

## Prodigies 301

### Chapter 301 A Wicked Person Will Suffer at the Hands of Someone More Wicked

Wang Lin smiled bitterly.

The nearby guards' faces lit up with admiration. That young man is so domineering! He took action at the slightest disagreement! It's so satisfying to watch!

Lin Xun suddenly raised his head, cast a glance at the center of the team, and said loudly, "Big Sister Mansu, I have already helped you get rid of a big problem. You're very cold if you still won't show yourself."

It turned out that when Lin Xun started beating up Lu Shaoyun, he had sensed a gaze from the carriage in the center of the team. He knew Mu Wansu was watching.

Moreover, how could Mu Wansu, the leader of the team, not notice such a big disturbance?

As he thought, Mu Wansu gracefully walked over in a black dress. Her stunning face was like a wild rose in full bloom.

"Hmph, what do you mean you helped me get rid of a problem? You're not a reckless person so you must have ulterior motives to do so!" Mu Wansu shot a look at Lin Xun as she walked over.

Lin Xun grinned. "Big Sister Wansu, you have sharp eyes and can see through everything. To be honest, after hearing your reminder, I indeed need a favor from you."

Mu Wansu said irritably, "Stop pretending, I know you've been scheming. Come with me."

She turned around and headed back towards the carriage. She didn't even glance at Lu Shaoyun, who was lying unconscious on the ground.

Lin Xun smiled and gave a cupped fist salute to the surrounding people. "Everyone, can I ask you to do one thing? Please don't touch this kid. I will take him away later, so this incident won't cause any trouble to you all."

Everyone suddenly smiled and cheered, "Young Master, you're so righteous! We want to be friends with you!"

Lin Xun smiled and followed Mu Wansu.

Wang Lin quickly followed after him and asked, "Lin Xun, do you really intend to take Lu Shaoyun away? His father is..."

Lin Xun interrupted, "Don't worry, a wicked person will eventually suffer at the hands of someone even more wicked. I can only temporarily act as a wicked person to deal with someone like him."

Wang Lin was completely dumbstruck. Temporarily act as a wicked person? When you do something wicked, which wicked person can compare to you?

As they were speaking, Lin Xun had already mounted the carriage and sat opposite Mu Wansu.

Mu Wansu was preparing a pot of tea and filled the carriage with its fragrant aroma.

She was extraordinarily graceful and beautiful, and her skin was soft and silky. As she brewed the tea, every motion of her fair hand was incredibly captivating.

"Thank you. If you hadn't shown up, my head would still be aching from thinking about how to deal with Lu Shaoyun." Mu Wansu handed him a jade cup filled to the brim with tea to Lin Xun.

"Hey, Big Sister Wansu, you're too polite." Lin Xun smiled and drank the tea in one gulp. Then he said righteously, "How could I, your little brother, not draw my sword to help when Big Sister Wansu is in trouble?"

"What nonsense are you spewing now?" Mu Wansu took a sip of the tea and said curiously, "We only met here by chance, so why is it that you need me to help you with something?"

Lin Xun said with a smile, "It is indeed a coincidence. I didn't expect to see you here."

"What exactly is it?" Mu Wansu asked bluntly as she didn't want to verbally spar with Lin Xun anymore.

Lin Xun pointed to the basket behind him.

Mu Wansu looked over and noticed a little girl sleeping soundly inside. She exclaimed, "You...you didn't kidnap her, did you? I can't help you with that!"

"Am I that kind of person?"

Mu Wansu said seriously, "You are—" But she couldn't help laughing before she finished her sentence. Her expression was charming and graceful.

Lin Xun also smiled. Ever since he left Haze City, he had been attacked by one group of enemies after another. He was always in a tense state and couldn't relax.

He felt much lighter now that he ran into Mu Wansu and chatted with her.

Lin Xun hated the Chi Family of the Forbidden City who caused everything. He even suspected that the Chi Family was the one who took away his Origin Aeth Artery as suggested from what Xue Jin told him!

Otherwise, why would the Chi Clan do everything they could to stop him from going to the Forbidden City after learning about his background?

Of course, this was just Lin Xun's speculation. Regardless, the Chi Family was very suspicious!

"Tell me what is going on?" Mu Wansu asked while brewing another cup of tea.

Lin Xun thought for a moment and then said, "I want to ask you to help me bring the little girl to Haze City and ask Shi Yu for help. I want her to be escorted to Blood Kill Camp and taken care of by Instructor Xiaoman."

Mu Wansu looked bewildered as she asked, "Can I know the reason?"

Lin Xun didn't hide anything from her and explained the fact that he was being hunted down.

He spoke indifferently, but Mu Wansu's expression turned solemn. Then, a puzzled expression appeared on her face. "Someone wants to prevent you from going to the Forbidden City? Do you know who they are?"

Lin Xun said nonchalantly, "Big Sister Wansu, it's best to not ask about that. You just need to know that my enemy this time is very powerful."

Mu Wansu frowned. "You're still treating me as a stranger."

Lin Xun smiled and said nothing else, but his eyes flashed with a resolute light. He couldn't tell her as he couldn't let her get involved.

Mu Wansu stared at Lin Xun for a long moment before realizing that Lin Xun would never tell her no matter what she said.

"Given your relationship with Third Young Master Shi Yu, if you ask him for help, maybe..."

Lin Xun smiled slightly. "Stone Cauldron Alms is not Shi Yu's. Also, even if Stone Cauldron Alms come forward, it is unlikely that they can help me."

Even Stone Cauldron Alms can't help?

Mu Wansu's pupils shrank and her heart trembled violently. If even the Stone Cauldron Alms can't help Lin Xun, how tremendous is the force that wants to deal with Lin Xun?

After a long moment of silence, Mu Wansu's expression turned complicated. "Kid, why do you have so many enemies? If you...you know it's dangerous to head to Forbidden City, then why are you still going?"

"I'm not the kind of person who stops moving forward because of some difficulties."

Mu Wansu was in no mood to joke around with Lin Xun anymore. She pondered for a long moment and sighed softly, "Forget it. I won't force you if you don't want to tell me."

"Then what about the thing I asked you just now?"

"Don't worry, just leave the little girl to me."

Lin Xun immediately felt as if a weight had been lifted off him. He gave a cupped fist salute and said seriously, "Thank you."

Mu Wansu said irritably, "Whenever you're polite, I get goosebumps and think you have other motives. So, don't be polite to me in the future."

Lin Xun nodded happily.

.....

After chatting for a while, Lin Xun said farewell and left.

Before he left, he stroked Luoluo's little head and said to Mu Wansu, "When she wakes up, tell her to bravely face reality and live on."

"She's only three or four years old. She won't understand."

Lin Xun shook his head. "The moment she lost her mother, she learned to grow up."

After saying that, he carried the unconscious Lu Shaoyun and walked away in large strides.

“Hey, Lu Shaoyun has an extraordinary identity. Don’t kill him,” Mu Wansu reminded him.

“Don’t worry. I will take good care of him.” Lin Xun waved his hand without turning his head back and disappeared into the vast wilderness.

“Miss Wansu, doing that...will it bring trouble to Lin Xun?” Wang Lin asked in worry.

The corners of Mu Wansu’s lips curled upwards. “That kid causes trouble every day. Might as well have a little more trouble. What you should worry about is whether he will really kill Lu Shaoyun.”

Wang Lin was taken aback. But he couldn’t help but smile helplessly when he thought about Lin Xun’s personality. Lin Xun is always unpredictable.

.....

As evening approached, Lin Xun clearly saw the outline of Yellow Dragon City.

Grand.

Ancient.

Majestic.

Those were Lin Xun’s intuitive feelings about the city. The rolling ancient city walls that stretched endlessly were bathed in a gorgeous hue under the setting sun.

Even though it was twilight, many people were traveling in and out of the tall and wide city gates. The city seemed very lively.

A loud slap and a burning sensation snapped Lu Shaoyun out of unconsciousness. When he opened his eyes and saw Lin Xun, his expression dramatically changed and he was about to scream.

However, Lin Xun said indifferently, “If you don’t want to die, follow me and do as I say.”

His voice was calm but the killing intent flashing in his eyes pierced Lu Shaoyun’s heart like a cold blade. He shuddered and panicked, “Where...where are you taking me?”

The moment he woke up, only Lin Xun was standing in front of him. How could Lu Shaoyun not understand his situation?

“Don’t worry, when I leave Yellow Dragon City, I will restore your freedom.”

Lin Xun strode towards Yellow Dragon City in the distance, “Oh, by the way, there is poison circulating inside you so you better follow me and not run away.”

Poison!

Lu Shaoyun’s face blanched, and he frantically checked his body but found nothing. However, the thought of Lin Xun’s smug expression made his heart sink again.

He didn’t dare to not believe what Lin Xun said, because if he died from the poison, his life would be over!

“You...what do you want?” Lu Shaoyun asked anxiously and furiously as he chased after Lin Xun.

"Not much," Lin Xun answered indifferently.

The more he was like that, the more suspicious and furious Lu Shaoyun became. He couldn't help but hiss through gritted teeth, "Don't go too far! If something happens to me, you will suffer!"

"Okay."

"You...you...you're too much!"

"Okay."

"Bastard!"

"Okay."

"Can you at least react a bit differently? I've never seen a person like you!"

"Okay."

Seeing Lin Xun's triumphant look, Lu Shaoyun felt angry, frightened, desolate, helpless and worried all at the same time.

He had never seen someone who didn't care about anything and unscrupulously did whatever he wanted.

This was the reason why Lu Shaoyun felt despair. He felt like a fish that was about to be slaughtered on a chopping board.

Chapter 302 By Some Strange Coincidence

Yellow Dragon City.

As he stepped foot into the city, a wave of loud and lively noises hit his face.

The wide and spacious streets were tidy, clean, and very busy. They were crowded with pedestrians and endless streams of horses and carriages. Every place was bustling with activity.

Haze City couldn't even compare to it.

Lin Xun strolled the streets like a tourist, curiously looking at everything.

On the contrary, Lu Shaoyun looked glum as he followed him like a servant.

"Interesting." Lin Xun chuckled.

"What did you say?"

Lin Xun ignored him and continued straight ahead.

Lu Shaoyun's face alternated between looking pale and livid. He hated the fact that he couldn't swallow Lin Xun alive. That guy is so annoying!

He had to forcibly suppress his anger and hatred and follow Lin Xun.

.....

“Attention, the target has appeared, and a man dressed in a luxury robe is following him.”

“Send someone to keep an eye on the target and order some people to investigate the luxury-robed man’s background!”

“Remember, act carefully. The target is extremely dangerous. Don’t take action without orders!”

The moment that Lin Xun and Lu Shaoyun entered Yellow Dragon City, they were already being watched.

.....

The Auspicious Inn.

Lin Xun asked for two adjacent rooms on the first floor, one for himself and the other for Lu Shaoyun.

