

Overlord 901

Chapter 901: Human Heaven Unity

Half the Back Graveyard was filled with evil spirits and bones of the dead, while the other half was vibrant with life and spiritual energy. The Back Graveyard occupied a large area, and one could hardly see its end with the naked eye.

Before a spartan house, a young man was seated cross-legged atop an old boulder. His aura was completely withdrawn, his presence ethereal, as though he had become one with his surroundings. Even when one saw him sitting there, one would have a misconception that he wasn't actually there.

Any cultivator seeing this scene would exclaim in amazement that this young man had actually entered the human heaven unity state.

The so-called human heaven unity was a state that could only be perceived rather than expressed. It was a state that could help one to have a flash of realization and instantly understand many things that one normally wouldn't. It could also help one easily break through while stuck at a certain cultivation level. Its many benefits were greatly coveted by all cultivators.

Of millions and millions of cultivators, only a few could enter this state. It was obvious one needed a high comprehension ability coupled with luck to enter this state. The youth was seated on the boulder, immersed in the human heaven unity state. Envy would fill anyone looking at him.

The youth was none other than Xiang Shaoyun. Over the past half month, he had been talking about the dao with the gravekeeper elder. First, they talked about the truth of the profundity of powers before moving on to the fusion of different techniques.

He also talked about the Lightning Calamity Fiery Star that he had obtained from the Book Pavilion. He also talked about his personal comprehension in the Cosmos Dao Destroying Fist and the Soul Foundation Realm. Finally, he also talked about the development of the Desolation mantra. It was then that he suddenly entered the human heaven unity state.

He felt like his soul had become one with the heavens, as though he was soaring high above the sky, looking at the starry and boundless firmament, observing the numerous mysterious powers that were undergoing various changes in accordance to certain rules.

For example, a certain gold power was streaking by like a golden meteor. For example, a certain flame power was raging furiously, its path unstoppable. For example, a certain wood power had transformed into a tough and thick mountain that was more like a tiny star than a mountain...

Each power was displaying a different profundity, allowing one to comprehend the origin and truth of these powers. The incomplete Desolation mantra was repeated over and over in Xiang Shaoyun's mind, akin to a bell that was endlessly ringing. It shook his entire mind, and the things that he didn't understand in the past instantly became as clear as day.

With the mantra's help, his comprehension of the many profundities deepened. This would greatly improve his future efforts in fully mastering the ultimate secret of profundities. He could also sense the ebb and flow of the stars within him, as though they were resonating with the stars in the sky. The speed he absorbed astral energy multiplied as a result, and his cultivation grew at an unimaginable speed.

Unfortunately, he couldn't stay in this state forever. After reaching a certain point of growth, he automatically left the state and returned to normal. However, he did not stop cultivating immediately. His eyes remained shut, and he started consolidating his recent gains.

After an indeterminate amount of time, he finally opened his eyes. His eyes looked completely unassuming, yet they emanated an indescribable sense of spiritualness.

"I did not expect to enter human heaven unity just from talking about the dao with his master. It was a bountiful talk," lamented Xiang Shaoyun with a smile.

He felt as though the clouds in his mind had cleared, and many of his confusions were no more.

"From this talk, you have understood your future path. In the future, you will have to rely on yourself. Nobody will help you. It is all on you to retain a fearless and unshrinking heart," the gravekeeper elder's voice rang out.

"Thank you for your teachings, Master," said Xiang Shaoyun.

The gravekeeper elder was nowhere to be seen, and Xiang Shaoyun did not know where he was. However, the gravekeeper elder seemed to be everywhere and was observing his every action.

"You don't need to thank me. All your gains originated from your comprehension capability. If you have poor comprehension capability, it will be pointless no matter what I tell you," said the gravekeeper elder indifferently. "The academy has decided to expel you."

"What?" Xiang Shaoyun was alarmed.

He had been fully engrossed in talking about the dao and had not considered what the academy would do. Upon hearing this news, he lost his calm.

The other party was obviously at fault. True, he had killed, but they were the ones who had started it. He was also backed by the gravekeeper elder, whom even the grand elders feared. He had thought that even if he was punished, it wouldn't be heavy. But expulsion had surpassed his expectation.

"Do you find it hard to accept?" asked gravekeeper elder.

"Yes. Master, how can they make such a decision?" Xiang Shaoyun questioned indignantly. He had gone through many trials to join the academy. He had just gotten himself a reputation in the academy, but this happened instead. He couldn't accept it.

"They made the decision with my permission. Otherwise, they wouldn't have the guts to do so," said gravekeeper elder.

Xiang Shaoyun was stunned. He had not imagined that the gravekeeper elder had agreed to the punishment as well. He was speechless.

The gravekeeper elder appeared far away, and with a few flickers, he appeared before Xiang Shaoyun and said, "You walk the path of the strongest physique, so you shouldn't limit yourself to any single location or organization. Each inch of land in the dominion is filled with different experiences waiting for you. They will help you grow, but cultivating in the academy is too peaceful, and it will only suppress your potential, making it hard for you to complete your path. Therefore, I have decided to release you, like I am releasing a dragon back to the sea. We shall see if you can truly soar above the high heavens, akin to a carp transforming into a dragon."

Xiang Shaoyun sank into thought and realized that the gravekeeper elder was going to start tempering him. Expelling him was the first round of tempering. He would have to rely on himself to thread on the path toward his own dao.

The gravekeeper elder continued, "The academy is already starting to rot. For the coming competition of the four academies, I want you to participate as an individual and distinguish yourself from the rest, teaching all of them a lesson. They will learn how idiotic a decision they have made. If you can't achieve that, then don't even mention that you're my disciple anymore."

"But how can I join after leaving the academy?" Xiang Shaoyun asked in confusion.

"Nobody owns that place. I have my own method of letting you in," declared the gravekeeper elder confidently.

Chapter 902: Prior to Leaving

Xiang Shaoyun could hear the confidence in the gravekeeper elder's voice, as though the elder believed Xiang Shaoyun could easily accomplish anything he set his mind to.

His confidence infected Xiang Shaoyun, and an unyielding emotion welled within Xiang Shaoyun. He recovered from his gloominess and said, "I will listen to your command, Master, and I win the competition of the four academies."

"Um. You need to search for your dao yourself. Since you can comprehend nine profundities, your comprehension capability is incredibly high, but you are still not the best. The dominion is filled with geniuses, and many of them can compete with you. Never ever grow complacent," reminded the gravekeeper elder.

"Also, apart from the peace of the academy, I also want you to leave the academy because I hope you can fight for your own cultivation resources. That way, you can temper yourself. The academy has all sorts of resources available, and you will come to rely on it if you stay. It won't be beneficial for your growth."

The gravekeeper elder was obviously explaining so Xiang Shaoyun could understand his intentions. He did not wish to be misunderstood either.

Xiang Shaoyun was smart, and he instantly understood what the gravekeeper elder was trying to do. He said seriously, "Your disciple obeys."

"You have half a month to finish your affairs in the academy. Leave when you're done. Don't look for me if it's nothing important. Of course, it wouldn't be easy for you to return after leaving anyway," said the gravekeeper elder coldly.

Xiang Shaoyun hesitated for a bit and finally decided to ask, "Master, I wish to save the person imprisoned in the Castle of Darkness."

He believed the gravekeeper elder knew who he was talking about. After all, this was the academy's oldest living individual.

"That is your private affair, and I am not obliged to help. But, if you are capable of freeing him, I won't stop you," said the gravekeeper elder before vanishing into thin air.

Xiang Shaoyun thought about the gravekeeper elder's words and smiled. "So is master saying he's going to turn a blind eye? Then I really need to think it through."

