

Overlord 951

Chapter 951: My Spotless Reputation

The goldmark toad had not been killed by the gold-scaled dragon turtle. He had merely retreated for not being the turtle's match. He had come after sensing something off about the cave. Xiang Shaoyun thought that the toad and the turtle would be engaged in another intense battle, but he was mistaken. Instead of fighting, the two started chatting like a pair of old friends.

"Old turtle, what's going on here? Where's the flux goldthorn energy?" asked the goldmark toad.

"How am I supposed to know?" grumbled the turtle.

"Is it that human thief? His smell is here. Why isn't he here?"

"I was here before you, but I can't find him at all. He has probably fled long ago."

"Impossible. With our strength, nothing in this lake can escape our senses. If neither of us noticed him leaving, he is definitely still somewhere in the lake," said the goldmark toad confidently.

"You're right. Humans have a lot of tricks up their sleeves. That kid might be capable of invisibility. If we can't find him, it is what it is," said the gold-scaled dragon turtle helplessly.

"Hmph. He wants to leave after stealing our flux goldthorn energy? No way. We need to find him even if we have to turn the entire lake upside down," said the goldmark toad coldly.

The gold-scaled dragon turtle was in no mood to stay around, so he left the cave and started searching the lake for Xiang Shaoyun. The flux goldthorn energy was extremely important to them because they were relying on it to enter the Demon Saint realm. They wouldn't let Xiang Shaoyun take it away so easily.

Xiang Shaoyun heard their entire conversation, and he broke out in cold sweat. Inwardly, he thought, Holy shit, these two fellows are getting angry for real. Things are troublesome now.

He was becoming worried that even after escaping the lake, the two would still hunt him down.

This won't do. I need to enter the eighth stage as soon as possible and increase my combat strength, thought Xiang Shaoyun.

He silently left the cave and started heading for the lake's surface. His trait of invisibility was amazing. Without unique pupils, one would probably not be able to see him no matter how strong one was.

The moment he left the lake, he fled in a certain direction. About four hours later, he arrived at a secluded location with numerous boulders. With the boulders as shelter, it was an excellent hiding place.

Many disciples had searched through this place early on and had found nothing. Thus, people had stopped coming. Xiang Shaoyun was planning to hide here and recover from his injuries before breaking through into the eighth stage.

But when he arrived, he found that someone was actually hiding amid the boulders. That person had hidden herself well, but she couldn't escape the Nether Soul Domain's senses.

Just who is hiding amid the boulders? thought Xiang Shaoyun. He pushed his senses to the maximum, and the scene amid the boulders was presented before him.

When he saw what was going on down there, his expression shifted massively, as though he had seen something he couldn't handle. What did he see? Amid the boulders, a woman with half her face masked was undressing. She was the True Martial Academy's Devil Concubine.

She was the most popular woman in her academy. She was practically dripping with charm. Not only did she look good, but her body was also flawless. She was undressing herself, a sight that would drive any man crazy.

Half her face was masked, revealing the other half of her face that was as beautiful as an angel. Her enchanting eyes gave one an urge to protect and cherish her. She took off her thin robe, revealing her innerwear and exposing her tender neck, delicate collarbones, plump bosom, and slim waist. This was a sight that would fill any man with lust. On her chest was a terrifying wound, a blemish on this otherwise perfect human.

Pale, she was rubbing some spring water on her wound. Evidently, she was hiding among the boulders to heal after someone had seriously injured her. As a cultivator who spent a lot of time in

numerous combat situations, one would inevitably suffer some injuries. Thus, it was normal for a cultivator to have scars, and female cultivators weren't an exception.

She was a top disciple in the True Martial Academy and was a peak Dragon Ascension Realm cultivator. The moment she formed her soul foundation, she would be able to enter the Sovereign Realm.

She was strong enough to fight even a Sovereign. So who was it that had injured her to this extent? Watching her as she healed herself, Xiang Shaoyun saw the entirety of her body. He swore that he wasn't intentionally peeping on her and all this was a coincidence.

If the True Martial Academy disciples found out what Xiang Shaoyun saw today, the entirety of the academy would probably start hunting for him. After all, their beloved goddess just had her entire body seen.

"Um, ah," Devil Concubine started groaning when the medicinal power started working on her body. It was a sound that made one's imagination run wild.

"Gulp," Xiang Shaoyun couldn't help but swallow.

The moment he gulped, Devil Concubine sensed him. She draped a black robe around herself and shouted, "Who is it?"

After wrapping the robe around herself, Devil Concubine charged out. Like a bird startled by the twang of a bow, Xiang Shaoyun started fleeing. But it was at this moment that his invisibility reached the end of its active duration.

He felt like crying. There goes my spotless reputation, he grieved inwardly. What was he to do if he was known as a pervert from now on?

"Bastard! Stand right there!" Devil Concubine roared and flung several throwing knives at him.

Xiang Shaoyun sensed the danger, and his body instantly shifted about and dodged the knives, giving Devil Concubine the opportunity to arrive right behind him and send out a palm attack.

The palm attack did not look strong, but it carried an indescribable power. Xiang Shaoyun's escape path was completely sealed, and a powerful pressure was wrapped around him, making escape impossible.

Chapter 952: A Real Man Doesn't Fight With Womenfolk

Xiang Shaoyun did not know what technique Devil Concubine was using, but he knew she was fearsomely strong. Facing her was basically the same as facing a Sovereign. He did not dare to hold back, and he used the Phantom Shift to move away and avoid the palm attack while shouting, "Beauty, this is a misunderstanding."

No matter what, Xiang Shaoyun was the one at fault. Therefore, he did not strike back and tried explaining himself instead. Devil Concubine was unwilling to listen and sent a rain of palm attacks at him. Each attack was powerful enough to destroy a mountain.

The palm attacks exploded loudly, and a unique corrosive power hard to defend against spread in the air. Xiang Shaoyun kept dodging the attacks like a slippery eel. The attacks brushing past around him were extremely dangerous. If it wasn't for his speed, he would have already been killed.

More importantly, since Devil Concubine could fully lock on to him, it was clear that her soul was also as strong as a Sovereign's and was the reason she could suppress him with her presence.

Any other disciple in his position might have already died. When Devil Concubine failed to land a single hit, she stopped holding back. A clump of dreadful black mist erupted from her body and instantly enveloped the area in darkness.

The Specter Devours The Moon!

In this pitch-black environment, those not cultivating the power of darkness would be greatly suppressed. This technique was one of Devil Concubine's trump cards. She wanted to use it to disrupt Xiang Shaoyun's vision before killing him off.

This move had never failed her before, and she was confident it would continue to work. Like a black serpent, she hid amid the darkness before pouncing at him from an unexpected angle. Her attack was sharp and ruthless, her palm reaching for the back of Xiang Shaoyun's head. Evidently, she was aiming to kill him with one hit.

When Xiang Shaoyun sensed Devil Concubine's killing intent, he became somewhat angered. Both his arms lashed out at her, his attacks accurately finding her as though the darkness around him did not exist.

Dragonscale Arm!

Numerous energy dragons flew out, roaring. The energy dragons were filled with vicious gold energy with traces of flux goldthorn energy, which greatly increased the technique's might. His arms collided with Devil Concubine's palm, blocking the attack. Even so, he was still sent flying away.

