

Overlord 621

Chapter 621: Nine Great Unique Zones

1 Dragon Villa.

After listening to Zhuge Zhantian's report, Xiang Shaoyun sneered, "He is as cautious as ever. Sure, we'll put our fight on hold, then."

Di Lin knew Xiang Shaoyun well, but it was the same the other way around. One could say that the two knew each other like the back of their hands. Xiang Shaoyun had not challenged Di Lin just for the sake of venting his anger. He also wanted to gain some fame for his Overlord Legion. But now, Di Lin had only sent an underling to deal with him. It was a gesture of contempt and signified that Di Lin held a cautious attitude over facing him in a fight.

Xiang Shaoyun had no interest in fighting Zhu Changchuang. It was not that he had no confidence in winning, but he did not want to waste any time on a lackey. Thus, he decided to enter the nine unique zones and increase his cultivation level before doing anything else.

Before he could set off, Shou Xie arrived with three other people. The three were his old acquaintances. They were Yan Gang, Zhong Xia, and Li Haonan. Xiang Shaoyun was rather astonished by their visit, especially by Li Haonan's. After all, there was a conflict between them prior to this.

"Overlord, they wish to join our Overlord Legion as well," said Shou Xie with the smile of someone asking to be praised for the merit he had rendered.

Yan Gang, Zhong Xia, and Li Haonan all spoke at the same time, "We hope Young Master Xiang can agree!"

Xiang Shaoyun looked at them and asked, "Are you sure?"

Li Haonan took the lead. "Young Master Xiang, I apologize for what I did. I hope you can forgive me for overestimating my capabilities."

He then gave Xiang Shaoyun a sincere bow. Xiang Shaoyun had not imagined that Li Haonan would be able to let go of his pride and apologize. From that, it showed that at least his frame of mind was remarkable.

"I accept your apology, but I want to know your reason for joining the Overlord Legion. You need to know that we are the newest faction in the academy and are lacking in number. It will be hard for everyone to receive the assistance they need," said Xiang Shaoyun. He had to first make it clear how things were. He also hoped to hear their real thoughts.

Yan Gang said, "I am Shou Xie's friend. I heard that you are Beauty Yu's husband candidate, Young Master Xiang. Just that alone is enough to fill me with admiration toward your strength. I believe that by joining you, we can rise together, eventually creating the strongest legion! Also, your faction will need a crafter like me. At the very least, I am already an Emperor crafter. I can prioritize members of the legion when taking orders."

Zhong Xia was next to speak, "I am an alchemist, capable of attracting many new members for the legion. I hope to have priority for any new materials you gather so I can refine them into medicines. I will also prioritize members of the legion when refining medicines. Also, I am confident you will be a good leader, Young Master Xiang."

Finally, it was Li Haonan's turn. "I fully accept my defeat in your hands, Young Master Xiang. If you don't mind, I wish to become your follower."

Xiang Shaoyun was someone capable of invisibility. That was not necessarily an ability that would make him undefeated, but it would certainly give him a major advantage over any sort of opponent. It would be hard for someone with this ability not to accomplish something great in life. Furthermore, he was the holder of a nine-star physique.

"Very well. Welcome to the Overlord Legion, everyone," said Xiang Shaoyun as he stood up with a solemn expression on his face.

The Overlord Legion was merely a faction within an academy. One day, all these people would return to the organizations they came from. Sincere or not, he did not have any reason to reject those who had come voluntarily. More importantly, them joining would benefit the faction. After all, crafters and alchemists were rare and popular. A lot of people would find themselves in need of the help of one.

"Haha, I told you the overlord is a magnanimous person. Let's work hard to grow the Overlord Legion. I believe the legion will one day grow to become the strongest faction in the academy!" said Shou Xie with a hearty laugh.

The others nodded their heads in excitement, hoping that what he said would really happen. After all, that would be a glorious accomplishment. Of course, all of them also had a sliver of doubt in their hearts. Could Xiang Shaoyun accomplish that when cultivating nine different powers?

After getting Zhuge Zhantian to spread the news of Yan Gang, Zhong Xia, and Li Haonan joining them, Xiang Shaoyun set off toward the academy's unique zones. He had long heard that the nine zones were not located within the academy. Rather, they were in independent spaces created by the academy and could only be reached through the teleportation formations in the academy.

The teleportation formations were all laid at a spacious and empty location in the academy. The location was named the Entrance of Cultivation Zones. One could only enter after paying sufficient contribution points, and each day one spent within, more points would be deducted. The longer one stayed, the more points one would spend.

When Xiang Shaoyun arrived, he found that the place was bustling, with streams of disciples entering and leaving unendingly. Nine steles could be seen; each stood beside a teleportation formation. Names of the nine zones were carved into them: Vicious Steel Mist, Forest of Antiquity, Deep Tidalwave, Flame Mountains, Desert of Despair, Sinister Wind Den, Purple Lightning Pool, City of Light, and Castle of Darkness.

Each unique zone corresponded to astral energy of a different element. So long as one could cultivate in one of the zones, one could reap great benefits. Naturally, these unique zones were also dangerous. If one was careless enough to believe that the zones were safe, one would suffer.

When Xiang Shaoyun read the introduction of the zones, he found himself speechless. Staying a day in a zone would cost him 10,000 contribution points. It was really expensive. After all, when a cultivator focused, a single cultivation session would probably last months or even years.

Cultivating in the unique zones would be extremely expensive. More importantly, contribution points weren't easy to earn. With how expensive the zones were, it was understandable why so many disciples would go mad over contribution points.

Xiang Shaoyun rejoiced at the fact that he had accumulated a decent amount of contribution points. Otherwise, it would be difficult for him to enter all nine zones. During his duels, he had won about one million contribution points. Selling the dragon liquid, he had earned about the same amount as well. In total, he had about two million points, enough to last him for about half a year. Sure, half a year seemed long, but for a cultivator, it would be over in the blink of an eye.

After some hesitation, Xiang Shaoyun's gaze landed on the stele of the lightning zone. He then strode over.

"I wish to enter the Purple Lightning Pool," said Xiang Shaoyun as he handed his jade plate to the overseer in charge.

Chapter 622: Lightning Explosion

Just because the zone's name was Purple Lightning Pool, it did not mean that the entire independent space consisted of a lightning pool. Rather, it was a place rich in lightning, and it just so happened to have a purple lightning pool. In fact, the pool only occupied a small part of the space, but it was the spot where lightning energy was most dense. A regular person wouldn't be able to approach the pool, and most would die on their way.

The moment Xiang Shaoyun entered the space, his lightning bone started stirring with a tinkling sound, radiating thick joy.

"What dense lightning energy," muttered Xiang Shaoyun as he swept his gaze at the sky dotted with black clouds.

He scanned his surroundings and found that the land was uneven and that pits with crushed stones were everywhere. Scorched marks decorated the ground, as if were the result of frequent lightning strikes.

Just as Xiang Shaoyun was about to step forward, lightning bolts gathered in the sky above him and rained down. He summoned Money without a moment of hesitation.

Before coming, he had brought Money with him, hoping that the zone could help Money reach the Demon Emperor realm as quickly as possible. That way, he would be much more helpful.

The abrupt summon confused Money, and he was instantly struck by the lightning bolts, his body smashing into the ground. A regular demonic beast would have died. However, Money merely shook his head for a bit before bouncing off the ground, appearing completely unharmed.

He then enlarged his body before soaring to the sky, saying joyfully, "Boss, what is this place? I can sense powerful and pure lightning energy everywhere! I love this place!"

