

Overlord 91

Chapter 91: Broken Saber

Along with the rumbling sound, the coffin exploded, causing the coffin's formation to immediately activate.

Swish! Swish!

This formation actually had the strength equivalent to a King Realm cultivator. It immediately bounced Xiang Shaoyun away. He coughed a mouthful of blood as he flew away, feeling as if his organs were all going to explode. Fortunately, the purple energy flowing from his lightning bone into his arm had blocked a portion of the formation's power. Otherwise, he would have been killed right then.

But right this moment, something seemed to have escaped the coffin, attempting to escape the formation as well.

The layer of formation rippled repeatedly as it tried stopping that object from escaping. But the power contained within that object was too overbearing. The formation was only able to slow it down for a bit before it tore through the formation. Xiang Shaoyun was lying on the ground when he saw the object. His eyes lit up.

A broken saber was hovering in the air, layers of purple lightning energy rippling on its surface. The saber seemed to be wallowing in sorrow and calling out to something.

The saber had a short handle and a long blade forged of beast bones. Its handle was shaped like a tiger while its blade was shaped like a dragon. The entire saber emanated a crude and antiquated feeling.

If it wasn't for the fact that the saber was badly damaged, it would be a perfect saber. At this moment, the purple lightning bone within Xiang Shaoyun started shining with a purple radiance again as it established a faint connection with the saber. Unfortunately, the saber was so badly damaged that the lightning energy soon faded. The saber fell from the air.

Clang!

A crisp sound rang out as the saber hit the ground. Xiang Shaoyun ignored his injury. He forced himself back on his feet and walked over to pick up the saber. The moment he wrapped his hand around the saber, his lightning bone started channeling a gentle energy into the saber, forming some sort of resonance between Xiang Shaoyun and the saber.

Right as Xiang Shaoyun was about to sink himself into this sensation, he heard the stone palace's door open. Yang Gaochuan's anxious voice rang out, "Xiang Shaoyun, are you fine?"

"Me? I'm fine," Xiang Shaoyun replied. After he replied, Yang Gaochuan arrived in the room. His gaze first landed at Xiang Shaoyun before shifting to the saber. The sight of the saber filled his face with astonishment. "This...is this the broken sword of the unnamed cultivator?"

He then looked at the coffin only to find that the coffin had been broken, revealing a skeleton's frame. His expressions shifted multiple times as he did not know what to say.

Xiang Shaoyun smiled helplessly and said, "I don't know why it came out either. But I can feel that this blade is my gain from this room. Palace master, please allow me to keep it."

Yang Gaochuan hesitated slightly before sighing, "This is truly unexpected. Many years ago, it was judged that this blade was completely damaged. Even if it is reforged, it will only be a tier-3 weapon. Thus, it was buried together with the corpse as a funerary object as a sign of our respects to the unnamed cultivator. Surprisingly, you were actually able to attract the saber out of the coffin. This must be the workings of fate itself."

"So, palace master, do you mean I can keep this saber?" Xiang Shaoyun asked joyfully.

"Yes. There's no point keeping the saber here anyway." Yang Gaochuan nodded. He then continued solemnly, "This might be a top quality king weapon. Although it is already badly damaged, it is a weapon once basked in glory. I hope you will be able to one day bask in glory with this saber as well. Win glory for the Martial Hall Palace and enter the top 10 during the Battle of Towns. Otherwise, your ownership of the saber will be an insult to this weapon."

"Don't worry, palace master. I will complete the mission," Xiang Shaoyun promised solemnly.

But right after he said those words, he had a feeling he had been led on. Yes, this was a saber with an extraordinary origin. But it was nothing but a damaged weapon now. Entering the top 10 with this weapon? That did not seem like a realistic expectation. But he had already promised, and he

wasn't one to go back on his words. For any other person, this saber was nothing but a broken weapon. But for Xiang Shaoyun, it might yet be an extraordinary weapon.

"Alright, since you have obtained your inheritance, leave. I will get someone to clean up the place. Remember to never tell anyone any of this," Yang Gaochuan said.

Xiang Shaoyun did not hesitate as he dragged his injured body out of the stone palace. As he walked, he refined a healing pill stored in his astral cosmos sea. Immediately, the medical efficacy started nurturing his inner organs, and a comfortable sensation spread through his body.

The astral cosmos sea was not only able to be used as a storage space, but one could also use any item stored in it with a single thought. That was why he did not need to take out the healing pill in his astral cosmos sea to physically consume it. Instead, he could directly use it while it was still inside his astral cosmos sea. It would save a lot of time when he was in a rush.

After leaving the stone palace, Xiang Shaoyun stored the saber into his astral cosmos sea. Since he now had a storage space of two square meters, it wouldn't be hard to store the saber inside. But after right after he stored the saber, he sensed energy channeling out of his lightning bone in his spine.

Faint strains of pure purple energy were being channeled into the astral cosmos sea. To be precise, the strains of energy were streaming toward the saber. The saber reacted as it glowed once again. After accepting the strains of purple energy, the blade of the saber became sharper, as if it had been reborn.

At the same time, Xiang Shaoyun sensed a connection forming between him and the saber. But for now, he did not have any time to think too deeply into it. He was heading quickly back to his residence.

But while he was en route, Gong Qinyin suddenly appeared on a snow lion. An arrow was shot into the ground right in front of his feet. If Xiang Shaoyun hadn't stopped in time, the arrow would have struck his head instead. He was infuriated at the realization.

He glared at Gong Qinyin and shouted, "Are you trying to murder me? Crazy woman, do you think I won't dare to execute you right here?"

Gong Qinyin gazed at him indifferently. "You still owe me one. I will have my revenge one day."

"One day? Why wait? Let's settle our grudge right here!" Xiang Shaoyun shouted as he strode toward Gong Qinyin. He looked like he was really planning to execute Gong Qinyin on the spot. Gong Qinyin drew her sword and entered a battle-ready stance.

"Howl!"

The snow lion roared viciously.

"You crazy woman, what did I do apart from seeing you naked once? Here, let me show you my body as well!" Two meters away from Gong Qinyin, Xiang Shaoyun stopped and started stripping.

It completely stunned Gong Qinyin.

Chapter 92: The Invulnerability of the Shameless

There were a lot of shameless people in this world, but this was Gong Qinyin's first time seeing someone as shameless as Xiang Shaoyun. He advanced at her so aggressively as if he was going to attack, but he instead started stripping in broad daylight.

This action would even be considered an insult to many cultivators. It was as if he was completely abandoning his status as a cultivator. Was this really someone who had broken through consecutive limit room challenges, the one who had left his mark in history? He looked more like a shameless scoundrel!

"Come on! Feast your eyes upon my naked body! After this, we are even. Stop bothering me in the future!" Xiang Shaoyun yelled with his upper body bared. His expression was of someone who was ready to give up everything.

"Y-you shameless scoundrel!" Gong Qinyin was so infuriated she started shaking. She did not dare to look straight at him anymore. This was a rather busy area with many overseers and disciples going about their daily activities. Before long, everyone was looking at the two.

"What's happening there? Isn't that the number one beauty of Martial Hall Palace, Gong Qinyin? And isn't the half-naked guy the self-proclaimed overlord Xiang Shaoyun?"

"Yes, it's them. What are they doing? Are they going at it under broad daylight?"

"Hey, don't spread rumors. Gong Qinyin is my goddess. She wouldn't do something like that. That little overlord is definitely the one being shameless here."

"Shit, is he harassing our goddess? Come on, let's go closer. If he really dares to harass our goddess, I won't spare him!"

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And thus, a large crowd formed around them. Xiang Shaoyun did not care. With his gaze still on Gong Qinyin, he said, "What? Are you not satisfied with this? Fine, I'll take off my pants as well..."

"Bastard! I won't forgive you!" Gong Qinyin berated with a blush on her face.

She raised her sword and charged Xiang Shaoyun.

"It's off!" Xiang Shaoyun yelled as he started taking off his pants right there.

It scared Gong Qinyin so much she nearly fell off her mount.

"Leave!" Gong Qinyin said to the snow lion. Hearing the command, the snow lion stopped advancing and turned to leave.

After a while, Gong Qinyin's voice rang out from afar, "Xiang Shaoyun, I will kill you sooner or later!"

"Haha, sure, sure, come kill me if you can! I am here waiting for you naked at all times!" Xiang Shaoyun laughed heartily. He hadn't actually taken his pants off. He was merely acting out the motions, but surprisingly, he was really able to scare her off with that.