Xiang Shaoyun could only use one star for each power, so he was disadvantaged in the exchange, as Devil Concubine cultivated only a single power. Furthermore, her cultivation level was two stages higher. Just blocking her attack was already an amazing feat considering his circumstances.

Devil Concubine was astonished, but she did not stop attacking. Rather, she increased the intensity of her attacks, sending a curtain of palm attacks forward.

Xiang Shaoyun activated his gift of instincts and saw through the incoming barrage. His arms lashed out wildly like machines of destruction, displaying the true might of the Dragonscale Arm. This was a sovereign-grade technique, a technique Xiang Shaoyun had mastered enough to unleash its full power.

But no matter how hard he tried, before absolute strength, he was forced to retreat. Abruptly, Devil Concubine's attacks grew greatly stronger. A ball of light appeared in her palm as she aimed it at Xiang Shaoyun's chest where his heart was at.

The attack was abrupt, swift, and hard to guard against. In the critical moment, Xiang Shaoyun crossed his arms before his chest to block the ball of light. It sent him shooting away, and an intense pain drilled into his arms as though both arms had been broken.

Devil Concubine still didn't stop. She quickly caught up to him like a shadow and sent out more palm attacks. This time, each palm she sent out carried a black ball of light that blasted against Xiang Shaoyun's body like a rain of bombs.

Even with his defenses pushed to the maximum, he was still badly beaten, and his damaged saint armor was probably the only thing keeping him alive. He sensed an enhanced corrosive power invading his body and exhausting his life force.

Shit, there's something weird about this woman's energy, thought Xiang Shaoyun in alarm. He no longer held back and activated the power of flame and lightning in his body. Countless lightning bolts rained down, and clumps of fire blasted the area like meteors.

Lightning Calamity Fiery Star!

Only after using this technique did Xiang Shaoyun's situation ease up. He escaped Devil Concubine's lockdown and flew far away. As he flung his aching arms around, he said, "A real man doesn't fight with womenfolk. I will spare you for now. If you continue pushing it, I will execute you right where you stand!"

Finally, Xiang Shaoyun got the chance to witness the strength of a True Martial Academy disciple. This woman was definitely no weaker than Zhan Wushuang. In fact, she might even be slightly stronger. If she wasn't already injured, she would be even scarier.

Devil Concubine did not say anything. A black halberd appeared in her hands as she nimbly moved forward and swung the halberd at him. Boundless black energy burst out and assumed the form of a nine-tailed fox.

The nine tails spread apart and covered the area, akin to a black curtain covering the sky. Not even a housefly could escape or enter the zone surrounded by the tails. At the same time the tails spread out, the fox clawed at Xiang Shaoyun, attempting to rip him apart.

The might of this attack was far beyond the level of ordinary Sovereigns. It was comparable to the attack of a fifth-stage Sovereign and was Devil Concubine's true strength. She was strong enough to fight a group of genius disciples alone and still emerge victorious.

Xiang Shaoyun was greatly pressured, and he had the urge to send his clone soul out. However, he changed his mind after some hesitation.

Instead, his battle intent surged as he said, "Very well. Let me experience the strength of a top disciple from the True Martial Academy."

He then pulled out some primal inception energy from his astral cosmos sea. Both his fists started shining like a pair of bright stars as he threw them out.

Turning the Big Dipper, Moving the Stars, Reversing the Heaven and Earth!

This was Xiang Shaoyun's ultimate technique, the Cosmos Dao Destroying Fist. Powered by the primal inception energy and thick battle intent, it was strong enough to punch a hole in the sky.

Chapter 953: Entering Eighth-Stage Dragon Ascension Realm

The Cosmos Dao Destroying Fist clashed with Devil Concubine's halberd, sending massive shockwaves in all directions. The shockwaves spread several kilometers away, turning all stones in the area into dust and completely disintegrating the dust in the area.

When the shockwaves from the collision dissipated, two figures could be seen flying in opposite directions. The man's clothes were badly torn, and wounds riddled his body. The woman did not look too good either. Half her black robe had disintegrated, revealing the tender and fair skin underneath. Part of her plump bosom was also exposed.

"I'll remember this. The next time I see you, I'll take your life," said Devil Concubine before leaving.

Instead of giving chase, Xiang Shaoyun replied helplessly, "Lady, this really is a misunderstanding!"

Alas, Devil Concubine refused to listen.

Xiang Shaoyun sighed, "And just like that, I got myself a new enemy. What a tough life. Then again, that figure...it's truly amazing. If she comes after me in the future, I can consider making her my bed-warming maid."

A True Martial Academy disciple would probably go mad and battle him to the death if he knew his thoughts. Using a woman this amazing as a maid? Was that a joke? Xiang Shaoyun did not waste any time and hurriedly left. His focus was still recovering to his peak condition.

Hiding at a quiet place, he released Money and the ghostrunes to protect him from the evil spirits. He then used the Secret Reversal Technique to accelerate his recovery.

The Secret Reversal Technique was indeed worthy of being an extremely rare healing technique. When working alongside Xiang Shaoyun's profundity of wood, it made his wound heal at a speed

visible to the naked eye. The remnant corrosive energy in his body was also slowly being pushed out by Yun Flame.

Devil Concubine's corrosive energy was incredibly overbearing. It could not only destroy one's bodily functions but also exhaust one's life force. Without the powers of extreme yang such as flame and lightning in Xiang Shaoyun's body, he would have been corroded to death.

Even so, he still had to work extremely hard to fully cleanse his body. Around two days later, Xiang Shaoyun finally finished recovering. His body felt much stronger than before, and he also found that his soul power had increased. Previously, his soul power was at the level of an early sixth-stage Soul Foundation Realm cultivator. Now, his soul power had reached mid sixth-stage, and he was only a step away from late sixth-stage.

After spending some time in contemplation, Xiang Shaoyun finally understood something. He muttered, "It must be the flux goldthorn energy that has triggered my limits, allowing both my body and soul to grow greatly. That must be the case."

At that conclusion, he shifted his focus to comprehend the Limit Stimulation Technique and Flux Finger Sword Technique passed to him by Zang Yuan. His focus was still to increase his strength as best as he could. His cultivation level had also reached a boiling point, and he could no longer suppress it. He had to break through.

Thus, he changed his focus again. He was going to break through first. After telling Money and the ghostrunes to stand guard for him, he started stirring the energy in his body. The nine stars were already overflowing with energy. They erupted at once, and the nine energies circulated through his body.

They first entered the astral cosmos sea, then the spine, pushing the draconic aura to 80 percent and causing an even more vivid dragon projection to hover above him. A radiance of nine colors swirled around his body, making him look like a son of god that was dripping with magnificence.

A large number of spirit crystals in his astral cosmos sea dissolved, and strands of pure energy coursed through his body before entering his nine stars. But, of course, the energy from the spirit crystals alone wouldn't be enough. He also needed to absorb the spiritual energy of the world and the astral energy from the stars in the sky to gather enough energy for the breakthrough.

The nearby spiritual energy started converging around him. Astral energy also started flowing from the sky to him. The energy coming from the stars couldn't be seen, but if an expert was here, the

expert would most definitely sense the convergence of energies. It was very rare to see nine different energies flowing down from the stars at the same time.

