

Prodigies 751

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Chapter 751: Exhilarating

“You’ve lost. It’s pointless to keep struggling,” said Lin Xun as the Broken Blade streaked through the air while releasing a clear cry.

Although they were both using Spirit Control Arts, Lin Xun was controlling a spirit weapon while Qing Zhe was controlling a sword made from condensed primordial spirit power.

This was the core difference between them and the reason for the huge gap between their power.

Qing Zhe had clearly realized this, which was why he had swapped out his primordial spirit power sword for an azure sword.

Swoosh!

The battle erupted once more. The Broken Blade’s illusory and almost transparent body zipped through the air, easily neutralizing the opponent’s attacks.

Roar!

Meanwhile, Lin Xun executed the Pulao Roar. Earth-shaking sound waves transformed into a giant wave and rushed through the air, shattering space as it swallowed everything in its path.

Qing Zhe immediately groaned in pain as he trembled uncontrollably.

“Despicable!”

His eyes were frightening to look at and were filled with rage. Because his primordial spirit had been injured by the Broken Blade earlier, being hit by the soundwave felt even more unbearable.

“Despicable? This is a battle. Do I have to teach that to an Omega Sword Sect true disciple like you?”

As Lin Xun spoke, he activated the Hornless Ice Dragon Step and went on the offensive.

He intended to subdue his opponent and end the battle in one fell swoop. Hence, he did not hold anything back.

Boom!

A crystalline snow-white hornless ice dragon phantasm rose into the air and roared at the world as Lin Xun’s speed soared to an unimaginable high.

His long hair flew behind him in a horizontal line, and his black eyes resembled the abyss. He displayed his full might, awing everyone with his peerless aura!

Qing Zhe did not take any evasive maneuvers and chose to clash head-on.

Boom!

The space around them was destroyed. The Broken Blade and a sword danced erratically in the air as a torrential radiance swept outwards like a flood.

The watching cultivators were astonished. Although Qing Zhe had shown how strong he was earlier, he was now being thoroughly suppressed by Lin Xun and was barely hanging on.

The Zuo Clan and Qin Clan bigwigs' expressions turned exceedingly ugly. It was an unbearable outcome for them, and they felt as if they had swallowed a dead fly. The better Lin Xun performed, the more sullen and aggrieved they felt.

Thud thud thud!

Qing Zhe could feel his blood churning in his veins while his hands and feet had become numb from the impact. His spirit was also shaken as indescribable anger and frustration bubbled within him.

How is this possible?

He didn't dare to believe what was happening.

He was an extremely powerful individual among the Cyclic Derivation experts and boasted extraordinary battle power. He was considered a heaven pride even among the Ancient Wasteland Domain's younger generation, and even ordinary perfect Cyclic Derivation experts were unable to enter his eyes.

Despite this, he was currently being suppressed by a Heaven Ascension youngster!

Qing Zhe had always been someone with strong mental fortitude, but he felt extremely ashamed at this moment. If the news that he had gotten defeated in a lower plane were to spread back to the sect, he would become a laughing stock!

Crack!

The Broken Blade soon snapped Qing Zhe's sword.

Meanwhile, Lin Xun stepped forward and pressed down with his hand, creating a Bi'an Stamp that gave off a blinding brilliance as it attempted to crush Qing Zhe.

Thump!

Qing Zhe was sent flying with a caved-in chest.

An uproar erupted in the surroundings. The sight of Qing Zhe being subdued so easily made the empire cultivators feel as if they were dreaming.

At the same time, the overwhelming combat power displayed by Lin Xun made the empire cultivators' blood boil in excitement.

Who could have imagined that a Heaven Ascension youngster would so one-sidedly beat down a true disciple from the Omega Sword Sect?

Moreover, that disciple had previously subdued many Cyclic Derivation bigwigs with only three sword moves!

The comparison showed just how irrationally powerful Lin Xun was.

"Think you're so great just because you're from the Omega Sword Sect? How dare you act all high and mighty in the empire. In the end, you were still beaten by Young Master Lin."

“This is the fate of someone who looks down on everyone!”

“Exhilarating, how exhilarating! Young Master Lin more than lives up to his title as the strongest among the empire’s younger generation.”

Gu Dongting’s expression darkened at the fearless verbal attacks on Qing Zhe, causing him to release a terrifying aura as he fought the strong impulse to take action.

Qing Zhe’s sorry predicament had brought shame to Gu Dongting.

However, he soon sensed an extremely terrifying power spread nearby as if warning him that a battle between King experts would erupt the moment he tried anything funny.

“It’s him...” Gu Dongting instantly locked onto his opponent. It was Zhao Tailai. Gu Dongting’s eyes rippled for a moment and ultimately decided to restrain himself.

After all, the empire wasn’t the Omega Sword Sect’s territory. No matter how confident Gu Dongting was in himself, he knew that he would face many obstructions if he acted out of place.

On the battlefield, Qing Zhe was already incapable of fighting back. He was like a scarecrow being battered by a torrential thunderstorm, receiving numerous injuries that left him with broken bones, a bloodied body, and messy hair.

Qing Zhe’s servant, Chen Feng anxiously cried out with an ashen expression, “Master!”

He had acted very arrogantly previously and showed no regard for the empire cultivators. Hence, his panicked appearance caused several nearby cultivators to smirk.

Thud!

Qing Zhe was slammed into the ground, creating a giant pit. His disheveled appearance looked very pitiful.

His eyes bulged from their sockets, unable to accept the result. With a roar, he rose to his feet only to freeze in place as cold sweat filled his forehead.

The almost transparent Broken Blade was pressed against his throat, threatening to take his head off the moment he moved.

He had lost!

Qing Zhe felt as if his entire world was falling apart. His expression fluctuated indeterminately while his face twisted in frustration, nearly causing him to cough blood.

“Didn’t you claim Young Master Lin was nothing? Why have you been defeated instead?” Mocking laughter sounded from the empire cultivators.

Qing Zhe was enraged as his face burned with embarrassment. He was a disciple of the Omega Sword Sect and an outstanding heaven pride. He had originally been extremely confident and arrogant and looked down on all the cultivators from the same generation in the lower plane.

However, he now suffered a crushing defeat in front of everyone. It was a heavy mental blow that Qing Zhe was unable to accept for a time.

"According to our agreement, you will truthfully answer two questions of mine, and I will immediately let you go." Lin Xun landed on the ground as his black eyes focused on Qing Zhe.

To be frank, if Qing Zhe had used primordial spirit attacks in the battle earlier, Lin Xun would not have been able to subdue him so quickly.

After all, Qing Zhe was strong. He was definitely the strongest heaven pride Lin Xun had encountered until now.

However, there was no longer any meaning in talking about such things.

To everyone else, the process wasn't important but the outcome. This was the cold reality.

Qing Zhe never imagined that he would be the loser. Hence, Lin Xun's words made him feel increasingly uncomfortable and made him hate Lin Xun even more.

Lin Xun obviously didn't care about such things and asked, "Tell me if it was Yun Qingbai who asked you to challenge me."

Qing Zhe's pupils shrank as his expression fluctuated indeterminately.

Just as he was preparing to answer, Lin Xun cut in, "No need to reply, I already know the answer. My second question is: did Yun Qingbai instruct you to kill me during the duel?"

Qing Zhe's reply was swift this time. He coldly snorted and said, "Who do you think you are? How can Senior Brother Yun remember the likes of you?"

"He didn't?" Lin Xun frowned.

Qing Zhe icily said, "Senior Brother Yun is honest and dignified. He doesn't need to use me if he wants to kill you!"

Lin Xun stared at Qing Zhe for a long time. In the end, he was certain that Qing Zhe wasn't lying.

However, Lin Xun didn't understand. Since Yun Qingbai instructed Qing Zhe to challenge him, why didn't he give the order to kill?

Could Yun Qingbai have another goal?

"You can go."

Lin Xun turned around, no longer caring about Qing Zhe. After all, he was merely a pitiful worm that was running errands for Yun Qingbai.

Lin Xun's disinterest was akin to a sharp knife stabbing into Qing Zhe's heart, making him feel humiliated and angered like never before.

"Lin Xun!"

Qing Zhe released an almost bestial roar. "I will one day settle the score between us!"

Lin Xun continued to ignore him. After all, these were merely the unresigned words of a loser. It was laughable and pathetic.

Qing Zhe trembled in anger. He was a true disciple of the Omega Sword Sect who had subdued many Cyclic Derivation bigwigs with his three sword moves.

However, he was defeated and ignored by a Heaven Ascension youngster. The intense humiliation nearly made Qing Zhe go crazy.

“Let’s leave.”

In the distance, Gu Dongting could no longer bear to continue watching. He arrived next to Qing Zhe and took him away. He had already suffered enough humiliation and would only lose more face if he were to stay here any longer.

Even Gu Dongting himself felt ashamed and did not wish to linger a moment longer.

“Exhilarating!”

“Hahaha...”

Thunderous cheers exploded as a jubilant mood swiftly took over the crowd. Even someone as powerful as Qing Zhe had been crushed by Lin Xun. It made the empire cultivators feel proud and excited.

This was their Lin Xun, the strongest heaven pride!

The Zuo Clan and Qin Clan bigwigs were dumbfounded and sported rather interesting expressions. Who could have expected such an outcome?

By this time, Lin Xun had already returned to Mind Cleaning Peak and was being escorted away by the Lin Clan’s higher-ups.

Outside Mind Cleansing Peak, the empire cultivators began to heatedly discuss the events that had transpired, unable to contain their excitement.

“Hmph, Qing Zhe is so childish. I wonder if he would regret pushing for today’s duel if he knew that Lin Xun had slaughtered several Half-Step Kings in the Blood Kill Battlefield.”

The bigwigs from the imperial army gloated. After all, this was their expected outcome from the start!

“This battle will shake the Forbidden City and the rest of the world! After today, maybe only the true top experts from the Ancient Wasteland Domain will be able to vie with Lin Xun!”

This was the conclusion many bigwigs arrived at.

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Chapter 752: Strange Undercurrents

“When do you plan on leaving for the Ancient Wasteland Domain?”

Zhao Tailai had followed Lin Xun back to Mind Cleansing Peak.

Lin Xun was taken aback. “Why do you suddenly ask?”