“I’m going into closed-door cultivation for a few days. Stay here and don’t do anything. If you die from poisoning while running around then it’s not my fault.” Lin Xun turned around and headed into his room.

“I...” Just as Lu Shaoyun opened his mouth, the door slammed shut. The corners of his lips twitched. He hated the fact that he couldn’t kill Lin Xun. That bastard! How can he bully people like that!?

Just tell me outright if you want to kill me!

In the end, Lu Shaoyun looked dejected. He regretted his actions. If he knew that this would happen, he wouldn’t have provoked Lin Xun.

However, it was too late to regret it.

“No, I can’t just sit around and do nothing!”

He went into his room and thought long and hard. He decided that he had to do something to save himself. He wasn’t hopeful that a bastard like Lin Xun would be so merciful to let him go!

He gritted his teeth, brought out a brush and paper, and started writing.

As the son of Lu Tianzhao, an elder in the Stone Cauldron Alms headquarters in Forbidden City, Lu Shaoyun might be incompetent and bossy, but he wasn’t an idiot. He knew very well that he could only rely on his identity.

After he finished the letter and sealed it, he walked out of the room and secretly summoned an attendant. He passed on a message to the attendant and told him to keep his mouth shut with a gold coin.

The attendant happily rushed away.

After doing all that, Lu Shaoyun finally felt a lot more at ease. He returned to his room and waited quietly.

One hour later.

Several men in luxurious clothing closely followed an old man into the Auspicious Inn and entered Lu Shaoyun's room.

.....

Meanwhile, Lin Xun's room was empty. There was no sign of Lin Xun, but a corner of the floor had been lifted.

But soon, the corner of the floor folded down again with a click. Someone who wasn't looking closely would be unable to notice it.

.....

Soon, the men in expensive clothes hurriedly left Auspicious Inn with the old man.

Lu Shaoyun was smiling triumphantly and sipping a drink in his room.

In a tea house opposite the Auspicious Inn, an ordinary-looking man in a bamboo hat asked casually, "Did you find out?"

"I found out that the man with the target is called Lu Shaoyun, and his father is Lu Tianzhao, an elder who works in the Stone Cauldron Alms in Forbidden City."

Opposite the man in the bamboo hat sat a slender and dark youngster.

"Also, the Lu Family is regarded as a middle-class clan in Forbidden City, but their foundation can't be compared to the ancient clans."

"Stone Cauldron Alms? The Lu Family? How dare they interfere with the operation?"

The man in the bamboo hat frowned and then he continued, "Have you found out anything about the relationship between Lu Shaoyun and the target?"

"Not yet." The slender youngster shook his head.

Just then, a chubby man rushed over and sat opposite the bamboo hat man. "Boss, I found out that Lu Shaoyun sent a message to seek help from Li Tianbao, the manager of Stone Cauldron Alms in Yellow Dragon City."

The man in the bamboo hat narrowed his eyes and an imperceptible glint flashed across his eyes. "Haha, I didn't expect Lu Shaoyun to be so courageous to use his father's power to find someone to help the target? He has a death wish!"

If Lu Shaoyun heard their conversation, he would cough up blood from anger. He had asked for help to save himself! Why would he help Lin Xun?

Unfortunately, Lu Shaoyun wasn't there.

Misunderstandings often arose in such a way.

"Boss, those guys are coming out now."

The thin young man reported, and the bamboo hat man and the chubby man simultaneously turned their heads to look at the entrance of Auspicious Inn.

A group of men dressed in high quality clothing escorted an old man onto a carriage and left.

“Boss, that old man is Li Tianbao, the shopkeeper of Stone Cauldron Alms of Yellow Dragon City!” The chubby man’s eyes lit up.

The bamboo hat man was certain that Lu Shaoyun intended to intervene in their operation to help their target.

He had just watched Li Tianbao lead a group of people into Auspicious Inn. Who would believe it was a coincidence?!

“Hey, I didn’t expect it. I really didn’t think the young master of the Lu Family would be so loyal to a friend. He didn’t hesitate to go against us to help our target. Amazing. It’s amazing.” The slender youngster smiled coldly. He clearly spoke sarcastically.

“Hmph, loyal? Only an idiot would go against us! Even Stone Cauldron Alms can’t save his Lu Family now!”

The bamboo hat man took a deep breath and issued an order, “Tell everyone to closely monitor the Auspicious Inn. Pay close attention to any movements from Stone Cauldron Alms in Yellow Dragon City. I need more detailed information.”

After a pause, the bamboo hat man continued, “Also, send someone to sneak into the Auspicious Inn and pretend to work there to investigate further. I want to know what the target is planning! Does he plan to use Lu Shaoyun’s power to fight against us? If so, don’t even think about it!”

“Yes!” The two took the order and hurried away.

Before long, the bamboo hat man also left. He had sealed all the information they had gathered with a secret method and passed it out using a wind shadow hawk.

.....

In an ancient mansion in the Forbidden City.

Bang!

Chi Cangmei couldn’t control her anger and smashed the desk in front of her. Fragments flew everywhere.

Her eyes were as sharp and chilling as knives, and a terrifying aura was surging around her body. She uttered coldly, “The operation in Qingliu Town has failed! Can you guys not do anything without Xu Qianjing?”

The assistants nearby were all as silent as cicadas in late autumn.

The wind shadow hawk had sent back news about the operation in Qingliu Town and presented the battles through a light screen.



Chi Cangmei couldn't suppress her anger anymore after she learned that they had failed to kill the target after dispatching so many forces and setting up an inescapable net.

Chi Cangmei was most annoyed about the fact that the crossbows that the target used in the battles in Qingliu Town all belonged to the Chi Family!

Seeing her family's weapons being used like that felt like a slap to her face!

"Lady Mei, you weren't present in the previous operations, so you might not know about the situation. In truth...the failure of the operation, like the rest, wasn't due to a tactical problem, but that the target is too strong," someone stammered while everyone else nodded in agreement.

They had worked with Xu Qianjing to set up a plan of operation, but their target had broken their plan again and again.

However, it was different for Chi Cangmei. It was the first time that she had participated in the operation so it was understandable that she didn't understand the situation.

Although that was the truth, in Chi Cangmei's view, those words seemed particularly grating to her ears. Her expression turned chilling and she smiled in anger. "So, you think it's normal that the operation failed?"

Everyone trembled in their hearts and shook their heads in unison. Chi Cangmei could burst with rage at any moment.

At that moment, a guard rushed into the room and quickly reported, "We received a message from the front line that the target has shown up in Yellow Dragon City. It's just that the situation seems a little strange because Lu Shaoyun is now with the target."

The other assistants all threw a tantrum.

"Lu Shaoyun has guts! Does he not want to live anymore?!"

"I know Lu Shaoyun. His father is a powerful figure in Stone Cauldron Alms, but he is obnoxious and unbearable! I wonder if there's something wrong with his head since he dares to go against us!"

"It doesn't matter if he is related to Stone Cauldron Alms or the Lu Family. If he dared to help our target, he is our enemy!"

The assistants were all children of wealthy families in Forbidden City. They had a more noble status and identity than Lu Shaoyun and wouldn't attach any importance to him.

Although they couldn't do anything to Lin Xun, for now, they saw no problem in dealing with Lu Shaoyun!

If Lu Shaoyun knew about this, how would he react? Cry or fly into a rage?

"Send a message to the Lu Clan and ask them whether it was Lu Shaoyun's idea or did they order him to do so. I have limited patience. Tell them to give me a clear answer as soon as possible!" Chi Cangmei appeared to be extremely calm and quickly came up with a plan.

Chapter 303 Huge Misunderstanding

Chi Cangmei's decisive decision lifted everyone else's spirits.

If they used the name of the Chi Family, one of the seven high clans, the Lu Family, a middle-class clan, will have to obediently follow their orders!

Lu Shaoyun would have to give up on helping their target and going against them!

Moreover, the Lu Family might even get rid of Lu Shaoyun to quell the fury of the Chi Family!

This was power.

When the power between two sides wasn't equal, the weaker side would have to admit defeat or wait to suffer a heavy blow.

Someone realized a problem and asked, "What about Stone Cauldron Alms?"

Chi Cangmei scrunched her brows contemptuously. Her contempt wasn't directed towards Stone Cauldron Alms, but at the person who asked the question.

"Do you think that Lu Shaoyun can tear apart the Chi Family and Stone Cauldron Alms? You think too highly of Lu Shaoyun!"

Chi Cangmei's voice was cold and filled with indescribable sarcasm. Her response made the asker redden with embarrassment and feel extremely uncomfortable.

However, she was indeed right. Although Lu Shaoyun's father, Lu Tianzhao, was one of the attendant elders of Stone Cauldron Alms, anyone with a brain would know that Lu Shaoyun was an incompetent and arrogant young master. Why would Stone Cauldron Alms stand up for him?

Lu Shaoyun was just trying to take advantage of his father's power.

"Okay, let's end the discussion here. Lu Shaoyun is a clown not worth mentioning. What we need to do is deal with the target!" Chi Cangmei took a deep breath and began to issue orders.

"Dispatch some people to stand guard on the periphery of Yellow Dragon City. When the target appears, no matter what means are used, we must capture him!"

"In addition, dispatch the five remaining Violet Hero Battleships and launch a full-scale air attack on the target!"

All assistants trembled inwardly. Chi Cangmei's arrangement was no different from putting all their eggs in one basket!

Their previous operations ended in failure, but they only lost a few hundred cultivators in total.

In other words, they still had over two thousand unscathed soldiers on their side.**noVelnext.com**

However, Chi Cangmei planned to dispatch all people and all five Violet Hero Battleships to the periphery of Yellow Dragon City! It seemed that she planned to fight to the death!

It was too crazy.

It was almost the same as giving up on all tactics and strategies and carrying out a full frontal attack.

However, after careful thought, the hope of success would be higher than their current situation.

Even the thought was terrifying. Over two thousand elite cultivators and five Violet Hero Battleships would be dispatched to crush the target! How terrifying would the scene be?

Regardless of what heaven-defying powers their target had, the waves of attacks would likely drown him!

“We are burning our boats in this operation. If we win, I will hold a grand celebration feast to celebrate.” Chi Cangmei ran her eyes across everyone. “But if we fail...”

Everyone shuddered as an inexplicable sense of pressure filled their hearts.

“I can’t explain to the clan and I can never forgive you all!” Chi Cangmei said each word loud and clear like the ring of a bell.

After a pause, her expression returned to its usual calm indifference. “Of course, the target has a slim chance of surviving under such a full-scale attack. Everyone, don’t worry too much. We will no doubt win if we don’t make any mistakes.”

.....

After giving the orders, Chi Cangmei left the mansion and walked alone in the streets late at night.

She decided to launch a full-scale attack because she already knew that they would have little chance of succeeding once their target reached Yellow Dragon City.