An incredibly large amount of energies had gathered in the area. Fortunately, he was hiding at a remote location, so his breakthrough hadn't attracted any attention. The energies gathered in his body and expanded his stars, allowing him to smoothly reach the eighth stage.

It did not even take Xiang Shaoyun long to finish his breakthrough. Energies flooded into his body, and he only stopped absorbing energy when his draconic aura reached 85 percent. With that much draconic aura, he smoothly reached mid eighth-stage Dragon Ascension Realm, which was quite a big increase in strength.

He had long been able to break through into the eighth stage, but he had been suppressing it. When Yun Flame had fused with the Noble Glazed Flame, his flame star had also accumulated a large amount of high-tier energy. His gold star's flux goldthorn energy and his dark star's dark origin energy were also of higher quality than regular energies. Thus, it was understandable that he skipped the early stage and reached the mid stage.

After the breakthrough, Xiang Shaoyun opened his eyes, and a sharp radiance shone from them. It was as though the sun and the moon were swirling within his eyes, giving off a great sense of oppression.

His soul power reached the level of a peak sixth-stage Soul Foundation Realm cultivator, not far away from the seventh stage. This was the effect of his cultivation increase. Although his soul power had only gone from mid sixth-stage to peak sixth-stage, it was still a height some people would take years to reach.

The increase was understandable, as Xiang Shaoyun had a filthless soul and the Nether Soul Domain. One could say that he was blessed with talent in terms of soul cultivation. His soul could grow at a speed no person could rival.

He summoned his soul clone and had the clone cultivate the Flux Finger Sword Technique while his main body focused on the Limit Stimulation Technique. What he was doing could shock many people.

Generally, one would only be able to cleanly split one's attention upon reaching the Saint Realm. Xiang Shaoyun was only an Emperor, but he could already do so. It would be hard for one to not be surprised.

The Flux Finger Sword Technique was a sword technique utilizing the flux goldthorn energy. Using one's fingers as a sword, one could form finger swords with the flux goldthorn energy and release sword energy capable of destroying everything. This sword technique was incredibly destructive due to the great power of the flux goldthorn energy, an energy capable of threatening even Saints.

Chapter 954: Body Cleansing

The Flux Finger Sword Technique wasn't a technique one could learn easily. Firstly, it had harsh requirements on the quality of one's finger bones. The finger bones had to be strong enough to withstand the flow of flux goldthorn energy, or one should just forget about using one's fingers as a sword.

Although Xiang Shaoyun had cultivated the Vicious Prison Finger technique before and had finger bones much more durable than a regular person, his finger bones were still not strong enough to withstand the power of the flux goldthorn energy. He still needed to give his fingers some tempering.

Since his soul clone was much stronger than his main body, the clone would have a much easier time practicing the technique. Even so, each time the clone tried using the technique, its fingers would suffer the pain of getting stabbed by countless needles. His only option was to withstand the pain. He would only be able to use the technique after he completely adapted his finger bones to the flux goldthorn energy.

While his clone was cultivating the Flux Finger Sword Technique, his main body was cultivating the Limit Stimulation Technique. The Limit Stimulation Technique utilized a unique high-tier energy to torment one's skin, flesh, meridians, organs, and bones as one used the technique to withstand the pain. The resulting pain would push one's potential, bring one to one's limits, and make one forge a flawless physique.

Cultivating this technique was very much an act of insanity. One could very well turn mad from pain if one failed to withstand the suffering. Xiang Shaoyun had withstood the pain of flame, lightning, and flux goldthorn energy. His fortitude was far greater than a regular person's. Thus, he was willing to give the Limit Stimulation Technique a try no matter how hard it seemed.

He slowly guided the flux goldthorn energy, gradually spreading it over every inch of his body. The stinging sensation assaulted his entire body. He hurriedly started chanting the technique's mantra, using the mantra to harvest the power of pain. His pain intensified, and it reached a point where he started wailing in pain.

Fortunately, Xiang Shaoyun had laid down an isolation restriction in the area. Otherwise, his harrowing wails would spread a great distance. He felt like he had reached the very limits of what pain could feel like. Every inch of his body was suffering. His meridians, organs, bones, and so on were suffering a pain more than 10 times of what he was feeling when he first guided the flux goldthorn energy around his body.

He rolled on the ground, and in pain, he vented his suffering and threw out punches everywhere, leaving numerous fist prints in his surroundings. When practicing a technique like the Limit Stimulation Technique, the longer he withstood the pain, the better it would work. Thus, Xiang Shaoyun clenched his teeth and forced himself to maintain a sliver of consciousness.

Even when he bit into his tongue, he didn't feel it, as the pain he was feeling all over his body was much more intense. After persevering for an hour, he reached the verge of fainting from pain, and he finally withdrew the flux goldthorn energy. He collapsed weakly onto the ground, no longer able to muster any strength.

Even with the end of the torment, he did not fully relax. He was silently relieving the numbing sensation his entire body was feeling, and some impurities started seeping out of his pores. Soon, his entire body was wrapped by a layer of foul and viscous substances.

He had just undergone a body cleansing process, returning his body to the purity level of a baby's. Generally speaking, only extremely valuable treasures would be able to cleanse one's body in this manner. Using the Limit Stimulation Technique, apart from the cleansing, one could also strengthen one's body, discover one's hidden potential, and forge a filthless physique.

If Zang Yuan knew that Xiang Shaoyun was able to last an hour during his first cultivation session, he would probably jump out of his grave from sheer shock. After all, back when he first cultivated this technique, he had fainted before even lasting half an hour.

He was only able to last an hour after cultivating the technique for a year, achieving the same body cleansing effect.

Xiang Shaoyun's clone returned to the main body and shared in the benefit of the cleansing, allowing his soul to grow as well.

His plan was to stop cultivating the Flux Finger Sword Technique. Instead, he would be focusing on the Limit Stimulation Technique for a while to temper both his body and soul. When his body reached a certain level, his finger bones would also be able to reach a level where they could withstand the flux goldthorn energy. At that time, he would be able to form a sword with his fingers.

After an hour of rest, he felt much better. It was then that he smelled the stench on his body. He was disgusted and hurriedly used the profundity of water to wash himself. Only then did he feel better.

As he swung his arms around, he could feel that his entire body had turned swifter. His entire body was brimming with energy and life force, an extremely amazing sensation. It was as though his very pores were breathing in the air around him. His energy circulation had also hastened a lot, and his senses had improved considerably. In short, he was feeling something so wondrous no word was adequate to describe it.

"Worthy of being the Limit Stimulation Technique. The more pain I can endure, the more of my potential I can force out. The potential of mankind has always been boundless," muttered Xiang Shaoyun in a pleased manner.

After resting for three days, he finally recovered to his peak condition and got used to his cleansed body. He then went straight back to cultivating the Limit Stimulation Technique.

A new round of torture began. This time, he was also punching his surroundings and destroying everything. He wasn't exactly applying a lot of force, but his punches were too strong, and the rocks around him couldn't take his punches. He punched so hard his fists started bleeding. Terrible wounds appeared on his fists, wounds that were the result of him not using any energy in his punches.

An hour passed, and the cultivation session ended. Many impurities seeped out of his pores this time as well, but there weren't as many as the previous time. That was proof that the number of impurities within his body had reduced considerably.