He then turned and left. He was going to bid farewell to his brothers and sisters in the Overlord Legion and leave the Dragon Phoenix Academy, which he had stayed in for several years.

He had yet to leave far when the wolfman reappeared before him. The wolfman bowed respectfully and said, "Young master, I will be by your side at all times for your remaining time in the academy."

Evidently, this was the final protection the gravekeeper elder was giving him. In the future, he would have to rely on himself.

"Ok," Xiang Shaoyun agreed without any hesitation.

Someone might still be trying to create trouble for him in his remaining time in the academy. With the wolfman by his side, he would not need to fear anything.

Xiang Shaoyun returned to 1 Dragon Villa impatiently. He knew that the Overlord Legion members had long known that he had been expelled. He had to properly placate them.

On his way, he encountered many disciples. Each of them had a complicated expression upon seeing him, and not one stepped forth to taunt him. Most of them had a look of sympathy.

There was even a young woman who said, "Overlord, I like you. I will withdraw from the academy with you. We can live as a free and unfettered couple. Do you agree?"

The young woman had excellent looks, fair skin, and a flawless figure. She was a rare beauty. Alas, Xiang Shaoyun did not have the time to get involved in romance. He merely offered her a smile before stepping away.

Nobody could stop his dao, and nobody could interfere in his dao. He was going to walk the path of the strongest dao. Before he had even arrived at 1 Dragon Villa, news of his reappearance spread everywhere, and the Overlord Legion members started gathering from all directions.

"Overlord, where have you been? We were worried sick of you!" asked one of them.

"Am I not here now? Don't worry," said Xiang Shaoyun.

"Overlord, we don't want you to leave," said someone else.

"Don't worry. I am only leaving after half a month. We still have plenty of time," said Xiang Shaoyun cheerily.

Soon, hundreds of people surrounded him, and the large group headed for 1 Dragon Villa with great fanfare. People of other factions were filled with respect toward Xiang Shaoyun's leadership. He still enjoyed such respect even after being expelled.

At this time, Gui Mochou and Feng Xiaosha suddenly appeared before Xiang Shaoyun. There were about a dozen people behind them. All of them were staring at Xiang Shaoyun, and they were obviously here for him.

"You still dare to show your face before me?" said Xiang Shaoyun with a frown.

"Haha, who do you think you are? You're merely a stray dog that has been expelled from the academy. You dare act cocky in front of me?" said Feng Xiaosha with derision.

"A defeated opponent like you is saying all these big words?" said Xiang Shaoyun with his eyes narrowed.

"Hmph. The moment you step out of the academy, you will face our endless pursuit. Just wait for your death," said Feng Xiaosha coldly.

"And the Squall members will be oppressed by the entire Overlord Legion!" shouted someone from the Overlord Legion.

The other Overlord Legion members also started shouting at Feng Xiaosha and co. They were so overbearing when acting as one that Feng Xiaosha's group was actually frightened.

"Xiang Shaoyun has devil blood in him. What are you doing? Why are you still following a devil? Are you associating with the devils?" berated Gui Mochou. "He was expelled because he is a devil and had murdered an elder's descendant. Be very careful who you're supporting."

"Bullshit. How can the overlord be a devil? You are clearly framing him!" shouted Pan Yun, who was completely infuriated by the accusation.

"That's right. The overlord is obviously a human. All of us can sense it clearly. A devil will be cultivating devilish energy, but the overlord cultivates astral energy. Anyone with a brain can see that. You are clearly framing the overlord due to your jealousy. How shameless!" said someone else.

"You guys are persisting on the wrong path. You will come to regret this," said Gui Mochou with a sigh.

Feng Xiaosha said, "The Overlord Legion will cease to exist. You might as well join the Squall. I will always welcome you guys. Both myself and my senior brother are seventh-stage Dragon Ascension Realm cultivators. We are no weaker than your overlord."

They were here not only to humiliate Xiang Shaoyun but to also steal his members. They truly harbored bad intentions.

The Overlord Legion members were furious, and when they were about to continue bickering, Xiang Shaoyun smiled and said, "Wolf guard, these flies are too noisy. Can you shut them up?"

Chapter 903: Young Master, the Flies Have Been Dealt With

The wolfman stepped out and answered deferentially, "Yes, young master."

Everyone was confused when they saw the wolfman. They knew Xiang Shaoyun had a feathered beastman follower, but they had never heard of him having a wolfman follower as well. However, they all believed that the wolfman only looked tough but was not actually strong. They couldn't see what was so special about the wolfman.

Feng Xiaosha jeered, "Where did this mutt come from? Someone like him is thinking of acting all tough in the academy? Is he seeking death?"

Right after he said that, the wolfman appeared before him. The vicious wolf head frightened him into a retreat. However, he was lifted up before he could escape.

Pa! Pa!

Feng Xiaosha was completely stunned. He felt like the slap had destroyed his face, and even his entire head felt like it was almost slapped off his body. He wanted to resist, but he found that he could no longer muster any strength and could only accept the slaps.

"You may insult me but not the young master," declared the wolfman.

To the side, Gui Mochou attacked while shouting, "Release my junior brother!"

Gui Mochou clawed with a sharp wind attack that could tear mountains. However, the wolfman didn't even spare Gui Mochou a glance as he casually delivered a punch to Gui Mochou's face, smashing him away.

Bang!

Gui Mochou crashed heavily into a nearby mountain, creating a human-shaped hole on the cliff. The people there widened their eyes in shock, filled with disbelief over how strong the wolfman was.

A Squall member shouted, "You're dead! You dare harm a disciple in the academy? The elders won't spare you!"

When the wolfman heard that, he threw Feng Xiaosha into the group of Squall members. Feng Xiaosha smashed into the group, and wails of pain started reverberating in the air. They felt as though a mountain had been thrown at them. The might behind the throw was something they had no way of withstanding.

"Piss off, or I'll cripple every single one of you," shouted the wolfman overbearingly.

The Squall members no longer dared to be arrogant. They quickly clambered back on their feet and stumbled off with Feng Xiaosha and Gui Mochou. At this moment, an elder from the enforcement team arrived in a rush.

Feng Xiaosha had not fainted, and when he saw the elder, he complained, "Lord elder, Xiang Shaoyun, the traitor, had just commanded the wolfman to beat us up. Please uphold justice for us!"

Feng Xiaosha was familiar with this elder who was his uncle, Feng Huosuo's friend. He was confident the elder would side with him. With an elder at his side, the wolfman would surely be suppressed no matter how strong he was. But he had barely finished his words when the elder slapped him across his face several times.

Pa! Pa!

The crisp sounds resounded in the air. Everyone was stunned, especially the Squall members. What was wrong with the elder? The culprit was right in front of them, but he was slapping the victim? One could say that Feng Xiaosha was fully disfigured now.

"This is a high-level elder of the academy. How dare the likes of you provoke him? He is showing benevolence by sparing your lives. Get lost!" berated the elder.

When Feng Xiaosha heard his words, he fainted. Who would have guessed that a high-level elder would be following Xiang Shaoyun around? Wasn't Xiang Shaoyun expelled? Why was a high-level elder obeying his command?

Was the academy trying to mess with him? The people behind Xiang Shaoyun were wild with joy. They were feeling extremely indignant when they heard the humiliation Feng Xiaosha and the rest

were throwing Xiang Shaoyun's way. Now, a high-level elder was actually backing Xiang Shaoyun. This was worthy of celebration!

Indeed, the overlord lives up to his name!

