

## Overlord 961

### Chapter 961: Bitter Fight

A 100-man captain would have impressive strength, capable of killing 100 people in the same cultivation realm and fighting someone of a higher cultivation level. But before Xiang Shaoyun, such a person was completely helpless.

The gap between them was too big. Their strengths were at completely different levels. Even with a sneak attack, he couldn't do anything to Xiang Shaoyun. Xiang Shaoyun's body was surrounded by layers of Goldplates. Those below the Sovereign Realm wouldn't be able to break through his defenses.

"The one who brings me his head will be rewarded one million spirit crystals," shouted the enemy leader.

When two armies faced each other, it wouldn't always devolve into a battle between experts. At times, using the human-wave tactic and offering rewards would better encourage the soldiers to fight, and victory would come easier.

Sure enough, about 30 100-man captains rushed Xiang Shaoyun at that offer. Instead of fighting him at close range, they attacked from far away, trying to exhaust Xiang Shaoyun to death.

Xiang Shaoyun was smart, and when he noticed his enemies' actions, he used the Overlord's Nine Nether Steps to dash toward one direction. Both his sabers slashed out at the same time, sending two different energies out. Several 100-man captains were instantly turned into mincemeat.

The other 100-man captains had no way of completing their encirclement around Xiang Shaoyun. Instead, Xiang Shaoyun danced amid them like a phantom and killed them one after another. All 30 of them had their heads severed, and blood flowed like a river.

At this time, a 1000-man captain charged over like a mad bull. He moved clumsily, but he felt completely different than the other captains. He was able to fully lock on to Xiang Shaoyun, not giving him any chance to escape. A 1000-man captain was a position only given to someone at the Emperor Realm, and he was truly courageous to be charging straight at Xiang Shaoyun like this.

Xiang Shaoyun stepped onto empty air with the Overlord's Nine Nether Steps. At his first step, an incomparably powerful aura appeared, smashing the captain onto the ground and killing him. This captain wasn't even qualified to have a proper fight with Xiang Shaoyun.

"Just killing one of the enemies will make this worth it, and killing two of them will be considered profit!" Xiang Shaoyun roared at his own soldiers.

"Killing one will make this worth it, and killing two will be considered profit!" the soldiers roared as their morale surged.

They fought bravely with no regard for their personal safety. When one fell, another stepped forth in his place.

The battle was bitter.

At this point, no regular soldiers remained near Xiang Shaoyun. Only 1000-man captains survived, and there were about 100 of them. They all unleashed their ultimate techniques at the same time. Each attack was extremely powerful, and even with Xiang Shaoyun's speed, he had a hard time dodging all of them. Many of the attacks struck his defensive barrier and exhausted his energy.

Xiang Shaoyun fought on with raging battle and saber intent. He constantly used the profundity of powers. He forgot everything about the world, and the only thought in his mind was to kill more enemies.

After he killed dozens of them, his Goldplates were broken through, and numerous wounds were left on his body. At this rate, it did not seem likely that he would be able to survive the massive army of enemies.

After he killed two more people, Xiang Shaoyun's gaze landed on the leader of the opposing army. Inwardly, he thought, To subdue an army, one needs to first subdue the leader. He then charged straight to the opposing army's rear.

The defenses around the leader were stronger, and even top experts like 10,000-man captains were present. A 10,000-man captain could essentially be considered a general capable of leading an entire army into war by himself.

These were Emperors standing at the apex of the realm. They were the main characters of the battlefield, the ones who would play a key role in deciding the battle's conclusion. Ten of the captains sallied forth at once, each carrying a different weapon. Mounted on their steeds, they charged Xiang Shaoyun.

As far as they were concerned, Xiang Shaoyun might be strong, but he still wouldn't be their match. In fact, they considered themselves overestimating him just by sending 10 against him.

The person leading the charge was someone mounted on a tiger and wielding a tiger-shaped axe. A dazzling axe radiance tall enough to reach the sky swung down with the power to split even the tallest of mountains into two.

This peak Emperor displayed a combat strength matching a first-stage Sovereign. Nobody dared to underestimate him.

Havoc Dance!

Before the axe attack arrived, Xiang Shaoyun used his self-created technique and attacked, sealing the angle the axe attack was coming from. The attack struck a weak point, injuring the axe user's wrist and sending the axe flying. Then, Xiang Shaoyun attacked the axe wielder's head, killing the general that had not expected the follow-up attack to come so fast.

By the time Xiang Shaoyun killed the general, three other generals had arrived with their attacks. One of them aimed for his head with a spear, another aimed for his waist with a sword, and the third person cleaved a saber at his thigh. He was attacked from three different directions.

This was a type of teamwork that had developed after fighting side by side for a long period of time, and such teamwork was extremely hard to deal with. Xiang Shaoyun felt greatly threatened, and he defended his head and legs with both sabers while layers of Goldplates formed around his torso.

All three attacks were blocked, but he was forced onto his back foot, allowing them to launch even more attacks. The other generals also moved in to fully seal his escape paths. They were not going to allow him to escape.

Xiang Shaoyun naturally wouldn't escape. He had only suffered a tiny setback, but that was not enough to make him retreat. His desire to live blazed, and his true battle strength was pushed out.

Lightning Slash From The Clear Sky!

Changing Weathers!

He swung his saber repeatedly, using the Nine Overlord Skyslaying Saber Technique. Numerous powerful lightning bolts rained down from the sky, forming an ocean of lightning. The attack reached the three attackers and the nearby generals.

The generals hurriedly protected themselves in panic. They were confident they could block the lightning bolts, but it was unfortunate that they were mistaken. The lightning bolts were far stronger than they had anticipated, and before long, their blood flowed.

Xiang Shaoyun was like a fish back in water amid the sea of lightning. He swung his sabers about, sending three more heads flying. He then used Phantom Shift to move away before slicing two other people apart at their waists.

With six of the generals killed, the remaining four retreated in terror. They were even crying for help while fleeing.

A large number of soldiers charged forward and threw their weapons at Xiang Shaoyun, creating an unavoidable rain of weapons. This was a common tactic used on the battlefield when an army was larger than the opposing army.

Even with Xiang Shaoyun's speed, he wouldn't be able to cleanly dodge such a concentrated attack. It also wasn't quite possible to blast away all the falling weapons. He could only use the tactic of conquering strength with softness.

He started swinging the Shark Devourer Saber in an ingenious tempo, sending out wave after wave of water energy powered by the profundity of water. A whirlpool formed around him, and the falling weapons were all redirected toward the enemy soldiers around him.

## Chapter 962: Victory to the Brave

The profundity of water was boundless. It was capable of softness and hardness, and it encompassed both strength and gentleness, being able to offer offense and defense. Xiang Shaoyun did not need any powerful techniques. Using the profundity of water the correct way was the best technique in itself.

The whirlpool around him was the best example. With it, the many weapons were flung away from him. Not only had it protected him, it had also counterattacked his enemies.

In the past, he had never imagined that the profundity of powers could be used that way. A sense of enlightenment hit him. His eyes shone brightly as he muttered, "The profundity of powers in itself is the most exquisite technique. It has an endless amount of variations, and techniques can be created out of thin air at any time."

His confidence surged. After comprehending the new method of utilizing the profundity of powers, his aura seemed to undergo a complete change. He stood firm on the ground, and the profundity of earth spread in all directions. Abruptly, numerous stone spikes shot upward, instantly killing over 100 enemies.

A powerful gravity field appeared. The enemy soldiers couldn't withstand the added weight and instantly collapsed to the ground. The two sabers in his hands lashed out, sending one head after another flying.