"Let's go, then. This is a rare opportunity," said Xiang Shaoyun with a smile.

And thus, the two started heading to the zone's center, with Xiang Shaoyun standing on Money. Along the way, they found numerous lightning elemental plants of different grades, each of them incredibly valuable. Money almost charged toward the plants and ate everything up.

Fortunately, Xiang Shaoyun had been paying attention and was able to stop him in time. "Calm down. This place cost me a lot of contribution points."

"What are contribution points? I don't care; I need to eat," said Money as he tried charging toward the plants again.

Xiang Shaoyun stopped him and said, "Just don't eat. There will be plenty of lightning for you to devour when we arrive at the Purple Lightning Pool."

Money was left with no choice but to obey and continue traveling forward. Before long, Xiang Shaoyun discovered that there were some lightning elemental demonic beasts in the space as well. The demonic beasts weren't exactly high-level beasts, but they had excellent bloodlines and a lot of potential.

One ought to know that lightning elemental beasts were extremely rare. Upon maturity, each would possess an amazing combat prowess. That was why Xiang Shaoyun had decided to tame Money back then.

At the same time, he had also discovered some disciples of the academy moving about in the space. Some were returning, and some were heading toward the Purple Lightning Pool. Those on a return trip looked incredibly sorry, as if they had all undergone a desperate battle. Even so, smiles hung on their faces, as if they had reaped a bountiful harvest. Xiang Shaoyun had just gotten Money to move faster when someone blocked them.

"Brother, is this snake for sale?" asked a sloppy person with a sinister look on his face.

His clothes were worn-out, revealing the purple armor he wore inside his outerwear. His purple hair cascaded down his face, showing only half his face. From the revealed portion of his face, one could see that he was a handsome man.

Before Xiang Shaoyun could answer, Money rebuked furiously, "You're the snake! Your entire family is filled with snakes! I am a noble one-horned purple silver draconic snake!"

"What an interesting snake. Although your realm isn't high, your bloodline is pure," said the purple-haired man. "Come with me. I will transform you into a draconic snake or even a true dragon!"

Lightning power then rippled out of his body, and he released a domineering might that caused even Xiang Shaoyun to feel great pressure. Money hissed unhappily, ruthlessness slowly creeping into his eyes.

"Friend, you seem to be completely disregarding me," said Xiang Shaoyun coldly. He could sense that this person was strong, but he had no fear.

The man lifted his head to look at Xiang Shaoyun and smiled. "Your strength is decent, but not enough to attract my attention. Of course, if you manage to enter the top 10 of the Dragon Phoenix List, you will then be worthy of my attention."

His words were arrogant, but there was no arrogance on his face, as if he was merely stating a fact. When Xiang Shaoyun sent his senses out, he confirmed that the man was a fifth-stage Dragon Ascension Realm cultivator. Xiang Shaoyun was slightly astonished.

The man was only about 30 years old, yet he already possessed such a cultivation level. He was right, as in he could really compete against the geniuses on the Dragon Phoenix Academy's top 10. In fact, Xiang Shaoyun started wondering if the man was one of those on the top 10, but he couldn't figure out which of them he was.

"Even without being in the top 10, I have the strength to stand before you," declared Xiang Shaoyun as his competitiveness was riled, a thick and heavy power radiating out of him.

His draconic aura, which was 19 percent formed, projected a vivid dragon behind him, signifying his cultivation level of peak first-stage Dragon Ascension Realm. With his combat prowess, he could battle even fifth-stage Dragon Ascension Realm cultivators. But there was still quite a gap between him and the genius before him. However, he possessed unique trump cards that gave him the confidence to meet the man in battle.

The man raised his brow and smiled. "What dense energy. If we have the same cultivation level, you will be my match. But you are not yet an opponent of me, Lei Bao." He glanced at Money and

said, "Forget it. You already acknowledged him as your master. Even if I snatch you, I won't get your loyalty. I'll spare you."

He then flung his hair before leaving for the entrance. The sudden departure came unexpectedly, and Xiang Shaoyun heaved a breath of relief. With his current strength, he shouldn't be provoking someone like that. He might not fear such an opponent, but it was never a good thing to have too many enemies.

"After I'm done here, I need to find out more about that Lei Bao," decided Xiang Shaoyun before he continued on with Money.

The deeper they delved, the more concentrated the rain of lightning became. Each individual bolt was also becoming stronger and stronger, and not even an Emperor could easily withstand them. Many disciples no longer dared to enter, and they stuck to the center area's fringes where they cultivated in peace after finding a suitable spot. For them, the lightning energy there was good enough for their absorption and increasing their cultivation level.

Chapter 623: Money Bullied

The Purple Lightning Pool was filled with concentrated lightning bolts that rumbled on and on, its surroundings shaking repeatedly. After Xiang Shaoyun and Money arrived at the pool's fringe, they no longer dared to go any deeper. Even at the fringe, the lightning power was powerful enough. With their current strength, it would be very difficult to actually go into the pool.

In fact, even a Soul Foundation Realm expert could cultivate using the pool since the lightning power within was dense enough. Xiang Shaoyun was only a fresh Dragon Ascension Realm cultivator. Entering the pool wouldn't be an easy feat. Even Money, who stubbornly charged inside, was forced to leave after being struck badly by lightning bolts.

Thus, Xiang Shaoyun and Money selected a spot each and started their cultivation session. Each second spent in this space cost contribution points. Xiang Shaoyun would not let even one second go to waste.

Releasing the power of his lightning bone, Xiang Shaoyun attracted bolt after bolt of lightning to his body. It was unknown if it was his lightning bone or his environment, but the lightning energy he absorbed was much more abundant and powerful than regular lightning bolts.

"Ouch! Why are these lightning bolts so scary?" Xiang Shaoyun cried out.

On the other hand, Money dashed about repeatedly amid the rain of lightning and swallowed lightning energy with his mouth opened wide. His demonic core started accumulating lightning energy without end, his cultivation base growing rapidly.

Xiang Shaoyun delayed no longer and resisted the pain as he started absorbing a large amount of lightning energy into his body. His lightning bone shone brightly as his other bones started slowly turning purple as well. At the same time, his lightning star grew as he transformed the absorbed lightning into lightning elemental astral energy.

He could not directly transform the absorbed energy into draconic aura. He had to first convert it into his own energy before transforming it into draconic aura and pushing himself to the second-stage Dragon Ascension Realm.

After cultivating in this manner for a bit, Xiang Shaoyun's lightning star had grown greatly even though his cultivation base remained the same. His combat prowess had most definitely grown considerably as well. More importantly, the transformation of his bones allowed his body to receive a new round of cleansing, further enhancing his flesh.

While Xiang Shaoyun was busy compressing and accumulating lightning energy within himself, Money, who had gradually gotten used to this place, delved deeper toward the pool. He had a vague sensation that something at the pool was summoning him. This was a temptation he couldn't resist.

As Money moved, his strength continued growing rapidly. In half a day, he reached peak seventh-stage Demon King realm. It wouldn't be long before he reached the eighth-stage. Demonic beasts were different from humans; they only needed to accumulate enough energy, and they would automatically advance. Not much comprehension of the power they cultivated was required.

At some point, Money found that he was starting to have a hard time withstanding the lightning blasts around him. He had no choice but to attempt an advancement and reach the eighth stage before doing anything else. His advancement created quite a scene, attracting the attention of many cultivators in the area.

One of them was a woman who cultivated lightning power. She was the cultivator nearest Money, and her eyes were filled with excitement as she muttered, "What a fine lightning snake. A mount is precisely what this young lady is missing. I'll need to subdue that snake!"