Many even started wondering if Xiang Shaoyun's punishment had been canceled. Otherwise, why would there be a high-level elder guarding him?

"Apologies, lord wolf guard. The children have offended you due to their ignorance. We should just get them out of your sight. What do you think?" said the elder with a subservient tone.

Many elders now knew the wolf guard's background. Thus, they no longer dared to put on airs before him.

The wolfman ignored the elder. Instead, he spoke to Xiang Shaoyun, "Young master, the flies have been dealt with."

"Um. Let's go," said Xiang Shaoyun before he continued traveling to 1 Dragon Villa.

There were no fewer than 1,000 people gathered there, all of them Overlord Legion members. They had all rushed over the moment they heard of Xiang Shaoyun's return.

"Welcome back, Overlord," they shouted together.

Their voices reverberated throughout the area, and an oppressive aura surged to the sky, displaying the faith and unity of the Overlord Legion.

Looking at the fervent Overlord Legion members and recalling the scenes of them battling side by side before, a sense of melancholy rose within Xiang Shaoyun. His eyes turned misty as he roared, "The Overlord Legion is unequalled!"

"The Overlord Legion is unequalled!"

"The Overlord Legion is unequalled!"

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All the Overlord Legion members chanted together, and their voices spread throughout the academy.

Someone from a different faction grumbled, "Unequaled my ass. They are nothing compared to our Sword Society."

Someone from another faction shouted, "What's so special about the Overlord Legion? If they dare to step out of the line before the Crushing Sky, we will step on all of them!"

If this was any other time, these factions would probably gather their members to teach the Overlord Legion a lesson for uttering such outrageous words. But they knew that Xiang Shaoyun was leaving the academy and was probably making his final farewell, so they decided to instead ignore the Overlord Legion.

After a long while, the shouting finally stopped. Xiang Shaoyun heaved a long breath and calmed himself before striding into the villa. The disciples split apart to open a path for him as he stepped through like a ruler surveying his subjects, looking incredibly domineering.

At the center of the villa, a seat had been prepared for him. He sat down and scanned the crowd before saying, "Brothers and sisters, I am very happy to have had the opportunity to work alongside all of you and establish the Overlord Legion. I was planning to dissolve the legion today, but I've changed my mind. The legion will stay, and Ouyang Chuanqi will replace me as the overlord. I hope everyone can still work together with one heart, continue growing the legion's strength, and dominate the academy."

"Overlord, we hope you can stay," shouted the Overlord Legion members, eyes brimming with tears.

Chapter 904: Saying Goodbye to the Legion

Xiang Shaoyun saw the expecting expressions everyone had, and he was incredibly moved. He was also reluctant to part with them, but his master was right. The academy granted him too much comfort and too many benefits, making life too easy for him. If all the support was cut, he would have to work hard to search for his own resources.

He would encounter many setbacks, but he would be tempered well. Only then could he forge himself the physique and confidence of the strong. Thus, he had decided to leave the academy and roam the world, walking the path to his own dao.

"Everyone, calm down and listen to me," Xiang Shaoyun placated everyone before his tone turned serious. "I have really been expelled from the academy. Do not be worried over my matter. I am not destroying my future prospects. This is the start of my tempering. In the future, you will hear my name all over the world. I am a self-proclaimed overlord. I will never fail that title. I hope all of you can be the same. In the future, we will all surpass the Sovereign Realm, reaching the Heaven Battling Realm, or even higher realms."

When the Overlord Legion heard the seriousness in Xiang Shaoyun's tone, they had nothing left to say. Although they were unwilling to see him leave, they could not go against the academy's decision. And Xiang Shaoyun himself was optimistic about it and was not distressed at all, making them feel much better.

"Overlord, if you are interested, I can welcome your membership on behalf of Eastern Pass' Seven River Sect. The Seven River Sect is a top tier-7 organization. We have rich cultivation resources as well," offered one of them.

A different person said, "The Seven River Sect won't do. Overlord, you should join the Southern Wasteland's Celestial Saber Society. It is a tier-8 organization, and I am the young society master. If you join, I can let you have a free pick at all the resources we have in the society."

The others also started making their offers, hopeful that Xiang Shaoyun could join their organizations. If Xiang Shaoyun was willing to join, it would be the same as adding a valiant general to their organizations.

At this time, Han Chenfei said, "Stop wasting your time. The overlord is heroic and talented. He will definitely be able to create his own organization instead."

Tang Longfei said, "That's right. Your organizations are decent, but the overlord is not someone that will be another person's subordinate. If you still see the overlord as your leader, just give him some identity tokens the overlord can use in case he needs the help of your organizations in the future. I believe the overlord will repay you generously for your help."

"I thank everyone for the offers, but I have my own path to walk. I hope we have a chance to meet again in the future—to drink and have a good time together. That's all for now. Everyone should leave," said Xiang Shaoyun.

They knew it was pointless to continue persuading him, so they did what Tang Longfei suggested. Many of them gave Xiang Shaoyun identity tokens unique to them, informing him about their organizations. If he needed their organizations' help in the future, he only needed to open his mouth.

Xiang Shaoyun did not reject. He accepted all the identity tokens solemnly. Even if he wouldn't use them, they would still serve as reminders of a beautiful memory. The Overlord Legion members left one after another. In the end, only Ouyang Chuanqi, Han Chenfei, Tang Longfei, and Lady Shura were left.

"Overlord, what happened exactly? Can't this be reversed?" asked Han Chenfei.

Xiang Shaoyun smiled and replied, "There is no reversing this. Stop worrying about it. I hope you can work together to develop and strengthen the Overlord Legion in the future."

"You are leaving in such a carefree manner and throwing the burden to me. Do you think that is fair?" asked Ouyang Chuanqi lazily.

Ouyang Chuanqi knew that with Xiang Shaoyun's capabilities, even after leaving the academy, he could still walk a path toward becoming strong. Therefore, he wasn't too sad about Xiang Shaoyun's departure. He was merely unhappy that he was now the leader. He hated leading and preferred cultivating by himself.

"The world is unfair," said Xiang Shaoyun. "Brother Ouyang, it hasn't been easy for the Overlord Legion to reach its current status. Only you can keep everyone united. I hope you don't reject this. This is my final request. I hope you can agree to it."

Ouyang Chuanqi said, "Sure, I can agree. But you need to complete our agreement first."

"Sure, when I leave, we can have a spar at the mountains outside the academy," said Xiang Shaoyun.

"Ok. I'm leaving. Notify me when you're about to leave," said Ouyang Chuanqi as he left after waving his hand.

"Overlord, which elder is targeting you?" asked Tang Longfei.

"It's the old bastard behind Di Lin, the Mo Clan, and the Feng Clan," said Xiang Shaoyun, his eyes flickering murderously. "Big Brother Tang, remember this. After I leave, do not do anything against them. They are far from what you guys can handle. Focusing on cultivating and growing strong is the only correct path. Sooner or later, I will settle this with them."

Tang Longfei and the others remaining saw the murderous glint in Xiang Shaoyun's eyes, so they decided not to say anything else.

"Since the overlord is leaving, let's get drunk tonight. Consider this a send-off to the overlord. May he soar above the Nine Gods Dominion and reign over the world," said Zhuge Zhantian.

"Well said. That's what we should be doing," said Tang Longfei as he slapped his thigh.

Xiang Shaoyun smiled and said, "Ok. We won't stop before everyone is drunk tonight."

Numerous delicacies were arranged on the table, consisting of meat, fruits, and spiritual drinks. Everyone started drinking and feasting joyfully. They toasted Xiang Shaoyun one by one, including Han Chenfei and Lady Shura. They all greatly treasured this little time they had together.

