

Prodigies 101

[Chapter 101: Black Glory Sacred Hall](#)

The sixteen men in black court attire stood silently, like sculptures that could stand thousands of years of erosion by the wind. Standing next to the mysterious black carriage that was akin to eternal night was an old man with a peaceful expression. He bowed respectfully, showing his impeccable manners.

The woman, who seemed to come from endless darkness, came over to stand in front of Lin Xun. She suddenly stretched out her hand and lifted up Xia Zhi's little hand while she studied Xia Zhi's stunningly beautiful face with her ocean-like blue eyes. After a long moment, the corners of her lips curved upwards in a satisfied grin.

Xia Zhi stood motionless and just stared at the woman standing before her. But there was undisguised vigilance in her dark crescent-shaped eyes.

She had already felt a hint of fretfulness since yesterday, and that feeling only intensified as time passed. Today, she finally understood the source of her fretfulness when she saw the woman and she knew it had nothing to do with Lin Xun.

"You already knew I would come?" asked the woman in surprise.

Xia Zhi pursed her lips and said, "I had a feeling."

The woman looked even more satisfied, and her usual cold and indifferent eyes carried a touch of warmth. "You shall leave with me today."

Her tone was calm, but it seemed to allow no question or refusal.

Lin Xun's heart sank. This was an order and the meaning was extremely clear. There was no room for negotiation at all.

This ignited Lin Xun's anger once again and it almost burned his rationality.

Lin Xu was already filled with murderous rage when Yao Tuohai wanted to capture Xia Zhi. But now, a mysterious woman had suddenly appeared and demanded to take Xia Zhi away from him. It seemed that everyone had ignored his existence!

"Why?"

Lin Xun said hoarsely, his body trembling. He was about to lose control of the rage in his heart. Furthermore, a wave of fear instinctively rushed out from him when he faced the mysterious woman. Under the clash of anger and fear, Lin Xun was like a tightly pulled bowstring and could snap at any moment.

The woman frowned and shifted her gaze to Lin Xun for the first time but her pale blue eyes were cold and indifferent.

Instantly, a terrifying pressure pressed down on him like a landslide. His whole body trembled more violently and his face grew paler, but his handsome face was crossed with determination and he refused to fall down.

Xia Zhi suddenly said out loud, "I'll go with you."

The woman retracted her gaze and Lin Xun seemed to have just escaped from the edge of death. His face was deathly white.

"Not a bad young man. No wonder you're willing to follow him," remarked the woman ruminatively.

"To me, he is irreplaceable, but I will eventually surpass you in the future," Xia Zhi said seriously as she looked straight at the woman.

The corners of the woman's lips curved upwards in a thought-provoking arc. "I look forward to that day."

Xia Zhi said, "Aren't you afraid that I'll kill you then?"

The woman looked more and more gentle. She seemed to have a special feeling towards Xia Zhi. "I can give you three chances to kill me."

Xia Zhi pursed her lips and said unwaveringly, "I don't need three chances. One is enough."

The woman smiled.

This was the first time that she smiled since she appeared. That moment seemed like a beautiful flower blooming within endless darkness and made the world pale in comparison.

"Remember what you said."

After a moment, the woman took Xia Zhi's hand and walked towards the black carriage.

Xia Zhi turned her head to look at Lin Xun and said suddenly, "Lin Xun, you can't die until I come back, okay?"

At that moment, Lin Xun's mind went blank. The anger, fear, unwillingness and confusion in his heart seemed to have disappeared, leaving only an unprecedented feeling of determination.

"I won't."

He muttered, his voice low and hoarse. He stood motionless with his head hung low, allowing the woman to take Xia Zhi away. No one saw it, but tears streamed down from the corners of his eyes.

The thirteen-year-old teenager from a mine prison told himself that this was the last time in his life he would cry.

The woman boarded the black carriage with Xia Zhi, but before she closed the carriage door she turned her head to glance at the teenager standing afar. It was unknown what she thought of but she got off the carriage again.

She came over to stand in front of Lin Xun, leaned slightly forward, and studied his delicate and handsome face. "I have just checked your cultivation aptitude—it's only average. Regardless of how hard you work, you will only get farther and farther away from the little girl. She doesn't belong to you."

Lin Xun was silent.

The woman tipped Lin Xun's chin up with her long and fair finger. "I can feel that your heart is full of anger and hatred, but it's useless. I can give you one chance. Remember, I am from the Black Glory Sacred Hall. My surname is Liulan and my name is Jinian. You will only be able to see me when you've become strong enough."

There was a unique charm in her husky voice. Before her voice faded, she had already turned around and boarded the black carriage.

Xia Zhi watched quietly from the carriage. She was calm as usual, but her crescent-shaped eyes were growing colder and more indifferent.

By the time Lin Xun had raised his head, the black carriage was already far away.

"Liulan... Jinian...I will remember it!"

The teenager murmured, and couldn't help coughing up blood. Then, he felt the world spinning around him and the ground shaking, and then he passed into unconsciousness.

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"You have to accept the cruelty of destiny at a young age, what a poor child."

After a sigh, an old man caught Lin Xun's collapsed body in his arms. The old man had come with the peculiar team of people but he didn't leave with them.

He lifted Lin Xun with ease like he was a ball of air, while still maintaining a flawless stance.

The old man was dressed in a black court attire and he stood with his back as straight as a brush. His eyes were kind and gentle as he swept them over the platform. "How is this child's district examination score?"

His words broke the silence, and everyone on the square looked perplexed because they didn't see what happened just now.

They only felt like they had a dream. All they saw was darkness, but when they finally woke up, the peculiar team of people was gone and only an old man remained behind and was carrying Lin Xun in his arms.

No one knew what just happened, but there was a wave of fear surging uncontrollably in everyone's heart. What kind of terrifying power could obstruct and affect their minds and perceptions without them knowing?

Yao Tuohai's face was deathly pale as he stood there speechless. He similarly was unaware of what just happened, but he knew that it was the doings of an important person!

"Reporting to Elder, his...his..."

Yu Canglin lost his might in the face of the old man's questioning. He stammered, sweated profusely, and couldn't answer.

Wu Chaoqun and the others also felt like they were sitting on a bed of nails. Their expressions were constantly altering. They still couldn't figure out where the peculiar team of people came from, let alone who the old man was.

But the old man's aura already sent chills to their hearts. They knew that he had an impressive background.

Seeing this, the old man bowed slightly and said in a gentle tone, "I would like to trouble you all to give this child a non-examination place."

Afterwards, he carried Lin Xun and turned around. He made no huge movements but he instantly vanished like he had vaporized into the air.

Everyone couldn't help but breathe a sigh of relief, as if the fear crushing their hearts also faded with the old man's disappearance.

But on the platform, Yu Canglin, Wu Chaoqun and the others looked perplexed. What happened just now?

Where did that peculiar group of people come from?

Why did they save Lin Xun?

And that beautiful little girl, where did she go?

No one knew!

All they knew was that something happened when Yao Tuohai was about to capture Lin Xun and the little girl. But no one knew what happened afterwards.

Too terrifying!

The cultivators who participated in the assessment looked even worse. They looked dazed and confused like they had just woken up from a dream.

"Continue the district examination."

It was only after a long moment that Yao Tuohai came to the platform like a walking corpse and sat down again, though his expression had become a little apathetic.

His purpose of coming here was to get close with the important person, but the end result only filled him with fear and horror.

He never would have thought something like that would happen even if he broke his head!

"Lord Yao, Lin Xun's examination result..." Yu Canglin asked hesitantly. [novelnext.com](http://www.novelnext.com)

Yao Tuohai wrinkled his brows as he thought about the old man's identity and who was behind him, waves surged in his heart again. He sighed and waved his hand. "Let him pass!"

What!

Yu Canglin and the others were all dumbstruck and their expressions dramatically changed. They had already shown an unyielding attitude towards not allowing Lin Xun to pass. If this matter were to spread out, it would stir up countless gossip.

However, Yao Tuohai was too lazy to explain to them and he was too busy thinking about why the important person would come here for the little girl.

“Given your strength, you don’t deserve to touch what doesn’t belong to you.” That charming husky voice echoed in his mind once again and made him tremble endlessly. Could this have something to do with Her Majesty of the Black Glory Sacred Hall?

This matter certainly is related to the little girl!

It took Yao Tuohai a long time to be certain of it. Even he couldn’t restrain his desire to possess when he saw the little girl. It was easy to imagine what sort of extraordinary power the little girl possessed.

Her ability must have caught the important person’s eyes and so she countered my attack!

Yao Tuohai was in the midst of his own troubles and Yu Canglin, Wu Chaoqun and the others didn’t dare to go against his orders. So, in the end, Lin Xun passed the district examination.

Shortly afterwards, the district examination continued.

It was just that, after the turmoil, everyone seemed preoccupied, and the atmosphere had become strange and oppressive.

[Chapter 102: All Alone](#)

As twilight descended, the endless storm of the district examination had finally come to a close.

What was strange was that there were no stories about the storm that happened yesterday. It was as though a giant invisible hand had secretly suppressed it, revealing a mysterious quality.

Even the cultivators and students of Donglin Academy who participated in the district examination kept quiet on the matter.

The rest of the people only knew that the district examination was a success and one thousand talented cultivators were selected under the leadership of Yao Tuohai.

Other than that, the ordinary people in Donglin City knew nothing else regarding the district examination.

On the night after the district examination, Yao Tuohai left Donglin City in a hurry. The influential figures in the city didn’t host a feast to celebrate the end of the district examination like they did in the past.

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In Stone Cauldron Alms, Mu Wansu sat alone in the room in deep thought. Today’s matter had a huge impact on her.

Now that her mind was clear, she remembered a message she received from the Stone Cauldron Alms headquarters in the Forbidden City a few days ago—"An important person would soon arrive in Donglin City, remember to act carefully."

At the time, Mu Wansu was quite surprised and she speculated that the reason that Yao Tuohai would suddenly come to Donglin City to preside over the district examination was for the important person. The youngster who was escorted to Donglin City by the Steel Blood Guards also likely came for the important person.

Mu Wansu just hadn't been able to guess who the important person was.

It was only after what happened today that Mu Wansu realized that the important person was likely the owner of the black carriage!

But Mu Wansu was still puzzled as to why the important person would appear in Donglin City and even showed up at the district examination?

She tried to recall the little details of the district examination in her mind, and although she didn't see everything clearly, she quickly remembered that Yao Tuohai was trying to capture Lin Xun and the little girl, but he was inexplicably counterattacked in the end.

And when the change came to an end, an old man in a black court attire was standing with Lin Xun in his arms...

Wait!

The little girl seemed to have disappeared!

An idea flashed to Mu Wansu's mind. The important person was here for Lin Xun and the little girl?

No, she must have come for the little girl. The peculiar team of people didn't take Lin Xun with them when they left, which suggests that they only conveniently saved him. But I am certain that the little girl with Lin Xun has been taken away...

Mu Wansu couldn't help but inhale sharply. What is the little girl's background? Why would an important person personally visit Donglin City for her?

Without any hesitation, Mu Wansu took out a brush and a piece of paper, wrote down everything that happened today, sealed it in a bronze box, and handed it to the guard standing outside. "Deliver this message to the headquarters at the quickest speed!"

Afterwards, Mu Wansu fell into deep thought again. She decided to pay Lin Xun a visit early in the morning, hoping to find out more.

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In the darkness, a treasure ship sped across the air and left Donglin City, disappearing into the vast night sky.

On the treasure ship, Lian Fei's heart was burning with indignation and bitterness. "Damn it! Uncle Yao was about to capture that bastard Lin Xun but that matter happened so suddenly. It's so annoying!"

Yao Susu's face was also overcast. She frowned when she heard what he said, "Are you complaining about my father's ability?"

Lian Fei quickly shook his head and explained in a dispirited voice. "I'm just puzzled. Is it true that Lin Xun can't be killed?"

Yao Susu sneered. "He is just lucky. We will have more opportunities to deal with him in the future. Don't forget that he passed the district examination and so he will go to Qingfeng County to participate in the prefectural examination. That's my Yao family's territory. So, as long as he dares to come, I can guarantee that he won't leave there alive!"

Lian Fei sighed. "I hope so."