Then, she ignored all the lightning around her and dashed toward Money. She was a second-stage Dragon Ascension Realm cultivator, moving at an astonishingly fast speed. When she arrived near

Money, he had just finished withdrawing his demonic core into his body. The first thing she did was stomp his head with her foot.

Bang!

Money was slammed into the ground before he even realized what was going on.

"Submit or die!" shouted the woman coldly.

She then took out a polearm and stabbed it at Money. The polearm was an emperor weapon. If struck, Money would definitely be injured. Sensing danger, his demonic aura erupted as his serpentine body started twisting and thrashing, trying to throw the woman away.

Money's combat prowess was decent, but he was still rather lacking when compared with this woman. He was able to avoid the first stab but failed to avoid the second. It landed, causing him to wail in pain.

"Vile woman, release me, or my boss won't spare you!" roared Money.

A look of astonishment covered the woman's face as she said, "You already have an owner? What a pity."

"What are you waiting for? Release me!" said Money as he continued thrashing about.

The woman thought for a bit before saying, "Your master is most certainly a lightning cultivator as well. Take me to him. I'm in need of a helper, so I guess it's his lucky day."

One ought to admit that she was quite an ambitious woman.

Money pondered for a bit and said, "Ok. Release me, and I'll take you to my boss."

The woman reduced her suppression on Money and said coldly, "I don't think you have the guts to mess with me anyway."

But those words had barely left her mouth when Money instantly reduced in size to a snake the size of an arm before shooting off toward the Purple Lightning Pool. The woman was dumbfounded. She had not expected the snake to be so crafty or that he could change his size and escape before she could react.

As Money fled, he even left the threat, "Stinky woman, just you wait until I'm done. I'll teach you a real nice lesson."

Like a fish, he swam amid the lightning bolts before diving into the Purple Lightning Pool.

The woman wanted to give chase, but when she sensed the terrifying lightning power ahead of her, she stamped her foot on the ground and shouted, "Don't let me see you again, or I will chop you into pieces!"

An ethereal voice rang out behind her, "Are you capable of that?"

A figure then strode out amid the thick lightning bolts.

"Who are you?" asked the woman.

"That's not important. What's important is that you have harmed my brother. I'm afraid I will need to avenge him," said Xiang Shaoyun coldly.

Xiang Shaoyun had noticed Money's advancement almost immediately. Hence, he had rushed over as well. Surprisingly, Money had caught the attention of yet another person, and she had even injured him. Her actions caused Xiang Shaoyun to be infuriated.

"You're Xiang Shaoyun?" asked the woman when she got a good look at his face.

"So you know me? Things will be much simpler, then. Give me an explanation, and I can let this slide. Don't force me to make a move on you," answered Xiang Shaoyun.

"Hehe, others might fear you, but not me, Xiao Ting!" said the woman with a laugh.

Although she had average looks, when she laughed, her bountiful curves jiggled, exuding endless allure.

"Seems like you're forcing my hand," said Xiang Shaoyun, stepping forward.

"Bring it on. You're really quite handsome, so I should probably turn you into a servant who worships the ground I walk on," said the woman while licking her lips, her eyes shining.

Chapter 624: The Fearsome Purple Lightning Pool

Xiao Ting was a powerful cultivator within the top 300 of the Jiao Luan List. It was also rumored that she was related to Xiao Xie, one of the freaks in the Dragon Phoenix List's top 10. Of course, nobody could verify the rumor.

As for Xiao Ting herself, her ranking was proof of her combat prowess and the reason for her to show no fear toward Xiang Shaoyun. Furthermore, Xiang Shaoyun's handsomeness triggered amorous feelings within her, making her decide to make him submit.

Xiang Shaoyun couldn't be bothered to waste more words on her. He immediately erupted with strength, sending his presence crashing down on her. His soul, which was at the level of a Sovereign's, further bolstered his presence, instantly causing Xiao Ting to suffocate from the pressure.

Xiang Shaoyun stepped forward one step at a time, his presence surging in power. Xiao Ting did not wait and attacked before Xiang Shaoyun's presence could reach the peak of its might.

"Trying to suppress me with your presence? You're still not qualified for that," roared Xiao Ting as she erupted with her strength as a peak second-stage Dragon Ascension Realm cultivator. Her polearm, rippling with lightning, shot toward Xiang Shaoyun's throat like a bolt of lightning.

Fully displaying the characteristic of a lightning cultivator, she sent numerous lightning bolts surging forward the moment she took action, attacking Xiang Shaoyun like a bunch of destructive lightning snakes. However, Xiang Shaoyun wasn't even bothered to avoid the attack. He formed a fist and threw it right toward Xiao Ting.

As the fist shot forward, over 100 bolts of lightning converged around them, as if a thunderstorm had formed. The sight caused Xiao Ting's face to pale. She could similarly summon natural

lightning bolts to do her bidding, but she was incapable of summoning so many at once like Xiang Shaoyun. His punch was at least twice the destructiveness of her attack.

Fortunately for her, she had a higher cultivation level. Thus, she clenched her teeth and decided to proceed with her attack.

Rumble! Rumble!

Lightning crashed into lightning, instantly creating a firework of lightning as the collisions made a mess of their immediate surroundings. Xiao Ting was sent flying. She did not dare to continue the fight, so she made use of the momentum and fled. Xiang Shaoyun already had the upper hand in terms of presence. If she continued forcing the fight, she wouldn't be able to gain any sort of advantage.

"You're leaving already? No, you need to learn your lesson first," said Xiang Shaoyun coldly as he bolted toward her like a bolt of lightning.

Overlord's Nine Nether Steps!

He aimed his step at Xiao Ting's back, converged powerful lightning in his foot, and sent a stomping attack toward her back. She had not imagined that Xiang Shaoyun's attack would come so fast. Even when she was trying to flee without fighting back, the stomp still sent her stumbling down from the sky.

Bang!

She crashed into the ground, sending dust and stones flying everywhere, leaving a human-shaped hole in the ground. It was obvious Xiang Shaoyun wasn't holding back just because he was fighting a woman. He was really venting out on behalf of Money.

Instead of pressing on with more attacks, he said, "You stepped on Money once. Now I return it. As for the stab you gave him, I'll let him repay it personally."

He then left and headed toward the Purple Lightning Pool.

As for Xiao Ting, she struggled back on her feet and glared at Xiang Shaoyun's back, shouting, "Xiang Shaoyun, I won't spare you!"

It had been a very long time since she had suffered such humiliation. Thus, what Xiang Shaoyun just did to her caused her to bear a grudge.

Meanwhile, Money had arrived beside the pool. The lightning bolts by the pool were extremely concentrated and dreadful. He couldn't find an opening he could slip through. In fact, the lightning bolts still badly wounded him even after he reduced his size. He was having a hard time advancing, and if he continued to stay, he would definitely die.

But he couldn't accept just leaving like this. He opened his mouth and swallowed the lightning around him continuously. His sole horn started exuding an odd power as he charged toward the pool. The power his horn was exuding was a mixture of silver lightning power and an unknown power, protecting him from the destruction of the ambient lightning power around him.

Nobody knew what Money was trying to do. He continued pushing forth without regard to his injuries, pushing his horn again and again. Before long, he was dying. Cracks started appearing on his demonic core, signifying that he was in very bad shape.

Xiang Shaoyun, who was farther away, couldn't even get to where Money was. It was already hard enough for him to reach this far. The heavy armor was helping him block out most of the lightning power. If he relied on his own flesh alone, he wouldn't be able to withstand all the lightning around him.