Yellow Dragon City was situated in the center of the empire and was less than one thousand miles from the Forbidden City. Additionally, many forces would be guarding the road to the imperial capital.

The majority of the cities between Yellow Dragon City and the Forbidden City were prosperous and populated places with powerful cultivators.

In other words, it would be very difficult to find an opportunity to dispatch forces to suppress the target without causing disturbances to others.

Therefore, a showdown outside Yellow Dragon City was undoubtedly the best decision!

“Lin Xun...where did that guy come from?”

Chi Cangmei had asked herself this question more than once in the past few days. Although she had been appointed to be in charge of the operation, she was unsure why the clan made such a decision.

It’s too unbelievable.

He’s just a teenager at the Human Dipper Stage. Why would the Chi Family make such an arrangement just for him?

“After killing you, maybe, I can get my answer...”

Chi Cangmei murmured as her slender and tall figure drifted along the long street in the dark.

.....

Meanwhile—

Yellow Dragon City, Rune Master Association.

A black-robed man with half his face concealed by a hat walked into the Rune Master Association in the dark of the night.

After taking out a bronze badge, which represented an initial junior rune master, the man was respectfully led into a quiet room.

Only verified rune masters could enjoy such treatment.

When the attendant left, the man took off the hat covering his face and revealed his handsome and sharp face. Naturally, it was Lin Xun.

“Fortunately, everything went well.” Lin Xun sat down cross-legged, looking relaxed.

From the moment he entered Yellow Dragon City, he had sensed that he was being watched. Of course, he wouldn’t be stupid enough to go into closed-door cultivation in Auspicious Inn.

He had used Lu Shaoyun as a guise and deliberately expressed his plan of going into closed-door cultivation to divert the attention of his enemies.

Then, he dug up the floor of his room in the inn and opened up a secret passage using a blade and left the inn without anyone knowing.

In the end, he came to the Rune Master Association.

The Rune Master Association was undoubtedly the safest place. With the initial Rune Master badge he had received from Chu Feng, he would receive the highest standard of treatment and protection.

In other words, Lin Xun didn’t need to worry about being disturbed or attacked when he went into closed-door cultivation to attempt to break through into the Earth Dipper Stage.

After a short rest, Lin Xun didn’t waste any more time. He straightened his back, sat down cross-legged, and began to focus on his cultivation.

He had already sensed that he was close to breaking through to the Earth Dipper Stage when he left Qingliu Town. He didn’t want to be disturbed by the outside world during his breakthrough.

He began to mobilize his solid and ocean-deep cultivation, and pure aeth dipper power roared out his body like waves.

Soon, he fell into a deep cultivation state.

Meanwhile, Lu Shaoyun was drinking leisurely in the Auspicious Inn. With one leg crossed over the other, he fantasized about his plan for revenge. The more he thought about it, the more delighted he looked.

He was unaware that a group of descendants from the wealthy clans in the Forbidden City had directed their hatred towards him and that Chi Cangmei had issued an ultimatum to his Lu Clan.

All these misunderstandings arose because he was with Lin Xun.

If he didn't contact the people in Stone Cauldron Alms in Yellow Dragon City, it wouldn't have led to the string of misunderstandings and made his situation worse.

Unfortunately, Lu Shaoyun was still unaware of his situation. He was only thinking about how to save himself and had never thought that he would be seen as helping Lin Xun.

"No!"

Suddenly, Lu Shaoyun seemed to realize something. He scrunched his brows and fell into deep contemplation. "That damn guy said he is going into closed-door cultivation. Could he actually be watching me secretly?"

"No, I can't act too abnormally. I have to pretend and put on a good show!"

Lu Shaoyun got up and walked out of his room. He stopped in front of Lin Xun's closed door, took a deep breath, and donned an expression full of grief. "What do you actually want? I have cooperated with you already. Can't you just give me a clear answer?" he wailed, his voice hoarse.

"Bastard! Tell me, what the hell do you want from me?" He lowered his voice as he didn't want to attract attention.

Otherwise, other people would think that he was crazy.

Although his wailing didn't seem to attract much attention, in truth, someone was secretly watching him in the dark. And soon, the news about Lu Shaoyun's late-night visit to Lin Xun's room spread out.

"He said he has already cooperated with the target? And he wants the target to give him a clear answer?"

Outside the Auspicious Inn, the bamboo hat man's face darkened when he heard the report from his subordinates.

He gnashed his teeth and said, "Lu Shaoyun is indeed on the same side as the target! Go, keep watching him. I want to know what he and the target are planning"

Lu Shaoyun returned to his room after his emotional performance, and he couldn't help but smile triumphantly.

He thought his performance would deceive Lin Xun and not draw suspicion from him.

The more he thought about it, the more complacent he became. My plan is simply perfect.

So, he planned to 'perform' at Lin Xun's door every day for the next few days.

He was as obsessed as a maniac. On the other hand, the cultivators sent by the Chi Family were all convinced that Lu Shaoyun was on the same side as Lin Xun. No one would believe him even if he could bring out any evidence.

One day, the bamboo hat man suddenly realized a problem, and his expression dramatically changed.

He had only been watching Lu Shaoyun's movements these days and had overlooked one thing.

Their target hadn't appeared ever since he went into the inn!

## Chapter 304 A Secret Letter

The bamboo hat man frantically issued an order as a bad feeling surged to his heart, "Quick! Go check if the target is still in the room!"

"Yes!" A subordinate rushed off.

The Auspicious Inn.

Lu Shaoyun straightened and dusted his clothes, preparing to 'perform' at Lin Xun's door like before.

It was at that moment that an attendant knocked on his door and delivered a letter to him.

He thought that it was a secret letter from Stone Cauldron Alms in Yellow Dragon City, but his pupils rapidly shrank when he opened the letter.

"Young Master Lu, you will be very surprised when you receive this letter. You don't need to guess who I am. I'm the 'damn bastard' you've been calling me."

Lu Shaoyun's expression dramatically changed. Isn't that guy in the room? Why did he send me a letter?

He continued to read the letter.

"Aren't you curious why I didn't kill you, but took you around with me? It's very simple, I just used you."

Used!?

Lu Shaoyun was perplexed. Although Lin Xun treated him coldly along the way, he didn't do anything that indicated that he was taking advantage of him.

"Of course, you must be very confused now, but you will understand very soon. I hope you don't blame me at that time. You can only blame yourself for angering me. I don't have any good points except that I'm good at getting revenge."

Lu Shaoyun became more and more confused. What the hell is the bastard talking about?

"Well, are you more confused now? It doesn't matter. It's normal. I'm writing this letter to tell you that I lied to you the other day. You haven't been poisoned at all!"

Lu Shaoyun's face darkened. That bastard. He has gone too far!

However, he still breathed a sigh of relief, and he felt much lighter knowing that he wasn't poisoned.

"Are you happy now?"

The corners of Lu Shaoyun's lips twitched, and he cursed inwardly. Why the hell would I be happy?! Just you wait, don't let me get my hands on you!

"But you won't be happy very soon. I'm certain of that. So, please don't think you're lucky!"

Lu Shaoyun gritted his teeth. He wanted to rip the letter to shreds. You're still threatening me at such a time?

I will never believe you again!

However, his curiosity made him continue reading the letter.

"I guess you're thinking that I'm lying to you again. But if I were you, I would quickly ask your father for help. Perhaps, you might be able to escape the storm then. If my enemies think that you and I are working together, you will be finished."

Lu Shaoyun felt like his mind was a complete mess. What enemy? What storm? Why can't you make it clear?

He even told me to ask my father for help. Damn bastard, you're too naive. I have already contacted Stone Cauldron Alms a few days ago to help get rid of you, bastard!

Somehow, he still felt uneasy. For some reason, he felt that Lin Xun wasn't lying to him.

Too conflicted!

"Remember, there is no deep enmity between us. Don't be blinded by hatred. Of course, if you really don't want to believe me then that's fine. I have already expressed my good intentions, if you can't escape the disaster, then you only have yourself to blame."

That was the end of the letter.

Lu Shaoyun was enraged. What does that guy mean? Why did he write such nonsense?

He drew several deep breaths and forcibly suppressed his fury. He shredded the letter and hissed through gritted teeth, "You're lying and I won't believe you. What kind of nonsense storm can touch me?!"

He felt much more stable and at ease when he remembered that he was from the Lu Family, a middle-class clan in Forbidden City, and that his father, Lu Tianzhao, was an elder in the Stone Cauldron Alms headquarters.

He didn't believe that the enemies or the storm that Lin Xun spoke of could do anything to him!

Bang! Bang! Bang!

Urgent knocks sounded at the door and seemed extremely rude.

Lu Shaoyun's face darkened. Who the hell is so impolite!?

He went over to open the door, but was surprised to see an old man and a group of men dressed in luxurious robes standing at the door.

It was Li Tianbao, the shopkeeper of Stone Cauldron Alms in Yellow Dragon City, and his capable subordinates.

Lu Shaoyun immediately scrunched his brows, displeased at his appearance. "Manager Li, why did you come here all of a sudden? This isn't the time we agreed on a few days ago."

Lu Shaoyun put on an arrogant and domineering manner. He believed that he was superior to Li Tianbao in terms of identity and status.

However, Lu Shaoyun was shocked to see Li Tianbao, who was always respectful to him, sneer coldly, "Young Master Lu, do you know that you've made a huge mistake?"

Lu Shaoyun's expression dramatically changed. "What did you say?"

Li Tianbao's eyes flashed with a glint of hatred, "Young Master Lu, you don't need to pretend to be confused. You almost dragged me and the entire Lu Family into the fire pit with you. Are you still refusing to admit your mistake now?"

Lu Shaoyun was utterly bewildered. "What the hell are you talking about? Why don't I understand you at all?"

He was truly baffled. What the hell is going on? Why did it suddenly become like this?

When did I ever think about killing Li Tianbao? When did I ever think about dragging my clan into a fire pit?

However, Lu Shaoyun's stubborn and unrepentant face made Li Tianbao wave his hand furiously. "Take him away!"

Immediately, the men rushed forward and held down Lu Shaoyun without a word.

Like a prisoner, Lu Shaoyun couldn't break free no matter how he struggled and screamed. He was directly taken away from the Auspicious Inn.

Lu Shaoyun started to panic. "Manager Li, can you tell me what's going on?"

Li Tianbao snorted coldly.

"Then can you tell me where you are taking me?" Lu Shaoyun's face was filled with despair.

"Where? Of course, you will be escorted back to your Lu Family! This is an order given by your father himself!"

Li Tianbao looked at Lu Shaoyun with pitiful eyes. "Young Master Lu, have a full meal afterwards. Maybe later...never mind."

An order from Father!

Lu Shaoyun felt like he had been struck by lightning and almost couldn't believe what he heard. How is that possible?

What is happening?