Yao Susu comforted in a gentle voice, "Brother Fei, when we arrive in Qingfeng County, I can ask my family to provide you with various cultivation resources. I believe you will rapidly grow stronger given your talent."

Lian Fei's spirits were instantly lifted. "Susu, don't worry, I promise that I won't disappoint you and Uncle Yao!"

Yao Tuohai suddenly walked in and shot a cold glance at Lian Fei. "Actions speak louder than words. If you can't pass the prefectural and provincial examinations in one year, don't even think about being with Susu!"

Lian Fei's countenance abruptly changed. Pass two major examinations - the prefectural and provincial examinations in one year? What a tough and cruel demand!

Yao Susu said anxiously, "Father, that seems too impossible."

Yao Tuohai swept an indifferent glance over Yao Susu and said, "If you think the person you like is trash, I can throw him out now."

Before Yao Susu could say anything, Lian Fei reassured, "Uncle Yao, don't worry, I will do my best. If I fail the prefectural and provincial examinations, you don't need to throw me out. I won't even have the face to be with Susu anymore!"

His voice was unwavering and his expression was resolute. He knew that he would lose the chance to become successful if he didn't seize the opportunity.

Yao Tuohai coldly snorted. "Good, I'll wait and see. If you can achieve it, I'll not only allow Susu to marry you, but also support you in dealing with Lin Xun!"

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Golden Jade Hall.

Deep in the night, Gu Yanping was deep in thought. He couldn't help but let out a sigh, "He survived on the verge of death and he escaped in the face of great danger. Impressive!"

Gu Liang's mind felt heavy. "Father, who do you think saved Lin Xun?"

Gu Yanping was silent for a moment and then he said, "There's no harm in telling you. If my guess is correct, it should be an important person from the Black Glory Sacred Hall."

"Black Glory Sacred Hall?"

Gu Liang frowned in puzzlement. He had never heard of the name.

Gu Yanping's gaze turned complicated as many past events flashed to his mind. "When you're strong enough, you will learn about the existence of the Black Glory Sacred Hall. They come from the darkness of the empire and never reveal themselves to the world. Only two types of people could come into contact with them—one is the top powerful and influential people in the empire and the other is the enemy of the empire."

Gu Liang's heart trembled. "Then does that mean Lin Xun has an extraordinary background?"

Gu Yanping shook his head. "Probably not, but let's not speculate too much. I have a hunch that it will be very difficult to maintain your friendship with Lin Xun in the future."

Gu Liang looked perplexed. "Why is that?"

Gu Yanping said ruminatively, "The Wu Clan and the principal of Donglin Academy are nothing, but Yao Tuohai is a troublesome person. He has the backing of the minister and has a lot of connections. If Lin Xun became his enemy, what do you think his odds of winning are?"

Gu Liang's expression altered subtly; his eyes became wide with terror and then he said through gritted teeth, "Despite how powerful Yao Tuohai is, he still failed to capture and kill Lin Xun, isn't that right? As long as Lin Xun continues to train, he might be able to fight against Yao Tuohai."

Gu Yanping exclaimed, "Although your words lack confidence, you still have my praise. As they say, the river flows thirty years to the east and thirty years to the west. It's better to bully the old man than the young man for being poor. Things in the world are constantly changing. Who knows what will happen in the future?"

"Don't bully the poor boy..." Gu Liang felt a current of blood rushing to his heart.

"Let's visit Lin Xun together tomorrow," said Gu Yanping. "Since you don't plan on giving up the friendship, how can you just stand and watch your friend in danger?"

Gu Liang nodded solemnly.

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On the same night, in Courtyard No. 49 in the slums.

As Lin Xun regained consciousness, he found himself lying in a familiar room. He blankly glanced around and, after a while, recalled what happened before he lost consciousness.

Who brought me back?

Lin Xun got up from his bed and lit a candle on the windowsill. The dim yellow light flickered and cast a glow over the desk, where the books that Xia Zhi had been reading the past few days were neatly stacked.

It was deep in the night and Xia Zhi would have come home already and would be quietly asleep in bed if she hadn't been taken away.

But now, the bed was empty.

Lin Xun spaced out for a long while and then he pushed the door and came to the courtyard. The night was gentle in the courtyard. The stars that hung in the night sky sprinkled wisps of silvery light upon the world.

Lin Xun remembered that Xia Zhi's bone spear also released wisps of silvery starlight, which was as beautiful and mysterious as the stars in the sky.

"Let's drink."

Suddenly, a gentle voice rang in his ear and a wine gourd was tossed towards him.

Lin Xun caught it at once and noticed an old man in a black court attire sitting under the old locust tree in the center of the courtyard.

He remembered him. He was also among the peculiar team of people that came to Donglin Academy. Evidently, the old man was the one who brought him home.

Lin Xun removed the lid on the wine gourd and gulped down several mouthfuls. The hot wine ran down his throat like a knife scraping his throat, but Lin Xun still felt the taste wasn't strong enough.

"Thank you."

Lin Xun returned the wine gourd. "Also thank your..." He didn't know how to describe the mysterious, noble woman.

But the old man seemed to know who Lin Xun was referring to and asked in puzzlement, "Don't you hate my lady?"

Lin Xun was silent for a moment before he responded, "Hate, but I also don't hate her either."

His feelings were very conflicting, but the old man seemed to understand him. He nodded. "You're a smart child."

Lin Xun smiled wryly. "What's the use of being smart when you just have to passively accept everything in the end?"

Lin Xun seemed reluctant to talk about the matter. Instead, he asked, "How should I address you, elder?"

The old man waved his hand dismissively. "My name isn't worth mentioning."

While speaking, he had already gotten up and was looking at Lin Xun directly. "I waited here for you to wake up to fulfill the Miss's promise of giving you an opportunity."

Lin Xun frowned. "What opportunity?"

The old man said meaningfully. "A chance to become stronger."

Lin Xun flatly refused. "Sorry, I won't accept it."

The old man sighed. "Child, a smart person wouldn't act stubborn and tough. You don't understand what this opportunity means. If you can seize this opportunity, you can perhaps see the little girl again."

Lin Xun narrowed his eyes, silent for a while. Then, he spat out one word. "Okay."

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Early in the next morning, Gu Yanping and his son arrived at Courtyard No. 49, only to find that the building was empty, and even the books and items inside were gone.

"Let's go, he already left." Gu Yanping sighed. *NoVeLnext.coM*

"He left like that?" Gu Liang grumbled. "He doesn't seem to consider me as his friend!"

"Maybe he has reasons that he can't speak about."

Gu Liang gritted his teeth. "Regardless, I will find him one day and beat him up. Otherwise I can't forgive him for leaving without saying a word!"

.....

Not long after them, Mu Wansu also came to Courtyard No. 49 and left with disappointment.

Complex emotions swirled in her heart. The little bastard who always makes me gnash my teeth in anger just left like that.

Perhaps they would meet again one day?

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Under the warm morning sun, an ordinary treasure ship rose from the outskirts of Donglin City and the countless runes engraved around the ship were mobilized. Haloed with rippling light, the ship tore through the clouds and sped towards a distant location like a fired arrow.

The inside of the treasure ship was very spacious but extremely simple. A bearded, middle-aged man was steering the ship. His strong, bronze chest was bare as he took frequent sips from the wine gourd in his hand. He was so drunk that his eyes were red and his face flushed. Yet, he exuded a tough presence and forthright manner through his laziness.

When Lin Xun walked into the cabin under the old man's guidance, a familiar-looking soldierly young man immediately caught his eyes.

At the same time, the youngster also noticed Lin Xun. He was slightly startled at first, but he immediately thundered, "It's you, little liar!" and aimed a punch at Lin Xun.

[Chapter 103: Blood Kill Camp](#)

Boom!

His fist created a huge blast of air and a force that could sweep away thousands of troops.

Lin Xun's pupils shrank but before he could counterattack, the old man had already stretched out his hand and swiped across the air.

The soldierly youngster was blasted away like a bullet and slammed against a cabin wall, shaking the entire treasure ship.

The scene even made Lin Xun feel his body ache. But he was more surprised to see the soldierly youngster bounce up like nothing had happened and glowered at the old man. "You're stronger and you're bullying the weak. This is unfair!"

The old man chuckled. "Did your father not tell you that only weak people complain that they're not as strong as others?"

The soldierly youngster snorted and shifted his gaze back to Lin Xun. He gritted his teeth. "Little liar, I'll deal with you after the old man leaves!"

Lin Xun finally remembered who the youngster was. He had met the youngster after his first visit to the Donglin Martial Training Hall to test his aeth power. At the time, the youngster was surrounded by a group of Steel Blood Guards and he also asked Lin Xun about his cultivation level. He seemed very outgoing, but it was his mature and soldierly appearance at thirteen years old that left a deep impression on Lin Xun.

However, Lin Xun was puzzled as to why he called him a little liar and snapped as soon as he saw him.

"You just said that it's unfair for someone strong to bully the weak, but isn't it also unreasonable that you attacked me for no reason?" Lin Xun said calmly.

"I remember that you said you've set foot into the Spirit Dipper Stage four years ago, and I am only at the sixth layer True Martial Stage. What's the difference between you and people who bully the weak?"

The old man looked surprised because he didn't expect Lin Xun to know the soldierly youngster.

The youngster's face darkened. Then, he thought of something and fumed, "What a liar. You clearly have a cultivation base of the pinnacle of the eighth layer True Martial Stage but you still dare to lie. Do you think I'm an idiot?"

Boom!

As he leaned forward, his tall figure was already charging towards Lin Xun like a barbaric dragon.

But a wave of hand from the old man sent him flying across the air and he saw stars dance before him. Increasingly enraged, he pushed himself up and yelled, "Old man, why are you protecting that annoying little liar?"

The old man sighed, "Are you really sure that he has a cultivation base of the eighth layer True Martial Stage?"

The soldierly youngster fumed, "When this liar was testing his aeth power in the Donglin Martial Training Hall a few days ago, I personally saw the number 4,900 marked on the aeth testing stone. Don't tell me it's wrong!"

The old man was slightly taken aback by his answer and his gaze turned strange as he looked at Lin Xun. "Is this true?"

Lin Xun understood why the soldierly youngster called him a liar. He nodded. "It's true."

The soldierly youngster immediately said smugly, "What? Are you feeling guilty and admitting it now?"

The old man pondered for a moment before he said with a sigh, "He didn't lie."

The old man realized that he thought Lin Xun's aptitude wasn't outstanding and that his cultivation was only considered good among his peers, but he actually had aeth power comparable to the pinnacle of the eight layer True Martial Stage when he was only at the sixth layer True Martial Stage!

This alone was unachievable to ordinary people.

"Will Miss change her mind if she learns about this?" The old man pondered about it and in the end rejected the idea. He knew that she wouldn't change her decision of taking Xia Zhi away no matter how outstanding Lin Xun was.

"You didn't lie?"

The soldierly youngster's eyes went wide as he suddenly realized something. "Are you saying that he, as a sixth layer True Martial Stage cultivator, possesses aeth power of the eighth layer True Martial Stage?"

This guy isn't that stupid he seems. Lin Xun thought to himself.

"Apologies, I misunderstood you before. As the saying goes, friendship grows after fights. I'll treat you to a drink one day as an apology," said the soldierly youngster as he strode over.

Even if he was apologizing, he still had an air of self confidence. **Novelnext.coM**

This was nothing because what surprised Lin Xun the most was that the soldierly youngster knew he was wrong and directly apologized without any shame. He was much better than the annoying troublemakers.

Furthermore, Lin Xun had long speculated that the youngster had a remarkable identity given the fact that he was escorted by a group of Steel-Blood Guards. Moreover, the fact that he could calmly apologize on his own initiative made him completely different from the children of other aristocratic families.

"It's useless to argue about it. It's better for you to buy me a drink." Lin Xun shrugged his shoulders.

"Haha, you're interesting." The soldierly youngster laughed heartily. "My name is Ning Meng. People close to me call me Meng. You can also call me that."

Lin Xun casually said, "I'm Lin Xun."

Ning Meng said enthusiastically, "Lin Xun, when we arrive at the Blood Kill Camp, we will be classmates. We will be together for an entire year. I really admire your personality and you're also pretty strong, though you're weaker than me. But since we're going to participate in the training of the Blood Kill Camp together, you're definitely better than the ordinary trash. If you encounter any trouble in the future, just let me know..."