After an indeterminate amount of time, the tipsy Han Chenfei confessed to Xiang Shaoyun, "Overlord, you are the first man to have ever caught my eyes. You will also be the last. Do not forget me. I will look for you."

"Well said. You have my support, Deputy Commander Han," Zhuge Zhantian piped in.

"A beauty like Deputy Commander Han is indeed a good match for the overlord," Tang Longfei agreed.

"Nobody knows what will happen in the future," replied Xiang Shaoyun indifferently. He looked at Lady Shura and said, "Lady Shura is my woman. I hope you guys can take care of her in the future."

He was tactfully rejecting Han Chenfei's confession.

Chapter 905: Seeing the Goldmen Again

Han Chenfei downed one bowl of liquor after another, and her face was flushed red from all the alcohol. She looked incredibly alluring, and her eyes were incredibly charming. No man would be able to stay calm after seeing her current appearance. Was Xiang Shaoyun truly so cold to reject her?

If this was in the past, Xiang Shaoyun would not mind having another woman by his side. But after the emotional stress he had suffered previously, he had been intentionally staying away from romance. He wanted to focus fully on cultivation. For matters involving the heart, he would let it all happen naturally and see if time could bring his heart out of the shackles he had built around it.

Han Chenfei was completely drunk, and anyone who saw her now would feel sympathy for her. Lady Shura couldn't bear watching her like this, so she brought her into a room to rest. As for Tang Longfei and the others, they left one after another.

Xiang Shaoyun was left alone in the courtyard. Looking at the empty courtyard, he lifted his head and gazed at the crescent moon hanging in the starry sky. An indescribable sense of loneliness welled within him.

Since young, he had been an optimistic and carefree person. He had never lacked friends. But after the betrayal of his brother and woman, he had built a mental barrier against any new people he knew. But now, in the moment of separation from the Overlord Legion, he was turning melancholy.

"All things come to an end. The separation today is for a better reunion in the future," Lady Shura's gentle voice rang out from behind him.

Xiang Shaoyun replied, "You're right. I was getting too emotional."

Lady Shura hugged him from behind and said, "No, you merely care too much for those around you, which is why you're feeling emotional. If you were cold-blooded, wouldn't you feel nothing?"

"True. Perhaps I should become colder," said Xiang Shaoyun with a sigh.

"I want to leave with you," offered Lady Shura.

"No. You're even more talented than Big Brother Tang. I hope you can one day enter the Dragon Phoenix List's top 10," Xiang Shaoyun rejected firmly.

Lady Shura had an eight-star physique. She also had the Shura Physique. With Xiang Shaoyun's help, she was now at the fifth-stage Dragon Ascension Realm. Her cultivation speed was not slow by any means, and she only lacked some fortuitous encounters. If she obtained those fortuitous encounters, her cultivation speed would only soar.

She nodded and said, "I'll listen to your arrangements."

"Um. I'll take you to one place. Cultivate there in the future. It will be much more efficient," said Xiang Shaoyun before heading toward the teleportation formation at the academy's main square.

The moment Xiang Shaoyun left the villa, the wolf guard followed behind him. Soon, they arrived at the teleportation formations connected to the nine great cultivation zones. Using a teleportation formation, they entered the Vicious Steel Mist zone.

The overseer there wanted to stop Xiang Shaoyun from using the formation, but he immediately shut his mouth when he saw the wolf guard. In the Vicious Steel Mist, Xiang Shaoyun brought Lady Shura straight to the goldmen territory.

The academy disciples did not dare to approach the goldmen territory for fear of offending the goldmen, but it was not a concern for Xiang Shaoyun. He had long befriended Prince Edoli, and the goldmen were all aware of him. As a friend of the race, he would not be hunted down.

Unsurprisingly, when Xiang Shaoyun and Lady Shura reached the border of their territory, a goldman discovered them. Instead of attacking, the goldman cheered, "Respected guest of my race, you're finally visiting again. It will be our honor to host you."

"Haha. Hello! How is Prince Edoli doing?" asked Xiang Shaoyun as he greeted the goldman that looked more like a miniature mountain.

"The prince is doing very well. He will be happy to see you. Let me show you the way," said the goldman.

His entire body was shining with a brilliant gold radiance, and he possessed an intimidating physique. Both Xiang Shaoyun and Lady Shura looked like midgets standing by his side. With a

goldman leading the way, the two entered the goldmen territory easily. They started heading toward Prince Edoli's place.

Along the way, they met a lot of goldmen. Xiang Shaoyun greeted all of them with a smile on his face, and they all responded amicably. Lady Shura was completely astonished.

It was not that she had never entered the Vicious Steel Mist before. She had even heard of disciples being killed by the goldmen after intruding into their territory in search of primegold fruits. And yet, Xiang Shaoyun was actually completely fine when he entered the goldmen territory, and he even looked very friendly with them. She couldn't understand what was happening.

Xiang Shaoyun once said that he had a decent relationship with the goldmen. At that time, Lady Shura did not think much of it, but now, she truly believed him. Traveling across the goldmen territory, she saw many gold elemental herbs and materials. This place was like a paradise for her.

Before long, they arrived at Edoli's place. The prince personally came out to greet Xiang Shaoyun when he heard of their arrival. "My dear friend, you're finally here to visit your old pal."

Edoli was much larger than a regular goldman, and his entire body shone with a majestic gold radiance, giving one an impression that this was how a true gold giant should look like. That was the truth, as Edoli had upgraded his bloodline and returned to his roots, becoming a gold giant. That was all thanks to Xiang Shaoyun's gold lunar liquid.

Back then, Edoli had offered the gold tree sapling and the Desolation mantra to trade for the liquid, and he was still filled with gratitude toward Xiang Shaoyun.

Xiang Shaoyun laughed heartily and said, "Haha, my apologies, prince. There are too many things I need to do, and I really have no choice. Am I not here now?"

"It's great to see you. Please come in. We have some catching up to do," said the friendly prince.

With his status, when Edoli welcomed guests, precious fruits and drinks would naturally be served.

Xiang Shaoyun did not hold back and started eating the spirit fruits while circulating his cultivation method to dissolve the energy in the fruit. He even invited Lady Shura to do the same, "Lady Shura, you don't have to be polite. Just eat whatever you want. This will greatly help your cultivation."

"Brother Xiang, is this your wife?" Edoli asked.

"That's right. I'm bringing her here to see you, prince. I hope she can stay in your territory and cultivate for a period of time. Are you fine with that, prince?" Xiang Shaoyun went straight to the point.

"Haha, of course I'm happy. I'm more than happy to play host. My sister-in-law is welcome to visit at any time," agreed Edoli in a carefree manner.

Chapter 906: Three Moves to Determine the Victor

Xiang Shaoyun's trip to the goldmen territory had proceeded smoothly. He managed to introduce Lady Shura to Prince Edoli, getting the prince's promise to look out for her. Moving forward, she would be able to freely cultivate here.

The goldmen territory was much better than the territory controlled by the Dragon Phoenix Academy in the Vicious Steel Mist. Moreover, many gold elemental resources grew in their territory, and it was a paradise for any gold cultivator.

Xiang Shaoyun left immediately after he was done. Lady Shura wanted to follow him back, but he insisted that she stay. In any case, he was going to leave soon. It did not matter if she stayed with him for a few more days.

She accompanied him all the way until the teleportation formation. As he was leaving, she shouted, "Overlord, you must wait for me. I will forever be yours!"

He turned around, hugged her, and gave her a long, suffocating kiss. The kiss seemed to reach for the depths of her heart, giving rise to an intense desire to give all of herself to him.