Zhao Tailai said, "Signs of the Great Dao Catastrophe have already begun to appear, and the passageway from the empire to the Ancient Wasteland Domain has begun to become unstable. If you intend to go, you'd better hurry up. According to the Heavenly Seer, there's at most half a year before a great change occurs to the 'lower plane'. By then, it will be too late to leave."

Lin Xun's heart shivered. "Does that mean I won't be able to return even if I manage to leave safely?"

Zhao Tailai chuckled. "Who can say what will happen in the future? Even Saint experts are unable to predict all of the variables of this Great Dao Catastrophe. No one will dare to make any bold predictions about what will happen after."

"I will take note of this."

Lin Xun fell into thought. He had originally planned to polish his strength to perfection in the Blood Kill Battlefield. However, things often didn't go as planned, and there were still some places where he felt he was still lacking.

For example, he had yet to learn the last three transformations of the Tribulation Dragon Nine Transformations.

His cultivation was still stuck at the perfect Dao Ripple stage, and it would take him some time and effort to break through to the Dao Meaning stage.

Moreover, dao comprehension also required luck and timing. It wasn't something that hard work alone could overcome.

"When you decide when to leave, I will bring you to see the emperor. He will personally send you off."

Zhao Tailai's following words shook Lin Xun's heart. He realized this must have been a task entrusted to Zhao Tailai by the emperor himself.

"Alright." Lin Xun nodded and agreed.

Zhao Tailai soon departed. The old fox always looked as if he was in a hurry and was rather elusive.

Lin Xun had already grown used to it. He stood on the summit with his hands behind his back as he peered at the distant sea of clouds. The mountain breeze blew past, making his clothes and hair flutter around him.

The earlier battle had been uninspiring even though it did cause him to recall the past.

All those years ago, Yun Qingbai had killed all the main clan members on Mind Cleansing Peak.

Today, someone from the Omega Sword Sect had challenged him to a duel under Yu Qingbai's instructions.

There was no doubt that he was aware of Lin Xun's existence.

However, Lin Xun wasn't worried. Zhao Tailai had guaranteed that Yun Qingbai wouldn't be able to reenact a similar massacre even if he returned to the Ziyao Empire.

The only thing Lin Xun couldn't figure out was Yun Qingbai's goal since he had not instructed Qing Zhe to kill Lin Xun.

Lin Xun muttered, "Perhaps I'll only find out after I reach the Ancient Wasteland Domain and try to learn more about this enemy of mine..."

The setting sun's rays dyed the sea of clouds red as the mountain wind arrived with a trace of bone-chilling cold and wetness.

Lin Xun silently stood there for a long time before he finally turned around and left.

He had made the decision to start making preparations for the Ancient Wasteland Domain.

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The Ziyao Empire, Qingyuan Palace.

This was the accommodation prepared by the imperial family for the Omega Sword Sect.

In the room, Qing Zhe wore a dark and cold expression as he bitterly and resentfully declared, "Elder, I am certain that some kind of heaven-defying change of fate must have occurred to him. Otherwise, a baby who should have died years ago could not possibly have achieved such accomplishments!"

"Is that what Qingbai asked you to find out?" To the side, Gu Dongting pondered.

Qing Zhe grunted in acknowledgment. Even now, recalling how he had been defeated by Lin Xun in public made him nearly go mad from hatred.

"Heaven-defying change of fate?"

Gu Dongting frowned as if unable to understand. "A baby who lost his Origin Aeth Artery is fated to die. Even if there was some miraculous elixir that could save him, he would end up a cripple that could never cultivate. How did he do it?"

Qing Zhe icily snorted. "Elder, do you think I'm lying? You saw the battle as well. He defeated me with his Heaven Ascension cultivation. Almost no one in the Ancient Wasteland Domain is capable of such a feat!"

To admit his opponent was too weak would only prove that he was even more pathetic. Qing Zhe did not wish for Gu Dongting to consider such thoughts.

"You misunderstand."

Gu Dongting shook his head as light surged within his eyes. "If he is the baby from back then, it is probably as you have guessed. Some kind of heaven-defying change of fate must have occurred to him!"

At this point, he hesitated somewhat before he said, "In fact, I suspect that he has grown a new Origin Aeth Artery!"

Clatter!

The cup in Qing Zhe's hand fell to the ground. However, he did not seem to register it at all as horrifying azure light shot out from his eyes. "That must be it! The Grand Abyss Heaven Devourer is an extremely

mysterious and unfathomable talent from the ancient era. It was this very talent that Senior Brother Yun used to attain the complete supreme path!"

He paused and took a deep breath before he continued, "It's definitely no coincidence that Lin Xun also attained the supreme path!"

Gu Dongting's expression changed imperceptibly, having also arrived at the same conclusion

The unglamorous deed done by Yin Qingbai in the Ziyao Empire all those years ago was known by only a few people even in the Omega Sword Sect. However, Gu Dongting and Qing Zhe were not excluded from this group.

They knew full well that Yun Qingbai's current accomplishments in the Ancient Wasteland Domain were closely tied to the Origin Aeth Artery he had 'obtained' back then!

Admittedly, Yun Qingbai was a natural-born heaven pride who possessed superior cultivation talent.

Without that 'Origin Aeth Artery,' however, it would have been impossible for him to attain that highly sought-after strongest path so quickly!

"Elder, I have a presumptuous request." Qing Zhe suddenly rose to his feet and kneeled in front of Gu Dongting.

Gu Dongting's eyes narrowed as if guessing what Qing Zhe wanted to ask, "You...can't also be thinking of..."

Qing Zhe's eyes were filled with desire and determination. "Elder, the battle of the great age will arrive in a few years. When that time comes, all the heaven prides will vie for the sole opportunity of becoming a Saint. It will definitely be an unprecedented event and I...do not wish to be left behind!"

Gu Dongting was silent for a moment before he said, "I'm afraid that I can't help you with this matter. In the Ziyao Empire, even if I wish to help, my hands are tied."

Qing Zhe hurriedly said, "The timing isn't right yet. From what I know, Lin Xun will sooner or later head to the Ancient Wasteland Domain. I am confident of succeeding after he arrives!"

Gu Dongting shook his head. "I do not think this is the right move for you. Do you know how big of a price Yun Qingbai paid to integrate that Origin Aeth Artery? Moreover, Lin Xun has already matured. Even if you do succeed, it will be impossibly difficult to make that talent your own."

Qing Zhe's expression remained determined. "Elder, there is no need for you to worry about such matters. You only need to promise me one thing."

"What is it?"

With a deep breath, Qing Zhe gritted his teeth and said, "Conceal all information about Lin Xun, especially from Senior Brother Yun."

Gu Dongting immediately fell silent.

The atmosphere became rather stifling for a time.

“Elder, the Azure Crane Clan will never forget this debt and will definitely repay you many-fold in the future!”

Qing Zhe suddenly said, “Elder, I heard that you are almost about to face the nine longevity tribulations. If Elder doesn’t mind, you can come to the Azure Crane Clan to undergo the tribulation. I believe my father will happily lend out the clan’s sacred ground for your use if he knows of this matter.”

Gu Dongting’s eyes flickered imperceptibly. In the end, he softly sighed and said, “Fine, on account of your determination, I will agree this one time. There will be no other exception.”

Qing Zhe immediately kowtowed. “Thank you for this huge favor!”

Gu Dongting could not help but ask, “When do you plan on taking action?”

“There’s no hurry. I will wait until he arrives at the Ancient Wasteland Domain.” Qing Zhe’s eyes were filled with confidence as he displayed a faint smile.

In the Ancient Wasteland Domain, with the Azure Crane Clan’s power, they would be able to capture even a true King expert, let alone the likes of Lin Xun.

Gu Dongting acknowledged with a soft grunt and suddenly said, “I recall he has a spirit weapon in his possession. Hmph, if I owned such a treasure in my younger days, I would have started my longevity tribulation long ago!”

Qing Zhe immediately said, “Elder does not need to feel regretful. I will personally give you the spirit weapon after we capture him.”

Gu Dongting laughed heartily as he supported Qing Zhe up from the ground. “I’m elated that you have such considerations.”

Qing Zhe also laughed although he inwardly cursed Gu Dongting’s greed. Not only did he intend to borrow the Azure Crane Clan’s sacred ground, but he also wanted the spirit weapon!

However, Qing Zhe soon cast aside such thoughts. It was a small price to pay to attain the same path as Yun Qingbai.

Qing Zhe inwardly muttered to himself, “Lin Xun, ah, Lin Xun, you’d better not die. I will be waiting for you in the Ancient Wasteland Domain!”

However, Qing Zhe would not know that his concealment of information would instead help Lin Xun avoid a calamity!

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The Omega Sword Sect disciple, Qing Zhe, had been defeated by Lin Xun!

This news shook the Forbidden City, causing a tremendous uproar.

After half a year of silence, Lin Xun had once again shaken up the many powerful factions in the Forbidden City.

The factions on bad terms with the Lin Clan could not help but worry and feel uneasy. Lin Xun's growth was too rapid and terrifying. He was no longer the frail young man from before and was now an extremely intimidating power!

The factions with good relations with the Lin Clan happily celebrated that they had picked up a treasure. The more Lin Xun grew, the more benefits they would receive.

On that same night, news of 'Lin Twelve's' feats on the Blood Kill Battlefield began to spread...

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Chapter 753: The God of Destiny Makes Fools of People

The Forbidden City was brightly lit even at night.

In the Qin Family's residence, the higher-ups of the Qin and Zuo Families were rarely gathered together.

However, the mood within the hall was very depressing, unlike the lively atmosphere outside. The higher-ups all wore dark and sullen expressions, which made the air very tense.

One of the big shots said through gritted teeth, "Argh! Even the successors of the Omega Sword Sect failed to stop the kid! Who else in the empire can do anything to him in the future?"

"It's easy to foresee that if anything were to happen to the Mind Cleansing Peak Lin Clan in the future, the Qin and Zuo Clans will be suspected, even if it has nothing to do with us. They now have the protection of the influential figures of the imperial family as well as the emperor and Blood Kill King!" someone sighed pessimistically.

The higher-ups of the Zuo and Qin Clans were all aware that the two clans had gone against the Mind Cleansing Peak Lin Clan more than ten years ago.

However, they never imagined that the deteriorating Lin Clan would suddenly come back to life because of Lin Xun.

In just a few years, the Lin Clan underwent tremendous changes and strongly soared up. In terms of power and reputation, it had outshone some mid-level aristocratic clans.