Lin Xun couldn't find any opportunity to add in a single word. Ning Meng spoke rapidly and said several sentences in one breath. He was simply a chatterbox.

But Lin Xun didn't mind. He learned from Ning Meng that the destination of the ship was a place called Blood Kill Camp, which seemed to conduct some extremely cruel training.

Is this the opportunity that the old man spoke of?

Lin Xun wondered in his mind.

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The treasure ship was clearly an old one. It not only didn't fly particularly fast, but the ride was also very bumpy and felt like a cart clattering along a muddy road. It was extremely uncomfortable.

Moreover, the bearded middle-aged man had been drinking while operating the ship. Lin Xun couldn't help but worry about an accident happening if the middle-aged man got drunk.

Even Spirit Dipper cultivators would be afraid of plunging from their height of tens of thousands feet, let alone True Martial Stage cultivators.

The treasure ship was an extremely valuable aeth tool. Its entire body was engraved with runes and its aeth power reservoir was a spirit furnace.

The spirit furnace acted as the core of the treasure ship and was where a pure aeth crystal was being burned. It provided a constant source of aeth power for the runes engraved all around the ship to allow it to suspend itself in the air.

Of course, the aeth crystal had to be replaced with a new one once it was used up.

The so-called aeth crystal was a mass of crystallized substance that possessed astonishing aeth qi. Generally, it would be cut into a standard size. Although it wasn't considered especially rare, it was extremely valuable. A piece the size of a palm was worth ten silver coins!

It was impossible to fly a ship of a standard treasure ship size across long distances without several hundreds of pieces of aeth crystals.

It was worth mentioning that aeth crystals also had a wide range of uses. They not only provided aeth qi for runes, but they also played invaluable roles in aeth fields, puppets, alchemy and transportation. They could be regarded as an extremely important cultivation resource.

After the time it took to burn an incense stick, the old man interrupted Ning Meng, who was chattering endlessly, and Lin Xun's ears were finally able to rest.

Ning Meng also seemed to know that the old man had something to say to Lin Xun. He stood up and slipped away. He went to the ship's operation room and chatted with the bearded middle-aged man over drinks.

He was clearly very outgoing. Additionally, he was straightforward and open-minded. He tended to be informal and casual and so it was easy for him to get along with others.

"In another hour, I will leave. If you have any questions, I will answer everything I can answer." The old man sat down, his expression kind and gentle.

Lin Xun said bitterly, "If they are questions related to Xia Zhi, you won't answer them, will you?"

The old man nodded. "I indeed can't answer them."

Lin Xun drew a deep breath and said seriously, "I just want to know how you guys found Xia Zhi. Given your identities, you shouldn't appear in Donglin City for no reason."

The old man smiled meaningfully. "Do you suspect that someone betrayed you?"

"Correct."

The old man thought for a moment and answered him in a serious voice, "You guessed wrong. No one disclosed the secret to us. The reason why Miss found the little girl is due to an obscure feeling."

Lin Xun frowned as he listened attentively.

"There's no harm in telling you some of the cause. It's not that confidential. About a month ago, Miss received a message that the place of her old friend had suffered an accident, so we immediately set off and traveled deep into the Great Three Thousand Mountains. However, when we arrived, we found that it had long been utterly destroyed and not a single clue was left behind."

The old man's gentle face seemed more serious than usual as if thinking hard to recollect the moment. His voice was low as he explained. "We searched the Great Three Thousand Mountains, but found nothing. According to Miss, we came too late..."

Lin Xun's heart trembled as he thought of the destroyed mine prison and Mister Lu who raised him since he was a child.

Could that...be the place that Liulan Jinian and the old man were searching for...

"Your emotions seem to be fluctuating."

The old man's voice rang in his ears and made his body stiffen.

He donned a bitter expression as he explained, "I'll be honest with you, my hometown, Feiyun Village, is in the Great Three Thousand Mountains. So when I heard the name, it filled me with nostalgia and reminiscence."

The old man acknowledged him and didn't question him further.

Lin Xun breathed a sigh of relief. He would never tell anyone anything about the mine prison until he became strong enough! It didn't matter whether the other party had good or bad intentions because it involved too many people and things—including Mister Lu and also Lin Xun's background and enemies!

The old man continued, "Of course, what I said has nothing to do with you. It's just that on our way back, Miss suddenly had a feeling and told us that there is an opportunity in Donglin City that she had been searching for. You know what happened after that. The little girl with you is the opportunity that Miss has been looking for."

It sounded very mysterious, but Lin Xun knew that cultivators could indeed sense many mysterious and unfathomable things once their cultivation reached a terrifyingly high level.

It was just that Lin Xun still held a grudge towards her for taking away Xia Zhi. He could understand her but he couldn't let go of his emotions.

However, the old man's words made Lin Xun see the glimmer of hope that he had been searching bitterly for!

[Chapter 104: Grand Appearance](#)

Lin Xun had consulted a number of books to find out about the mine prison's location ever since he arrived in Donglin City. But he didn't succeed in the end.

Lin Xun had also attempted to find records about the Origin Aeth Artery—Grand Abyss Heaven Devourer, but he found no information, which was possibly due to it being incredibly rare.

However, the old man's words made Lin Xun see a glimmer of hope. If his speculation was right, the place that Liulan Jinian was searching for was precisely the mine prison!

Of course, this was just Lin Xun's speculation, but this vague clue was enough to make Lin Xun excited.

Mister Lu only told him that he had to come to the Ziyao Empire if he wanted to find the person who took his Origin Aeth Artery. But the territory of the Ziyao Empire was too vast and finding any clues there was no different to searching for a needle in a haystack.

At the very least, the vague clue that Lin Xun received from the old man provided him with a direction and goal to search for, and that was enough.

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Seeing that Lin Xun had no more questions, the old man said, "The Blood Kill Camp is very special. It hasn't been open for tens of years and the people able to participate in it aren't ordinary. If you manage to leave the camp safely, that already proves that you have the power and skills to become a true expert."

He clapped Lin Xun on the shoulder. "Although I highly doubt that you will ever see Miss again, I still hope that you succeed in the camp."

The old man stood up straight and said, "I will bid you farewell here. Xue Jin will safely take you to the Blood Kill Camp. Take care."

Xue Jin was the name of the bearded middle-aged man steering the treasure ship.

Lin Xun got up and bowed. "Thank you."

The old man smiled, opened the cabin hatch and leaped out. His figure faded like a shaft of light in the vast sky.

Bang!

A gust of wind poured in and slammed the hatch shut, causing the entire treasure ship to sway.

"That old guy has finally left," Xue Jin muttered in the operation room.

He appeared even more relaxed and leisurely as he said languidly to Ning Meng who was beside him, "Little guy, enjoy your time here. When you get to the Blood Kill Camp, hehe..."

A hint of a gloating smile touched his lips.

Ning Meng suddenly felt uneasy and shouted, "If the Blood Kill Camp isn't brutal, I would look down on it instead."

Xue Jin laughed even more wildly. "Brutal? If it's just brutal, how would it be worthy of the name Blood Kill Camp?"

"What do you mean?"

Xue Jin raised his head and drank his wine. He said nothing else. The Blood Kill Camp was hell and a person would only know its abnormality after experiencing it.

Lin Xun didn't react much to the conversation in the cabin because he was deep in thought.

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Two days later.

In a bright hot desert that sparkled like flowing gold, the sun was blazing high in the sky and the temperature was so scorching that there was a burnt smell in the air.

Suddenly a whizz pierced the air, and an old treasure ship swooped down from the sky and went on a dangerous trajectory like a staggering drunkard. It flipped a dozen of times in the air before breaking dangerously and drifting across the desert as it descended.

With a thud, the cabin door opened and Ning Meng, who was soldierly and well-built, tottered out. A gurgling sound came from his mouth before he vomited and he looked extremely miserable.

When Lin Xun walked out of the cabin, his face was pale and he forcibly resisted the urge to vomit as he stood in the middle of a desert and surveyed the surroundings.

"Hahaha, I can only see you to here. Someone will come to collect you later. Goodbye, you two little demons. I hope you'll still be alive when I come to pick you up in two years!"

Xue Jin popped his big head out the treasure ship and a smile spread across his bearded face as he waved to Lin Xun and Ning Meng. He steered the treasure ship and it rumbled across the ground before widely lifting off into the sky.

"Go to hell, one day I will smash your damn boat! I've never seen a drunkard like you driving a treasure ship! Just you wait!" Ning Meng roared in fury, but Xue Jin and the treasure ship had already vanished.

In the end, he shook his head angrily and then glanced around in puzzlement. "Lin Xun, what kind of desert is this, do you know?"

Lin Xun shook his head. The treasure ship had flown for two days and there were many twists and turns along the way; it was impossible to know where they were.

“Damn it, it’s just the Blood Kill Camp. Why act so mysterious? Is it too unpresentable for other people to know about?” Ning Meng cursed again. His motion sickness clearly made him very moody.*novelNext.com*

Rumble—

A thunder-like noise rang in the sky, causing Lin Xun and Ning Meng to look up.

A giant grand treasure ship was whizzing towards their direction at an unbelievable speed and even created a long air current due to its incredible speed. It was a spectacular sight!

Spotless white steel armor plating was built around the entire treasure ship and made it look as smooth as a mirror. The bow of the ship resembled an eagle’s beak and every part of the hull was engraved with exquisite runes that were almost blinding as they glimmered under the sun.

It was indeed an extremely luxurious ship. Even Lin Xun was frozen with astonishment after a glance at the ship. This isn’t a treasure ship but a magnificent moving castle!

Ning Meng immediately cried out strangely, “Damn it, it’s the Silver Eagle Battleship—the latest generation of heaven grade aeth tool created by the Divine Workshop in the empire!”

The Silver Eagle Battleship, a kind of battle-type treasure ship, was a heaven grade aeth tool that only Spirit Sea Stage cultivators could operate. The battleship was entirely covered in one hundred and eight high-level runes and it could carry over thousands of people. Additionally, it was equipped with sixteen rune battle cannons, and each one had the destructive power to kill a Spirit Dipper cultivator!

A battleship like the Silver Eagle Battleship was worth more than tens of thousand gold coins!

However, since it was the latest battleship developed by the Divine Workshop, only a small number existed in the world and it couldn’t be bought even with money.

In comparison, the old treasure ship that Xue Jin was operating was extremely shabby.

“Who the f** is so rich and powerful?” Ning Meng’s eyes reddened, like he saw a rare treasure and was extremely jealous.

Before long, the Silver Eagle Battleship landed, and the cabin hatch opened and a mighty and imposing team marched out.

Lin Xun couldn’t help but stare straight at the team of people. Too extravagant!

Thirty six men in full armor were clearing the way for someone. Each one was armed with the most sophisticated equipment and was shining from head to toe like a humanoid weapon.

Lin Xun surveyed them and noticed that every piece of equipment on each of the heavily armored men, including their boots, capes, belts, inner armors, wrist guards and blades...were extremely valuable aeth tools. The entire outfit was worth at least one thousand gold coins!

It wouldn’t be so shocking if it was only one person, but thirty-six people were fully armed with the same equipment. No ordinary person could afford that.

But this was nothing compared to the excessively lavish jeweled carriage behind the thirty-six men. The jeweled carriage was pulled by four snow-white jiao-dragon beasts, and every part of the carriage was engraved with complicated runes that were evidently the work of a rune master. The carriage was extremely gorgeous, overflowing with vibrant colors and glittering brilliantly.

Although the value of the jeweled carriage wasn't obvious, the lavishness directly assaulted one's face.

A youngster in white was lying idly inside the jeweled carriage and he was smiling in pleasure.

Seven to eight gorgeous young women were spaced around the youngster. Every one of them looked pure, stunning, charming and sweet...

They were all dressed in different styles of sheer cotton garments that highlighted their graceful figures. Their soft arms and shoulders and fair skin seemed more alluring under the scorching sun.

They all knelt down next to the youngster; some were massaging his shoulders, some massaging his foot, some massaging his leg and some serving him iced wine. They fed him in mouthfuls and their expressions were filled with gentleness.

Ning Meng looked flabbergasted. "Isn't that too lavish?"