Money is getting too rash! He actually came all the way here by himself? Xiang Shaoyun grumbled inwardly.

He had no way of advancing and was forced to stop where he was and absorb as much lightning energy as he could to build a stockpile within him so he could use it during his future breakthrough.

But he had barely sat down when he sensed a dreadful undulation of lightning power erupting ahead of him. Terrifying lightning bolts rained down again and again while waves of lightning power rippled toward him. The ground was shaking, and it was as if the end of the world was coming.

Startled, Xiang Shaoyun immediately started running at his top speed without wasting a single second. Terrifying sounds of explosions rumbled without end, the sound alone almost causing him to lose consciousness.

After running for an unknown amount of time, he finally stopped when the lightning power immediately behind him no longer seemed so terrifying. He turned around and saw a screen of lightning completely covering the space ahead of him. It was an overwhelming scene to witness.

"Shit! Things do not look good for Money!" Xiang Shaoyun cried out in alarm.

But at this point, he really couldn't think of anything he could do. What he saw before him was something scary enough to kill even a Sovereign. The only thing he could do now was to pray for Money's safety.

Instead of leaving, Xiang Shaoyun sat down and continued cultivating as he waited, hoping that Money would remain safe. Just like that, he spent a month in wait. When his lightning star and lightning bone were fully stuffed with lightning energy, he finally considered leaving.

In truth, he could attempt his advancement right here before continuing to absorb more. After all, the pure lightning energy in the unique zone was extremely rare and very beneficial to him. But his plan was to balance all nine of his powers before breaking through.

Looking at the receding lightning power, he went near the pool again and started calling out for Money, but he received no reply. He sighed and could only leave. Suddenly, a change occurred at the Purple Lightning Pool.

Chapter 625: The Rise of Money

Before Xiang Shaoyun could leave, a violent wave of lightning surged out of the Purple Lightning Pool. Startled, he madly dashed away. However, this wave did not seem as scary as the previous eruption, and it seemed much weaker in comparison.

Suddenly, a voice rang out, "Boss, it's me!"

Xiang Shaoyun turned back and saw a massive coiled lightning snake hovering in the air. It was none other than Money.

Money's body had turned even longer than before, his silver scales were now mixed with purple, and his massive head looked even scarier than before. His single horn was also more conspicuous, with lightning constantly swirling around it. Apart from that, his physical appearance had changed slightly. Two limbs had grown from his belly, making him look rather peculiar.

Xiang Shaoyun exclaimed in shock, "Money, are you transforming into a dragon?"

In his memories, only those who had transformed into a dragon would possess draconic limbs. A regular snake or jiao wouldn't have them. Money withdrew his aura, causing the lightning around him to weaken as he replied, "I am a draconic snake. With the growth of my strength, my dragon blood has awakened, causing this change in appearance. Boss, don't I look mighty and formidable right now?"

As he said that, he started waving his limbs around, showing off cheerily.

"Haha, yes, yes, formidable indeed," said Xiang Shaoyun with a happy laugh.

He had been worried that something bad had happened to Money. Now that Money was fine, his mood improved. That was especially so when he learned that Money had grown in strength. It seemed like he had benefited greatly from coming here.

"Boss, I have a gift for you," said Money as he spat something out of his mouth.

The moment that item appeared, it gave rise to a purple aura that caused the ambient lightning energy in their surroundings to increase in purity. Studying the item in his hand, Xiang Shaoyun's pupils constricted.

"T-this is a legendary saint lightning crystal!" Xiang Shaoyun exclaimed in alarm. The moment he said that, numerous powerful auras erupted and started heading toward him.

"Shit!" Xiang Shaoyun cursed when he realized what was happening. He quickly stored the crystal in his astral cosmos sea.

"Where is the saint lightning crystal?" asked a person who had just arrived.

"I don't know what you're talking about," Xiang Shaoyun acted dumb. He was confident in himself, but he still preferred not to attract too much trouble.

"Hmph. I clearly sensed an undulation of lightning energy with high purity here earlier, and you even screamed 'saint lightning crystal'. Stop lying." The person then threatened, "Hand over the saint lightning crystal or—"

Xiang Shaoyun attacked before the person could finish.

Pa! Pa!

Xiang Shaoyun landed two heavy slaps on the person's face, leaving two clear marks on both sides of his face.

"Say that again if you have the guts," said Xiang Shaoyun imposingly. He had thought that the little fame he had gained in the academy would serve as some kind of deterrence, but there were still so many people willing to provoke him.

The person couldn't even see how Xiang Shaoyun had attacked. The burning pain on his face gave him a realization that he had probably challenged someone he was not a match for.

"Y-you got me! I admit defeat!" he barked as he quickly fled.

Xiang Shaoyun then glanced at the other new arrivals and said, "You want the saint lightning crystal, right? Bring it on. Take it from me."

"I know you! You're the nine-star physique guy, Xiang Shaoyun," said one of them.

"So what? Do you have the guts to attack me?" Xiang Shaoyun asked.

"I might fear you anywhere else, but here, in this space of lightning, I have a chance against you in a fight," said the person confidently.

"Boss, how about you let me deal with him," said Money.

"Can you do it?" Xiang Shaoyun asked doubtfully.

"I'm a male, so of course I can do it!" replied Money confidently as he transformed back into his human form. He then shouted at the person, "Come, be my practice target!"

"Xiang Shaoyun, you dare view me with such contempt? Fine, let me kill your mount first," said the person as he swung his saber at Money.

He had a mid-grade seven-star physique and cultivated only the power of lightning. As he attacked, lightning power converged around him and then shot forward along with the swing of his saber.

Money smiled and stepped forth, transforming into a bolt of lightning that pierced through his opponent's attack. When he arrived near the person, he spun around and whipped his leg at the person's weak point.

One had to admit that after sticking with Xiang Shaoyun for so long, even Money's fighting habits had started to change to a style that was similar to his. The kick struck the person's right shoulder, causing his saber to almost fly from his hand. As Money moved to attack a second time, the person shifted his stance and summoned more lightning bolts, attempting to subdue Money with brute force.

Unfortunately for him, Money was already immune to the lightning energy in the unique zone. He ignored the lightning bolts and threw repeated punches at his opponent. The strength Money was displaying was no longer at the level of a Demon King. Rather, he had reached the second stage of the Demon Emperor Realm. He erupted with remarkable combat prowess.

Inwardly, Xiang Shaoyun gasped in alarm, How has Money advanced so much? What treasure did he obtain in the pool?

One ought to know that when they had entered, Money was only a seventh-stage Demon King. Subsequently, he had advanced to the eighth stage, but it hadn't even been a month since then, and he was already a second-stage Demon Emperor. It was an inconceivable speed of growth.

Money's opponent was completely helpless and was ultimately forced to flee covered in wounds.. If Xiang Shaoyun hadn't restrained Money, he probably wouldn't have stopped until the person was dead.

"All of you. Come together. I need a good practice session!" said Money toward the others that were still around. Strands of lightning energy swirled around his horn as he summoned and rained down lightning bolts on them.

His actions terrified them, and they started fleeing with all their strength. It would seem Money's rise had begun!

With a look of satisfaction, Xiang Shaoyun said, "Looks like you have benefited a lot. You will have no problem standing on your own from here on out."

"Hehe, I found a lightning pearl inside the pool. That's the reason for my abrupt growth," said Money with a somewhat bashful smile.