"Ahhh. Stripping is truly an extremely effective divine technique," Xiang Shaoyun gleefully muttered to himself.

At times, the shameless could be invulnerable.

Only then did he notice that numerous pairs of furious eyes were glaring at him.

"Oh...you guys...stop staring at me like that. I am totally straight and am not interested in guys," Xiang Shaoyun said as he quickly put his clothes back on.

When the crowd heard him, they became even more infuriated.

"Everyone, charge! We will teach him a lesson for humiliating our goddess!" roared someone who finally couldn't hold in his anger anymore. The shout provoked the crowd, and they charged Xiang Shaoyun.

"Hey, hey, come on. We can always talk it out. It is rude to bully others with numbers," Xiang Shaoyun cried out in alarm before fleeing.

With his Overlord's Nine Nether Steps, Xiang Shaoyun was as fast as a late-stage Astral Realm cultivator. Thus, not many people could keep up with him. In any case, those people weren't really trying to kill him. Thus, Xiang Shaoyun safely arrived at his residence shortly after.

"A woman can be scarily powerful, especially a beautiful woman. I really can't afford to provoke one," Xiang Shaoyun muttered as he patted his chest in fear.

Elder Zhen Peng appeared beside him and asked, "Young master, have you encountered some sort of trouble?"

Elder Zhen Peng had been recently focused on training the battle technique Xiang Shaoyun had given him. Thus, he wasn't sticking to Xiang Shaoyun all the time while in the Martial Hall Palace.

Xiang Shaoyun waved his hand and said, "I'm good, don't worry. I went to the Martial Palace and got myself injured. That's all. But I've also gotten some nice gains from that place."

"You went to the Martial Palace?" Elder Zhen Peng cried out in astonishment. He continued, "True, the Battle of Towns is starting soon. You are heroic and talented. It is only natural for the palace master to open the Martial Palace for you. Looks like you have profited from this trip, young master."

"Only a little bit. Nothing worth mentioning. I'm going into a short seclusion now. Find me a place where lightning congregates. I need it for something," Xiang Shaoyun said before heading into his private cultivation room.

This time, he planned to consolidate his new gains from the Martial Palace and to further comprehend the essences of what he learned from the inheritance intents. The gust of wind he gained signified speed, and it could help him improve his mastery over the Overlord's Nine Nether Steps by at least 30 percent.

The Overlord's Nine Nether Steps was top-tier footwork, and he had only mastered a tiny part of it. So far, he had yet to touch upon the essence of the technique. Wind had always represented speed, and footwork techniques had always focused on speed as well. Thus, by combining the two, he would be able to further increase his speed.

Xiang Shaoyun started meditating on the gust of wind, sensing the shapelessness, quickness, and destructiveness of the wind. Slowly, he increased his understanding of wind, until he eventually fully comprehended this gust of wind.

Abruptly, he stood up and started walking around the room with mystical footwork. One step, two steps, three steps...the more he walked, the faster he became, until eventually only numerous afterimages could be seen in the room.

After a long while, he stopped. A faint smile formed on his face as he muttered, "Not bad. So long as one manages to capture the inheritance intent, one can easily comprehend what's in it. Now, I can unleash 30 percent of its might. After entering the Transformation Realm in the future, with the solidified astral energy, I will be able to unleash 70 percent of its might. And after entering the King Realm, I will be able to gain even more comprehension of the power of wind."

Xiang Shaoyun then calmed his mind and started meditating on the other inheritance intent, the one with an incomparable tenacity. It was an amazing feat to step into the King Realm with only an average talent in cultivation.

In Xiang Shaoyun's mind, scenes of the King Realm cultivator continuing to fight in spite of all setbacks appeared. He watched on as the cultivator, with an unyielding spirit that everyone should learn from, worked harder than everyone else.

As the saying goes, not one King Realm was reached through fluke.

So long as one was willing to put in the work, anything was possible. Xiang Shaoyun understood that he was still not cultivating hard enough. If he could cultivate as hard as that cultivator, he would be able to reach an even higher height.

At this thought, he vowed to work even harder from now on. Finally, he took out the saber from his astral cosmos sea. He studied the saber meticulously before noticing that the words "Overlord Skyslaying Saber" were carved on it.

"What a fine Overlord Skyslaying Saber! Is this the weapon of a peak King Realm cultivator? No, that's not likely." Xiang Shaoyun stroked the uneven surface of the saber as he muttered to himself.

Even though this saber was now a badly damaged saber, he had a clear sensation that this would be the saber in which he battled the world in the future. When he dripped a drop of blood on the saber, the saber started transforming.

Chapter 93: Nine Overlord Skyslaying Saber Technique

Owner recognition through blood.

High leveled weapons had a spirit within, and if the owner wanted to establish an intimate relationship with a high leveled weapon, the owner would have to use a drop of blood to form a resonance with the weapon. Only then would the weapon be akin to an extension of the owner's body. After the drop of blood dripped onto the saber, the saber shone with a dazzling purple radiance. Roars of a tiger and a dragon faintly rang in the air.

"Roar! Roar!"

Tigers and dragons were kings of beasts, and as the roars rang, the blade emitted an imposing aura that caused one's heart to palpitate. Purple lightning crackled around the dragon and tiger, and apart from the thick kingly aura, they were also emitting an extremely overbearing sensation, displaying just how powerful the spirit of this weapon was.

While Xiang Shaoyun was in shock at what he saw, the dragon and tiger pounced on him. Before he could react, the dragon and tiger were already upon him; their imposing presence stunned him right where he stood. A regular person would not be able to endure such an imposing aura.

Even if Xiang Shaoyun was a natural born king, the presence of the dragon and tiger still gave him a suffocating sensation. It was as if the dragon and tiger would immediately tear him to pieces the moment he relaxed his own presence.

Facing the terrifying pressure emitted by the saber, Xiang Shaoyun's presence did not weaken. Instead, it provoked the desire to conquer within him. His nine stars erupted like nine volcanoes, his presence rising to the peak. Looking straight at the dragon and tiger, he berated, "Before this overlord, even dragons and tigers need to bow! I am your master!"

As he said that, his aura rose steadily, all the way to the point comparable to an eighth-stage Astral Realm cultivator. Purple energy flowed out from his lightning bone and shrouded his body with strains of purple lightning that coiled around his body like dragons.

As of this moment, Xiang Shaoyun was akin to the king of the universe that all must obey. This was a sign that his presence of a king was growing again. His unyielding and fearless heart surged.

Under Xiang Shaoyun's presence of a king, the dragon and tiger felt provoked. They roared as they dove right into his forehead.

Gift of visualization!

Suddenly, Xiang Shaoyun activated his gift of visualization and formed a unique space that allowed him to see through both the dragon and tiger. The dragon and tiger were in fact only formed of strains of essence qi, and they were extremely weak. It was almost as if a light touch would suffice to kill them.

"Surrender." Xiang Shaoyun focused his presence on his forehead, and within the space formed of his gift of visualization, his presence of a king was like a fish in water. Within this space, he was the ultimate sovereign, one who ruled everything.

His presence of king started assimilating and conquering the dragon and tiger. The two struggled and roared, yet were completely powerless. They were the ones who had entered the space of visualization, and it was impossible for them to flee after entering.

Ultimately, the dragon and tiger were forced to surrender and accept what Xiang Shaoyun was doing to them. The presence of the dragon and tiger were tangled with Xiang Shaoyun's presence of a king. They fused without stop, causing Xiang Shaoyun's presence of a king to grow endlessly.

Xiang Shaoyun greatly enjoyed this sensation as a cozy feeling spread through his entire body. The flow of astral energy within his body also started to increase in speed, and spiritual energy flowed into his body from his surroundings, with a majority of it converging in his forehead.

Xiang Shaoyun's current cultivation level of fourth-stage Astral Realm started growing as well. After an unknown amount of time, he was finally done with the presence of the dragon and tiger, having fully assimilated them into his presence of a king.

At the same time, a saber technique suddenly appeared in his mind. So did the image of a figure wielding a saber. The figure brandished the saber repeatedly, and each slash of the saber contained the power to destroy the world. This was an extremely terrifying saber technique.

Nine Overlord Skyslaying Saber Technique!

One slash like a lightning strike from the clear sky!

One slash causing the weather to change.

One slash to create rivers of corpses.

One slash to eliminate all corpses.

One slash to spread mountains and rivers.

One slash to destroy the heavens and earth.

One slash to obliterate the stars.

