

Prodigies 661

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Chapter 661: Challenge the High Clans

The Forbidden City, The Ruyi Merchant Company.

Zuo Baolin was sitting leisurely in a chair made from cloud hardwood, smoking a pipe carved from ink crow jade.

Behind him was a beautiful and polite young woman in skimpy clothes massaging his shoulders.

On the other side, a musician was playing a melody on the zither. The simple and elegant tune created a tranquil atmosphere in the room.

Zuo Baolin was the boss of the Ruyi Merchant Company and also a member of the Zuo Clan, one of the seven high clans.

He had little talent in cultivation and was mediocre in other aspects, so he didn't hold much status within the clan. But regardless, he was still a member of the Zuo Clan.

That status alone helped him become the boss of the Ruyi Merchant Company and made people of the same trade respect him.

He made a lot of money every day by just relying on his business contacts, so he lived an extravagant life.

Bang!

The door of the room flung open, followed by a housekeeper-looking old man hobbling in like he had suffered a beating.

Immediately, the disruption destroyed the tranquil atmosphere in the room and startled Zuo Baolin. The pipe visibly trembled in his hands, and the sparks from the pipe touched his lips. He grimaced and roared in fury, "Bastard! What's the panic?! Do you want to die?!"

"Master, something bad is happening!" the housekeeper cried anxiously.

"Hmph! What's wrong? Don't tell me the sky has fallen?" Zuo Baolin drew a deep breath and dismissed the young woman and the old man playing the zither with a wave of his hand. "Old Ma, if your daughter wasn't my concubine, then I would have kicked you out for your irritating temperament!"

Old Ma broke out in cold sweat, looking grim. "Master, something really happened! I am just doing this for your sake."

"Fine, tell me briefly," Zuo Baolin said calmly. He had always envied the big shots for being able to stay calm and collected, so he tried to adopt the same facade.

As the saying went, a person who was able to maintain a straight face despite the thousands of things on their mind could accomplish great things. That was the style that a big shot should have. It would be too disgraceful and embarrassing to panic at every little thing.

“Yes...the people from the Lin Clan are here again, and they want to take away our Ruyi Merchant Company!” Housekeeper Ma cried sullenly.

“Hmph! The Lin Clan has a death wish! Do they think they can do anything just because Lin Xun has come back?!” Zuo Baolin snorted disdainfully.

He became calmer and calmer as he spoke, “The Lin Clan isn’t even considered a low aristocratic clan in the Forbidden City. They are nothing compared to our Zuo Clan. They are dreaming if they think they can take the Ruyi Merchant Company from our hands!”

“Master, you...why don’t you go out and take a look? I think they are serious this time.” Old Ma trembled uncontrollably.

“Old Ma, can you calm down? Huh? Even if Lin Xun came in person, so what? No matter how powerful he is, how will he dare to be openly hostile to our Zuo Clan?” Zuo Baolin shot a contemptuous look at Old Ma, hating the fact that he couldn’t get rid of the useless old man. Can’t he control his panic for a minute? How embarrassing!

“But...” Old Ma tried to explain when Zuo Baolin impatiently interrupted him, “Old Ma, you are an idiot. You are too short-sighted and don’t understand the power of the high clans. In the Forbidden City, even the imperial family won’t dare to offend us, let alone Lin Xun?”

He continued in frustration. “Remember, your master is from the Zuo Clan! Not many dare to provoke me in the Forbidden City!”

Boom!

At that moment, a distant ear-splitting explosion shook the tables and chairs in the house and shattered the teacups.

“Huh?” Zuo Baolin sprang up abruptly, face turning ashen. “Could...they really dare to do something? They must have a death wish!”

PA!

He lashed out with a slap across Old Ma’s face. “Old bastard, something big is happening outside! Why didn’t you tell me earlier?!”

Old Ma was almost in tears, clutching his cheek in aggrievement. He had already said that something bad was happening from the moment he stepped in, but no one believed him, so why was he being blamed?

“I will deal with you later!” Zuo Baolin was no longer able to keep his composure, no longer able to imitate the way that the big shots stayed calm and collected at all times.

“Damn it, I want to see who dares to come to my territory and act wildly! Today...I...”

His voice abruptly stopped like a duck being strangled.

The great hall of the Ruyi Merchant Company was in utter disorder with tables, chairs and counters overturned and ornaments littered everywhere. Even the walls and pillars had suffered unimaginable damage.

Pools of blood dotted the hall and corpses were strewn across.

They were the guards of the Ruyi Merchant Company, but now they were all dead!

“They...they actually dare to target the Zuo Clan’s property! Does the Lin Clan not want to live anymore?!”

Zuo Baolin’s face became livid and smoke seemed to be spiraling from his seven orifices. He had long lost his composure and calmness.

He spotted the culprit right away.

His appearance was very conspicuous. He had a burly and tall body like a majestic mountain towering into the sky. Even if he was simply standing there indifferently, a stifling oppressive aura filled the room.

He wielded a blood-red saber in his hand. Drops of blood trickled down the saber body, breaking into many smaller droplets and creating striking red splashes.

“You...how dare you! Do you know the consequences of your actions? Do you know what price you will have to pay for angering the Zuo Clan?” Zuo Baolin screeched in anger, but his heart was filled with indescribable panic.

It was terrifying to face a ruthless character that dared to break into the Ruyi Merchant Company and start a massacre.

Only a streak of blade light responded to him.

It was swift and direct like it was slaughtering a chicken. Zuo Baolin collapsed to the ground with a thud. Even as he died, he couldn’t understand how someone could be so fearless to kill without a single word.

Was it out of disdain or was he a man of few words?

Zuo Baolin didn’t know before he died.

Meanwhile, Old Ma immediately went limp and fainted on the spot.

“What a good blade!”

It wasn’t until Third Old Zhu left the area that he wiped the blood stains off the saber, eyes gleaming with joy.

The blade was from Lin Xun and was called Prairie Fire. It was said to be an ancient treasure from the Demon Elephant Clan in the Spirit Burial Sea.

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Similar incidents happened one after another in different areas of the Forbidden City.

Xingyuan Treasure Corporation.

Ruijin Workshop.

Yuyuan Restaurant.

The Lin Clan properties that were occupied by the Zuo and Qin Clans all suffered similar bloodbaths.

The major forces that had been paying close attention to the movements of the Zuo and Qin Clans had never thought that the Mind Cleansing Peak Lin Clan would be the first to attack!

The incidents caused a great commotion.

The previous night, Lin Xun had stormed the three collateral branches of the Lin Clan and launched a killing spree.

Who would have imagined that the next night, the Mind Cleansing Peak Lin Clan would launch another strong operation and attack the properties owned by the Zuo and Qin Clans?

Not only that, but they also launched into action right away and allowed no chance of negotiation!

“What is wrong with the Lin Clan? Are they crazy? Those are two high clans! How dare they attack them without thinking?”

Many people couldn't believe what they heard.

It stirred up clamors of discussions. Some didn't think that Lin Xun would be so crazy, and they believed that he had the backing of someone.

“That guy has disappeared for half a year, but he is as fierce and ruthless as before. He might even be more tyrannical. He directly slapped the faces of two high clans! When had something so unbelievable happened before?!”

Many cultivators gasped, astonished by Lin Xun's power.

Back then, Lin Xun dared to force the Marquis of Rising Sky to kneel and slap Princess Linghuang in public.

Now, he was even more amazing. The day he returned to the Forbidden City, he challenged the top clans in the city.

“That kid is likely going to tumble and fall. Even if he is a rune founder and even if he possesses astonishing strength, he is alone. How can he challenge the high clans by himself?”

“Even a Life Death Stage King wouldn't dare to rashly challenge a high clan!”

“It seems that he is still too young and naive. He thinks he can do whatever he wants in the Forbidden City after earning some achievements. He must not know that the reason the high clans can stand for thousands of years in the empire is not only because of their strength. A behemoth such as the high clans can easily kill someone like Lin Xun.”

Some powerful forces weren't optimistic about Lin Xun's situation, thinking that he had been blinded by his previous victories. Did he think he could challenge the high clans just because he solved his clan's internal strife?

How ridiculous!

What was a high clan?

Even in the entire empire, they were considered behemoths. Their powers spanned across the world!

It was no exaggeration to say that, apart from the imperial family, the Qinglu Academy and the Rune Master Association, the seven high clans were the most respected in the empire!

Based on that, to outsiders, Lin Xun was biting off more than he could chew if he thought he could challenge two high clans.

Amidst the uproar, many people ridiculed Lin Xun's decision and had nothing but negative opinions about it.

Lin Xun, you are indeed a rare young genius who overshadows your peers, possesses many dazzling titles, and captures the attention of everyone. But if you think you can challenge the high clans based on that, that's too ridiculous.

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Chapter 662: Huge Misunderstanding

Mind Cleansing Peak.

While a storm was blowing in the outside world, Lin Xun was welcoming an important guest.

It was Zhao Tailai, the owner of the Sky Martial Arena!

"We meet again after half a year. Little friend, your presence is even more remarkable than before. I can't help but look at you differently now," Zhao Tailai exclaimed.

"Elder, you are over-praising me." Lin Xun smiled very modestly.

He knew that the person sitting opposite him was a cunning old fox, so there had to be a reason for him to come.

Coincidentally, he also happened to have something to ask him about.

"Over-praising? Hahaha, little friend, you are too modest. Others might not know about your feats in the Spirit Burial Sea, but I do know a little." Zhao Tailai smiled. "I heard you single-handedly slaughtered the heroes of various clans there and no one could stop you. How many people in the world could achieve such a feat? You also seemed to have obtained a lot of opportunities and treasures in the Deva Secret Realm. I can't help but envy you."

Lin Xun narrowed his eyes imperceptibly. "Elder, it seems like you know a lot. I wonder what brings you here today."

Zhao Tailai chuckled, "Someone entrusted me to visit you. Also, little friend, I believe you have a lot of questions that you want answers to, and I am willing to answer them for you."

"Who entrusted you?" Lin Xun asked bluntly.

Smiling cryptically, Zhao Tailai raised three fingers. "There are three distinguished people. Guess who they are?"

"Miss Jingxuan must be one of them," Lin Xun answered without any hesitation.

"Smart!" Zhao Tailai complimented. "Before Princess Jingxuan left a few months ago, she repeatedly told me to take action and provide you with as much help as possible when I heard about you."

"She...what else did she say?" A warmth surged in his heart as he thought of the bright, confident and beautiful woman. She thought about me even when she left.

"Little friend, what else do you want to know?"

Zhao Tailai smiled like a weasel as he swept a strange gaze over Lin Xun.

"Elder, can you stop smiling like that..." He couldn't help feeling uncomfortable.

"Is it too creepy?"

"It seems like you are self-aware."

"Hey, don't look at me like that. Don't you think you should tell me more about what is the relationship between you and Jingxuan now?" Zhao Tailai's eyes blazed, and his smile became more and more ambiguous, making Lin Xun feel even more uncomfortable.

That old man clearly has some misunderstanding.

Lin Xun said warily, "Elder, don't think too much. There is no special relationship between Miss Jingxuan and I."

Zhao Tailai sneered. "Since there is nothing, why do you have to explain? Did I ask you about it? Besides, since you explained it, why bother to cover it up? We are on the same side and we are just chatting, so why are you so nervous?"

Lin Xun felt dizzy from the barrage of rhetorical questions. After a long moment of being speechless, he sighed melancholically, "Elder, I am already very troubled by the matters of Mind Cleansing Peak. How would I be in the mood to discuss other things with you?"

Zhao Tailai rolled his eyes. "Fine, change the topic. Kid, I'll tell you now, don't expect to get some answers from me later." He took a sip of tea and closed his eyes, resting his mind.

The old fox is so unreasonable. Lin Xun complained to himself.

Then, he got up and said, "In that case, please have some tea first and rest for a while, Elder. After I finish dealing with the affairs, I will come to ask for your advice." He turned around and left.

Zhao Tailai was relatively calm at first, but when he saw Lin Xun's figure about to disappear at the door and he didn't turn his head back at all, he couldn't sit still anymore.