Xiang Shaoyun's face twitched as he found himself filled with envy at his words.

Chapter 626: Vicious Steel Mist

The so-called lightning pearl was some sort of crystallized lightning essence, similar to Xiang Shaoyun's Yun Flame and yin devil wind. The Purple Lightning Pool was filled with extremely powerful lightning energy that even Soul Foundation Realm cultivators could use to cultivate. It also proved that the lightning power in the space was at the Sovereign level.

Thus, a lightning pearl formed at a place like this was most likely of a higher grade than Xiang Shaoyun's Yun Flame and yin devil wind. That was how Money had grown so rapidly in less than a month. Xiang Shaoyun was envious, but he did not feel any malice. He treated Money as his brother, and to see a brother grow stronger was a joyful thing.

"Boss, let's continue cultivating here. I can sense that the pool still contains lightning energy of extreme purity. It's enough for us to keep growing," proposed Money.

Xiang Shaoyun gave it some thought before saying, "I'm not staying, but if you want to stay, I won't object."

He had already reached his limit of how much lightning energy he could suppress within him. It was time to gather other energies and balance his nine energies before advancing.

"I'll go with you, boss. I'm afraid I will really get kidnapped. Humans are too evil!"

The smile vanished from Xiang Shaoyun's face as he was a human as well.

And thus, the two left the space together. But before that, Money went back into Xiang Shaoyun's astral cosmos sea so others wouldn't notice him. After paying over 200,000 contribution points, Xiang Shaoyun went straight into the zone Vicious Steel Mist.

This independent space was completely different from the space containing the Purple Lightning Pool. It was actually an area filled with golden mountains. A large number of academy members could be seen mining for goldsteel stones in the area.

The goldsteel stones could be used as crafting materials, and those found here would be the best of the best, classified as sovereign-grade materials. Furthermore, high quality spirit crystal veins could be found as well. In fact, there were rumors that there was also a saint gold crystal here.

The saint gold crystal was similar to the saint lightning crystal. Both were more than just regular spirit crystals, as they both contained pure and boundless energy. A single saint crystal was comparable to over 10,000 regular spirit crystals.

It was obvious how valuable a single saint crystal could be. More importantly, even when one offered 10,000 high-grade spirit crystals for a saint crystal, the holder of the saint crystal would still be unwilling to sell it. As for the big piece of saint lightning crystal Xiang Shaoyun had gotten from Money, it could be cut into about 30 crystals the size of a regular crystal.

That meant that the saint lightning crystal in his hand was worth about 300,000 spirit crystals. The goldsteel stone mines and the high-grade spirit crystal mines in the space belonged to the academy. Thus, to take any of the mined ores required one to pay the equivalent amount of contribution points.

Additionally, there were also missions to be completed, namely mining or protecting the mines from being taken over by non-humans. A certain life form known as the goldmen resided here.

A goldman was an odd humanoid life form that was about twice as tall as a regular human and had a body of gold that contained boundless strength. They could directly consume metallic ores, goldsteel stones, and spirit crystals to grow.

One could say that this independent space was their habitat, one that the academy had taken over. Nevertheless, the academy had not killed them off and had left half the Vicious Steel Mist for them to live in.

Of course, the goldmen were unhappy with the arrangement, as the space had originally been their territory and half had been taken from them. And thus, they would frequently come over to the human side to steal the mined materials.

For them, the materials were sources of food that they would not give up. Of course, they were also afraid of angering the academy's higher-ups. Thus, they would generally only send some Emperor Realm goldmen to do the thieving instead of launching a large-scale attack.

That was something the Dragon Phoenix Academy would still accept. After all, they also hoped to pressure their disciples with the goldmen so that their disciples could grow faster. This was something Xiang Shaoyun had learned from Tang Longfei.

Currently, both Tang Longfei and Lady Shura were probably cultivating somewhere in the Vicious Steel Mist. The zone was filled with high-quality gold energy capable of allowing any gold cultivator to grow rapidly. Ownership of these unique zones were the reason why the academy had been able to remain strong and powerful all this while.

Upon his arrival, Xiang Shaoyun sensed strands of rich gold energy all around him. He couldn't help but circulate his cultivation method, pulling the energy into his gold star. As he scanned his surroundings, he found that there were many more people here than in the lightning zone. After all, there were far more cultivators of the traditional five elements than of the wind, lightning, light, and darkness elements.

As Xiang Shaoyun walked around, he found that mist rich with vicious energy shrouded the peaks of the zone's golden mountains. Absorbing the vicious energy would increase the offensive power of one's gold energy. That was probably how this place had earned its name. Xiang Shaoyun picked a random nearby mountain and started heading over.

But before he could approach the mountain, a warning came, "Stop your approach, or don't blame me for showing no mercy!"

The voice forced Xiang Shaoyun to stop. He rubbed his nose and muttered, "Looks like I need to figure out which spot is empty."

He then spread the senses of his Nether Soul Domain around the more than 10 mountains near him, but he found that all of them were occupied. Although he could always snatch one with force, he decided against it. He viewed himself as a kind person who would not bully the weak.

Of course, any of his ex-enemies would spit at that. Would a self-proclaimed overlord actually be kind?

Xiang Shaoyun continued traveling around, and he discovered that some mountains were heavily barricaded and nobody was allowed to approach. The people manning the barricades were academy overseers and disciples. There were also some miners hired from outside the academy.

Xiang Shaoyun couldn't resist exclaiming inwardly, The academy is really, really rich. Just look at all the mines they own!

He took a detour around the mines and continued looking for a spot to cultivate. After a while, he suddenly sensed an intense battle ahead of him. He wasn't interested in getting involved in it, but he suddenly sensed a familiar aura. Curious, he extended his senses. What he saw filled him with fury.

Chapter 627: The Person You Offended is the Green Youth

What had Xiang Shaoyun seen that angered him so much? Not far ahead of him, a group of people was beating up Tang Longfei.

"You really think your Overlord Legion is that big of a deal? In the eyes of the Flaming Sun, you guys are merely a bunch of small fries!" said the group's leader. As he said that, he stepped on Tang Longfei, who had been subdued by the others in the group.

Tang Longfei was completely helpless as the leader stepped on his head and pressed his face into the ground. His entire body was filled with wounds, yet the other party was still doing this to him. It was obvious they did not intend to show him any mercy.

The people who had caught Tang Longfei were none other than members of the Flaming Sun. There were five of them in total, with the leader being a third-stage Dragon Ascension Realm cultivator. Two of them were at the second stage, while the other two were at the first stage. They were a rather powerful group. It was understandable why Tang Longfei wasn't their match.

What Xiang Shaoyun couldn't understand was the reason for the Flaming Sun to suddenly target the Overlord Legion. However, he did not waste any time thinking. He charged over and shouted, "Release him, or all of you shall suffer!"

A look of astonishment covered their faces when they saw Xiang Shaoyun. They had not expected to see him. The group's leader, Jin Yanyan, was ranked 97th on the Dragon Phoenix List. He

sneered at Xiang Shaoyun and said, "Even the overlord of the Overlord Legion is here? This will be fun."

With his face pressed against the ground, Tang Longfei couldn't say anything and could only yell inwardly, Shaoyun, you need to be careful!

Xiang Shaoyun did not bother saying anything else to them. He shot over at a rapid speed before noiselessly sending a finger beam toward Jin Yanyan. His first priority was to free Tang Longfei.

Vicious Prison Finger!

