufficient strength would usually end up with a lot of customers that would either create trouble or refuse to pay. The brothel's operator might even end up losing both money and life.

This was not so for the Yu Moon Pavilion, the most luxurious brothel in the Bloodsin City.

The Yu Clan was an ancient influential clan and one of the most powerful organizations in the city. Thus, nobody dared to create trouble at their Yu Moon Pavilion. Of course, there were examples of people creating trouble here in the past. One such example was when someone started acting wildly after getting drunk. Then and there, he was ultimately ripped apart into eight pieces and tossed into a river.

Tonight, a grand banquet was being held at the Yu Moon Pavilion with an invitation to all youngsters below 30 years old in the city. The Holy Maiden candidate of the Yu Clan was going to pick 30 young geniuses among them to enter the Devil Domain with her. Their mission would be to help her get the yin devil wind, something that would help her become the next Holy Maiden.

During this process, anyone who managed to earn the favor of this Holy Maiden candidate would have the chance to become the Yu Clan's son-in-law. Because of that, in addition to the Bloodsin City's local geniuses, many geniuses from other provinces had arrived to attend the banquet as well.

The Yu Clan was considered a top clan even in the entirety of the Western Desert. Becoming their son-in-law basically guaranteed one power and authority. Furthermore, the Holy Maiden candidate was a remarkably beautiful woman known as the number one beauty of Yu Province. A woman with such background and looks was the kind of woman all men would fight for.

Presently, a large number of people had gathered in front of the Yu Moon Pavilion. They were the representatives from the various major organizations, composed of young masters and their followers. Each young master was surrounded by a large number of followers in their attempt to show off their power and influence.

The followers would only be allowed to enter the first and second floors of the pavilion. The third floor was reserved for the youngsters below 30 years old. Xiang Shaoyun had also arrived with Earth Skeleton and Jin Wo.

Looking at the large number of people gathered here, he couldn't help but to lament inwardly, The Yu Clan really has a great rallying power. Just look at the number of people here.

Although he was only a peak third-stage Skysoar Realm cultivator, he could still clearly sense how strong each person was. Those youngsters were all higher than him in terms of cultivation level. As for the followers, none of them were weaker than the Emperor Realm. Suddenly, a commotion broke out and attracted everyone's gaze.

A luxurious carriage was flying over, pulled by six flying demonic beasts baring their fangs and looking incomparably ferocious and majestic. A few people were seated in the carriage. Each looked extraordinary, with one of them being a youngster over 20 years old. He was lounging on a couch while looking around at everyone with disdain in his eyes.

"It's the Dragon Society! Who did they send? He actually has six Demon Emperor flood dragons pulling his carriage? What an astounding display of power!"

"No way. It can't be one of the Thirteen Crown Princes, right? It is rumored that each of the Thirteen Crown princes is insanely talented. Even the Golden Dragon Sword Su Jun is not qualified to be ranked among them."

"I know who he is! He's one of the Thirteen Crown Princes, Long Yunfei, the Thirteenth Crown Prince!"

"They sent him? Looks like the Dragon Society really wants to have a marriage alliance with the Yu Clan."

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Thirteenth Crown Prince Long Yunfei was the young man lounging on the couch. He looked heroic and extraordinary with a draconic aura swirling around him all the time. He did have a look as amazing as his reputation.

Generally speaking, those capable of emitting draconic aura were generally those who were halfway into the Dragon Ascension Realm. Since this Thirteenth Crown Prince was emitting a weak draconic aura around him, it was clear he was not far away from fully entering the Dragon Ascension Realm.

Reaching this cultivation level before 30 years old placed him among the most talented youths of the various tier-7 organizations. In fact, a talent like this would be rare even among tier-8 organizations. It was no wonder he could arrive with such splendor.

The six flood dragons flew straight into the Yu Moon Pavilion, completely unlike those from the regular organizations that did not dare to fly straight inside. The group had barely entered the pavilion when yet another group of people on a luxurious carriage pulled by a bunch of Demon Emperors arrived.

These were the people from the Dark Devil Sect. Among the group, one of them was the Devil Son candidate, Xie Gongzi, someone whose status was comparable to Long Yunfei. Apart from these two groups, the representatives from the city hall and some other tier-6 and tier-7 organizations from other provinces were also arriving.

A slight trace of envy was visible in Xiang Shaoyun's eyes when he looked at the glory all those young geniuses were basking in. Inwardly, he thought, If I had worked hard back then, I would be shining just as bright as them right now.

Just as Xiang Shaoyun was about to step into the Yu Moon Pavilion, screeching sounds suddenly rang out in the air. Sharp and clear phoenix-like cries filled the sky. Xiang Shaoyun looked up by instinct, and when he saw the luxurious carriage that had just arrived, his eyes were instantly covered with a thick murderous intent. His presence of dragon and tiger instantly roiled out of him. The people on the newly arrived carriage that was pulled by five luan birds seemed to have sensed Xiang Shaoyun's existence as well. They stopped right above him.

A handsome young man walked out from inside the carriage. With a white folding fan on his hand and a graceful bearing about him, he overlooked Xiang Shaoyun from above and said, "Little Brother Yun, it has been a while. Your big brother never expected to see you here. I am so glad to see you again!"

That young man was none other than Di Tong from the Ziling Sect. He was looking at Xiang Shaoyun with a look of derision.

"Di Tong!" Xiang Shaoyun couldn't help but to roar furiously. He had a look of hatred on his face, looking like he would wish for nothing more than to feast on Di Tong's flesh.

He once addressed Di Tong as his seventh brother, a person he saw as family. This seventh brother had always doted on him and would fulfill his every request. Who would have expected that the people from the Di Clan were actually a bunch of ambitious traitors. After his father had gone missing for half a year, they had snatched the sect from the Xiang Clan and had even killed a lot of members loyal to the Xiang Clan.

Xiang Shaoyun still remembered the scene of this seventh brother personally leading a group to hunt him down. Someone who was akin to family had suddenly turned into an enemy. It was something nobody had seen coming.

"Little Brother Yun, your big brother is very happy to see you living so well. But why are you out here in the open instead of hiding yourself away? Are you getting tired of living?" said Di Tong with a thick murderous intent in his eyes.

"Oh? Very well, let's see which of us will be the one to live after today!" said Xiang Shaoyun with a frosty look on his face.

Chapter 432: Yao Jiaojiao's Dreadful Strength

"Earth Skeleton, kill everyone in that carriage," commanded Xiang Shaoyun.

If this was any other city, Xiang Shaoyun would not dare to face Di Tong like this. However, this was Bloodsin City, and with the Skeleton Gang under his control, dealing with Di Tong's current group wouldn't be something too difficult.

Di Tong was only a peak King. As for his followers, they were probably only Dragon Ascension Realm experts. A group like this would probably not be that much of a threat. Unfortunately, Xiang Shaoyun had still underestimated the strength of Di Tong's followers. The moment Earth Skeleton attacked, an energy wave rippled out of Di Tong's carriage as a powerful aura pressed down on Xiang Shaoyun and Earth Skeleton.

"Retreat, master! They have a Sovereign with them!" said Earth Skeleton anxiously through voice transmission.

Earth Skeleton was a peak Dragon Ascension Realm expert, and he was able to barely withstand the Sovereign's pressure. He wouldn't be able to last long, and if this Sovereign decided to attack for real, he would not be able to keep Xiang Shaoyun safe.

Xiang Shaoyun's face fell. He had not expected that Di Tong would actually bring a Sovereign along. Not even he had enjoyed such treatment back when he was still the young master of the sect.

After all, Sovereigns were considered the elite force of a tier-7 organization. Experts like them would not easily bow to anyone. Xiang Shaoyun wanted to flee, but he did not think he would be able to escape a Sovereign.

"Get moving. Why are you not fleeing?" asked Di Tong with a sneer.