Today, when Lin Xun defeated Qing Zhe, all the higher-ups of the Zuo and Qin Clans both realized a serious issue.

If they wanted to continue to subdue and suppress the Lin Clan in the future, then they should just probably give up all hope now!

"Lin Xun!" One of the higher-ups almost crushed his teeth in hatred and anger. A teenager was able to support the Lin Clan by himself after a few years of training! The more amazing he was, the more threatening and hateful he was to them.

"Everyone, there is no need to panic. Both our clans have been standing to this day. A little youngster can't possibly shake our positions," the leader of the Qin Clan said after taking a deep breath. "Although we can't do anything to him now, he also can't do anything to us."

He continued after a pause, "Everyone must know that the kid is an enemy of the Omega Sword Sect ever since he was born. In the foreseeable future, he will enter the Ancient Wasteland Domain to avenge his parents and families. We don't need to worry. When that happens, the Omega Sword Sect will make things difficult for the kid and might even get him killed!"

The analysis made a lot of sense, and many top figures echoed his view and became more relaxed.

Indeed, no matter how amazing Lin Xun was, he couldn't shake two high clans with his current strength.

Additionally, he had too many enemies. If he entered the Ancient Wasteland Domain, he would no doubt suffer attacks from the Omega Sword Sect!

The Omega Sword Sect was an ancient dao sect that had been standing since ancient times. It had a long history and a rich foundation.

It was more than easy for them to eliminate a youngster!

Someone exclaimed out loud, "I suddenly remembered that the kid killed a successor of Spirit Treasure Holy Land when he was in the depths of the Spirit Burial Sea and because of this, he formed a blood feud with Spirit Treasure Holy Land!"

"The foundation and power of Spirit Treasure Holy Land are as impressive as the Omega Sword Sect's."

"Oh, I also remembered that, half a year ago, an expert from Heaven Axis Holy Land visited Qinglu Academy, but Lin Xun acted out violently at the time and wounded several successors from Heaven Axis Holy Land."

The higher-ups spoke out one after another, identifying the clans and forces that Lin Xun had become enemies with.

Everyone became stirred up with excitement as they spoke. The anger accumulated in their hearts had already been swept away.

In the end, they concluded: Lin Xun had formed too many feuds and someone was bound to deal with him. They didn't need to worry about it.

Meanwhile, given the current strength of Lin Xun and Mind Cleansing Peak's Lin Clan in the Ziyao Empire, they couldn't possibly shake the Zuo and Qin Clans.

In other words, the threat posed to them by Lin Xun was nothing, at least for now.

"Haha, I hope the kid will quickly leave the empire and go to the Ancient Wasteland Domain. There are thousands of ancient sects coexisting there, and the cultivators there are all powerful and magnificent. Moreover, he has angered so many ancient sects, so I wonder how he is going to die.

"I'm also looking forward to it. The kid has always been fearless and audacious. He has already caused countless disasters. He doesn't know his place, so he will no doubt anger many more people again if he goes to the Ancient Wasteland Domain."

The tense atmosphere in the hall eased, and everyone was gloating.

"Reporting back!"

Suddenly, an attendant from the Zuo Clan rushed into the hall in a panic, his forehead beaded with sweat. "Patriarch, we just received the news that Lin Xun has been killing on the Blood Kill Battlefield in the past six months!"

All the big shots in the room frowned in bewilderment. What's the huge fuss?

The patriarch of the Qin Clan said aloud, "Be specific."

While wiping away his sweat, the attendant quickly explained, "Rumors are circulating in the Forbidden City. Lin Xun is said to have killed several half-step kings on the Blood Kill Battlefield..."

The attendant began to list Lin Xun's remarkable feats and achievements on the Blood Kill Battlefield.

The faces of the Zuo and Qin Clan influential figures grew overcast again, and the relaxed feeling and the gloating that they felt quickly faded.

"According to the rumors, Lin Xun deserves huge credit as to why the soldiers on the Blood Kill Battlefield were able to persist until the passage to the empire was reopened!"

When the attendant said this, the atmosphere in the hall had already become deathly silent and still. It was so oppressive that one could hardly breathe.

How could they have imagined that, during the six months that Lin Xun was gone, he was causing a huge stir on the dangerous Blood Kill Battlefield?

He killed half-step kings with a bow and arrow!

He charged unhindered across the battlefield and slaughtered and frightened enemies with his strength alone!

He earned many military credits and reached the top three of the military credit list!

The enemy moved his name to the third most wanted on the Blood Wanted List!

The most unbelievable thing was that Bloodthirsty Queen Zhao Xingye forced the Magi Brute Army to ceasefire by using Lin Xun's bow and arrow!

His series of incredible feats and achievements struck the Zuo and Qin Clans like thunderbolts. All the clansmen stood, stunned with disbelief.

The attendant who was reporting back had already turned pale with nervousness, trembling and sweating profusely. The atmosphere in the hall was so still and depressing that he felt like he was suffocating.

He was aware that his report greatly shocked the great figures, and their emotions at this moment...

They must be the worst ever!

"That kid...is a monster!" the patriarch of the Qin Clan sighed after a long moment. But it was difficult to tell whether it was out of admiration or disgust.

Immediately after that, he drew a deep breath and said aloud, "Everyone, don't worry. He will soon leave the empire and head to the Ancient Wasteland Domain. The more heaven-defying he acts, the greater the danger and hardships he will suffer there. He might even lose his life."

Everyone nodded silently. They could only reassure themselves in that way now.

Boom!

At that moment, another strange change happened. A deafening sound rocked the hall.

"How dare someone try to trespass into the Qin Clan's residence?!"

The patriarch of the Qin Clan sprang up in fury. His mood was already very bad because of Lin Xun.

How would he not fly into a rage now that someone wanted to break into the Qin Clan's residence?

"Let's see who is so audacious!"

"Our two clans have never experienced such situations in many years, but now, obstacles are appearing one after another! Do they think our clans are easy to bully?"

Everyone was seething.

Just like the patriarch of the Qin Clan, they were incandescent with rage because of Lin Xun, and that anger finally erupted in full.

They needed to vent their anger, if not, they would suffocate!

"Patriarch! Patriarch! This is bad!" Several attendants rushed into the hall in a panic.

"Trash, what's going on?" The Qin Clan patriarch almost lashed out at them with a kick. They had embarrassed the Qin Clan. The entire empire would laugh at the Qin Clan if they heard about them losing their composure.

However, his expression changed dramatically the next second and he cried out, "Why...why is it you?"

He looked as bad as the panicked attendants. It was obvious that he had also lost control of his emotions.

Not only him, but all the figures in the hall were also staring outside the hall in bewilderment and disbelief.

Outside the hall stood a graceful and slender figure in a black cloak. Her long black hair was rolled up in a bun that accentuated her bright eyes, plump red lips, pearly white teeth, and mesmerizing beauty.

She exuded a peerless elegance even just standing there.

Zhao Xingye!

She had the title of Bloodthirsty Queen in the empire. She was the only female general in the empire and was seen as one of the most terrifying figures among the Life Death Stage Kings.

She was always fighting on the Blood Kill Battlefield and rarely showed up in the empire, but even so, stories about her constantly circulated!

Everyone was aware that Zhao Xingye had another identity, especially the influential figures present. She was the emperor's younger sister!

Why would such a stunning woman with a terrifying cultivation base, abnormally strong powers, and a high and mighty status force her way into the Qin Clan's residence so late at night?

"Lin Xun?!" someone screamed, and his eyes almost rolled out of their sockets.

A handsome young man was standing not far behind Zhao Xingye; it was Lin Xun!

Everyone in the hall suddenly became restless. How would they have thought that the youngster they hated to the bone would appear in front of them in such a way?!

What...did he come here for?

Could he have come to get revenge by taking advantage of Zhao Xingye's power?

The same thought struck the minds of the great figures from the Zuo and Qin Clans.

All faces suddenly clouded over.

They had found various reasons to reassure themselves that Lin Xun wouldn't be a threat to them as long as he went to the Ancient Wasteland Domain.

But who would have thought that, in the blink of an eye, the youth who brought them endless headaches would appear before them?

The god of destiny liked to make fools of people!

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Chapter 754: Preparations Before Leaving

Back when they were on Blood Kill Battlefield, Zhao Xingye had agreed to let Lin Xun come with her if she went to ask for an explanation from the Qin Clan.

And tonight, Zhao Xingye and Lin Xun came together.

The bewildered expressions and stunned reactions on the faces of the big shots of the Qin Clan made it clear that Qin Chu hadn't told the Qin Clan of what he had promised on the Blood Kill Battlefield.

However, this was irrelevant. Lin Xun came to watch Zhao Xingye ruthlessly slaughter the Qin Clan. He didn't care about the other things.

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Half an hour later.

With a satisfied smile, Lin Xun left the Qin Clan's residence with Zhao Xingye.

As for the Qin Clan, bursts of angry roars mixed with the shatter of teacups erupted from their residences, which could be heard from afar.

Lin Xun's smile widened.

During the negotiation, the important figures of the Qin Clan all turned green in the face when they heard that Qin Chu was going to donate all the wealth and power of the clan to the empire. Every one of them almost went berserk with rage.

However, they didn't dare to protest in front of Zhao Xingye and had no choice but to contain their anger. Lin Xun couldn't help but grin at the thought of their dark and aggrieved faces.

In the end, under Zhao Xingye's high-handed attitude, the Qin Clan paid a heavy price.

In terms of gold coins alone, they donated tens of millions. Additionally, they also contributed one hundred thousand high-grade aeth crystals and promised to mobilize an army of tens of thousands of elite soldiers from the Qin Clan to fight on the Blood Kill Battlefield.

They paid a tremendous price!

Even though the Qin Clan was a high clan of the empire, the amount they donated was no different from taking a chunk of flesh from their body.

"Little guy, are you satisfied?" There was a faint smile on Zhao Xingye's plump red lips, and her big and charming eyes shone brightly.

"But Qin Chu still failed to fulfill his promise after all," sighed Lin Xun.

Zhao Xingye rolled her eyes. "You need to learn to be content. The Qin Clan is a high clan of the empire after all. I don't even dare to push them too far. It's impossible to make the Qin Clan contribute all their wealth and powers willingly, unless..."

"Unless what?"

"Unless you have the power beyond a Life Death Stage King!"

"I..."

Lin Xun narrowed his black eyes and said after a while, "It seems like I will have to solve this matter myself in the future."