Lin Xun felt his head spinning around. The Silver Eagle Battleship is his transport, the thirty-six heavily armored men cleared the way for him, and he is being carried in an extremely grand jeweled carriage. But what's most outrageous is that there are eight young girls crowding around him to provide intimate services. Even the word lavish can't describe his power and wealth, right?

They were in a scorching desert but the appearance and behavior of this group of people made it seem like they were going on an outing. Even Lin Xun couldn't help but sigh. Why do so many people in the world hate the rich? Just look at this scene.

The team lined up near Lin Xun and Ning Meng and the youngster in white on the jeweled carriage sat up straight and dispersed the young women with a wave of his hand. He smiled at Lin Xun and Ning Meng, saying "Dare I ask if you two are also waiting to enter the Blood Kill Camp?"

Lin Xun nodded.

Ning Meng snorted coldly, as if he couldn't stand the youngster in white.

The youngster in white was taken aback at first but then his lips curled disapprovingly. He took out a jade fan and fanned himself as he walked off. "Who would have thought that this Blood Kill Camp would be in a barren desert?"

Ning Meng sneered, "Your appearance tells me that you're just a young master of a wealthy family who knows how to enjoy. Get out of here if you're afraid."

The youngster in white was very handsome. His lips were red and his teeth white. He had an impressive presence and elegant demeanor. He indeed looked like a young master of a wealthy family who knew how to enjoy himself. This was obvious from the way he made an appearance.

The youngster in white only smiled disapprovingly in response to Ning Meng's mocking. He instead shifted his gaze to Lin Xun and asked, "Is he your friend?"

Lin Xun nodded.

The youngster in white smiled. "Your friend's temper is really bad. He'll likely get into a lot of trouble in the future because of it and it might even affect you."

Before Lin Xun could respond, Ning Meng snapped, "Little White Face, what the hell are you talking about?"

The youngster in white smiled. "Look, he wants to resort violence at the slightest disagreement. His temper stinks. I didn't used to believe that there are idiots who are born to need a beating, but now I do."

Ning Meng's eyes burned with rage. He charged towards the youngster in white and was about to teach him a lesson.

It was then that a gust of wind whipped up a vortex of sand. It roared towards them and came to a stop in between Ning Meng and the youngster in white.

Immediately, the sandstorm dissipated into fine sand and scattered across the ground, revealing a figure.

[Chapter 105: Obey Orders](#)

Everyone narrowed their eyes and turned to look at the figure that suddenly appeared.

The figure was very thin, straight as a spear, and clad in the empire's old-style military uniform. His cleanly washed white and dark purple uniform was unembellished and did not have any fancy epaulets that represented great honors.

His skin was dark and his face was stern and cold. He exuded a tough, unshakable mountain-like aura even by just standing there.

His eyes were razor-sharp like blades and anyone who met his gaze felt a chill in their hearts as if a sharp sword was pressing into their throats.

Lin Xun, Ning Meng, and the youngster in white all stiffened, their expressions subtly altering. They sensed a dangerous aura from the thin man.

"Within thirty seconds, all irrelevant people leave here or face the consequences!" said the thin man indifferently. His voice was as tough as a blade.

He ran his eyes across Silver Eagle Battleship, the group of men in full armor and the beautiful young women on the jeweled carriage. His face was cold and devoid of expression like he was looking at a bunch of dead people.

"Young Master..." Many people looked hesitant at the youngster in white.

"You all should leave. Go back and tell my old man that I'll return one year later and I'll be really angry if he dares to stop me from meeting up with Zhao Zijin." The youngster in white smiled sweetly as he waved his hand.

Immediately, the team that escorted him returned to the Silver Eagle Battleship and flew away with a boom.

The thin man watched them expressionlessly and in silence. It wasn't until the Silver Eagle Battleship had completely disappeared from his sight that he looked at Lin Xun, Ning Meng and the youngster in white. "I am called Xu Sanqi and I will be your instructor. I don't care what background you have because the moment you stepped into the Blood Kill Camp, you're my student and there is only one thing you need to do—obey the orders!"

Xu Sanqi—what an unusual name.

Lin Xun and the youngster in white didn't utter a word, but Ning Meng suddenly said aloud, "Instructor Xu, what if we don't obey orders?"

A smile suddenly spread across Xu Sanqi's dark and rock-hard face. He revealed his pearl white teeth as he uttered one word, "Death!"

Death!

Lin Xun's eyes narrowed and the youngster-in-white stopped smiling. They both realized that the ruthless and cold Instructor Xu Sanqi wasn't joking.

Ning Meng was about to say something, but he immediately closed his mouth and shuddered when he saw Xu Sanqi's stiff and chilling smile.

He might seemed careless and boorish but he wasn't stupid. Before he came to the Blood Kill Camp, his father had said that he would avenge him if he died in other parts of the empire but he deserved to die if he died in the Blood Kill Camp!

His father was even more lawless than him. So, Ning Meng knew he had to be careful in the Blood Kill Camp if even his father said such words.

.....

In the depths of the desert was a barren, low mountain range that glistened under the scorching sun. There, not a single blade of grass grew.

The Blood Kill Camp was situated in the depths of that mountain. Many buildings and strange sites there were a jet-black color. It was like another world.

Without Xu Sanqi guiding them, they never would have imagined such an area existed in the depths of a scorching desert.

A thirty-foot sword-shaped stone pillar stood tall in front of the entrance of the Blood Kill Camp. It was very striking, and the tip of the sword pointed skywards like it was about to pierce a hole into the sky.

A line of words was written down on the stone pillar: Violet Glory Flower is undefeated because of blood kill and the empire exists forever because of continued expeditions! The handwriting was upright and the brush strokes were like the edge of a blade. It seemed capable of cutting through one's soul and shaking one's mind.**novel****n**Ext.com

“Remember that.”

Xu Sanqi coldly uttered without explaining and then he led Lin Xun and the other two into the Blood Kill Camp.

The 39th campground.

When Xu Sanqi brought Lin Xun and the other two into the great hall, more than forty people were already waiting inside. The majority were boys and girls, with the youngest being ten years old and the oldest being fifteen years old.

Including Lin Xun and the other two, there were exactly fifty people.

As Xu Sanqi entered the hall, he swept his eyes around and stilled the lively great hall. Everyone had a slight tinge of fear on their faces.

Xu Sanqi said casually, “Everyone is here. Xiaoke, go over the arrangement.”

A woman in the empire’s military uniform stepped forward. She had short shoulder length hair and a beautiful fair face. She was 1.7 meters tall and had a slim figure. She was a beautiful woman with a flawless face, body and demeanor.

A finely dressed young man couldn’t help but whistle provocatively from the crowd, drawing loud laughter.

In their eyes, the woman was very graceful and beautiful and had no power to harm anyone.

“They have a death wish.”

A low, almost imperceptible voice entered Lin Xun’s ear. He didn’t need to turn his head to know it came from Shi Yu, the youngster in white.

Lin Xun frowned and kept quiet.

As Xiaoke walked over to the finely dressed young man, there wasn’t a ripple of emotion on her stunning face, nor did she say anything. She suddenly lifted her long and slim leg and the gorgeously dressed young man was sent flying with a loud bang. He slammed hard into a wall. It was unknown how many bones he broke from the impact but his head tilted to one side and he immediately lost consciousness.

Xiaoke quickly resumed her straight standing stance and softly spat out three words, “Throw him out.”

Two expressionless attendants rushed in, lifted up the finely dressed young man, and disappeared from everyone’s sight.

No one knew what punishment he would suffer but no one saw him after the incident.

Xiaoke acted with incredible speed and the strength of her kick was extremely terrifying. The young man had a cultivation base of the eighth layer True Martial Stage yet he was beaten unconscious before he could counterattack and dragged away like a dead dog.

All that happened because he whistled.

In the great hall, all the young men and women turned ashen-faced and obediently stood up straight. They realized that Instructor Xiaoke, who looked graceful and gorgeous, was a fierce and ruthless person.

However, Xiaoke remained calm and composed all along like she was doing something very ordinary.

Standing in front of the crowd, she said calmly, "From today on, one thousand people, which includes everyone here, will undergo training. I hope you all can persevere to the end."

As she was speaking, she brought out a stack of books. "This is some basic information about the Blood Kill Camp. Before tomorrow, you must memorize and follow all the rules and regulations."

After everyone came forward to receive a copy of the document, Xiaoke continued. "Now, hand over all of the items on you. We will return them to you when you leave here. Of course, the items will be delivered to your family if you die during training."

Everyone exchanged glances with each other, looking hesitant.

Shi Yu was the first to step forward. He casually tossed a storage chain that was clearly worth an astonishing amount and then he returned to his position.

Immediately afterwards, someone else stepped forward to hand over his storage aeth tool that he always carried with him. Lin Xun also handed over his storage ring.

After a while when everyone had finished handing in their items, Xiaoke suddenly walked up to a young girl and removed a small transparent hairpin from the girl's long hair. It turned out to be also a storage tool.

The girl's face immediately turned deathly pale as she stammered, "I...I forgot..."

Expressionless, Xiaoke motioned her hand to signal two attendants to come in. They silently grabbed the girl and dragged her out despite her resisting and pleading.

Everyone again felt a chill run down their spine. Although they didn't know what punishment the girl would suffer, they knew she no doubt would be eliminated from the camp!

At that moment, they deeply understood what "obey orders" meant.

Then, under Xiaoke's arrangement, the remaining forty-eight boys and girls each received a set of clothes and a name tag.

From that night, it didn't matter where the boys and girls came from or what identity and background they had, they all had to remove their gorgeous clothes and change into uniform and wear a name tag.

Later, Lin Xun learned that this was one of the rules in the Blood Kill Camp. Anyone who violated the rules in the Blood Kill Camp, including descendants of an aristocratic family or royal family, would be eliminated or even...killed!

Xu Sanqi left shortly afterwards.

Xiaoke brought the remaining forty-eight boys and girls to the 39th campground, an open area where only ten small houses made of black stones stood.

“This is your living quarters, but only ten people can live inside. The rest will sleep there,” Xiaoke explained as she pointed to the many dark caves in the low mountain in the distance.

Many people’s expressions changed. They were in a scorching desert, where it got scorching hot during the day and the temperatures plummeted at night and the wind was bone-chilling. It was easy to imagine how tough it would be to live in those unshielded caves.

Lin Xun didn’t have any strong feelings towards this arrangement, but through this matter, he realized that in addition to obeying orders, there was constant competition in the Blood Kill Camp. If even their dormitories weren’t equal, it could easily be imagined how competitive it would be during training.

At that moment, many people fixed their gaze on the ten buildings, their determination to win flowing out from their faces.

Roar!

A beast roar rang from the distance, shaking the sky and quaking the ground. A blood-eyed leopard covered in scales and armor charged towards them and a gust of foul wind assaulted their faces. It looked extremely vicious and ferocious.

The crowd moved anxiously. An adult blood-eyed leopard possessed terrifying strength and could even take on a Spirit Dipper cultivator.

However, Xiaoke effortlessly kicked the arrogant and aggressive-looking blood-eyed leopard to the ground. With a loud thud, smoke and dust whirled up, and regardless of how hard the leopard struggled, it couldn’t get back up. Everyone was aghast, and their eyes widened with fear when they looked at Xiaoke.

Xiaoke said indifferently, “The rules to live inside are very simple. Kill this beast alone. This is a rare opportunity. The next time you want to live there, you will have to accumulate enough points.”

Many people grew overcast and troubled. They were hesitant to take on the blood-eyed leopard because it was known for its fierceness and viciousness. They wouldn’t mind taking a chance if they still had their rune armaments, but who would dare fight a blood-eyed leopard barehanded?

However, someone rushed out, shouting, “I’ll do it!”

Lin Xun was taken aback. It was Ning Meng. The tall and muscular young man’s eyes were glowing and his body was exuding intense fighting spirit.

“If you fail, the consequences will be serious. A pointless challenge will only waste everyone’s time.” Xiaoke calmly reminded him.

Ning Meng didn’t care and just stared at the blood-eyed leopard with blazing eyes. He roared, “Come on!”

[Chapter 106: A Camp of Monsters](#)

Instructor Xiaoke lifted up her leg and the suppressed blood-eyed leopard leaped up and met Ning Meng head-on with lightning speed.

Its claws were over five inches long and had a terrifying blood-colored shine. They were incomparably sharp and seemed capable of tearing through the toughest rock.