One slash to shift the sun and moon.

One slash to reverse the universe.

This was the Nine Overlord Skyslaying Saber Technique, and it seemed to have the same origin as the Heaven Conquering Overlord Manual. In fact, he was stupefied when he noticed the similarity in the aura of the two.

After a long while, Xiang Shaoyun finally recovered from his reverie.

"Does the Overlord Skyslaying Saber have the same origin as my overlord cultivation manual? And there's also this Nine Overlord Skyslaying Saber Technique, everything is such a coincidence," Xiang Shaoyun cried out in alarm.

When he first saw the Overlord Skyslaying Saber, he did not relate it with his overlord cultivation manual. He thought that the similar names were merely a coincidence. But now, it seemed like the Overlord Skyslaying Saber did have the same origin as his overlord cultivation manual.

Perhaps this saber was also something that that overlord had left behind and had for some unknown reason fallen into the hands of that unnamed cultivator. Now that this saber had fallen into Xiang Shaoyun's hands, it signified that he was already fated to become the new overlord of this generation.

Unfortunately, this Nine Overlord Skyslaying Saber Technique was also incomplete. Only the first four stances were complete, and only the names of the latter five stances were available. As with the Heaven Conquering Overlord Manual, this was an incomplete technique.

But even these four stances were all terrifyingly powerful. With his current strength, it was impossible for him to perfectly unleash the power of these four stances. He would only be able to start cultivating this technique upon reaching the King Realm when he could finally freely control astral energy.

This put him back at the same position again—having many excellent battle techniques that he couldn't make use of.

"Looks like I need to find a chance and revisit the place I found the overlord cultivation manual. Perhaps I can only obtain the complete overlord inheritance after entering the depths of that place," Xiang Shaoyun muttered to himself.

Holding the Heaven Conquering Overlord Manual in his hand, he had a sensation that his flesh was now connected to the manual. At the same time, his presence surged out. The previously formless

presence of a king seemed to have gained a form, with a dragon and tiger hovering behind him, making him look incomparably majestic.

An overbearing aura spread out, one that demanded obeisance from all living beings. Xiang Shaoyun's presence of a king had grown greatly this time. In fact, his presence had grown over ten times stronger, and even when facing the suppression of a Transformation Realm cultivator, he could now completely ignore it. Not even a King Realm cultivator could hope to make him bow with presence alone anymore.

This was a qualitative transformation that occurred after his presence gained a form from its previous formless state. There was probably no second fourth-stage Astral Realm cultivator in the entire Nine God Provinces with a presence as terrifying as Xiang Shaoyun's.

The stronger the presence, the stronger the owner would be.

This was merely the start of Xiang Shaoyun's rise. He ended his seclusion, and when he went out of his room, he found Zi Changhe and Wang Zhenchuan waiting for him.

Zi Changhe was here bearing news of an excellent cultivation spot.

Chapter 94: This Is Too Much

"Senior brother, you're here!" Xiang Shaoyun greeted Zi Changhe and Wang Zhenchuan warmly. When he saw Wang Zhenchuan, he knew Wang Zhenchuan had successfully passed Zi Changhe's test to officially become his disciple.

"This disciple greets the martial uncle," Wang Zhenchuan stepped forth and saluted Xiang Shaoyun before Zi Changhe could even say anything.

Xiang Shaoyun smiled and said, "Hehe, what a fine martial nephew. I knew you could pass my senior brother's test."

He could see that Wang Zhenchuan had already reached fourth-stage Astral Realm, reaching the level required by Zi Changhe. But he did not understand why Wang Zhenchuan was still at this level. After all, he had gifted Wang Zhenchuan some Earth Star Spring water as well. But no matter what, Wang Zhenchuan was now his martial nephew. He did not need to get too fixated on that issue.

"Zhenchuan is really quite a fine young man. Be sure to take good care of him on my behalf in the future," Zi Changhe said with a gratified expression.

"Don't worry. As his martial uncle, who would I take care of if not him?" Xiang Shaoyun slapped his chest and promised.

"By the way, I heard from Elder Zhen Peng that you are looking for a cultivation spot where lightning congregates. Is that so?" Zi Changhe asked.

Xiang Shaoyun nodded. "Yes. Do you know a place like that, senior brother?"

Zi Changhe nodded. "Um. There is such a place in the Hundred Beast Mountain Range. But that is also the territory of the lightning condors. It won't be that easy to reach."

"Where is it? I will go there immediately." Xiang Shaoyun was overjoyed.

He had the lightning bone within his body, a bone unique to only the Xiang Clan. It was capable of creating innate lightning, and if he could find a spot where lightning congregated, he would definitely be able to further grow his lightning bone. That would help him greatly increase his combat power. That was why he was in such a rush to find a place where lightning gathered.

"If it was in the past, I would definitely not tell you. It's a place even Transformation Realm cultivators will be hard-pressed to survive. But with Elder Zhen Peng protecting you, I will tell you where it is. Also, I am going to bask in your glory and come along to cultivate there as well," Zi Changhe said. After a slight pause, he continued, "When are you leaving? I'll lead you there."

"Let's rest up today and leave tomorrow," Xiang Shaoyun said.

"Sure, I'll come look for you tomorrow," Zi Changhe said. He then left with Wang Zhenchuan, but after a few steps, he stopped and turned around. "My master might be visiting the Martial Hall Palace soon. Do you want to meet him?"

"Oh? We'll see. If the timing is right, I naturally have to pay my senior brother's master a formal visit," Xiang Shaoyun answered after hesitating slightly.

Xiang Shaoyun was very careful in his choice of words, using "senior brother's master" to make it clear that the senior brother's master was not his master. Zi Changhe was not a clueless child. Thus, he understood the implication behind the choice of words. A bitter smile formed on his face as he said, "Ok. Got it."

Xiang Shaoyun had a mysterious origin, and even though Zi Changhe's master was a King Realm cultivator, Xiang Shaoyun might still not pay him much heed. His previous action of accepting a disciple on behalf of his master was now akin to a joke.

After Zi Changhe left with Wang Zhenchuan, Xiang Shaoyun washed himself. When he looked at the pile of dirty laundry waiting to be washed, he smiled bitterly. "Looks like I need to get a maid to help with stuff like this."

At this thought, Lu Xiaoqing and Gong Qinyin surfaced in his mind.

"Lu Xiaoqing is quite suited to be a maid, but unfortunately, she is too stubborn. As for that crazy woman, hehe, it sure would be nice if I can turn her into my maid," Xiang Shaoyun mused.

If the other disciples of Martial Hall Palace heard that, they would probably turn crazy from fury. Of the two, one was a youthful and pretty young lady while the other was their number one goddess. Now, they were mere maid candidates? That was unacceptable!

Xiang Shaoyun left his residence and started looking for Xia Liuhui and Lu Xiaoqing, preparing to have a meal with them. But he found that Xia Liuhui was in a secluded cultivation session. Thus, he moved on to Lu Xiaoqing's place instead.

But this time, Lu Xiaoqing did not come meet him alone. She brought Chen Xin along as well. Xiang Shaoyun did not mind having an additional beauty eating with him. Having an additional beauty would only make the experience even more pleasant.

"Hey, so do you mind this beauty freeloading some food off you?" Chen Xin asked in a carefree manner.

"You're most welcomed, big sister fairy. This is an honor most people wouldn't even have the chance to enjoy," Xiang Shaoyun laughed heartily.

"Hmph. You sweet talker, are you not afraid that Junior Sister Lu will get jealous?" Chen Xin glared at him.

"Who's going to be jealous?" Lu Xiaoqing argued bashfully.

"Rather than wasting time being jealous, you should spend more time eating. Look at how skinny you got. You have been cultivating too hard recently. A woman can't be too skinny. You need to maintain your curves," Xiang Shaoyun said. He sensed Lu Xiaoqing's strength was growing rapidly. She was truly cultivating very hard. And because of that, he felt somewhat guilty. He could already imagine how much his eventual departure would break her heart.

When Xiang Shaoyun arrived at the restaurant chatting happily with two great beauties, many disciples looked at him enviously. He brought them straight to the upper floor where only personal disciples could enter.

The food and drinks served there were not something the lower floor could compare to. Apart from top-quality liquor, demonic beast meats were also served here. For a cultivator, demonic beast meats were a great replenishment of vitality.

Xiang Shaoyun now had an immeasurable amount of points. Thus, he could freely order anything he wanted. Before long, the table was filled with delicacies and fine liquors.