Also, it was also probable that Xiang Shaoyun had lasted the same length of time with an improved body, so the technique wasn't working as well for him. Even so, he had still reaped considerable gains.

The more impurities he expelled from his body, the better he felt. Not only had his senses been enhanced, but his energy circulation had also increased in speed and responsiveness. It was as though he had been reborn anew.

An old tool would eventually deteriorate in quality, but when the tool was reforged and optimized, it would be a much better tool. That was what was happening to his body. His body was still young, but he had not cultivated it during his childhood.

Although he had soaked in many medicinal liquids to temper his body, it did not guarantee a body as excellent as someone who had cultivated since childhood. Through the Limit Stimulation Technique, he was able to slowly gain a body comparable to someone who had cultivated since young. Having such a constitution was very beneficial for his future cultivation.

Chapter 955: Attention Splitting

For a period of two months, Xiang Shaoyun fully immersed himself in cultivating the Limit Stimulation Technique. Originally, he would start wailing every three or four days. The interval shortened to two days until, finally, it became a daily occurrence. Also, the length of time the wails persisted also increased up to a certain point until recently. These days, no wails could be heard from him anymore.

Currently, his upper body was bare, revealing his sleek and glossy skin that looked even prettier than a woman's skin, presenting quite an enchanting sight. Anyone seeing him now would gladly claim that he was the child of the heavens, and nobody would object. It was hard to imagine that a man so perfect would exist in the world. He was so good looking it was overwhelming, which was a result of the new body he had gained after the tempering.

Xiang Shaoyun had never felt better before. It was as though he could free manipulate any energy with a casual wave of his hand. His energy absorption and circulation speed had also increased. In short, everything about him had improved.

His cultivation level had reached late eighth-stage Dragon Ascension Realm. It had only been two months since his breakthrough. He had done so without using any herbs, medicines, or spring water. From this, one could see just how beneficial it was for one to cultivate the Limit Stimulation Technique.

Additionally, his soul power was nearing the level of a seventh-stage Soul Foundation Realm expert, and it wouldn't be long before his soul power reached that level. His Nether Soul Domain's range had also increased, while his body had become much stronger. He wouldn't feel anything from regular attacks.

Xiang Shaoyun stopped cultivating the Limit Stimulation Technique but not because he had fully mastered it. In fact, he had merely gotten started. The Limit Stimulation Technique had seven stages in total.

The first stage was body cleansing, the second stage was skin of steel, the third stage was meridians like river, the fourth stage was organs like the sun, the fifth stage was bones as weapon, the sixth stage was ocean of life force, and the seventh stage was glittering stars.

Each stage reinforced different parts of his body. Xiang Shaoyun had only completed the first stage of cultivation. When he was done cultivating all seven stages, he would form a true flawless battle physique. Unfortunately, Xiang Shaoyun only had the mantra for the first four stages. Whether he could obtain the mantra of the remaining stages in the future would be up to luck.

He was in no rush to start cultivating the second stage. After all, the competition only lasted six months, and half the time had already passed. He was in no rush to rob other participants, but he still needed to use the remaining time to enrich his collection of battle techniques and prepare for the final fight of the competition.

After the body cleansing, his cultivation of the Flux Finger Sword Technique was much easier. After all, he could now resist the flux goldthorn energy's torment. At this point, he no longer felt any pain. Perhaps it was because he was already numbed by it. Or perhaps he had gotten his body to adapt to the flux goldthorn energy. When he closed his fingers together, an inch-long golden radiance appeared around his fingers. The radiance wasn't long, but it was akin to an unstoppable sharp dagger.

He swung the golden radiance at a rock, and it cut through it like a hot knife through butter, instantly splitting the rock into two.

"The Flux Finger Sword Technique is indeed impressive. If I can form an actual sword with it, I can use it as a powerful weapon to slaughter all my opponents with," said Xiang Shaoyun in a pleased manner.

He then placed his full focus on cultivating the Flux Finger Sword Technique. At the same time, he had his soul clone cultivate a battle technique called the Sunshooter Technique.

The Sunshooter Technique was a technique he had gotten from a Nine Palace Academy disciple he had killed in the secret space. The disciple he killed was known as the Arrow Emperor, and this was the technique he cultivated, which was an archery technique utilizing the power of flame. Upon mastery, one could shoot down even the sun. This was a top-tier sovereign technique.

After about half a month, he obtained an initial mastery of the Flux Finger Sword Technique, and his Sunshooter Technique reached a greater mastery. One could say that his ability to split his

attention had brought him an unimaginable benefit, allowing him to cultivate two different techniques at the same time.

After ending the cultivation session, Xiang Shaoyun felt incomparably fresh. He was confident that even if he faced Zhan Wushuang and Devil Concubine once again, he wouldn't need to use the primal inception energy anymore and would still stand a good chance against them.

He put his damaged saint armor away and wore a simple green outfit. When he stood there, his lofty figure actually gave off a sensation that he was someone to be looked up to.

With the Shark Devourer Saber on his back, he sat atop Money and withdrew the ghostrunes before flying away in a different direction. As for Aikai, he was a beastman. Although he was Xiang Shaoyun's follower, he had a different identity from Money and couldn't provide any assistance. Thus, he could only stay in the astral cosmos sea and continue cultivating inside.

After all, this was a competition between disciples. Mounts and puppets were allowed, but followers and servants were not, which was why Xiang Shaoyun had not released Aikai yet.

Xiang Shaoyun's next destination was not the massive palace since that was the place Zang Yuan had said the "lord" was at. Since it was a place even a super expert like Zang Yuan feared, going there would be the same as suicide.

However, many of the disciples were heading toward the massive palace. They all believed that there were some massive opportunities to be found there, opportunities that could allow them to reach heaven in a single bound.

The only thing those disciples found upon reaching the massive palace was countless corpses. The corpses were under the evil spirits' control and were madly attacking the disciples.

Some disciples were able to break into the palace, but none of them were seen again. Eventually, people came to realize that perhaps there was something terrifying inside. Even so, the many disciples were still throwing themselves to the palace like moths to fire. Ouyang Chuanqi, Han Chenfei, and the rest were among them.

After getting through the evil spirits, they arrived before the gate. There, a human skin dripping with blood could be seen hanging on the gate. It was as though the blood on the skin would never dry out, a sight that shocked anyone looking at it.

However, Ouyang Chuanqi, Han Chenfei, and the rest still decided to grit their teeth and enter. After entering, they found that their companions were no longer by their side. It was as though they had all been separated from each other, but it also seemed like they had fallen into an illusion that was clouding their perception.

Some weird shadows started appearing around them, like emissaries of death trying to bring them to hell.

Chapter 956: This Is a Sign of Great Danger

Xiang Shaoyun started searching all over the secret space, but he did not find anything too valuable. It seemed like the entire space had been scoured by the other disciples, leaving only corpses and evil spirits behind.

On the other hand, the ghostrunes had been able to feed incessantly on the evil spirits, growing stronger and stronger. Gui Qi was now a second-stage Devil Sovereign while the other ghostrunes had become Devil Sovereigns. With their talent to attack souls, they were now terrifying opponents to have.

One day, Xiang Shaoyun silently arrived near the massive palace. He was trying to see if he could find the Overlord Legion members and Xia Liuhui. He had to make sure they were well. When he arrived, a group approached him.