The finger beam was fast and powerful, an attack that was extremely difficult to guard against. However, Jin Yanyan stood his ground and sent a golden palm out, slapping the beam away. But by the time he stopped the first beam, Xiang Shaoyun had already sent five additional beams forward, layering all of them to form an incomparably sharp attack.

"Just a tiny trick," said Jin Yanyan with disdain as he repeatedly palmed the beam attacks, scattering them all.

Of course, the beam attacks were merely a distraction. By the time all the beams were stopped, Xiang Shaoyun had already arrived before the group of five. He instantly erupted in power and threw a dreadful fist forward. Nine-colored radiance converged around his fist as one star after another formed around it.

One punch to overturn the cosmos, one punch to obliterate the myriad daos!

The punch, which seemed so powerful it was in defiance of the natural order, shot forward and unleashed a nine-colored energy that rushed Jin Yanyan and his companions. The group could sense a seemingly unstoppable fist coming at them, and it completely shattered their confidence.

"Fight with everything you have!" Jin Yanyan roared to his companions as he erupted with full power.

Thousand Dropping Gold!

Numerous pieces of gold appeared around him, as if the sky was raining chunks of gold. With this attack, he displayed a prowess comparable to a peak sixth-stage or even an early seventh-stage Dragon Ascension Realm cultivator. The others also fought back with their full strength. A bright and multicolored wave of energy rippled out, destroying all the golden stones in their surroundings. However, Xiang Shaoyun's Cosmos Dao Destroying Fist crushed everything they released.

Rumble! Rumble!

Sounds of explosion rumbled on and on, startling the other people in the area who thought that the goldmen were attacking again. The collision flattened the ground around them, and the only reason a crater didn't form was due to the toughness of the golden stones that made up the ground.

When the energy from the collision dissipated, numerous figures were sent flying in different directions, each spraying blood everywhere. The figures were none other than Jin Yanyan and his group. As for Xiang Shaoyun, he stood where he was, completely unharmed and indifferent.

He ignored them and rushed toward Tang Longfei. The impact of the collision had buried Tang Longfei under a large number of golden stones. Xiang Shaoyun quickly dug him out, and when he sensed that Tang Longfei was still alive, his worry eased. He said, "Big Brother Tang, hang on there!"

He then fed Tang Longfei a drop of healing spring liquid. As Tang Longfei swallowed the drop of emperor-grade spring, the power of the spring spread throughout his body and nourished his injuries.

Xiang Shaoyun then brought him to the side so Tang Longfei could meditate and focus on healing. Money was also released to stand guard beside Tang Longfei. As for Xiang Shaoyun himself, he flew toward Jin Yanyan. Although he had not killed Jin Yanyan and the others, they wouldn't be able to get back on their feet anytime soon.

Arriving before the badly wounded Jin Yanyan, he stepped on Jin Yanyan's face and questioned, "Why are you attacking the Overlord Legion? Do you think we can be bullied so easily?"

Jin Yanyan was having a terrible day. He was two stages higher than Xiang Shaoyun in cultivation, and he also knew that Xiang Shaoyun cultivated nine different powers. Someone like that shouldn't be able to display the power of his nine stars, yet what actually happened was completely different from what he had believed. Xiang Shaoyun's earlier attack was proof he could utilize all nine stars at the same time.

From that, it could be seen that Xiang Shaoyun had created his own path, fusing the powers of his nine stars to unleash the prowess of his physique. It was a miracle that would leave a mark in history. And Jin Yanyan had actually offended someone so scary. Not even the Flaming Sun would be able to keep him safe against such an enemy, but he couldn't turn back time, so he could only face it.

"Y-you're the one who has offended someone you shouldn't!" Jin Yanyan said weakly.

"Huh? Li Li is the only person from the Flaming Sun that I have met before. Is it her? Or is it someone else I have defeated?" Xiang Shaoyun asked in confusion.

"No, the person you have offended is the Green Youth," Jin Yanyan answered.

"Green Youth Ye Linshan?" Xiang Shaoyun asked in astonishment.

"Yes!" Jin Yanyan answered. "Since you've already vented your anger, c-can you let me go?"

"Hmph. After injuring my brother, don't even dream of leaving so easily. Pay for the damages you did, or don't blame me for showing no mercy," said Xiang Shaoyun coldly.

Jin Yanyan knew he had no other choice, so he took out an emperor medicine to buy his freedom. Unfortunately, Xiang Shaoyun still refused to free him. Only after taking even more emperor-grade items from him did Xiang Shaoyun release them.

"Go back and tell the Green Youth to stop thinking about my woman or nothing good will come out of it," warned Xiang Shaoyun.

Chapter 628: Approaching Goldmen's Territory

Xiang Shaoyun had never interacted with Ye Linshan before, but he understood why the Green Youth had a problem with him. Yu Caidie was most likely the reason. After the Devil Domain expedition, Xiang Shaoyun had earned the title of Yu Clan's backup son-in-law. As a backup, his status was considerably lower, and in truth, he was only qualified to be Yu Caidie's follower. It wouldn't be that easy to be an actual son-in-law of the Yu Clan.

As for Ye Linshan, he was also one of the son-in-law candidates who ranked ahead of Xiang Shaoyun. Furthermore, there was a certain level of relationship between the Ye Clan and the Yu Clan. Ye Linshan would not give up on Yu Caidie.

Prior to this, Xiang Shaoyun had made an open declaration that Yu Caidie was his woman. Ye Linshan must have heard of it as well. That was why Jin Yanyan and the others were sent to deal with Tang Longfei. One could say that Tang Longfei and the other members of the Overlord Legion had simply been implicated by Xiang Shaoyun.

Xiang Shaoyun did not continue making things hard for Jin Yanyan's group. He was confident they would pass his words to the Green Youth. However, news of him managing to combine the nine powers would probably be leaked after this. He had not used the power of the nine-colored fog much prior to this, and in the academy, very few people knew about it. It had remained one of his trump cards for quite a while.

Even that day, he had only used the attack in a moment of desperation. Of course, he did not regret it. He viewed Tang Longfei as his brother. Thus, his priority was naturally to end the battle as quickly as possible and rescue Tang Longfei. After about two hours, Tang Longfei finally woke up from his meditation.

"Thank you, Overlord," said Tang Longfei gratefully.

"Big Brother Tang, continue calling me Shaoyun. Things don't have to be so formal between us," said Xiang Shaoyun. "How are you feeling?"

Tang Longfei nodded. "Much better. Those fellows held back somewhat."

"I'm the one who has implicated you, but I've also gotten your revenge!" said Xiang Shaoyun, guilt in his voice. He then handed over the things he extorted from Jin Yanyan.

Tang Longfei did not stand on ceremony, and he accepted the compensation.

Xiang Shaoyun asked, "How's Lady Shura?"

"She's not here. I think she left the academy on a mission," Tang Longfei said.

"I see. So are you staying or leaving?"

"I've only been here for less than three days before those bastards interrupted me, so I'll probably stay a few more days before leaving."

"Alright. Let's look for a suitable spot together, then. Anyone else coming to look for trouble will suffer," said Xiang Shaoyun.

And thus, the two left to look for a quiet place to cultivate. This was not Tang Longfei's first time in the Vicious Steel Mist. Therefore, he was rather familiar with the place. Before long, he found a suitable spot to cultivate. However, Xiang Shaoyun wasn't too satisfied with it.

That was because the spot was rather poor in comparison with the rest of the space. The vicious mist was extremely thin and would not help much for someone trying to increase his gold cultivation.

"I know, this place isn't that good, but nobody will fight for this spot either. If it's any other spot, challengers will come at any time. It will be troublesome," said Tang Longfei.