"Then I'll look forward to hearing your good news," said Zhao Xingye half-heartedly.

To transcend the Life Death Stage, a cultivator had to set foot onto the longevity tribulations path. Given Lin Xun's current cultivation stage, there was still a long road until he reached that level.

Based on Lin Xun's talent and foundation, she speculated that it would take him at least one hundred years to reach that level, only if he ran into no obstacles or problems along the way.

Lin Xun smiled and said nothing else.

Indeed, it was too early to talk about that, but if he had the power to overthrow the Zuo and Qin Clans in the future, he wouldn't hesitate to do so!

.....

Mind Cleansing Peak.

After defeating Qing Zhe and demanding a huge amount of compensation from the Qin Clan with Zhao Xingye, Lin Xun seldom left the house and lived a low-profile life.

He was making preparations to go to the Ancient Wasteland Domain.

"Nameless Pagoda, Broken Blade, No-Nonsense Bow, Biluo Arrow...I have to always carry these treasures." He organized the treasures he had harvested over the years.

After going through them, he came to realize that he had accumulated many rare treasures over the years.

Among them were precious rune materials, rare elixirs, and treasures looted from enemies...

Of course, there were also some treasures that he considered precious in the past, but now, they were nothing special in his eyes.

In the end, after careful filtering, he decided to keep the majority of the treasures in the Lin Clan for use by other clansmen.

As for himself, he only kept the Nameless Pagoda, the Broken Blade, the No-Nonsense Bow and the Biluo Arrow. Additionally, there were two other secret treasures stored within the Nameless Pagoda: the Heaven Sealing Trident and the Disorderly Devastation Ruler.

They were secret treasures of the Dragon Whale Clan and the Jade Qilin Clan of the Spirit Burial Sea respectively!

Even though the two treasures had been suppressed in the Nameless Pagoda, they were still fighting to break free. So far, they could not be tamed and appeared extremely mysterious.

Lin Xun had a hunch that he wouldn't be able to subdue them with his strength alone if he released them from the pagoda!

Fortunately, the Nameless Pagoda possessed miraculous powers, and its wonder-gold dao light had a restraining effect to suppress the treasures.

"There's also the refining gourd!" Lin Xun exclaimed. He almost forgot about this treasure!

It was as bright and smooth as a piece of fine fire jade, and the surface emitted a spiritual glow as though wisps of divine flames were flickering around it.

On a closer look, one would discover mysterious and cryptic dao runes in ancient patterns such as flowers, birds, insects and fish. Each one seemed to be imbued with a natural intelligence like they were alive.

They were traces of the dao, known to be mysterious and unfathomable!

The refining gourd was an ancient treasure that Lin Xun obtained from the blood wasteland of the Ancient Spirit World, and it had remained undamaged since ancient times!

The mouth of the gourd was engraved with secret runes that resembled spiraling flames like it had been stamped with a fire seal.

Lin Xun already knew about the origin of the refining gourd when he got his hands on it. It came from an ancient sect called the Pure Land of Supreme Unity, and it had sealed a drop of purple blood within it.

Thinking of this, Lin Xun reddened with shame. The refining gourd and the drop of purple blood in it were both precious treasures that were unheard of.

But he almost forgot about them...

Bang!

He held the refining gourd in his hand, hesitated for a moment, and finally he couldn't help activating the secret rune seal at the mouth of the gourd once again.

A purple flame frantically gushed out, instantly incinerating the surrounding space and sending a terrifying wave of scorching heat across the area.

Lin Xun was used to seeing the spectacle so he calmly activated his spirit sense.

In the depths of the gourd, the single drop of purple blood rotated as it floated, emitting a magnificent glow and releasing a terrifyingly destructive aura. A bright spark seemed to be looming inside the drop of blood.

When Lin Xun first obtained the treasure, he was only at the Spirit Sea Stage and had a much weaker spirit than now. That was the reason his mind was shaken at the mere sight of the drop of purple blood.

But now, his cultivation had reached the Heaven Ascension Stage, and he had embarked on the supreme path. Even so, he still tensed up, and a chill ran through him when he attempted to sense the drop of purple blood.

It was unbelievable that a drop of blood could contain such boundless divine powers that had an oppressive and suffocating effect on people.

Boom!

A streak of bright light suddenly flashed out from the purple blood, striking Lin Xun's spirit sense.

Without any hesitation, Lin Xun activated the Sun Illumination and instantly obliterated the streak of light.

Almost at the same time, a cold and furious roar resounded.

"Old Man Wujiu, when I break free, I will launch a blood bath on the Pure Land of Supreme Unity!"

The voice sent a shudder through Lin Xun's mind-sea, but Lin Xun was prepared and didn't panic one bit.

Not long after that, he resealed the refining gourd and sank into deep thought.

He already knew that the drop of purple blood was from the heart of a terrifying great figure in ancient times and that it contained the dao truth of the owner of the purple blood.

Dao truth was a kind of mysterious power that contained the inheritance of the great dao according to the legend!

Old Man Wujiu of Pure Land of Supreme Unity extracted three thousand drops of heart blood from the owner of the purple blood to precisely destroy the will of the purple blood owner and seize the inheritance of the great dao.

The only certain thing was that the owner of the purple blood and Pure Land of Supreme Unity were mortal enemies, and the enmity between them had been created in ancient times and countless years had passed since then.

It might even be possible that the Pure Land of Supreme Unity had already been destroyed in that long period.

“It’s unfortunate that the aura contained in this drop of purple blood is too frightening. I likely won’t be able to grasp the dao truths contained within it until I have reached the Cyclic Derivation Stage...” Lin Xun sighed as he put away the refining gourd.

Even without the drop of purple blood, the refining gourd wasn’t ordinary, as indicated by the mysterious great dao inscription remaining undamaged and flawless despite being eroded by time.

“Toady and Xia Zhi are going to leave with me.”

After sorting out his treasures, he remembered that he had one more thing to do before he left, “My priority now is to select someone to be in charge of Mind Cleansing Peak...”

A few days later, Mind Cleansing Hall.

He summoned all the higher-ups of the Lin Clan and announced that Lin Huaiyuan would be taking care of Mind Cleansing Peak on his behalf in the future!

Lin Zhong and Spirit Vulture were to act as elders and assist Lin Huaiyuan in taking charge.

This was decided after a long discussion between Lin Xun, Lin Zhong, Spirit Vulture and others. Although Lin Huaiyuan had done some foolish things in the past, his ability and powers were undeniable.

Furthermore, he had already wholeheartedly promised to serve Lin Xun, so he was no doubt the most suitable candidate to take over Mind Cleansing Peak.

Moreover, with the help of Lin Zhong and Spirit Vulture, there shouldn’t be any major problems.

Even so, the announcement shocked everyone, especially Lin Huaiyuan, who was struck dumb.

He had never thought that he would be selected, so he wasn’t prepared at all!

He quivered all over. Emotions welled up inside him. Lin Xun trusted him so much that he let him take charge of the power of the Lin Clan. He almost struggled to form words around the lump in his throat.

He suddenly stood up, took a deep breath and solemnly swore, “Patriarch, rest assured! I will definitely take care of our Lin Clan affairs! I promise there won’t be any trouble or problems!”

At that moment, even if Lin Xun wanted him to die, he would not wrinkle his brows.

Since the lord treats me as a scholar, I won’t hesitate to repay him as a scholar! This was Lin Huaiyuan’s feelings at that moment!

After the announcement, all the higher-ups of the Lin Clan realized that their young patriarch would soon leave for the Ancient Wasteland Domain!

The Prodigies War

Chapter 755: Fortune Reading

“I’m leaving.”

Lin Xun walked alongside Gu Liang down the bustling streets of the Forbidden City, hands clasped behind his back in a relaxed manner.

The street was lively and crowded with people and endless streams of horses and carriages as always.

This was the capital of the empire, the place that cultivators all over the world yearned to come to the most. Every day, many fledglings would travel thousands of miles to gain a footing in the tremendous capital city, hoping to earn fame and fortune.

It wasn’t easy to live in the imperial capital!

Lin Xun deeply felt that.

However, he had risen to fame all over the world and outshone everyone else of his generation.

Now that he was about to leave, he felt a little reluctant to part with the city.

“The Forbidden City is now filled with rumors that you are going to train in the Ancient Wasteland Domain, but...”

Gu Liang hesitated before continuing asking, “Will you come back?”

“Of course I’ll come back, this is my home after all.”

Gu Liang smiled and peered into the distance. “You can’t say for sure...the outside world is vast, beyond what you can imagine. There will be dazzling sights and wonderful encounters. How can you guarantee that you will return once you embark on this road?”

He patted Lin Xun on the shoulder and smiled again. “However, I am very happy that you are able to leave. In my view, the empire is a small pond, and it can’t support you. You need a bigger stage and a wider world to be able to show your ambitions and progress further on the path of the great dao!”

Lin Xun stared, dumbfounded at him.

The two casually chatted as they strolled along the street and before they knew it, they had arrived at the stargazing platform.

The grand stargazing platform stood nine thousand feet tall, towering into the clouds and sky.

“I heard that the stargazing platform overlooks the entire Forbidden City. It is a place to deduce and infer world phenomena and visions and divine the fortune and future of the empire.”

Gu Liang looked up and continued, “The old seer of the stargazing platform is said to possess unfathomable abilities. There is almost nothing in this world that he doesn’t know. He is like a prophet with his divine intelligence and wisdom.”

“Heavenly Seer...”

A strange look flickered across Lin Xun’s eyes. He had long heard that the old seer lived in seclusion on the stargazing platform all year round. He was undoubtedly the most legendary and mysterious figure in the empire.

Everyone, including the imperial family and the cultivators of the world, respected him hugely to the point of worship!

“Before you leave, it would be great if Heavenly Seer could divine your future.” Gu Liang sighed, “Unfortunately, I heard that he detached himself from worldly affairs long ago. It’s very unlikely that this wish will come true.”

“Divine my future?” Lin Xun gave a soft smile.

He never believed in such things.

The so-called fate was not only full of variables but intertwined with karma. How could it be so easy to deduce and tell a person’s fortune?

“Let’s go.”

Lin Xun turned around and was about to leave when a young boy in an azure robe opened the door at the bottom of the stargazing platform and bowed to Lin Xun. “Mister Lin, please wait a moment. Lord Heavenly Seer invites you onto the platform for a cup of tea.”