"Why did you order so much? Won't it be a waste if we can't finish?" Lu Xiaoqing asked, her heart aching at the thought of the price of the food here. She knew the food here could only be paid for using points, and every single point was extremely hard to get. She was feeling the pain on behalf of Xiang Shaoyun's wallet.

"Yo, you're not even married to him yet. Why are you feeling all heartache for his money? What a fine young lady you are. That certain young man must be careful to not miss out on such a fine young lady," Chen Xin said, shooting Xiang Shaoyun a glance.

"It won't be a waste. In fact, I'm not sure if this much food is even enough. Come, a toast to the two beauties. May your beauty last eternally," Xiang Shaoyun toasted the two beauties and acted as if he hadn't heard Chen Xin's words.

That toast worked beautifully to shift their attention.

After a few drinks, Xiang Shaoyun shoved food down his throat without a care for the two beauties by his side. He was still in a phase of rapid growth. Thus, his capacity for food was extremely large. The two women smiled gently as they looked at him. The current Xiang Shaoyun looked very adorable to them.

Suddenly, some less than tactful person walked over and berated, "Xin Xin, why are you eating with a coarse person like this? Come, join me instead."

Chapter 95: You Are Challenging Me

The one who spoke was none other than Ye Tianlong who held a prejudice against Xiang Shaoyun. The current Ye Tianlong was no longer a seventh-stage Astral Realm cultivator. He had entered the eighth stage. It was clear this was an advancement he gained after going out on a trip to temper himself.

This time, he wasn't here just to create trouble for Xiang Shaoyun. Rather, he had always had a crush on Chen Xin. Unfortunately, his feeling was a one-sided one. Now that he saw Chen Xin having a meal with Xiang Shaoyun, he lost control in his fury.

"Who on earth are you? I don't even know you," Chen Xin glanced at Ye Tianlong and said coldly.

Ye Tianlong had called her name so affectionately only to be told she did not know him. This was akin to a slap on his face, and it felt horrible.

"Xin Xin...are you really treating me like this?" Ye Tianlong said gloomily.

"Please, I told you I don't know you. Can you stop calling me so affectionately? You're giving me goosebumps," Chen Xin said with disgust on her face.

"Senior Brother Ye, she obviously doesn't care about you at all," said an underling of Ye Tianlong.

That immediately infuriated Ye Tianlong, and Ye Tianlong directed his anger at Xiang Shaoyun, who was busy eating. He said, "You! Come here! I am challenging you to a duel!"

Xiang Shaoyun ignored him and continued eating.

"Are you sick? Who are you to challenge him?" Chen Xin said unhappily.

Lu Xiaoqing also spoke. "Shifting your anger on someone else after you fly into rage out of humiliation. What an unreasonable person."

"Are you still a man? Why are you hiding behind women?" Ye Tianlong ignored the two and continued provoking Xiang Shaoyun.

This time, Xiang Shaoyun reacted. He dug his ear and said, "Where did this annoying, noisy fly come from?"

His words further infuriated Ye Tianlong. Ye Tianlong lost his reason from rage, and he flipped the table.

"Who is causing trouble here? Are you tired of living?" a gloomy voice suddenly rang out.

Ye Tianlong was about to attack when he heard the voice. He quickly stopped and took a deep breath, no longer daring to attack. He was aware that fighting was prohibited in this restaurant. Those who disobeyed would suffer grave consequences.

"Wait, you're scared so easily? How boring," Xiang Shaoyun said with contempt.

Ye Tianlong clenched his fists tightly and howled, "Xiang Shaoyun, I challenge you!"

"Are you sure?" Xiang Shaoyun asked while picking his teeth lazily.

"Yes. I, Ye Tianlong, challenge you!" Ye Tianlong repeated solemnly.

"You are challenging me?" Xiang Shaoyun suddenly stood up and asked loudly. His voice rumbled like a sudden clap of thunder; his presence rose to a new height, causing even the souls of the people around him to shake.

Ye Tianlong sensed an incorporeal force pressing down upon him, forcing him to take a step back. He stuttered, "I—I—"

"You are challenging me?"

"You are challenging me?"

"You are challenging me?"

Not waiting Ye Tianlong to finish his words, Xiang Shaoyun shouted three more times; his voice grew louder and louder while his presence of a king unfurled out of his body. Faint projections of a dragon and a tiger formed around him, suppressing Ye Tianlong with an incomparable pressure.

The gluttonous young man from earlier had suddenly transformed into a majestic king, making one feel like kneeling obediently before him. As for Ye Tianlong who was directly before Xiang Shaoyun, he had an illusion that a dragon and a tiger were pouncing toward him.

"AHHHH!"

His mental barrier collapsed as he quickly retreated. In his hurry to retreat, he crashed into the table behind him. Fortunately, it was an empty table so nobody else was affected.

"Is someone like you even worthy of challenging me? Go back to your mother's womb and cultivate 100 years before you come again," Xiang Shaoyun said mercilessly.

Ye Tianlong had an extremely unsightly expression, and for some reason, he seemed incapable of making any sound with his mouth at all. He had a sensation that he was facing a cultivator whose cultivation level was far beyond his. The suffocating sensation was similar to when he encountered a King Realm cultivator.

He was not the only one feeling this way. The people around them felt the same, and everyone sank into silence, not daring to make a sound. As for Lu Xiaoqing and Chen Xin, they stared blankly at Xiang Shaoyun with twinkling eyes.

The word heroic was no longer sufficient to depict the current Xiang Shaoyun. He seemed to possess a boundless charm that could attract women of all ages.

"Just piss off and stop disturbing my meal." Xiang Shaoyun withdrew the pressure and waved his hand nonchalantly, not even bothering to even give Ye Tianlong a glance. He resumed his eating,

and he did not forget to invite the two girls as well, "What are you blanking out for? Come, eat. Don't worry, I can afford to pay."

"Shaoyun, let me give you a toast," Chen Xin offered.

When Lu Xiaoqing noticed the odd look in her senior sister's eyes, she immediately felt a sense of crisis. She started regretting her action of bringing her senior sister along.

"Come, come, let's drink!" Xiang Shaoyun said indifferently and started drinking. He wasn't exactly an alcoholic, but he still felt like life would be dull without liquor. Thus, the two women started eating and drinking. Although they weren't shoving food down their throats like him, they had eased up considerably compared to when they had initially come.

As for Ye Tianlong, he left gloomily. But before he could even leave the restaurant, the restaurant's overseer stopped him and demanded that he pay for the damages done to the table and chairs.

Of course, paying for some table and chairs was nothing for him. But he still felt extremely insulted.

Xiang Shaoyun, I won't forget this! Ye Tianlong roared inwardly.

In the Martial Hall Palace, he was considered a genius as well. His strength had always been at the forefront of the disciples; he was loved by many elders and admired by many disciples. One could say that Xiang Shaoyun had completely trampled his dignity.

More importantly, he also assumed that Chen Xin was now in an intimate relationship with Xiang Shaoyun, which he couldn't accept. Thus, he now regarded Xiang Shaoyun as his enemy.

Xiang Shaoyun was aware how badly he had trampled upon Ye Tianlong's dignity, adding another person to his list of enemies. But he did not care. In his eyes, a person like Ye Tianlong was not even worthy of his attention. After the meal was over, he took his leave and went to the Medicine Hall. He needed to make some preparations for his trip to the Hundred Beast Mountain Range.

At the Medicine Hall, Xiang Shaoyun acted like the place was his home and started picking what he needed. The overseer merely pretended he didn't see anything. Xiang Shaoyun had a unique status in the Martial Hall Palace where he was free to take any resource he needed. So long as he exercised moderation, he would be allowed to take all he wanted.

But this time, Xiang Shaoyun had picked the greatest treasure of the Medicine Hall, shocking even the overseer.

"Kid, you can't take that!" the overseer rushed over and said.

Chapter 96: Is Little White an Imperial Species?

"Why can't I take it if it's here?" Xiang Shaoyun questioned.

He was looking at pitch-black stick resembling charcoal more than wood. It did not look special at all. Yet this very pitch black stick was the most valuable treasure of the Medicine Hall, lightning strike wood.

The so-called lightning strike wood originated from a unique breed of tree that could easily attract strikes of lightning. These trees had a certain degree of innate immunity toward lightning, and had the ability to regrow again and again after being struck by lightning. Legends said that after being struck by lightning 81 times and undergoing 81 rebirths, the tree would finally transform into a divine lightning wood that would henceforth be completely immune to lightning.