He let go of her and said, "Don't think too much about this. This is only a momentary separation. We will meet again soon."

He then entered the formation and returned to the academy with the wolfman.

Instead of returning to the academy, he visited the angels next. He met the high priest and had a short chat with the priest before leaving. Next, he headed for the Castle of Darkness. The overseers

in the academy ignored him. They knew that he was given half a month to wrap things up in the academy. Once the time was up, he would have to leave.

Many in the academy were still feeling regretful for him. Someone with such an excellent physique and had successfully fused nine powers would definitely become a top expert in the future. Nobody knew if expelling someone like that would be a boon or bane for the academy.

Xiang Shaoyun returned to the Castle of Darkness, and he could still sense the power of darkness everywhere. However, the ambient dark energy was far inferior compared with the dark origin energy in his body.

As the astral cosmos sea was slowly turning corporeal, the clump of dark origin energy in it stopped degrading, allowing him to periodically extract some of it to strengthen his dark star. He would have no lack of dark energy before reaching the Soul Foundation Realm. The clump of dark origin energy provided an energy that was much purer than what he could get from herbs and spirit crystals.

While Xiang Shaoyun was on his way to the Castle of Darkness, he encountered Xiao Xie, who had once challenged him there. Back then, Xiao Xie was a peak fifth-stage Dragon Ascension Realm cultivator. Now, he was already at the mid eighth-stage. His advancement speed was impressive, and it was obvious he had been suppressing his breakthrough before this. He had only resumed his advancement after entering the primary-grade battleground.

One should never look down on his strength as an eighth-stage Dragon Ascension Realm cultivator. Apart from him being able to punch above his weight, the black qilin serving as his mount was also a capable combatant. When the two worked together, they could unleash terrifying might. Otherwise, he wouldn't have been known as one of the freaks.

Seated atop his handsome mount, Xiao Xie asked, "Xiang Shaoyun, I heard you had been expelled?"

"That's right. I'll be leaving in a few days," answered Xiang Shaoyun.

Although the two had fought before, Xiang Shaoyun held no enmity for Xiao Xie. As far as he was concerned, their fight was merely a competition between youngsters. There was no grudge between them. In truth, that was how Xiao Xie felt as well. In fact, the two seemed to have a certain level of understanding of each other.

"Since that is the case, why don't we have a spar here and decide a victor between us?" said Xiao Xie, his battle intent surging.

Although Xiang Shaoyun had conceded during their previous fight, Xiao Xie did not consider it a win. He had a feeling that Xiang Shaoyun wasn't even trying his best. Now that Xiang Shaoyun was strong enough to fight Zhan Wushuang evenly, Xiao Xie wanted to pit himself against Xiang Shaoyun, temper himself, and see who was better.

Xiang Shaoyun hesitated slightly before answering, "Forget it. I don't have the time for that now."

He wanted the fight as well, but the matter concerning Scarlet Flame Monarch was more important. He did not want to waste any time.

"I know you're short on time. Why don't we decide the victor in three moves?" Xiao Xie proposed.

Xiang Shaoyun's eyes gleamed with a sharp glint as he agreed, "Ok. Let's end it in three moves!"

As their auras surged in preparation for battle, the disciples cultivating nearby noticed them and started observing from afar.

"It's Xiang Shaoyun and Xiao Xie in a fight. I thought Xiang Shaoyun had been expelled? Why can he still enter this place?" someone asked in confusion.

Someone else said, "Who knows. Maybe there's some other reason for this. Let's watch this fight first. Xiang Shaoyun can fight Zhan Wushuang evenly, but can he defeat Xiao Xie?"

The people there were still doubtful whether Xiang Shaoyun had truly been expelled, but more of them were more concerned about the result of the incoming battle. Neither Xiang Shaoyun nor Xiao Xie attacked first. The two freaks looked at each other, their eyes burning with an intense battle intent as though there were sparks where their gazes met.

Just because they were standing there did not mean they weren't already fighting. They were actually competing against each other with their willpower, trying to see who was the one with thicker battle intent. Only by attacking after overwhelming the opponent's battle intent would one be able to obtain victory in one move.

Xiao Xie's willpower was comparable with a second-stage Sovereign's, but when he tried to crush Xiang Shaoyun's willpower, he found that Xiang Shaoyun had boundless willpower. No matter how hard he tried, he couldn't do anything to Xiang Shaoyun.

As the two increased the intensity of their willpower, it was as though the presence of a Sovereign was sweeping through their surroundings. Pebbles flew everywhere, and dust filled the air.

"Kill!" When Xiao Xie pushed his willpower to the maximum yet still failed to do anything, he decided to start attacking. He lifted his black saber and swung it at Xiang Shaoyun.

The slash seemed capable of severing rivers, and even the space around the trajectory of his blade stilled. The slash carried with it boundless dark energy that instantly reached Xiang Shaoyun's chest, as though it was going to slit his chest with one move. This was a clean and direct slash.

Just as the attack was about to hit, Xiang Shaoyun's eyes shone brightly, as though a divine radiance was swirling within his eyes. A true dragon soared out behind him and roared, and both his arms transformed into two miniature dragons that looked incredibly formidable. The two dragons crossed each other and smashed the incoming attack into nothingness. This was the might of Xiang Shaoyun's Dragonscale Arm technique.

"Take my second slash, Severing All Life!" Xiao Xie continued immediately with his second slash. He leaped into the air, his saber intent spreading everywhere as dark radiance rippled from him and covered the sky. Finally, he brought his saber down, creating a wailing sound as though mourning the end of all life.

Chapter 907: The End of Three Moves

This was the saber technique Xiao Xie made his name with, a supreme saber technique of the Severing Saber Manor. It was rumored to be a top-tier saint technique, and as the young manor master, he was the only one allowed to cultivate it. Other ordinary members could not learn it.

The slash not only greatly amplified his strength but also contained a boundless saber intent. He had reached the second stage of the saber intent, and the black saber he wielded was one that he had nurtured since young. It had long become one with him. The man and saber was one, and they were endlessly powerful.

The disciples in the surroundings quickly retreated when they saw Xiao Xie using the technique, afraid that they would be caught up in the shockwaves. None of them were confident they could

survive the attack or even a shockwave. After all, the attack displayed the might of a second-stage Soul Foundation Realm cultivator.

Even a regular Sovereign would have a hard time withstanding this pressure. And only someone with such strength was fit to be called a freak.

Xiang Shaoyun could sense the incoming attack's dreadfulness. The Overlord Skyslaying Saber appeared in his hand, and lightning wrapped around his body as his aura surged. Silver lightning bolts shot down from the sky as a purple and silver saber energy with lightning swirling around it tore across the sky to meet the incoming slash.

River of Corpses!

It was an endlessly destructive slash powered by a second-stage saber intent and a massive amount of lightning—an attack capable of shaking the heavens. Saber energies clashed repeatedly, and shockwaves rippled everywhere. Sounds of explosions rumbled on as though an unstoppable disaster was upon the world.

After a series of intense collisions, the black saber energy gained the upper hand and shattered the lightning saber energy before heading straight for Xiang Shaoyun's head.

Xiao Xie had thought that he could defeat Xiang Shaoyun with his attack, but his slash struck nothing, leaving only a deep split in the ground. Meanwhile, Xiang Shaoyun was standing to the side and was completely unharmed.

"With the power of a single star, it is hard to defeat the power mustered by multiple stars," said Xiang Shaoyun with a self-mocking laugh.