"Little brat, are you planning to leave me here? It doesn't matter if you delay my affairs, but if you delay me going back, even Jingxuan can't protect you!" Zhao Tailai grumbled, but he immediately beckoned with a smile. "Come here, quickly come back, let's have a good chat this time."

“Fine, but Elder, you have to promise to speak truthfully and get to the point,” Lin Xun said fearlessly.

Zhao Tailai gnashed his teeth while muttering in his mind. The kid must have guessed something which is why he sounds so confident, right?

He couldn’t help asking, “Did you...guess something?”

Lin Xun grinned, turned around, and leisurely sat back down in the chair again. “Elder, I just came back yesterday, but you came to see me so urgently. You must have something to discuss with me. I would be stupid if I couldn’t guess what’s going on.”

“You sly little fox!” Zhao Tailai scolded, but he couldn’t help but sigh inwardly. It’s only been half a year since I saw him but he’s getting harder and harder to fool.

His expression quickly turned solemn as he stated his true purpose of coming.

It turned out that the emperor and empress entrusted Zhao Tailai to pass on a message to Lin Xun.

“Kid, you have caused a huge disturbance and turned the world upside down, but no matter what, I have promised you that I will keep you safe!” Zhao Tailai repeated the great emperor’s words without any modifications.

“It turns out that the influential figure in the imperial palace is the emperor?!” Lin Xun cried out, shuddering inwardly.

How would he not be shocked? When he first came to the Forbidden City, he received a secret letter urging him to turn the world upside down once he entered the Forbidden City.

At the time, he wondered who would dare to say something so bold.

Now, he finally understood. It turned out that the influential figure in the imperial palace was the emperor, the supreme ruler of the Ziyao Empire!

“But, why?” Lin Xun couldn’t understand the reason for the emperor to care so much about him.

“It’s very simple, you are a direct descendant of Duke Daocheng, and you are an official student of Lu Boya. Because of your identity, even if you were trash, His Majesty would take care of you,” Zhao Tailai finally revealed the truth.

Duke Daochen was Lin Daochen, Lin Xun’s great-grandfather, a true Life Death Stage King. He once fought for the empire and earned great military achievements. Even after his death, the empire would not forget what he had done.

Lu Boya was, of course, Mister Lu, a mysterious old man. Mister Lu had rescued Lin Xun when he was young, then raised him and taught him the art of runes.

However, Lin Xun had long speculated that Mister Lu had an extremely mysterious and remarkable background based on the fact that the Queen of Dark Night and the empress had both been searching for him and looking for traces of him.

Zhao Tailai’s words further proved that the emperor was acquainted with Mister Lu!

"I see..." Lin Xun muttered.

Anyone would be stoked if the emperor looked upon them with favor, but Lin Xun was neither happy nor unhappy after learning the truth.

Many memories and past events flooded his mind. He recalled rumors about his great-grandfather Duke Daochen and Mister Lu who raised him since he was a child.

"If you have some free time, come to the palace for a chat. From now on, you will not be considered an outsider."

Zhao Tailai relayed a sentence from the empress, startling Lin Xun again. The words were not only friendly but also exceptionally friendly.

"About..." Lin Xun looked at Zhao Tailai.

"How would I know?" Zhao Tailai donned a strange expression. "But if I were to guess it has to be about the unclear relationship between you and Jingxuan. Otherwise, given the usual temperament of the empress, she wouldn't pay any attention to you."

"Is it related to Miss Jingxuan?" Lin Xun tried to digest everything.

"Nonsense!" Zhao Tailai snapped. "Although the emperor has many descendants, Jingxuan is the only descendant born of the emperor and the empress. Before she left, she repeatedly reminded us to take care of you! Who would believe that you two only have an ordinary relationship?"

"But...it's a misunderstanding. There is nothing special between Miss Jingxuan and I." Lin Xun looked confused.

"Misunderstanding? Haha, okay, go and explain it to the emperor and the empress yourself. See if they believe it or not." Zhao Tailai narrowed his eyes at Lin Xun as though he was saying 'stop pretending to be a victim!'

"I won't go," Lin Xun bluntly refused.

Is he joking? If that's the case, why would I want to explain myself to the couple who held the supreme authority of the empire?

Who knows what they will think of me?

Won't they see me as a guy with bad intentions towards their daughter?

The more Lin Xun thought about it, the dizzier he felt. He hadn't been separated from Zhao Jingxuan for long. Why did things suddenly turn to that?

He was most troubled by the fact that Zhao Jingxuan had gone to the Ancient Wasteland Domain, so no one would believe it was a misunderstanding no matter how he explained it.

The contemptuous look on Zhao Tailai's face made Lin Xun realize that the misunderstanding was only growing.

"How troublesome..." Lin Xun sighed.

Zhao Tailai scolded, "Boy, what are you talking about? Troublesome? Do you know what will happen if the emperor and the empress find out what you said?"

"It's a misunderstanding. I said it was all a misunderstanding..." Lin Xun muttered helplessly.

There was nothing between him and Zhao Jingxuan, yet the matter seemed to be spiraling out of control. For Lin Xun, it was the first time he experienced something like that, so he felt a little unprepared and annoyed.

Zhao Tailai snorted coldly, "Hmph, kid, you don't know how lucky you are. Other people would be filled with gratitude and excitement to receive such a blessing. But you look so troubled. I don't know if I should say you are dramatic or that you deserve a beating."

Dramatic?

A beating?

Lin Xun's face darkened and just as he was about to say something, hurried footsteps from outside the hall caught his attention.

Soon, Lin Huaiyuan rushed in, reporting, "Patriarch, Lin Zhong and the others have encountered obstacles in their operation. The matter is a little serious and will require your decision!"

"What kind of obstruction?" Lin Xun scrunched his brows.

Lin Huaiyuan quickly explained, "A member of the Qin Clan called Qin Ziming is refusing to give up on a property of our Lin Clan. It wouldn't be a big deal to get rid of him alone, but his wife is a descendant of a prince from the imperial family. He and his wife are there right now. It's...it's going to be difficult to deal with them..."

A member of the imperial family?

No wonder Uncle Zhong and the others are finding it difficult. We would bring trouble upon ourselves if we offended the imperial family over matters of the Zuo and Qin Clans.

But...

Lin Xun turned to Zhao Tailai, grinning. "Elder, do you still remember what His Majesty said to you?"

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Chapter 663: Underlying Turmoil

Zhao Tailai suddenly had the urge to punch Lin Xun's smiling face.

The smile was too obnoxious. It was as though it was saying 'I have the upper hand and you can't find any excuse to refuse to do as I said.'

The kid had brought out the name of the great emperor, so how would Zhao Tailai dare to act cold and indifferent?

"That..." Zhao Tailai stuttered, reluctant to take action.

But Lin Xun was still grinning. "What? Elder, don't tell me you don't remember the words of the great emperor."

"Kid, you are too obnoxious!" Zhao Tailai gnashed his teeth and finally drew a deep breath and rose to his feet, eyebrows furrowing contemptuously. With a wide wave of his hand, he said, "Come on, let's go take a look to see which descendant of the imperial family is bringing me so much trouble!"

He planned to vent his anger on someone else since he couldn't do anything to Lin Xun.

"Elder, how courageous you are! You are indeed a role model for my generation. Your domineering and imposing aura makes me feel ashamed," Lin Xun flattered him.

"Kid! You are so obnoxious!" Zhao Tailai scoffed, but in truth, he was very happy and satisfied with Lin Xun's sudden change of attitude.

He knew well how aggressive and tough the youngster usually was in front of outsiders.

Soon, Lin Xun left Mind Cleansing Peak with Zhao Tailai and Lin Huaiyuan.

Lin Huaiyuan could already tell that Zhao Tailai had an extraordinary identity. On the way, he seized an opportunity to ask more about him, "Patriarch, who is this elder?"

"A cunning old fox who works for the big shots in the palace. He is a ruthless and vicious character so you should be careful," said Lin Xun casually.

"Huh?" Lin Huaiyuan looked baffled.

"Kid, stop talking nonsense. I'm just a hard-working person who runs errands for people. How am I ruthless and vicious?" Zhao Tailai rolled his eyes.

Lin Huaiyuan immediately stepped forward. "Elder, thank you for your help this time. I should tell you more about Qin Ziming's wife..."

"Does it matter who she is? You don't need to tell me." Zhao Tailai declined Lin Huaiyuan's kind intention with a wave of his hand.

"Elder, you have such an imposing attitude!" Lin Huaiyuan complimented.

He was older than Zhao Tailai, but he acted like a junior. Even his flattery was very sincere and serious with no hint of exaggeration or hypocrisy.

The corners of Lin Xun's lips twitched as he watched on.

As expected, no one in the older generation is ordinary. They know when to put on airs and know when to act humble.

Lin Xun also knew that Lin Huaiyuan was helping him, but he didn't want Lin Huaiyuan to be looked down upon by Zhao Tailai because of that.

After all, Lin Huaiyuan was a member of the Lin Clan.

"Uncle, there's no harm in telling us more," Lin Xun urged casually.

Zhao Tailai fell silent when he heard Lin Xun address Lin Huaiyuan as 'uncle.' He realized that Lin Xun was unhappy with his attitude towards Lin Huaiyuan.

He smiled. "That's a good suggestion. If you know yourself and know your enemy, then you will never be defeated. Fellow cultivator, sorry to trouble you."

Lin Huaiyuan also understood Lin Xun's kind intention. Lin Xun's imperceptible act of protection felt like a warm current flowing over his heart, making his eyes well up.

After Lin Xun returned yesterday, he wiped away everyone like a demon god and made Lin Huaiyuan even more in awe and apprehensive of him.

However, it was ultimately awe. He was awed by Lin Xun's ability and power.

Now, Lin Xun's inadvertent action made him realize that his nephew wasn't the cruel and cold-blooded person he thought he was. At least, in front of outsiders, he still remembered to protect the dignity of his elders.

It was rare to find someone like him!

Lin Xun never thought that such a small act would make Lin Huaiyuan submit with admiration.

Submission and surrender were completely different.

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Auspicious Sun Treasure Pavilion.

It was a well-known luxury store with a long history in the Forbidden City that was very popular with the wealthy and noble cultivators.

The store originally belonged to the Lin Clan, but the Qin Clan took control of it after the bloody tragedy more than ten years ago.

The person in charge of the Auspicious Sun Treasure Pavilion was Qin Ziming, a member of the Qin Clan. He also had another identity: the son-in-law of Prince Yunyong.

Qin Ziming was already able to do everything smoothly in the Forbidden City with just his status as a descendant of the Qin Clan.

But coupled with his identity as the son-in-law of Prince Yunyong, he was akin to a tiger grown wings in the Forbidden City.

Today, the Auspicious Sun Treasure Pavilion was unusually quiet.

Even the long street where the Auspicious Sun Treasure Pavilion was located was deserted. There was not a figure in sight.

Qin Ziming's face was dark, and his brows were tightly wrinkled as he sat in the main hall of the Auspicious Sun Treasure Pavilion.

On the other hand, his wife, Zhao Yunzhi, looked extremely calm and graceful. She was dressed in the cloud palace dress of the imperial family with her long hair bunched up in a high bun, making her look even more proud and conceited.

A group of subordinates of the Qin Clan guarded the area, ready to act. Although they hadn't unsheathed their weapons, their bodies were already releasing a murderous aura, turning the atmosphere chilling and oppressive.

"Is the Lin Clan planning to rebel?" Qin Ziming was very puzzled as to why Lin Xun dared to challenge the Qin and Zuo Clans.

The high clans were akin to the towering mountains of the empire, how could anyone shake them?

In Qin Ziming's view, the Lin Clan was like an ant trying to shake a tree.

However, a crazy and absurd thing actually happened.

Qin Ziming had received intel that the thirteen properties owned by the Qin and Zuo Clans in the Forbidden City had all been successfully seized by the Lin Clan!