Xiang Shaoyun started walking toward the enemy leader one step at a time. Nobody could stop his advance. The soldiers weren't a match for the profundity of powers. The 100-man captains, the 1,000-man captains, and the generals couldn't survive even one of his attacks. Xiang Shaoyun cut through them like a hot knife through butter.

He advanced forward, leaving a trail of blood and a path of wails behind him. Blood and severed limbs flew everywhere, and the morale of his army increased as battle cries rang out loudly.

He could freely use all nine powers he cultivated by utilizing the profundity of all nine of them. He had no fear that he would run out of astral energy because he could endlessly absorb the natural energy in the world. Even the stars in the sky were supplying him with energy, allowing him to kill to his heart's content.

The only energy he still had a limited amount of was the primal inception energy. The moment he reached a point he could generate the primal inception energy endlessly, he would probably be undefeatable.

"Commander, permission for me to take him down!" volunteered a renowned general standing beside the enemy commander.

"Permission granted. Come back with his head and end this meaningless battle," said the commander indifferently.

As far as he was concerned, the dying soldiers were nothing. Their lives were as good as the weeds by the side of the road.

The general charged out. He was actually a third-stage Soul Foundation Realm expert. Although he was not the deputy commander, he was strong enough to be a deciding factor in any conflict.

With several leaps, the general arrived above Xiang Shaoyun. He roared, "Everyone, move aside. I will personally take his head!"

This general was not to be underestimated. He stabbed his spear at Xiang Shaoyun and entered the human-spear unity mode, sending a beam that trailed through the air like a rainbow toward Xiang Shaoyun.

The attack was shockingly powerful. Regular peak Emperors would not be able to withstand it, and even a genius cultivator would not be able to face it head on. Xiang Shaoyun was only an eighth-stage Emperor. How was he supposed to stop it?

Xiang Shaoyun was not a regular person. So what if he was facing a third-stage Sovereign? His Overlord Skyslaying Saber shot upward to face the incoming attack, and he activated the second stage of saber intent. The saber flew out of his hand and crashed into the incoming spear, carrying with it a boundless lightning power.

A massive explosion ensued. Gold and lightning energy bloomed like a dazzling firework, spreading and wreaking havoc in their surroundings. Manipulating the saber from afar, Xiang Shaoyun sent out vicious attacks that badly battered the general. His attacks' shockwaves also went to work, killing and wounding many enemy soldiers.

The current Xiang Shaoyun could deal with a Sovereign of this level much easier than before. However, a Sovereign was still a Sovereign. When he released his soul foundation, three layers of sparkling soul foundation pressed down like a mountain, giving off a suffocating pressure that was directly applied to one's soul.

Anyone below the Sovereign Realm would have difficulty withstanding this pressure. More importantly, the soul foundation was also emanating a terrifying radiance of destruction, capable of instantly killing a large number of Emperors.

A soul foundation was forged through a combination of soul power, astral energy, and rare materials. As a Sovereign advanced in strength, the soul foundation would grow. It was the essence

of a Sovereign's cultivation, and it was powerful enough to suppress any cultivator of lower cultivation levels.

A soul foundation was endlessly profound, and a cultivator would only be able to fully unleash his strength by fighting using a soul foundation.

"Kid, today is the day you die. Stop struggling," roared the general as he slammed his soul foundation down alongside his spear beam, launching a combination attack with a might to erase all life.

Xiang Shaoyun was suffocating, and he finally had a taste of the real difference between a Sovereign and an Emperor with the strength to match a Sovereign. The gap between the two was actually massive.

Just because one possessed a strength matching a Sovereign did not change the fact that one still wasn't a Sovereign. Sure, energy- and strength-wise, one might be able to match a Sovereign, but in terms of soul suppression, the difference was still there.

When two experts clashed, victory would go to the brave. The presence of a Sovereign was naturally stronger than the presence of an Emperor. Not many Emperors could withstand the soul pressure applied by a Sovereign.

However, Xiang Shaoyun happened to be just the Emperor capable of resisting it. He ignored the soul foundation's pressure and swung his Overlord Skyslaying Saber, sending a large number of lightning attacks upward.

A boundless purple sea of lightning surged up with a might reaching the level of a fourth-stage Sovereign. It struck the soul foundation and blasted it into pieces. Even at the moment of death, the general still couldn't understand how an Emperor could resist the pressure of his third-stage soul foundation.

Despite his disbelief, the truth was before him. He had no choice but to believe it. After defeating one high-level general, Xiang Shaoyun had exhausted a decent amount of his lightning energy. Even if he could summon natural lightning bolts from the sky, he still required some time to replenish his exhausted energy. One should remember that he was still encircled by a large army right now.

Like a god of war, Xiang Shaoyun continued his charge toward the enemy leader, and he killed anyone in his way. He fought to the point he was numbed to everything. Even when a large number of attacks struck him and dyed him red with blood, he no longer felt pain.

Part of the reason he didn't feel much pain was because of his strengthened body after using the Limit Stimulation Technique. He got closer and closer to the leader, and finally, five high-level generals charged out and surrounded him.

Xiang Shaoyun had the strength to match a Sovereign, but that mostly referred to a situation where he had to face only a single Sovereign at a time. Would he be able to face five Sovereigns at once?

### Chapter 963: An Ant Shaking a Tree

The five Sovereigns were between the fourth stage and sixth stage in their cultivation levels. It almost felt like they were overreacting by moving against an Emperor with all five of them. But if one saw how this Emperor could stand up against five Sovereigns, one would not feel that they were overreacting.

Xiang Shaoyun moved like a gust of wind and passed through the Sovereigns, not giving them the chance to surround him. As he moved, he used Havoc Dance constantly, allowing him to read all their moves. He was able to stop all incoming attacks before the attacks could be fully released, and he forced all the attackers away. He attacked in an unpredictable manner and gave them no chance to do anything to him.

As he fought, he gained more insight into the Havoc Dance technique. Havoc Dance could be classified as a tactical technique, and a tactical technique was akin to a chess technique. Using this technique was akin to playing a game of chess. With each move an opponent made, one would be able to see 100 moves in advance.

One also needed to be able to accurately break the incoming attacks. Only then would this technique be considered a true move prediction technique. And only then would one be able to eliminate all opponents with it.

Xiang Shaoyun danced amid his enemies, moving like the drifting wind, his sabers swinging out in a seemingly chaotic pattern, moving in all directions and making it hard for one to defend against him effectively.



In fact, he was doing more than what the Havoc Dance technique was supposed to do. This was a new technique he had created on the spot, a technique he named Enemy Sealing. With this technique, he could defeat his opponent before they even had a chance to launch an attack.

He injured two Sovereigns, and they were forced to retreat with looks of indignation.

"Everyone, stop wasting time on him. Take out your soul foundations and directly crush him to death," shouted a sixth-stage Sovereign. A soul foundation with six layers appeared above him as a boundless power crushed down on Xiang Shaoyun. The terrifying power sealed Xiang Shaoyun's surroundings, making it impossible for even a fly to leave and enter the sealed space.

The other Sovereigns did not hesitate. They each took out their respective soul foundations. Some soul foundations looked like a mountain, while some looked like a lake. Alongside numerous sword, saber, and spear attacks, the soul foundations pressed down on Xiang Shaoyun as though the sky itself was collapsing upon him. Their bombardment seemed impossible to avoid.

Xiang Shaoyun was under such a powerful pressure that he was suffocating. Death crept nearer and nearer, but it served to increase the clarity of his mind. His desire to live grew, and his desire to kill them also increased.

Facing such a combined assault, he only had one option left if he wanted to defeat them. He had to release his soul clone, but that was a trump card he did not wish to reveal. He wanted to reserve that trump card for the enemy leader, so he had to extricate himself with his main body alone.

Wind and Lightning!

Lightning Calamity Fiery Star!