Suddenly, a thought struck Lu Shaoyun's mind. He remembered the letter from Lin Xun.

"But if I were you, I would quickly ask your father for help. Perhaps, you might be able to escape the storm then. If my enemies think that you and I are working together, you will be finished."

Lu Shaoyun froze like he had fallen into an ice cave. He finally realized the problem.

It turned out that Lin Xun had used him to make his enemies suspect that they were collaborating!



The identity of Lin Xun's enemies terrified him. Who could make Father send people to summon me back home?

This storm is...too big!

When he walked out of the Auspicious Inn, he noticed a group of people charging into Lin Xun's room, but...

The room was empty. Where could Lin Xun be?

"Damn it. I've been completely fooled by that bastard—!"

.....

"Boss, look, that kid is being taken away. This is karma. Is this matter something an incompetent young master like him can interfere with?" A slender young man chuckled as he watched Lu Shaoyun being taken away.

"That guy is not important. The most important thing is that the target has snuck away under our nose!" The bamboo hat man's face was overcast.

A subordinate reported, "Boss, I found something strange. The target has dug a tunnel in the floor of the room. No wonder he managed to escape under our nose!"

"Go! Go take a look!"

The bamboo hat man drew a deep breath and rushed into Lin Xun's room. When he saw the remaining traces of the tunnel, the bad feeling intensified in his heart.

From the remaining traces, he could tell that the target had left on the day he checked into the inn!

"Have you found out where the tunnel leads to?" the bamboo hat man asked.

"It's the main street. There are no traces of him there, but Xiaomu has already taken action and I believe that he can locate the target very soon."

The bamboo hat man breathed a sigh of relief after he heard who was after the target. Xiaomu was one of his comrades and practiced a secret technique called Six Sense Sensing. No one could escape his eyes once they were locked on a target.

"Notify the rest that the target may have left Yellow Dragon City and tell them to be ready to search and encircle the target!" The bamboo hat man quickly issued an order and left the Auspicious Inn with his subordinates.

All the forces on his side had been dispatched to the periphery of Yellow Dragon City, including the five Violet Hero Battleships. The consequences would be disastrous if they were to lose their target again!

On the periphery of Yellow Dragon City.

Lin Xun walked along the road, following the flow of people. He was dressed in ordinary clothes, concealed his aura, and looked no different from ordinary cultivators.

After disguising himself, Lin Xun still looked the same, but his aura, expression, and behavior had undergone earth-shaking changes. He was completely different from before.

This was an extremely profound disguise technique, which was one of the few skills he learned in Blood Kill Camp.

Lin Xun resembled an honest and ordinary young man, and it was easy to overlook him.

I wonder how Lu Shaoyun will react, but if he dies, he can't blame anyone.

He didn't know that Lu Shaoyun had been taken away like a prisoner, and it was his father, Lu Tianzhao, who gave the order to summon him back to the clan.

#### Chapter 305 Encircled - Blade Power Shakes the Mountain (1)

The enemies shouldn't have realized yet, right?

Lin Xun believed that everything was under his control after entering Yellow Dragon City.

First, he used Lu Shaoyun as a guise to divert the enemies' attention, then came to the Rune Master Association without anyone knowing and successfully broke through to the Earth Dipper Stage after four days.

Lin Xun thought he had thrown his enemies off the track by disguising himself and leaving Yellow Dragon City.

"As long as I can successfully leave the periphery of Yellow Dragon City, the enemies won't have as many opportunities to encircle me as they did in the past."

Lin Xun had studied the route from Yellow Dragon City to Forbidden City and knew that it passed many prosperous and populated cities and many military bases along the way.

In other words, his enemies would have few opportunities to deal with him without attracting attention once he passed Yellow Dragon City.

However, he still didn't dare to be careless.

According to the information that he had obtained from interrogating the others, he was dealing with three thousand cultivators in total!

In other words, the hundreds of cultivators he had killed along the way were only a small fraction of the total.

The real danger had yet to appear!

.....

When he was almost ten miles away from Yellow Dragon City, there was only a small number of people on the road. Most left the city on beast carts, rune shuttles, and other forms of transportation.

The majority of those walking like Lin Xun were ordinary people. Only a handful of cultivators chose to travel by foot like Lin Xun.

“Huh? What is going on ahead?”

“A group of cultivators has set up a checkpoint. You must pass their inspection to pass through.”

“Why is that? Did something happen?”

The commotion caught Lin Xun’s attention.

A thought struck his mind. He released his spirit sensing power in his mind-sea. It spread out like the tide and instantly covered thousands of feet.

Immediately, he saw fifty-odd cultivators in black robes standing on both sides of a road and each wielding different aeth tools.

A long queue of people was lining up in front of the cultivators. Only those who passed their inspection could pass.

Lin Xun narrowed his eyes. My enemies have quick reactions!

He furtively glanced around and noticed several faint and almost imperceptible auras concealed in the dense forest on both sides of the road. It was impossible to avoid the road and detour through the forests.

He raised his head and ran his eyes across the sky. He discovered black dots patrolling back and forth along the sky.

They were wind shadow hawks!

This wasn’t the first time that Lin Xun had noticed the presence of wind shadow hawks. He knew they were well-trained birds with terrifying detection and surveillance abilities.

“It seems like the enemies have blocked all the paths ahead.” Lin Xun couldn’t help but scrunch his brows as he analyzed his situation. He had thought that he could deceive everyone with his disguise and leave without gathering any attention.

What should I do?

Enter the forest and try to outrun the enemies lying in ambush there or directly charge through the checkpoint ahead?

He didn’t know how many people had been deployed and what was lying ahead so he had to be extra careful.

Suddenly, noises pierced the air. Without turning around, Lin Xun knew that many cultivators were heading toward him.

Have I been discovered?

He immediately hid among the crowd of ordinary people and watched on.

He needed some time to analyze the situation.

When the group of black-robed cultivators came over, the crowd became uneasy and their expressions changed. They hurriedly move to the side of the path.

“Wait!”

Just as the group of cultivators was about to pass the crowd, a blood-red light flashed in the pale-faced leader’s eyes and he stopped abruptly.

The group of cultivators behind him also stopped.

His eyes resembled blood-red beads as they ran over the crowd. At the same time, he sniffed the air like he was searching for something.

A group of murderous-looking cultivators and a red-eyed man with strange behavior undoubtedly made the ordinary people tremble in terror. They didn’t know what was happening.

The leader’s eyes landed on Lin Xun, and a blood-colored glint flashed in his eyes. “Target...”

A crossbow arrow ripped the sky like a meteor and sped down towards the leader.

Unexpectedly, the leader let out a strange cry and vanished like a giant bat.

Bang!

In the end, the arrow failed to hit its intended target and only blasted a bottomless hole into the ground, whipping up a cloud of smoke and dust into the air.

Lin Xun was a little surprised that the man could evade his attack, but he didn’t think much about it and just darted into the dense forest.

“Go!”

“The target has appeared! Quick!”

“Send a signal! Notify everyone to prepare for battle!”

The place was thrown into chaos. The majority of the people present were ordinary people, so they immediately fled in a panic.

However, no one cared about their lives. The black-robed cultivators did everything they could to catch up to Lin Xun and kill him when they discovered him.

The enemies lying in ambush were also alerted. They sent out signals and launched into action.

“Kill!”

Eight black-robos cultivators charged head-on towards Lin Xun in an attempt to stop him.

Lin Xun brought his blade up in a forward slash. At that moment, it was as though a streak of light from hell had torn apart the darkness.

Pu! Pu! Pu!

Instantly, the eight black-robed cultivators collapsed like straws and blood jetted everywhere.

And taking this opportunity, Lin Xun was about to rush into the forest, but he suddenly halted and his eyes narrowed. He sensed over one hundred people charging out like the tide from the depths of the forest!

Why are there so many enemies?

Lin Xun was bewildered.

During his brief pause, enemies had already emerged in all four directions around him.

More and more cultivators were appearing in other directions.

“Kill!”

“The target is there!”

The roar and yells were so loud that they shook the sky and smoke filled the world.

“This isn’t Xu Qianjing’s usual tactic. It’s too barbaric, too unrefined...”

A chilling glint flashed across Lin Xun’s jet-black eyes and he began to focus. His expression became calm, indifferent and determined.

His aeth dipper power had skyrocketed after he broke through to the Earth Dipper Stage, and it was erupting like a volcano in his body. It instantly reached its peak state while wisps of sky-blue light circled him. He was glowing like an immortal being.

The ancient jet-black blade unleashed a cry in his hand as it released a terrifying fiendish qi. It resembled an ancient beast awakening from a deep slumber that longed to drink blood!

“Kill!”

“Kill!”

“Kill!”

Waves of enemies were charging toward him from all directions and murderous intent had pervaded the area

The failure of their operations a few days ago had already proved that their target was extremely terrifying to deal with. Even if they had an advantage in numbers, they didn’t dare to let their guard down.

On the contrary, everyone had mobilized their power to its peak!

Suddenly, streaks of dazzling light swept across the sky, crisscrossing like rain. Every type of martial arts weapon was pouring down their aura like powerful waterfalls, and it was crushing the air.

The scene was too terrifying.

Not one person among the hundreds of thousands of elite cultivators was weaker than the Human Dipper Stage. Not only that, there were many fierce characters of the Earth Dipper and Heaven Dipper Stage.

They were like a powerful army that could shatter the mountains, crush the rivers, and wipe out thousands of people!

The most chilling thing was that that sheer number of people was sufficient to block all escape routes!

If other cultivators were present, they would have already collapsed from the terrifying scale of the attack and lost all fighting spirit.

However—

The corners of Lin Xun's lips curved upwards in a cold smile. He didn't evade or block the attacks. He just stood there fearlessly and indifferently.

The Flowing Light Blade roaring in his hand suddenly soared into the air!

Buzz!

Following a peculiar cry, the world around them seemed to plunge into eternal darkness and countless stars descended. They released dazzling rays of light.

Star Gather!

Lin Xun didn't hesitate to use his strongest attack right away!

The enemies surrounding him all looked dazed as their bodies fell into a state of terror. It was as though they had plunged into an abyss of darkness and were unable to free themselves.

This was the deterrent power of martial arts. The more ancient an art was, the more terrifying its power!

Star Gather originated from the Secret-Omega Realm and was one of the three great moves of the Heavenly Yuan Blade Art. It had a mysterious origin, and Lin Xun had gone through hundreds of battles to improve his mastery of Star-Gather.

Therefore, his Star-Gather was completely different from the past. It contained a mighty and majestic power, exuding a strong deterrent force!

Most importantly, Lin Xun's strength had soared after his breakthrough to the Earth Dipper Stage, and he was no longer the same as before!

The moment he brought out his blade, it was as though the world had fallen into a state of eternal darkness and stars were falling from the sky. The hundreds of cultivators charging toward Lin Xun all became paralyzed with terror, resembling statues.