It was Jiang Qi and her companions from the Sacred Deer Academy. They were the same group Xiang Shaoyun had encountered at the beach when he was looking for directions to the island. He had a decent impression of Jiang Qi, but he had no idea why they were approaching him.

Jiang Qi cupped her hands at Xiang Shaoyun and said, "Greetings, Young Master Xiang."

Xiang Shaoyun returned the greeting and asked, "How may I help you, Senior Sister Jiang?"

Jiang Qi was the Sacred Deer Academy's number one genius. She was elegant and beautiful, and she did not have the air of arrogance all the other geniuses carry about them. In fact, she felt amiable and approachable.

She lightly nibbled on her lip and said, "I apologize for what happened earlier. I hope you won't keep that in your mind."

The people with her couldn't understand why she was apologizing. As far as they were concerned, they weren't at fault and there was no need to raise the topic at all.

Xiang Shaoyun waved his hands and said, "Don't worry, Senior Sister Jiang. I was the one who had intruded upon you."

"That incident ends here, then," said Jiang Qi with a smile. "What do you think about going into the massive palace with us?"

This was her actual goal. Xiang Shaoyun had an impressive combat strength, and if he went with them, he would be able to help them reach farther.

Xiang Shaoyun answered, "Sorry, but I don't intend to enter."

"Why so, Young Master Xiang? Have you not noticed that this whole surrounding area is actually the palace's outer perimeter? There must be some amazing treasures inside, or even some inheritance that can help us enter the next realm faster," said Jiang Qi. She was finding it hard to believe that Xiang Shaoyun didn't intend to enter.

Before Xiang Shaoyun could say anything, the man dressed in gold beside Jiang Qi said with derision, "The palace is filled with danger. He is smart enough to know he's not good enough to survive, and it is understandable that he doesn't dare to enter."

His words were definitely unkind, and even Jiang Qi frowned. However, Xiang Shaoyun acted like he didn't hear anything. He couldn't be bothered to get into an argument for something so petty.

"What if I tell you Xia Liuhui is inside?" Jiang Qi said.

"What? He entered?" Xiang Shaoyun exclaimed in alarm.

"That's right. It has been half a month, and nobody has seen him since. Those who entered with him have gone missing too," said Jiang Qi solemnly.

The news made Xiang Shaoyun nervous. Without any hesitation, he charged toward the gate, riding atop Money.

Several puppets under the evil spirits' control started throwing themselves at him. The puppets consisted of powerful zombies and demonic beasts, and their cultivation realms were not low. They could all attack with powerful corrosive energy, and they had killed dozens of disciples so far. This human and his mount were their new targets.

"He's being too reckless! Let's go!" Jiang Qi roared and charged over with her group, intending to join hands with Xiang Shaoyun.

What they saw next stunned all of them. They saw Xiang Shaoyun drawing his Shark Devourer Saber and swinging it at the puppets, destroying them with pure brute force. None of the puppets could stop him, and eventually, he alone was left standing before the gate.

The puppets were all sovereign grade. Perhaps they weren't comparable with actual mid-stage Sovereigns, but they were strong enough that fourth-stage Sovereigns couldn't defeat them easily. Xiang Shaoyun was only a Dragon Ascension Realm cultivator, yet he was able to cut his way through so easily, demonstrating an incredible combat strength.

The man in gold beside Jiang Qi gulped, and he started trembling. He knew that even if Jiang Qi herself fought, she would only be able to deal with one or two puppets. And yet Xiang Shaoyun was able to charge right through them easily. Wasn't he a tad bit too strong?

"Go with him!" Jiang Qi shouted and chased after Xiang Shaoyun.

As far as she was concerned, if she stayed with him, her safety would be guaranteed. Standing before the gate, Xiang Shaoyun stared at the human skin dripping with blood and frowned. Inwardly, he thought, This is a sign of great danger.

He activated the Nether Soul Domain and sent his senses into the palace. Unfortunately, his senses weren't able to enter. He grew even more cautious.

"This is a place even Zang Yuan feared. I need to be careful," muttered Xiang Shaoyun. With the power of Yun Flame wrapped around him and Money, they entered the palace.

As soon as they entered, something odd happened. Xiang Shaoyun felt like both he and Money had fallen into an illusion. He completely lost all sense of direction, and he couldn't see anything but a boundless expanse of mist. A chill started creeping up his spine.

"Money, can you see what's around us?" Xiang Shaoyun asked.

Money replied anxiously, "No."

"Come back inside the astral cosmos sea immediately," said Xiang Shaoyun.

"No, boss. I can sense an aura with the same origin as my race. I need to go take a look," said Money as he actually took the lead and left.

Xiang Shaoyun calmed down and tried figuring out what was going on with his gift of instincts. Unfortunately, the place was filled with a dense mist, and a formation seemed to be in place. He was unable to detect anything.

Suddenly, he smelled a corrosive stench. The stench was extremely faint, and if he hadn't cultivated the Limit Stimulation Technique, he wouldn't even notice it. Thankfully, the technique had also greatly enhanced his sense of smell. He could also smell that the source of the stench wasn't too far from him.

Suddenly, a rope shot out from the mist. The attack came too abruptly. Fortunately, Xiang Shaoyun had prepared himself. He instantly lowered his head before spinning around and swinging his saber backward.

Clank!

Chapter 957: Celestial King's Palace

Xiang Shaoyun put a lot of strength into the swing, and even a sovereign-grade puppet would be directly cut in two. But his saber actually struck something hard, creating a crisp clank. Money moved as though he could read Xiang Shaoyun's mind and instantly turned small before coiling around the attacker, trying to figure out who the attacker was.

Money was as strong as a Demon Sovereign, and the attacker had not expected to be caught. The attacker was dragged before Xiang Shaoyun, but it continued resisting and attacked Money's body. In his pain, Money released the attacker.

Even so, Xiang Shaoyun was able to get a clear look at who the attacker was. The attacker was an ancient zombie clad in a set of armor. It carried a rope in hand, the same rope it had used to attack Xiang Shaoyun.

Without any hesitation, Xiang Shaoyun sent a blanket of flame toward the zombie. He assumed that the zombie was also under the control of an evil spirit like the zombies he had encountered outside. But this time, he was mistaken. The zombie was still moving freely amid the flame and continued attacking with the rope.

"This is an actual puppet zombie!" Xiang Shaoyun exclaimed in alarm and proceeded to swing his saber repeatedly, pushing the zombie back again and again.

The zombie had an astonishingly strong defense, and it did not fear his attacks. It continued sending its rope at Xiang Shaoyun, as though its goal was to capture instead of to kill him. Xiang Shaoyun naturally wouldn't give it a chance. He moved away from Money and spun around the zombie. An inch-long golden radiance appeared around his fingers as he stabbed the radiance at the zombie's neck like it was a dagger.

Finally, the zombie's head was severed. The zombie collapsed onto the ground and could no longer attack. After putting the corpse away, he found that Money was gone.

"Money, where are you?" Xiang Shaoyun shouted.

He received no reply. It was as though Money had vanished into thin air.

"This is a terrifying illusory formation. I need to break the formation before I can get out of here," muttered Xiang Shaoyun. He started using the profundity of earth to receive feedback from the ground beneath him, trying to look for the formation's weak point.