That didn't mean that the Zuo Clan and the Qin Clan were incompetent. Instead, it meant that they hadn't mobilized their true powers.

"I don't know what the clan is thinking! Why haven't they fought back? Are they going to watch the Lin Clan step on their faces and do nothing?"

Qin Ziming felt a surge of strong anger and dissatisfaction in his heart. The incidents had already drawn the attention of many powerful forces in the city. If they continued to do nothing, then they would be humiliated to death.

"Ziming, don't worry. The Lin Clan might be fearless but as long as I am here, they wouldn't dare to set foot into our Auspicious Sun Treasure Pavilion!" Zhao Yunzhi gracefully reassured, her voice full of arrogance.

After all, she was a member of the imperial family. Given her status, almost no one in the Forbidden City would dare to touch her.

As she was speaking, she shot a disdainful glance outside the hall.

Only Lin Zhong, Third Old Zhu and Xiaoke were standing on the quiet and deserted street.

Once the Auspicious Sun Treasure Pavilion was captured, then they would regain all the properties of the Lin Clan.

However, the Auspicious Sun Treasure Pavilion was a tough nut to crack. Lin Zhong and the others didn't fear Qin Ziming, but Zhao Yunzhi.

Therefore, they didn't act directly like they did before, but waited for a clear order from Lin Xun.

"They might not dare to act rashly now, but that doesn't mean they won't later." Qin Ziming frowned, unable to relax. "Don't forget that Lin Xun had the guts to force the Marquis of Rising Sky to kneel in

public at the empress' birthday banquet. Additionally, he slapped Princes Linghuang in the Qinglu Academy before. Do you think...someone like him would be afraid of the imperial family?"

Zhao Yunzhi's face darkened. "Even so, don't forget that he has already destroyed relationships with the Qin and the Zuo Clans. Will he want to anger the imperial family as well?"

Qin Ziming thought for a moment before he answered in a troubled tone, "When you're covered with lice, you don't itch! Maybe he doesn't care! Who knows what he is thinking? I still don't understand why he has the guts to go against the high clans!"

Zhao Yunzhi snorted, "Maybe he wants to die. Ziming, don't worry. I have already sent someone to invite my father over. I believe he will be here any time now!"

"What? Is my father-in-law also coming?" Qin Ziming's face lit up and his frown eased. His father-in-law was Prince Yunyong! A noble of the upper class. The Auspicious Sun Treasure Pavilion would be safe with him around!

Zhao Yunzhi said proudly, "That's right, even if Lin Xun comes in person, he will have to leave with his tail between his legs!"

A servant rushed in, reporting, "Lord, the elders of our clan have issued an order that you must persevere. The elite forces of the Qin and Zuo Clans will be here to assist very soon!"

Qin Ziming sprang up, face glowing with excitement. "Great! The Qin and Zuo Clans have finally made a move. The Lin Clan is going to pay a heavy price for their actions!"

Prince Yunyong was coming to oversee everything and the Qin and Zuo Clans were sending elite forces to provide assistance. For Qin Ziming, it was a blessing from heaven.

All the worries and troubles had been cleared from his mind. He held his head high, elated and satisfied. He was even eager to take action, wishing to quickly eliminate Lin Zhong and the others at the door!

"Haha, karma is coming for him! Since last night, that kid has caused so many storms and destroyed the peace in the Forbidden City. He is a demon! We must use this chance to launch an unforgettable blow at him!" Zhao Yunzhi's voice was ice-cold, and her face was crossed with arrogance and pride.

Even the servants in the hall looked relieved and excited.

The situation had changed!

The Zuo Clan and the Qin Clan finally bared their fangs and mobilized their powers. They would no doubt deal an unexpected and thunderous blow to the Lin Clan.

Only then could they wash away their shame and defend the dignity of the high clans!

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Chapter 664: The Show Begins

There seemed to be no one on the quiet and deserted street, but spies from various clans had long been hiding across the street, paying close attention to the situation.

From the day that Lin Xun returned to the Forbidden City to him storming the collateral branches of the Lin Clan alone and fearlessly tearing the faces of the Zuo and the Qin Clans, the Forbidden City had erupted with commotion countless times.

The storm continued to rage, keeping every major clan on tenterhooks. Everyone was paying close attention to what was going to happen to Lin Xun and when he was going to stop.

Additionally, everyone was interested in what sort of counterattacks would the Zuo and Qin Clan launch in response to the Mind Cleansing Peak Lin Clan's provocation and challenge.

Now that the situation had reached such a state, they were close to receiving an answer.

This was because today, the Mind Cleansing Peak Lin Clan had reclaimed all the properties that originally belonged to the Lin Clan. Like a whirlwind, they swept back everything that belonged to them from the hands of the Zuo and Qin Clans.

Now, only the Auspicious Sun Treasure Pavilion remained to be seized back.

If the Lin Clan captured the remaining property, then the prestige of the Zuo Clan and the Qin Clan would suffer a severe blow.

However, would that happen?

Definitely not!

The Zuo and Qin Clans, as part of the seven high clans in the Forbidden City, would never allow such a shameful loss to happen.

If they wanted to strike back and wash away the humiliation, then they would do everything to stop Lin Xun from taking the Auspicious Sun Treasure Pavilion!

"The Zuo and Qin Clans are so calm. They hadn't made any movements since last night. It's as though they completely dismissed Lin Xun's provocation."

Secretly, spies from different clans exchanged their opinions.

"Perhaps they are just conserving their strength. Once they make a move, it will be a fatal one!"

Many people shared the same thought.

After all, they were the high clans. They wielded mighty powers. They held a powerful status in the empire. No one would believe they would tolerate such provocations.

"The Lin Clan is too crazy. Even if they desperately want revenge, what makes them think they are strong enough to challenge the high clans now?"

"Lin Xun is the crazy one. He just solved the internal strife of the Lin Clan last night, but before the clan has fully integrated, he is already challenging the Zuo and Qin Clans. Only someone as fearless and arrogant as Lin Xun would dare to do that."

Lin Xun was known for his courage and boldness in the Forbidden City, but no one could imagine why he dared to do such a thing.

Some clans even gave Lin Xun the title of Lin the Brave!

The way that Lin Xun behaved was indeed too fearless and brazen. Everything that he had done made their jaws drop with disbelief.

When the Lin Clan directly challenged the Zuo and Qin Clan, the title Lin the Brave was becoming known by more and more people.

He was indeed too brave!

He could be described as crazy. No one would object to him being called Lin the Crazy.

After all, never had something so outrageous had ever happened in the thousands of years of the empire. The Lin Clan wasn't even regarded as an aristocratic family yet. Despite that, under the leadership of a fearless young man, it challenged the high clans. Only a lunatic would do something so crazy.

Not only that, but he also challenged more than one high clan, horrifying everyone!

"Does he want to die?"

"Lin the Brave will no doubt be badly beaten this time and might even cause the Lin Clan to be struck off from the empire! Once the high clans unleash their powers, how can one Lin Clan be able to withstand it?"

"What a pity! If Lin the Brave gets rid of his ruthless and tyrannical habit, then he could make earthshaking achievements in the future based on his title as a young rune founder. Unfortunately, he has to suffer for his arrogance and fearlessness."

Voices rang throughout the city, many not sounding too optimistic about Lin Xun's situation.

All eyes in the city were gathered on the Auspicious Sun Treasure Pavilion, paying close attention to every move there.

They all knew that a storm was about to break out there. Regardless of who won or lost, the entire Forbidden City, and even the entire empire, would be shaken.

"He's here!"

"Hey, Lin the Brave has come in person! Is he going to put all his eggs in one basket?"

"There is going to be a good show!"

Secretly, countless eyes shifted to the end of the quiet and empty street.

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"It seems that this place isn't as deserted as it appears." The moment Lin Xun set foot onto the street, he detected spies hiding in many dark corners with his tremendous spirit-sensing powers.

"Don't worry about them. They are just some little mice sent by the various clans," Zhao Tailai sounded unconcerned.

“Why do I have a feeling that a storm is coming...” Lin Huaiyuan sensed an indescribable urgency and oppressive aura.

Lin Xun smiled without commenting.

The moment he went against the Zuo Clan and the Qin Clan, he had already expected to face such a situation, so he didn’t feel the slightest bit nervous or worried.

It was unknown what Zhao Tailai sensed, but he shot a glare at Lin Xun. “It seems like I can’t escape the task of cleaning up after your mess today...”

“Elder, able men always do more work.” Lin Xun grinned.

The three calmly strolled along the deserted street, surprising the many spies who were secretly observing everything.

“Zhao Tailai? The owner of Sky Martial Arena? He is said to be a member of the imperial family. Could Lin Xun want his help to reoccupy the Auspicious Sun Treasure Pavilion in a gentler way?” a spy speculated.

They knew very little about Zhao Tailai. Other than that he was the boss of the Sky Martial Arena and a part of the imperial family, they didn’t know anything else.

“It seems that Lin the Brave has also realized that the situation isn’t good, so he doesn’t dare to push on.”

Some spies sighed in disappointment. They thought that Lin Xun would act tough until the end. Who would have imagined that he would bring in help?

“Hmph! Who is Zhao Tailai? No one can save them when the higher-ups of the Zuo and Qin Clan come, unless it is a noble person!”

More spies sneered. They were more and more certain that Lin Xun could no longer withstand the pressure of the two high clans.

As they discussed and speculated, their gazes never shifted from the battlefield, lest they miss any details.

They all knew that the unprecedented storm sweeping through the Forbidden City would finally erupt in full at the Auspicious Sun Treasure Pavilion!

“Young Master, why did you come?” Lin Zhong, Third Old Zhu and Xiaoke were all surprised to see Lin Xun come in person.

“I came to take a look,” Lin Xun indifferently responded before he turned his eyes to the main hall of the Auspicious Sun Treasure Pavilion and saw Qin Ziming and Zhao Yunzhi sitting inside.

“Lin Xun?” At the same time, Qin Ziming and Zhao Yunzhi also noticed Lin Xun.

They were taken aback at first, but immediately after that, their eyes blazed with excitement. The kid actually came to die!

Zhao Yunzhi was the first to speak. "Are you Lin Xun? You have guts. Do you think that the Forbidden City is just a playground for you to do whatever you want?"

She had a graceful demeanor, but when she raised her chin as she spoke, she oozed arrogance. "No one dealt with you in the past because they didn't want to fuss about insignificant people like you. But since you provoked the imperial family and the high clans, you will have to face the consequences and die!"

A smile of confidence and superiority spread across Zhao Yunzhi's face. The Zuo and Qin Clans had already dispatched their forces. Furthermore, her father, Prince Yunyong, would also come as promised.

"I thought it would be a remarkable and important character, but it turned out to be someone like the Marquis of Rising Sky and Princess Linghuang." Lin Xun smiled calmly.

He turned to Zhao Tailai, asking curiously, "Elder, by the way, what kind of role does this woman have in the imperial family? Why do I feel that she is inferior to even the Marquis of Rising Sky and Princess Linghuang?"

"Your intuition is correct." Zhao Tailai nodded.

Lin Xun's smile widened.

His words, coupled with his mocking smile, felt like a knife stabbing into Zhao Yunzhi's heart. She flew into a rage, unable to remain calm anymore.

"You...you...have a sharp tongue. Do you not want to live anymore?!" she exasperatedly snapped.

"Just you wait, soon you will cry and beg for mercy!" she screamed in fury.

Qin Ziming frowned and stepped forward to speak, "Lin Xun, you might not understand your current situation yet. Your Lin Clan has completely infuriated the Qin and Zuo Clans with what you have done. They have already dispatched forces here to deal with you. How can you still act so arrogant at such a time?" The threat seemed too brusque and direct.

However, the spies hiding in the shadows perked up. Their guesses were correct. The Zuo and Qin Clans indeed planned to launch a thunderous blow at Lin Xun here!

Lin Zhong and Lin Huaiyuan trembled inwardly. The situation was more serious than they had thought.

Only Lin Xun remained incredibly calm, or rather, he never wavered from the beginning. "If that's the case, it's even better. I have long wanted to experience the abilities of the Zuo and Qin Clans."