Immediately, their bodies exploded. Blood gushed out like waterfalls, and broken limbs were hurled everywhere. Even the air was dyed red!

A deep crack spanning several hundred feet had split the ground in front of Lin Xun. It resembled a bottomless chasm marking the passageway to hell.

Chapter 306 Encircled—Blade Power Shakes the Mountain (2)

Xiaomu, the first to discover Lin Xun, had already fled.

Not only did he narrowly escape Lin Xun's sudden crossbow attack, but he also slipped away to the periphery of the battlefield in a flash.

"That kid has such quick reactions. His crossbow would have killed me if I was a little slower," Xiaomu uttered, his heart still thumping with fear.

The bamboo hat man said leisurely, "It's been hard, but that kid can't possibly escape now regardless of how strong he is!"

In their eyes, Lin Xun was fully surrounded, alone and would, sooner or later, be drowned by their tremendous army!

"Huh?" The bamboo hat man's expression suddenly changed. "A terrifying aura!

Almost at the same time, Xiaomu's body went stiff and a cold sensation rushed up in his heart. He was horrified to see an indescribably terrifying aura enveloping Lin Xun.

In particular, Lin Xun's blade was constantly releasing a clear and resounding cry in his hand. It was like a peerless weapon awakening from a deep slumber!

"His aura doesn't seem right..." remarked the bamboo hat man.

"It's indeed terrifying. He doesn't look like a Human Dipper cultivator at all. Could he have..." Xiaomu said in a trembling voice.

Before he finished his sentence, he and the bamboo hat man froze and their eyes went wide like lightning had struck them.

Lin Xun was performing Star-Gather.

Even though they were far away, their minds were still affected. They seemed to see the world fall into eternal darkness and stars drop from the sky. They felt that they had been plunged into a bottomless abyss and flooded with indescribable fear and powerlessness.

What kind of cultivation art is that!?

When the two snapped to their senses, their bodies were soaked in cold sweat and hundreds of their comrades had exploded on the battlefield. Their flesh and blood shot everywhere!

A bottomless chasm-like crack had split the ground. Caught off guard, some cultivators were pulled into the crack.

The scene was bloody, hair-raising, and shocking!

Hiss!

Xiaomu and the bamboo hat man shuddered while inhaling sharply. They felt their souls had left their bodies. The power of that blade is too terrifying.

Not only the two were like that, but all the cultivators surrounding Lin Xun also stood rooted to the spot with horrified faces.

Too terrifying!

They couldn't imagine how someone at the Human Dipper Stage could possess such power.

Even a Spirit Sea cultivator wouldn't be able to launch an attack with that power!

However, they all got something wrong. Lin Xun was no longer a Human Dipper cultivator. Instead, he was an Earth Dipper cultivator with the ability to master heaven and earth!

This was unexpected!

After all, who would have thought that Lin Xun could break through to the Earth Dipper Stage within just a few days of entering Yellow Dragon City while under their surveillance?

Their mistake might not be fatal, but, in battle, it was an unexpected attack!

It was precisely because Lin Xun had reached the Earth Dipper Cultivation, wielded the peerless Flowing Light Blade, and had mastered the ancient and mysterious Star-Gather that he was able to slaughter hundreds of cultivators in a split second, stunning everyone!

He had overawed them with his strength!

Lin Xun immediately resorted to Star-Gather because he knew he was facing too many enemies.

His enemies were all aggressively waiting to strike. If he showed his power and might right away, he could destroy their fighting spirit, stun them, and create an opportunity for himself.

He had succeeded!

.....

The power of his blade swept across all ten directions, shocked everyone, and destroyed all fighting spirit.

Taking that opportunity, Lin Xun charged forward!

A dreamy sky-blue glow shrouded his body and his imposing aura raged like a storm. The Flowing Light Blade emitted a fierce monstrous power, seemingly eager to drink blood.

In the blink of an eye, another dozen cultivators were caught off guard on the battlefield and killed on the spot.

Screams, cries, roars, yells...and all sorts of voices incessantly rang out.

The cloying smell of blood filled the air.

This was the advantage of being unexpected. Lin Xun was able to attack his enemies' fighting spirit and mind, and launch a mighty assault!

Die!

Lin Xun's eyes were as chilling as lightning and his figure was as bright as a rainbow. He destroyed everything in the way and cleared a path in the center of the enemy's army, charging straight through!

Wherever he went, no enemy was able to survive one attack.



Everywhere he passed was always left with a pile of corpses!

This was Lin Xun's power after breaking through to the Earth Dipper Stage; it was as vast and mighty as the sea and as sharp as the tip of a spear.

What was the Earth Dipper Stage?

To perceive heaven and earth with your own ability.

Once a cultivator reached the Earth Dipper Stage, they would begin to perceive the relationship between themselves and heaven and earth, begin to appreciate the great phenomenons of heaven and earth, and master heaven and earth. They would undergo a brand-new transformation on their cultivation path.

Their aeth dipper power would transform into earth dipper power and integrate with the heaven and earth to form majestic powers.

In cultivation, it was called Down-to-Earth.

People often said that pretentious people were not down-to-earth, but in cultivation, Down-to-Earth was a characteristic of the Earth Dipper Stage.

In short, in the Earth Dipper Stage, a cultivator would comprehend the power of the earth, gather the qi of the earth and base everything around the earth. Only then would one understand Heaven!

To understand heaven was to understand the phenomenons of heaven, an integral part of the Heaven Dipper Stage.

Only by truly comprehending and mastering the phenomenon of heaven and earth would a cultivator be able to further control and understand the various wonders and secrets between heaven and earth. These were abilities that only Spirit Sea cultivators could possess.

Now that Lin Xun had broken through to the Earth Dipper Stage, his cultivation, power, and strength had undergone earth-shaking transformations. He was beginning to become Down-to-Earth and was completely different from the past.

Additionally, he aimed for the ultimate perfection realm during his breakthrough and laid an incomparably solid foundation for the Earth Dipper Stage. As a result, he possessed powers beyond imagination.

This was reflected in the battle!

Die!

Lin Xun was like a fierce tiger emerging from his den. Regardless of what techniques or weapons his enemies used, all were instantly killed, including Earth Dipper and Heaven Dipper cultivators.

Most terrifyingly, Lin Xun showed an unusually calm judgment and didn't make any reckless decisions throughout the process.

Every time he attacked, he assessed the situation first, analyzed the weakness of the enemies, and predicted the changes in the situation.

At the same time, to conserve strength, he would only kill with the aeth crossbows that he had stowed away!

In such close-range attacks and with so many enemies around him, he didn't need to aim accurately to display terrifying destructive power from the crossbows.

Despite the enemies being equipped with various sophisticated crossbows, they were all completely useless.

Since they only had one target, friendly fire was incredibly likely due to the sheer number of their comrades.

In addition to being bloody and brutal, the battle was a little abnormal. Lin Xun was like a cold and ruthless executioner. He killed instantly with a swing of his blade or the flutter of his crossbow.

His enemies could only rely on their advantage in numbers to encircle Lin Xun and fight with their lives.

In the distance, Xiaomu and the bamboo hat man were ashen-faced and their eyes were wide with disbelief.

Who would have imagined that their target would still be able to single-handedly fight the waves of cultivators?

They were most terrified by the fact that Lin Xun's imposing bearing had been growing stronger and stronger since the battle began. He was simply unstoppable and invincible!

"Although that guy has reached the Earth Dipper Stage, the change in his strength is still too terrifying. He doesn't seem like an Earth Dipper cultivator at all. He more resembles a true Spirit Sea cultivator!" Xiaomu exclaimed, his face pale.

"Don't forget that he was first place in the provincial exam of the Southwest Province despite being only at the Human Dipper Stage. There are only thirty-four provinces in the empire, so there are only thirty-four first places and Lin Xun was one of them."

The bamboo hat man took a deep breath. "As you can imagine, since the kid could counter our operations time and time again when he was only at the Human Dipper Stage, now that he has reached the Earth Dipper Stage..."

His voice had become strained as he reached the end of the sentence. Even if he could analyze Lin Xun's strength and understand how terrifying it was, it was hard for him to accept the fact that there would be a demon-like youngster like him in the world.

"This isn't good! We can't stop him. Quickly mobilize all the other troops in other areas!" Xiaomu's expression dramatically changed when he saw that Lin Xun was about to break out of the encirclement!

"No matter how many people you mobilize, you won't be able to kill him!" the bamboo hat man said through gritted teeth. Suddenly, he brought out a bone whistle and put it to his lips.

"Boss, You.."

Hu—

The bamboo hat man blew the bone whistle and a peculiar noise spread across the area.

“Fortunately, the kid hasn’t reached the Spirit Sea Stage and can’t move freely in the air. None of us is a match for him, so we can only dispatch the Violet Hero Battleships and launch airstrikes from the sky to kill the kid!”

Chapter 307 War Weapons

Rumble!

The blade glinted like a divine rainbow as it swung in every direction, producing horrifying showers of scarlet blood.

Lin Xun charged across the battlefield and never turned his head around once, nor did he change direction. He had one simple goal: rush into the forested mountains.

He wasn’t afraid of battle, but he realized that the whole nest of enemies had been dispatched, and they intended to kill him outside Yellow Dragon City!

It was unwise for Lin Xun to fight the enemies head-on. He might be invincible for a short period, but once he exhausted his strength, his enemies would take advantage of his weakness and the consequences would be disastrous.

Therefore, Lin Xun had to first break out of the encirclement and then formulate a plan of action to conserve his strength to the greatest extent.

Die!

Blood splattered and limbs shot everywhere.

It was unknown how many corpses lay around Lin Xun’s feet. He was like the god of death standing atop a mountain of corpses and a sea of blood.

He had entered the depths of the forest and was about to break through the enemy’s encirclement.

However, a thunderous roar rang in the sky.

Violet Hero Battleships that were several dozens of feet long were whizzing across the sky from afar like giant monsters, crushing the waves of clouds along the way.

Lin Xun’s expression subtly changed. There were five Violet Hero Battleships capable of killing Spirit Sea cultivators!

Lin Xun suddenly let out a long roar and charged forward with all his might!

He no longer held back his strength and his imposing bearing soared once again like the ocean.

He had designed the new Violet Hero battleships, so he knew how terrifying their power was. He could deal with one battleship and knew how to severely damage it, but five battleships were racing towards him.

This was equivalent to facing five Spirit Sea cultivators. It would be extremely difficult to escape let alone inflict heavy damage to the battleships. He would be in life-threatening danger all the time.

Most terrifyingly, the Violet Hero Battleships were flying across the air at an incredible speed. If they caught up to him and fired their cannons at full strength, the consequences were simply unimaginable!

Lin Xun had thought that the enemies wouldn't dispatch cultivators stronger than the Spirit Dipper Stage, but when he saw five Violet Hero Battleships dispatched together, he realized that he was too naive.