More importantly, using this wood, one would be able to cultivate the power of lightning, one of the most destructive powers in existence. Coupled with the rarity of lightning strike wood, it made it a very valuable material.

Each lightning strike wood was equivalent to a high-grade spirit plant. How many times had lightning struck this particular lightning strike wood for it to be in such a bad shape? Even though it looked completely dead, in truth, it still had life in it. After soaking it in some spirit spring water, it would regrow again.

"This is the treasure of the Medicine Hall. It can only be looked at but can never be taken. We still need to borrow its strength to capture the power of lightning during rainy days," said the overseer anxiously.

This was the treasure of the hall, and he had to keep it to gather lightning energy to assist the elders cultivating lightning energy in their breakthroughs. Although Xiang Shaoyun had a special status in the Martial Hall Palace, the overseer still couldn't allow him to take this treasure away.

Xiang Shaoyun could see that this overseer was very nervous. It wouldn't be easy to take the lightning strike wood away. Thus, he moved on to other materials instead. When he was done, he left the Medicine Hall.

Not long after, Elder Zhen Peng arrived at the Medicine Hall. He directly retrieved the lightning strike wood, yet the overseer did not dare to even make a sound.

Early the next day, Xiang Shaoyun, Elder Zhen Peng, and Zi Changhe headed out toward the Hundred Beast Mountain Range. For this trip, Xiang Shaoyun's main goal was the place where lightning gathered. The place was located at the depths of the Hundred Beast Mountain Range where mountains intersected. It was one of the more dangerous areas within the Hundred Beast Mountain Range.

The demonic beasts there were at least at the Great Demon level, and even Demon Kings could be found there. Not many humans dared to step foot there. Only those at the King Realm would dare to enter.

Xiang Shaoyun's group was in no rush. After getting Little White to enlarge his body, Xiang Shaoyun rode on Little White and started leisurely traveling through the Hundred Beast Mountain Range. He needed some time to reflect on his next step in the path of cultivation.

Xiang Shaoyun needed to do many things, and his list of tasks was something completely unimaginable for many people. Just growing in strength alone was not sufficient for him to retake all that was once his. He also needed a large number of followers.

Elder Zhen Peng and Zi Changhe were decently strong, but they were far from enough from what he required. These two would only be of actual help if he decided to properly nurture them. Apart from that, he also needed some devoted soldiers loyal only to him. He wouldn't be able to go far relying only on himself.

If everyone is as talented as this young master, it wouldn't be a bad idea to spend some time training a group of followers. Unfortunately, that is not the case, Xiang Shaoyun lamented inwardly. He then told Little White to go faster as they started rushing toward the Hundred Beast Mountain Range. When they arrived at the edge of the Hundred Beast Mountain Range, they entered directly without even bothering to stop.

"Shaoyun, we need to start being careful from now on," Zi Changhe reminded him.

Xiang Shaoyun nodded, "Yeah, I know."

Although he had Elder Zhen Peng with him, accidents might still place him in danger.

Not long after, a demonic beast attacked them. Little White grabbed the initiative and attacked before anyone else. Prior to this, Little White had swallowed a demonic core and a tiger tooth. He had been growing non-stop without attracting any attention.

Even Xiang Shaoyun was not aware of how strong Little White was right now, but he reckoned Little White was at least at the Intermediate Demon level. Sure enough, the Intermediate Demon facing Little White was quickly killed.

"Young master, your demonic beast is very powerful. He has almost reached the Great Demon level," Elder Zhen Peng cried out in alarm when he sensed Little White's strength.

"Yeah, and I doubt he is a regular striped tiger," Zi Changhe said on his elder wolf. He had learned that from the elder wolf, who had once told him that the little cub was not to be underestimated.

"Hehe, I hope so. But what I hope most is for him to quickly learn how to speak. Communication will then be much easier," said Xiang Shaoyun, who was in a great mood.

"Generally, demonic beasts can only speak when they reach the late stage of the Great Demon realm. I believe it won't be long," Elder Zhen Peng said.

"Hear that, Little White? Reach the Great Demon realm as soon as possible. You will then be able to start conversing with your boss," Xiang Shaoyun said as he petted Little White.

Suddenly, Little White turned around and said in a tender voice, "B-boss, actually, I can already speak the human tongue."

All three of them froze.

"Haha, Little White, when did you learn to speak? Why haven't you told me?" Xiang Shaoyun asked gleefully as he hugged Little White. Xiang Shaoyun was after all still a youth. Although the way he did things was comparable to a sly old fox, he was still a young man at heart. Thus, it was natural for him to be overjoyed when his pet finally learned to speak.

"Not long ago, I gained the ability to talk after digesting the tiger tooth. But I can't speak well, so I have been keeping silent," Little White replied, somewhat embarrassed.

"Don't worry about it. Just practice more, and you will be able to speak fluently. Come on, let's continue on. We can continue chatting on the way," Xiang Shaoyun said.

Elder Zhen Peng and Zi Changhe exchanged glances, disbelief still in their eyes. Not even king species beasts would be able to talk before reaching the Great Demon realm. Was Little White an imperial species instead?

In the blink of an eye, several days passed, and they safely arrived at the dividing line of the outer and inner layer of the Hundred Beast Mountain Range. Here, all of them grew anxious.

Numerous demonic beasts could be found in the area, and their numbers were terrifyingly high. The only thing they could do when encountering a horde of beasts was to flee. Fortunately, Zi Changhe was very familiar with the place, and they were able to take detours around the territories of many Great Demons. That was why they had been able to reach this place so easily.

In actuality, Elder Zhen Peng wanted to directly fly with them to the place where lightning congregated, but Xiang Shaoyun rejected the proposal. This was the world of demonic beasts. If they decided to fly, it would be equivalent to challenging all the demonic beasts present. And if the demonic beasts felt provoked, a mere King Realm cultivator wouldn't be able to survive their wrath.

None of them were clearer about this than Xiang Shaoyun. Half a day later, they were finally approaching the place where lightning congregated. A large number of lightning condors were gliding in the air, some were even diving straight down toward them.

Chapter 97: The Birth of a New King

Lightning condor was a species of lightning-loving beast, and was one of the rulers of the sky. Capable of attacking with lightning, their attacks were extremely destructive. The lightning condors immediately detected Xiang Shaoyun's group upon their arrival. A group of lightning condors dove at them, including a Great Demon condor.

"All humans who dare encroach on our territory shall die," shouted the Great Demon condor.

"This is not looking good. We need to retreat for now. Otherwise, the number of lightning condors will only grow," Zi Changhe said.

"No. Old Peng, kill them as quickly as possible," Xiang Shaoyun said with a ruthless glint in his eyes. Hearing that, Elder Zhen Peng stopped trying to keep a low profile. He flew up into the sky and sent several flaming palms toward the condors.

Bang! Bang!

A mere Great Demon was naturally incapable of resisting the strength of a King Realm cultivator. Elder Zhen Peng had already reached the second stage of the Skysoar Realm, and he was not far from the third stage. His attacks landed, causing the condors to all combust and die midair.

"Use the corpse decomposing liquid on them. We can't allow the smell of blood to leak," Xiang Shaoyun said.

At that command, a bottle appeared in Elder Zhen Peng's hand. He immediately poured the liquid in the bottle on the dead condors.

"Alright, let's retreat in the woods for now. We will decide what to do when a thunderstorm arrives," Xiang Shaoyun said.

They were currently gathered in a rather empty area. Here, the lightning condors could easily discover them. In any case, there was no thunderstorm right now. Going further would be pointless.

Zi Changhe clenched his teeth and said, "That is a Great Demon lightning condor! If we bring it back, we can exchange it for a large number of spirit crystals!"

"So long as you have the strength, you can kill as many Great Demons as you want. At that time, you will no longer care about these profits," Xiang Shaoyun said.

"That's true, I guess. I have been too shortsighted," Zi Changhe said and laughed dryly.

The three retreated into the woods, ate some dried meats, and settled down to wait for the thunderstorm. This was a place where lightning congregated. The moment it started raining, lightning would gather.

Generally speaking, cultivators wouldn't be able to directly absorb the entirety of the lightning bolt. Not even King Realm cultivators could do it. At most, they could only absorb a small portion of the lightning energy to increase their own strength.

For normal people, just absorbing a small amount of lightning energy was a great harvest. Lightning bolts originated directly from the heavens, with each bolt containing an unimaginable amount of energy. It was not something a normal person could absorb.