However, the most terrifying thing about the blood-eyed leopard was its speed. It was as agile as a spirit.

Ning Meng's fighting style was extremely simple and rough. His burly body moved like a mountain and his skin rippled with lightning, making him look even more extraordinary.

Boom!

Ning Meng roared. He was already locked in a fierce fight with the blood-eyed leopard. His fist rumbled like thunder as it generated blasts of air from opening and closing. It was extremely frightening.

"The Thunderbolt of Eight Wasteland, looks like this rascal..." Shi Yu chuckled in the crowd.

Lin Xun was right next to him, silently observing the battle. He wasn't surprised that Shi Yu was able to see through Ning Meng's cultivation background nor did he have the intention of inquiring.

Those able to come to the Blood Kill Camp were no ordinary people. It wasn't just Ning Meng and Shi Yu. The other boys and girls also weren't ordinary.

Before long, Ning Meng unleashed a thunderous roar on the battlefield. He perfectly seized an opportunity to grab two of the blood-eyed leopard's legs and pulled them in opposite directions.

Crash!

He forcibly tore the blood-eyed leopard's body into two and blood mingled with bright organs poured everywhere.

Blood splattered over Ning Meng and made him look even braver and fiercer. The sight stunned many people. Their eyes flickered with fear and vigilance when they looked at Ning Meng.

Only a rare martial arts genius at the True Martial Stage could single-handedly kill a blood-eyed leopard, which was comparable to a Spirit Dipper cultivator in terms of strength!

"Hahaha, I killed one before last year with my bare hands. This is nothing," Ning Meng laughed smugly.

"You can go choose a room." Instructor Xiaoke just glanced at Ning Meng and didn't say much.

"Thank you very much." Ning Meng openly chose room No. 1.

Many people became restless after seeing him succeed.

Although the blood-eyed leopard was comparable to a Spirit Dipper cultivator in terms of strength, it was still only a beast. It knew no fighting techniques or tactics and had little intelligence. Although it did pose a threat to the boys and girls, it wasn't enough to make them retreat.

Soon, a young man called Qi Can stood forward. Instructor Xiaoke didn't say anything and just ordered someone to bring out another blood-eyed leopard.

Qi Can's figure was thin and tall, and when he appeared on the battlefield, his entire body was flowing with azure light. He looked particularly striking and ethereal like the firmament.

He was different from Ning Meng in that he adopted both an offensive and defensive fighting stance, and also carefully guarded his center. Although he couldn't do anything to the blood-eyed leopard for a period of time, he suffered no significant injury.

"The Azure Firmament Breaking Jade Art of the Qi Clan, the greatest family in the Yanbei Province. He reached the ninth layer True Martial Stage at the age of fourteen and is considered one of the most outstanding talents in the world." Shi Yu murmured. It was unknown whether he was talking to himself or saying it to Lin Xun who was next to him, but he looked relaxed and leisurely.

Lin Xun silently watched the battle. He realized that all the people who entered the Blood Kill Camp weren't ordinary.

For example, Ning Meng was only thirteen years old yet he already had the potential to set foot into the Spirit Dipper Stage four years ago! His astonishing talent and aptitude in cultivation could easily be imagined.

For example, Qi Can had already reached the ninth layer True Martial Stage at the age of fourteen and could kill a blood-eyed leopard with just his bare hands. No ordinary person could achieve that.

In terms of cultivation, Lin Xun was inferior to Ning Meng and Qi Can.

There were over forty people in the camp, so there had to be many more powerful people among them.

This realization made Lin Xun feel emotional. There is never a shortage of talent in this world. If I hadn't left Feiyun Village and hadn't left Donglin City, I would have been like a frog at the bottom of the well.

Soon, Qi Can won and obtained the right to reside in room No. 6.

Immediately afterwards, another person came forward to challenge the blood-eyed leopard. The two consecutive victories seemed to lessen everyone's fear of the blood-eyed leopard. Every one of them had become eager to act.

Only Lin Xun didn't move. He asked himself and came to the conclusion that he could kill a blood-eyed leopard if he risked his life but he would also have to pay a heavy price. He felt it wasn't worth such injuries in exchange for a room.

A sudden tragic scream snapped Lin Xun awake from his deep thoughts. He saw a young girl, the third person to go onto the battlefield, had her left arm tore off and blood splattered everywhere.

Everyone gasped. Just as the girl was about to die in the blood-eyed leopard's jaws, Instructor Xiaoke suddenly appeared next to the girl and defended with a swift kick. With a loud boom, the blood-eyed leopard flew across several hundred feet and slammed into the ground. It turned into a puddle of mangled flesh and blood.

"Take her away."

Instructor Xiaoke struck the girl with her hand and knocked her out. She handed her over to two attendants. There was no need to speculate to know that the young girl not only lost her arm but was also eliminated.

Many people calmed down after witnessing the tragic lesson, but many people still stood forward to challenge the blood-eyed leopard.

In the end, another three people were injured and eliminated. The remaining eight buildings were occupied one after another. Shi Yu was one of them.

Shi Yu's fighting style left a deep impression on Lin Xun. After he entered the battlefield, he repeatedly evaded the leopard's attacks until he spotted an opportunity and attacked without any hesitation.

In the end, he crushed the blood eyed leopard's head with a palm strike and killed it on the spot.

He remained calm and composed throughout the battle and his white robe was untainted by a speck of dust. He won the battle extremely beautifully.

Lin Xun knew that his one-hit kill fighting style was the most terrifying!

.....

At night.

The people in the dark caves were very cramped for space. It could at most accommodate a person sitting cross-legged or lying down. The cold biting wind wailed outside the cave, piercing into people's ears. It sounded like a ghost crying or wolf howling and was extremely distracting and irritating.

Such an environment was a torment to one's body and mind and could easily make people depressed. Some people might even break down if they lived there in the long term.

Lin Xun sat silently at the entrance of the cave. He still felt a bone-piercing chill despite his strong body. This was the price he had to pay for failing to occupy a room.

According to the rules of the Blood Kill Camp, one would have the chance to change their residence after a month.

One could overlook the entire 39th campground from the outside of the cave. Even the icy moon was visible in the distance, shining brightly.

In Lin Xun's hands was the document that he had read through. It consisted of some basic information about the Blood Kill Camp.

It wasn't until now that Lin Xun learned that there were two thousand cultivators participating in the training of the Blood Kill Camp. All the participants were under fifteen yet had a cultivation base of the fifth layer True Martial Stage. Their cultivation aptitudes and talents were remarkable.

Each campground consisted of fifty people and each one was led by an instructor, who was also responsible for their daily training. The chief instructor was Xu Sanqi.

Lin Xun was based in the 39th campground, and the instructor in charge was Xiaoke.

The training in the Blood Kill Camp was extremely unique and cruel. Anyone who disobeyed orders was executed and those who violated the rules were severely punished or even eliminated.

As trainees, all they had to do was obey orders and complete various training sessions. This was the most basic requirement. Anyone who failed to complete it would be eliminated.

In addition, the Blood Kill Camp would conduct an assessment every month. Those who failed to pass would be eliminated, and those ranked low would also be eliminated!

Assessments were usually associated with points. *Novelnext.com*

Points were very precious in the Blood Kill Camp because a participant could exchange their points for various benefits. Each point corresponded to rewards.

In short, the Blood Kill Camp couldn't only just be described with the word cruel. No one could guarantee that they could survive a year without being eliminated.

Lin Xun was lost in thought as he lay alone in the dark cave. The cold wind souged outside the cave, and the bone-chilling coldness made it difficult to sleep, but Lin Xun maintained an extremely calm state of mind.

He was rubbing a copper nameplate in his hand. This was his identity plate. The number "39" was engraved on the front, which represented the 39th campground, and the back was marked with the number "13".

The nameplate had a very simple purpose. It was used to earn and accumulate points, and it also represented a unique identity in the Blood Kill Camp.

Lin Xun didn't lament about his current situation nor did he find it uncomfortable. He was never a melancholic person.

After organizing his thoughts, Lin Xun began his practice. He entered a meditative state. What he did was no different from the past, except that Xia Zhi was no longer with him.

Two hours later.

Suddenly a piercing bell rang. Lin Xun subconsciously got up and rushed out of the cave. The sky was still dark and it looked to be around four o'clock in the morning.

By the time that Lin Xun arrived at the 39th campground, many people were already there.

When Instructor Xiaoke appeared, forty-two people had gathered, which was two fewer than yesterday.

Only later did Lin Xun find out that the two couldn't stand the bitter coldness and the depressing environment in the cave at night. They sneaked out of the caves but were spotted by patrolling attendants and were immediately eliminated.

"From today on, the formal training begins."

Instructor Xiaoke was graceful and calm as always. Her voice was indifferent and calm but no one dared to ignore her.

"Today's training is very simple—a battle. Cultivation is only one part of being a cultivator. How to transform cultivation into the most effective combat power is something that every cultivator should grasp."

“You may think that you’ve already grasped various combat techniques, but in my opinion, those combat techniques are only fancy but impractical if you hadn’t honed them through battles of life and death.”

Many people didn’t agree that their fighting techniques were all-show but no one dared to question Instructor Xiaoke. Everyone knew she was a cold and ruthless woman, who had a beautiful exterior but was a devil inside. If they questioned her, it would be the same as joking with their own lives.

When Instructor Xiaoke finished speaking, she waved his hand, and soon, a treasure ship descended from the sky.

Under Instructor Xiaoke’s leadership, Lin Xun and the others walked into the treasure ship. No one knew where the training session was located. Some people were full of anticipation while others were in deep thought.

Lin Xun was studying the runes engraved around the treasure ship to pass time. He felt it was useless to think too much.

After the time it took to burn an incense stick, the fat middle-aged man who was driving the treasure ship suddenly exclaimed, “Damn it, training grounds one to nine are all occupied! They had set off so early. Could the guys in the other campgrounds also be crazy?”

Xiaoke frowned and was silent for a moment, then she said, “Go to the 10th training ground.”

The fat middle-aged man’s eyes widened and he exclaimed in an exaggerated way. “Lady, these little guys have just arrived and it’s their first day. Do you want them to die?”

All the students in the cabin felt their heart trembling and their expressions subtly changed.

[Chapter 107: Golden Flame Spider](#)

Despite the fat middle-aged man’s complaints and the bewildered gazes from the students in the cabin, Xiaoke had never wavered once after she made her decision.

Before long, the treasure ship landed on a barren mountaintop, and Xiaoke guided the students out.

As the wind whistled around the mountain peak, Xiaoke stood upright, looking graceful and beautiful with her slim figure and straight back.

“This is the 10th training ground. There are many golden flame spiders scattered around here. What you have to do is fight them for three hours.”

Xiaoke pointed to the foot of the mountain, where there was a large rocky beach.

Golden flame spiders!

All the students became tense and their faces turned solemn. The golden flame spiders were extremely vicious and poisonous. They could spit toxic flames from their bodies and a person would fall into an unconscious state or, at worst, lose their life if poisoned!

Even though such savage beasts were only the around size of a palm, they lived and acted in groups of hundreds and thousands, which made them extremely difficult to deal with.

Even Lin Xun couldn't help but shiver when he heard about the task. Golden flame spiders weren't difficult to kill. At least, it was possible for cultivators at the fifth layer True Martial Stage.

However, the rules of their task were very tricky—They had to fight for three hours! In other words, they would be constantly attacked by an endless stream of golden flame spiders for three hours!

This was the most terrifying part.

“Remember, students are not allowed to attack or kill each other. Also, anyone who runs away or sustained unbearable injuries in those three hours will be eliminated. You all are allowed to choose a weapon for battle.”

When Xiaoke finished speaking, the middle-aged man fatty was already walking towards them with a huge wooden box on his shoulder.

With a thud, the wooden box smashed to the ground, and a heap of weapons scattered across the ground. There was any weapon that one could think of, including swords, spears, swords, halberds, hatchets, battleaxes, hooks and pitchforks. Unfortunately, they were all ordinary weapons.

“Quickly choose your weapon and start!”

Everyone raced to grab the weapon they were skilled at. Lin Xun grabbed a three-foot black iron blade. It was pretty sharp.

After what happened yesterday, no one dared to disobey Xiaoke's order. After picking their weapons, they all rushed to the rocky beach at the foot of the mountain.