At the same time, the carriage started descending from the sky. As for the people in the surroundings, they all moved away from Xiang Shaoyun. None of them wanted to get pulled into their conflict.

Many of the people here knew who Xiang Shaoyun was. They were also able to easily figure out the identity of Di Tong's group with the emblem on their carriage. It was obvious this was a group from the Ziling Sect.

Although Ziling Sect was a relatively new sect that had only been established for about 100 years, it was a rising power and had a chance to become a tier-8 organization. Xiang Yangzhan, the sect master of Ziling Sect, also had a fierce reputation that had spread far and wide.

However, a lot of people were still unaware that the Ziling Sect had recently gotten a new master. Even fewer people knew that Xiang Shaoyun was the sect's original young master.

When the carriage landed, a smug smile formed on Di Tong's face as he said, "Come on. Allow your seventh brother to bring you home. We won't make things difficult for you. Old Cheng, take him."

The so-called Old Cheng was none other than the Sovereign by Di Tong's side. His name was Cheng Yu, a brand new Soul Foundation Realm expert, and he was also the strongest cultivator in the group accompanying Di Tong.

As Xiang Shaoyun was getting anxious, a melodic voice rang out in the air, "Little brother, what are you waiting for? Get in there and join the banquet already."

A pleasant fragrance filled the air as an incorporeal power arrived and instantly destroyed the pressure Cheng Yu was exerting on Xiang Shaoyun. The newcomer was a woman Xiang Shaoyun had never met before. She had an alluring hourglass figure, and for some reason, her voice sounded rather familiar to him. He had a feeling he knew her, but he couldn't recall meeting her at all.

"Who are you? This is Ziling Sect's business. Please move aside," said Cheng Yu with a frown.

As he said that, he released his presence and sent it crushing down on the woman.

"Hehe, I see you trying to bully the weak. I'll have you know that I love to do that as well!" said the woman with a melodious laugh.

Her voice was like a devilish tune that drilled straight into Cheng Yu's ears. His presence instantly crumbled apart and an odd expression appeared on his face. A short while later, he started stripping and hugging the empty air before him. He muttered repeatedly, "What a beautiful girl. I want you...I want you..."

Evidently, he had fallen to the woman's charm technique and was now trapped in an illusion. When Di Tong and the other Emperors saw that, fear covered their faces, and Xiang Shaoyun finally knew who she was. She was most likely Yao Jiaojiao the Myriad Face Consort.

"Thank you for your help, big sister. I will remember this favor," thanked Xiang Shaoyun as he bowed gratefully.

"Hehe, I won't forget what you said," said Yao Jiaojiao with a crafty smile. "Go on. I have high hopes for you."

Xiang Shaoyun nodded and stepped into the Yu Moon Pavilion.

Yao Jiaojiao then turned and looked at Cheng Yu, who was now completely naked, and said, "What an embarrassment. You call yourself a Sovereign?"

As she said that, Cheng Yu shivered and woke up from the illusion he was in. When he saw his current state, his face turned unsightly. His aura erupted from his body as he roared, "I'll kill you!"

He furiously punched forward at Yao Jiaojiao with both his fists. As he attacked, he gathered the energy in his surroundings, sending out a boundless astral energy that caused space itself to twist and warp. It was a terrifying might only available to Sovereigns. Unfortunately, a fresh Sovereign like him was nothing before Yao Jiaojiao.

She narrowed her eyes and smiled. "Looks like you have yet to learn your lesson."

She casually waved her hand, causing Cheng Yu's attack to fall apart. Her palm then struck his face.

Pa!

Along with a crisp sound, the slap sent Cheng Yu flying. From how easily Yao Jiaojiao could slap a Sovereign away, it was obvious how dreadful her strength was.

"Seventh young master, you need to leave," advised someone beside Di Tong in alarm.

None of them would be able to escape if that woman decided to make a move on them. Realizing that, Di Tong could only say helplessly, "If she wants to do anything to us, running is pointless. Just wait."

This was quite a courageous display, but inwardly, he wasn't as calm as how he was presenting himself. He started questioning himself, When has that bastard gotten such a strong helper? Is she a hidden trump card left behind by his dead father?

He knew there was a man named Duo Ji by Xiang Shaoyun's side, but Duo Ji was nowhere to be seen. Instead, it was this mysterious woman. The thought of Xiang Shaoyun's rapid growth caused him to be fearful that they might not be able to keep what they had stolen from Xiang Shaoyun after all.

"Hehe, not bad. You're quite smart. Lucky for you, I'm too busy to deal with you right now. Remember, in the Bloodsin City, don't bother trying to harm my little brother. Or else, you will die, no matter your background," said Yao Jiaojiao with a smile. She then vanished into thin air.

The only reason she had helped Xiang Shaoyun was because of the bet. She did not really feel much affection toward him. She was hoping that one of the candidates sent by the Seven Villains would become the Yu Clan's son-in-law. Thus, she would not watch on as Xiang Shaoyun got himself killed before he even got started on what they had sent him to do.

Chapter 433: Assembly of Geniuses

The so-called Yu Moon Pavilion was not just an ordinary building. Rather, it was a tower of graceful gardens. There were rock gardens, flowing streams, trees, flowers, and pavilions everywhere. Walking in here, it was as if there would be brand new scenery unfolding before one's eyes every 10 steps. It was an extremely beautiful place.

Anyone would feel rejuvenated the moment they stepped in here, their mood naturally calming down.

The first floor consisted of a garden with over 10 buildings littered here and there. Each of the buildings was a perfect place to spend one's time indulging in drink and pleasure. All sorts of pleasures were available on this floor, such as food, drinks, prostitution, and gambling.

The place was currently bustling with noise and excitement. The first floor had the Yu Moon Pavilion's cheapest services, but it was still not a place ordinary people could enter.

As for the second floor, the sceneries were even more exquisite. The women were even prettier than the ones on the first floor, and none of them were ordinary. They were all cultivators, and with them serving as this floor's hostesses, any customers qualified to enter would be satisfied with their service. Generally, only the extremely rich and powerful would dare enter the second floor.

The third floor was considered a private area, and nobody could enter without an invitation from the Yu Clan. In other words, this was some sort of VIP floor for their honored guests. Like the other young geniuses, Xiang Shaoyun's goal was to enter the third floor. But it wouldn't be easy for them. They needed to get through a test before they would be allowed entry.

A middle-aged man was standing on the path leading to the third floor. Looking at the group of youths standing before him, he said, "To enter the third floor, you need to first report your names to me. Then, you need to undergo our test. Only the best 50 will be allowed entry. Everyone else shall not enter."

Only 30 people would be ultimately chosen to enter the Devil Domain with the Holy Maiden candidate. This was the first round of selection where 50 would be selected. The final selection would be held on the third floor where the final 30 would be selected.

Xiang Shaoyun had not expected that there would be so many steps. He found it rather troublesome and didn't really want to do it, but when he thought of how his life was now in Ugly Gambler's

hands, he had no choice but to participate. After reporting his name and age, he was given a jade plate with his name written on it.

After the over 100 youths all completed their registrations, the middle-aged man declared, "Get ready. The 50 people that can remain standing under my suppression the longest will be allowed to remain."

Right after that announcement, a boundless presence surged out of the middle-aged man and pressed down on all the youths. This middle-aged man was actually a Dragon Ascension Realm expert. In fact, he was not an ordinary Dragon Ascension Realm expert, as he had reached the late stage.

His presence pressed down on everyone at exactly the same time, and it was not a feat an ordinary Dragon Ascension Realm cultivator could pull off. The youths here immediately felt like a massive boulder was suddenly weighing down on them, causing them to bend down involuntarily. The weaker ones even spat blood and fainted straight away.

Xiang Shaoyun also felt the same, and he nearly collapsed to the ground from the weight. Fortunately, he was not an ordinary King. Under the pressure, his nine stars stirred and erupted with power, helping him withstand the Emperor's presence.