However, Xiang Shaoyun had a lightning bone within him. The lightning bone was a bone that had been passed down in the Xiang Clan since ancient times, and it gave him an ability a normal person wouldn't even dream of having.

Xiang Shaoyun was in a rush to grow, and thus, he could not afford to ignore the power of his lightning bone, regardless of his hate toward the bone. He was unsure of whether the lightning bone would be able to resist the power of lightning. For now, he would be satisfied with absorbing the energy from the remnant of some exhausted lightning bolt. With his current strength, a single bolt of lightning would probably suffice to turn his entire body into ash.

The wait was a long one. Weather was unpredictable, after all. Therefore, patience was necessary. As they had nothing to do, all three of them meditated in the lotus position. As for Little White and the elder wolf, they also rested silently instead of roaming around.

In the blink of an eye, three days passed. The sky finally started darkening. It would seem a thunderstorm would come in a day or two. Up in the sky not far from them, numerous lightning condors grew excited. They clamored repeatedly as they celebrated in excitement. This was a sign that the condors were already anticipating the arrival of lightning.

"Something is weird. More and more lightning condors are gathering. What's going on?" Zi Changhe whispered.

"How is this weird? They have always loved thunderstorms since that is how they grow stronger," Elder Zhen Peng said.

"Yes, but the previous time I was here, a thunderstorm had also occurred, but there were not so many lightning condors at all," Zi Changhe said.

Xiang Shaoyun scowled. "I'm afraid a new King is going to appear among them." He paused and pointed in a certain direction before continuing, "See that? They are all flying in tempo, as if they are forming an impenetrable defensive network. Anyone who approaches will be attacked."

Hearing that, Elder Zhen Peng and Zi Changhe immediately noticed that he was right. Inwardly, they felt ashamed for not noticing it themselves. Xiang Shaoyun was younger than them and weaker too. But his observational skill was something neither of them could compare to.

"What should we do then? If a lightning condor king appears, it will be impossible for us to approach," Zi Changhe asked gloomily.

"Yeah, if a lightning condor king appears, I won't be able to keep you two safe anymore," Elder Zhen Peng said.

Generally, demonic beasts would have stronger combat prowess than humans of the same cultivation level. And in this case, a Demon King of the lightning condor, which specialized in destructiveness and speed, would be an even thornier opponent.

"This might be a rare chance for us as well," Xiang Shaoyun said, eyes narrowed into a slit.

"Young master, y-you aren't thinking of taking advantage of this Demon King, right?" Elder Zhen Peng guessed. Zi Changhe was overwhelmed with shock. That idea was too crazy.

"We'll see," Xiang Shaoyun suppressed the urge he had to make a move on the Demon King. Half a day later, dark clouds covered the sky. The face of a devil seemed to have formed in the sky, giving off an extremely oppressive feeling.

"Young master, should we take out the lightning strike wood? With the wood, we can attract lightning bolts of our own as well," Elder Zhen Peng suggested.

"No, we wait," Xiang Shaoyun said calmly.

Suddenly, a bolt of lightning tore through the sky and dove down like a dragon gliding across the sky.

Rumble! Rumble!

More and more lightning bolts appeared, and in the blink of an eye, numerous explosions erupted midair, tearing even space apart. The lightning condors clamored as they all scattered and surrounded the area.

Suddenly, a black figure appeared out of nowhere and flew up into the sky. When unfurled, its wings had a length of about three or four meters, making it look extremely majestic gliding through the air. That was a lightning condor at the peak of the Great Demon realm, and it was flying straight toward the spot where the lightning bolts gathered.

Rumble! Rumble!

A lightning bolt that seemed boundlessly powerful snaked through the air and struck the lightning condor. The lightning condor shrieked as it struggled strenuously to resist the lightning. Its demonic aura surged as it fought on with all its strength. Only by surviving this calamity would it become a Demon King, achieving the great dao.

"Young master, what should we do?" Elder Zhen Peng was growing anxious.

They needed to either make a move on the condors now or take out their lightning strike wood to gather their own lightning bolts. Staring at the numerous lightning condors in the air, Xiang Shaoyun hesitated. He had an urge to rush out there. The more concentrated the lightning bolts were, the better it would be for him.

But it seemed too risky. Right as he was about to make a decision, he saw a figure rushing toward the lightning condor in the midst of breakthrough.

"A King Realm cultivator is attacking!" Elder Zhen Peng cried out in alarm.

Chapter 98: Growing Without Restraint

The King Realm was also known as the Skysoar Realm. As the name implied, cultivators at this realm could soar through the sky to overlook the world below. At present, an unknown King Realm cultivator was flying toward the lightning condor who was in the midst of a breakthrough. The cultivator moved as fast as lightning, and in the blink of an eye, he pierced through the defensive network formed by the lightning condors.

The inner layer of the defensive network was guarded by Great Demon condors. They were not Kings, but since they were currently up in the air, the condors still held superiority over humans. When they noticed the enemy attack, they shrieked and started attacking the enemy.

These lightning condors were all spitting lightning bolts, and when they attacked together, they filled the sky with a thick lightning energy. Their attacks coupled with the natural lightning bolts coming from the sky above created an environment even King Realm cultivators would find it hard to survive.

But the attacking King Realm cultivator was obviously no pushover. His purple spear danced in the air, striking one condor after another as he continued on toward the lightning condor in the midst of breakthrough.

Unfortunately, too many lightning condors were fearlessly blocking his way without heed for their own lives. His advance slowed down while the breakthrough was getting nearer and nearer to completion.

"Elder Zhen Peng, give me the lightning strike wood and fly me over! Senior brother, do as you see fit," Xiang Shaoyun said decisively.

Elder Zhen Peng did not hesitate and immediately handed Xiang Shaoyun the lightning strike wood before lifting him and flying straight toward the place where lightning congregated. Mustering his full strength, Elder Zhen Peng flew at top speed. In the span of a few breaths, he started approaching the location. As the lightning condors were busy fighting the King Realm cultivator, he easily bypassed the defensive network.

"Who is trying to spoil the Young Lightning King's plan?" a voice rang out.

Next, two figures shot over from a different direction and blocked the path of Elder Zhen Peng and Xiang Shaoyun.

"We are only here to borrow a bit of the lightning power here. I hope you can allow us passage." Elder Zhen Peng did not know the two before him, but since they were both King Realm cultivators as well, he decided to not charge through with force.

"Piss off right this moment. The Young Lightning King is going to make the lightning condor king his mount. None of you can approach. Obey or die!" shouted one of them.

Elder Zhen Peng was about to reply when Xiang Shaoyun spoke, "Cut the crap. If they refuse to move aside, charge through them."

Xiang Shaoyun was already losing his patience as a sense of thirst was spreading out of his lightning bone, causing him to nearly lose his mind. After hearing Xiang Shaoyun's command, Elder Zhen Peng charged over without even pausing to consider it.

The two immediately moved; their kingly aura surged out as they attacked Elder Zhen Peng and Xiang Shaoyun. Without a second thought, Elder Zhen Peng took out the king weapon given to him by Xiang Shaoyun and slashed at the two.

Fortunately for him, the two were either similar in strength to him or even slightly weaker. Thus, the moment he attacked with his king weapon, the two were forced into retreat. After forcing the two away, Elder Zhen Peng flew away as he did not intend to waste his time with them.

"Bastard! If you somehow affected Young Lightning King's taming process, your entire clan will be exterminated!" the two cultivators cried out in fear behind them. They mustered all their strength and attacked again, sending numerous attacks capable of turning even stones into dust toward Elder Zhen Peng and Xiang Shaoyun.

As for Elder Zhen Peng, he increased his speed and continued flying. Occasionally, he slashed with his weapon. He did not forget to use all his strength to protect Xiang Shaoyun from any sort of harm. But since he had to focus on protecting Xiang Shaoyun, he was unable to fully break free of the two's pursuit.

"Put me down. You will deal with them while I'll go alone." Xiang Shaoyun made a prompt decision. He was clear that while protecting him, Elder Zhen Peng wouldn't be able to fully unleash his strength while battling the two. Thus, he had to first separate himself from Elder Zhen Peng.

Hearing the resolute tone of Xiang Shaoyun, Elder Zhen Peng stopped hesitating. After dodging another attack, he flew down and gently placed Xiang Shaoyun on the ground. Doing so nearly caused an attack to hit him. Fortunately, he was still able to narrowly avoid it. The attack still scraped through his shoulder, however, leaving a wound there.