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“It's their first day here. Regardless of how good they are, the 10th training ground is very dangerous and isn't a place for rookies.”

The middle-aged fatty stood sighed atop the mountain peak. “If you do this, you will unnecessarily lose a lot of students.”

Xiaoke was calm as she explained, “Even if they aren't eliminated here, they will be eliminated in the future. It's better to eliminate the trash early.”

The middle-aged fatty sat down on a boulder and watched the students at the foot of the mountain with narrowed eyes. The students had already started to move on the 10th training ground.

“Xiaoke, if you don't have enough points this time, I don't know when you can leave this hell. Are you willing to stay here for the rest of your life?”

Xiaoke frowned and kept silent.

.....

At the foot of the mountain.

Lin Xun avoided the group and cautiously moved forward across the rocky beach by himself. He had to find a position that was good for both offense and defense, otherwise it would be difficult to guarantee whether he could last three hours under the attacks of the golden flame spiders.

There were quite a few who had the same thought as Lin Xun. The rocky beach was huge and there was no reason to come into conflict with others over territories.

Interestingly, Lin Xun and the other students all chose to act alone.

Suddenly, a shadow rushed out from a rock like a strip of flames. It headed straight for Lin Xun's face.

Shua!

Lin Xun did not dodge or evade. His aeth power surged around him as he swung his sharp blade down and split the shadowy flame into two parts.

It was a palm-sized golden flame spider. Its body was red-gold, and its eight long legs were sharp like a saw and emitted a threatening fiery light.

Lin Xun continued to advance without any hesitation. But he couldn't help but frown when he realized that there wasn't a defensive position on the rocky beach except for some broken rocks, which were like fragments of sand and dust.

"Could it be that the layout of the 10th training ground is precisely set up to allow students to hone their fighting skills and train their endurance in battle? If so, it might be impossible to find a perfect spot no matter how long I search..."

Lin Xun quickly tried to formulate a plan of action. In the end, he remained in the same spot and stopped running. Since he had to fight for three hours, he decided to not waste his energy.

Chi!

Soon, a golden flame spider shot out from the ground, like streaks of golden flame. Its face was hideous and terrifying.

Lin Xun's handsome face was calm but serious. He was like a different person in battle. His aeth power was surging in his body and the edge of his brows were sharp as a blade. He concentrated on his breathing as his perception power spread out. He was akin to a drawn bow, ready for battle.

He swung his blade!

He slashed and killed!

He moved and dodged within a radius of a few feet!

With his black iron blade combined with the Six Word Blade Art, he began the long and fierce battle.

The secret to a long battle was to preserve strength. This was why he had to kill with one strike every time he swung his blade. Furthermore, every dodge had to be for the purpose of killing the enemy from a better position.

Unnecessary movement and usage of strength would only accelerate the consumption of energy.

Although Lin Xun understood this, it was still extremely difficult to achieve it.

This was because the enemies gave him no time to think. He had to use his fighting instinct to save and preserve his strength as much as possible!

For example, there were hundreds and thousands of golden flame spiders in front of him. They endlessly rushed out from the ground in groups and attacked from different angles and positions. The key point was how to kill them with the most effective means and least amount of energy.

This was easier said than done.

Everyone understood this, but there was still a difference from what they imagined when it was their turn.

Pu pu pu...Golden flame spiders were killed one after another, except they all died in different ways.

Some were split in half from the head, some had their heads slashed off, some lost their saw-like legs, some had their stomach pierced, and some were directly pulverized into flesh and blood.

As the battle progressed, Lin Xun adjusted and improved his fighting methods. The golden flame spiders that died under his blade were all pierced between their eyes.

A golden flame spider was only around the size of a palm, and its head was like a pigeon's egg. The area between its eyes was very small, but after repeated tests, Lin Xun found that the area between its eyes was its weakness. He only needed to consume little strength to kill them in one strike if he struck that area!
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Lin Xun's discovery no doubt saved him a lot of strength but it was extremely difficult to pierce through the area between their eyes every single time. It required extremely skillful fighting.

The Six Word Blade Art that Lin Xun cultivated contained many mysteries and was extremely difficult to understand, which made it extremely difficult to practice.

Even now, Lin Xun had only grasped the Six Word Blade to the elemental martial arts realm and was still one step away from reaching the precise realm.

Back when Lin Xun was in Donglin City, he had already known that he had to go through the training of blood and fire to make a breakthrough in this blade art.

The battle against the endless stream of golden flame spiders was undoubtedly a perfect time to hone his blade skills. If he could improve his blade skills to the precise realm, it would undoubtedly be easier to deal with the golden flame spiders.

Precision emphasized on essence and accuracy.

The elemental realm was to understand the essence and mystery of the blade art. The precise realm was to bring out the power of these essences and mysteries with great precision!

As time passed, Lin Xun became increasingly absorbed in the battle. His face didn't ripple in the slightest and he kept his mind free of distracting thoughts.

At the same time, the students from the 39th campground were also fighting frantically in other areas of the 10th training ground.

It was unknown how many golden flame spiders were hiding underground but they frantically sped out upon sensing the invasion of outsiders.

Their attacks were very always the same and very simple—They spat out fire poison, but that poison had an extremely astonishing destructive power. In less than a quarter of an hour, a student let out a sharp scream. Fire poison was shot into his face and his skin was instantly corroded while the terrifying poison spread along the wound.

Unguarded, the student couldn't fight back and was besieged by a cluster of golden flame spiders. They crawled all over his body, and he couldn't help but scream out that he wanted to give up the battle. An attendant timely arrived and took him out of the training ground.

However, the student was eliminated as a result.

Some performed poorly, while others performed extremely astonishingly well. For example Shi Yu, Ning Meng, and Qi Can. Although they each had different fighting styles, their powers were extremely showy. All golden flame spiders were killed when they neared these youngsters regardless of the number.

Compared with them, Lin Xun's performance was at most ordinary.

On the mountain peak.

The middle-aged fatty narrowed his eyes as he watched the battlefield. His gaze was fixed on Shi Yu, Ning Meng, Qi Can and eight other students. His eyes gleamed with interest.

"It had been decades since the Blood Kill Camp last opened. I didn't expect its reopening to attract such good seedlings. They are much stronger than those in the past."

The middle-aged fatty looked emotional as though he remembered something from the past.

"I don't know about the past, but at present, the overall performance of this group of students isn't bad. But their methods are still too immature. They lack life and death training and they lack an imposing bearing that belongs to them in battle," Xiaoke said indifferently. She was also watching the movements on the battlefield.

The middle-aged fatty said after a thought. "In your opinion, how many people would complete the training in the end?"

"Around twenty-five." Xiaoke casually stated.

The middle-aged fatty sighed. "Then one-third of the students will be eliminated. This is the first day of training. That won't be a good thing for you. At least it would be very unfavorable to you in the camp confrontation in three months."

Xiaoke's expression was unchanged. She tucked her hair behind her ear, and said calmly, "It doesn't matter how many students there are. What matters is how many elite students there are."

The middle-aged fatty stammered, "You and your older sister have completely different personalities, she..."

Xiaoke's face flashed a hint of coldness, and suddenly she lashed out with a kick. The middle aged fatty was sent flying. He smashed a huge hole into the wall and caused stone fragments to hurl everywhere. It was obvious how terrifying that kick was.

However, unexpectedly, the middle aged fatty's seemingly soft body was unusually solid and strong. He quickly bounced back up and helplessly brushed the dirt off his body.

Xiaoke's graceful and fair face was filled with murderous intent as she uttered clearly, "Don't mention her in front of me again, or I will definitely destroy your source of life!"

The middle-aged fatty shuddered, subconsciously covered his crotch, and clamped his mouth shut.

[Chapter 108: Hatred Towards the Enemy](#)

Battles continued at the foot of the mountain.

Three hours was very short, but to the students, who had to face constant attacks from the golden flame spiders, time seemed to have taken an unusually long time to pass.

As every minute and every second passed, they could distinctly feel their physical strength being consumed.

Almost all the boys and girls in the 39th campground were around the eighth layer True Martial Stage, and many were already at the ninth layer True Martial Stage.

Only very few people were at the sixth layer True Martial Stage like Lin Xun. They were considered at the very bottom.

One's cultivation was one's source of energy in battle. The stronger a person's cultivation, the greater their combat power. This was obvious.

Based on this fact, Lin Xun was undoubtedly at a disadvantage.

However, Ning Meng was likely the only one who knew that Lin Xun had a cultivation base at the sixth layer True Martial Stage but possessed aeth power that was no weaker than the pinnacle of the eighth layer True Martial Stage!

Lin Xun wasn't too worried about being eliminated because he had calculated that it shouldn't be too difficult to withstand the spiders' attacks for three hours as long as he continued with the same fighting technique.

However, it wasn't long before Lin Xun's face darkened. A youngster in the nearby area was suddenly moving closer to him

His breathing seemed a little chaotic and he looked a little distressed being chased by a cluster of golden flame spiders. It seemed he couldn't withstand the attacks anymore.

"Buddy, help me deal with them for a while!"

As soon as the youngster neared Lin Xun, he also brought with him a cluster of golden flame spiders. Lin Xun's pressure instantly increased.

But what made Lin Xun frown was that the youngster seemed to be just using him as a shield while he hid behind him to rest. He wasn't polite at all.

If Instructor Xiaoke hadn't told them earlier that they mustn't attack or kill each other, Lin Xun would have stabbed him without any hesitation.

Lin Xun would no doubt suffer punishment if he disobeyed the order and faced elimination!

Perhaps the youngster realized this, which was why he dared to act in such a shameless way.

"Hey buddy, you seem to be very dissatisfied with me, but I, Xin Wenbin, won't make you work for nothing. My father is the commander of the Imperial Army in the Forbidden City. He has huge power and status. If you're eliminated here, I will tell my family to guarantee that you can enjoy a life of wealth and comfort."

The youngster who was called Xin Wenbin said loftily. "Of course, you have to perform well. Otherwise, if I'm affected by your poor performance, you will suffer unimaginable consequences when you leave the Blood Kill Camp."

His voice was arrogant and bossy. He seemed to be ordering Lin Xun like a servant and he spoke in a threatening tone of voice.

"Idiot." Lin Xun frowned.

"You dare to scold me?" Xin Wenbin snapped.

Lin Xun said with a smile, "I've called you an idiot already, but you still ask me if I dare to. You really are an idiot."

A malicious look flashed into Xin Wenbin's eyes as he swung his sword up and was about to hack at Lin Xun. But he suppressed his impulse in the end. Even if he was domineering, he knew that they shouldn't kill each other.

"Little bastard, don't look so smug. I will make you know what is worse than death later!" Xin Wenbin threatened.

Even though he was only thirteen to fourteen years old, he was tyrannical, and his words were ruthless. It was easy to imagine that he had done many similar things in the past.

"Idiot." Lin Xun uttered disdainfully. He couldn't be bothered to even talk to Xin Wenbin.

Xin Wenbin was so infuriated that the veins pulsed on his forehead. Then, it was unknown what he thought of but he smiled smugly. "It doesn't matter what you say, we are on the same boat now. You have to act as my shield because you can't stop fighting under the golden flame spider's attacks."

Indeed, although the two were quarreling, Lin Xun hadn't once stopped his hand. He couldn't stop. There were far too many golden flame spiders and he would be the first to suffer an accident if they stopped.

Xin Wenbin looked very leisurely and relaxed as he deliberately hid behind Lin Xun. He received very few attacks and so, naturally, he was in no danger and could use the time to restore his energy.

The situation was indeed very suffocating for Lin Xun. Anyone being used in such a way would fume with rage and be filled with murderous intent.

However, Lin Xun only smiled disapprovingly.

At the same time, his fighting style abruptly changed. He gave up using the stabbing word art and switched to the rotating word art.

Shua! Shua! Shua!

His blade resembled a vortex as it rotated around the golden flame spiders that were charging towards him. He hurled them aside and, whether it was intention or not, they happened to reappear unwounded opposite of Xin Wenbin.

The golden flame spiders clearly possessed no intelligence. Once they came to realize that they were still alive, they charged towards Xin Wenbin, who was closest to them. ~~nov~~ **El**next. ~~com~~ **com**

Xin Wenbin's expression abruptly changed. He couldn't hide any longer and immediately deflected the attacks with his sword.