This Emperor had only utilized about 10 percent of his strength, but just this 10 percent strength was already very difficult for peak Kings to withstand. It was a test of a King's cultivation base and willpower.

A King that couldn't even withstand a presence like this would not be qualified to become their son-in-law. The son-in-law candidates would be required to enter the Devil Domain and do battle there. Thus, they were only looking for those who were at least a peak King.

Any person capable of reaching such a cultivation level before 30 years old was basically a giant among men. The Yu Clan was conducting this test out of necessity. Otherwise, if any random King was allowed to join their banquet, it would be an insult to the clan.

Xiang Shaoyun was having a hard time withstanding the pressure, even with the help of his nine stars. But that was mainly due to his low cultivation level because he was only a third-stage King. Even when using his full power, he could only prevent himself from fully collapsing onto the ground. It seemed rather implausible that he would be able to last till the end.

His entire body was drenched wet as he strenuously tried to remain standing. About half of the people there were still standing firmly. Although some of them were also struggling, they were at least doing better than Xiang Shaoyun. Among them, about a dozen people were still standing perfectly straight. They did not look pressured at all. Evidently, this presence had minimal effect on them.

They were all peak Kings, with the weakest being at the ninth stage. Some of them even had slight traces of draconic aura around them, a sign that they had already formed their initial portion of draconic aura and that they would be able to enter the Dragon Ascension Realm in the not too distant future.

The so-called Dragon Ascension was akin to transforming into a dragon. Turning one's spine into a draconic spine, filling one's body with draconic aura, and obtaining the body of a true dragon.

Among the group still standing perfectly straight were Long Yunfei, Xie Gongzi, Di Tong, Shi Hai, Su Jun, and Huo Xudong. These were all people Xiang Shaoyun had met before.

There were also others who were worth paying attention to. Among them were Tang Longfei the number one young master of city hall, Jin Shui from the tier-7 organization Golden Horn Sect, Ruo Suifeng from the tier-7 organization Drifting Peak, and Little Beast Emperor from the tier-6 organization Myriad Beast Sect.

Tang Longfei was the governor's first son. He had already formed a pseudo dragon body and was known as the number one young genius of the Bloodsin City. Even the likes of Su Jun and Lady Shura were not comparable to him. He was also a Super War King, and he had once won 49 consecutive victories on a Bloodsin Arena, which was how he had come to be known as the number one young genius of the Bloodsin City.

Not only was he powerful, he was also extremely handsome. His face looked like a perfectly sculpted work of art. He had a firm and persistent bearing, and his pseudo draconic aura swirled around him constantly, emanating a domineering presence.

As for Jin Shui, he was the son of Golden Horn Sect's current sect master. He wasn't exactly insanely handsome, but he still looked pleasant to the eyes. He stood there in a serene manner, the faintly discernible draconic aura around him making it clear he was anything but normal.

Golden Horn Sect was not located in one of the three provinces neighboring this Bloodsin City. Rather, the sect was from a different province even farther away. One could say that he was a young expert who had come from far away.

As for Ruo Suifeng from the Drifting Peak, he was a freak in cultivation. He was only 29 years old yet was already a ninth-stage Skysoar Realm cultivator who had formed his initial portion of draconic aura. He cultivated the power of wind and was known as the Little Wind God.

Little Beast Emperor was from the Myriad Beast Sect, a tier-6 organization that placed him in a slightly lower position in terms of status compared to those geniuses from the tier-7 organizations. However, he had an innate intimacy with all beasts, possessing a talent to make beasts do his bidding. The peak Demon Kings surrounding him served as the best proof that he was worthy of his title, the Little Beast Emperor.

There were also a few other young geniuses that were comparable to these people, possessing both strength and background.

Chapter 434: I Want to Break Through

Xiang Shaoyun did not have the time to pay attention to anyone else. He was trying his very best to withstand the pressure.

Presence of dragon and tiger!

Without any hesitation, he released his presence as well, reducing the pressure he faced.

"Huh?" The middle-aged man sensed the change and shot a curious glance at Xiang Shaoyun.

A slight trace of astonishment appeared in his eyes for a split second when he saw the presence of a dragon and tiger around Xiang Shaoyun. After all, Xiang Shaoyun was only a peak third-stage King. Even with the remarkable presence of dragon and tiger, he still wasn't enough to catch Yu Clan's attention. The middle-aged man stopped paying Xiang Shaoyun much attention upon noticing his cultivation level.

Meanwhile, Xiang Shaoyun was using all he had to withstand the pressure, unleashing a might comparable to a seventh-stage or even an eighth-stage Skysoar Realm cultivator. Alas, that was still not enough. Others would find it hard to believe Xiang Shaoyun was actually someone capable of battling people several stages above him.

But that was his actual strength. One ought to know that even back then, Xiang Shaoyun had been able to battle eighth-stage Transformation Realm cultivators when he was only a second-stage Transformation Realm cultivator.

He was now in the King Realm, and the gap between stages was much larger in this realm. It was understandable why he could no longer battle those six stages above him like when he was still in the Transformation Realm.

With his unrivaled presence of a king, he could face the presence of all Kings. However, that did not apply to the presence of Emperors. This was the difference between cultivation realms.

Xiang Shaoyun could feel all nine of his stars being suppressed. He was barely hanging on, his body bowing lower and lower, looking like he was going to collapse at any moment.

At this time, Di Tong noticed Xiang Shaoyun and couldn't help but sneer at him, "My dearest Little Brother Yun, this is not an event a weak King like you can participate in. Stop struggling and give up."

The words pierced into Xiang Shaoyun's ears, stabbing straight into his heart like a sharp needle, filling him with sorrow. Back then at the Ziling Sect, the Di Clan siblings were akin to his brothers. Ultimately, they had all betrayed him. It was a betrayal he would never forget. He had sworn to one day retake all they had stolen from him. Thus, after hearing Di Tong's words, his unyielding heart seemed to have been ignited.

If I can't even withstand a pressure like this, how am I supposed to take my revenge in the future? I want to break through! Xiang Shaoyun roared inwardly. His stars erupted with even more power. At the same time, he refined a large number of spirit crystals in his astral cosmos sea, sending numerous strands of astral energy to his nine stars and 365 acupoints. A boundless river of energy coursed violently through his meridians, giving him a sensation that he was going to reach the next stage at any time.

After reaching peak third-stage Skysoar Realm with the help of Ugly Gambler's pill, Xiang Shaoyun had not expected to break through again this fast. But under the intense suppression he was currently subjected to, he had no choice but to break through. In fact, the intense pressure would help solidify this breakthrough, but it would be an extremely dangerous method.

As Xiang Shaoyun grew in strength, a look of pain covered his face.

That's right. He had a look of pain. It was due to the conflict of his internal energy and the external pressure currently exerted on him. It placed him under twice the pressure, one that he could barely withstand, and he felt the two sources of pressure were going to crush his meridians. Fortunately, he had a body tempered by lightning. His meridians were extremely tough.

"Still not enough power," Xiang Shaoyun muttered as he clenched his teeth and refined a king medicine capable of growing the strength of its user in his astral cosmos sea. He very rarely used herbs to increase his strength. This time, he was left without much choice.

With the king medicine and a large number of spirit crystals, Xiang Shaoyun gathered a large amount of energy in his body. He circulated his Heaven Conquering Overlord Manual over and over, and with the presence of the middle-aged Emperor still weighing down on him, he finally charged into the next stage.

"Ahhhh!"

He faced the sky and roared. Blood was dripping out of the corner of his lips as he straightened his back. A large amount of power surged out of him, instantly shattering the barrier of the fourth stage. Immediately, his weakening presence of dragon and tiger was strengthened, becoming several times more powerful than its previous form.

"Roar! Roar!"

The purple dragon soared, the white tiger pounced. Their roars filled the air, shaking the world.