Lin Xun stared at him blankly, and then he couldn’t help but glance up at the stargazing platform with a strange look on his face.

However, Gu Liang’s face lit up and he quickly nudged Lin Xun with his elbow. “The Heavenly Seer invited you! Hurry up and go! This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity! Remember to ask him to read your fortune!”

Lin Xun smiled awkwardly. After deliberating for a moment, he nodded.

He was also curious about what the old seer, whom he had never met in his life, wanted from him just as he was about to leave the capital.

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He followed the young boy up the steps. As he reached the top of the stargazing platform, he felt as though he was floating in the clouds.

He looked down from the railings, captivated by the scenic views of the capital city. Rows of buildings were arranged like cobwebs in the distance, and people were as tiny as little ants while the horse carriages resembled little squares.

For a moment, he felt the magnificent feeling of being atop the world, and his mind cleared of all his thoughts and worries.

He seemed to have transcended mortal life standing amidst the waves of clouds and with the mundane world beneath his feet.

“What a magnificent place,” he marveled.

A gravelly voice sounded from the other side, “Here, you can see the various states of all living beings, and you can see the loftiness of heaven and earth. Only in this way can one realize that all beings are suffering and heaven and the earth are merciless.”

Lin Xun turned his head and saw a gray-robed old man with a gray beard and hair sitting hunched over a table. The deep lines that etched his face seemed to each tell the tale of his life.

He was shrouded in an aura that seemed to have spanned a long period, and he oozed years of experience and knowledge, but his eyes were as clear and ageless as a newborn baby’s. They were so clear that they could reflect the deepest secrets in someone’s heart.

“Paying my respects to Elder.” Lin Xun bowed.

In truth, he was a little shaken. The old man’s aura might be ordinary, but it had a sense of vastness and immensity like an abyss. It felt more unfathomable compared to those of any Life Death Stage King he had met in the past!

“Take a seat!”

The Heavenly Seer lifted the teapot on the table and poured a cup of tea for Lin Xun. His movements were slow, but they had a calming and tranquil power.

Lin Xun nodded and sat cross-legged opposite him. He saluted him with the cup and sipped the tea.

The tea had a unique bitter taste, which Lin Xun wasn’t used to at first, but soon the bitterness made way for a faint mellow flavor that soothed and relaxed his mind.

The old seer studied Lin Xun with his clear, ageless eyes and remarked, “Ever since I have resided in the stargazing platform, I have seen many young geniuses over the past thousands of years, but you are the only one whom I can’t see through. I have to admit that Lu Boya has indeed cultivated a remarkable disciple.”

Lin Xun exclaimed, “Elder, do you know Mister Lu?”

The old seer nodded. “I’ve met him once. We walk different paths, so we didn’t share many conversations, but I admire him greatly. It’s a pity that the path he walked is too precarious. Defying heaven and changing fate always lead to tremendous problems.”

Defy heaven and change fate!

Lin Xun’s emotions roiled uncontrollably. He thought of the Omega Secret Realm that Mister Lu handed him. He remembered the giant hand that destroyed Mister Lu along with the mine prison.

“Elder...”

He was about to say something when Heavenly Seer shook his head. “I don’t know whether Lu Boya is alive or dead.”

Before Lin Xun frowned in disappointment, he added, “However, I can infer that the culprit who destroyed his living place is from the Ancient Wasteland Domain.”

A deep color suddenly filled his clear eyes, and his voice became slightly ethereal, "In the Ancient Wasteland Domain, the person or force who dared to do this has to at least have a god-like foundation..."

Then, he shook his head again. "But it is hard to say...Lu Boya suffered a calamity because he tried to defy the heavens and change fate. It is difficult to deduce much from that calamity."

"But what is certain is that Mister Lu's calamity is related to him defying the heavens and changing fate!" Lin Xun said aloud after a period of silence.

There was another thing that he didn't mention—He suspected that Lu Boya's calamity was connected to the Omega Secret Realm!

After all, it was the Omega Secret Realm that allowed him to be reborn, which was in a way similar to defying the heavens and changing fate!

"Mister Lu, he...shielded me from a calamity!" Lin Xun trembled at the thought while indescribable gratitude and anger rushed up his heart.

Where did the giant hand that destroyed Mister Lu come from?

"You guessed right. When you set foot on the tribulation longevity path, you will understand how terrifying it is to go against heaven and change your fate. Perhaps, only when you understand this will you find out exactly how Lu Boya met with misfortune."

The words of Heavenly Seer were as though they were paving a path for Lin Xun.

Lin Xun rose to his feet and bowed. "Thank you for your guidance, Elder."

"Go, the empire is too small for you. Whether it is for revenge or to seek the dao, the Ancient Wasteland Domain is where you should go."

The old seer lifted a cup and peered into the distance, where the scenery was as beautiful as a painting and the world seemed boundless.

Lin Xun bowed his farewell and left silently.

Bang!

Not long after Lin Xun left, the old seer's hand trembled and lost grip on the cup he was holding. Tea spilt all over the table.

The wrinkles all over his face seemed to have deepened, and he looked much older as if he was almost decaying.

However, he didn't seem aware of this. He continued to gaze blankly into the distance as if many things were weighing on his mind.

"What do you think?"

Suddenly, a figure appeared out of thin air. He had a lean face and was dressed in a wide-sleeved robe. His figure had an indescribably majestic and imposing charm. Even if he was just standing there casually, he was akin to a mountain that could block the wind and rain!

If Lin Xun were here, he would recognize the mighty person right away! He was the principal of Qinglu Academy!

"If nothing else, Lu Boya has already planted a seed and found a glimmer of hope on the path he seeks..." the Heavenly Seer muttered, the wrinkles on his face creasing in a complicated expression.

The principal's eyes became unusually bright and illuminating, like the brightest torches, which seemed capable of penetrating the nine heavens. "The signs of the great dao catastrophe are beginning to appear. It is better to have a glimmer of hope than no hope at all!"

"But the kid's path ahead is..." The old seer sighed softly, stretching and spreading out his left hand that had been kept tucked inside his sleeve. An ancient tortoise shell had already broken into several fragments.

"What?" The principal narrowed his eyes.

"Like a thick fog, it is impossible to see through it!" Heavenly Seer said each word with a noticeable pause. Then, a terrifying light shone in his clear eyes.

The principal scrunched his brows and remained silent for a long while before his frown eased and his eyes flashed like terrifying lightning. "This is called variables. When something is at its end, it changes. When it changes, a solution will emerge."

"I hope so." Heavenly Seer put away the broken tortoise shell fragment in his palm.

But he didn't tell the principal that he saw a shocking scene when he secretly deduced the fortune of Lin Xun—There was a thick veil of fog on the path ahead of him that couldn't be seen through.

And behind him, the sky had collapsed, all living beings had been destroyed, and everything had ceased to exist!

[The Prodigies War](#)

Chapter 756: Brilliance Fills the Capital But Feels Lonely

Lin Xun was about to leave!

Recently, news about his departure stirred the Forbidden City, and it became the most widely discussed topic among all major clans, sects and cultivators.

"Ah, I knew that a young genius like Young Master Lin is not destined to remain in the empire forever."

"Young Master Lin is unparalleled, and his brilliance fills the capital. Once he leaves, no one else will likely be qualified to hold his title."

"When the fish leaps out of the sea, flowers bloom on the other side of the shore. I believe that Young Master Lin will not be a nobody even if he goes to the mysterious Ancient Wasteland Domain!"

Many cultivators sighed with pity or sent their blessings.

The majority of cultivators had nothing but respect and admiration for Lin Xun. A teenager from beyond the southwestern border had advanced triumphantly through all the obstacles and rose to fame in the capital, becoming the young genius who captured the attention of the entire world.

Who could compare with him?

Furthermore, he had achieved countless legendary feats, many of which still were circulating in the city and discussed with great interest.

How would the cultivators not be amazed by a youngster like him?

Many people couldn't help but miss him if he left the empire to seek the great dao in the Ancient Wasteland Domain. They had no idea when the talented young man would return, and the Forbidden City would have one less genius in the future!

"Hahaha, thank heavens! The ruthless demon-like guy is finally leaving!"

"I'm going to suffer psychological trauma if he doesn't leave soon. As long as he is around, how will our generation of people be able to shine?"

"I'm glad he's gone! I just hope that he will never come back. Ever since he has come to the Forbidden City, he has caused endless trouble and killed constantly like a demon. He has given many people headaches."

Many clans and cultivators who had grudges against Lin Xun cheered with joy and celebrated upon hearing the news. They even wished to drink to their heart's content to release their happiness and excitement.

A joyous festival-like atmosphere also enveloped the high clans including the Chi Clan, the Zuo Clan, and the Qin Clan.

It was understandable. The presence of Lin Xun made them unable to sleep or rest peacefully.

How would they not be pleased that Lin Xun was about to leave? It was as though they had gotten rid of the plague.

Many enemy forces almost wept tears of joy.

Someone who neither had grudges against Lin Xun nor admired him couldn't help exclaiming, "The news of his departure to the Ancient Wasteland Domain has already caused such a stir and has drawn the attention of the entire Forbidden City. In the entire empire, only Lin Xun would have such a strong influencing power."

Indeed, ordinary cultivators would never attract the attention of anyone even if they left or died.

Lin Xun was different.

He was world famous. He had outshone everyone else in the empire. His every move or action affected and influenced many cultivators.

.....

Bang! Bang! Bang!

In a restaurant, a group of cultivators were brawling, smashing the tables and chairs and causing disturbances for the rest of the customers.

“Damn it, how dare you talk bad about Young Master Lin?!”

“Tsk, Lin Xun is a little devil in the world. So what if we celebrate him leaving? Are we not allowed to talk about him?”

Evidently, one side admired and respected Lin Xun, while the other wanted Lin Xun to leave the Forbidden City as soon as possible, which led to the dispute and brawl.

Lin Xun happened to be drinking with Gu Liang in the same place, but when he saw the fight, he helplessly got up and left.

“Haha, I didn’t realize that you are so influential now,” Gu Liang chuckled as they walked out of the restaurant.

Lin Xun scowled at him. He planned to leave quietly, but it seemed impossible now.

Carrying bottles of wine, they drank while strolling along the street.

However, they ran into disturbance after disturbance. Frequently, the disputes escalated and cultivators ended up fighting on the streets, inns, teahouses and brothels.

The disputes all started for the same reason. It was a dispute between those who supported Lin Xun and those who wanted Lin Xun to leave.