"Be that as it may, stopping me with only one star when I'm using 90 percent of my strength is extremely impressive. The remaining 10 percent I'm holding back won't change a thing," said Xiao Xie bitterly. He had never imagined that Xiang Shaoyun would be so terrifyingly strong even when using only one star.

"One last move. Bring it on," said Xiang Shaoyun, who did not wish to waste more time.

"Alright. This time, I will attack together with my brother, Darkstorm. Prepare yourself," said Xiao Xie.

Next, both he and the black qilin released a powerful burst of dark energy. The energy fused, as though the two had become one. The combination of their strength achieved a multiplicative, not additive, effect in strength, and it released a power much stronger than the joint sum of their prowess.

Human mount unity, Qilin Kill!

Xiao Xie and the black qilin transformed into a black streak that shot toward Xiang Shaoyun at an unimaginable speed. A dark domain formed around them, locking in Xiang Shaoyun. Qilin roars rang in the air, and saber energies soared to the sky. The attack was far beyond the previous attack, causing the area around them to darken.

The attack gave Xiang Shaoyun a sense of familiarity. Back at the Devil Domain, Yu Caidie once fused with her phoenix as well. At that time, she unleashed a terrifying killing technique that had allowed her to slay an Emperor as a King.

And now, Xiao Xie and his black qilin were doing the same. They went beyond the strength of a second-stage Sovereign, nearly reaching the level of a regular fourth-stage Sovereign. It was a terrifying leap of strength and put him at a similar level to the top five freaks.

As Xiao Xie had always maintained a low profile among the disciples, his ranking was rather low. Perhaps today was the first time he had displayed his true strength. Facing the attack, Xiang Shaoyun did not opt to use the Cosmos Dao Destroying Fist. Instead, he used his newly gained Lightning Calamity Fiery Star, a technique no weaker than the Cosmos Dao Destroying Fist.

The lightning star within him bloomed with power, and his lightning bone shook. At the same time, his flame star erupted like a volcano as Yun Flame burned furiously. The powers of the two stars converged and compressed within him, becoming a power of flame and lightning that abruptly erupted from his body.

Lightning bolts raged like dragons and wrecked their surroundings as if a lightning tribulation descending upon the world. The air around them burned, forming astral flame that streaked across the air like a rain of meteors on a mission to destroy the world.

This was a dreadful might capable of destroying nature itself, and the nearby disciples paled from fright.

"What technique is this? Why is it so scary?" someone exclaimed in alarm.

The two techniques clashed. It was akin to a collision of stars. A massive shockwave erupted from the point of collision, and ripples of energy spread everywhere. The ground beneath them cracked while the nearby stones turned into powder. The ear-splitting rumble that came next was unbearable.

The two attacks contended with each other for a while before the explosions weakened. The lightning tribulation receded, the flames extinguished, the saber energies vanished, the qilin wailed, and the darkness dissipated. The third exchange had come to an end.

Xiang Shaoyun and Xiao Xie separated from each other, and Xiao Xie had also separated from the black qilin. All of them looked unharmed, and the onlookers could see who the victor was.

"Goodbye," said Xiang Shaoyun calmly before resuming his journey to the Castle of Darkness.

Staring at Xiang Shaoyun's departing figure, Xiao Xie sighed, "I lost."

That's right. Xiao Xie had lost the fight. He looked unharmed, but he had attacked with his black qilin under the human mount unity state. Even then, he had been forced to separate from his mount.

That proved that Xiang Shaoyun had been holding back. If he had concentrated on attacking instead of separating, they wouldn't have been able to stop him at all. Thus, they had lost.

More importantly, Xiao Xie still sensed that Xiang Shaoyun was withholding his power. That was why he had wholeheartedly accepted his defeat. The surrounding disciples sighed when they heard Xiao Xie's admission of defeat.

"That Xiang Shaoyun is truly a freak. He is still so young yet so strong. He is most certainly going to enter the Heaven Battling Realm in the future."

"Xiao Xie and the black qilin have the same cultivation level, and their fusion is capable of easily killing Sovereigns. However, Xiang Shaoyun had broken that very technique. Xiang Shaoyun really is stunningly talented in combat."

"He was using the powers of flame and lightning, right? Has he reached a point where he can freely mix and match his different powers? If that is the case, he is even more terrifying than we'd thought."

"If he continues growing, he will reach the level of Baili Yixiao before long. What a pity that he has been expelled."

Chapter 908: Entering the Castle Forcefully

The Castle of Darkness was made up of no fewer than 100 palace halls, and Xiang Shaoyun's goal was the main hall. Previously, he was forced into the Castle of Darkness by the three villains and encountered Scarlet Flame Monarch by pure luck. And now, he was back to try free Scarlet Flame Monarch.

When he arrived before the main hall, numerous dark bats were flying about, completely surrounding the building. Not even a peak Emperor would dare to approach in this situation, as Sovereign bats, which possessed formidable combat strength, existed here as well.

Xiang Shaoyun showed no fear when facing the bats. He strode straight toward the entrance, as though he was ignoring all the bats.

The dark bats noticed him, and dozens of them shrieked. Powers of hypnosis rippled out of their black eyes as they launched their attacks toward his eyes and ears. He only needed to blank out for a single moment for the bats to move in and tear him into pieces. This was their usual attacking method. It was extremely effective, especially against cultivators that were inexperienced in dealing with them.

Xiang Shaoyun was strong enough to completely disregard the attacks. He continued onward, and finally, the bats pounced on him. He sent several punches out, blasting the bats into pieces one after another.

But in doing so, he had poked a proverbial hornet's nest. Numerous dark bats charged him, with Emperor Realm bats among them. Not only were they attacking him with sound and vision attacks, but they were also clawing and spitting dark energy attacks at him. He was completely surrounded on all sides, and it did not look like he had a way of avoiding them.

Xiang Shaoyun focused on the bats as his aura started rising. A roaring white tiger materialized behind him, emanating the dreadful aura of a king of beasts as it overlooked them. The disdain in its

eyes seemed to be saying that the bats were the lowest of the low, completely incapable of posing any threat to it.

"Scram!"

A tiger's roar escaped Xiang Shaoyun's mouth; the sound wave rumbled forth like a thunderclap. It contained the power of an unrivaled Emperor that nobody dared to disobey. The bats were unable to withstand such a terrifying tiger's roar and started dropping from the sky one after another.

Stepping over their bodies, Xiang Shaoyun strode into the main hall. He knew that the truly strong bats had yet to show themselves. Sure enough, when he entered, seven late-stage Demon Emperor bats flew out.

"All human intruders are to be killed!" shouted one of them with a hoarse voice. It raked at Xiang Shaoyun with its sharp claws.

The other bats naturally wouldn't spare Xiang Shaoyun either. They all attacked, their combined strength enough to kill a peak Emperor. Xiang Shaoyun moved around with the Overlord's Nine Nether Steps while using the Raging Skyburn Palm repeatedly.

His palm was akin to a collapsing sky, and his flame energy was akin to a sea of fire that raged in all directions. The seven Demon Emperors were so frightened they started screeching. Two of them were immediately killed, their cores harvested. The current Xiang Shaoyun was no longer an opponent any Emperor could hope to match.

"Brazen human, you dare kill the juniors of my race? I'll eat you!" threatened a Demon Sovereign. A black humanoid figure flew out and stabbed Xiang Shaoyun with the trident in his hand.

Dark energy rippled out and turned their surroundings into complete darkness. The Demon Sovereign then made use of the opportunity presented by the absolute darkness and continued stabbing at Xiang Shaoyun.

Compared with a Demon Emperor, the Demon Sovereign was on a whole different level. The attack was fast and accurate, carrying behind it a dreadful might that could easily kill any Emperor.