At that moment, the young geniuses who had remained unaffected by the presence's pressure all looked at Xiang Shaoyun in astonishment. The middle-aged man from the Yu Clan was also looking over. The nonchalant expression on his face was gone, replaced by a complicated look when he found that Xiang Shaoyun had broken through under the suppression of his presence. It was an inconceivable feat.

Breaking through was something any cultivator would treat with extreme caution. Generally, one would only wait for the optimal timing before breaking through, aiming to smoothen the process. Of course, there were some who were hit by inspiration in the midst of battle and broke through as a result, but breaking through under the suppression of an Emperor's presence was something unheard of.

More importantly, Xiang Shaoyun was only a third-stage Skysoar Realm cultivator. Not only had he broken through to the next stage under such suppression, he had even successfully broken free of the suppression. This was a shocking feat.

One ought to know that even some of the ninth-stage Kings here had failed to withstand the presence of an Emperor, but this young man who was only a fourth-stage Skysoar Realm cultivator had done so. That was a display of his terrifying potential.

I can't allow him to keep growing. I must kill him at all cost after leaving this place, vowed Di Tong inwardly.

He knew very well Xiang Shaoyun had only started cultivating after he was driven from the Ziling Sect. It had only been three years, and he was already a fourth-stage King. A talent like that had surpassed even his two most remarkable siblings, his eldest brother and ninth brother. If he couldn't kill Xiang Shaoyun, in the future, he would bring their clan calamity.

Apart from Di Tong, Su Jun also had a similarly murderous look in his eyes.

This damnable kid! Su Jun cursed inwardly.

He had always liked Lady Shura, but she had always ignored him. Since his master had ordered him to participate in this banquet, he had decided to come. When he saw Xiang Shaoyun breaking through right before his eyes, his hatred for Xiang Shaoyun deepened.

Xiang Shaoyun was completely oblivious to all their gazes. He was still completely immersed in the pleasure of breaking through. A comfortable sensation washed over him as he felt the suppression grow weaker until it eventually became almost negligible.

It was at this time that the middle-aged Emperor's voice rang out, "Alright. Those who are still standing can now enter the third floor."

Chapter 435: Devil Fish

Along with the Emperor's announcement, the pressure vanished completely. Only 50 of the young geniuses remained standing; this included Xiang Shaoyun. As for those who had failed to remain on their feet, a depressed look appeared on all their faces.

They became even more distressed when they saw a fourth-stage King like Xiang Shaoyun walking onto the third floor. They became furious, feeling like they had been humiliated. After all, they were all late-stage Kings, with some of them being at the ninth stage. Even they had failed to withstand the suppression, yet someone like Xiang Shaoyun had succeeded. Nobody could accept something like that.

Unfortunately, that was the rule of the game. Their opinions no longer mattered, and the entire affair no longer had anything to do with them. In any case, at least 20 more people would be eliminated on the third floor, and they believed Xiang Shaoyun would be one of them.

When the group entered the third floor, they found it even more beautiful and serene than the first two floors. A lake greeted them, its waters occupying a large portion of the floor. It was as large as an average lake, and willow trees were growing all around it. Here and there, pavilions could be seen, and numerous lanterns pulsed with light, presenting a pleasant sight reminiscent of a lantern festival.

At the center of the lake was a massive ship 100 meters long and 3 stories tall. It looked extremely luxurious, and coming from it was a melodious zither music playing in the air. The music sounded like it was from the heavens, reaching straight into the depths of one's heart, cleansing one of all pressure and worry.

"Young masters, please come onto the ship," a melodious voice suddenly rang out.

The voice was akin to the sound of a chirping oriole and the sound of a flowing spring. Like the zither music playing in the air, it was extremely pleasant to the ears. Just from the voice alone everyone concluded that the owner was definitely a woman as beautiful as a fairy.

"Haha, Yu Clan beauty, your husband is coming!" said an arrogant young man with a laugh as he started flying toward the ship.

The others were not willing to fall behind and started flying over as well. For some reason, a large number of the young men remained standing. The lake was giving them some sort of pressure. Sure enough, accompanied by a dreadful hissing sound, numerous massive black figures abruptly shot out of the lake.

"Roar! Roar!"

It was too dark, so they found it hard to determine what were the beasts that had shot out from the water. The beasts' sudden appearance gave the people flying to the ship a fright. Some of them were directly struck by the beasts and gravely injured.

If the beasts hadn't been ordered to not kill, they would have died. Xiang Shaoyun pushed his eyes to their limits and found that the beasts had a shape similar to a devil blood bat, yet they were also obviously different from the devil blood bats.

Soon, he heard someone shouting, "Devil fish!"

The so-called devil fish was a species of aquatic devilish beast in the Devil Domain. They were extremely powerful in water and would feast on any life form, an extremely savage species. It was obvious the ones living here had been enslaved by the Yu Clan. Otherwise, with their ferocious nature, the young Kings flying toward the ship would have all turned into fish food by now.

"Those capable of getting through this defensive perimeter will be qualified to step on the ship. If you fail, leave," the same melodious voice rang out from the ship.

Evidently, these devil fish were the second test for these young geniuses. There were more than 100 devil fish in the lake, each of them at least a ninth-stage Devil King. Some were even peak Devil Kings capable of releasing terrifying and powerful devilish energies. The devil fish kept making an odd sound as they looked around with their shiny, sinister eyes.

"Everyone, remain calm. Work together and charge through the perimeter," said Tang Longfei.

"That's a good idea. But those without any draconic aura are not qualified to come with us. Only those with draconic aura can work with us," said Long Yunfei, the Thirteenth Crown Prince.

"I agree," said Xie Gongzi from Dark Devil Sect.

"I agree."

"I agree."

...

All the Kings who had already formed their draconic aura voiced their agreement. There were about a dozen of them, and they were all people who would one day enter the Dragon Ascension Realm, each of them a genius from their respective organizations. It was thus natural for them to despise working with the Kings who had yet to form any draconic aura.

The other young Kings were furious, but they did not dare to say anything. After all, each King who had formed his draconic aura was far stronger than an ordinary King. They had terrifying combat prowess and were not the type of people these ordinary Kings could afford to offend.

Suddenly, Tang Longfei looked at Xiang Shaoyun and said, "You may come with us."

He spoke with a firm tone, as if that was the only choice Xiang Shaoyun had. Xiang Shaoyun looked at Tang Longfei in astonishment. He had a feeling they had met before, but he couldn't remember when and where.

"No thanks," said Xiang Shaoyun with a shake of his head. He did not care why Tang Longfei had invited him. He had no intention of working with strangers, nor had he any intention of owing anyone a favor.

"Sure. Do as you wish, then," said Tang Longfei with a complicated look in his eyes.

They then started charging toward the devil fish. They were each extremely powerful, displaying a combat prowess comparable to even some Emperors'. These were the outstanding geniuses of the various provinces. Common cultivators were completely incomparable to them.

As the geniuses were battling the devil fish, someone else shouted, "They can do their thing, but we should join up and charge over together as well."

"Yes! Working together is better than going at it alone!"

"Let's go! We only need to get across the water! We can do it!"

"Don't hide anything. Use everything you have. These devil fish are no joke."

...

All the remaining Kings drew their weapons and charged the devil fish. Multicolored energy explosions started erupting all over the lake like fireworks.

Rumble! Rumble!

The impact of the unending explosions created numerous towering waves. This was quite a spectacular sight to behold. These Kings were all younger than 30 years old, yet they already possessed such extraordinary combat prowess. However, that wasn't a surprise as they wouldn't have been able to pass the first test to make it here otherwise.

Shortly after, some of them started reaching the ship. Those capable of arriving before the others would naturally be able to give the Holy Maiden candidate a better impression. After all, this was a world where strength reigned supreme.

Chapter 436: The Yu Clan's Holy Maiden Candidate

Excluding the young geniuses, there were only two other people on the ship. One was an old woman that looked like an ordinary granny but whose turbid eyes occasionally shone with a bright radiance. She was definitely a super expert hiding her strength. The other person was a young woman. She had a veil covering her face, and as a result, only a rough outline of her face was visible. Even so, when one looked at her, one would lose their breath.