Two of his stars erupted, creating a storm of wind and lightning that destroyed everything around him. Balls of fire fell from the sky, raining down destruction in all directions. Even the released soul foundations were on the verge of breaking apart, and their weapon attacks were directly destroyed.

Abruptly, a sudden insight hit Xiang Shaoyun's mind. He had a sudden feeling that the powers of wind, lightning, and flame could be merged to create something even more terrifying.

At that thought, he started madly pulling energy out of his wind, lightning, and flame stars. With the lightning star as the core, the wind star as the strength, and the flame star as the soldiers, the three

powers coursed through his meridians. Three energies of silverish purple, gray, and silver mixed together to form a unique storm. The storm erupted with a terrifying destructive power that seemed comparable to even the primal inception energy.

Prior to this, Xiang Shaoyun was able to fight fourth-stage Sovereigns using two stars. Now that he was a late eighth-stage Dragon Ascension Realm cultivator, his combat strength had increased even further. He was entirely capable of fighting a peak fourth-stage Sovereign. In fact, he might even be able to face a fifth-stage Sovereign.

Now that he had combined two different techniques to utilize three stars at the same time, he could unleash an even more terrifying strength. He could now instantly kill a fifth-stage Sovereign and match a sixth-stage Sovereign.

Of the five Sovereigns, four of them had their soul foundations damaged. If it wasn't for the sixth-stage Sovereign blocking off a large part of Xiang Shaoyun's attack, the four Sovereigns would have died by now.

The more Xiang Shaoyun fought, the more ferocious he became. Even so, that did not mean that he could kill the Sovereigns without paying any price. A heavy attack from the sixth-stage Sovereign hit his waist, a stab from the fifth-stage Sovereign struck his calf, and several different energy attacks blasted his body. Without the armor he wore and a body strengthened by the Limit Stimulation Technique, he would have been cut into pieces by now.

Xiang Shaoyun spewed a large amount of blood, but he clenched his teeth and persevered. If he was defeated, the morale of his subordinates would drop, and they would all be massacred. For them and for himself, he had to cut a path of blood out of this predicament.

He continued squeezing more energy out of the three stars as he clashed with the six Sovereigns. He swung his sabers unceasingly as his battle intent surged, sending a torrent of attacks powered by boundless saber intent.

At this point, Xiang Shaoyun was fighting with no thought to his own safety, and he was displaying the vigor of a young prodigy. Even the sixth-stage Sovereign was greatly astonished and found it hard to believe that an Emperor was doing what was essentially equivalent to an ant shaking a tree.

"I don't care what you're doing to be capable of fighting us, but you will die!" roared the sixth-stage Sovereign. He was furious because he felt humiliated by the fact that an Emperor was putting up a fight against him. He swung his broadsword with all his strength, and his soul foundation shone

brilliantly and resonated with his stars, powering his sword strike to send a terrifying sword energy toward Xiang Shaoyun.

The fearsome sword energy was powerful enough to destroy more than 10 mountains at once. The other Sovereigns hurriedly moved out of the way so as to not get hit by the shockwave of the attack, which could be fatal.

The gap between a sixth-stage Sovereign and an eighth-stage Emperor was too big. The gap was so wide that not even a prodigy with an excellent physique could cross. With Xiang Shaoyun's nine-star physique, if he focused on a single power, he had a chance to cross this gap. Unfortunately, he cultivated nine powers, something widely regarded as a path to failure. He wasn't supposed to be able to face this opponent at all.

However, Xiang Shaoyun did the impossible. He fused the nine powers to form the primal inception energy, allowing him to bridge this wide gap.

Cosmos Dao Destroying Fist!

He put his sabers away and threw out his fists. His torrential battle intent, unending fist intent, and unfathomable primal inception energy created a river of stars that blasted straight toward the six-layered soul foundation and the sword energy.

A deafening explosion erupted, a mushroom-shaped cloud formed, and a massive shockwave swept throughout the area. The many soldiers felt their knees go weak from sheer shock after witnessing the might of this collision. The wrath of a Sovereign was enough to create a field of corpses.

Chapter 964: The Slaughter of Nether Soul Domain

By the time the dust settled, Xiang Shaoyun could be seen rolling away while spewing blood, cutting an incredibly sorry figure. The sixth-stage Sovereign wasn't doing too well either. His soul foundation was nearly completely destroyed. If he hadn't been able to put it away in time, he would have probably lost a few layers of it. Despite his survival, he had lost most of his combat strength.

The people around them were overwhelmed with shock. Who would have guessed that a puny Emperor had really fought a sixth-stage Sovereign to a tie? That was a heaven-defying act. Instead of wasting time being shocked, a few generals charged out and surrounded Xiang Shaoyun yet again. They were resolute in their desire to kill him.

Xiang Shaoyun had used a decent amount of spring water the instant he suffered injuries and had also used the Secret Reversal Technique to let his body start healing the moment he was injured. However, Xiang Shaoyun did not have enough time to heal himself. If he wanted to survive on the battlefield, he had to buy some time.

Nether Soul Domain!

Without any hesitation, he released the Nether Soul Domain and enveloped the incoming generals. The generals had an ominous feeling and instantly released their soul foundations, trying to break free with force.

But before they could break free, chains shot out from everywhere and tied them up. The ghostrunes also started attacking them with soul attacks. With the two-pronged attack, the generals had zero chance of survival, and they were all killed.

At Xiang Shaoyun's current strength, not even a seventh-stage Sovereign could survive his Nether Soul Domain, much less these generals who weren't even at that cultivation level. The enemy leader's face darkened when he saw Xiang Shaoyun and his generals vanishing into thin air.

"What happened? What demonic technique had that fellow used? Why are our people missing?" the leader roared.

"Don't worry, commander. We'll go take a look," said someone as three people from the leader's side flew out.

All three were deputy commanders, and their cultivation levels were at seventh-stage Soul Foundation Realm. They were strong enough to face any changes that might occur on the battlefield.

Their powerful presences spread out and forced Xiang Shaoyun's soldiers to collapse onto the ground. If it wasn't for generals of similar strength from their side stepping up, this suppression alone would have probably killed everyone on their side.

Of the three deputy commanders, two of them headed toward Xiang Shaoyun while the other one charged toward Xiang Shaoyun's generals, intending to end the battle once and for all.

The two seventh-stage Sovereigns were extremely cautious. They slowly approached Xiang Shaoyun's previous position with their soul foundations released in advance, ready to face any mishap that might occur. Alas, the mishap they were so alert against had still happened, and they were both dragged into the Nether Soul Domain.

One of them was more knowledgeable, and he immediately exclaimed in alarm, "This is the Nether Soul Domain! Work with me to blow it up, or both of us will die here!"

He then took out his weapon and bombarded the Nether Soul Domain's border with all his strength. Unfortunately, his strength was greatly suppressed, and chains were constantly shooting at him and interrupting his attempts to break out.

The other Sovereign was stronger. In fact, he was only a step away from the eighth stage. His seven-layered sovereign unleashed a gust of fearsome darkwind energy. It tore at the chains around him before charging toward Xiang Shaoyun's soul.

"The Nether Soul Domain might be scary, but this kid is only an Emperor. Even if he is as strong as a Sovereign, he can only die facing absolute strength," declared the seventh-stage Sovereign confidently. Wielding a pair of crescent blades, he cut through all the chains. They couldn't pose him any threat.

His darkwind energy was extremely powerful. Not only was it capable of corroding one's flesh, it could also damage one's soul, and this was his source of confidence.

Xiang Shaoyun did not bother facing him head on. Chains shot out endlessly while the five ghostrunes continued launching soul attacks at the two Sovereigns. No matter how sturdy their soul foundations were, they couldn't do anything to the ghostrunes, which were the nemeses of soul foundations.