Little did the Demon Sovereign know, Xiang Shaoyun could see in the dark. He saw clearly the incoming stab, and before the attack could land, he moved away with Phantom Shift. He launched

an attack of his own with yet another Raging Skyburn Palm. Each palm of his hit like a volcanic eruption, burning and causing the Demon Sovereign to shriek in pain.

Xiang Shaoyun was using only one of his stars, but with the assistance of Yun Flame and flame profundity, he was able to threaten even a first-stage Demon Sovereign.

The Demon Sovereign tried to strike back, but fire happened to be its weakness. Thus, he was forced to transform back into his bat form and used his sound attacks instead. At the same time, his eyes rippled with waves of hypnosis power far stronger than anything the other bats were capable of.

Xiang Shaoyun was prepared. He had a filthless soul, and his soul power was stronger than an ordinary Sovereign's. The Demon Sovereign was unable to harm him, and Xiang Shaoyun countered with a tiger's roar before flickering around like a specter. He rained fiery palms upon the bat.

The palms came without end, striking the Demon Sovereign to the point where he couldn't react at all. Ultimately, he was burned into ashes. After harvesting the core, Xiang Shaoyun continued onward.

There was definitely more than one Demon Sovereign here. They were all glaring at Xiang Shaoyun furiously. If he dared to continue further, they would attack as well.

Xiang Shaoyun thought to himself, If I had refined the Noble Glazed Flame, I could easily kill all of these bats.

Whoosh! Whoosh!

The Demon Sovereigns did not dare to approach him, and they started shrieking, sending waves of sound attacks toward him, aiming for his soul. This was an unstoppable attack. Even if Xiang Shaoyun shut his eyes and ears, he still wouldn't be able to stop it. Fortunately, his very soul was protected, or that attack would have been his end.

"Get lost, or I'll kill every single one of you," threatened Xiang Shaoyun.

He seemed to have transformed into a barbaric dragon as he hurled his fists out. Dense battle intent surged from him as his fist intent shot out. His unequaled fists seemed to be everywhere, leaving no space for the bats to hide.

The Demon Sovereigns were no weaklings, but when they sensed his alarming fist intent, they cowered. They realized that if they continued standing in his way, they would die. Thus, they started retreating while defending against the punches.

Xiang Shaoyun did not intend to kill all of them. After all, leaving them here would be the same as leaving some free guards for the place. He still had something he needed to do here.

The elder stationed at the castle, Yu Yuchen, saw everything clearly. His eyes flashed with a thick murderous intent as he said, "Only two short years have passed, but he has already grown this much. I can't let this kid continue living."

He then charged toward the main hall.

Chapter 909: Can You Be More Shameless?

After entering the main hall, no dark bats dared to approach anymore because a powerful human was locked inside. The moment they approached, they would turn into that human's food.

Xiang Shaoyun's plan was to call out to Scarlet Flame Monarch and have himself pulled into the underground room after entering the hall. But a sudden sense of crisis gripped him, and he remained silent.

The sense of crisis originated from the instinct he developed after years of threading on the edge of death, a natural instinct of his body that gave him a bad premonition. Without any hesitation, he put the Radiant Saint Armor on to guard against anything that might happen.

At the same time, he maximized the senses of his Nether Soul Domain, paying close attention to his surroundings, leaving no stones unturned. He could feel that the sense of danger did not originate from Scarlet Flame Monarch.

Whoosh!

A figure silently appeared before him. It was none other than Yu Yuchen, the elder in charge of the Castle of Darkness. When Xiang Shaoyun saw the elder, his pupils shrank as fury rose within him. He recalled that when he was leaving the Castle of Darkness previously, he was injured by this very Yu Yuchen and was nearly killed.

He had never forgotten this grudge. He did not plan to seek revenge before he had enough strength, but here this person was, looking for him again.

"I thought you were expelled. What are you doing here?" questioned Yu Yuchen with a displeased expression.

When his gaze landed on the Radiant Saint Armor, greed filled his eyes.

"I still have a few days left, so I decided to come train here for a bit. What's the issue with that?" answered Xiang Shaoyun calmly.

He had entered together with the wolf guard, but the wolf guard had vanished during his fight with Xiao Xie. He believed the wolf guard was probably protecting him in the dark. If Yu Yuchen dared to try anything, the wolf guard would not sit still.

"You are no longer a disciple of the academy. It is taboo for you to enter this place. Get lost immediately," berated Yu Yuchen, showing no respect whatsoever. "Before you leave, take off your armor. It is not something a puny Emperor like you can possess. You must have stolen it from the academy."

One ought to admit that Yu Yuchen was truly shameless for him to fabricate such an unreasonable excuse.

Xiang Shaoyun clenched his teeth and said, "Old bastard, how shameless can you be?"

Xiang Shaoyun wasn't initially planning to fully turn on this elder, but the elder left him with no choice.

"Audacious! You dare insult this elder? I'll cripple you right now and throw you into the basement. You will be imprisoned there until your death," shouted Yu Yuchen furiously.

Xiang Shaoyun quickly shouted, "Wolf guard, what are you still waiting for?"

"There's a helper?" Yu Yuchen frowned and was immediately on alert. However, he found nothing.

Xiang Shaoyun was stunned as well. The wolf guard was still hidden. What was going on here?

"Young master, Master said that if you want to rescue the person here, you have to rely on yourself," the wolf guard's voice trailed into Xiang Shaoyun's ears.

Xiang Shaoyun instantly understood why the wolf guard wasn't helping him. So it was actually his master's intention. He smiled helplessly and said, "This is an elder. No matter how good I am, I won't be able to contend against him."

Despite saying that, Xiang Shaoyun would not sit back and wait for death. He activated his bloodline talent and went invisible the moment Yu Yuchen was distracted. He then rushed for the entrance to the basement.

Yu Yuchen found that he had been fooled, but he could do nothing but watch on as Xiang Shaoyun vanished right in front of his eyes. He was shocked as he thought, Is the kid's armor also capable of invisibility? What a treasure!

At that thought, he channeled his energy outward and locked the entire hall down. Even if Xiang Shaoyun was invisible, he wouldn't be able to escape. One ought to say that Yu Yuchen was quite crafty himself, not giving Xiang Shaoyun any opportunity to escape.

"Kid, so what if you're invisible? The whole place is under my restriction. You won't be able to escape. Just show yourself obediently, and I'll let you live. Otherwise, the moment I released my presence as a Saint, you will be crushed into pieces. Don't blame me as merciless when I do," said Yu Yuchen with a confident smile.

He was speaking the truth. As a Heaven Battling Realm expert, he could easily crush a Dragon Ascension Realm cultivator into pieces.

"Scarlet Flame Monarch, help me!" Xiang Shaoyun transmitted.

Scarlet Flame Monarch was locked in the basement. He had been dying, but after Xiang Shaoyun's previous visit, many spiritual treasures had been left behind. Those treasures weren't too effective considering Scarlet Flame Monarch's realm, but they still helped alleviate the pressure he faced and allowed him to retain a tiny portion of his strength.

The moment Xiang Shaoyun entered the hall, Scarlet Flame Monarch had noticed him. At the same time, he had also sensed Yu Yuchen as well, which was why he had not done anything. He was accumulating power silently, waiting for a chance to finish Yu Yuchen with one strike. He wanted to save Xiang Shaoyun and kill Yu Yuchen in one fell swoop.

Scarlet Flame Monarch did not hear the voice transmission as the basement was also restricted by seals and Xiang Shaoyun was too weak. Thus, Scarlet Flame Monarch stayed put and was still waiting for an opportunity to strike.