"Big Brother Tang, are you picking a spot like this because you think we're too weak to offend anyone?" Xiang Shaoyun asked.

An awkward look covered Tang Longfei's face as he said, "I know you're an outstanding combatant, Shaoyun. But we really shouldn't be making too many enemies for now. It's better to stay low-profiled for a bit."

Xiang Shaoyun understood Tang Longfei's misgivings, but he did not want to settle for less. Instead, his gaze landed on a spot farther away from them, and he said, "The vicious mist is dense there, so that will be a decent spot. I wonder if there's anyone there?"

"Shaoyun, don't be rash. That place is near the goldmen's territory. If you go there, we don't even know if the goldmen will actually attack. They are very strong, each of them possessing a body someone of the same level can hardly damage. We should just stay here," Tang Longfei hurriedly said.

"Sure, you can stay here. I'll go take a look. I'm really curious what the goldmen look like, anyway," said Xiang Shaoyun in excitement.

"What are you even saying? Brothers should stick through thick and thin together. Since you want to go, I'll go with you. But we have to retreat the instant anything happens!" said Tang Longfei.

And thus, they started moving toward the area Xiang Shaoyun saw. The whole space was essentially separated into two territories: one belonging to the academy and the other belonging to the goldmen.

In truth, the goldmen possessed the bloodline of the gold giants. However, their bloodline wasn't pure, resulting in their bodies being much more lacking compared to true gold giants. Otherwise, they wouldn't have been suppressed so badly by the academy.

One ought to know that the gold giants possessed extraordinary strength, granting them a dreadful combat prowess that few could compare with. To put matters in perspective, even these goldmen with an incomplete gold giant bloodline were already strong enough to be comparable to the geniuses among humans.

When Xiang Shaoyun and Tang Longfei arrived at the border of the two territories, they did not find any goldmen. Xiang Shaoyun flew up and stared at the goldmen's territory curiously, only to be dragged down by Tang Longfei.

Tang Longfei was terrified that Xiang Shaoyun would actually attract some goldmen over. Xiang Shaoyun had no choice but to stop spying on the goldmen and instead started cultivating silently with Tang Longfei.

One ought to admit that their new spot was much better than their previous spot. The dense vicious mist around them was filled with vicious energy and the power of gold. The vicious energy could even increase the offensive power of gold elemental attacks. The energy contained within the mist was perfect for gold cultivators.

Xiang Shaoyun and Tang Longfei each dug their own cave and then focused on absorbing the energy around them. With his high absorption speed, an unending stream of energy poured into Xiang Shaoyun's gold star.

Although he was only using one star to store the gold energy, he had a high storage capacity capable of storing twice or triple what the star of a regular cultivator could hold. With his remarkable talent and the expansions he had done to his stars, it wasn't surprising that he had a higher storage capacity.

With his heavy armor on him, when he circulated his cultivation method, he could further purify and compress the energy he was absorbing, gradually filling his gold star with energy. After seven days, Xiang Shaoyun's gold star was completely filled. One ought to admit that the vicious mist was really rich with gold energy. His vicious gold energy had grown greatly as a result.

Right as he felt that he could no longer cram any additional energy into his gold star, he sensed some intense energy undulations outside his cave.

Chapter 629: Lending a Helping Hand

Unable to continue meditating in peace, Xiang Shaoyun left his cave. At the same time, Tang Longfei flew out of his cave as well. The two looked toward a certain direction at the same time, finding two golden figures engaged in an intense fight. With a glance, Xiang Shaoyun could see that the battle was between a goldman and a gold snake.

The goldman was about four meters tall with a humanoid body. In fact, his only difference from a regular human was his skin, which was pure gold in color. He looked more like a puppet made of gold than a living being. However, his motions were smooth and nimble, making it clear he was a living being.

From his appearance, he looked rather young, his aura strong with a cultivation level of fourth-stage Emperor Realm. Someone like him was strong enough to crush a regular sixth-stage or seventh-stage Dragon Ascension Realm human.

The goldman's opponent was a gold python that was even stronger. Its entire body shone with a brilliant gold radiance, and it was over 20 meters long, thick and powerful as it whipped its tail at the goldman repeatedly.

Initially, they were equally matched. But as the fight dragged on, the goldman started edging toward defeat. Eventually, the python managed to wrap its body around the goldman, who roared and punched the snake repeatedly to no avail. If this continued, the goldman would probably be squeezed to death.

"Their attacks are so rough," exclaimed Tang Longfei.

The battle had destroyed their surroundings, displaying the two's overwhelming offensive prowess. Tang Longfei knew that he wouldn't be able to block even one of their attacks. It was clear how

dreadful the offensive power of the two was. Xiang Shaoyun gave no reply. Instead, he flew straight toward the battlefield.

"Shaoyun, what are you doing? The python is still in peak condition!" Tang Longfei cried out in alarm.

"Wait here, Big Brother Tang. I'll be fine," said Xiang Shaoyun without looking back. With a few jumps, he arrived beside the goldman and the gold python.

Hiss! Hiss!

When the gold python discovered Xiang Shaoyun's arrival, it spat out clumps of vicious gold energy toward him. The clumps of vicious gold energy were extremely sharp, capable of grinding regular Emperors into mincemeat with a hit.

White Tiger Manifestation!

Activating the power of his gold star, Xiang Shaoyun formed a white tiger as an abundant amount of white tiger vicious energy spread around him and crashed into the energy released by the gold python.

Surprisingly, Xiang Shaoyun's energy eruption was unable to destroy the gold python's energy. Instead, a large amount of the python's energy continued crashing toward him. He quickly moved to the python's side and threw out a punch.

Xiang Shaoyun's punch was terrifyingly powerful, yet it actually failed to damage the python despite landing. The gold python was infuriated, and it shot its head toward Xiang Shaoyun, trying to take a bite even as its body remained wrapped around the goldman. The python might be large in size, but it was still incredibly fast.

Fortunately, Xiang Shaoyun's fast reaction saved him from being bitten. As he stepped back, he jabbed with his finger multiple times, sending numerous beams toward the python's jaws. Even the beams failed to damage the python despite entering its mouth.

At this point, it was obvious vicious gold energy was not capable of harming the python. Infuriated, the python swiped the ground with its tail, sending a large number of rocks flying toward Xiang Shaoyun.

He was forced to dodge again and again, but there were too many rocks for him to evade them all. Many struck him, opening numerous wounds on his body as he clenched his teeth in pain. It would seem the python possessed incredible physical strength as well.

Taking advantage of the distraction, the goldman broke free as the python loosened its body around him. At the same time, he landed a heavy punch on the python, hurting it enough to enrage it.

Rumble! Rumble!

Once again, the goldman and the gold python engaged each other in an intense fight. The goldman's punch seemed to be boundlessly powerful, and the gold python was incredibly impressive as well. The impacts of their battle further destroyed their surroundings.

As for Xiang Shaoyun, after retreating, he muttered, "That fellow is really stubborn. Why isn't he taking the chance to flee? Why is he continuing the fight?"

The only reason Xiang Shaoyun had attacked was to help the goldman escape. Why? It was because he had once read about the gold giant in the Book Pavilion. It was a race that might look ferocious but was actually incredibly kind. Generally, they wouldn't create trouble for anyone who hadn't provoked them.

As the descendants of the gold giants, the goldmen had naturally inherited that trait as well. It gave Xiang Shaoyun a good impression of them. As for the conflict between the goldmen and the academy, it was only the result of the academy taking away their living necessities.