When the two Sovereigns noticed that there were ghostrunes in the domain, they were frightened. They hurriedly kept their soul foundations away, opting to instead break out without using their soul foundations.

Xiang Shaoyun knew he was pressed for time. He pushed the power of his Nether Soul Domain to the maximum and suppressed the two Sovereigns' strengths. Wave after wave of chains shot out from all directions, and the ghostrunes flapped their wings, sending out waves of charm energy to disrupt the Sovereigns' concentration.

One of the Sovereigns finally fell for the mental disruption, and the chains captured him. Eight additional chains transformed into spears and stabbed into him, instantly penetrating his soul foundation and head.

The other Sovereign panicked. He released all his concealed weapons and poisonous gases. He pushed the might of his darkwind energy to the maximum, trying his very best to break free. Unfortunately for him, Xiang Shaoyun did not intend to spare him.

Xiang Shaoyun was the Nether Soul Domain's master, and his soul could freely appear anywhere. His soul body appeared right beside the Sovereign and threw a simple punch out.

Xiang Shaoyun's soul had already solidified. Thus, his punch was extremely tough.

Because Xiang Shaoyun's soul power matched a seventh-stage Sovereign's strength, his opponent was forced to release his soul foundation in panic. Even so, the Sovereign was sent flying. He couldn't even be bothered to withdraw his soul foundation as he swung his crescent blades at Xiang Shaoyun in a flustered manner.

However, the chains coming from all directions constantly disturbed the Sovereign, and the ghostrunes' attacks never stopped coming. He was given no chance to focus on Xiang Shaoyun, and he was killed by the second punch.

Just like that, two seventh-stage Sovereigns were killed within less than an hour. One ought to say that the Nether Soul Domain was one of Xiang Shaoyun's powerful trump cards. It was no wonder that the Imperial Nether Clan was one of the Four Paramount Clans. This innate ability of theirs was remarkable.

By the time Xiang Shaoyun finished off the Sovereigns and put the Nether Soul Domain away, he was almost fully healed.

Once again, his gaze landed on the distant enemy leader. A sharp look appeared in his eyes as he roared, "I shall reap your head amid your army!"

Instantly, a curtain of darkness fell upon the area, obstructing all vision and sending everyone into a panic. In the darkness, numerous heads were severed as an assassin of darkness went to work.

"Darkness Consumes the World!" the enemy leader roared with a deep look in his eyes.

An old man beside him stepped forth and said, "Commander, allow me to personally end him."

"No rush. Let him get here first. I refuse to believe he can reach me with our entire army here," said the leader, waving his hand.

He might be saying that, but the few remaining high-level generals around him had charged forth. They were not about to allow any mishap to happen in this battle.

One of the generals cultivated the power of light, and he released a radiant battle technique, trying to expel the darkness. Unfortunately for him, he failed spectacularly and was consumed by the darkness.

"This is the most original of dark energies! Everyone, watch out!" the light cultivator exclaimed in alarm.

They did not dare to look down on their opponent. They each released their respective trump cards and started blasting the power of darkness Xiang Shaoyun had just summoned. The Sovereigns knew that Xiang Shaoyun was a thorny opponent to deal with, so they kept a distance from him. They intended to finish him off with ranged attacks.

A chaotic series of explosions erupted. Could Xiang Shaoyun protect himself against so many attacks alone? Xiang Shaoyun released his clone. The clone charged out of the darkness and flew straight toward the enemy leader. He had the chakram in hand and was emanating a thick devilish aura. The chakram was thrown forward, leaving behind a series of afterimages as it flew toward a Sovereign.

The chakram moved at an incredible speed. The Sovereign had only managed to sense some sort of energy approaching him before a chill touched his neck. The next thing he knew, he lost all perception and his head was sent flying.

Xiang Shaoyun did not even spare a glance at the dead Sovereign. He retrieved the chakram, mustered all his strength, and attacked a different person. The soul clone was already a peak sixth-stage Sovereign. It was probably capable of fighting a seventh-stage Sovereign. Equipped with a saint-grade weapon, who could stop the clone?

Xiang Shaoyun's strength had surpassed their expectations, so they started using their full strength. One soul foundation after another was released, and numerous weapons were drawn. Several fearsome powers surged out, making it seem impossible for anyone to escape them.

With Xiang Shaoyun's ability to punch above his weight, his clone was definitely as strong as a peak Sovereign. Using the Overlord's Nine Nether Steps, the clone moved at an astonishing speed. Nobody could keep up with the clone's speed.

The clone dodged all the attacks and appeared behind one of the Sovereigns. The chakram flew out, destroying the Sovereign's soul foundation and head at the same time. One could say that with his unrivaled foot technique, Xiang Shaoyun occupied the absolute upper hand. With his speed and saint-grade weapon at hand, who could stop him?

He went on to kill two more Sovereigns, and then the old guardian by the enemy leader's side finally made his move. The old guardian was a peak Sovereign. He was incredibly fast, and before his body moved, a massive palm was already pressing down on Xiang Shaoyun's clone.

The palm seemed like an entire world in itself, and it was as big as a mountain. As it descended, it dropped in size. It was fully locked on to Xiang Shaoyun, making escape seem impossible. Since there was no way to escape the palm, Xiang Shaoyun did not bother trying.

Unrivaled Sky Crushing Punch!

Xiang Shaoyun's punch contained torrential fist intent. It rumbled forth and collided with the palm, instantly erupting into a massive explosion in the air. The peak Sovereign charged over like a phantom and sent a rain of blue palms down at Xiang Shaoyun; it was as though the sky itself was collapsing.

Xiang Shaoyun did not dare to hold back against him and pushed his fist intent to the maximum. He punched out relentlessly, knowing that killing this old man would basically determine the battle's result.

Meanwhile, Xiang Shaoyun's main body was moving amid the darkness, and he was nearing the enemy leader. The curtain of darkness he projected to the world around him was akin to a plague that nobody could stop.

The 3,000 elite warriors in front of the enemy leader moved at the same time. They joined their energies together, forming a massive clump of energy that shot toward the clump of darkness. The



attacks from the 3,000 warriors covered the entire sky. It was as though a super expert was attacking, a sight that could shock one's soul.

These were the actual elites of the enemy army. Each of them was a veteran of a hundred battles. The 300 Emperors and 2,700 Kings seemed to have merged into one, unleashing a might that even a Sovereign would be wary of, much less Xiang Shaoyun's dark curtain.

Unsurprisingly, when Xiang Shaoyun sensed the might of their attack, he stopped his advance. He had to think of a solution to block their joint attack, or this would be where he stopped his advance.

His blood stirred, and a burst of devilish aura erupted from his body. He looked like a devil prince as he emanated a sinister sensation. He threw out his punches repeatedly, and his fists flowed about in an abstruse trajectory. An odd black door appeared before his eyes. The black door was akin to a black hole that had suddenly opened in the sky. The door emanated a chilly aura of despair, and it was definitely not a door one would want to approach.

This was one of the three greatest abilities of the Imperial Nether Clan, the Nether Yin Gate. Prior to this, Xiang Shaoyun had fully enhanced his imperial nether bloodline when he was trapped in the space of darkness, and at that time, he had awakened this ability. With that, he had unlocked all three great abilities of the Imperial Nether Clan.

However, the Nether Yin Gate could only be opened with a large amount of energy. Therefore, he had not been able to use it before this. With his current crisis and the increase in his strength, he was able to forcefully activate the Nether Yin Gate.

The gate wasn't particularly big, and it looked like a completely normal door. However, it emanated a fearsome power and swallowed all the energies traveling through the air and sent them to the void.

Even Xiang Shaoyun himself was completely dumbfounded by what the gate did. He could also sense a horrifying power beyond the gate, and he had a feeling that so long as he was strong enough, he would be able to summon that power and manipulate it as he wished.