The profundity of earth was supposed to allow one to have a clear grasp of one's surroundings, and it had never failed Xiang Shaoyun. But this time, it failed him.

He could sense some formation lines from the ground, but there were a lot of them, and they spread out and covered an extremely wide area. Not even the profundity of earth could let him fully sense the entire formation. It was as though he was only seeing the tip of an iceberg.

"This is a powerful and massive formation," he exclaimed in admiration when he sensed the formation's profoundness.

Xiang Shaoyun didn't know much about formations, but he had read some books about them. He had also heard some simple theories from Zhuge Zhantian. When Xiang Shaoyun noticed just how powerful the formation was, he became even more cautious. He moved slowly, trying to search for the path of survival.

His senses found a certain path, and he followed it. He took the first step, and when nothing happened, he took the second step. That went on for nine steps until everything before his eyes suddenly changed.

A small path appeared before him. The alley was only wide enough for one person. The green path on the ground emanated an ancient sensation, and the mist that seemed everywhere couldn't enter the pathway, as though the path was the path leading to freedom.

Xiang Shaoyun trod the path, knowing that it either led to the outside world or to an importation location within the palace. Whatever the end result might be, he had to walk the path to figure out more.

The path wasn't short. Even after walking for an hour, the end was nowhere to be seen. However, Xiang Shaoyun was currently standing on elevated ground, and he was now overlooking all the dense mist.

Many zombies could be seen roaming around in the mist. They were akin to prison guards in charge of capturing all the intruding disciples.

Fortunately, the zombies weren't killing the disciples. They merely caught all the disciples and threw them somewhere that seemed to be some sort of burial ground with thick corrosive aura and a massive amount of death aura. If the caught disciples couldn't resist the auras, they might eventually turn into zombie puppets and then fall under the formation's control, becoming part of the palace's guards.

Xiang Shaoyun felt a chill creep up his back when he saw the disciples being captured. If it wasn't for his extraordinary reaction time, he would have probably suffered the same fate.

He also saw Jiang Qi's group charging along with two zombies approaching them. He couldn't just stand around and watch on as she was captured. He hurriedly transmitted to her, "Immediately move to your right, or all of you will die. This is an illusory formation. Nobody can escape this place."

Jiang Qi reacted quickly and moved to the right. She also told her companions to do the same. Ultimately, only three of them were able to escape, whereas the zombies captured the other four.

Xiang Shaoyun did not attempt to rescue the four. Instead, he moved faster along the path, constantly looking around for Money and Xia Liuhui.

Soon, he found that, like him, Money was also on a path. However, Money's path led to an entirely different location. They could see each other, but their paths were separated by thick mist, and they had no way of approaching each other.

"Money, let us both search for our own opportunities," Xiang Shaoyun transmitted.

"Ok. Be careful, boss," replied Money.

Money then vanished, traveling farther down his path, while Xiang Shaoyun continued searching for Xia Liuhui. At the same time, Xiang Shaoyun was also trying to see if any Overlord Legion members had been tossed into the burial ground.

After scanning the burial ground and finding that nobody close to him was there, he started moving faster down his path.

After an indeterminate amount of time, he finally reached the end and found himself at a big city, a big floating city, to be precise. He was currently standing before the door of a towering palace.

The palace looked ancient and exuded a majestic aura, as though it was the most exalted being in existence. On the pillars around the palace were sculptures of dragons and phoenixes. The walls inlaid with gold markings, the massive vermilion door, the bell by the entrance, and the qilin statues before the door all signified just how extraordinary the ancient palace was.

Hanging above the door was a wooden signboard with three golden words: Celestial King's Palace. It was a domineering name, and the three words emanated a massive pressure that gave one a sensation that these were words not to be blasphemed.

Chapter 958: Falling Coffin

The Celestial King's Palace was a place to be worshipped. It was located high in the air, as though it was overlooking all living beings. Xiang Shaoyun knew it definitely hid a massive secret, and the secret probably lay right before his eyes. It remained to be seen whether he could uncover it.

Just as he was about to approach the Celestial King's Palace, some memory fragments surfaced in his mind. He saw the leader of the army of 50,000 soldiers he had seen when he had gotten the Holy Spirit Banner. He also learned that the leader was known as the Celestial King. This palace was his private residence.

The Celestial King was the war god of the past, one who had served his nation with countless military victories. Ultimately, he was schemed against and was forced to turn from his own nation. Instead of robbing his country, he stayed to himself and lived a carefree life. Alas, the people from his previous country did not wish to spare him. They amassed a large army and attacked him, and he ultimately fought to the death.

But had he truly died? That was still a mystery, as Xiang Shaoyun saw the same war god returning to the Celestial King's Palace with his entire body dyed red in blood. The Celestial King eventually locked himself in the palace.

The bloody human skin hanging outside was the skin of his enemy. He had personally skinned his enemy and hung the skin on the gate to warn all future intruders. After isolating himself, he sealed the entire secret space, and this place vanished from the face of the world.

This had all happened many, many years ago. Xiang Shaoyun was somewhat stunned when he saw the memory fragments for no apparent reason. He had a feeling the war god had some sort of relationship with him. It almost felt like he was the same war god, but that shouldn't be possible.

He was confident because from some of his recovered past life's memories, he was the Overlord, and his mount was Big Black. The Heaven Conquering Overlord Manual and Overlord's Nine Nether Steps were his ultimate techniques. He was sure of these memories. If so, what were the memories he had been seeing recently?

Xiang Shaoyun couldn't understand it even when using the Light of Wisdom. He could only follow his intuition and walk into the palace. The palace was gorgeous and luxurious. It was comparable with the most opulent of palaces. Standing within, one would feel how tiny one was.

In the middle of the palace was an ancient coffin inlaid with nine crystals, each the size of a human head. Alas, the crystals had lost their luster and were out of energy.

In front of the coffin was a kneeling corpse that appeared to have been stabbed to death. The corpse was much sturdier than all the other zombies in the secret space. It had a general's helmet on its head and a bloody set of heavy armor on its body. The blood had dried, and the corpse looked as though it was kneeling with remorse before the coffin.

Xiang Shaoyun knew that this person was the same villain who had schemed against the war god. He was once the most trusted general under the war god's command. He schemed to take over the war god's position but was ultimately stabbed to death here. He had been kneeling in a remorseful position here ever since then.

His name was Chong Bao. His armor and helmet were excellent treasures that even Saints would covet.

Xiang Shaoyun naturally coveted them as well, but for some reason, a sense of indignance and disdain suddenly appeared in his heart. He was filled with derision toward him, and he naturally had no interest in the villain's possessions.

He wanted to approach the coffin, but he suddenly noticed the faintly discernible formation in the palace. It seemed like if he took another step forward, he would die. He took out the Holy Spirit Banner. The banner would probably resonate with the coffin. Perhaps it would be his key to leaving.

Sure enough, when the Holy Spirit Banner was taken out, the numerous evil spirits in the banner roared, and it burst out with battle intent. The entire palace darkened, and a unique chilling aura pervaded the room.

Xiang Shaoyun sensed a different energy wrap around him, completely sealing his body. He was then pulled toward the coffin. The formation power retreated and did not hurt him.

The coffin lid opened, and when Xiang Shaoyun looked inside, his pupils shrank. His handsome face warped as though he had seen something terrifying. He was then thrown into the coffin before the lid slid back. All that happened seemed like a dream, but it had indeed happened.