It not only ruined Lin Xun’s mood to drink, but he also felt a headache coming on.

He had a feeling that the capital would become a mess if he stayed any longer

“Xiaohua, don’t look down on me. When I grow up, I will become a man like Young Master Lin Xun!”

On the way, they came across a group of little kids playing around. One of the kids said to a little girl in a serious tone as snot ran down his nose, “If you agree to play with me, I will make you my woman when I become a peerless genius in the future.”

The little girl wore a flowery dress with her hair tied up in high pigtails. She put her hand on her waist and rolled her eyes. “Zhang Xiaofan, just give up. I heard that Big Brother Lin Xun is not married. When I grow up, I’m going to marry Big Brother Lin Xun. And you...hmph, wipe your snot first before you bluff!”

Gu Liang’s expression turned strange. Even kids are fighting over Lin Xun?

The younger generation will surpass us one day!

“Amazing, my brother! I didn’t realize you currently have a girlfriend,” Gu Liang teased and winked at Lin Xun.

Lin Xun only responded with two words, “Get lost!”

Then, carrying the wine bottle under his arm, he quickly fled the area. The kids spoke without restraint so he was worried about hearing more nonsense.

“When you get to the Ancient Wasteland Domain, you should make more friends so you won’t be as lonely as you are now...” Gu Liang sighed as he watched Lin Xun stream through the busy crowd.

In this world, there might be countless people who knew about Lin Xun’s reputation, but only very few truly understood him.

He had navigated hundreds of miles from the southwestern border. He had traveled the world alone. He had passed through Donglin City, Haze City, Blood Kill Camp, and the Forbidden City. He had survived the Spirit Burial Sea and the Blood Kill Battlefield. But every time, he was alone.

The world only saw his glorious side and his brilliance and heard his reputation, but how many knew how lonely he was?

Lonely!

That was the impression that Lin Xun left on Gu Liang.

Perhaps, that is what they mean by it being lonely at the top.

Even as a friend, Gu Liang didn’t know what Lin Xun was thinking or how much pressure he was under.

In the distance, Lin Xun was walking alone. He looked especially dashing as he was dressed in a moon-white robe that perfectly fitted his tall and handsome figure and with his black hair swaying side to side as he walked through the vast crowd.

However, Gu Liang felt that the lonely figure of Lin Xun in the distance didn’t match the hustle and bustle.

What was cultivation?

Perhaps, what he pursued had already transcended the world of mortals.

Gu Liang shook his head and quickly caught up with him.

.....

Two days later.

At the break of dawn.

After heavy snowfall last night, the entire Forbidden City was blanketed in snow like a vast expanse of whiteness. The glimmering blanket of snow brought a sense of sacredness and pureness to the world.

When Lin Xun stepped out of the mountain gate of Mind Cleansing Peak, Zhao Tailai was already waiting for him.

After exchanging greetings, Lin Xun couldn’t help but turn around and glance one last time at Mind Cleansing Peak before he boarded the prepared carriage.

"It's snowing all over the capital, what a beautiful sight!" Zhao Tailai laughed as he steered the carriage through the snow.

"Take care!"

In front of the mountain gate of Mind Cleansing Peak stood a group of figures, including Lin Zhong, Spirit Vulture, Xiaoke, Third Old Zhu and Lin Huaiyuan. They quietly watched the carriage disappear into the beautiful snow and mist.

They didn't know when they would see Lin Xun again so, as members of the Lin Clan, it was understandable that they felt melancholic and concerned.

"Chirp chirp..."

Jiujiu was sitting in Xiaoke's arms, his huge, round eyes glistening with tears that rolled down his face like diamond-like teardrops.

The little guy also seemed to know that he wouldn't see Lin Xun again for a long, long time.

PA!

Xiaoke slapped Jiujiu's soft head. "Why are you crying? You're not going to part forever. So dramatic."

Everyone laughed, easing the sad atmosphere.

"The Ancient Wasteland Domain is vast, ancient and magnificent. Thousands of clans and ancient sects have been standing there since ancient times, and there are even true saints wandering unhindered there..." Spirit Vulture's voice sounded emotional. "Given Lin Xun's aptitude and background, he will no doubt continue to rise and display his brilliance, competing with the geniuses of the millions of clans and races!"

Everyone's blood pulsed around their bodies. They looked forward to hearing about Lin Xun, and they silently wished him well.

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The Imperial Palace.

Under the morning rays, the snow-covered palace looked especially grand and magnificent.

A carriage crunched in the snow as it steered into the palace. From the beginning to the end, it encountered no obstacles, and it eventually came to a stop before an ancient altar in the depths of the palace.

The nine-foot-tall altar was constructed from five-colored soil, and the center was engraved with a grid-like pattern. It had a sacred and majestic aura and seemed to link the sky with the earth.

When Lin Xun stepped out of the carriage, Zhao Tailai patted him on the shoulder. "It's time to leave, take care. We will meet again if fate allows it."

Lin Xun stared speechlessly at him and almost rolled his eyes. Isn't this old fox too nonchalant?

Zhao Tailai had already boarded the carriage and vanished into the distance in a cloud of smoke and dust. At the same time, his loud laughter echoed with the wind, "You are just making a trip to the Ancient Wasteland Domain. It's not a big deal. Why make the farewell so sad? Also, I can't wait to hear news about you causing damage and chaos to the Ancient Wasteland Domain! Hahaha—"

Cause damage and chaos to the Ancient Wasteland Domain... A frown creased Lin Xun's brow. Does that old fox think I am just a troublemaker?

The brilliant white snow failed to cover the mysterious and ancient altar in front of him.

It had a very special and unique aura around it that blurred Lin Xun's vision and made him feel a fit of dizziness as though he was lost in time and space.

"You've come," a gentle voice suddenly sounded.

[The Prodigies War](#)

Chapter 757: Listening to the Emperor

Lin Xun turned around and saw a handsome man had somehow stood beside him without him realizing.

The man was dressed in an unadorned and spotless azure robe and a pair of straw sandals. His black hair flowed loosely down his straight back and tall figure.

His skin was smooth and almost translucent like crystal, and his cheeks and features were sharp like they had been chiseled. He was undeniably a masculine and handsome man.

In particular, his eyes were deep and serene, calm as a lake, and seemed capable of reflecting the heavens and all things in the world. No one dared to look at him directly.

It was impossible to discern the man's age from his appearance, but even so, Lin Xun felt a sense of majesty directly assaulting his face.

He felt as though he was facing a ruler that controlled the universe and held the sun and the moon in his hands. The imposing manner around him was enough to make Lin Xun tense up.

Without the need to think about it, Lin Xun knew that the man before him was the emperor of the empire!

Regardless of how ordinary and casual the clothes were, they couldn't conceal or diminish the majesty of the supreme figure that stood at the pinnacle of the world.

"Paying my respects to...Elder." Lin Xun bowed with a cupped fist salute, a greeting among fellow cultivators. Furthermore, he called him 'Elder' rather than 'Your Majesty.'

The man smiled slightly. "Regardless of how strong an authority in the world is, they are still ephemeral to cultivators who set foot on the great dao. It seems like you have already grasped this fact." His gentle and calm voice was oozing with majesty.

As he spoke, he pointed to the ancient five-colored altar in front of him. "Once you step on this altar, the passage will lead you to the Ancient Wasteland Domain. But now, it is different from the past. The

Great Dao Catastrophe is approaching, and it is causing the space passageway to be unstable. You should be extra careful when you go through it.”

Lin Xun nodded. Although he already knew that the emperor would send him off in person, when it actually happened, it still set off waves in his heart.

The man standing in front of him was a powerful supreme figure who compelled the common people to feel awe and bow their heads!

He wielded the power of an empire, controlled the territory of the four seas, and watched over the world. In terms of identity and status, who in the world could compare with him?

Originally, Lin Xun expected the great emperor to be as mighty as the mountains and seas, but when he laid eyes on him, he didn’t feel the slightest hint of fear or awe.

But that only made Lin Xun more amazed. The emperor’s cultivation had to have reached an incredible level because only then would he be able to prevent him from feeling fear and awe!

The emperor suddenly turned around, wearing a gentle and friendly expression on his face. “Although this is the first time we’ve met, I have heard many things about you.”

“The empress told me that you are unruly, rebellious and unscrupulous, and you like to cause trouble.”

“Tailai said that you are sharp-witted, deceitful, fierce and ruthless, and if you become an enemy of the empire, you could bring disaster to the world.”

Lin Xun reddened with shame. It’s fine for the empress to say that, but how could that old fox Zhao Tailai say such unpleasant things about me?!

He silently cursed to himself.

When I see him next time, I will have to blackmail him for some benefits!

“And Jingxuan...” The emperor’s deep and serene eyes flashed with a strange look.

“What...did she say?” Lin Xun asked, curious how Zhao Jingxuan described him.

“She said that you are you, and she doesn’t care what others think of you.” The emperor laughed heartily when he finished.

Lin Xun was taken aback for a while, and then he also couldn’t help but laugh, feeling a sense of comfort that he was understood.

Zhao Jingxuan...

The thought of the bright, beautiful and cool woman brought a wonderful feeling to his heart. It was as though he had found a soul mate who completely understood him.

But he failed to notice the complex look crossing the emperor’s face as he watched Lin Xun’s changing expression at the mention of his daughter.

It was somewhat similar to that of a father-in-law meeting his son-in-law for the first time, but there were some subtle differences.

Lin Xun suddenly shuddered uncomfortably. He slowly lifted his head, only to see that the emperor had resumed his usual calm expression.

"In my opinion, they are all correct, but that's irrelevant because a person will change, especially on the path of the great dao. Every step forward may cause one's state of mind to undergo some kind of change," said the emperor.

Lin Xun agreed. He used to laugh a lot because he thought that a smile was the best shield to conceal his inner emotions.

But now, he thought differently.

A person's state of mind would eventually change. This was considered growth and transformation. On the path of the great dao, a cultivator only had to stay true to themselves and never forget their original intention. That would be enough.

The emperor didn't continue on the topic. He came to send Lin Xun away in person and not for small talk.

"The Ancient Wasteland Domain is vast if not boundless. Even a person who has set foot on the Saint Path can't speculate how great it is. There are as many geniuses there as the countless bright stars in the sky. If you want to strive for the great dao, the place is indeed the most suitable stage for you."