So arrogant!

Everyone, including Qin Ziming, Zhao Yunzhi and the spies in the shadows, had the same thought. Lin Xun was as arrogant and wild as rumored!

He dared to say that he wants to take a look at the abilities of the Zuo and Qin Clans!

He has a death wish!

As though Lin Xun didn't notice their change of expression, he continued, "But, before that, on behalf of the Lin Clan, I will take back what originally belonged to us!"

Before his voice faded, Zhao Yunzhi couldn't stand it anymore. She shrieked, "How dare you! When did the Auspicious Sun Treasure Pavilion become your Lin Clan's? I dare you to try taking it!"

"It's about to begin!"

The spies opened their eyes wide, palpitating with excitement. The show was about to kick off!

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Chapter 665: Zhao Tailai's Impressive Power

Lin Xun looked startled, not because he was frightened by Zhao Yunzhi's threat, but because he realized that Zhao Yunzhi didn't recognize Zhao Tailai.

Otherwise, would she dare to act so arrogant and domineering?

"Hmph, do you not dare to? Lin Xun, don't tell me you are afraid." The corners of Zhao Yunzhi's lips quirked into a disdainful smile.

She thought that Lin Xun was incredibly fierce and arrogant, but it turned out to be not the case.

Her expression turned more and more smug. The young genius who had caused headaches in the Forbidden City was intimidated by her. It was something to be very proud of.

Her red lips slightly parted in a contemptuous smile as she looked at Lin Xun. "Since you are afraid, kneel and apologize and maybe I will give you..."

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Before she could finish speaking, an invisible palm slapped her fair face hard, sending her staggering and collapsing on her buttocks. She clutched her swollen cheek, screaming in agony.

Her face twisted with disbelief. She never thought that someone would slap her in the face.

It wasn't Lin Xun who did it, but Zhao Tailai instead.

He shook his head, sighing, "So embarrassing. I really can't stand it anymore."

Lin Xun couldn't help laughing. As an influential figure of the imperial family, Zhao Tailai was understandably uncomfortable to see Zhao Yunzhi behave in such a way.

Everyone else was stupefied, including Lin Zhong and Lin Huaiyuan. Although Zhao Yunzhi was obnoxious, she still had the status of an imperial family member.

She was the reason that they hadn't taken action against the Auspicious Sun Treasure Pavilion until now.

They never thought that the wealthy-looking middle-aged man who came with Lin Xun would brazenly slap her in the face.

"Who are you? How dare you hit her!" Qin Ziming raged, glowering at Zhao Tailai.

"How dare you slap me! I don't care who you are! Kill him! Kill him now!" Zhao Yunzhi screamed on the ground.

Under the gazes of everyone, she, a descendant of a prince, had been slapped in the face. It was the greatest embarrassment.

“Me? Kill me?” Zhao Tailai’s lips curled upwards, but there was no emotion in the smile. Instead, it sent a chill down everyone’s spine.

“What...do you want? I’ll tell you now, Prince Yunyong will come in person very soon!” Qin Ziming became very agitated.

The masters dispatched by the Zuo and Qin Clans still hadn’t arrived.

“Prince Yunyong?” Zhao Tailai’s smile became more chilling.

Qin Ziming started to panic. Why is the guy whom Lin Xun brought here more daring and terrifying than he is?

Who is he?

Lin Xun couldn’t help shaking his head. Qin Ziming and Zhao Yunzhi were only a pair of bullies who could take advantage of their status to bully regular people.

“Uncle Zhong, you guys take action now. Kill anyone who dares to stop you. As for other matters, just leave it to me,” he issued an order.

Lin Zhong, Third Old Zhu, Xiaoke and Lin Huaiyuan had long been waiting to act. Following Lin Xun’s order, they simultaneously turned to the inside of the Auspicious Sun Treasure Pavilion, murderous intent spreading outwards from them.

“You dare!” Qin Ziming roared, his expression dramatically changing.

Even Zhao Yunzhi shrieked in panic. She had completely lost her elegance and arrogance as she stood there distraught.

A fierce roar shook the world like a rumble of thunder, “How dare you! Who dares to cause trouble in front of me?!”

Following the roar, a mighty middle-aged man dressed in a wide-sleeved robe and a purple gold crown marched towards them from a distance, hands clasped behind his back.

Prince Yunyong, Zhao Xu!

All the spies who were secretly watching from afar shuddered. They never expected an imperial family member would arrive before the reinforcements of the Zuo and Qin Clans.

He was a fierce, brave and capable character who once commanded the imperial army in the Forbidden City and led soldiers on the battlefield in the frontier.

However, he was notorious for his violent and tyrannical temper. He turned to violence at the slightest disagreement and so was given the nickname Domineering General.

His arrival understandably caused a stir. The spies couldn’t help but gloat at Lin Xun’s crisis. As though they were watching a show, they were curious to see how Lin Xun would resolve the situation.

Lin Zhong and the others were also awed into silence. They had heard of Prince Yunyong Zhao Xu, but they never expected someone like him to come in person. Their situation immediately became difficult and tricky to deal with.

Zhao Yunzhi sprang to her feet in excitement as though her savior had come. "Father, you came at the right time. Those guys are trying to take over our Auspicious Sun Treasure Pavilion. They want to kill whoever dares to stop them. Even I...I have been humiliated by them!"

"Father-in-law, please get justice for us!" Qin Ziming also sobbed.

"You don't need to say anything. I already understood the situation. The reason I came here is to see what blind bastard dared to come here and cause trouble." Prince Yunyong, Zhao Xu's, voice was resounding.

As he was speaking, he arrived in front of the main hall. A fierce murderous rage covered his face.

He was an influential figure in the imperial family, and he wielded tremendous power. Not only was he brave and skilful in battle, but he was also a great cultivator of the Cyclic Derivation Stage.

The fact that his daughter and son-in-law were being bullied in the Forbidden City felt like a slap to his face!

The atmosphere was so austere that even the spies hiding in the shadows couldn't help but gasp out loud.

The Domineering General lived up to his reputation. He blatantly displayed his domineering bearing as soon as he arrived.

How was Lin Xun going to resolve the situation?

The consequence of angering Zhao Xu was much more serious than slaughtering the people of the Zuo and Qin Clans!

Lin Zhong and the others felt their hearts become a little heavy. They had taken everything into account, but they never thought that Zhao Xu, a mighty prince, would intervene.

"Haha."

But amid the tense atmosphere, Zhao Tailai chuckled. He studied Zhao Xu ruminatively before he asked sternly, "Did you say...what blind bastard dared to come here and cause trouble?"

Zhao Tailai had his back facing the street, so Zhao Xu didn't notice him at first.

Zhao Tailai's laughter ignited the prince's killing intent and filled him with rage. It was the greatest provocation.

But when he saw Zhao Tailai, he became paralyzed to the spot, pupils rapidly shrinking.

Zhao Yunzhi didn't have such sharp eyesight. She was already blinded by rage after the slap.

"Father, it was that old man who did it! He also said that I am an embarrassment to the imperial family! He is insulting me!" She couldn't stand Zhao Tailai acting so arrogant even after her father had come.

However, no matter how she howled, Zhao Xu didn't make any movement, which made her a little impatient. "Father, you have to kill that old bastard to defend the prestige of the imperial family!"

Qin Ziming seemed to have noticed something as his expression changed, and he urgently stepped forward to dissuade Zhao Yunzhi, but the latter slapped him away and scolded, "Father is here now, what are you afraid of?"

She turned to Lin Xun again. "And you, you are just a rune founder! How dare you come to our Auspicious Sun Treasure Pavilion to cause trouble?! Don't even think about leaving here alive today!"

Lin Xun sighed. I was wrong, the stupidity of this woman is far beyond the level of the Marquis of Rising Sky and Princess Linghuang.

Zhao Tailai ignored the racket caused by Zhao Yunzhi and asked Prince Yunyong, Zhao Xu, "Is she your daughter?"

Prince Yunyong nodded stiffly. His expression was extremely unusual and filled with nervousness and apprehension. He looked like a soldier facing his commander.

Even the spies in the dark noticed the strangeness.

What happened to the domineering and powerful Zhao Xu?

"Tell her to shut up." Zhao Tailai seemed to have lost his patience.

"Yes."

His response struck everyone dumb. The high and mighty Prince Yunyong, a noble figure of the empire, obeyed, and slapped his daughter without any hesitation.

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The clear and crisp slap made everyone twitch with pain, which showed that Zhao Xu's slap was very strong.

Zhao Yunzhi, who had been yelling with indignation and smugness, looked stupefied as she propelled across the air. She collapsed to the ground with a thud, blood trickling down her nostrils and mouth. Her eyes rolled back to her head, and she lost consciousness.

But before she fainted, she only had one thought in her mind. Father...why would he hit me...did he hit the wrong person...

It seemed ridiculous, but Zhao Yunzhi indeed thought so. She never noticed that the atmosphere had subtly changed even after she fainted.

It became silent and still again.

Lin Zhong and the others were stunned. Qin Ziming was also stunned. The spies hiding in the shadows were also stunned.

What happened?

No one expected such a scene. They all thought they were mistaken.

Prince Yunyong came in a mighty and aggressive manner, but his first attack was aimed at his daughter. No one could believe it.

Even Lin Xun was a little surprised. He had already guessed that Zhao Tailai had an extraordinary identity, but it seemed his identity exceeded his expectations.

The fact that a domineering and arrogant prince bowed his head and obeyed Zhao Tailai's order without uttering a single word was enough proof of Zhao Tailai's terrifying identity.

Zhao Tailai furrowed his brows, as though holding himself back. Then, he waved his hand, "You're dismissed, off you go."

But Zhao Xu looked relieved. He bowed deeply with a cupped fist salute, hurriedly turned around and stood to the side.

Hiss!

Everyone expelled a gasp of shock, and their gazes completely changed when they looked at Zhao Tailai again.

Sometimes silence said more than words did!

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Chapter 666: The Powerful Figures of the Zuo and Qin Clans

Zhao Tailai surely couldn't just be the owner of the Sky Martial Arena!

That was everyone's opinion.

Even a fierce character of noble rank such as Prince Yunyong, Zhao Xu, had obeyed his orders. How would an ordinary person possess such impressive power?

"Zhao Tailai must be a big shot from the imperial palace. Could it be that the imperial family also wants to step in and support the Lin Clan in this competition?"

The spies all trembled in their hearts, knowing that the situation had changed.

The Lin Clan was so weak and powerless that they were seen as inferior to even the lower aristocratic clans. Everyone thought that they had a death wish to challenge the high clans.

However, if the Lin Clan had the support of the imperial family, it was another story!

"The situation has changed, quickly spread the word!"

"Hurry, tell the clan elders that the imperial family has interfered in the incident, adding waves to the current situation!"

The spies took action one after another, sending messages throughout their respective clans and sects.

Zhao Tailai's appearance had a significant meaning!

They had thought that Lin Xun was gutsy to disregard everything and challenge the high clans since that was the same as asking for death. But it turned out that they had underestimated Lin Xun's ability.

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"Continue the operation." Lin Xun calmly signaled Lin Zhong and the others to continue to seize the Auspicious Sun Treasure Pavilion.

From his conversations with Zhao Tailai, he already knew that the emperor and empress were paying close attention to him. So, although Zhao Tailai's action had surprised him a little, it wasn't completely unexpected.

If Zhao Tailai failed to resolve the matter, he wouldn't only be embarrassing himself!

"How could this be..."

Qin Ziming repeated the same words as though his soul had left his body. He almost had a breakdown from the heavy blow.

They failed even with his wife's status as an imperial family member, but the most unbelievable thing was that Prince Yunyong, whom they depended on, had also backed down.

Qin Ziming still couldn't understand what sort of powerful figure that Lin Xun had invited here that could make even Prince Yunyong bow his head.

Based on that, how would Qin Ziming dare to fight back?