Indeed, he had no opponents stronger than the Spirit Dipper Stage but the five battleships were terrifying, killing weapons that could kill Spirit Sea cultivators.

If controlled well, the five battleships were no different from five Spirit Sea cultivators!

This is too much!

The hatred and anger that Lin Xun had suppressed for a long time were ignited again. He hated the enemies who were stopping him from entering Forbidden City!

However, he wasn't blinded by the cruelty of reality. He knew that whether or not he could escape was out of his control.

Now, the only thing he could do was—run!

He couldn't let the Violet Hero Battleships in the sky encircle him!

.....

Die!

Lin Xun madly darted through the dense forest like an enraged beast, crushing all the enemies along the way.

Hu—

The bleak sound of a bugle horn sounded in the distance.

Immediately, Lin Xun noticed that the enemies had suddenly stopped encircling him and chose to retreat.

The bugle horn was a signal to withdraw troops.

A thought struck Lin Xun's mind. He didn't need to guess to know that the enemies were afraid of the Violet Hero Battleships accidentally slaughtering comrades on the ground.

After all, the power of the cannons on the Violet Hero Battleship was too unbelievable. Once fired, the people on both sides would be in danger.

In truth, a great killing weapon such as the Violet Hero Battleship was generally only mobilized on the front line of large-scale battlefields to launch surprise attacks on the enemies.

It was extremely rare to see them dispatched for one target.

"Would the Violet Hero Battleships in the sky dare to strike if I were to continue fighting the enemies on the ground?" A crazy thought came to Lin Xun's mind.

However, the cruel reality extinguished his idea.

Following a deafening bang, a pillar of blinding light shot down from above, ripping apart the sky as it sped towards Lin Xun.

Lin Xun didn't have time to think about it. He just charged forward at full speed in hopes of evading the calamity.

However, all the enemies around his original spot failed to escape in time. The light beam blasted a giant pit into the ground and brought clouds of smoke and dust into the air.

Too ruthless!

Lin Xun inhaled sharply. To kill me, they didn't care about the lives of their comrades. This is too crazy and ruthless!

Clearly, the enemies want to decide the outcome once and for all with this operation.

They will do anything to win!

Run!

Run!

Run!

Without any hindrance from the enemies, Lin Xun quickened his speed and bolted. He flashed through the forest like a bolt of lightning.

In the sky, the five Violet Hero Battleships had locked onto Lin Xun's location. They were approaching him at full speed. The dazzling rune light circling the battleships brought an endless sense of oppressiveness and danger.

In comparison, the tattered treasure ship that Xue Jin often drove around couldn't be compared to such war weapons.

Lin Xun had previously discussed the battleship problem with Xue Jin and Old Mo.

The cultivators in the world often had a love-hate relationship with war weapons created by rune masters. They had conflicted feelings towards them.

They loved that the battleships were extremely powerful and could unleash terrifying strength on the battlefield if controlled perfectly.

However, they hated that such war weapons changed the difference in strength between cultivators.

For example, a Human Dipper cultivator could skillfully control a Violet Hero Battleship and operate the cannons on the ship to kill Spirit Sea cultivators!

How would cultivators not hate that?

In terms of cultivation, Spirit Sea cultivators could crush Human Dipper cultivators but that would change in the presence of such battleships.

Fortunately, the various battleships in the empire were controlled by the upper-level forces and military in the empire. It was impossible to purchase such battleships on the market.

However, some high-clans in the empire possessed such war weapons, but, relatively speaking, they owned only a very limited number of battleships.

Of course, in truth, all the upper-level forces and military of the empire were composed of clansmen from the high clans!

They might be high-ranking officials of the imperial court or generals in the military, but they were also members of the high clans.

This was the reason why the high clans were incredibly powerful. Many clansmen occupied a high and mighty position and controlled and monopolized many resources in the empire. How could they not be powerful?

For example, the six Violet Hero Battleships dispatched by the Chi Family to deal with Lin Xun were all great killing weapons created by the imperial divine workshop. Ordinary aristocratic clans wouldn't have the ability to get a hold of even one.

Of course, one of the six Violet Hero Battleships had been severely damaged and couldn't be used on the battlefield.

Otherwise, Lin Xun's situation would be even more dangerous.

Boom!

While Lin Xun was sprinting at full speed, the five Violet Hero Battleships launched an airstrike.

Beams of blinding light streaked down from above like meteors and flames engulfed the ground.

Instantly, it wiped out zones after zones of dense forest. The flames blazed and the ground was left with several giant pits. Dust and fragments of rock whirled in the air.

Too terrifying!

Lin Xun felt all his hair stand on end. An intense feeling of danger surged in his heart. He repeatedly dodged and narrowly managed to avoid one attack after another without sustaining any damage.

He was like a reptile on the ground and the attacks were like nets trying to capture and kill him.

Everything in the world was changeable. Just a moment ago, Lin Xun was slaughtering all enemies in the way and now he was running for his life.

The Violet Hero Battleships were roaring across the sky, flames were raining down from above, and explosions constantly rang behind him.

He didn't dare to turn his head around to look. He didn't dare to think about it. He was afraid that the flames would blow him to smithereens as they poured down.

He was like a bolt of erratic lightning, flickering left and right, front and back as he avoided one attack after another.

His powerful spirit-sensing power allowed him to sense that the danger was drawing closer and closer and the life-threatening feeling was growing stronger and stronger.

He felt like he was dancing on the tip of a blade, drifting between life and death.

He could die at any time!

Rumble—

Suddenly, the firepower seemed to have intensified and the cannon firing reverberated like a thunderstorm.

Lin Xun's expression dramatically changed. Just as he darted to one side, he felt terrifying waves of heat batter his back, throwing him into the air. His body was set afire and his organs were being torn apart with unbearable pain.

Hu—

He grunted and clenched his teeth. Instead of slowing down, he took advantage of the force to speed up and bolt even faster.

The forest ahead was much sparser. He had almost rushed out of the forested area and would soon be completely exposed to the attacks from the sky.

His situation would be even more dangerous!

However, he had no other choice. He had to continue to charge forward!

He didn't know how long he could hold on, but he knew that he would die if he gave up!

As Lin Xun madly bolted, his clothes were ragged, his back was charred, and his face marred by dust, sweat and blood.

However, he had the same determined and resolute expression on his handsome face. The thought of giving up had never crossed his mind even in such a desperate situation!

He had experienced many life and death situations and he had been through the torture of death in the Hundred Battles Secret Realm.

All that made him not show the slightest bit of panic or fear even in such a time. On the contrary, his mind was terrifyingly calm.

His mind was as still as a lake of clear water in autumn.

Chapter 308 A Glimmer of Hope

Live!

Lin Xun's desire to live brought out untapped potential. Earth dipper power roared in his body and his blood and qi tumbled around like they were burning.

Shua!

His speed rose once again.

Boom—

The five Violet Hero Battleships were chasing him relentlessly like starving maggots. The cannons were firing at their full capacity, shooting out terrifying pillars of light.

The ground shattered, rocks crumbled, and holes were blown into wherever Lin Xun passed.

That was the power of the Violet Hero Battleship. Its power could kill Spirit Sea cultivators. How could ordinary battleships compare to it?

The only flaw of Violet Hero Battleship was perhaps that it wasn't a true cultivator and only had a single means of attack. Only cultivators could control it and fire its cannon.

That created Lin Xun an opportunity to escape.

He didn't know how long it would be before he exhausted his strength, which would also be his time of death!

Unfortunately, Lin Xun still hadn't found the opportunity he could use to escape and had to keep running forward.

"Hahaha, isn't that kid very amazing? Why is he running away like a stray dog now!"

Behind the Violet Hero Battleships, a group of cultivators, led by the bamboo hat man and Xiaomu, was catching up.

Many cultivators couldn't help but laugh when they saw Lin Xun in such a miserable state.

To them, Lin Xun looked like a tiny ant struggling desperately in a sea of flames and could die at any time.

"So satisfying!"

"That kid has killed so many of our people. He got what he deserved!"

Many cultivators became excited.

They felt defeated and their fighting spirit had collapsed when Lin Xun almost wiped them out. How could they not be excited to see their situation change and Lin Xun running for his life?

"Is it funny? A total of 419 of our people have died in battle. If we hadn't dispatched the Violet Hero Battleships, the casualties would be even greater! Do you think it's still funny now?" Xiaomu asked coldly as he ran his scarlet eyes across everyone.

Awkward smiles froze on many people's faces and their smug expressions faded.

Indeed. What was the difference between laughing at the enemy and laughing at their incompetence?

"Open your eyes and look carefully. That kid is only at the Earth Dipper Stage yet he can survive the bombardment of five Violet Hero Battleships. Ask yourself, who among you can do the same?" Xiaomu seemed to be very stirred up. "In the entire empire, which Earth Dipper cultivator can do this? Huh?"



As his voice echoed like thunder, all the cultivators' expressions changed. Their triumphant smiles and excitement were instantly wiped away from their faces.

"If that boy managed to survive today and wants to get revenge, you...who else would be laughing then?" Xiaomu asked in a stern voice.

Everyone uncontrollably shuddered as they thought of Lin Xun's unparalleled disdainful attitude.

If such a person survived, they indeed wouldn't be able to sleep or eat peacefully in the future!

"The kid has a slim chance of surviving the bombardment of the five Violet Hero Battleships. Everyone doesn't need to worry about running but we also mustn't be careless. Don't let your guard down until the kid is killed!" the bamboo hat man reminded them.

Everyone increased their vigilance.

Time flew by.

The bombardment continued.

For Lin Xun, time seemed particularly long. Minutes felt like hours. He had never felt as distressed as he did today.

However, his jet-black eyes maintained a resolute look and never wavered once.

Perhaps his life and death could be decided in the blink of an eye but he was willing to fight to the end for that slight chance of escaping alive!

In his mind-sea, he captured the sound of roaring water, and it made his dark eyes light up.

Soon, a stretch of a monstrous river that was tens of feet wide came into his view.

He clenched his teeth and quickened his speed once again. He rushed towards the river with all his remaining strength!

Huh?

In the sky, a burly man steering a Violet Hero Battleship was laughing wildly and firing the cannons. But a sinister smile curved his lips when he noticed the river.

There is a huge river ahead. That kid can't escape anymore!

Die!

The burly man maneuvered the battleship at full speed and fired all cannons at full power. Flames poured out the cannons like gushing waterfalls.

Everyone else on the other four battleships also believed that their opportunity to kill the target had finally come.

Rumble!

Without any hesitation, they all launched their strongest offensive.

Instantly, beams of bright light tore the sky like a meteor shower and battered the ground.

Not good!

However, unlike the cultivators on the Violet Hero Battleships, the bamboo hat man had a bad feeling when he saw the river ahead.