The emperor peered into the distance as he stated in a calm and peaceful tone, "Now, the Great Dao Catastrophe will descend upon the world in a time period as short as ten years and at most a hundred years. At that time, an unprecedented war will break out in the world. Many ancient dao sects that have remained dormant for years will reappear in the world."

"The Ancient Wasteland Domain will no doubt become a place where the strong compete for power, and the world will fall into unprecedented turmoil!"

The emperor suddenly turned around, and a divine light shone from his unfathomable eyes. "You only need to remember one word when you go to the Ancient Wasteland Domain."

"What word?" Lin Xun trembled inwardly.

"Fight!"

The emperor uttered a single word and a rare look of domineering superiority came to his handsome face.

"The battle for the great dao is like a battle of hundreds of boats. If you fall behind by one step...you may have no hope of stepping onto the pinnacle of the great dao in your life!"

Lin Xun's emotions were roiled by this. He had long understood this truth, but when it came from the mouth of the emperor, it still had an enlightening effect.

"If you want to fight for a great opportunity in that great age then you will have to rely on true power."

The emperor specially advised Lin Xun, "In the past, you often used a borrowed knife to kill your opponents, but this little strategy is just a bypath. You have to remember that in the face of absolute power, regardless of how intelligent or strategic you are, you will be crushed to dust."

"That...is the great dao!"

"Power..." Lin Xun muttered.

"Yes! The transformation of the state of mind, the improvement of cultivation level, the growth of the spirit and soul, and the strengthening of the physique...are all ultimately embodied in your power. This kind of power can make you a king, can help you deal with the longevity tribulation, and can build the path for you to become a Saint!"

The emperor didn't advise him on a method of cultivation, but instead gave him some more general insights into cultivation. They might seem simple, but to Lin Xun, they were extremely precious.

"The great dao of all heavens is also a kind of power, but it needs to be grasped and comprehended."

"The myriad arts of the heavens are also means of controlling power, but they need to be cultivated and mastered."

"Even your knowledge and experience are some kind of inner power, isn't that right? Only if you have them can you further understand the true meaning of cultivation."

"Now you understand that power is not simply brute strength, but the simplest explanation of cultivation!"

The emperor's words seemed to send waves rippling through Lin Xun. He felt deeply moved. He silently memorized all his words. It was like a once-in-a-lifetime lecture.

"The success or failure of the battle of the great dao is determined by your own power. There will be unpredictable and unimaginable great fortunes in this great age war, including a chance to become the absolute apex king!"

"The absolute apex king?" Lin Xun narrowed his eyes.

"That's correct. The absolute apex path is known to be the strongest path in the world, but even in ancient times, very rarely did people embark on this ethereal path, let alone achieve it. In this battle of the great age, this legendary great dao path will inevitably appear in the world!"

The emperor looked at Lin Xun directly. "Although you have reached this stage, you are only at the beginning. Only when you become a true absolute apex king will you understand the true meaning of this path? It's not as simple as you think it is."

King was a respectful title for cultivators with the strength of the Life Death Stage.

And the absolute apex king was naturally a terrifying existence who had embarked on the absolute apex path of the Life Death Stage.

According to the emperor, there had never been an absolute apex king in the recent past! Even in ancient times, rumors about absolute apex kings were vague and seemed untrue. It was even harder to find records about this cultivation stage.

However, unquestionably, the stage existed.

This was the unanimous conclusion reached by countless sages from ancient times to the present!

And when the battle of the great age came, this legendary cultivation stage may appear in the world! Who would be able to grasp it in the end?

Lin Xun silently digested everything he had heard for a long while before he came to his senses. "Elder, thank you for your guidance." He bowed solemnly.

It was heartfelt gratitude. If the emperor hadn't reminded and advised him, then he wouldn't have known that the so-called battle of the great age would be so deep!

The emperor revealed an unfathomable smile. "When you become an absolute apex king, you can come back and thank me."

"Come back?" Lin Xun sensed a deeper meaning to his words.

The emperor nodded. "Yes, when you reach that stage, you will definitely come back because our lower domain world contains a cultivation opportunity that you need at that time."

"An opportunity required for the cultivation of the absolute apex king stage?" Lin Xun asked in puzzlement.

The emperor smiled and said leisurely, "In the depths of the Spirit Burial Sea, there is the Return Dominion, one of the four great dao dominions, and in the Blood Kill Battlefield of the empire is the Mulberry Woodland that Saints of ancient times yearned for. Do you truly believe that the lower domain world is as barren and simple as the world sees it?"

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Chapter 758: The Future Is Limitless And The Ocean Is Boundless

The depths of the Spirit Burial Sea were mysterious and dangerous. Not only did the Return Dominion, one of the four great dao dominions exist there, but there was also the ominous Dao Burial Sea Mound.

Lin Xun had once wandered the Deva Secret Realm in the Return Dominion and met an old ape living dormant in the Five Elements Holy Island, who turned out to be a true Saint.

He also entered Fangchun and obtained a dao verse imbued with unfathomable mysteries and secrets. In addition, he also obtained a unique art of the Saint Path—the Sacred Combat Art!

He also had many ominous and bizarre encounters in the Dao Burial Sea Mound, such as the thousand-foot-long ancient corpse floating on the sea like an island.

He also met a blind monk enveloped in a terrifying aura as well as a woman shrouded in gray mist that blurred her appearance.

If his guess was correct, then the two had to be terrifying beings of the Saint Stage.

He thought of A'hu, the mysterious maiden in yellow clothes. She was the one who helped him escape while being chased by a group of Life Death Stage Kings when he returned from the Spirit Burial Sea.

Now that he thought about everything, he came to realize that the secrets hidden within each of the mysterious places, the Return Dominion, the Deva Secret Realm or the Dao Burial Sea Mound, were all absolutely beyond imagination while he had only explored the surface level.

The Mulberry Woodland located in the Blood Kill Battlefield was even more extraordinary. It was always enveloped in blood-colored mist and contained many Saint-level terrifying creatures. Once, he even saw the appearance of a dao temple that triggered a battle among Saint-level beings.

"Indeed, there are many incredible places in this lower domain world, and it is not as barren and simple as the people in the Ancient Wasteland Domain say it is," Lin Xun said emotionally after a long period of silence.

He had witnessed it in person, so he was more aware of the extraordinariness of the lower-domain world than other people!

According to the emperor, the great secret hidden in the lower domain world could only be grasped and explored when he reached the absolute apex king stage.

"The old seer of the stargazing platform, the principal of Qinglu Academy, Lone Man of the Rotating Stars Hibernating Moon House and the old jiao-dragon hibernating on the shore of the East Sea of the Empire... How would they willingly lie dormant here if it is as barren as rumored?" The emperor's gaze was unfathomable. The taller one stood, the farther they could see. He had long seen through the secrets of the world

"There's also the many Brute Kings from the nine Magi Brute Tribes and the ancient clans in the depths of the Spirit Burial Sea...Aren't they also waiting for the great opportunity buried in the lower domain world?"

The emperor suddenly shook his head. "But those secrets might be too distant to you now. You just need to remember that if you want to rise in the battle of the great age and set foot on the absolute apex king path, then only the Ancient Wasteland Domain can help you provide an opportunity to do so."

"And when you set foot on the absolute apex king path, our lower domain world can also provide you with an opportunity to progress further on the path!"

The meaning of his words was very simple: "If you want to become an absolute apex king then go to the Ancient Wasteland Domain. And after you become an absolute apex king, return to the lower domain world if you want to reach an even higher level!"

Lin Xun understood.

The great emperor was guiding him forward!

The emperor suddenly said hesitantly, "The Ninth Prince was taken away by Gu Dongting of the Omega Sword Sect. If you two meet again, I hope, if possible, you will spare his life."

At that moment, he lost a fraction of his superiority and majesty. Instead, he donned a complex expression like an elder of a family.

No matter what happened, the Ninth Prince Zhao Jingzhen was his son, his own flesh and blood. He was well aware of the deep enmity between Lin Xun and the Omega Sword Sect and knew that a conflict would inevitably break out if they met again.

“Okay,” Lin Xun agreed after some deliberation. “But, if he insists on being my enemy...”

“Then kill him!” The emperor had said each word with a noticeable pause, his expression indifferent and calm.

“If you run into any trouble in the Ancient Wasteland Domain, you can find Jingxuan. She has been training in the Ancient Wasteland Domain since she was a child, and she is under the care of experts. I think she will be happy if you go find her.” A strange expression flickered across the emperor’s eyes when he said those words, which made Lin Xun a little uncomfortable.

Is he encouraging me to get in touch with Zhao Jingxuan?

I...

Lin Xun didn’t know how to respond.

Buzz!

The emperor didn’t say anything else. With a flick of his sleeve, the five-colored altar in front of them rumbled and roared like it was waking up from a slumber. The wisps of colorful sacred light circulating the altar suddenly shot into the sky as beams of light before transforming into a magnificent and colorful path that stretched across the sky.

At that moment, the old monsters in many places of the Forbidden City were startled, and all cast their spirit sense to the depths of the palace.

There, dreamy and magnificent five-colored lights were rising into the sky.

“That kid Lin Xun is about to leave!”

The old monsters all understood that the passageway to the Ancient Wasteland Domain had been opened.

“If you come back even more impressive than you have now, then I will treat you to a meal!” Lone Man, the owner of the Rotating Stars Hibernating Moon House, straightened his thin back, and his turbid eyes shone brilliantly.

“The path of changing fate, defying heaven, destroying the dao, causing karma-associated calamities...Lu Boya took it for you back then. But now, it all depends on yourself...” the Heavenly Seer muttered on the stargazing platform, leaning against the railing.

In a thatched cottage at the bottom of Sky Stairs Mountain.

“Senior Brother, he is leaving.” The old man who had witnessed Lin Xun ascend the Sky Stairs had awoken from his usual drunken state.

The principal said with a leisurely smile, "The Omega Sword Sect, the Heaven Axis Holy Land, Spirit Treasure Holy Land, and revenge for Lu Boya...He has become linked with them before he reached the Ancient Wasteland Domain. He likely won't be bored on this trip."

"That little troublemaker is finally leaving!"

"Thank heavens!"

Meanwhile, the influential figures of the Zuo, Qin, and Chi Clans, who hated Lin Xun to the core, all breathed a sigh of relief, feeling as if a weight had lifted off them.

Precious Laughter House.

In a large hall, a burst of impassioned and majestic music suddenly broke out.