He could only helplessly watch Lin Zhong, Xiaoke, Third Old Zhu and Lin Huaiyuan walked into the Auspicious Sun Treasure Pavilion in a grand and mighty manner.

The place would soon return to the Lin Clan!

Everything went on in an orderly manner, without the slightest obstacle.

The spies observing everything in secret couldn't help but feel anxious. Why hadn't the reinforcements of the Zuo and Qin Clans appeared?

Did that mean Lin Xun had easily settled the storm?

As though they had heard the questions in their minds, an ear-splitting rumble pierced the sky.

An old man with a fluttering white beard trod across a golden rainbow, coming their way. Clad in a black robe, he had the air of a transcendent being.

From a glance, it was as though an immortal was descending upon the earth.

In the blink of an eye, he had already landed and strode towards Qin Ziming. As he opened and closed his eyes, there seemed to be frightening lightning roaming within them.

"Qin Xuandu, a Cyclic Derivation Cultivator of the Qin Clan!"

The spies quivered with shock. The sage-like being was a famous figure of the Cyclic Derivation Stage with a remarkable cultivation base.

"The Qin Clan has come, what sort of waves will it cause this time?"

Everyone's eyes widened.

"Elder, you're finally here!" Qin Ziming almost shed a tear of joy. He felt he had grasped a straw in the great ocean. Qin Xuandu's arrival finally gave him a pillar to rely on.

"Unstable mood and a disorderly body of qi. How can you let a little boy from the Lin Clan make you look so distraught?" Qin Xuandu reprimanded Qin Ziming with a fierce frown.

Feeling wronged, Qin Ziming was about to explain when Qin Xuandu exclaimed in surprise, "Oh, the prince is also here!"

Prince Yunyong stood there motionlessly without any emotion on his face. It was as though he was in deep meditation and didn't hear the greeting.

Qin Xuandu's brows furrowed a little in embarrassment. Then, he snorted to himself. Prince Yunyong might have a special status and identity, but it's not enough to make our Qin Clan fear him.

"Are you Lin Xun?" Qin Xuandu studied Lin Xun.

As for Zhao Tailai, he simply ignored him. He recognized him as a member of the imperial family, but he only viewed him as the owner of the Sky Martial Arena.

"That's correct," Lin Xun answered indifferently.

"Do you know what you have done? You sent people to kill so many members of the Qin Clan today, and you took away many properties of the Qin Clan!" Superiority oozed from Qin Xuandu's imposing manner.

Lin Xun chuckled. "Stop talking nonsense. It's fine if you want to fight, but if it's just you, it likely won't be enough."

Lin the Brave is so crazy and arrogant. He even said that Qin Xuandu himself won't be enough to defeat him! The spies felt their hearts twitch.

In the entire Forbidden City, who else apart from Life Death Stage Kings would dare to challenge Qin Xuandu like that?

Unexpectedly, Qin Xuandu said calmly, "Young man, we all know what happened last night. To be honest, I doubted whether you actually defeated Lin Xixi since you are only at the Heaven Ascension Stage."

"But regardless of whether it is true or not, out of respect for you and to be safe, I will not be the only one taking action."

As he grinned, a streak of cold, bright lightning flashed across his eyes. "You should be able to die with no regrets since you have earned our respect."

He had an immortal-like demeanor, but when he said those words, his murderous intent was revealed, surging to the sky and stirring the clouds!

Instantly, a deathly silence and stifling oppressive atmosphere filled the area.

"So terrifying!" The spies shuddered.

“So does that mean your Qin Clan has made up their mind to kill me this time?” Lin Xun looked very calm.

“If possible, we will try our best to capture you alive.” Qin Xuandu smiled. “After all, you are a young rune founder. It will be a waste for you to die. It would be better for you to work for the Qin Clan. At least you will have some value in your life.”

He saw Lin Xun as meat waiting to be slaughtered on the chopping board.

Lin Xun slightly narrowed his dark eyes, but before he could say anything, Qin Xuandu added, “Of course, if you surrender to our Qin Clan now, I can guarantee that you will become an elder of our Qin Clan. Your status and the treatment you receive will not be worse than mine. Also, we will protect your Lin Clan. We can even ask the Life Death Stage Kings of our clan to personally train you.”

Uproar broke out in the outside world.

The Qin Clan was one of the high clans, a behemoth force in the empire. Many top cultivators longed to join the Qin Clan and become one of their elders.

The conditions and benefits that Qin Xuandu stated for Lin Xun to join the Qin Clan were unbelievable. He not only promised him a high position within the clan, but also the protection of the Lin Clan. He was willing to even ask Life Death Stage Kings to give him guidance on his cultivation. Many cultivators would go crazy to hear such tempting conditions.

“Damn it, comparing yourself to others only makes you angry, but if it were me, I would immediately accept the offer. I can train with Life Death Stage Kings of the Qin Clan! Wouldn’t my success in the future be guaranteed?”

Some spies beat their chests with jealousy.

Unfortunately for them, they were not Lin Xun.

Lin Xun couldn’t help but scoff out loud. “Receive advice from the Life Death Stage Kings of the Qin Clan? Can they guide me? It makes more sense for me to guide them.”

Everyone thought that Lin Xun was saying that out of anger.

No one knew that he had grasped the Sacred Combat Art and the Nine Pure Sacred Light Art from the Five Elements Holy Island. Life Death Stage Kings would be ecstatic to receive cultivation guidance from him.

After all, those were inheritances of the Saint Path!

Even the words Saint Path could capture the attention of any Life Death Stage Kings.

“Haha, kid, you are too ignorant. Never mind, you are a stubborn one, so don’t blame our Qin family for being ruthless.” Qin Xuandu sighed, feeling regret for Lin Xun.

“Look, you talked so much nonsense but in the end, you still have to resolve the situation by fighting. Why did you talk so much nonsense then?” Lin Xun shrugged.

“Quickly call your helpers! My time is precious. Can we just fight to our heart’s content now?” Lin Xun sounded very impatient.

Qin Xuandu couldn’t stop his face from darkening, and a terrifying cold glint flashing in his eyes despite his self-restraint and shrewdness.

He said coldly, “I heard that there are also Cyclic Derivation cultivators on the Mind Cleansing Peak, so why don’t you summon them all too.”

He thought that Lin Xun was so confident and fearless because he had other people supporting him.

“No need, I can deal with you all alone,” Lin Xun said dismissively.

“Okay! Very good! Because you said that, I am going to make you understand that arrogance can sometimes bring you closer to death!” Qin Xuandu smiled coldly.

A peal of laughter rang in the distance. “I already told you that the kid Lin Xun is arrogant and tyrannical! Don’t waste time talking to him. Just capture and kill him.”

Rumble!

Following the loud laughter, the ground quaked, as if an ancient dragon was galloping their way from afar. In everyone’s imagination, the coming person had to be mighty and strong.

But the person turned out to be a slender and graceful woman with a bright and beautiful face.

However, as her foot hit the ground, there was a deafening rumble as though a mountain was slamming the earth. Her delicate and slim body seemed to unexpectedly contain an erupting volcano-like power.

“Zuo Baoying, a Cyclic Derivation cultivator from the Zuo Clan!”

All the spies gasped. This woman was not inferior to Qin Xuandu in terms of strength. She was known as a female Luocho. She had killed countless people, and her hands were stained with blood.

“Two great cultivators of the Cyclic Derivation Stage! The kid is doomed. But I didn’t think the Zuo and Qin Clans would be so ruthless as to dispatch two Cyclic Derivation cultivators as their first move. They clearly don’t intend to leave a way out for Lin Xun!”

Everyone was either astounded, excited or gloating. They never expected the situation to develop into such a state.

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Chapter 667: Come To Die

Zuo Baoying’s arrival stunned everyone in the audience, including Lin Zhong, Xiaoke and Third Old Zhu. They all rushed out of the Auspicious Sun Treasure Pavilion with solemn expressions.

Qin Xuandu and Zuo Baoying were unquestionably stronger than Lin Xixi and were considered leading figures at the Cyclic Derivation Stage.

In other parts of the empire, cultivators of their levels could occupy a territory and be called kings!

But now, two great cultivators had come to deal with Lin Xun together. Evidently, the Zuo and Qin Clans had no intention of giving Lin Xun a way out.

What was a thunderous blow?

That was! Their move was enough to fill a cultivator with despair!

The terror and solid foundation of the high clans were being vividly demonstrated.

However, a few people responded strangely to the situation.

Prince Yunyong, Zhao Xu, still seemed unconcerned about everything happening around him like an old monk in deep meditation.

Zhao Tailai stood with his hands behind his back, gazing dazedly at the distant sky. His expression had stayed so calm this entire time such that there wasn't even the slightest ripple.

As for Lin Xun, he appeared very indifferent. His dark eyes swept over Qin Xuandu before sizing up Zuo Baoying, and he finally said with a smile. "Is it just the two of you? I still don't think it will be enough."

Everyone's jaw dropped. Is Lin the Brave crazy? They are great cultivators of the Cyclic Derivation Stage! And there are two of them!

What does he mean by they 'won't be enough?!'

How arrogant is he to say something that offensive?

Frowning, Qin Xuandu ran his eyes across Zhao Tailai, Third Old Zhu and Lin Zhong. "I can deal with you by myself, but if we are dealing with all of you, it will indeed be a bit difficult for just the two of us."

He smirked. "But don't you worry! If the Qin and Zuo Clans only have two Cyclic Derivation cultivators, they wouldn't be regarded as high clans in the empire!"

"Haha." Zuo Baoying gave an unfathomable smile.

Everyone else palpitated. Could the Zuo and Qin Clans have sent more people?

As expected, sharp cracks of thunder pierced the air and figures descended one after another like dazzling rainbows streaking across the sky.

There were men and women, each with a different outward appearance, but their auras were all interlinked with the heavens, displaying their different powers and imposing bearing.

"One, two, three...heavens! There are four more Cyclic Derivation cultivators!"

The spies gasped, and their blood ran cold. Only then did they realize they had underestimated the ability and power of the high clans!

Lin Zhong and the others also lost their composure. Their faces became overcast. The grave situation had exceeded their predictions.

Qin Xuandu suddenly smiled. "I originally thought that we wouldn't need to mobilize so many people to just deal with you, but it turns out we had to."

“Oh? Why is that?” asked Lin Xun.

“It’s very simple. We need to show our strength and kill you to warn the others!” A look of disdain crossed Qin Xuandu’s face. “Many years have passed. The world seems to have forgotten the power of a high clan. This will slap senses into the people and make them realize that there are clans in the world that won’t tolerate provocation and insult!”

His gaze shifted back to Lin Xun. “This is the reason why we mobilized so many people. If we can use your death to intimidate the world and make them learn to respect and look up to the high clans again, then your death will be worth it.”

His bold words made Lin Zhong’s heart sink to the bottom of his chest. He realized that the Zuo and Qin Clans wanted to kill Lin Xun at all costs to warn the world!

Only Lin Xun’s death could serve the purpose of intimidating the world!

The spies from all the major clans were chilled to the core. Only now did they finally realize the terror of the high clans.

The atmosphere became tense and still. While everyone was paralyzed with shock, Zhao Tailai impatiently turned to Lin Xun and asked, “Why are you listening to their nonsense? If you can’t resolve this, then how about I help you?”

Whoa!

His words stunned everyone. Does that person not see the terrifying situation before him? How dare he say such words?!

The corners of Qin Xuandu’s lips twitched imperceptibly as he scrunched his brows. He couldn’t understand why the owner of the Sky Martial Arena would be so arrogant.

Does he think he is from the imperial family? How dare he disregard the power of the Qin and Zuo clans?!

“Young Master!” Lin Zhong and Third Old Zhu turned to Lin Xun, their faces bore a look of determination. They wanted to tell him that they were willing to fight alongside him.

“No need, leave this matter to me. They want to kill me to warn the others, and I am doing this to make everyone know that the Mind Cleansing Peak Lin Clan won’t tolerate any insult or contempt. Anyone who dares to bully us must pay the price in blood!”

To everyone’s disbelief, Lin Xun refused all help. His calm and indifferent expression was replaced by unprecedented contempt and determination.