However, just as he got rid of a cluster of golden flame spiders, Lin Xun's blade vortex tossed another cluster over. Xin Wenbin's pressure sharply increased.

"You dare you little bastard!"

Xin Wenbin was both shocked and furious. How would he not know that Lin Xun was retaliating?

"Oh, what are you talking about? I'm just killing the enemies. It's your fault for coming near me. Also, your mouth stinks. Did you grow up eating shit every day?" Lin Xun looked bewildered but he didn't slow down. He operated his rotating blade art to its peak state, hurling groups after groups of golden flame spiders over to Xin Wenbin's side.

The golden flame spiders let out fierce cries and endlessly attacked Xin Wenbin. They made him so furious that smoke spouted out from his seven orifices and his face contorted with rage. He hated the fact that he couldn't slash Lin Xun to death.

But no matter how furious he was, he had to constantly block and evade the golden flame spider's attacks. He wasn't as leisurely and relaxed as before.

Most importantly, the golden flame spiders had fully surrounded both Lin Xun and him. It was impossible to break out from their encirclement any time soon.

This also meant that Xin Wenbin had no other choice but to brace himself to kill the enemies.

"Little bastard, just you wait! Now that you have angered me, the young master, your life is over!" Xin Wenbin roared in fury.

“What? You really grew up eating shit every day? Haha, you and maggots are from the same family? No wonder your mouth stinks. If your parents heard you say something so perverted, they would be very upset.”

Lin Xun still donned a bewildered look, but his words were very vicious. He grew up in a mine prison, and so he was no doubt superior to Xin Wenbin when it came to cursing and scolding people.

“You—you—you—” Xin Wenbin was so enraged that his lungs almost exploded and he couldn’t say anything.

However, he knew that he couldn’t slash Lin Xun with his sword because there were far too many golden flame spiders surrounding them. He was in danger of even protecting himself.

Their movements caught the other students’ attention. Some gloated, some frowned and some pondered deeply.

“You tried to steal a chicken only to end up losing the rice! Ha! You useless scumbag!” Ning Meng spat out in disdain and scolded Xin Wenbin without any hesitation.

“No one dares to mess with Xin Wenbin in the Forbidden City. He gets away with anything because of his father’s power. He is insufferably arrogant. Unfortunately for him, this isn’t the Forbidden City. His identity and status mean nothing here...” Shi Yu chuckled but he seemed to look at Lin Xun differently.

Suddenly, someone yelled, “Brother Xin, don’t panic, I’ll come and help you.”

A figure flashed from the distance. It was fierce, imposing and extremely terrifying like an azure waterfall whizzing past.

Qi Can!

The youngster, who had shone brilliantly in the competition for a room yesterday, was clasping an iron spear and flowing with azure light. He sped over like a god of war, and instantly broke through the group of golden flame spiders encircling Xin Wenbin.

Rumble!

His iron spear shot through the spider cluster and, like a rainstorm engulfing everywhere, all golden flame spiders crumbled into powder!

“As students in the same camp, we should support each other, but you threw stones at someone who has already fallen down and harmed your comrade. You have such vicious intentions. From today on, I, Qi Can, vow to draw a line with you, a despicable person. I will never be friends with you!”

With one hand gripped around his spear, Qi Can stood tall, staring at Lin Xun. His eyes were filled with contempt, and his powerful and resounding words drew applause and cheers from many people.

He didn’t give Lin Xun a chance to speak, and just fled with Xin Wenbin.

Lin Xun frowned and snorted inwardly. What nonsense about harming comrades. He looks righteous but he clearly is on Xin Wenbin’s side.

He vowed to draw a line with me?

So absurd!

Does he think that I will try to butter him up?

What a bunch of baloney!

Lin Xun knew very well that Qi Can said those words to call on the others to go against him. His intentions were truly vicious.

At least, Lin Xun already felt that many people's gazes flashed with hostility and hatred when they looked at him.

Especially Xin Wenbin. After Qi Can rescued him, he had been glowering at Lin Xun, which made a hint of murderous intent surface in Lin Xun's heart.

Compared with the other students in the campground, he was indeed an insignificant person. But the poor, who have nothing to lose, do not fear those in power. Lin Xun dared to do anything if he was angered.

Lin Xun's mentality was that people who were unafraid of the death of a thousand cuts were the ones who would dare to unhorse the emperor. He was an orphan and Mister Lu and Xia Zhi had already left him. He had nothing he was afraid of anymore.

Lin Xun quickly suppressed these thoughts to the bottom of his mind and continued the battle. His expression had never wavered once since the beginning.

Lin Xun firmly believed that, in the Blood Kill Camp, as long as he knew the rules, followed them, and made good use of them, he would be safe and sound.

Of course, if there was a chance, Lin Xun wouldn't hesitate to use them to kill the enemies.

Forgiveness to the enemy was cruelty to oneself. This was very simple, but it was an indisputable word of wisdom since ancient times.

On the mountain peak, Xiaoke retracted her gaze from the battlefield, her graceful and beautiful face as calm and indifferent as usual.

She had watched everything happen but it drew little reaction from her.

That kind of dispute was very common in the Blood Kill Camp. Many similar incidents were bound to happen from today on, and many would be more cruel and bloody than what happened today.

Xiaoke just had to uphold the rules of the Blood Kill Camp. As long as the students didn't violate the rules, she wouldn't interfere in any way.

This was the Blood Kill Camp. It was fine to compete, confront each other, or hate each other, but they all must follow the rules!

[Chapter 109: Blade Art Upgrade](#)

Two hours later, nine people had been eliminated from the 10th training ground, leaving only thirty-three people.

The middle-aged fatty couldn't help but sigh about the speed of people being eliminated, but Xiaoke never frowned once.

As time passed, Lin Xun had consumed most of his strength. He was uncontrollably gasping for breath and his forehead was beaded with sweat.

However, his gaze was still as focused and determined, and his blade still maintained its usual precision and quick speed.

Around his feet were golden flame spider corpses piled high up like mountains. It was a ghastly sight.

It wasn't only Lin Xun, it was the same with the other students.

At this stage in the battle, everyone was fully focused and doing their best to survive. The battle was almost over, so no one wanted to be eliminated at this stage.

In contrast, a few people seemed relatively relaxed, such as Ning Meng, Shi Yu and others. Even though Qi Can had to look after Xin Wenbin, he was able to advance and step back freely and showed his powerful fighting ability.

"How many students are there at the sixth layer true Martial Stage?" Xiaoke suddenly asked.

The middle-aged fatty's pupils shrank slightly like he had sensed something. Then, he answered after a while, "There are two, no there is only one left now."

Xiaoke followed his gaze and saw another youngster scream out loud and couldn't hold on any longer.

Clearly, the youngster was one of the two sixth layer True Martial Stage trainees. Unfortunately, he had been eliminated as they were speaking.

The middle-aged fatty sighed. "The youngster eliminated is pretty talented. He's already better than ordinary people since he could last until now despite only being at the sixth layer True Martial Stage."

Xiaoke kept quiet and then said after a while, "Who is the other student at the sixth layer True Martial Stage?"

The middle-aged fatty pointed to Lin Xun and remarked ruminatively, "That guy also isn't ordinary. Look at his blade technique. It's ruthless and swift, and he can kill with one strike. Only experts who truly understand battles will know that this sort of blade technique is the most effective but also the most terrifying."

Xiaoke hummed and said, "That blade technique is indeed very unique. It should be a rare secret technique, but that kid's cultivation base is too low, so he hasn't been able to bring out the true powers of his blade technique."

The middle-aged fatty smiled. "It's already not ordinary. He has already grasped the essence of the blade technique and is one step away from reaching the precise realm."

Xiaoke thought for a moment and suddenly asked, "Which family sent him here?"

The middle-aged fatty shook his head. "You have to ask Xu Sanqi." **NOVELnext.com**

The mention of Xu Sanqi's name made Xiaoke fall silent for a moment, and then she said, "You also know about Chief Xu's character. If he doesn't want to say it, he won't reveal a single word even if it would cost him his life."

The middle-aged fatty shrugged his shoulders in agreement.

"Ning Meng, Shi Yu, Qi Can, Wen Mingxiu, Li Qiu, Mou Lengxin..." Xiaoke suddenly said six names in a row. "Pay attention to these six people."

The middle-aged fatty exclaimed in surprise. "Are you going to start preparing for the Twilight Blood Training now?"

Xiaoke said indifferently, "There's only one year left, so we must prepare in advance."

The middle-aged fatty pondered for a moment and sighed, "Never mind, I won't be able to understand your thinking, but I know that many changes will definitely happen in one year. Don't be too hasty!"

He knew very well what Xiaoke meant. In her eyes, only those six students would last until the end of the one year training, and the others...would likely be eliminated!

But he also knew that there could be many changes in one year. What Xiaoke did on the first day of the training camp was clearly very irrational.

Xiaoke kept quiet. She had never changed what she had set her mind on.

.....

When two hours and forty minutes of the training had passed, only twenty-eight students were left fighting in the 10th training ground.

They all looked very distressed but the worst of them all was undoubtedly Lin Xun.

He was drenched in cold sweat and his face was deathly pale. His breathing was labored and rapid and he was swaying from side to side. He clearly couldn't last much longer.

Lin Xun knew why he fell into such a state. Xin Wenbin's interference had greatly ruined his battle rhythm and made him waste his strength unnecessarily. Otherwise, he wouldn't look as distressed as he did now.

"So annoying. Why hasn't he been eliminated already!" Xin Wenbin was observing Lin Xun from a distance, wishing that the golden flame spiders would eat him alive.

But even until now, although Lin Xun looked extremely distressed, he was still standing, which made Xin Wenbin extremely disgruntled.

"There are still 20 minutes left. Given his current state, he surely can't last till the end." Qi Can uttered coldly.

"Good! That's good!" Xin Wenbin grinned sinisterly. "Once he's eliminated, I will find a chance to write a letter to ask my father to send someone to capture him. The day I leave the Blood Kill Camp is the day I will get revenge!"

His voice was filled with bitter resentment. He hated Lin Xun to the bone.

After more than ten minutes, Lin Xun was tottering and about to collapse, but he unexpectedly still persevered, making Xin Wenbin both shocked and angry.

Even Qi Can couldn't help but scrunch his brows. He also didn't expect Lin Xun to have such terrifying perseverance.

In another area, Ning Meng raised his head and swept a glance over at Lin Xun's side. He couldn't help raising his eyebrows. He thought that Lin Xun was already very impressive to have lasted so far with a cultivation base of the sixth layer True Martial Stage.

Seeing that there were only about five minutes left until the end of the training session, Ning Meng gritted his teeth as he planned to take the opportunity to help Lin Xun. They had traveled together and they had arrived at the Blood Kill Camp together. They were considered friends and so he couldn't stand and watch him die.

"Wait a minute." Shi Yu suddenly appeared and blocked Ning Meng's path.

"Little White Face, what are you doing?" Ning Meng's face darkened. He had no good opinion of Shi Yu.

"If you go save him now, you are actually harming him," said Shi Yu indifferently.

"What do you know!?" Ning Meng thundered. "You clearly want my brother to be eliminated and make me look heartless for not saving him!"

"Oh, it turns out that you two are brothers, so why did you just stand there when Xin Wenbin brought him trouble? Could it be that you're also afraid of Xin Wenbin and his father?" Shi Yu mocked.

"Nonsense!" Ning Meng snapped. "If you keep pestering me, don't blame me for being rude!"

Shi Yu grinned. "Attacking and killing each other will lead to elimination. Are you sure you want to do that?"

Ning Meng's eyes widened and almost spewed out flames. "You..."

A scream suddenly rang in the distance.

Ning Meng and Shi Yu suddenly felt a chill in their hearts and they simultaneously turned around.

.....

On the mountain peak, Xiaoke said casually, "Time is almost up. Get ready to leave."

The middle-aged fatty looked distracted as he stared fixedly at the battlefield. His gaze was on Lin Xun. "That kid still hasn't collapsed yet. What a surprise!"

Xiaoke raised her eyebrows and looked at the battlefield. She indeed saw that although Lin Xun's face was deathly pale and his body was tottering, he still held on from falling. Any golden flame spiders that neared him were all narrowly killed regardless of how many there were.