The 3,000 warriors launched more than one wave of attacks. Several more waves of attacks were still on their way, and Xiang Shaoyun quickly regained his calm. With the devilish aura and his bloodline power, he kept the gate open. All the incoming energy attacks were shifted to the void, completely unable to harm him.

However, the Nether Yin Gate was extremely exhausting to keep up. Xiang Shaoyun could sense that he wouldn't be able to keep it up for long, so he materialized the White Tiger Wings behind him. His speed increased rapidly, and he charged straight for the enemy leader.

The power of wind, footwork intent, Overlord's Nine Nether Steps, and White Tiger Wings worked together, pushing Xiang Shaoyun speed to an unbelievable level.

## Chapter 966: You May Ask the King of Hell

Three thousand elites and three thousand attacks all fell before one gate. This was a battle that could shock the world. A mere Emperor actually had the might to face a massive army by his lonesome self. He had the disposition of an unparalleled hero.

After moving all the attacks to the void, Xiang Shaoyun wanted to do the same to the 3,000 elites as well. Unfortunately, he couldn't keep the gate up for much longer. He had no choice but to prioritize killing the enemy leader.

The Nether Yin Gate vanished when he was about a kilometer away from the enemy leader. A kilometer was a gap that could be crossed with a single step, but with 3,000 elites blocking his way, crossing it presented a much greater difficulty. Fortunately, he was able to shorten his distance to the 3,000 elites. His entire body turned into lightning as he summoned numerous lightning bolts from the sky.

The 3,000 elites were thorny opponents at a long distance, but short-range combat was their weakness. They weren't able to use the same joint attack in short range, and they were thrown into a sea of lightning. They suffered heavy casualties, and their army formation instantly collapsed.

The other soldiers all pulled back regardless of whether they were regular soldiers, 100-man captains, 1,000-man captains, or generals. They were not going to give Xiang Shaoyun a chance to kill their commander.

The generals used their strongest trump cards on Xiang Shaoyun. Although Xiang Shaoyun had impressive strength, he was still beaten badly. He spewed out a copious amount of blood, but he still managed to kill a large number of soldiers and advance 300 meters forward.

The Nether Soul Domain was released once again, instantly killing over 1,000 enemies for him. He was akin to an unstoppable killing machine. The generals were becoming more and more anxious. They threw all caution to the wind and did everything they could to stop him. Some Sovereigns

even went as far as detonating themselves after being pulled into the Nether Soul Domain, and they nearly killed him.

If Xiang Shaoyun hadn't redirected the energy from the explosion immediately, he would have died. His Nether Soul Domain suffered great damage, and he broke out in cold sweat. For now, he wouldn't be able to deploy it.

During that short moment of distraction, numerous energy attacks enveloped him. His armor cracked, and wounds appeared on his body. Anyone else would start wailing in pain, but Xiang Shaoyun remained silent. He truly had incredible fortitude. This was all thanks to the Limit Stimulation Technique.

When his main body was on the verge of destruction, his clone arrived. The chakram enlarged and released a fearsome power that suppressed all the generals trying to kill his main body.

He also used a large amount of spring water in his astral cosmos sea and activated the profundity of wood to expedite his healing. He then drew the Radiant Saint Sword and continued charging forward for over 200 meters, killing no fewer than 300 people in the way.

"I must kill him!" Xiang Shaoyun was covered with injuries, and his entire body was red with blood. However, his tenacious willpower helped him persevere.

His clone charged over from the air. It displayed a combat strength that was far stronger than the main body's to attract a large portion of the enemy's firepower, considerably reducing the pressure his main body faced.

This was Xiang Shaoyun's final rush toward the enemy commander, and he was no longer bothering to kill the enemy soldiers. He only had the enemy commander in his eyes. Moving at his top speed, he avoided attack after attack as he approached the enemy commander.

The commander stood atop a chariot, and he had been focusing on Xiang Shaoyun. A smile formed on his face as he said, "Struggling bug, my mount shall personally end your life." He rubbed a beast in his arms and said, "Little Lazy, time for your meal. There's a little fellow with a decent life force. He would be enough to fill you up by about 70 percent."

The little beast was a light yellow boar. It woke up from its sleep and jumped out of the commander's arms. It then enlarged into the size of a hill and charged Xiang Shaoyun. It looked clumsy but was surprisingly nimble.

A large amount of energy swirled around its body before forming a tough protective barrier. Its fangs also looked incomparably sharp. The little beast was obviously a powerful Demon Sovereign.

The boar was more than enough to deal with this heavily injured Xiang Shaoyun. Xiang Shaoyun's cultivation level was more than ten stages lower than the boar's. Even with a combat strength that could match a sixth-stage Sovereign, he still wasn't strong enough. His recovery speed was fast, but it wasn't faster than the speed at which the boar was charging at him.

The boar arrived, and the energy around it crashed down like a collapsing mountain.

If Xiang Shaoyun couldn't avoid the attack, his death would be guaranteed. He wanted to avoid the attack, but with his injuries, he couldn't. He thus swung his Radiant Saint Sword at the boar. However, he was unable to do anything to the energy surrounding the boar and failed to deliver any damage.

The murderous look in the boar's eyes gave Xiang Shaoyun an illusion that he was going to die at the next moment. The enemy soldiers fled one after another because the boar was attacking without any regard for them. In fact, it had already crushed more than a hundred soldiers.

Xiang Shaoyun's clone wanted to rush over, but it was delayed by the guardian and several generals. He could only pour all his strength into the chakram and try to kill as many of them as he could before his own death.

"This kid's life force is indeed rich. Alright, he's mine," remarked the boar.

Its energy descended upon Xiang Shaoyun as it opened its mouth. Then, its tongue rolled out like a whip.

Anyone would be able to see that there was no way out for Xiang Shaoyun. Even the enemy leader thought the same. He sneered and said, "Trying to oppose me is the same as suicide."

Suddenly, a golden radiance erupted and flooded the area. It was blindingly bright. The boar that was trying to eat Xiang Shaoyun ended up taking a big bite of the golden radiance instead. Before it could even wail in pain, its massive body was reduced into a pile of ashes.

The enemy commander couldn't see anything, and he narrowed his eyes as he tried to see through the blinding radiance. A suffocating sense of pain suddenly wrapped around him, causing him to panic.

Fortunately for him, the golden radiance only lasted for a moment before it vanished. The boar was nowhere to be seen, as though he was never there in the first place. Xiang Shaoyun had also gone missing, as if he had perished together with the boar.

"What happened here exactly?" the enemy commander muttered doubtfully.

"You may ask the king of hell that question," a cold voice came from behind him as a blade noiselessly slid through his neck. Blood splashed, and a head fell to the ground.

#### Chapter 967: Arrangement of Fate

Xiang Shaoyun woke up. He felt like he had just dreamed a long, long dream. His entire body was aching as though he was still suffering from the injuries he had in the dream. He had never imagined that a dream could feel so real. There, he fought with all his strength, exhausting all his trump cards. He suffered grievous wounds, and at the final moments, he managed to sever the enemy leader's head by relying on his invisibility. With the death of the enemy leader, the enemy army's morale dropped, allowing him to obtain a pyrrhic victory.

While looking at the retreating enemy army, he fainted from his serious injuries and was returned to the coffin. He was still in a state of confusion. He stared at the coffin lid blankly as though his soul had left his body. After a long while, light returned to his eyes. He jumped up from his lying position only to knock into the lid. He hissed in pain.

"Pooh! How inauspicious! Why am I lying in a coffin?" he cursed as he tried pushing the lid off. However, he failed to move the lid even after pushing with all his strength. He grew gloomy.