That was due to her boundlessly elegant temperament, which made her seem like a goddess that had descended upon the mortal world. She seemed unblemished in both body and soul, her amber eyes capable of drowning any man in her grace. She radiated a natural temptation, one that was much scarier than the temptation of those using beguilement techniques.

On top of that, she also had a flawless, impeccable hourglass figure. It was always said that each of the Yu Clan's Holy Maidens was a remarkable beauty. This Holy Maiden candidate was known as the number one beauty of Yu Province, and it would seem like she was indeed worthy of her reputation.

The first few young geniuses to step on the ship were instantly attracted to her. Even before they saw her face clearly, she was already radiating such attraction. How beautiful would she be without her veil? The young geniuses did not even dare to imagine the scene of her lifting her veil.

They were also incredibly satisfied with this young woman, rejoicing inwardly that this trip was definitely worth it. They would be willing to fight for a bewitching beauty like this even if she wasn't from the Yu Clan.

"Long Yunfei of Dragon Society greets the Holy Maiden," Long Yunfei greeted in a refined and courteous manner.

"Xie greets the Holy Maiden," Xie Gongzi from the Dark Devil Sect also greeted with a charming grin on his face.

"Tang Longfei greets the Holy Maiden," Tang Longfei greeted as well.

The other young geniuses also greeted the Holy Maiden candidate one after another. Her beauty caused their eyes to be burning with excitement as they could no longer wait to win the heart of this Holy Maiden candidate.

"Caidie greets all of you, misters," greeted the Holy Maiden candidate. Her voice was melodic, causing the hearts of all who heard her speak to flutter and their looks of infatuation to deepen.

"Granny Wu, please serve our guests some wine and food," said Yu Caidie.

Granny Wu, who was standing behind her, nodded and waved her sleeve. Instantly, the tables before the young geniuses were filled with spirit fruits and excellent liquors. The young geniuses knew that this old woman was definitely a super expert. None of them dared to be impolite as they all sat down quietly.

More and more people arrived on the ship. Naturally, there were also some who were injured and could no longer get on the ship. Even after an hour, only 18 people had managed to get on the ship. Meanwhile, 31 people had been completely eliminated from the race.

In other words, the number of people that could ultimately go to the Devil Domain with the Holy Maiden candidate would be lower than 30. Currently, only one person was still trying to get across the lake.

This person was none other than Xiang Shaoyun, the person with the lowest cultivation level here. Although he had advanced a stage during the first test, that still did not change the fact that he had

the lowest cultivation level. Therefore, when the young geniuses were joining hands to cross the lake, none of them invited him. All of them thought of him as a burden.

Xiang Shaoyun understood the situation he was in. Therefore, he never planned to work with anyone. He would cross the lake with his own strength, and he was confident he could do it. Otherwise, let alone capturing the heart of the Holy Maiden candidate, he wouldn't even be able to get anything from the Devil Domain trip.

He was the last to cross not because he had no way of crossing. He simply wanted no interruption while he was crossing. After all, the battlefield would get chaotic with too many people and might accidentally spread to him if he was to attempt the cross at the same time as everyone else.

The source of his confidence wasn't his combat prowess. Rather, it was his unrivaled speed. Naturally, the people on the ship did not look too highly on him. In their eyes, he was simply making a pointless struggle.

Di Tong said, "A person with only this much strength will not be able to get past the devil fish. We should just kick him out so he doesn't injure himself trying."

Di Tong might seem like he was speaking out of kindness, but he was really trying to destroy any chance Xiang Shaoyun might have of getting onto the ship. He was worried that Xiang Shaoyun would actually be able to get on the ship and head into the Devil Domain with them. He was even more worried that by some luck Xiang Shaoyun would manage to become a candidate to become the Yu Clan's son-in-law. Although that seemed unlikely to happen, he still did not wish to risk that happening.

Su Jun immediately agreed, "Yes, we don't have to waste our time waiting for someone like him."

A few other people also agreed and started requesting for Xiang Shaoyun to be directly eliminated from the race. Before Yu Caidie could say anything, Tang Longfei opened his mouth, "It doesn't matter if he can or can't get here. That is his choice, and we shouldn't interfere."

"True, but he is only a fourth-stage Skysoar Realm cultivator. Even if he is strong enough to punch above his weight, he is still not qualified to walk alongside us," said Di Tong.

Xie Gongzi of Dark Devil Sect also sneered and said, "That's right."

These geniuses had their own pride. They viewed battling alongside the weak as some sort of insult. Thus, many of them were in agreement that Xiang Shaoyun should be kicked out. Yu Caidie still hadn't managed to say anything when everyone suddenly stared at the lake in astonishment.

Xiang Shaoyun was dashing rapidly toward them. They all thought that he stood no chance at crossing the lake, but they found that they couldn't have been more mistaken. Like a wind, he drifted about in the midst of the devil fish as he approached the ship.

The devil fish cried out repeatedly as they attacked with a large amount of devilish energy. However, like a slippery fish, Xiang Shaoyun was always able to find an opening and sneak away, moving completely unharmed amid the rain of attacks. The lake wasn't exactly big. With a few moves, Xiang Shaoyun was already only about 100 meters away from the ship.

"This...this is footwork intent!" Ruo Suifeng cried out in alarm.

Ruo Suifeng was one who cultivated the power of wind and had also grasped the first stage of footwork intent, moving like the wind. That was how he had earned his title as the Little Wind God.

Now that someone else who had also comprehended footwork intent was before him—and with a lower cultivation level—he was understandably shocked.

Chapter 437: Only I Can Be Your Husband

Ruo Suifeng was right. Xiang Shaoyun was using his footwork intent, and coupled with his Overlord's Nine Nether Steps, he was moving at a speed exceeding even the speed of a peak King who was on the verge of entering the Emperor Realm.

In other words, Xiang Shaoyun's speed was comparable to the likes of Long Yunfei, Xie Gongzi, and Tang Zhanfei. In fact, if Xiang Shaoyun fully activated his Overlord's Nine Nether Steps, he would be even faster than them.

Of course, footwork intent alone was not enough to get through the perimeter of devil fish. He still needed to use his Nether Soul Domain to reveal the openings of their attacks to be able to move smoothly amidst them.

Before the people on the ship had even recovered from their shock, Xiang Shaoyun was already standing on the ship in a carefree manner. With his arrival, there were now 19 youths in total who had managed to cross the lake and get on the ship.

"My apologies for making everyone wait," said Xiang Shaoyun as he cupped his hands with a smile on his face.

Nobody replied. Instead, they started drinking silently. In their eyes, Xiang Shaoyun had merely crossed the lake through some trick. His strength was completely incomparable to them. Thus, they still looked down on him.

Huo Xudong, who was seated at a corner, waved to Xiang Shaoyun and said, "Brother Xiang, come have a seat here."

Of the people present, Huo Xudong, Shi Hai, and Can Wunian were the representatives of the Seven Villains. Xiang Shaoyun was surprised to see that all of them had managed to reach this far. Inwardly, he mused, Looks like the Seven Villains really want this badly.

He nodded at Huo Xudong before he looked at Yu Caidie, preparing to greet her. But the moment his gaze landed on her face, he was stunned. In a daze he stared at the beautiful young lady. A certain scene surfaced in his mind, and he became lost in thought.

At this time, Yu Caidie was also looking at Xiang Shaoyun. When their gazes met, her pupils shrank, and her eyes shone with an indescribable glint. Just like that, the young man and the young woman stared at each other, as if they were the only two people left in the world.

The faces of the other young men turned unsightly. They started wondering inwardly, Do they know each other?

When Granny Wu noticed that something seemed off with Yu Caidie, she looked at Xiang Shaoyun and said, "Please go to your seat."