He...

The spies found Lin Xun more and more crazy. He is still acting so tough at such a time?

Lin Zhong and the others were filled with panic, but Zhao Tailai couldn’t help chuckling out loud, “Good, let’s see how much you have grown in the past six months!”

Qin Xuandu, Zuo Baoying and the four Cyclic Derivation cultivators found the situation both ridiculous and irritating.

It seemed that the world had indeed forgotten the terror of the high clans. Even a nobody dared to speak so arrogantly in front of them.

“Uncle Zhong, bring me the Shattered Tragedy Spear. The spear needs to drink the blood of the enemy before it can become the treasured weapon of our Lin Clan. Only then can it live up to its name!” Lin Xun’s black eyes flashed a chilling glint as though an abyss was roaring in the depths. His demeanor instantly changed.

He was akin to a hidden sword revealing its unrivaled sharp edges!

“Young Master, catch!” Lin Zhong subconsciously handed the Shattered Tragedy Spear to Lin Xun.

Only then did it dawn on everyone that Lin Xun was serious!

He planned to face off against six Cyclic Derivation cultivators by himself!

The spies all quivered in the dark, unprecedented excitement fluttering in their hearts.

Disregarding everything else, the courage that Lin Xun demonstrated was shocking enough.

On the other hand, Qin Xuandu and Zuo Baoying laughed angrily. How absurd is this? Lin Xun is so crazy that he doesn’t realize the dangerous situation he is in!

“Since you are looking for death, we will fulfill your wish and use your blood to warn the world!” Qin Xuandu’s ice-cold voice was tinged with murderous intent, and a ruthless and chilling might replaced his immortal-like demeanor.

Boom!

An imposing aura surged out from his body like a thunderstorm and bolts of lightning shot from his eyes. He was like an awakened divine being, astonishing everyone with his powers.

Lin Xun’s robe billowed around him, and he soared into the air in the blink of an eye. His jet-black hair fluttered as he looked down at Qin Xuandu and the others from a height. He then pointed the Shattered Tragedy Spear at them. “Come up to die!”

The youth stood tall and upright in the air, spear in his hand. His transcendent aura and extraordinary bearing wowed Lin Zhong and the others.

Even Prince Yunyong, who had been in a meditative state all along, couldn’t help twitching his eyelids and taking a glance.

“Hmph!” Qin Xuandu snorted in annoyance before he drifted upwards into the ninth heaven. The qi around his body dispersed the clouds in the way.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

Meanwhile, Zuo Baoying and the other four Cyclic Derivation cultivators also rose into the air, blocking the area from afar to prevent Lin Xun from escaping.

Clang!

The Shattered Tragedy Spear released a clear and resounding cry in the air as murderous intent flooded the area and obscure runes densely lit up on its surface. It transformed into a rune armament and shrouded Lin Xun.

It was a rune armament! A remarkable weapon that overshadowed any ancient treasures in the world with its unique and mysterious abilities!

“What a remarkable treasure!”

Many people exclaimed in amazement. Rune armaments were rare even among the high clans of the empire, so each one was considered a treasure of their clan.

The most frightening ability of such treasures was that they provided a cultivator with the power to fight someone of a higher cultivation stage!

“A teenager of the Heaven Ascension Stage wielding the Shattered Tragedy Spear. How many moves do you think he can withstand from Qin Xuandu?” Zuo Baoying asked softly, crossing her arms.

Someone responded, “Within ten moves, the match will be decided.”

Another disagreed, “No, I think three moves are enough. Brother Xuandu has been honing his Cyclic Derivation strength for years. His strength isn’t ordinary.”

The other four Cyclic Derivation experts analyzed the situation one after another. They had each occupied one side of the area, but they had no intention of making a move. They would be shamed if they bullied a teenager at the Heaven Ascension Stage together.

“I think this battle of life and death will come to an end within fifty moves.” Zuo Baoying smiled faintly.

The others frowned, thinking that she was overestimating Lin Xun’s ability. No matter how fierce a Heaven Ascension cultivator was, he would be no match for an expert at the Cyclic Derivation Stage.

Meanwhile, the spies thought about how long Lin Xun would survive once the battle broke out.

Everyone seemed to believe that Lin Xun would lose and that he had no hope of winning.

“Stop talking nonsense...” Zhao Tailai muttered to himself.

He couldn't wait to see how strong Lin Xun had become after six months in the Spirit Burial Sea.

Lin Zhong and the others fixed their eyes on the battlefield, faces contorting with nervous tension. The instant something went wrong, they were ready to rush out there to rescue Lin Xun.

Boom!

Without uttering a single word, Lin Xun charged across the air and raised his spear.

[The Prodigies War](#)

Chapter 668: Remarkable Spear

“Die!” Lin Xun took the initiative to launch an attack.

Qin Xuandu frowned at Lin Xun's aggressive attack. Lightning flashed around his body as a dazzling bolt took shape in the palm of his hand. He blasted his palm forward.

Lightning Palm!

Instantly, as though a true lightning calamity had swept the world to destroy it, a destructive aura filled the area. It was the power of lightning!

The spies hiding in the shadows trembled all over, almost suffocating from the terrifying power. It was a casual attack, but it made their hair stand on end.

"Brother Xuandu is truly enraged. Even a cultivator of the same cultivation stage will have to retreat, let alone a Heaven Ascension teenager." One of the Cyclic Derivation experts sighed, shaking his head.

Another crowed, "It seems like one strike is enough to kill the kid!"

The other Cyclic Derivation experts' lips curled upwards in delight. Lightning Palm was a secret art of the Qin Clan with unrivaled killing power.

A surge of satisfaction rose in Qin Ziming's heart. When he had faced Lin Xun earlier, he had almost panicked to the point of breaking down. How would he not be excited to see the youth being killed?

"Oh!"

Zhao Tailai gasped like he noticed something.

Third Old Zhu's eyes flickered.

"This is bad! Qin Xuandu is in danger!" Zuo Baoying's pupils rapidly shrank.

Before she finished her sentence, she realized that it was already too late to do anything to help him.

Boom!

Shattered Tragedy Spear's pitch-black body lunged forward. It looked extremely simple and ordinary, and there didn't seem to be anything special at all.

But the bolts of lightning exploded upon touching the tip of the spear, sputtering endless sparks in all directions.

It failed to withstand a single blow.

The Qin Clan's ancestral art Lightning Palm crumbled like paper!

"You..."

Qin Xuandu was full of superiority and self-confidence because he believed he could easily crush a teenager at the Heaven Ascension Stage with his powers.

But now, he had completely lost his calmness!

He sprinted forward with lightning speed and launched a barrage of thousands of lightning strikes in a second. It was as though lightning bolts were pouring down, blotting the sky and enveloping the earth.

All of a sudden, deafening thunder reverberated throughout the world, quaking the area and shocking everyone. Qin Xuandu's move was no different from a desperate attack.

The battle had only just begun, so how did it turn to that?

However, before Qin Xuandu could heave a sigh of relief, he saw the jet-black spear pierce through the countless lightning palms without any hindrance, aiming directly for him.

Boom!

Multiple lightning palms were pierced, shattered, and disintegrated into sparks where the spear passed, causing the surrounding space to explode.

Qin Xuandu's face blanched. He had no choice but to dodge to one side. The attack caught him a little off guard.

However, regardless of how quickly he retreated, he wasn't as fast as the spear. Its unmatched pointy tip pierced through everything like it was unstoppable.

Watching the spear near him, he furiously brought out a bronze ruler to fight it head-on.

It was an ancient treasure that he rarely mobilized. But now, Lin Xun, a Heaven Ascension teenager, forced him to bring it out. He couldn't help but feel a little angry and embarrassed with shame.

Boom!

However, under gazes full of disbelief, the spear forcibly pierced and shattered the bronze ruler!

Qin Xuandu's scalp numbed with horror. His most beloved ancient treasure was destroyed in such a way.

But what almost made his eyes burst with anger was that it was too late for him to block the spear speeding through the air.

With an ear-splitting bang, his chest exploded and his body was blasted across the air.

Amidst the stifling silence, everyone stood stupefied with horror.

The battle had only begun minutes ago.

In the blink of an eye...

Qin Xuandu was defeated?

So fast!

Before that, they had all predicted that Lin Xun would lose within a few moves, and they believed that he had no chance of winning.

Who would have thought that, in the blink of an eye, the outcome of the duel would be determined and the loser would be Qin Xuandu, a renowned great cultivator?

He had failed to defend against one spear strike!

Everyone was struck dumb.

The spies thought they were mistaken. The duel was over before they understood what had happened.

Qin Ziming's eyeballs almost rolled out of their sockets, and his mouth gaped open.

Zuo Baoying and the others tensed up, flabbergasted. How could this happen?

Even Lin Zhong and the others were dumbfounded. Previously, their hearts were in their throats, and they were ready to rescue Lin Xun at any time. But Lin Xun's remarkable spear thrust shocked them like a clap of thunder.

Only Zhao Tailai murmured, "As expected, he has embarked on the strongest supreme path since ancient times. It seems that the blessings the kid obtained in the Deva Secret Realm are more amazing than rumored..." His heart churned like the sea.

Although he could tell that Lin Xun's move was extraordinary before it even struck, he never thought that it could defeat Qin Xuandu!

The air was still roaring turbulently, filled with smoke and dust, Qin Xuandu stood up, face livid with shock and anger.

His robe was torn around his chest, revealing a protection plate. But as he stood up, the plate shattered and crumbled to the ground.

Only then did everyone realize that it was the chest protection plate that protected Qin Xuandu's life. Otherwise, Lin Xun's terrifying strike would have pierced his heart!

Everyone was chilled to the bone!

When Lin Xun announced that he wanted to face off against six Cyclic Derivation cultivators by himself, everyone either thought he was joking or that he was too arrogant.

But now, the joke wasn't the slightest bit funny. No one could laugh at all.

Qin Xuandu had made a name for himself for many years and could be regarded as a top authority figure in the cultivation world in the absence of Life Death Stage Kings.

But a spear had sent him blasting across the air. He only managed to keep his life because of the chest protection plate.

It was too unbelievable.

A teenager at the Heaven Ascension Stage might be able to fight against someone of a higher cultivation level with a rune armament, but who would have imagined that he could utterly crush Qin Xuandu with a single blow?

Everyone's gazes changed when they looked at Lin Xun again.

"I was too careless. I didn't expect you to be different from ordinary geniuses, but I won't give you another chance!" Qin Xuandu's voice seemed to be squeezed out from between his teeth.

His gaze was the most chilling and sinister it had been as shock, anger and shame tangled in his heart. His defeat had happened under the watchful eyes of everyone. Even if he killed Lin Xun today, he had lost all face already!

“You should be grateful for that protective chest plate. Without it, I don’t think you can still stand here and talk to me.” As Lin Xun stepped forward, he seemed to have teleported across the air.

With a flick of his spear, he launched another strike.

Boom!

The two faced off for the second time, but this time, Qin Xuandu didn’t dare to let his guard down at all. He seemed to be facing a formidable enemy. There wasn’t a shred of contempt or arrogance in his attack. He mobilized all his powers and brought bolts of lightning flashing around his body.

After a split second, when the two separated again, Qin Xuandu was seen staggering backwards, retreating more than ten feet across the air. His wrinkled face constantly alternated from pale to red to dark.

On the other hand, Lin Xun exuded elegance and poise. His black eyes shone brightly like lightning, and his jet-black spear beautifully contrasted his moon-white robe.

Si!

The audience was completely stirred up. Qin Xuandu might have been careless the first time and allowed Lin Xun to win, but it couldn’t be a lucky fluke for Lin Xun the second time.

Did that mean that Lin Xun possessed powers to overturn the sky even when facing a powerful cultivator such as Qin Xuandu?

The spies trembled all over, realizing that all their guesses were wrong, outrageously wrong!

They could imagine the sensation the outcome of the duel would cause when it spread throughout the Forbidden City!

“Attack together!”