"I refuse to believe I can't open you!" Xiang Shaoyun remained stubborn and was about to use a saint weapon to cut through the coffin. Right that moment, a voice that seemed to have traveled from ancient times suddenly rang out, "Stop wasting your strength. Without my permission, you won't be able to leave."

"Wh-Who's speaking to me?" Xiang Shaoyun exclaimed as all his hair stood on end.

Probably only ghosts would speak in a coffin, so he instinctively wrapped Yun Flame around himself the moment he heard the voice.

A phantom suddenly appeared before Xiang Shaoyun and said, "Don't worry. I am you, and you are me. You're my reincarnation."

The phantom greatly resembled Xiang Shaoyun, with their age being the only difference. The phantom had a more steadfast appearance and looked exactly the same as the corpse Xiang Shaoyun saw when he was being dragged into the coffin.

Xiang Shaoyun started shaking in fear. If this was just a regular ghost encounter, he wouldn't be so scared. But seeing a ghost that looked exactly like him was horrifying. And when he heard what the ghost had to say, he felt even more confused. Wasn't he Xiang Dingtian, the Overlord in his previous life? Why was there a different previous life now? Did he have several previous lives?

"If you're speaking the truth, why did you bring me here? Do you have anything to tell me?" asked Xiang Shaoyun.

The phantom replied, "I know you have a lot of questions. As a matter of fact, I have a lot of questions as well. The only thing I know is that my sole purpose is to wait for you here. However, you have arrived too late, and much of my power has dissipated over the years. Perhaps all this is the arrangement of fate as well."

"What do you mean?" Xiang Shaoyun was still confused.

"Don't think about it too much. There are things that you will eventually learn. For now, just accept what I have for you. Otherwise, even this thing will completely dissipate. That grand aspiration should be accomplished in this generation. I see hope in you," said the phantom as it slowly faded.

After the phantom vanished, a clump of nine-colored radiance appeared above the coffin. The radiance flooded the coffin with a power that gave one an intense sensation of comfort, a power that made one feel like floating.

"Is this the primal inception energy?" Xiang Shaoyun exclaimed in alarm.

The nine-colored radiance greatly resembled his nine-colored fog, but there were still some differences. The nine-colored radiance did not seem like a fusion of powers. Rather, it felt like the purest of powers separated from each other.

He blanked out slightly and focused on sensing the powers. Soon, he understood that these were all origin energies that were similar to the dark origin energy in his body. All nine origin energies were present here.

And the moment Xiang Shaoyun thought of absorbing these energies, a formation appeared in the coffin and pushed the energies into his body. Strands of different origin energies converged in his body, giving him a sensation that his entire body was being forcefully flooded with power.

"Since I can't resist, I'll accept it," Xiang Shaoyun decided to go with the flow. He started concentrating on circulating his cultivation method, sending the energies into his nine stars.

These were origin energies, the purest of energies. They were much denser in power than the ambient energies in the air, and absorbing them could allow one to grow in cultivation faster. Thus, as Xiang Shaoyun absorbed them, his cultivation base started growing.

Soon, he reached peak eighth-stage Dragon Ascension Realm, and there were no signs that the growth was going to stop. Eventually, he reached the completion phase of the eighth stage.

He had only reached the eighth stage not long ago. Breaking through so soon felt unreal, but the energies he was absorbing were too pure. There wasn't even a worry that this rapid growth would destabilize his foundations. Thus, he continued absorbing the energies without worry.

Before long, he broke through into the ninth stage. The energies did not even need to go through his astral cosmos sea to convert into draconic aura. Perhaps it was because of their purity.

Even after breaking through into the ninth stage, there was still a lot of energy remaining. His draconic aura continued growing, and his strength continued rising and reached the apex of the Emperor Realm. Even then, a lot of energy was still left.

That was when he started panicking. His increase in cultivation level had also increased the amount of energy he could store. Even so, his stars were still completely filled, and he was pushed to the verge of another breakthrough. However, he had yet to form his soul foundation, so he wouldn't be able to properly enter the Soul Foundation Realm.

The energies continue flooding his body, threatening to kill him with an overabundance of energy. This was so ridiculous that if it happened, he would leave his name in the annals of history.

He tried his very best to suppress the energy, but all his efforts were to no avail. Ultimately, he was forced to redirect the excess energy into his astral cosmos sea. Fortunately, the energies listened to his command and moved as he wished, saving him from a fate of certain death.

When the energies entered his astral cosmos sea, they quickly and directly transformed into primal inception energy instead of staying still at a random corner, unlike the dark origin energy.

That was not bad news. At the very least, his primal inception energy supply had grown much larger, allowing him to fight with it for an extended period of time if he so wished. As his cultivation grew, his soul clone also grew, gaining a strength comparable to a seventh-stage Sovereign.

#### Chapter 968: Legacy

About five months had passed since the disciples had entered the secret space. In about half a month, their time there would end. At present, many of the disciples were doing a last search around the secret space, hoping to get any gains before leaving.

After all, many of them had benefited from this expedition. Of course, there were some who had failed to obtain anything, and they were extremely indignant. Their only choice was to take from others.

From the initial 401 disciples that had entered, only about half of them were still alive. Half had died, and one could say that the academies had suffered heavy losses. During the final two weeks, everyone was holding back even when fighting each other. None were willing to kill easily.

The disciples of each academy were joining up to avoid being caught alone by the other academies. They were all waiting for the final fight for the rankings after leaving the secret space.

Of the four academies, the True Martial Academy was still at the top. They had the largest number of survivors, and they had also reaped the most gains in the secret space. Second to them was the Nine Palace Academy, followed by the Dragon Phoenix Academy and then, lastly, the Sacred Deer Academy.



The Nine Palace Academy and the Dragon Phoenix Academy had performed similarly. The most outstanding disciple of the Nine Palace Academy, Jiu Tian, was an extremely powerful opponent with his ability to manipulate nine swords at the same time. Even Dugu Qiubai, the True Martial Academy's number one genius, had issued him a challenge. From that, one could see just how extraordinary Jiu Tian was.

Of course, Dugu Qiubai had also challenged Baili Yixiao of the Dragon Phoenix Academy. He hoped to determine who was the strongest among them during the final fight, as though these two were the only disciples worthy of his attention. In fact, he had ignored even Zhan Wushuang's challenge.

Of the Overlord Legion members partaking in the competition, Yuan Xuefen was the only casualty. Xia Liuhui, who had been missing for a long time, had appeared out of nowhere, and his cultivation level had grown by two stages. Although that wasn't anything special among all these geniuses, considering his age, it was a remarkable performance.

He was about the same age as Xiang Shaoyun, and he wasn't even 30 years old. Being a seventh-stage Dragon Ascension Realm cultivator at that age, he could also be considered a prodigy.

In fact, Xia Liuhui got so carried away that he started bluffing that he was now unequaled. Unsurprisingly, his big words attracted a Nine Palace Academy disciple who then beat him up badly. Xia Liuhui nearly cried for his parents from the beating, and if it wasn't for Jiang Qi's assistance, he would have even been robbed of all his gains in the secret space.

"Just you wait, bastard. During the final fight, my boss will avenge me for this beating," Xia Liuhui shamelessly threatened while wiping his tears. He then took the chance to snuggle into Jiang Qi's arms and ended up getting kicked away.

There were supposed to be 10 additional days before the secret space closed, but a sudden change occurred and forced the disciples to flee the secret space in fear. It turned out that the two beasts from the lake had left the lake, attacked the disciples, and directly killed more than ten.

Some disciples were able to escape by a fluke, and they spread the news of what had happened. Thus, the disciples no longer dared to stay and decided to leave. In any case, they had already reaped decent gains from the secret space. As for those who hadn't reaped anything, there was nothing they could do.