He remembered how their target had mysteriously escaped from under the water when they set up a massive ambush at a lake a few days ago.

The river ahead won't hinder the target. On the contrary, it will provide him with a chance of escape, a glimmer of hope!

Unfortunately for the bamboo hat man, it was already too late!

Lin Xun suddenly soared into the air and threw himself into the rushing river like a bolt of lightning.

Rumble—

Almost at the same time, artillery fire rained down on the river's surface.

Countless waves lifted into the sky, creating a spectacular spectacle.

Under the water, Lin Xun sensed a terrifying force approaching him from behind and slamming into his back.

Bang!

His head buzzed and his entire body throbbed with indescribable pain. His bones were about to shatter and he was uncontrollably pushed to the bottom of the river!

PU—

He couldn't help coughing up blood. His face turned deathly pale as he collapsed on his buttocks on the riverbed and he let out an anguished groan.

The attack just now was too terrifying. It felt as though a sacred mountain had crashed down on him. He likely would have lost his life if he wasn't in the river and the resistant force of the river lessened the impact.

Hu—

Lin Xun rapidly gasped for breath. Although he was at the bottom of the river and the water current was extremely fast, he was able to breathe like he was on land and wasn't affected by the waves.

This was due to the sky-blue glow around his body, the aura of the Heavenly Water Sacred Bead in his mind-sea.

The sacred treasure of the Water Tribe had fallen into a still and silent state, but its natural aura was enough to help Lin Xun move freely under water.

Lin Xun clenched his teeth, dragged his injured body up, and tread along the riverbed. Along the way, he saw shoals of fish moving with the current, swaying aquatic plants, and colorful coral reefs.

However, he was in no mood to admire the beautiful scenery. He quickly found an underwater cave and sat down inside.

Clang!

He took out the alarm device from his body and set it up outside the cave. Then, he exhaled a breath of turbid air, took out a bottle of healing elixir, and swallowed it without any hesitation.

Then, he closed his eyes and started to meditate.

The power of the Violet Battleship was tremendous, but it couldn't wound him while he was hundreds of feet deep in the water.

Enemies could follow him into the water, but without a cultivation of at least the Spirit Sea Stage, it would be very difficult for them to survive underwater for long.

Additionally, the water current was rapid. The deeper one dove into the river, the stronger the force. Cultivators below the Spirit Sea Stage wouldn't dare to recklessly dive into the water. Lin Xun, who held the Heavenly Water Sacred Bead, could kill them without any effort!

Lin Xun wasn't worried about his safety in such an environment and could concentrate on tending to his injuries.

There is finally hope of resolving this calamity... Lin Xun thought before he sank into a meditative state.

.....

The five Violet Hero Battleships were quietly suspended above the huge river and halted all attacks. Evidently, they had realized that even the power of the cannons couldn't cut through the strong currents.

On the banks of the river, hundreds of cultivators had gathered.

The bamboo hat man stood at the forefront, his eyes intently fixed on the roaring river. His expression was overcast.

The target has disappeared!

We don't know if he's alive or dead, and we don't know if the river had washed him away

"The attacks just now were terrifying. The kid can't survive. He must have exploded to smithereens now," someone remarked.

Many people shared the same thought. After all, the five Violet Hero Battleships had fired at full power. Even Spirit Sea cultivators wouldn't be able to survive, let alone the target.

"Send people down to check." The bamboo hat man drew a deep breath and made a decision that surprised many people.

"Boss, is that necessary?" someone questioned.

“What do you know?! The target has previously slipped away into the bottom of a lake to avoid an ambush. Do you think he would come up to the river surface if he was alive?” The bamboo hat man couldn’t hold back his anger anymore.

Many people’s expressions changed and dozens of cultivators volunteered to dive into the river.

“But if the target is alive, even if we send people down there, they wouldn’t be a match for the target,” said Xiaomu.

“No, the target has been seriously injured. I believe he also sustained some impact from leaping into the river. If he’s still alive, now is the best time to kill him!” The bamboo hat man ran his eyes across the many cultivators. “Go, deploy people to stand guard on both sides of the river banks and monitor the areas around the river using the Violet Hero Battleships and the wind shadow hawks. Immediately take action and kill at the first sight of the target!”

Evidently, he was worried that the target would escape from the bottom of the river like he did last time so he quickly formulated a backup plan!

### Chapter 309 Blood-Stained River Bed

Lin Xun’s eyes suddenly sprang open as he snapped out from his meditative state.

He sensed that the invisible energy released from the alarm device showed signs of fluctuating.

The enemy is here!

Lin Xun narrowed his eyes. He had only been meditating for half an hour yet the enemies had already located him on the riverbed. They wanted to strike while he was severely wounded.

Lin Xun tightened his grip around the Flowing Light Blade in his right hand and quietly clasped a Divine Arm Crossbow with the other. He stood by the mouth of the cave and let his spirit sense power spread across the water.

Almost instantly, he noticed dozens of figures moving across the rapid currents in his direction.

As the enemies drew closer and closer, his eyes grew colder and colder. Although he had sustained heavy injuries, as long as he held the Heavenly Water Sacred Bead, he wasn’t the least bit afraid of facing any enemy at the bottom of the river bed.

The resistance force on the bottom of the river was so tremendous that ordinary people would suffocate to death and their blood would ooze from the seven orifices of their heads.

Even Spirit Dipper cultivators wouldn’t be able to survive underwater for long. The strong, resistive force of the water would make them only able to display half their usual strength.

Only Spirit Sea cultivators could move underwater with ease like they were on land. They could communicate with the qi of heaven and earth, allowing them to rise into the sky, dive into the earth, and escape through air and water.

The cultivators were affected by the great resistive force of the water. Their movements had slowed, and they looked like they were trudging through mud.

The water rippled. A cultivator pushed through the water and cautiously approached the cave.

As he neared the cave, his vision strangely blurred. Before he could see the situation inside, a blade slashed out and pierced his throat at lightning speed.

His eyes widened with shock and disbelief. Even before his death, he couldn't believe a blade could move at such incredible speed and be unaffected by the resistive force underwater.

Crimson blood gushed everywhere like the tide and dyed the river a chilling red shade.

Noticing something strange, the dozens of cultivators in the distance rushed over and simultaneously released their aura to blast away the water. They resembled a group of monsters stirring up waves underwater.

Swoosh!

With a flash, Lin Xun was already standing before a cultivator. He brought his blade up in a slashing motion, tearing the cultivator's chest apart.

Bang!

At the same time, he fired the Divine Arm Crossbow with his left hand. An arrow sped through the river, left behind a trail of water, and pierced the head of a cultivator several feet away.

The cultivator also held a crossbow in his hand but he had no opportunity to pull the trigger.

Rumble—

Cultivators swung up their aeth tools and charged toward Lin Xun one after another, disturbing the flow of water. Schools of fish scurried away and the aquatic plants swayed wildly. It was as though the river was being overturned. The chaos kicked up dirt and sand and turned the water cloudy.

However, the cultivators were most astonished by the fact that their target seemed completely unaffected unlike them. He continued to move at lightning speed and constantly glided past them like a ghost. He was more agile than the fish in the river!

They couldn't touch the target even with a crossbow.

Is that guy a water monster?

The cultivators were horrified and chilled to the bone.

Pu! Pu! Pu!

The surging water, tumbling rocks, wildly dancing plants and the blasts of water made it appear like an earthquake was happening.

In that chaotic environment, cultivators fell one after another. They were either killed by the sharp blade or shot to death by a crossbow arrow.

Suddenly, blobs of blood rose in the river, dying the already chaotic and murky water a ghastly red.

Most terrifyingly, everything was happening in silence, which made the bloody environment even more chilling.

Die!

Lin Xun was already riddled with wounds and had only twenty percent of his usual strength left. Yet, he was able to move effortlessly on the bottom of the river like a ghost.

Some cultivators were killed on the spot, some felt their souls had left their bodies, and some had lost all fighting spirit and were frantically racing to the river surface.

However, they died quickly even while being chased by Lin Xun with his incredible speed.

A massacre full of despair, helplessness, and terror broke out on the riverbed.

.....

On the banks of the river.

"Boss, per your instruction, the remaining 1,922 people have been deployed to monitor the various sections of the river.

"Also, a Violet Hero Battleship is watching at every ten miles and all the wind image hawks have been dispatched. We will be alerted right away when the bastard tries to leave the river," Xiaomu quickly reported.

The bamboo hat man nodded, feeling much at ease.

He turned his head and stared at the river surface. The fifty cultivators that have been dispatched into the river are all skilled in swimming and they have been underwater for several minutes now. If no accident has happened, we should hear back from them soon.

Suddenly, a corpse floated to the surface. The bamboo hat man and Xiaomu instantly turned ashen-faced.

They couldn't bring it to the shore in time as the waves quickly swept it away.

"What's happening?"

"The target isn't dead. He's hiding under the water!"

"The corpse just now seems to be...Old Wu!"

There were still hundreds of cultivators standing guard behind the bamboo hat man. They couldn't help gasping in shock when they saw the corpse sweep up.

It was indeed shocking for them. Their target had already been severely wounded under the bombardment of the five Violet Hero Battleships and had dived into the rapid currents, but he still wasn't dead!

Who would believe that?

Most terrifyingly, their target didn't try to run away from the riverbed. Instead, he took advantage of his environment to kill a cultivator in the water!

Is it even possible to kill that kid?

He is too abnormal!

Even the bamboo hat man and Xiaomu couldn't believe it.

Before they could react, corpses surfaced one after another on the rushing river surface and were quickly carried away.

The originally murky river water started to turn a deep blood-red shade. Although it was soon diluted, it was dyed red once again.

It indicated that people continued to be slaughtered at the bottom of the river!

The bamboo hat man and Xiaomu felt a chill run down their spine and their expression froze for a moment. They failed to kill the target!?

The cultivators behind them all shuddered inwardly, their expressions changing dramatically. Where did the target come from? Why does he have such demonic strength? Why is he so tenacious? How could there be someone like him in the world?

After a while, no more corpses floated to the river surface, but Xiaomu still looked ashen-faced. "Boss, I have kept count. There were fifty corpses. None of them survived." His voice sounded bitter and hoarse.

The veins popped on the bamboo hat man's head and the corners of his lips twitched. He gnashed his teeth to the point of almost shattering them.

Xiaomu sighed, speechless. He then changed the subject, "Boss, our strategy isn't effective, but if the target won't come out of the water, what can we do?"

They were faced with a huge problem. They had a large number of people and they had many people standing guard along the great river, but they couldn't wait for the target forever.

Their target could wait, but they couldn't. They lacked the materials and supplies to provide for the thousands of cultivators.

Additionally, the operation of the five Violet Hero Battleships consumed a lot of high-grade aeth crystals. It would be incredibly costly to operate them for a long period.

"Report back to Lady Mei truthfully and let her decide!"