Only then did both Xiang Shaoyun and Yu Caidie wake up from their daze.

Xiang Shaoyun laughed, "Haha. Ok, I'll take my seat."

He then walked toward Huo Xudong. However, he had only taken two steps when he turned around and asked, "May I ask for the Holy Maiden's name?"

Immediately, one of the young men slammed his hand on the table and berated, "Audacious! What kind of question is that? Apologize to the Holy Maiden, or I'll throw you into the lake!"

This person was none other than Su Jun. He was staring at Xiang Shaoyun furiously, his eyes filled with hostility. Initially, the woman he had liked was Lady Shura. But the moment he laid his eyes on Yu Caidie's peerless beauty, he had completely shifted all his affection to her.

When he saw Xiang Shaoyun asking the beauty such a rude question, he was infuriated. Apart from Su Jun, a large number of the young men there also thought that Xiang Shaoyun's question was rude and improper.

Of course, they were even more jealous of the short moment Xiang Shaoyun had with Yu Caidie when they were staring into each other's eyes. When they had seen that, they started worrying that Xiang Shaoyun might snatch the position of son-in-law from them.

Xiang Shaoyun looked at Su Jun and replied with a smile, "Not even our host has said anything yet. Why are you speaking for her? Do you think you are already her other half?"

"You bastard!" Su Jun stood up and yelled, looking like he was going to attack Xiang Shaoyun at any moment.

"Sit down!" Long Yunfei suddenly barked at Su Jun.

Su Jun sat back down resentfully, his eyes still filled with a thick murderous intent. Xiang Shaoyun completely ignored him and sat down beside Huo Xudong.

"Brother Xiang, your speed is really decent," praised Huo Xudong, rubbing his bald head.

Huo Xudong was a handsome young man. After shaving his head, he became a pretty monk. He was rather conspicuous among the young men here with his unique look. In truth, he was a member of a certain powerful clan's main family branch. Like Xiang Shaoyun, he was here at the Bloodsin City to temper himself. Due to his remarkable combat prowess, he caught the eyes of Smiling Monk and was forcefully made a monk and his disciple.

More importantly, he had also been poisoned like Xiang Shaoyun and had no choice but to do the biddings of the Seven Villains. Huo Xudong knew that Xiang Shaoyun was in the same boat. Hence, he felt like he had found a kindred spirit.

After Xiang Shaoyun sat down, Yu Caidie finally raised her glass and said, "You are all invited here because I need to borrow your strength to enter the Devil Domain and obtain the yin devil wind. I believe everyone here is aware of that?"

Everyone nodded.

Shi Hai, seated at a different corner, suddenly said, "It is rumored that the one to obtain the yin devil wind for you will become the Yu Clan's son-in-law?"

Shi Hai's question was much more improper than what Xiang Shaoyun had said earlier, but nobody berated him as they were all able to recognize who he was based on his looks. He was the son of one of the Seven Villains. Even young geniuses like them would not wish to lightly provoke someone like him. The mere thought of the man-eating Villain was enough to provoke fear in their hearts.

The second reason they were all staying silent was because they also wanted to know the answer of that question.

Yu Clan's son-in-law.

The moment they became one, rising in power would no longer be something difficult, and their goal would no longer be something like reaching the Sovereign Realm. Instead, they would aim higher, to reach an even higher realm.

Yu Caidie replied nonchalantly, "Yes."

A look of joy surfaced on the faces of the young geniuses at that confirmation. To their disappointment, Yu Caidie added, "However, that is not absolute. The one to succeed will merely be a candidate for the position."

"What? Only a candidate?" someone cried out in alarm.

The faces of the young geniuses sank. They were all the geniuses of tier-6 and tier-7 organizations. All of them were prideful people with countless women by their sides. But in the eyes of this Holy

Maiden candidate, the one to help her obtain the yin devil wind could only be a son-in-law candidate instead of being the chosen one? This was not something they could accept.

Yu Caidie continued, "If you are not willing to participate, you can still withdraw now. Of course, if you enter the Devil Domain with me, regardless of whether we succeed or not, the Yu Clan will not forget to repay your help with ample rewards upon our return. Sovereign weapons, sovereign techniques, all will be available for you to freely choose. The one to obtain the yin devil wind for me will also be able to obtain all that in addition to being listed as a candidate to be my husband. You may make your choice now."

At that moment, Xiang Shaoyun suddenly said, "Only I can be your husband."

Chapter 438: I Can't Help It, I'm Just Too Handsome

"Only I can be your husband!" Xiang Shaoyun declared with an incomparably firm tone, as if this was something nobody could question. However, the young geniuses here were all proud people. They all glared at him furiously when they heard his declaration.

"You are courting death!" Su Jun could no longer hold his anger and jabbed forward with two fingers, sending a golden sword energy shooting toward Xiang Shaoyun.

The sword energy moved rapidly and arrived before Xiang Shaoyun's throat in a flash. Just as Xiang Shaoyun was about to move aside to evade the attack, Huo Xudong, who was seated beside him, suddenly moved and caught the sword energy with his hand.

"Harming my brother? Have you asked for my permission?" said Huo Xudong while rubbing his bald head. A vicious look started appearing on his face.

Although Huo Xudong was a disciple the Smiling Monk had forcefully accepted, he had still been taught a lot by this master. His combat prowess had increased greatly, and he would be able to face Su Jun without much trouble.

"Hmph! If you dare, both of you can come fight me! I will cut both of you apart!" shouted Su Jun.

Di Tong voiced his support for Su Jun, "Friend, you have my support. Just look at how they are disregarding all of us."

Di Tong was obviously trying to fan the flames. However, this wasn't exactly his fault as Xiang Shaoyun was the one who had made such a provocative statement.

Another young man sneered, "A mere fourth-stage Skysoar Realm cultivator dares to make such a big declaration? I wonder where his blind confidence is coming from."

"That's right. Has he forgotten that we are still here?" said someone else in disdain.

They spoke one after another, voicing their dissatisfaction of Xiang Shaoyun. In fact, they were already showing Yu Caidie great respect by not attacking right away. If this had happened anywhere else, they would have definitely slain Xiang Shaoyun with no hesitation.

When Huo Xudong saw so many people speaking out against Xiang Shaoyun, he couldn't help but to sigh, "Brother Xiang, seems like you have poked the hornet's nest."

Xiang Shaoyun did not seem to mind. "I can't help it. I'm just too handsome. They are all merely jealous of my looks."

His words were akin to pouring oil on fire, further fanning the youths' anger.

Yu Caidie giggled and said, "Mister, you are really confident, aren't you? If you can help me get the yin devil wind, I might really consider your proposal."

"Haha, don't worry. I will definitely get the yin devil wind for you," promised Xiang Shaoyun with a bold laugh.

He had never taken this much initiative with any women, not even Gong Qinyin, Lu Xiaoqing, and Dong Ziwan. His sister Ye Chaomu was comparable to Yu Caidie in terms of beauty, but his feelings toward the two of them were completely different.

The affection he had for Ye Chaomu was the familial type, whereas the affection he had for Yu Caidie was absolutely the romantic type. Perhaps this was what one would call love at first sight.

From the moment he first laid his eyes on Yu Caidie, he had a feeling this was a woman he had known for countless years and that she would be the woman he loved most in his life, hence his bold declaration in front of all the young geniuses.

His declaration was not some random rambling. Rather, it was an oath. He vowed to make Yu Caidie his lover and would not allow her to fall into anyone else's embrace. His sudden urge to make her his caused him to suddenly become incomparably stubborn.

"Caidie will look forward to your performance, then," replied Yu Caidie. "Alright, Caidie will be playing a tune for the young heroes here. May you all return in victory."

After saying that, she started playing a graceful tune using her zither, calming the tension in the air. Everyone started drinking and eating as they listened to the music, and the atmosphere on the ship improved. There were still people throwing Xiang Shaoyun the occasional gaze, however. Evidently, he had now become a public enemy.