Xiaoke checked the time and saw that only three minutes were remaining. She evaluated Lin Xun's condition and said, "There's no hope for him."

The middle-aged fatty's countenance changed subtly. He also knew that it would indeed be difficult for Lin Xun to last another three minutes given his current condition.

Thinking of this, an indescribable feeling surged out from his heart. If the young man is eliminated in the last few minutes, it will be a huge unimaginable blow to him, and it might even affect his future!

However, the middle-aged fatty also knew that the rules couldn't be violated. Neither he nor Xiaoke could help Lin Xun in any way.

"Huh?"

Suddenly, a rare surprise crossed Xiaoke's calm and graceful face.

The middle-aged fatty's eyes also lit up.

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On the training ground, Lin Xun, who was swaying and stumbling, suddenly regained his energy, and the power of his blade seemed to have instantly soared.

One blade slash tore the golden flame spiders that were pouncing towards him from all directions like pieces of paper and they all fluttered to the ground.

Suddenly, the area around Lin Xun was completely empty.

"How is that possible!?" Xin Wenbin exclaimed in disbelief, thinking he saw it wrong.

But when he saw that Lin Xun's second blade slash produced an equally powerful force as the first, Xin Wenbin felt as if lightning had struck down on him and the bitterness in his heart intensified.

Two minutes let!

How could that be?

Xin Wenbin didn't notice that Qi Can's face also grew overcast and his eyes became solemn. He could tell from one glance that Lin Xun's control of his blade technique had risen to a new level!

"This..." Ning Meng was utterly stunned.

"See, if you had rushed over there heedlessly, you would have ruined his opportunity to refine his blade technique." Shi Yu said casually.

"You could tell then?" Ning Meng's heart trembled. If that's the case, the little white face's eyes are terrifying.

Shi Yu smiled and said nothing.

"I suddenly remembered a phrase—A cultivator's potential is only unleashed under extreme pressure." The middle-aged fatty didn't try to conceal his admiration for Lin Xun.

Xiaoke fell silent and then she waved her hand. "Get ready to leave."

"Don't you think this kid is pretty good?" The middle-aged fatty said bitterly.

“He’s also thirteen years old but he’s only at the sixth layer True Martial Stage. Compared with the others, who do you think I would think more highly of?” Xiaoke said indifferently, turned around and walked towards the treasure ship. Her short hair danced in the mountain wind, making her figure seem graceful and lonely.

On the first day of training in the Blood Kill Camp, Lin Xun reversed his situation in the last three minutes of the training with a breakthrough in his blade art. He wasn’t eliminated in the end and became the only student at the sixth layer True Martial Stage among the twenty eight students in the 39th campground!

Whoosh!

Xiaoke and the students boarded the treasure ship. The treasure ship roared into the distance.

They had set off at four o’ clock in the morning, and now it was a little past seven in the morning. It was breakfast time at half past seven.

For all the students in the Blood Kill Camp, the most precious thing was undoubtedly their meal times.

[Chapter 110: Innate Talent](#)

Blood Kill Camp, canteen.

The canteen was enormous with enough space for thousands of tables and chairs to set up into forty areas, which corresponded to the dining area of the forty camps.

When Lin Xun dragged his numb body over to sit down, he couldn't help but grimace. He was aching all over.

The three hours of constant battles not only consumed Lin Xun’s aeth power but his strong body also felt exhausted.

Lin Xun felt that he would have passed out if it wasn’t for his strong perseverance.

Before long, Ning Meng brought over two sets of breakfast and sat opposite Lin Xun. He smiled. “The living conditions here are bad but the breakfast is really good. It’s comparable to an emperor’s feast.”

The breakfast was indeed pretty good. They each had a bowl of porridge, four plates of side dishes and ten meat buns.

The porridge was made from azure jade aeth grains, which were extremely rare, and every grain was translucent and fragrant like jade stone. The four dishes were also made from various precious aeth vegetables and meat. They were perfect in color, aroma and taste. Even the meat buns were made from the thigh meat of blood-eyed leopards. They weren’t only delicious but also contained abundant aeth power.

Lin Xun didn’t say anything and just devoured the food. His exhausted body was like a bottomless pit urgently in need of nutrition.

Ning Meng was also starving. While gorging on the food, he mumbled, “Lin Xun, I underestimated you. Your performance in the 10th training ground has made me look at you differently.”

Lin Xun rolled his eyes. This guy speaks with such an attitude. His inability to hold his tongue will definitely bring him a lot of trouble in the future.

“By the way, I saw Qi Can pick on you today. I will look for an opportunity to stick up for you later,” said Ning Meng casually.

Surprised, Lin Xun set down his chopsticks and curiously studied Ning Meng. “Why do you want to help me?”

Ning Meng said irritably, “Did you forget what I said on the way to the Blood Kill Camp? You are my friend. If you’re bullied, what about my face?”

It turned out he was afraid of losing face...

“Let’s eat!” Lin Xun snapped.

While the two lowered their heads and ate, the canteen became more and more lively. The one thousand students from the forty campgrounds sat in groups in different areas. It was truly a spectacular scene.

They were allocated half an hour of meal time and there were no other restrictions other than following the rule of not to fight each other. This was a rare opportunity to relax.

The atmosphere was very lively. The students were all teenage boys and girls, and some of them already knew each other before they came to the Blood Kill Camp.novelnext.com

The topics they discussed centered around the students who had quite a bit of fame before they came to the Blood Kill Camp.

This was normal. The students recruited into the Blood Kill Camp were all carefully selected through special channels. Each one had outstanding talent and aptitude. Furthermore, most had extraordinary backgrounds. It was very rare to see children from poor backgrounds.

Lin Xun had no interest in the topic and so he just buried his head in the food.

However, Ning Meng seemed to have overheard something as he said gravely, “I didn’t expect that Bai Lingxi, the eldest granddaughter of the empire’s Marquis Jinghai, and Zhao Yin, the great grandson of Marquis Bowang of the Forbidden City, to also be here!”

Lin Xun said casually, “Are you afraid of them?”

Ning Meng’s eyes widened. “Ridiculous! I, Ning Meng, have never been scared of anyone since I was a child!”

After a pause, he frowned and said, “It’s just that those two are very tricky to deal with. They are both geniuses born with special talents. They can be called exceptionally gifted and one in a million. You have to be careful if you go up against them.”

Lin Xun’s heart quivered. “Could it be that they have an Origin Aeth Artery in their bodies?”

Ning Meng shook his head. "Origin Aeth Artery is only one type of innate talent. I heard that Bai Lingxi's innate talent is 'Eternal Shining Stars'. It's a mysterious spirit talent and is extremely rare. Zhao Yin's talent comes from his bones and called the Violet Sun body and is equally as rare."

According to Ning Meng, innate talents were a cultivator's talent, such as perception, bones and blood vessels. They were collectively referred to as innate talents.

According to the empire's evaluation of innate talents, they were roughly divided into nine grades.

One being the highest.

Nine being the lowest.

People with rare talents could cultivate several times faster than ordinary people. Most terrifyingly, they could comprehend techniques and practice martial arts much faster than ordinary people!

Their bodies, spirits and aptitudes were in perfect harmony. Their one year of cultivation was equivalent to other people's years of hard work. The higher their cultivation level, the greater the advantages they would have and that would further widen the gap between them and ordinary people.

One of the most famous examples in the empire were the twin descendants of Marquis Dong more than three hundred years ago. The elder brother had the innate talent Impenetrable Body and the younger brother had an outstanding aptitude but no innate talent.

The two brothers grew up and trained together all the time. The elder brother made breakthroughs several times a year but the younger brother only broke through once every three years.

When the elder brother reached the Heaven Ascension Stage, the younger brother was still hovering in the Spirit Dipper Stage.

When the elder brother became an authority and lord over others, the younger brother had long disappeared.

The cultivation gap between the twin brothers grew greater and greater because of innate talent. This clearly showed how significant a person's talent was.

For example, Bai Lingxi's talent, Eternal Shining Stars, was a grade-4 innate talent.

Zhao Yin's talent, the Violet Sun Body, was a grade-7 innate talent.

However, a grade didn't matter too much because anyone with an innate talent was already superior to ordinary cultivators.

Lin Xun vaguely understood the significance of possessing a talent. His heart tumbled as he couldn't help but think of the Grand Abyss Heaven Devourer, his Origin Aeth Artery.

What grade would it be?

"Unfortunately, only very few cultivators in the entire Ziyao Empire have innate talents."

Ning Meng sighed, "If I have an innate talent, even if it's the lowest grade-9 talent, I would have soared into the sky long ago."

Lin Xun kept quiet but he had almost impulsively asked about the Grand Abyss Heaven Devourer. Fortunately, he suppressed himself in the end.

He couldn't tell him that it was his biggest secret.

A sneer suddenly interrupted them. Shi Yu walked over with a smile, sat down and narrowed his eyes at Ning Meng. "Stop bluffing. With your stupidity, even if you have a grade-2 talent, it will be useless."

Ning Meng slammed the table and fumed, "Little White Face, do you want to die?"

Shi Yu ignored him and mumbled, "I heard that not only Bai Lingxi and Zhao Yin are here, but your sworn enemy Zhangsun Hen is also here."

Zhangsun Hen!

Ning Meng's face suddenly darkened with rage.

This was the first time that Lin Xun saw Ning Meng like that. He couldn't help but knit his brows together and looked at Shi Yu.

Shi Yu stood up with a smile and said to Ning Meng. "If you want to beat him, you have to train hard in the Blood Kill Camp."

"Why did you tell me this?" Ning Meng said through gritted teeth. He balled his hands into fists as though suppressing something.

"It can't be helped. We are in the same campground. I can't just stand and watch." Shi Yu shrugged.

"What if Zhangsun Hen was in the same campground as you?" Ning Meng stared intently at Shi Yu.

Shi Yu smiled and turned away without saying anything.

"Zhangsun Hen is your enemy?" Lin Xun asked.

Ning Meng shook his head. He clearly didn't want to talk about him.

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At the end of the breakfast, Lin Xun and the other twenty-seven students from the 39th campground were notified that they had passed the training at the 10th training ground and they each received five points.

It was also then that Lin Xun realized that they should have been arranged to train at training grounds no. 1 to 9 in their first month of training because the environment in those areas was much safer in comparison.

The 10th training ground was actually prepared for the second month of training!

Lin Xun had no objection to the arrangement because he had to obey orders. Moreover, it would be useless to protest to someone like Instructor Xiaoke.

In any case, the number of people eliminated in the 39th campground on the first day of training was undoubtedly the highest compared to other campgrounds,

Yesterday, fifty people came to report but only twenty-eight people were left after just one day.

After breakfast, the intense training resumed.

Xiaoke brought all the students of the 39th campground to an open-air training field. The sun was blazing and the temperature was scorching hot.

Lin Xun and the others had to rapidly restore their aeth power and their bodies to their optimum state within two hours.

Two hours later, Xiaoke then brought Lin Xun and the others somewhere for close combat training. She allowed students to fight one-on-one without weapons. Those who win would receive one point, and those who lost would be deducted one point.

Lunch didn't begin until close to noon.

The five points that Lin Xun had just earned were all deducted. Ning Meng was the one who earned them. It couldn't be helped, Lin Xun got Ning Meng after drawing lots.

It was unfortunate because Lin Xun's cultivation level couldn't be compared to Ning Meng's. Even if his battle techniques were superior to Ning Meng's, he was still violently beaten and lost repeatedly.

During lunch, Ning Meng couldn't help but laugh smugly when he saw Lin Xun's bruised face. Lin Xun gnashed his teeth with hatred.

Lin Xun suddenly remembered Shi Yu's remark on Ning Meng when they first met—he needs a beating.

In the afternoon, Lin Xun and the others gathered in a sealed room. The room was completely empty except that a tall platform was set up in the center of the room and a bronze coffin was placed on it.

Xu Sanqi stood right in front of the bronze coffin. His thin and straight body resembled a spear piercing into the sky and his face was serious and straight like an ice-cold rock.

His gaze, sharp as a blade, seemed capable of penetrating the depths of one's soul. No one dared to meet his gaze.

"Today you will learn to understand the enemy."

Xu Sanqi's words were concise as usual. With a wave of his hand, the tightly-closed bronze coffin opened and revealed a strange-looking corpse.