"You want to fight? Let's do it!" Elder Zhen Peng said. He had yet to have a proper fight after entering the King Realm. Now that there were two opponents as strong as him, his battle intent was ignited. He himself was also very curious as to how powerful his current battle prowess was.

With the king weapon in hand, he unleashed the high-grade battle technique Xiang Shaoyun taught him, pushing his combat prowess to a new height and forcing his two opponents to defend themselves with all their power. They couldn't even split off to deal with Xiang Shaoyun anymore.

Of course, they also regarded Xiang Shaoyun as a normal weak Astral Realm cultivator. Thus, they assumed that Xiang Shaoyun wouldn't be able to pass through the lightning condors and that he would never be a threat to their master's plan.

Because of that, Xiang Shaoyun headed toward the place where lightning congregated unobstructed. He did not want to waste too much time here. There was no saying when the next thunderstorm would come if he missed this one.

He activated his Heaven Conquering Overlord Manual as he streaked forth, leaving numerous afterimages in his wake as he moved at a speed comparable to an eighth- or even ninth-stage Astral Realm cultivator. Before long, several lightning condors dove down at him.

These were the weaker lightning condors in charge of the outer defensive network. They weren't qualified to go inside to protect their king. Using their claws and beaks, they attacked Xiang Shaoyun, their attacks accompanied by light traces of lightning energy that further sharpened their attacks.

Xiang Shaoyun activated his gift of instincts to get a clear look at their flying trajectory before stabbing forth with his Lightning Spear.

"F*ck off!" With a spear in hand, Xiang Shaoyun attacked like a tiger attacking its prey. Numerous spear lights shot straight toward the incoming condors.

Sphhhlt! Sphhhlt!

Xiang Shaoyun had also grown stronger. He was much faster now, and he attacked with great accuracy. After a few stabs, his attacks pierced through all the condors. Blood splattered his face, filling his sense of smell with blood.

He licked some of the blood on his face as he muttered with a resolute expression, "I need to go up there!"

Xiang Shaoyun started running, and like the wind itself, he became faster and faster. He traveled amid the trees; not even the lightning condors could surround him. The condors might be the kings of the sky. But on the ground and amid the dense trees, they were greatly disadvantaged.

Xiang Shaoyun kept dodging the condors as he approached his target. Above him, numerous lightning condors were still battling the Young Lightning King. The Young Lightning King was rather overbearing as well, as he was able to charge all the way to the lightning condor king's side to subdue the condor king. Because of that, the pressure the condors placed on Xiang Shaoyun lessened considerably.

"I can't keep on advancing or I will encounter Great Demons," Xiang Shaoyun muttered as he started climbing a tree.

Right this moment, a bolt of lightning streaked across the air toward him.

Chapter 99: Strike by Lightning

The lightning bolt arrived in the blink of an eye, and Xiang Shaoyun wasn't even ready to face it. Fortunately, a few lightning condors had arrived on time and were directly above him when the lightning bolt shot down.

Rumble!

The merciless lightning bolt struck a lightning condor that was almost a Great Demon, instantly turning the condor into a mass of blood that splattered on Xiang Shaoyun. The blood carried strains of lightning energy that assailed Xiang Shaoyun with numbness and pain.

The lightning bone in his body reacted, and a devouring force appeared to draw in all the lightning energy. With the appearance of the devouring force, Xiang Shaoyun looked at the lightning energy as if they were his prey rather than a catastrophic disaster.

A pure thirst rose from the depths of his heart, a thirst for the lightning energy. With the death of the lightning condor, the nearby Minor Demons and Intermediate Demons were all frightened and no longer dared to attack him, giving him an opening to do what he was here for. He took out the lightning strike wood and removed the piece of cloth wrapped around it. He pointed the wood at the sky and shouted, "Come at me, lightning!"

That action of his was crazily suicidal.

In the beginning, Xiang Shaoyun had not planned to act so crazily. Based on his original plan, he was supposed to approach the area before setting the lightning strike wood down to attract the lightning bolts. He would be by the side, absorbing the remnant of the lightning energy leaking out the wood after it was struck by lightning.

But when he was finally here, he suddenly had a sensation that he could definitely take on the entirety of the lightning bolt. The thirst of the lightning bone filled him with greed.

Rumble!

One particular lightning bolt suddenly streaked across the sky, and as if it had sensed the lightning strike wood, it shot down toward the tree Xiang Shaoyun was at.

"Holy shit!" Xiang Shaoyun could see clearly the trajectory of the incoming lightning bolt. The destructive force brought by the lightning bolt was something even a King Realm cultivator would suffer from.

Fear filled his heart, yet he still stood there with the lightning strike wood in hand. It was already too late for him to retreat.

Bang!

The lightning bolt struck the lightning strike wood, and the impact caused Xiang Shaoyun to fall off the tree. At the same time, the tree he was on collapsed. The dense layer of lightning energy covering the lightning strike wood numbed his senses. It caused him no small amount of suffering since he had both his arms wrapped around the lightning strike wood. The lightning energy then spread across his body, turning him into a charred person.

The lightning energy was overbearingly powerful, and even a tiny strain of it was already sufficient to electrocute a person to death. Xiang Shaoyun felt like he was dying. It was at this moment that the lightning bone started greedily devouring the lightning energy.

Whoosh! Whoosh!

Instantly, all the lightning energy in his body was pulled into the lightning bone. The lightning bone seemed to possess an extremely mysterious power that allowed it to devour all the lightning energy in the blink of an eye. The pain Xiang Shaoyun was feeling receded.

Even so, he was still numb all over and could no longer move. Even worse was the fact that his arms were still wrapped around the lightning strike wood. It wasn't that he did not want to let it go but that he couldn't discard it even if he wanted to, as he felt like the lightning strike wood was now completely stuck to him.

"Oh f*ck! I screwed myself royally this time! Lightning bone, don't fail me now!" Xiang Shaoyun felt like crying.

Yet another bolt of lightning struck the lightning strike wood. What happened before repeated with Xiang Shaoyun being incapable of doing anything except for suffering helplessly. Fortunately, he was better prepared this time. His Heaven Conquering Overlord Manual was fully activated, his nine stars all activated, and even his astral cosmos sea activated, all in hope of surviving the lightning strike.

One ought to know that the lightning strike wood in his arms was like a magnet for lightning bolts. If the lightning bone failed him right now, the only thing that would happen to him was death. The overbearing lightning bolt finally slammed down, flooding his immediate surrounding with lightning energy. This time, apart from the lightning bone, the nine stars and the astral cosmos sea within him also worked hard to absorb the lightning energy.

The lightning energy caused Xiang Shaoyun's body to twitch repeatedly, with smoke rising from his hair, and his entire body looked horribly damaged. Before he was even done devouring the energy from the second bolt of lightning, a few more bolts headed toward him.

Meanwhile, the lightning condor king was at its final stage of breakthrough. It shrieked and flapped its wings repeatedly as it rushed toward the newly formed lightning bolts. Its demonic core was forming; thus, it could not afford any mistakes. So long as it could complete this final step, it would be a true Demon King. But right as it was about to reach the lightning bolts, they suddenly shifted their trajectories as the lightning strike wood attracted them. Missing the lightning bolts, the condor king felt extremely gloomy.

"You won't be able to escape! Bow before me or die!" said the Young Lightning King as he stabbed in the direction of the lightning condor with his spear.

With that one stab, numerous lightning spears formed in the air and rained down upon the world below. Each of the lightning spears was extremely powerful and destructive. Fortunately, the naturally formed lightning bolts near the lightning condor king were much more powerful. Thus, the Young Lightning King dared not approach them. Otherwise, the lightning condor king would have been subdued by now.

The lightning condor king also shifted its trajectory and dove straight into the midst of the lightning bolts. Its body was badly damaged, but it was much more powerful than other condors. Thus, it survived despite the heavy damage it suffered.

Thanks to the lightning condor king taking on a majority of the lightning bolts, the pressure on Xiang Shaoyun lessened considerably. The lightning bone continued devouring the lightning energy greedily. The nine stars had also absorbed a large amount of energy, building a large deposit of lightning energy within Xiang Shaoyun's body.

The current him had electrical currents all over his body, making him look like a person built out of lightning. He lay on the ground, gasping for breath repeatedly. Anyone else would have died by now. Xiang Shaoyun was the only freak that could survive this. Even so, if he was struck by even one more lightning bolt, he would probably die for real. Alas, he really was quite unlucky as yet another lightning bolt formed in the sky.