Xiang Shaoyun himself did not care. He started drinking and conversing with Huo Xudong and was aware that Huo Xudong also shared his fate. Thus, he intended to befriend him. Perhaps they could one day work together to break free from the grasp of the Seven Villains.

When the music stopped, Yu Caidie started speaking about the trip to the Devil Domain. She expressed her wish that the 19 geniuses here could work with her and put aside their personal grudges temporarily. After reaching the devil wind beast's territory, they would then rely on their own strength to obtain the yin devil wind.

The one to obtain the yin devil wind and present it to her would be considered the winner. The trip to the Devil Domain was filled with danger. If they could not unite, they would definitely end up as devil fodder.

Of course, that was only Yu Caidie's proposal. She would be the leader during the trip, and the others would be her temporary followers. The people here were all proud geniuses who would not be willing to obey a young woman. Some of them would rather work alone and only present the yin devil wind to her after they got it.

Yu Caidie was not opposed to that either. However, she emphasized that they could not rely on the help of Emperors. Anyone doing so would be disqualified. The reason for that was because there were not many Devil Emperors in the devil wind beast's territory they were heading to. If they brought Emperors along with them, they might actually end up attracting the attention of more Devil Emperors, which would only complicate things.

After about two hours, Yu Caidie left with the old woman. But she did not send the young geniuses away as she left. Rather, she summoned 19 beautiful young women to the ship with a clap.

The young women were all dressed in light muslin outfits, revealing their seductive shoulders and legs. On top of that, half their breasts were also revealed, radiating endless temptation. When they arrived on the ship, they started singing and dancing before the young geniuses, filling the young geniuses with lust and desire.

They sat down beside a young genius each and started drinking with them while plastering their tender bodies against them. These young geniuses were all healthy and vigorous young men who could not resist such temptation. Before long, some of them were completely seduced and started touching the beauties all over with a look of lust on their faces.

There was also a beauty nestling against Xiang Shaoyun. With a gentle tone, she said, "Young master, you are so handsome. This humble servant likes you a lot."

"Is that so? Sure, take this chance to feast your eyes on me. After tonight, we won't see each other anymore," said Xiang Shaoyun with a nonchalant smile.

Looking at the beauty leaning against him, he was completely calm. Back when he was at the Ziling Sect, he was surrounded by beauties at all times. However, he had never truly fallen for any women before. He was sure that this woman was yet another test from Yu Caidie, a test of their willpower.

"Young master, don't you like me? This humble servant is all yours tonight," said the young woman, her voice radiating endless allure as she rubbed her ample bosom against Xiang Shaoyun's body.

Chapter 439: The Yu Clan Is Indeed Terrifying

The woman had the face of a woman waiting to be harvested by her king, one that few men could resist. After all, she was not only beautiful, she also had an excellent figure. Her revealing outfit also helped to further enhance her allure.

Looking at the woman, Xiang Shaoyun smiled. "Big sister, you are really pretty. In all honesty, I find you very attractive. But tonight is really not the time for it."

He was making it clear he would not touch her tonight. Doing so would cost him the chance to become the Yu Clan's son-in-law. In fact, more than half of the people here were not affected by the seduction either. After all, these were the geniuses of their respective organizations. If they did not

have the willpower to resist such a temptation, they wouldn't have reached such a cultivation level at such a young age.

Only a small number of them couldn't control themselves and went to the cabin with the women in their embrace. As for those who remained, they started conversing among themselves, preparing for their journey to the Devil Domain.

A few people had expressed interest in forming an alliance with Di Tong. They were all the representatives of their respective organizations. Forming a friendly relationship with each other would be of great help to them in the future.

As for Xiang Shaoyun, apart from befriending Huo Xudong, he did nothing else. It was not that he did not want to befriend the others, but they all looked down on him. In fact, they were treating him with hostility. Since that was the case, he couldn't be bothered to try.

However, he kept noticing Tang Longfei looking his way intentionally or otherwise. From the look in his eyes, he could see that Tang Longfei was intentionally paying attention to him. However, he couldn't remember where he had met Tang Longfei before no matter how hard he tried.

The night passed quickly, and the women finally left. Yu Caidie reappeared before them. After treating everyone to a meal of some spirit fruits, she said, "We will be heading to the Devil Domain right now. Is everyone ready?"

Many of them nodded. Thus, the group left the Yu Moon Pavilion, called their respective mounts over, and set off. It did not matter whether they were willing to follow Yu Caidie's command or work alone later since they still needed to head over together.

This was also the time for all the geniuses to show off their background. Their mounts served as one of the symbols of their status. As they called out, numerous Demon Kings flew over.

"Roar! Roar!"

Instantly, powerful Demon Kings flew toward the Yu Moon Pavilion from all directions. Of the mounts flying over were Long Yunfei's Demon King flood dragon, Xie Gongzi's Devil King beast, Di Tong's Demon King luan bird, Tang Longfei's golden lion, and many other beasts. They were all either high-level Demon Kings or mutated Demon Kings. Not one was an ordinary beast. Among these mounts, Tang Longfei's lion mount was the most eye-catching.

Xiang Shaoyun was the only one who had not called a mount over. He was supposed to bring Jin Wo with him, but since they were not allowed to bring Emperors along, he had to give up on that plan.

At this time, Yu Caidie's crisp voice rang out, "Feng'er, come here."

At her voice, a multicolored beam of light shot out from inside the Yu Moon Pavilion. The brilliant beam of light brightened the entire area. Soon, everyone saw a bright, multicolored phoenix land beside Yu Caidie. All of them were shocked, and even their mounts started stirring before lowering their haughty heads.

Phoenixes were a top-tier species among demonic beasts. Compared to these Demon King beasts, the bloodline of a phoenix was much higher in level and strength. They were comparable to the likes of top-tier demonic beasts such as true dragons, white tigers, and black tortoises. Their status among demonic beasts were evident.

None of them had expected that Yu Caidie would actually have a Demon King phoenix as her mount. That had surpassed all their expectations. One ought to know that a phoenix had unlimited potential and could very well become a terrifying existence no lower than the Demon Saint realm in the future.

The Yu Clan is indeed terrifying, exclaimed all the geniuses inwardly.

"Mister Xiang, do you not have a mount?" Yu Caidie asked.

Xiang Shaoyun was about to answer, but Su Jun interjected with a sneer, "Even if he has a mount, it is probably some worthless beast that won't be able to keep up with us. Holy Maiden, I think we should just leave him here."

"That's right. I agree," Di Tong said.

At this time, Huo Xudong said, "Brother Xiang, this way. We can travel on the same mount."

Huo Xudong's mount was a green-winged eagle that looked extraordinarily mighty and heroic. There was more than enough space on the mount for both of them.

Xiang Shaoyun waved his hand and smiled. "It's ok. I still have a mount. Money, come out!"

At his command, a slender figure shot out. Nobody was able to see where the slender figure had appeared from. By the time they managed to get a clear look, a horned lightning snake had already appeared before them. This horned lightning snake was a Demon King, but it was too small in size to serve as a mount.

"Haha, a demonic snake like this serving as a mount? Is this a joke?" Su Jun started roaring with laughter.

The others also sneered at the sight of the horned lightning snake, thinking that Xiang Shaoyun was only doing this to save face. Even Yu Caidie had a look of pity on her face.

Meanwhile, Xiang Shaoyun had a completely nonchalant look as he said, "Go ahead. We will definitely be able to follow your pace. If we can't, I will voluntarily withdraw."

In truth, he was feeling rather depressed. After all, Money did look rather lacking compared to everyone else's mighty looking mounts. And with this happening in front of a woman he liked, he felt like burying his head in the ground in shame. Inwardly, he cursed, If only Little White is here. How will they be able to be so cocky with him here?

"Roar! Roar!"