Not long after Xiang Shaoyun entered the coffin, the massive palace's illusory formation vanished, revealing all the zombies hidden amid the mist. A part of the disciples at the burial ground managed to escape, but the rest were dead. The entire palace turned into a dilapidated building. It no longer looked like the magnificent palace it once was.

The Celestial King's Palace had also vanished, or to be precise, it had once again concealed itself. Nobody could find it anymore. The trapped disciples heaved a breath of relief and hurriedly fled, trying to look for a place to recuperate from the injuries they had sustained in the palace.

Of the Overlord Legion members, Yuan Xuefen was killed, and the others survived. Ouyang Chuanqi had survived relying on a defensive treasure given to him by his clan. Han Chenfei was protected by a defensive treasure of Glacier Palace. Xuan Yuantian had similarly survived using his own trump card.

Among them, Tang Longfei was the only one who had crawled out of the burial ground. He was basically half dead at that point. His entire body was filled with death aura, and he seemed to have aged significantly. If he couldn't receive appropriate treatment in time, he would probably not stay alive for long.

As for Xia Liuhui, he was nowhere to be found. It was unknown if he was dead or had stumbled upon his own fortuitous encounter. More than half the disciples that had entered the palace were killed. This was a disastrous loss.

Naturally, some of them had been able to discover some treasures from the side palaces. With the formation gone, some continued their search while some even started aiming for the zombies, which could also be considered treasures.

Battles erupted all over the dilapidated palace. As for Money, he had reached the palace's rear garden. There, he found a horn that was once a battle horn. It had been broken and tossed to the rear garden by someone.

Money could sense that the horn was made from a celestial horned dragonsnake's horn. For him, it was an extremely important treasure. Before he could get the horn, some True Martial Academy disciples appeared. They were the Little Overlord and his companions, and they snatched the horn before Money could get it.

Money was understandably furious. He engaged the group in an intense battle, but they were too strong, and he was forced to flee. The Little Overlord had no intention of sparing him. If it wasn't for Money's speed, he would have been captured.

"You dare snatch my treasure? My boss will snatch it back for me!" threatened Money before leaving.

Chapter 959: Each With Their Own Gains

Money was extremely depressed after losing the horn. He moved around at a rapid speed, trying to find Xiang Shaoyun as quickly as possible. Instead of finding Xiang Shaoyun, he found Tang Longfei dying. He was greatly alarmed and hurriedly dragged him out of the dilapidated palace.

He then spat out some silver lightning liquid and fed it to Tang Longfei, effectively saving Tang Longfei's life. The silver lightning liquid was a liquid of extreme yang. Not only could it heal injuries, but it could also expel evil and poison. Thus, Tang Longfei's condition stabilized.

"Thank you, Money," said Tang Longfei weakly.

"Don't worry about it. You're my boss's brother, so you're my brother as well. Focus on recovering," said Money.

Tang Longfei stopped talking. He sat up and circulated his energy to continue healing. He also took out some of the treasures he had been hoarding and used them to expel the death aura from his body. If he allowed the death aura to remain, his future in cultivation would become bleak.

He was, after all, the son of a Bloodsin City governor. His father had naturally given him some life-preserving treasures.

Meanwhile, Ouyang Chuanqi, like the other disciples, started exploring the damaged palaces for treasures after he was freed from the illusory formation.

Ouyang Chuanqi and some other disciples found a broken cauldron in one of the palaces. Initially, nobody paid the cauldron any attention. But when Ouyang Chuanqi inserted some flame energy into it, the cauldron started shining with an indescribable radiance. A clump of flame burst out of it, forming a unique flame that was much more powerful than what he had inserted.

When the other disciples noticed, one of them exclaimed in alarm, "This cauldron is not fully damaged!"

The moment the voice rang out, a group of people charged at Ouyang Chuanqi, aiming for the cauldron. Ouyang Chuanqi was a ninth-stage Dragon Ascension Realm cultivator. His combat strength was valiant, and he unleashed the might of his fiery spear against his opponents.

Ouyang Chuanqi was a prodigy of the Dragon Phoenix Academy, and he stood at the very peak of the pyramid even among the four academies. Not many disciples could face him, but that did not mean nobody could. Currently, he was engaged in a battle with a True Martial Academy prodigy.

This prodigy was Gu Feng, whom Xiang Shaoyun had once met. She had impressive combat strength, and her battle with Ouyang Chuanqi became increasingly intense. Both combatants were from ancient clans. They each had powerful trump cards, and when they started fighting each other, others couldn't get involved even if they wanted to.

"Hand the Heaven Refining Cauldron over. This is not something you can own," demanded Gu Feng.

"Come take it if you can," said Ouyang Chuanqi. Holding the Heaven Refining Cauldron with one hand, he stabbed his spear out repeatedly with his other hand, unleashing a series of ruthless attacks.

"Since you're looking for death, don't blame me for what's about to happen," said Gu Feng. She soared into the sky as though she had transformed into a phoenix. She repeatedly stabbed with her sword, sending numerous sword energies akin to a rain of feathers toward Ouyang Chuanqi.

Gu Feng was ranked seventh in the True Martial Academy. Her combat strength was exceptional. In fact, she was even stronger than Ouyang Chuanqi, and she had been fully suppressing him in their fight.

However, Ouyang Chuanqi had also cultivated for many years. He had rich combat experience, and he fought while retreating, not giving Gu Feng any chance to force him into a fight to the death.

Gu Feng's companions tried surrounding Ouyang Chuanqi, but he still forged a path of blood out of the encirclement and quickly fled far away. It hadn't been easy for Gu Feng to finally lay her eyes on a treasure. She was unwilling to let Ouyang Chuanqi flee. She gave chase with all her power, incredibly determined to snatch the Heaven Refining Cauldron.

Elsewhere, Han Chenfei obtained an ore of 10,000-year-old profound frost iron, which was an important material for forging saint-grade weapons. It was extremely rare. She also found a well emitting a frosty aura, and she suspected that the well contained a treasure with the frost property. Her plan was to enter and see if there was anything to be found inside.

However, before she could enter, some Nine Palace Academy and Sacred Deer Academy disciples rushed over to enter as well. Han Chenfei was a ninth-stage Dragon Ascension Realm cultivator, but that did not mean she could afford to completely disregard the other academies' disciples.

On the contrary, one particular Nine Palace Academy disciple was even stronger than her. He overbearingly occupied the well and did not let anyone else enter. He was Leng Jiang, ranked five in the Nine Palace Academy. He was similarly a frost cultivator.

"Little girl, want to enter the frost well with me? If you can agree to become my cultivation partner, I will let you join me down there. What do you think?" offered Leng Jiang after scanning Han Chenfei's body with a lecherous look.

Han Chenfei was the number two beauty of the Dragon Phoenix Academy. There was no doubting that she was an exceptionally charming woman. It wasn't surprising that Leng Jiang would be infatuated with her.

Han Chenfei's pupils spun around as she pondered. Then, a mesmerizing smile formed on her face as she said, "Sure. Let's enter together."