Zuo Baoying’s eyes flashed with a chilling fierceness. She knew she could no longer treat Lin Xun as a junior.

He was a terrifying teenage cultivator with strength that could make any Cyclic Derivation cultivators turn ashen-faced.

She was only glad that they had dispatched six Cyclic Derivation cultivators. Otherwise, they likely couldn’t do anything to Lin Xun today.

“Kill!”

The proud and conceited Cyclic Derivation cultivators left the sidelines and attacked together from all directions. They couldn’t care less about their reputation and face anymore.

Rumble!

All of a sudden, the wind and clouds rioted and divine lights engulfed the area. Rare treasures illuminated the universe with their dazzling lights, and terrifying secret arts bloomed with slashes of brightness in the sky.

The movements alerted even the cultivators in the nearby areas of the Forbidden City. Some anxiously released their spirit-sensing powers to investigate.

After all, the duel between a group of Cyclic Derivation experts and the demon god-like youngster had caused too much commotion.

In the past, rarely did such a high-level duel take place in broad daylight in the Forbidden City!

“Despicable!”

Lin Zhong and the others cursed. “It’s six against one! They are well-known Cyclic Derivation experts, but they are shamelessly ganging up on Lin Xun!”

“Haha, only then can we see the kid’s true potential!” Zhao Tailai laughed.

He seemed very satisfied with the match. His gleaming eyes had been fixed intently on Lin Xun from the very beginning, as though he wanted to see through all the youth’s secrets.

Prince Yunyong couldn’t help but wake up from his meditative state. Complex emotions swirled in his eyes as he watched the fierce battle in the air.

“That kid...has turned out to be such a heaven-defying character! Fortunately, I made the right decision and didn’t challenge him, otherwise...” He shot a glance at Zhao Tailai.

“Otherwise, even if he didn’t intervene, I wouldn’t be able to do anything to the kid. Instead, I would be humiliated...” With that thought, a bitter feeling quickly replaced the resentment and anger in his heart.

He was very clear about Qin Xuandu’s cultivation base. He knew that he would at most fight to a draw with him even if he had fought with all his strength.

That meant he was inferior to Lin Xun in terms of strength!

It had to be very difficult for a noble prince who was respected by everyone in the Forbidden City to admit that he was inferior. But the reality was cruel and he had no choice but to accept it.

[The Prodigies War](#)

Chapter 669: Blood Falls Like Rain

In the sky, a fierce battle was in full swing!

In various areas of the Forbidden City, countless eyes were fixed on the earthshaking match.

Clang!

The spear swung across the air, releasing hazy qi. Its jet-black body resembled a graceful black dragon as Lin Xun skilfully and swiftly manipulated it.

Lin Xun showed not a shred of fear even after being encircled by six Cyclic Derivation experts.

His black eyes were as deep and unfathomable as an abyss, but there was an intense fighting spirit blazing in the depths like molten lava.

An illusionary Hornless Ice Dragon floated above the nine heavens, making his figure as ethereal as a divine rainbow and his imposing bearing as majestic as the mountains. His aura of superiority was so strong that it pierced the sky and earth.

The Sacred Combat Art and the rune armament were perfectly integrated. The Heaven Ascension Dwelling in his body was roaring and producing clouds of rosy mist and a shower of auspicious light. The simple and unadorned Dao platform was standing tall, overflowing with Heaven Ascension Sacred Light.

Even though he was in a fierce battle, his every move and gesture was oozing with the power of the great dao and the detached indifference of an immortal. His demeanor was unrivaled.

His opponents' expressions constantly altered, growing more and more serious and grave. They had only realized how terrifying their opponent was when they faced him!

They couldn't imagine how a teenager at the Heaven Ascension Stage could possess such heaven-defying powers.

"Kill!"

Qin Xuandu completely lost his sage-like demeanor. Instead, his face was livid and his eyes were blazing with anger. He fought with everything he had against Lin Xun.

On the other side, Zuo Baoying's footsteps rumbled like thunder as she trod across the air. Her seemingly graceful and slender figure erupted with unbelievable domineering power.

The other four Cyclic Derivation experts also fought with all their strength, and none of them dared to hold back or let their guards down.

Rumble—

The sky seemed to have been broken. Ear-splitting booms and rumbles resounded one after another as if the mountains were colliding.

"So strong! Since ancient times, who has ever seen a monster like Lin the Brave? He is only at the Heaven Ascension stage yet he is fighting against six great Cyclic Derivation cultivators!"

"Once word of this match gets out, even if Lin the Brave loses in the end, he will be crowned king of the younger generation and seen as superior to every person of the same cultivation stage!"

"No wonder he dared to blatantly challenge the Zuo and Qin Clans today. It turns out that he is not arrogant, but he has nothing to fear!"

The spies from the various major forces couldn't calm their minds and settle their waves of emotions.

They were overwhelmed by Lin Xun's performance. It was too heaven-defying. He could be regarded as a rare genius since ancient times!

Disappointment mixed with bitter acceptance crossed Qin Ziming's face. Can we not do anything to the boy even after the Zuo and Qin Clans have joined forces?

His wife Zhao Yunzhi started to regain consciousness, but when she just got up, Prince Yunyong knocked her out once again.

He didn't want his daughter to cause any trouble anymore and knocking her unconscious was also a form of protection...

"Third Old Zhu, how do you think you are compared to Lin Xun?" Lin Zhong suddenly asked.

Third Old Zhu pondered for a moment before he replied, "If we battle, then I don't have any confidence in winning."

His answer made Lin Zhong, Xiaoke and Lin Huaiyuan realize that everything had changed. Previously, Third Old Zhu was considered the most important on Mind Cleansing Peak in terms of strength. Even Lin Zhong, Xiaoke and Lin Huaiyuan were stronger than Lin Xun then.

However, in the future, Lin Xun would be the most important on Mind Cleansing Peak in terms of strength!

They couldn't help feeling emotional, wondering what sort of adventures and encounters Lin Xun had experienced in the past six months for him to have undergone such earthshaking changes.

"Perhaps, only someone like him can catch the eyes of Jingxuan..." Zhao Tailai muttered.

But Prince Yunyong, Zhao Xu, who was standing next to him, was taken aback and his imagination started to run wild. Could it be that Princess Jingxuan has fallen for that kid?

Zhao Xu felt dizzy!

Zhao Jingxuan was a genius maiden with a transcendent status within the imperial family. Even Zhao Xu didn't dare to regard himself as her elder in front of her.

"A drawn sword can't be put back into the scabbard...if this is true, it's going to be difficult for the Zuo Clan and the Qin Clan...." Zhao Xu fell into deep thought.

Boom!

A wave of terrifying power in the sky drew the attention of everyone.

Zuo Baoying had summoned a sacred-white umbrella, and with a light shake, she sent out endless threads of mist-like silk. It was as though misty rain had shrouded the area.

Instantly, the silk threads blocked the area around Lin Xun. The threads were translucent white and hazy and seemed easy to break out of, but they could instantly and endlessly form again even after being destroyed.

Regardless of how strong someone was, they would be imprisoned inside.

It was a miraculous ancient treasure of the Zuo Clan. It was famous in the Forbidden City, but it was rarely mobilized.

No one expected Zuo Baoying to bring out such a treasure to deal with Lin Xun!

Everyone's eyes went wide. How is Lin Xun going to fight against that treasure?

Shua~

A golden pagoda floated above Lin Xun's head, rotating and releasing rays of golden light.

The golden light miraculously swept away the seemingly endless silk threads within a radius of several feet.

It was as smooth and easy as a whale inhaling water.

Did he destroy it like that?

Everyone was flabbergasted.

Zuo Baoying's expression also dramatically changed, and she almost screamed out loud. How is that possible? What pagoda is that? Why is it so terrifying?

Boom!

Unfortunately, before everyone had time to investigate further, Lin Xun withdrew the pagoda. Then, he flicked his spear and lunged it forward.

"No!" While Zuo Baoying was in a turbulent state of mind, Lin Xun charged towards her.

She frantically tried to dodge.

Pu!

Even so, the spear pierced her shoulder and crushed her muscles and bones. Her beautiful face contorted as she wailed in pain.

However, even though she survived the deadly strike, before she could steady herself, she felt her body stiffen like it had been imprisoned by an invisible force. Her body froze and she couldn't budge an inch.

Boom!

Almost at the same time, a simple but bright palm crashed down from above her head. A Bi'an shadow emerged from it as it ruthlessly crushed her body.

Under horrified gazes, Zuo Baoying exploded and blood and flesh sputtered everywhere, staining the space a terrifying red shade.

A Cyclic Derivation expert was crushed by a palm. Anyone would feel their soul becoming chilled to the core.

Lin Xun took advantage of the terrifying power produced by the combination of the Baxia Imprisonment and Bi'an Stamp to kill Zuo Baoying and stunned the audience!

"No—!"

"How could that be?"

"Bastard!"

Qin Xuandu and the other Cyclic Derivation cultivators roared, irritated by the unbelievable outcome. Their faces were distorted by rage and their voices shook the world.

Lin Xun had managed to kill one of them under their encirclement. How could they accept it?

For Lin Xun, Zuo Baoying's death was just the beginning.

Today, he intended to warn the world with the lives of six Cyclic Derivation cultivators that no one could insult the Mind Cleansing Peak Lin Clan!

Die!

The intense battle continued in the sky, becoming fiercer and fiercer.

.....

The spies were all struck dumb. They already found it hard to believe that Lin Xun could match the strength of six great Cyclic Derivation experts.

Now, he managed to kill one of the six under their encirclement!

It was too unbelievable!

Lin Xun's ability had completely exceeded their understanding.

"Young Master...Young Master...he...is so strong!" Lin Zhong was finally able to stutter a few words, but he still couldn't disguise his astonishment. Or perhaps, he was so shocked that no better words came to his mind.

Xiaoke and Third Old Zhu felt the same way. Lin Xun was like an invincible demon god!

Only Zhao Tailai raised his eyebrows and murmured, "I wonder if the kid could easily kill that woman without the help of the rune armament..."

"If that kid doesn't die, then the Lin Clan will very soon return to the ranks of the high clans!" Zhao Xu, Prince Yunyong, sighed, complex emotions swirling in his heart.

Thud—

Qin Ziming collapsed on his buttocks on the ground, still as a sculpture. He seemed to have fallen into a state of utter bewilderment after the blow.

.....

Rain of blood fell from the sky amidst endless roars and anguished screams.

The area seemed to have become a stage for Lin Xun. Wielding the spear, he moved unhindered across the battlefield.

Pu!

Soon, another Cyclic Derivation cultivator suffered a calamity. The spear pierced through his head and hurled it across the air while his headless corpse plunged from the sky most tragically.

Boom!

Soon, a terrifying rumble and collision rang out.

This time, Lin Xun was the one injured. His back was split with a bloody wound, almost damaging his organs.

But at the same time, the spear blasted the two attackers across the air, their bodies severed in half at the waist.

They dropped dead in the air.

The audience had long become silent, speechless from shock. They were just staring blankly at the sky, at the blood-soaked, demon god-like youngster.

The spear in his hand not only drank blood, but also harvested lives!

No one could utter a word because the battle was still going on, and the tragic and bloody scenes indicated that the winner was about to be decided.

Pu!

Another Cyclic Derivation cultivator died. He was about to flee from fear when Lin Xun speared his neck and skewered him to the path thousands of feet in the distance.

No matter how fast he was, how would he be faster than the Hornless Ice Dragon Step?

Moreover, Lin Xun was determined to not let any one of them leave today!

Only Qin Xuandu remained.

The immortal-like cultivator's face was skewed with panic, helplessness, anger and bitter resentment.

He completely lost his graceful bearing!

He didn't dare to run away because he knew it was useless. But if he didn't run away, he also knew that he was no match for Lin Xun by himself.

His situation of despair and helplessness almost drove him berserk!

[The Prodigies War](#)

Chapter 670: A Man Called Blood Kill King

"Lin Xun, you will pay for what you did today!"

"Your Lin Clan will also be struck off for this!"