Even the various Demon Kings were howling at Money with disdain in their eyes. Money seemed to have understood something. He scanned the crowd, opened his mouth, and hissed.

Hiss! Hiss!

Along with the hiss, dark clouds started gathering in the sky above. Unending thunderclaps rang out, as if lightning bolts were about to rain down at any moment. When everyone looked up, their expressions changed as they quickly and instinctively pulled some distance from Money. Sure enough, several silver lightning bolts suddenly shot down from the sky.

Rumble! Rumble!

Xiang Shaoyun, who was standing beside Money wasn't even given the time to react before he sensed silver lightning bolts shooting down from the sky above him. He quickly activated his Six Goldplate Manual.

These lightning bolts were much thicker than the ones that had appeared during Money's previous breakthrough. Not even late-stage Demon Kings could withstand the power contained within them. The expressions of the young geniuses and their mounts changed as they pulled even more distance from Money.

"These lightning bolts are silver? Are these mutated lightning bolts?"

"Yes, that is most likely the case. Otherwise, they won't be so powerful. Looks like this demonic snake is about to break through."

"From the power of the tribulation, this demonic snake is a decent beast. It is probably a mutated species, but I wonder what its form will be after the breakthrough."

"Xiang Shaoyun had just broken through to the fourth stage publicly yesterday, and today, his mount is doing the same. I reckon this can be quite a story to tell, but too bad his strength is still too lacking."

Chapter 440: Money Breaking Through Again

The rumbling thunderclaps spread far and wide, alarming people inside and outside Yu Moon Pavilion. When the people saw that it was a Demon King attempting a breakthrough, they held back from doing anything.

As far as the Yu Clan people were concerned, even if a Demon Sovereign was to break through here, their territory would not suffer much damage. In any case, nobody would try to interrupt a demonic beast breaking through because that would only attract the tribulation to them.

Xiang Shaoyun, who was standing the nearest to Money, did not try moving away. He stood there and faced the tribulation with him. As lightning bolts rained down on them, he fully unleashed the prowess of his lightning bone and started absorbing the power of the silver lightning into his body.

With his previous experiences, he no longer feared lightning tribulations. Although his Six Goldplate Manual would not be able to resist too many of these lightning bolts, his lightning bone feared no lightning bolts.

As the lightning bone absorbed the lightning energy, Xiang Shaoyun's strength started growing again, and he sensed some of the poison in his body being blasted out of his body by the lightning power. He was overjoyed the moment he noticed.

Looking at the sky, he howled with laughter, "Hahahaha! Excellent! More lightning bolts, please!"

He even charged into the incoming lightning bolts. He might have behaved as he usually did these few days, but in truth, he had been very gloomy about the poison in his body. To his surprise, the lightning tribulation summoned by Money allowed him to find out that the power of these natural lightning bolts could actually cleanse him of the poison.

A power of extreme yang would always be the counter for all sorts of poison. Natural lightning bolts were also a power of extreme yang and were the nemesis to a myriad of poisons. If he had thought of this earlier, he would have used his innate purple lightning to remove the poison long ago.

Fortunately, it was still not too late. After being struck by more than 10 silver lightning bolts, he had nearly cleared all the poison from his body. Of course, he still looked like he was in bad shape because of the various wounds the lightning strikes left on his body. In fact, he looked so terrible that the people there even feared for him.

However, Xiang Shaoyun did not mind the injuries whatsoever. To remove the poison in his body, these injuries were nothing. As far as he was concerned, the wounds on his body were more like proof that he had cleansed his body than of something that would actually adversely affect him.

After all, he had his lightning bone absorbing all the lightning power. Thus, the lightning strikes weren't able to deal him much actual damage. He had also found that after the tribulation, more than 10 additional drops of lightning liquid had formed on his lightning bone.

The moment the tribulation ended, Xiang Shaoyun used a drop of lightning liquid to recover to his optimal state. Money was also undergoing a transformation. Since he was one who had been living in the midst of silver lightning energy for an extended period of time, lightning tribulation was nothing for him.

He faced the sky and roared as his scales shone with a brilliant radiance while his body started growing in size. Instantly, appearing before everyone was a snake that was more than 10 meters

long with a thickness similar to that of a tree trunk an adult could wrap their arms around. Money had grown by more than 10 times in size.

His head was raised loftily as his sole horn shone brilliantly with silver lightning energy. His mouth was filled with dreadful fangs, and his body was akin to a dragon's body that was filled with explosive strength. He radiated an aura that was both draconic and serpentine.

The mounts of the other young geniuses started stirring and howling in an uneasy manner. They could sense that Money was provoking them, and the slight sense of suppression they were feeling from him caused them to be agitated. Money seemed to be able to read their minds. He coiled his body in the air and opened his mouth once again.

"Roar!"

Suddenly, a dragon's roar rang out. At the same time, a majestic draconic aura surged out of Money's body. The current Money no longer looked like a simple lightning snake. Rather, he looked more like a lightning dragon, noble and mighty.

His appearance shocked all the mounts, especially Long Yunfei's flood dragon. The flood dragon felt as if a true lightning dragon was before him, causing him to start behaving timidly and deferentially.

The other Demon Kings weren't any better off. They could all feel their bloodlines being suppressed. Money was now akin to their king, and they no longer dared to look down on him.

The only mount that remained unaffected was Yu Caidie's phoenix mount. The phoenix still had her head raised loftily in a nonchalant manner. Phoenixes were comparable to true dragons. Although Money could release a draconic aura, he was still not a true dragon. It was not surprising that this phoenix had remained unaffected.

The young geniuses were displeased to see their mounts suppressed by Money. After all, they had been sneering at Xiang Shaoyun and his mount just a short while ago. Now, they felt like they had been slapped hard on their face.

All the young geniuses were focused on Money, and Yu Caidie was the only one who was looking at Xiang Shaoyun with a slightly concerned expression. She had personally witnessed Xiang Shaoyun face the tribulation with Money. Lightning tribulations were merciless, especially these mutated lightning tribulations.

The lightning tribulation she had witnessed earlier was powerful enough that even a late-stage King would have a hard time handling it. She wasn't sure if Xiang Shaoyun would be able to endure such a tribulation.

However, she was astonished to see that Xiang Shaoyun's aura was growing, not dropping, and that the wounds on his body were quickly healing. As the Holy Maiden candidate of the Yu Clan, she was an experienced and knowledgeable person. But not even she could understand how Xiang Shaoyun had accomplished it.

Not only was he able to withstand lightning strikes, his body was also automatically healing. This was generally something only demonic beasts could accomplish, but Xiang Shaoyun was clearly a human. She was very sure of that.

"A mere snake. No matter how it transforms, it won't be able to transform into a dragon. Get down here right now, or don't blame me for showing you no mercy," shouted Long Yunfei unhappily.

"That's right. A worm is dreaming to be a dragon? It's still too early to be daydreaming," agreed Su Jun.

As they spoke, their presence surged out and surrounded Money. They were both proud geniuses who would not accept a mere fourth-stage Demon King showing off above them after breaking through.

At this time, Xiang Shaoyun opened his eyes and beckoned to Money, "Come down here, Money."

At that command, Money immediately shot down to Xiang Shaoyun. Even so, his lofty head was still raised high as he looked at Long Yunfei, Su Jun, and the others coldly. Evidently, he did not fear them.

Xiang Shaoyun gently stroked Money's silver scales and smiled. "Well done, Money. A day will come when you eventually transform into a dragon. We will show them all."

"A raving lunatic," Su Jun sneered.

"Su Jun, after I help Caidie get the yin devil wind, the first person I kill will be you," declared Xiang Shaoyun with his finger pointed at Su Jun. Su Jun had been hostile to him ever since they had met, causing him to dislike Su Jun just like how he disliked Di Tong. He was finding it hard to hold his temper anymore.

"Haha, sure. Since you are brave enough to say that, how about I kill you right now?" said Su Jun as he roared with laughter.