After all the disciples fled, two people arrived at the massive palace. One of them was a creepy-looking old man with a hunched back. The other was an ugly middle-aged man. They were an

extreme pair, and they were none other than the gold-scaled dragon turtle and goldmark toad that Xiang Shaoyun had encountered at the lake.

"Toad, we cleared the place, but that kid is nowhere to be seen. Did he leave much earlier?" asked the gold-scaled dragon turtle.

The goldmark toad replied, "I don't think he has left. He might be here."

"Why are you so sure?"

"Intuition."

"Intuition? That's bullshit!"

"Trust me. That kid is definitely here. You can leave if you want. I am sure he still has some gold lunar liquid. If I find more, I definitely won't share any with you," said the goldmark toad.

"Stupid toad, you're speaking as though I owe you something. Don't forget that I was the one who had managed to get the liquid previously. If I hadn't shared half with you out of pity, you would probably be off crying somewhere," said the gold-scaled dragon turtle.

"I'm not going to waste any time arguing with you. Since the humans messed around in this space, the entire space is going to collapse soon. Not only do we need to find that kid as quickly as possible, we also need to leave," said the goldmark toad.

The pair started searching the massive palace.

Meanwhile, Xiang Shaoyun was still within the coffin. He had regained his consciousness, but he was in no rush to leave. Rather, he was busy digesting all that had happened. Everything still felt unreal.

If Xiang Dingtian the Overlord was his previous life, the master of this Celestial King's Palace was probably him from two or three lives ago. What he couldn't understand was the fact that the Celestial King seemed to have waited for him here after death, and from the Celestial King's mouth, there seemed to be an even bigger secret Xiang Shaoyun was unaware of.

Just what kind of secret was this for it to have arrangements persisting over tens of thousands of years? Xiang Shaoyun could sense that an additional lifeline had appeared on his palm, and it looked like an odd, faintly discernible imprint. It seemed to signify something unknown.

"Is the concept of reincarnation real?" Xiang Shaoyun muttered doubtfully. He then looked around to find that there were no longer any origin energies around him. All of them had been absorbed into his astral cosmos sea.

He also found a storage ring in the coffin. The ring probably contained the true legacy of the war god. Getting this ring signified that he had gotten the belongings of a war god, or to be precise, the belongings of one of his past lives. He grew excited at the thought.

But when he saw the contents of the ring, his face fell. There wasn't any treasure in it at all. There were only some crude objects, with a certain slip of paper being the most attractive. He took the paper out and looked at it.

On it, the following words were written:

My reincarnation from the future, do you think that you have obtained all my legacy after obtaining this ring? You must be disappointed after seeing the contents of this ring, right? All my belongings have been shared among my brothers during the final battle to enable them to fight in their best condition.

I never intended to survive the battle, so I did not keep too many of my belongings. Otherwise, they would have fallen into the hands of my enemies in the event that I failed to kill them all. Fortunately, I was able to last until the very end and obtain victory. When you arrive, you can obtain everything I have left behind. For example, this Celestial King's Palace, the saint soul sapling I had personally planted, and the two little fellows I had buried. Then again, I don't know if they will be able to survive that long.

#### Chapter 969: I Have Obtained His Inheritance

Xiang Shaoyun was rendered speechless by the note he read. He had not imagined that the undefeated war god would actually be leaving behind a will with such a teasing tone. But when he thought of how the saint soul tree, gold-scaled dragon turtle, and goldmark toad belonged to him in his previous life, he was filled with pride. He had the urge to shout loudly that he was an undefeated war god in his previous life.

There were also some other treasures scattered all over the palace. However, he had no idea if these treasures still remained in good condition after such a long time. After learning of the other treasures, Xiang Shaoyun was burning with excitement. He was confident that if the treasures were still there, they wouldn't disappoint him.

He picked up the other things he saw around him. One of them was an ancient book with illustrations of formations on it. Obviously, it was a book on formations. He also found a different book with "War God's Art of War" written on it. Clearly, this was a book about army commanding.

The two books did not interest him that much. When his gaze landed on a multi-colored stone, his eyes widened, and he exclaimed, "Is this the legendary primal divine stone?"

The primal divine stone was an ultimate treasure that would only come into existence during the birth of the universe and the countless species. The stone was formed under primal chaos energy's nourishment. It could help hasten one's energy absorption and enhance one's body. More importantly, it was also a legendary soul foundation forging material.

The primal divine stone was a divine stone that would generally be kept as the treasure of an entire clan or as the forging material of some legendary weapon. Nobody would use it to forge a soul foundation. Thus, stories about it being used for soul foundation forging had remained a legend.

Xiang Shaoyun salivated. This decently sized primal divine stone was probably his biggest gain in this expedition. Even a Heaven Battling Realm expert would probably fight over it madly.

"He even has a treasure like this? He is worthy of being me from two lives ago, the war god. Well done, myself!" said Xiang Shaoyun proudly. Then, his gaze landed on the final item. It looked like a damaged treasure map with some ancient markings on it.

He could not understand what he was looking at, but behind the map, the words "Ancient Court's Treasure" could be seen. It was obvious these words were personally written by the war god. Xiang Shaoyun had a feeling the map was extremely important. Unfortunately, he only had one-third of the map, and for now, it was as good as a useless piece of paper.

"Whatever. The gains I have gotten so far are amazing enough. In any case, that fellow also mentioned on the note that there is a damaged celestial horn in the backyard of the palace, and at the deep well, an icesoul heart can be found. And at the Armament Pavilion, there is some equipment. All these treasures should suffice for me," muttered Xiang Shaoyun in excitement.

He then pushed the coffin lid open. As the coffin was no longer powered by the multicolored energies, it could no longer restrain him.

After leaving the coffin, he ignored the villain kneeling on the ground. Rather, he turned around and looked at the empty coffin as he muttered, "Amitabha. Regardless of whether you are my previous reincarnation, I shall live for you. Your reputation as the war god will remain unsullied."

He had obtained quite a harvest in the coffin. However, he personally considered the dream where he had personally reaped the head of the enemy commander amid a massive army his greatest gain.

In the dream, not only had he personally experienced the cruelty of war, he had also personally created a new technique, the Enemy Sealing technique. He had also fused the powers of three stars. After some further polishing, perhaps he could also create more battle techniques utilizing the fusion of different powers, letting him better utilize the profundity of powers he had comprehended.

Additionally, he had also learned his limits from the battle. So long as he worked on his limitations and continued growing, nobody would be able to stop his pace.

When Xiang Shaoyun walked out of the Celestial King's Palace, he found that the palace was actually floating in the air and had completely hidden itself.

The palace had become extremely hard to detect from outside, and if he wanted to leave, he had to figure out the formations maintaining it. And with the Celestial King's Palace being his now, he could use it as something more than just a palace.

"It's hard to even leave this place," said Xiang Shaoyun helplessly. He took out the book of formations and started studying it, trying to learn the formations here as quickly as possible.

With the Light of Wisdom, Xiang Shaoyun was confident he wouldn't take long to learn them. However, before he could even activate the Light of Wisdom, something happened. The moment he opened the book, some memories started surfacing in his mind. Instantly, a sense of familiarity toward the formations in the book welled within him. It was as though he had gone through this book countless times, and he had fully mastered the book's contents.

"Could this be..." Xiang Shaoyun muttered doubtfully as he flipped through the book. Information on one formation after another kept appearing in his mind, further convincing him that he had already learned all these formations.

Not only did he know the principles of these formations, he also knew how to set them up and how to break them. It was as though he had suddenly become a formation grandmaster.

"That's right. This is something the other me left behind two lives ago. He was a top formation grandmaster, and I have now obtained his inheritance," lamented Xiang Shaoyun.