"AHH! You stupid bird! This is your actual fate tribulation, not the lightning bolts earlier. F*ck!" yelled the Young Lightning King, whom the new lightning bolt struck. He only realized that this was a tribulation lightning of the lightning condor king after he was struck and greatly injured.

To enter the Demon King realm, all demonic beasts had to suffer the lightning tribulation from the heavens. With the lightning tribulation, they would cleanse their body and form their demonic core, becoming a Demon King. Lightning tribulations were very dangerous, and if one failed to resist it, death was certain.

All along, the Young Lightning King had assumed that the lightning condor king was already resisting its lightning tribulation. He was waiting for the condor king to finish the breakthrough before subduing it.

Unexpectedly, all the lightning bolts earlier were merely natural lightning bolts from the thunderstorm. The actual lightning tribulation had just begun. Even worse for him was the fact that since he had intruded upon the lightning condor vicinity during the breakthrough, he became a target of the lightning tribulation as well.

Rumble! Rumble!

The lightning tribulation merged with the natural lightning bolts, turning into even more powerful lightning bolts. Unluckily for Xiang Shaoyun, the condor had landed beside him, sharing the lightning tribulation with him as well.

"F*CK!" Xiang Shaoyun's mind went blank from shock.

Chapter 100: Lightning Liquid

Rumble! Rumble!

Numerous bolts of lightning rained down from the sky, filling the world below with broken branches and burning trees. As for the Young Lightning King, due to the lightning condor's setup, he was forced to help resist the tribulation as well. The realization frightened him greatly as he started trying to escape with all his might.

But it did not matter how far he ran. The tribulation had already locked on to him. Thus, the tribulation lightning would still come for him, and his distance from the center of tribulation would only cause the lightning bolts to weaken slightly.

As for Xiang Shaoyun, his current predicament was simply a tragedy. He couldn't even lift an arm anymore and could only lie there helplessly. It would seem like his risky venture had backfired.

Numerous bolts of lightning rained on the lightning condor king while a small number of them were drawn toward Xiang Shaoyun by the lightning strike wood. Everything around him was already completely destroyed, the entire area filled with nothing but berserk electrical currents.

The trees had all been blasted into smithereens, the grasses were all burning, the ground was now filled with craters, and flesh and blood was flying everywhere. The lightning condor king shrieked repeatedly as it had been gravely injured. Even so, its demonic core was growing more and more solid. So long as it survived this, it would be reborn as a Demon King.

Xiang Shaoyun was lying on the ground expecting death even as his lightning bone was growing incessantly. The growth here wasn't the growth of a new bone. Rather, it was the purple spot on his spine, which was spreading along the spine.

As the purple spread, his spine turned incomparably solid. At the same time, it started emitting a primordial aura as it devoured every single shred of lightning energy coursing through Xiang Shaoyun's body.

Strains of pure lightning energy coursed along the lightning bone while the nine stars and astral cosmos sea shone brightly, filling Xiang Shaoyun's inner body with a boundless and dazzling expanse of light. This situation seemed to have further provoked the tribulation. It sent more and more lightning bolts down at them.

The lightning condor king was filled with distress at the sight of even more lightning bolts. It shrieked in grief and kept on struggling. The lightning tribulation should have ended by now, but for some reason, there were still so many lightning bolts coming from the sky.

Fortunately for the condor king, the tribulation seemed to have shifted its target, as all the lightning bolts were now heading toward Xiang Shaoyun. The lightning bolts bombarded the lightning strike wood until finally, the entire wood blasted apart. From inside the wood, some sort of purple liquid dripped out.

If anyone else saw this, they would definitely cry out the term "lightning liquid" in surprise.

The so-called lightning liquid was a top-quality liquid that could be formed by concentrating lightning energy. Every single drop of this liquid contained an unimaginable power within. It was unknown if this tiny bit of lightning liquid flowing out of the wood belonged originally to the wood or if it had formed during the bombardment of the lightning bolts.

Regardless, it was a great opportunity. The moment the lightning liquid appeared, the lightning bone within Xiang Shaoyun grew mad as a terrifying devouring force appeared to pull the liquid into his body.

And the moment the lightning bone absorbed the lightning liquid, the lightning energy within Xiang Shaoyun grew greatly, to the point even the river of stars within him surged violently.

"Roar! Roar!"

Suddenly, the projection of a purple dragon formed. The dragon howled at the sky furiously, seemingly trying to break free of its cage to soar in the nine heavens above. With the appearance of this purple dragon, the nine stars and astral cosmos sea within Xiang Shaoyun became even more abundant with energy.

Once again, Xiang Shaoyun's strength rose sharply. The cleansing of his body by the abundant lightning energy had squeezed out even more of his potential. With the addition of the pure energy contained within the lightning liquid, it would be impossible for him to not grow.

Before this, Xiang Shaoyun had been at the late fourth stage of the Astral Realm. With this sudden growth, he successfully entered the fifth stage and was still growing. The boundless energy continued coursing through his meridians as his cultivation level continued to rise. Early fifth stage, middle fifth stage, late fifth stage...not even the bottleneck of the sixth stage was able to stop the boundless energy.

Even so, the surging energy still did not seem like it was stopping anytime soon. Like a rampaging deluge, the energy broke through shackle after shackle within Xiang Shaoyun's body, pushing his cultivation level higher and higher. It was completely out of his control. If he allowed this to continue, he would definitely suffer cultivation deviation and die by bodily implosion.

"Roar! Roar!"

The purple dragon roared repeatedly before it finally broke out partially from Xiang Shaoyun's body, spreading its draconic presence around the area, oppressing every living being in range. The lightning condor king was still lingering around Xiang Shaoyun when the purple dragon suddenly appeared, and it was nearly frightened to death.

Its greatly injured body wavered until finally, it could no longer resist the terrifying presence and plastered its body on the ground. The lightning condor king shrieked fearfully, and at the same time, it sensed an unstoppable sensation to swear obeisance to the being before it.

Facing the purple dragon projection was akin to facing an actual lightning dragon, and facing an higher being of the same element, the lightning condor was left with no choice but to bow. Before the purple dragon could fully break free of Xiang Shaoyun's body, it suddenly dispersed.

As for Xiang Shaoyun, he had now entered a state of suspended animation. If the berserk energy within him wasn't put into control, his organs would eventually explode and he would be dead for real.

Relieved of the pressure it was suffering, the lightning condor king's demonic core quickly drew in the lightning energy in its vicinity, and the condor quickly completed the final step of its breakthrough, turning into a true Demon King.

It even went straight to the peak of the first-stage Demon King realm. Before the tribulation arrived, it had already absorbed a large amount of lightning energy from the natural lightning bolts, building itself a rich deposit of energy. Because of that, after the breakthrough, it was able to directly reach the peak of the first stage, with the second stage being within reach.

The condor king was about to take this opportunity to flee when it accidentally caught a glimpse of Xiang Shaoyun. It was able to see that Xiang Shaoyun's entire body was enveloped by a thick lightning energy. The lightning energy was so overbearing even the condor king felt fear, but at the same time, the condor king also felt an extremely intimate sensation when it looked upon Xiang Shaoyun.

After thinking for a bit, the condor king flew over and lifted Xiang Shaoyun with its claw. Up in the air, it shrieked before flying toward a certain land of lightning with Xiang Shaoyun. That was the actual territory of this condor king, and with the numerous lightning condors living there, not many people could intrude upon that place.

After it shrieked, numerous lightning condors flew over and once again formed a defensive network around it. Elder Zhen Peng had just arrived, and the only thing he saw was the sky filled with lightning condors. He couldn't even catch a glimpse of Xiang Shaoyun.

"Where is the young master? Has anything happened to him?" Elder Zhen Peng's face turned solemn.

No matter what happened to Xiang Shaoyun, Elder Zhen Peng had to try searching for him. If Xiang Shaoyun was still here by the time the Young Lightning King returned, things would get really troublesome.

Elder Zhen Peng did not know that Xiang Shaoyun wasn't in the area anymore. Rather, Xiang Shaoyun had been taken away by the condor king. After bringing Xiang Shaoyun to its territory, the condor king set Xiang Shaoyun down and brought a stalk of purple plant over.

Lightning transformation grass!

This was a unique spirit medicine that grew at places where lightning congregated. It was capable of weakening lightning energy and healing wounds caused by lightning. The condor king fed Xiang Shaoyun the lightning transformation grass, placing it straight into Xiang Shaoyun's mouth.