"I'll count to three. If you don't show yourself, die," threatened Yu Yuchen murderously.

"Three.

"Two.

"One.

"Since you don't treasure the opportunity I gave you, die," said Yu Yuchen with a frown. He prepared to unleash his presence and crush Xiang Shaoyun to death.

"You are the one who will die." Xiang Shaoyun had silently arrived beside Yu Yuchen. He slashed his Radiant Saint Sword mercilessly.

Yu Yuchen was a Saint. He was able to immediately sense the energy undulation behind him. Without a second thought, he slammed his hand backward. The hand of a Saint was enough to crush any lower-leveled weapon.

But when his hand came in contact with the weapon, he had a bad premonition. He immediately sent out a burst of Saint-level energy, pushing Xiang Shaoyun's weapon out of the way.

Xiang Shaoyun coughed up a mouthful of blood as he was sent flying away. His saint weapon was blasted out of his hand, and he had clearly suffered a heavy injury from Yu Yuchen's energy blast.

"What a sharp saint weapon. Although it is not a dark elemental weapon, I can still sell it. Little bastard, you're quite rich, aren't you? Just wait until I kill you. I will properly search you for more treasures," said Yu Yuchen as he looked at the Radiant Saint Sword on the ground in excitement.

Just as he was about to kill Xiang Shaoyun, the person in the basement made his move.

Chapter 910: Killing a Saint

"You bastard. You better make sure you kill me, or I will kill you!" roared Xiang Shaoyun indignantly.

Since Scarlet Flame Monarch had not helped him, he assumed that Scarlet Flame Monarch was probably too weak to do anything.

"Keep shouting. I will break every bone in your body one by one before extracting your soul, preserving it, and slowly torturing it. You will never enter the circle of reincarnation," said Yu Yuchen, finally letting his true colors show.

He then reached for Xiang Shaoyun, preparing to properly ready Xiang Shaoyun for death. Xiang Shaoyun felt a mighty power restrict his entire body. No matter how he struggled, he couldn't break free.

"Bastard! What are you still waiting for, Scarlet Flame Monarch?" Xiang Shaoyun roared.

"Keep shouting. Nobody can help you!" said Yu Yuchen smugly.

In the basement, Scarlet Flame Monarch still had the tough chains around him. He was unable to break free, and his body was greatly weakened. He did not have much strength left. However, he was still once a peak Heaven Battling Realm expert. His combat strength was heaven-defying, and even with a tiny bit of strength left, he could easily destroy regular Heaven Battling Realm cultivators.

He stirred his final bit of remaining strength, and a powerful absorption force erupted. The power surrounded both Xiang Shaoyun and Yu Yuchen.

When Yu Yuchen sensed the force, his hair stood on end as he cried out in alarm, "The person suppressed here is still alive!"

Intense fear gripped him, and he decided to leave, as a calamity would befall him otherwise. He did not know who the person suppressed here was, but he knew that person was an unrivaled demon king that was crazily powerful.

A previous generation elder who was once stationed here told him not to approach this place unless absolutely necessary. Little did he expect that he would actually attract the attention of the imprisoned demon king.

As Scarlet Flame Monarch had been preparing for this attack for a long time, he would not allow Yu Yuchen to escape. His energy was completely focused on Yu Yuchen and Xiang Shaoyun, and he dragged both of them into the basement.

Yu Yuchen was in fear. He used all his strength, sending all his saint energy out while his saint bones crackled repeatedly. His forehead shone with a divine radiance as he adjusted his mental state to the optimal condition, trying to break free and escape.

But before he could break away, a chain wrapped around his neck. It was a top-tier saint chain. Even regular saint weapons couldn't break it. Yu Yuchen could feel death approaching, and he roared inwardly, I don't want to die here!

Alas, many things in life would turn out contrary to how one wished. Things wouldn't happen just because he wished for them to happen. His head was wrung off his body before a powerful force crushed his head into mincemeat, not giving his saint soul any chance of survival.

And just like that, a mighty Heaven Battling Realm expert was killed. The first thing Xiang Shaoyun saw in the basement was Scarlet Flame Monarch, who looked like a furious and mighty fiend with nine chains around him. His current image did not quite match his frail and wizened body.

"Well killed," said Xiang Shaoyun.

Without Scarlet Flame Monarch's assistance, he would have died under Yu Yuchen's hands. Right after he said that, Scarlet Flame Monarch's aura receded, and Scarlet Flame Monarch collapsed as though he had exhausted all his strength.

Xiang Shaoyun hurried over and held Scarlet Flame Monarch, preventing him from falling. Sensing Scarlet Flame Monarch's weakness, Xiang Shaoyun immediately fed him some spirit liquid and herbs. Scarlet Flame Monarch opened his mouth and hungrily devoured the liquid and herbs.

"I need spirit crystals," said Scarlet Flame Monarch weakly.

Xiang Shaoyun hurriedly took out a large number of spirit crystals and piled them up before Scarlet Flame Monarch.

With a single inhalation, over 100,000 spirit crystals transformed into a clump of energy that flowed into his nostrils. In the blink of an eye, over 100,000 spirit crystals vanished. Without any hesitation, Xiang Shaoyun took out a few hundred thousand more spirit crystals. So long as Scarlet Flame Monarch recovered, these spirit crystals were a small price to pay.

Scarlet Flame Monarch did not hold back and absorbed all the spirit crystals offered. Even so, they were still far from enough for him to fully recover. He had only regained a tiny portion of his strength. After all, at his level, only saint-grade crystals could satisfy his requirement.

Xiang Shaoyun had some, but the saint crystals in his possession weren't of the flame element and wouldn't be helpful for Scarlet Flame Monarch. However, this did not mean there was nothing Xiang Shaoyun could do. He took out the Noble Glazed Flame and said, "I have a clump of unique flame here. It will be able to recover a little bit of your strength."

Scarlet Flame Monarch opened his eyes to look at the flame. Without any hesitation, he opened his mouth and devoured it. Xiang Shaoyun had obtained the flame after defeating a Sovereign overseer. It was of a higher grade than Yun Flame, and he had initially planned to use it himself. But he had no choice but to prioritize Scarlet Flame Monarch's recovery.

After devouring the flame, Scarlet Flame Monarch's aura started rising. His wizened body regained some color, and there seemed to be more strength in his body now.

As Xiang Shaoyun looked at Scarlet Flame Monarch, some scenes flashed through his mind. In the scenes, a handsome and tall red-haired young man was waging wars everywhere atop a fiery lion, killing the experts of the various races. The youth was so high-spirited and seemed unstoppable.

It lasted until a day when a purple-haired youth appeared and defeated the red-haired youth with only 10 moves. The red-haired youth was indignant, so the purple-haired youth released him and agreed to a rematch.

Their second fight happened three years later. The purple-haired youth defeated the red-haired youth with 10 moves again. The red-haired youth was still indignant, and the purple-haired youth released him again. He showed no fear toward any sort of reprisals.

Their third fight happened 10 years later. Once again, the red-haired youth defeated the purple-haired youth with 10 moves. This time, the red-haired youth had no choice but to admit his defeat. He also decided to become the purple-haired youth's follower, fighting the world together.

After a long while, Scarlet Flame Monarch opened his eyes and said, "Age is catching up with me. I'm slowly becoming useless."

"No matter how old you are, you're a brother of this overlord. I still hope to fight the world with you by my side," said Xiang Shaoyun, his eyes shining brightly.

The purple-haired youth and the red-haired youth in his mind were none other than the previous him and Scarlet Flame Monarch. They knew each other through fights and had ultimately become brothers.