She walked toward Leng Jiang, taking dainty and elegant steps. Leng Jiang might seem infatuated, but he was still on high alert. He wouldn't give her any chance to play any tricks on him. Just as Han Chenfei was about to reach Leng Jiang, she suddenly tossed something out. Leng Jiang reacted instantly and swung his weapon at the item tossed at him.

Bang!

When his weapon struck the item, an incredibly powerful force erupted and blasted him away. A certain fragrance suffused the area, and Leng Jiang inhaled some of it accidentally. His vision immediately blurred. Han Chenfei took the opportunity to step past him and jumped into the well.

"Vile woman, I won't spare you!" Leng Jiang roared and also jumped into the well.

The nearby disciples rushed forward and jumped inside. Soon, wails rang out. Several people could be seen fleeing the well in panic. They were frozen when they escaped, and it was clear they had failed to withstand the frost energy inside. It was either that or there was something terrifying waiting at the well's bottom.

Neither Han Chenfei nor Leng Jiang was seen leaving the well. It was unknown which of them was the eventual victor.

Elsewhere, Xuan Yuantian had also found a treasure. However, his strength was in the middle tier among all the disciples, so it was extremely unlikely that he could get the treasure with so many competing disciples.

Seeing that he did not have much chance against them, he decisively left to search other locations, hoping that he would be lucky enough to find other treasures. And he was indeed lucky. At a certain location neglected by all other disciples, he stumbled upon a decent gain.

Chapter 960: A Dream of the Battlefield

While the numerous disciples were busy fighting for everything they found in the secret space, a certain palace was hidden amid the clouds within the crack of space. Nobody could detect it, and nobody knew what was happening in the palace.

The coffin still lay there silently, and the corpse kneeling before it still remained unmoving. Nothing had changed, apart from the nine crystals atop the coffin that were now shining. The radiance wasn't particularly bright, but it looked rather unique.

Why had Xiang Shaoyun been pulled into the coffin? And what did he see that was so shocking his expression twisted? When the coffin lid opened, he actually saw a corpse that looked exactly the same as him lying inside. The only difference was that the corpse looked older. It was clad in ancient armor, still looking heroic and handsome. It did not lose any of its good looks even in death.

When the coffin released an odd power that pulled him inside, the corpse disappeared. In the corpse's place was him, lying where the corpse was. This was a scene that would shock many people, and it was also a scene that nobody would think he would survive from.

The coffin was the final resting place of the dead. With Xiang Shaoyun lying inside, it was as though he was now a living dead. It was most certainly inauspicious. Xiang Shaoyun was

completely unaware of what was happening to him. Or to be precise, it was as though he had vanished from existence.

By the time he regained awareness, he had arrived at a battlefield, surrounded by slaughter and warcries. He was seated atop a chariot pulled by six iron dragons. Clad in thick armor with his cloak fluttering behind him, he looked incredibly striking and handsome. When he laid sight on the majestic army before him, a look of confusion covered his eyes.

"What is going on? Why am I on this battlefield?" Xiang Shaoyun's head was filled with questions.

Xiang Shaoyun was completely confused, but he was no longer given the time to think as an arrow suddenly flew toward him. The arrow was approaching with a velocity that only a Sovereign could shoot.

Xiang Shaoyun recovered from his shock and managed to barely dodge the arrow. Even so, the arrow still graced his face and left a wound. A burning pain assaulted his face.

"This isn't a dream," thought Xiang Shaoyun as he rubbed his face blankly.

"My king, are you fine? Are you going to give up just like this?" asked a soldier beside Xiang Shaoyun.

Xiang Shaoyun looked at the soldier before looking at the incoming army. His eyes burned as he roared, "Kill!"

Dream or reality, he still had to slaughter a path out of this. Perhaps only then would he know if this was actually a dream or if he had been transported somewhere else. He unfurled the banner in his hand, and a thick battle intent surged out, showcasing the demeanor of a mighty general.

Kill! Kill! Kill!

He only had a small number of soldiers by his side, but they all roared ferociously, displaying no fear toward the incoming army. They embraced death like home, and they charged forth fearlessly.

They might be the rebel army, but they were also meritorious soldiers of the country. They had been reduced into rebels by some scheming villain, and they felt greatly insulted by that. Some of them

even had their families killed because of it, and they were filled with fury. There was a saying that an army burning with righteous indignation was bound to win.

Their emotions infected Xiang Shaoyun. He was their leader, the one who had led them in this rebellion. Thus, he had to set an example. Otherwise, he would be an unqualified leader. He took out the Sunshooter Bow and formed an energy arrow before shooting it at the leader of the opposing army.

Using the Sunshooter Bow and the Sunshooter Technique, one could shoot down even the sun and the moon.

His arrow was unleashed with the primal inception energy powered by his mental power. Like a rainbow, the arrow trailed through the air and bloomed with a blinding radiance that streaked across the entire battlefield as it flew toward the opposing leader.

"What power is this? Why is it shining with nine divine colors?" the opposing leader exclaimed in shock. He swung his saber at the incoming arrow.

Boom!

A loud explosion ensued as a massive shockwave rippled out. The leader stood firm and was uninjured, but the impact sent his helmet flying.

Insulted, the leader roared in anger, "Kill all these rebels! Spare none of them!"

His army charged forward in waves. Attacks numerous enough to blot out the sky flew through the air as the army clashed.

For some reason, Xiang Shaoyun seemed to know about army formations very well. As he swung his saber, he roared, "Vanguard, act as the arrow. Flanks, act as the wings. Sally forth in a crane formation!"

At his command, his soldiers entered the crane formation to face the incoming army. Each soldier was an individual with both courage and strength. Individually, the soldiers of his army were stronger than the soldiers of the opposing army. They worked together to amass a strength that could not be underestimated.

The incoming attacks were all blocked before the army charged into the midst of the opposing army, wreaking havoc in their army formation.

Xiang Shaoyun issued commands calmly and steadily. He could see every change occurring on the battlefield, as though he was looking at a chessboard. Despite the dangerous situation he was in and his lack of chess pieces, he struggled on. Even if he couldn't win, taking down more of the opposing chess pieces would still make his death worthwhile.

A chaotic battle ensued. Warhorns sounded unceasingly as the two imposing armies clashed repeatedly. Blood and limbs flew everywhere, and cries of pain filled the area. War was cruel, and so were the armies fighting in the war. Rather than the weapons of war, it was the human heart that was cruel.

When Xiang Shaoyun saw that his army was on the verge of defeat, he couldn't hold back anymore. He roared, and he pounced forth like a beast. Stepping on the shoulder of his soldiers, he charged toward the opposing army.

With the Shark Devourer Saber in one hand and the Overlord Skyslaying Saber in the other, he slashed at his enemies. With one slash, the saber attack crashed into the enemies like a raging river and reaped over 10 lives at once. With another slash, a divine lightning bolt surged forth and reaped even more lives. He was basically a butcher of the battlefield at this moment.

The blood within his body started burning, and a boundless battle intent surged out of his body. He was akin to a wolf that had charged into a flock of sheep. His enemies started retreating from sheer fear. Not many of them had the courage to face him.

One of them was a 100-man captain, and he attacked Xiang Shaoyun's back with a hammer. The hammer glowed with an intense light as he brought the hammer's spike down on Xiang Shaoyun.

Without even bothering to look behind, Xiang Shaoyun swung his saber backward and smashed the attacker's head, sending blood everywhere.