For some reason, he did not feel any joy from mastering all these formations. Rather, he started feeling melancholic, as though additional burdens had been placed on his shoulders. In a sense, the sensation was confusing him, and he was suddenly feeling lost.

However, he was able to quickly readjust his mental state. Nobody knew what would happen in the future, and there was no point in staying worried all the time. What he needed to do next was to properly control the formation and open up the restriction so he could leave.

When he arrived at the edge of the formation to lift it, he found that the gold-scaled dragon turtle and goldmark toad were roaming around outside the palace, as though they were in search of something.

He muttered to himself, "These two fellows probably have extraordinary bloodlines as well, or they wouldn't have been hidden away by the war god. Looks like I need to subdue both of them. They will be great helpers during my return to the Ziling Sect."

Standing before the palace gate, he said, "Gold-scaled dragon turtle, goldmark toad, this lord has returned. In the future, you will have to serve this lord with full loyalty. Do you understand?"

As he was hidden within the formation, the two beasts couldn't see him after hearing his voice. They looked around, but nothing was found.

"Old turtle, did you hear that kid's voice?" asked the goldmark toad.

"Yes. That kid is deliberately mystifying himself. Just wait until I find him. I will turn him into our pet," said the gold-scaled dragon turtle.

"That's a good idea," the goldmark toad approved.

"Little fellows that have been sealed for tens of thousands of years, are you thinking of disobeying me?" Xiang Shaoyun said.

"Wherever you are, kid, get out here right now. Otherwise, we will teach you an unforgettable lesson once we find you," demanded the gold-scaled dragon turtle.

#### Chapter 970: Follow This Young Master and Live a Good Life

"Hehe, looks like, after so many years, the two of you have forgotten the last words of this lord. So be it. Face my fury," said Xiang Shaoyun with a sneer. He then went to a formation eye and activated his profundity of earth. His entire person blended into the formation eye, and the illusory formation was restored to its full glory.

Instantly, a boundless mist unfurled out in the sky above the Celestial King's Palace. The gold-scaled dragon turtle and the goldmark toad found themselves separated from each other. Xiang Shaoyun also used the formation's power to control the zombie puppets and surround the two fellows.

The zombies were completely unaffected by the illusory formation. On the contrary, they were a part of the formation. Naturally, the gold-scaled dragon turtle and the goldmark toad found themselves greatly restricted by the formation. Even so, with their strength, the zombies couldn't deal with them easily.

"Damn it. Kid, you are pretending to be Lord War God. If you have the guts, show yourself. Watch how this lord will kill you with a single finger," shouted the furious turtle.

The illusory formation was too powerful. Even a top-tier Demon Sovereign would be trapped. Moreover, the zombies possessed a thick death aura that would also pose the two fellows some troubles.

The toad also shouted, "Kid, get out here! This Sovereign will swallow you alive!"

"Looks like you won't behave without being taught a lesson," said Xiang Shaoyun. He activated the formation's offensive functions, and numerous powerful energy attacks started bombarding the two Demon Sovereigns.

This was an exceptionally powerful formation at the saint-grade. Even Xiang Shaoyun wasn't able to unleash more than one-tenth of the formation's might. However, what he could do was more than enough to teach the two Demon Sovereigns a lesson.

The attacks of the formation rained down on the turtle and the toad. The two were able to protect themselves while hitting back, but since this was a formation, their attacks weren't able to reach Xiang Shaoyun. Thus, they could only suffer the beating one-sidedly until they were forced into their original forms.

The turtle had powerful punches. His every punch shook the world, and his punches seemed unstoppable. As for the toad, its Toad Technique was powerful. Every inhalation and exhalation created a storm of dust that brought chaos everywhere.

The two weren't separated too far from each other, and with Xiang Shaoyun's manipulation, their attacks struck each other. Thus, the longer they stayed in the formation, the gloomier they felt.

"Old turtle, why did you hit me!" the toad cursed.

"How am I supposed to know it's you?" the turtle replied.

"Damn it! We need to break this formation, or we will be played to death by that kid," said the toad.

"Let's work together. I refuse to believe we can't break out of this place," said the turtle.

"Looks like you really think you can fly after spreading your wings a bit. Fine, I'll let you taste some real pain," said Xiang Shaoyun with the same confidence. He took out the Holy Spirit Banner and aimed it at the center of the formation.

When he stuck the Holy Spirit Banner into the heart of the formation, one-fifth of the saint-grade formation's power was activated. The formation grew massively stronger, going far beyond the level of a regular Sovereign. The many evil spirits wailed endlessly, and the formation surged with power.

The two Demon Sovereigns instantly experienced the formation's fatal attacks and wailed in pain. The toad's wails were especially loud as his defenses weren't as strong as the gold-scaled dragon turtle's. Wounds covered his entire body, and death no longer seemed so far. The turtle hid in his



shell and silently endured the beating. Even hiding within his shell, he still felt unsafe and felt that it was only a matter of time before his entire shell was shattered.

The beating persisted for a while, and the toad was the first to surrender, "Lord War God, please forgive me. This toad is willing to serve you wholeheartedly and listen to all your commands."

He knew very well that if he did not surrender, he would really die. It hadn't been easy for him to reach this level of cultivation. He still had a long life ahead of him, and he was unwilling to die just like this.

"Do you mean your words?" Xiang Shaoyun asked.

"Yes. I swear on the name of my race. If I go against my words, may I turn into a turtle," said the toad.

When the turtle heard the oath, he cursed, "You spineless, cowardly toad. You are unworthy of being part of us dragon turtles. You will die before that happens."

The toad ignored the turtle and waited silently for Xiang Shaoyun's response.

"Very well. Stay there and wait," said Xiang Shaoyun as he controlled the formation and stopped attacking the toad.

The old turtle hurriedly said, "Lord War God, please forgive me. This old turtle is willing to submit to you."

The toad's sarcastic voice rang out, "Where's your spine now, old turtle?"

"It is this turtle's greatest honor to be able to serve Lord War God. My spine will naturally exist only for the sake of my lord. O great Lord War God, please accept my allegiance," flattered the old turtle.

The toad felt like vomiting when he heard those words, and he cursed inwardly, What shamelessness.

"Good. Since both of you are willing to submit, I will let bygones be bygones. I may have reincarnated and may be weaker than before, but it won't be long before I'm back at the top. Naturally, the two of you will have the chance to reach greater heights as well," said Xiang Shaoyun, like the greatest of charlatans.

He then recalled the formation's power and stored the Holy Spirit Banner. Controlling the formation, he opened a tiny path before stepping through it confidently.

When the turtle and the toad saw him, they had complicated looks in their eyes. Even so, they still greeted him respectfully, "Greetings, Lord War God."

"From now on, you will be my left and right guardians. You don't need to call me Lord War God. Just address me as young master," said Xiang Shaoyun in a pleased manner.

With the assistance of two top-tier Demon Sovereigns, taking back the Ziling Sect would be much easier.

"Yes, young master," replied the turtle and the toad deferentially.

They then returned to their human forms. The turtle said, "Young master, I wonder if you still have any gold lunar liquid? It would be useful for this old turtle. I am willing to trade for it with goldblood stones."

The toad hurriedly joined in, "Young master, please trade some with me first. This old turtle took all the liquid for himself last time. I didn't even get a single drop of it!"

"You damn toad, you're actually lying through your teeth," said the turtle unhappily.

"I'm telling the truth. Blame yourself for stealing from me!" the toad retorted.

Xiang Shaoyun slapped his chest and said, "Follow this young master and you will live a good life. There will be no lack of gold lunar liquid for you! Where are the others? Have they all left?"

"We had chased out all those humans," the turtle replied promptly.

"Young master, I think they stole everything here," said the toad.

Xiang Shaoyun's face darkened when he heard that.