Of course, Xiang Shaoyun had no intention to change that; he was only following his heart when he decided to help this goldman. The battle continued on, and the goldman was still not the python's match. The gap of their cultivation levels was not something that could be easily bridged.

Finally, the python whipped the goldman and sent him crashing into a mountain. The mountain collapsed, creating a cloud of golden dust. The python shot forward and appeared before the goldman. Its jaws opened wide, trying to swallow the goldman alive.

The goldman was already completely helpless and could do nothing but shut his eyes and await his death. At the final moment, Xiang Shaoyun dropped from the sky as numerous brilliant stars formed around him. An incomparably domineering fist shot out, accompanied by a nine-colored radiance.

A world-shaking explosion erupted. Tang Longfei, who was observing the battle from far away, opened his eyes wide, his eyeballs almost popping out of their sockets. He hadn't gotten a good look at how Xiang Shaoyun had defeated Jin Yanyan's group, but he now finally had a clear look.

"Shaoyun is too damn domineering! The title Overlord really suits him well!" Tang Longfei exclaimed in astonishment.

As an elder brother, he was completely convinced by Xiang Shaoyun's strength. He had been the number one young master during his time at the Bloodsin City, but since arriving at the Dragon Phoenix Academy, his confidence had been completely shattered, and he lost the pride he once had. When he witnessed Xiang Shaoyun's might, his heart surged with excitement, and he had the urge to shout that Xiang Shaoyun was his brother!

Chapter 630: Goldman Prince's Invitation

The Cosmos Dao Destroying Fist was most certainly an exceptional punching technique, and coupled with the prowess of the nine-colored fog, it was capable of unleashing an extremely destructive force.

It enabled Xiang Shaoyun, who was only a peak first-stage Dragon Ascension Realm cultivator, to release the combat prowess of a seventh-stage or even eighth-stage Dragon Ascension Realm cultivator, helping him punch way above his weight. It was quite simply a terrifying technique.

Unlike the previous attacks, the gold python failed to withstand this attack. Blood sprayed everywhere as it wailed endlessly. If it wasn't for the python's freakish physique, the python would have been killed by the punch. Finally knowing fear, the python quickly escaped with its badly injured body.

Xiang Shaoyun landed and heaved a breath of relief. He had exhausted quite a lot of energy himself, so he did not bother giving chase. The nine-colored fog had been accumulating in his astral cosmos sea all this while. After each exhaustion, he needed to replenish it by fusing the nine energies in his body instead of replenishing it by absorbing the spiritual energy of the world, which would work for any other energy.

He still had a decent amount of nine-colored fog in his astral cosmos sea, but that was because he had crammed his body full with the fog during his physique assessment when nine stars had appeared in the sky. He had been using it sparingly, not wanting to waste the fog away.

After all, it was an extremely destructive power, a trump card of his. He wouldn't use it unless absolutely necessary. Despite how powerful it was, using the fog was unlike using the Nine Overlord Skyslaying Saber Technique which would cause a certain amount of backlash. Thus, he could also use it without fear.

When Xiang Shaoyun walked over to the goldman, he found that the goldman's body was filled with cracks, as if he was going to explode soon. Golden liquid ceaselessly flowed from the cracks, making quite an odd sight.

As the goldman absorbed the vicious energy and gold energy from his surroundings, his wounds slowly closed up. He looked at Xiang Shaoyun cautiously, as if he would fight back the moment Xiang Shaoyun tried anything.

At this time, Tang Longfei arrived. After throwing the goldman a look, he said, "Shaoyun, th-this goldman is injured!"

A look of greed flashed past Tang Longfei's eyes. He knew very well that killing the goldman and harvesting his gold heart would bring great benefit to a gold cultivator. Furthermore, the liquid from within the gold heart could also be fed to newborns to get a chance at creating a Gold Physique. Of course, that was something he had learned from books. As for whether it was true, he had no idea.

"Human, are you going to attack me?" asked the goldman with a sharp glint in his eyes.

Although Xiang Shaoyun had helped him, he still wasn't sure if Xiang Shaoyun was targeting him as well.

"Just concentrate on healing. I'm standing guard for you," said Xiang Shaoyun. He then turned and walked away, using action to show his intention.

Tang Longfei did not know what Xiang Shaoyun was thinking and could only go with him.

He said through voice transmission, "Shaoyun, this is a rare opportunity—"

Xiang Shaoyun interrupted him before he could finish. "The goldman race is a kind race. I have saved him from danger and have never intended to harm him."

His words left Tang Longfei speechless. Of course, they also increased his evaluation of Xiang Shaoyun's character. In the past, he had a bad impression of Xiang Shaoyun, thinking of him as a useless young master without learning and skills, one that would throw away everything his family had built.

But the more he interacted with Xiang Shaoyun, the more extraordinary he found Xiang Shaoyun. He believed that it was only a matter of time before Xiang Shaoyun reclaimed the Ziling Sect.

The goldman stared at Xiang Shaoyun with an indescribable expression that did not betray what he was actually thinking at the moment. While he was focusing on healing, about a dozen goldmen appeared, flying in their direction.

"Prince! Prince!" Each member of the group wielded a golden trident, shouting as they traveled, anxiety plastered all over their faces. Soon, they discovered the injured goldman and rushed over.

"Vile humans, you dare harm Prince Edoli? This is an unforgivable offense!" said the leader furiously when he noted the injuries of the goldman on the ground.

The group focused on Xiang Shaoyun and Tang Longfei, seemingly ready to attack.

Fortunately, Prince Edoli opened his mouth, "Don't worry. They are not the reason for my injuries. They are the ones who have saved me."

At that, the group of goldmen calmed down. They returned to Edoli's side and knelt down before saluting the prince. Xiang Shaoyun was surprised to find that the goldman he had rescued randomly was actually a prince. That was quite a high status.

One ought to know that each generation of goldmen would only have a single prince that would be the sole heir to their throne. No other competitors would appear. In other words, this Edoli was the second most powerful person among the goldmen, with great authority in his hands.

The group of goldmen started offering the prince some healing items, but Edoli did not take any of them. After all, he was almost fully healed. He obviously had an impressive self-recovery ability.

At this time, Xiang Shaoyun said to Tang Longfei, "Let's go."

Tang Longfei nodded and followed behind Xiang Shaoyun.

It was at this time that Edoli strode forth and said, "Savior, please wait."

The prince spoke with the sonorous voice each goldman was born with.

Xiang Shaoyun stopped, pointed at his face, and said, "You're talking to me?"

"Yes, savior. Thank you for saving my life," said Edoli as he rested one hand on his chest and bowed at Xiang Shaoyun.

The goldmen behind him did not dare to stay standing, and they quickly gave Xiang Shaoyun the same bow. "Thank you for saving our prince."

The bow was how the goldmen showed their respect. It could be seen that they were really quite grateful for what Xiang Shaoyun had done.

Xiang Shaoyun waved his hand and said, "You're welcome. It's nothing difficult, really. If there's nothing else, I'm leaving."

"Savior, you are one who helps without expecting a reward. This is very rare among humans!" said Edoli straightforwardly. "Savior, if you are willing, would you like to visit my clan? Give me a chance to repay you to show my gratitude!"

Xiang Shaoyun hesitated for a bit before saying, "Sure, I'm quite curious about the goldmen, anyway."

"We are honored to have you as a guest," said Edoli as he made an inviting gesture.

And thus, Xiang Shaoyun followed Edoli back to where the goldmen resided. As for Tang Longfei, he wanted to say something, but even toward the end, he couldn't bring himself to say it.