Driven into a situation of despair, Qin Xuandu roared like crazy, making unrestrained threats.

The audience went dead silent, unable to remain calm.

Perhaps, Qin Xuandu was right. The death of so many Cyclic Derivation cultivators was a huge blow to the Zuo and Qin Clans.

But it was also a great humiliation!

The Zuo and Qin Clans wouldn't leave the matter at that, whether it was for revenge or for washing away the shame. Otherwise, how could they keep a foothold in the Forbidden City in the future?

How could a mighty high clan, a well-respected behemoth in the world, endure such a heavy blow?

Unfortunately, the world might tremble at the undisguised threats, but not Lin Xun.

He stood tall in the sky, robe fluttering in the wind and the jet-black spear dripping with scarlet blood in his hand.

"In the face of death, you still dare to threaten me. The chest protection plate might have saved your life once, but let's see if you can survive again!" Following his indifferent voice, the Shattered Tragedy Spear slashed upwards into the air and lunged forward.

Boom!

The surrounding space shattered where the spear passed. It advanced straight ahead, stopping at nothing.

The fierce and determined spear strike made everyone realize that Lin Xun didn't care about the so-called threats.

"You..." Qin Xuandu's eyes bulged wide with rage.

He wanted to fight with everything he had, but in that critical juncture of life and death, he retreated in embarrassment.

He knew very well that he was no match for Lin Xun. If he didn't want to die, he had to retreat.

Many spectators' countenances altered upon seeing a renowned Cyclic Derivation cultivator in the Forbidden City forced into a panic.

Before that, the proud and lofty Qin Xuandu regarded Lin Xun as meat on the chopping board, but now, his comrades had been slaughtered, and he had been forced to run away.

The stark difference was too shocking.

"Die!"

The black spear drew a sharp arc as it slashed through the air, aiming for Qin Xuandu's throat like a ray of light.

Qin Xuandu's face blanched. He couldn't escape. All his escape routes were blocked!

However, he still couldn't understand how Lin Xun wasn't afraid of retaliation from the high clans. He might be strong enough to defeat and kill Cyclic Derivation experts, but was he not afraid of the brutal revenge from the top forces of the empire?

In this world, was there nothing that Lin Xun feared?

"Junior, how dare you!" a voice filled with cold indifference boomed out, causing the air to become turbulent and the world to shake.

The spies shuddered all over. They saw sparks fly before their eyes and felt so uncomfortable that they almost coughed up blood.

The voice of the great dao?

Everyone was aghast.

“Patriarch!” Qin Xuandu exclaimed in wild joy. To him, the voice was as heavenly as the sounds of nature like a ray of light in his hopeless situation.

However...

A bizarre, muffled noise followed by the cracking and snapping of bones swept away the gleam of joy and hope in his eyes. He froze.

Pu!

A jet of blood spurted out, warm with a kind of poignant beauty, staining the world before him a scarlet red shade.

He looked down to see that the spear had pierced his throat. Blood was jetting out from him...

“You...you...how dare you...” Qin Xuandu wanted to say something when his throat ruptured. He saw everything darkening before him as he slipped into unconsciousness.

Pu—

Lin Xun wrenched the spear out of his body, letting his corpse fall from the air.

Lin Xun had single-handedly killed all six Cyclic Derivation cultivators sent by the Zuo and Qin Clans! Not one of them managed to survive.

The remarkable feat would cause a sensation in the world. Anyone who witnessed the miracle-like performance above the Forbidden City would likely tremble in shock.

However, before the shock spread to everyone present, their gazes shifted in the same direction, at a more horrifying scene.

In the sky, an old man in a scholarly robe and with a dainty little ancient sword through his hair bun had appeared without anyone knowing.

Despite his slim figure, he had an overbearing presence. The heaven and earth seemed to be trembling as he stood tall like a king watching over the world from the nine heavens!

Qin Cangjia!

Anyone aware of the great forces in the Forbidden City would immediately recognize the old man. He was a patriarch-level Life Death Stage King from the Qin Clan!

He was called Qin Cangjia, and he had made a name for himself hundreds of years ago. The entire world knew about his mighty power, but he seldom appeared in public in recent years.

No one would have imagined that he, an illustrious Life Death Stage King, would take action against Lin Xun!

It was too unbelievable!

Everyone knew that Life Death Stage Kings were detached from worldly affairs. They were like divine beings, and no ordinary matters would catch their attention.

However, Qin Cangjia came!

Everyone was awed into silence.

Even some influential figures watching from various areas across the Forbidden City were shaken. Qin Cangjia actually came in person!?

How long has it been since such a major event happened in the Forbidden City?

The kid is in trouble now!

Everyone had the same thought.

No matter how splendid Lin Xun's previous feats and achievements were, he was doomed in the face of a Life Death Stage King. Perhaps, death was already waiting for him.

Lin Xun narrowed his eyes. Qin Cangjia's appearance surprised him at first, but it then quickly intensified his murderous intent.

It seemed that the Qin Clan wouldn't give up until Lin Xun was dead!

Lin Zhong and the others visibly tensed up and their blood ran cold. What should we do? A Life Death Stage King has appeared! Is it impossible to resolve this catastrophe today?

Qin Ziming crouched on the ground, between laughter and tears. His emotions felt like a rollercoaster ride. All his hopes had long been crushed, but now that Qin Cangjia had come, he couldn't help but burst into tears.

"Lin Xun! You are doomed!" he viciously roared in his heart.

Qin Cangjia ran his gaze across Qin Xuandu, Zuo Baoying and the other Cyclic Derivation experts before he looked at Lin Xun.

His expression was calm, so calm that there seemed to be a hint of coldness and detached indifference. When he looked at Lin Xun, there wasn't a ripple of emotion on his face as if he was looking at a dead person.

However, he exuded an invisible power that oppressed the audience to the point of suffocation.

"A little remaining member of the Lin Clan dares to stir up a storm in the Forbidden City. I can't let you stay in this world!" Qin Cangjia stated directly as though he was passing judgment on a prisoner.

He exuded an inviolable, sacred power. It was the majesty of a Life Death Stage King. Such existences stood at the pinnacle of the mountains and didn't need any reason to kill a person.

Lin Zhong and the others turned ashen-faced.

The experts hiding in the dark sighed to themselves. So what if Lin Xun can defy the heavens? When a Life Death Stage King appears, all that is waiting for him is death!

Boom!

Qin Cangjia made a move, fierce and direct. I don't care who you are and I don't care what you think. I am going to kill you first and then talk!

A fair and blemish-free hand blotted the sky, glowing with the unfathomable brilliance of the great dao.

Then, it slammed down.

Rumble—

The space completely collapsed. Under the cover of the giant hand, everyone felt nothing but despair and panic.

But Lin Xun, who would be the first to bear the brunt, remained completely calm. In his palm seemed to be an illusory streak of silvery light quietly forming, and his eyes glinted with a hint of mockery.

But before Lin Xun could make a move, a disdainful voice boomed like thunder, "Ah, how impressive!"

The voice just sounded, but the world seemed to be turning upside down. A turbulent current of air roared while a storm of murderous intent raged.

When the voice faded, the giant jade-like hand shattered into glass-like fragments before vanishing from the air.

That...

The audience stared aghast at the scene. The attack of a Life Death Stage King was destroyed with one sentence!

Had anyone ever seen something as terrifying?

Only Prince Yunyong, Zhao Xu, seemed very calm like he had expected it to happen. The moment that Qin Cangjia showed up, he donned a look of pity, unlike the others whose faces were crossed with shock and disbelief.

He seemed to know that someone wouldn't just watch and do nothing!

"Huh?" Qin Cangjia focused his eyes. It was the first time his emotions fluctuated since he appeared. He looked directly at Zhao Tailai who was standing on the ground.

"Who are you? Did you stop me from killing?" he asked indifferently.

Everyone was stunned to find that Zhao Tailai, the owner of Sky Martial Arena, was the one who deflected the blow of a Life Death Stage King.

Lin Zhong's eyes bulged wide open.

Everyone else's jaws dropped, flabbergasted

Even Lin Xun was slightly taken aback, thinking to himself, "It seems like I underestimated the old fox's ability..."

However, he was puzzled as to how people like Qin Cangjia failed to recognize Zhao Tailai.

"It seems like I have been too low-profile these years. No one in the Forbidden City knows about me." Zhao Tai chuckled to himself.

Then, he suddenly raised his head and a terrifying scene of a mountain of corpses and a sea of blood emerged in his eyes, followed by a gush of murderous intent piercing the sky like an erupting volcano.

Instantly, everyone seemed to see a killing god stepping out of hell, and the world seemed to be flooded with spine-chilling killing intent and the stench of blood.

The weaker cultivators were scared out of their wits and slumped on the ground, trembling.

Even Lin Zhong and the others felt suffocated and their faces turned pale. The killing intent is too strong. How much blood has stained his hands for him to possess such a terrifying might?

Zhao Tailai had changed. His stout figure became perfectly straight and majestic, like a towering mountain peak piercing the sky. His brows were sharp as swords, and his eyes were shining with divine light. His mighty, imposing bearing made the world whimper!

"Blood Kill King!"

Qin Cangjia's countenance changed, revealing a rare look of horror. "What...it's you!" he cried out.

Blood Kill King?!

Many people frowned in bewilderment.

However, the important figures in various areas of the Forbidden City gasped out loud when they heard the title, and an unstoppable cold current surged up within their hearts.

Is it him?!

No one thought they would hear the title again after so many years, nor did they think they would see the killing god with their own eyes!

"Now, do you think I am qualified to stop you?" Zhao Tailai asked, his voice calm, but filled with oppressive power.

He had become completely different from before. As his eyes opened and closed, murderous intent seemed to be shooting out.

"Blood Kill King...how did the old fox have that title..." Lin Xun muttered blankly as he recalled the words engraved before the entrance of Blood Kill Camp—

Violet Glory Flower is undefeated because of blood kill and the empire exists forever because of continued expeditions!

Blood Kill King...Blood Kill Camp...

Was there a connection between the two?

Meanwhile, Qin Cangjia's face grew overcast and troubled. He had lost the indifference and calmness he had before.

But he was a Life Death Stage King!

Yet he seemed apprehensive of Zhao Tailai, shocking the audience. Although they were unaware of what the title Blood Kill King represented, they knew it was enough to instill fear into a Life Death Stage King.

After a long period of silence, Qin Cangjia turned around and sighed, "I didn't expect this. It turns out that the kid dares to act so arrogantly and fearlessly because he has support. Never mind. I won't get involved in today's matter."

"Compared to your older brother, your courage isn't good enough." Zhao Tailai snorted.

Qin Cangjia drifted away without saying a word.

Is he leaving like that?

Everyone in the audience fought to keep calm. They thought that Lin Xun was doomed after Qin Cangjia came in the most aggressive manner and attacked him without much of a word. But who would have thought that the Life Death Stage King would swallow his anger, admit defeat, and leave without any opposition?

Too unbelievable.

Blood Kill King?

Did that identity have such a terrifying deterrent power?

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After Qin Cangjia's departure, the storm in Auspicious Sun Treasure Pavilion also subsided.

However, the impact caused by the conflict had only just begun!

Since last night Lin Xun returned to the Forbidden City, he had stormed the collateral branches of the Lin Clan alone, launched a bloodbath and united the Lin Clan.

He had declared his return in the most tyrannical way.

Today, the Lin Clan, headed by Lin Xun, violently reclaimed a dozen properties that the Zuo and Qin Clans occupied back then, kicking off the bloody storm.

Now, under countless attention of everyone, Lin Xun, armed with the Shattered Tragedy Spear, the treasured weapon of the Lin Clan, had single-handedly defeated six great cultivators of the Cyclic Derivation Stage above the Forbidden City.

Even if Qin Cangjia, a Life Death Stage King, had come in person, he had to leave in defeat because of the appearance of a powerful man known as the Blood Kill King.

Everyone realized that the end of the storm was just a new beginning. The impact of it would cause a sensation in the Forbidden City and attract the attention of the world!