After a long period of silence, the bamboo hat man sighed, showing a touch of helplessness and bitterness.

They had launched a large-scale operation and had dispatched a large number of troops to the periphery of Yellow Dragon City. They had decided to throw all their eggs in one basket and fight to the death with the target. Who would have thought that their well-arranged, inescapable net would suffer repeated setbacks?

They had completely lost control of the situation, so how could the bamboo hat man accept it?

He knew very well that if they lost, they wouldn't have found a better opportunity to deal with the target on his way to the Forbidden City.

Moreover, he would have to explain his failure to Chi Cangmei, and the consequences would be unbearable!

However, given the current situation, he couldn't possibly hide the truth and had to tell her everything for her to make a decision.

Xiaomu couldn't help but ask, "Boss, are you sure?"

"We have done our best in the operation but the enemy is just too strong!" The bamboo hat man patted Xiaomu on the shoulder. "Leave the rest to Lady Mei to decide."

Xiaomu fell silent, looking reluctant. It was only after a long while that he said through gritted teeth, "We haven't lost yet. At least, the target can't escape from the river if we have control of the entire length of the river. I will fight to the last moment!" He turned around.

"Of course, we haven't lost, but not many people still have the fighting spirit that you do anymore..." the bamboo man sighed.

In any operation and battle, fighting spirit was the most important!

In an ancient-looking mansion in the Forbidden City.

"There's news from yesterday that Lu Shaoyun has been forcibly imprisoned, and he will eventually be handed over to the Lu Clan for them to deal with him."

One of the assistants said with a smile, "Guess who issued the order?"

"Who?" many people asked curiously.

"It's that guy's father, Lu Tianzhao! Hahahaha, even if Lu Shaoyun doesn't die, he will undoubtedly lose face and can't mess around in the Forbidden City anymore! And his father will have to bear the responsibility of punishing his son!"

Everyone else laughed. This is his result for angering us and going against us to help Lin Xun!

He brought this on himself!

Seeing this, Chi Cangmei couldn't help but frown. Is it worth being so proud and happy to deal with an ignorant, arrogant, and incompetent young master?

She had never thought much of Lu Shaoyun. Someone like him wasn't worth her attention.

Bang!

The door slammed open, and an anxious-looking guard rushed in.

Chapter 310 Nothing Can Be Done

"What happened? Why are you panicking?" Chi Cangmei asked irritably.



The guard gulped and explained in a trembling voice, "There's a message from the front line...the operation...the operation..."

"What happened to the operation?" someone asked anxiously.

The guard had to take several deep breaths before he could finish his sentence, "There have been twists and turns in the operation."

Twists and turns?

Many people were surprised, but they couldn't understand why some twists and turns were worth such a big fuss.

Chi Cangmei breathed a sigh of relief.

She had mobilized all the forces to the periphery of Yellow Dragon City and had put all her stakes into the operation so she couldn't let it fail.

"Calm down first and then tell the whole story." Chi Cangmei urged.

The guard nodded. "Not long ago, the commander-in-chief of the operation received news that the target had left Yellow Dragon City in disguise..."

He repeated the message he received.

Many people couldn't help but praise Xiaomu when they heard that he was the one who had discovered Lin Xun's whereabouts. But when they heard their target single-handedly slaughtered many people on their side, their expressions dramatically changed. Some couldn't help but cry out.

Then, when they heard that Lin Xun destroyed everyone in his way, almost broke out of the encirclement, and then dove into a river when chased by the five Violet Hero Battleships, the faces of everyone, including Chi Cangmei's, turned overcast.

Even the atmosphere in the room became heavy and depressing. Many people couldn't breathe in the stifling air. Only the hoarse and low voice of the guard continued to ring out.

"They thought that the target would be severely wounded if he didn't die, so people were sent into the water to investigate. Who would have thought that the fifty dispatched cultivators were all slaughtered underwater?!"

Bang!

The cup in Chi Cangmei's hand crumbled to powder and slipped through her fingers.

But she seemed unaware of it.

Her eyes were narrowed, her beautiful face was livid, and her brows were knitted in a furious frown.

Over two thousand elite, well-armed cultivators and five Violet Hero Battleships...failed to kill the target!

What a bunch of trash!!

The room was deathly silent and everyone was still; no one dared to look at Chi Cangmei directly.

They all knew that Chi Cangmei was about to go berserk. In that state, she would kill without a single word!

In truth, Chi Cangmei was indeed almost about to lose control of herself. Murderous rage swirled inside of her. Ever since Xu Qianjing left, I have never received good news from the front line. Particularly in this operation. A tremendous number of people have been dispatched in addition to a large number of forces that could crush Spirit Sea cultivators, but they still couldn't do anything to the target! If this matter spreads out, how would the great influential figures in the family look at me? How would the world view my Chi Family?

So humiliating!

Chi Cangmei hated the fact that she couldn't rush to the frontline of the battlefield.

However, she soon calmed down. Anger was nothing but an expression of incompetence, and her priority should be to find out the truth behind several things.

"Apart from this, is there any other news?" Chi Cangmei said indifferently, trying her best to control her emotions.

"Yes, the target is suspected to be at the Earth Dipper Stage now and his strength has doubled compared to before."

The guard was very nervous as he was worried that Chi Cangmei would kill him in anger. He responded extremely cautiously, "Also, it is said that our operation is not going too well because the enemy is too strong. It's not that we aren't doing enough. We have done everything we can and still haven't succeeded."

PA!

A teacup smashed on the guard's face. He quivered and his face violently twitched as blood trickled down his face.

It wasn't Chi Cangmei venting her anger. Instead, the descendant of a powerful clan couldn't control his anger anymore. He roared, "What do you mean the enemy is too strong?! What bullshit reason is that?"

"Enough." The roaring man froze after one word from Chi Cangmei and didn't dare to utter another.

"Is that really the message from the frontline?" Chi Cangmei asked.

The guard frantically vowed that everything he said was true.

"The commander-in-chief of the front line is Du Xingchuan. I know what kind of person he is. It has to be true since it's from him." Chi Cangmei rubbed her forehead, looking exhausted. "Tell Du Xingchuan to continue the operation. Make sure he sends a wind shadow hawk with his next message."

If she saw the details of the operation, she might understand how strong the target was!

The guard bowed respectfully and left in a hurry.

The room fell silent again.

Chi Cangmei pursed her lips and fell into contemplation. Her beautiful face clouded over.

The descendants of the wealthy families who were acting as her assistants looked at each other in dismay. They felt like they were sitting on thorns and couldn't stand the suffocating atmosphere anymore.

Someone couldn't help muttering. "What twist and turn nonsense. It's a major setback..."

Chi Cangmei's razor-sharp eyes shifted to him and made his entire body stiffen. He mumbled awkwardly, "I'm just whining."

Chi Cangmei said coldly, "Whining? I don't think you have much ability, but you are indeed good at whining."

All the assistants' faces turned glum.

"Don't forget what I said earlier. If the operation fails, I will never forgive you all!"

Chi Cangmei got up and left the room. All the assistants stared at her in a dumbfounded manner as she left.

.....

The Castle of Darkness.

"Little Sister Xia Zhi, what did I do wrong to make you want to kill me?" a voice sounded in the darkness.

But upon a closer look, a teenager was standing in the darkness. He was dressed in a robe whiter than snow and had pearly white teeth and red lips. His eyes were as bright as the stars, and he had a violet lotus birthmark between his brows.

Although he was young, he radiated wisps of sacred violet light around his body. He looked extraordinary, like a sacred child.

The youngster was of course Chi Cangfeng, who possessed the golden sea violet lotus bloodline.

Different from his usual flawless appearance, he had a ghastly blood-colored finger mark on his throat.

As he stood opposite a closed door, his eyes flashed with a hint of anger.

When he visited Xia Zhi in the past, even if she ignored him, at least she didn't try to kill him.

However, this time, before he said a word, Xia Zhi grabbed him by his throat. She would have twisted his neck if the Queen of Dark Night hadn't acted in time!

Chi Cangfeng was certain that Xia Zhi wanted to kill him. Besides being shocked, he couldn't help but feel angry. He couldn't accept it.

The Queen of Dark Night had locked Xia Zhi in a forbidden room, but Chi Cangfeng still couldn't leave the matter at that. He didn't want revenge. Instead, he wanted to know the reason!

"I not only want to kill you, but also want to kill your older sister," an indifferent and ethereal voice rang behind the closed door.

"You...you want to kill my sister?" Chi Cangfeng was completely bewildered. It was only after a while that he asked irritably, "Xia Zhi, why? There has to be a reason. Can you tell me?"

No one responded.

An angry voice continued to echo in the darkness, "Okay, if you don't tell me, then I'll investigate it myself. When I find out the reason, I'll solve it all myself!"

After a long while, Chi Cangfeng gritted his teeth, turned around, and strode away.

There wasn't the slightest sound from behind the closed door.

A kind-looking old man was sitting in an empty room in the castle, gently stroking a black, three-inch pendant that looked like an ancient sword.

The old man's expression held a mixture of concentration, seriousness and solemnity.

That pendant was a treasure that has been with him for most of his life. It had fought the world with him and defeated many experts in the world!

"The kid of the Chi Family has left," a charming and ethereal voice sounded in his ear.

The old man was taken aback at first but he then smiled slightly. "Miss, are you worried that he will bring trouble to Lin Xun?"

"I'm not just worried. I know it's bound to happen."

"Yes, I understand what you mean. I will head to the Stargazing Platform and ask who bears the consequences if someone breaks the rules," the old man said softly.

"Sorry to trouble you."

"It's no trouble. Considering the time, if Lin Xun is still alive, he will soon arrive in the Forbidden City. I'll just take this opportunity to go out and find out."

"When you come back, go and check on Xia Zhi. I sensed that she already knows a lot of things. Otherwise, she wouldn't want to kill Chi Cangfeng today."

A complicated expression surfaced in the old man's wrinkly eyes. "Only matters concerning Lin Xun can cause her to react like this..."

As the old man spoke, he put away the sword-shaped pendant, got up and left the room.

.....

On the banks of the river.

The bamboo hat man looked glum and didn't utter a word.

He was the man Chi Cangmei called Du Xingchuan, the commander-in-chief of the operation.

He had received an order from Chi Cangmei to continue the operation.

Seven days had passed since he received the order, but they still saw no sign of their target!

However, Du Xingchuan was certain that their target hadn't left the river!

The entire river was under their control, so they would immediately notice any signs of the target. It was impossible for their target to escape again.

"We can't hold on much longer..."

Du Xingchuan sighed inwardly. During those seven days, they had consumed a huge amount of supplies, and the remaining supplies were unlikely to last them long.

However, he was most troubled that their target hadn't shown up in seven days. This made many people on his side become restless and lose their fighting spirit.

Their situation would only get worse if it continued!

What to do? Du Xingchuan was at a loss on what to do.