All customers in the building stopped what they were doing and listened intently because they were no strangers to the musical piece.

"Streams and rivers emerged from the ground, gushing into the vast sea.

A dormant dragon leapt from the water, its scales and claws glistening in the air.

The tiger cub's roar echoed through the valley, terrifying all creatures.

The hawk spread its wings, hovering in the wind."

A clear and pleasant voice followed the impassioned music. Every word resounded like rumbles of thunder, resonating with the mountains and rivers and unleashing everyone's emotions in their hearts.

"Time and space stretch endlessly. The future is limitless and the ocean is boundless."

Throughout the Precious Laughter House, many cultivators couldn't help picking up chopsticks, knocking on the dishes in front of them, and singing along.

The harmonizing of passionate voices had a soul-stirring power as it echoed between heaven and earth, sending people's blood pulsing through their bodies.

This was the Heaven Pride Song.

At the Empress' 300th birthday banquet, Liu Qingyan, who was known as the best art cultivator in the empire, amazed everyone with her lyrics and musical skills. She earned the praise of the empress, and her song was bestowed with the title Heaven Pride Song.

The entire world had since learned that Liu Qingyan was inspired by Lin Xun's fame when she composed the widely-popular heroic song.

"The future is limitless and the ocean is boundless..." Some cultivators felt emotional as they thought of Lin Xun who was about to leave.

"It's a pity that it's not Miss Liu Qingyan singing this song. I heard she left a long time ago to train in the Ancient Wasteland Domain. We likely will never have the chance to hear her heavenly voice again in our lives," someone sighed, thinking of the legendary best art cultivator in the empire.

.....

Shua!

Lin Xun vanished from the five-colored altar as he stepped into a mysterious passage.

The passage seemed to be transporting him through time and space. Everywhere was a shower of colorful and magnificent light.

Occasionally, there seemed to be rainbows flickering in the air, giant stars shining brightly, and turbulent black clouds rising mysteriously. It was a stunning spectacle.

Swoosh!

Lin Xun activated the Hornless Ice Dragon Step and traveled at full speed, streaking across the passage like a stream of light.

"The great dao catastrophe is coming, and the boundary wall is unstable. Remember, don't look back. Move forward as fast as you can!" This was the emperor's final reminder for Lin Xun.

Of course, Lin Xun followed his advice.

However, before traveling for long, the passage started to crackle and a series of fractures cut across the passageway, which continued to spread and widen at a worrying speed.

Lin Xun gasped, and his expression turned grave. He madly dashed with all his strength. Snow-white ice dragon images flashed around his figure, pushing him to his full speed.

Boom!

The terrifying crackling and shattering behind him sounded as though the sky and the earth were about to collapse.

Lin Xun didn't dare to look back, and worry started to fill his heart. This passage led to the Ancient Wasteland Domain, connecting two worlds. If it collapsed, then the power of the destruction would be enough to obliterate him in a split second. He wouldn't even have the chance to struggle.

Chi!

A streak of rainbow brushed past his shoulder like a sharp blade, carrying a hazy aura of chaos.

His scalp instantly numbed, and he was chilled to the core. The feeling was too terrifying, as though the god of death had brushed past him.

What was that?

He still didn't dare to turn back around, but he was certain that the streak of the rainbow had come from the collapsed passage behind him!

Rumble!

The void tunnel crumbled and collapsed at an increasingly terrifying speed. Bursts of explosions incessantly rang behind him while the air and light shower raged violently.

He bolted at full speed and, in the end, he had to summon the Grand Universe Ark and only barely avoided the dangers one after another despite advancing at lightning speed.

Not long after that, his pupils abruptly shrank. A tremendous beast stood on the other side of the passage in the distance. Enveloped in millions of stars, it charged across the boundless void, heading straight towards him.

Its eyes alone were as blood red as a pair of giant suns, shooting out rays of cold and merciless light!

Compared with its huge body, the stars were like inconspicuous pearls.

Hiss!

Lin Xun inhaled sharply. What the hell is that?!

But what chilled him the most was that the bizarre beast was running through the void tunnel in his direction!

If it got near him, then the consequences would be unimaginable!

Run!

He steered the Grand Universe Ark, circulating all his strength, and frantically fled.

How could he have imagined that, just as he stepped on the passage to the Ancient Wasteland Domain, such a huge and dangerous change would happen?

Rumble!

Cracks spread all across the void tunnel, light flew everywhere like waterfalls, and the air shook turbulently. The tunnel showed signs of collapsing.

Meanwhile, the bizarre beast was coming closer and closer...

It was so near that Lin Xun seemed to see silvery divine rune symbols blazing in the depths of its eyes. It was as obscure as it was chilling, as though it could engulf the human soul.

Boom!

His body shook violently. Before he knew it, the Grand Universe Ark shot out of the tunnel and into the vast chaos.

Then, the sky and earth quaked with terrifying collision noises, and a tremendous force swept across the surrounding area, crushing all the nearby rocks and trees to smithereens.

A huge crater was left in the ground with cracks stretching hundreds of feet all around it. It was akin to the destruction left by a meteorite.

At the bottom of the pit, the Grand Universe Ark was still violently swaying before it came to a stop, while Lin Xun was paralyzed in the cabin of the Grand Universe Ark. His face was pale and beaded with sweat and blood trickling down the corners of his lips while he panted heavily.

"Did I survive?"

After a good while, he finally recovered from the horror and panic and stumbled to his feet.

Only then did he realize that he was injured during the escape, and his strength was on the verge of exhaustion!

“Luckily I survived,” he said through gritted teeth and sat down cross-legged to tend to his injuries.

At the same time, he observed the area with his senses.

Instantly, the outside world was reflected in his mind. It was an unfamiliar world, full of spiritual energy and lush trees and plants. In the distance were magnificent mountains peeping through the divine mist and clouds.

This...

He opened his eyes wide. Could this be the Ancient Wasteland Domain? There isn't such a strong and rich spiritual energy in the Ziyao Empire.

Even Mind Cleansing Peak, which is known as a place where spiritual veins are buried, seems barren when compared to the spiritual energy in this world.

“I succeeded!”

A gleam glowed in his black eyes. He vaguely felt an inexplicable power that was distributed between heaven and earth, invisible and intangible, but everywhere.

This was a complete order of the great dao. The great dao in the Ziyao Empire was incomplete and completely different from this place.

Lin Xun had previously traveled to the Ancient Spirit World through an assessment of the Omega Secret Realm, and so he was well aware of the difference in the world order!

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Chapter 759: Xia Xiaochong

Ancient Wasteland Domain! I am finally here!

In addition to being emotionally excited, he had the feeling that he had just narrowly escaped death. He was so close to being obliterated.

Even so, he still sustained some injuries and exhausted a lot of energy.

“I wonder what sort of creature was that strange beast covered with millions of stars. It was so terrifying...”

His heart still pounded with fear as he thought back to him making his way through the void tunnel.

He had long known that great dangers existed in the void and that only when a cultivator reached the Saint Stage could they comprehend and grasp the secrets and mysteries of the void, allowing them to teleport across void barriers.

After surviving the danger, Lin Xun became even more aware of the terror of void teleportation.

The silence and the lack of people in the surrounding area suggested that he was situated in the wilderness.

In the distance, huge mountain ranges stretched endlessly, and ancient trees towered into the sky like pillars. There were uncultivated areas everywhere.

A giant sun hung high above the dome of the sky, blazing brilliantly like a raging golden fire and releasing wisps of delicate sun essence!

It was a completely different scene from the empire.

Additionally, Lin Xun could sharply sense that the vast world was filled with rich spiritual energy. He felt refreshed and invigorated even from just breathing in the air.

"It's no wonder that cultivators from the Ancient Wasteland Domain call the lower domain world a barren land. The Ancient Wasteland Domain is indeed extraordinary when compared to it," Lin Xun exclaimed.

He speculated that ordinary people could lengthen their lives and grow strong and more energetic by just breathing in the spiritual energy in the air. They wouldn't even have any problems setting foot into the world of cultivation.

It was a different situation in the lower domain world. The limited spiritual energy between heaven and earth made it impossible for the majority of ordinary people to embark on the path of cultivation.

But the greatest difference between the Ancient Wasteland Domain and the lower domain world was that their great dao was undamaged!

The benefit of that was tremendous!

The damaged great dao of the lower domain world would lead to cultivators comprehending an incomplete Dao Ripple and affecting their future cultivation, making it almost impossible for them to ascend to a greater height of cultivation in their lives.

However, the problem didn't exist when cultivating in the Ancient Wasteland Domain.

"Qing Zhe may be a genius cultivator. However, he only managed to easily suppress Cyclic Derivation cultivators in the empire because his cultivation path had been flawless! It's not that he was truly that strong"

"The influential figures in the empire may possess a higher cultivation base than him, but they have cultivated and comprehended an incomplete dao path, resulting in a flawed cultivation stage and power. This is why the power they displayed in battle can't compare to Qing Zhe, a cultivator of the Ancient Wasteland Domain."

"Fortunately, I already made up for the cultivation flaw when I was in the depths of the Spirit Burial Sea by re-cultivating the four cultivation stages, True Martial, Spirit Dipper, Spirit Sea and Heaven Ascension. Otherwise, I likely would be at a disadvantage against the Ancient Wasteland Domain cultivators..."

Understanding dawned on Lin Xun.

Swoosh!

Half an hour later, he woke up from his meditation and put away the Grand Universe Ark.

"I should quickly leave here. The disturbance just now must have alarmed the nearby beings..."

After the rest, a good fraction of his cultivation had been restored, so he decided to leave the area first.

"What powerful suppressive force of heaven and earth!"

However, he immediately felt the difference between the two worlds. His hands and feet felt restrained as he maneuvered through the air like he was being suppressed.

No wonder the cultivators of the Ancient Wasteland Domain are so powerful in the lower Domain world. They are no longer suppressed or restrained, so their powers can be freely released.

He suddenly narrowed his eyes and released his spirit sense to investigate a faraway place. A figure was furtively approaching his way.

It was a girl in her teens. She was wearing a plain dress, and her pale blue hair was rolled up into double buns on her head. Her eyebrows were perfectly shaped, and her eyes were huge and dark, giving her a cute and innocent charm.

However, she was approaching Lin Xun like a thief with a brilliant silver spear in her grip.

"Ah, I found it! It's there!" Her eyes lit up. She waved her small fist in excitement when she saw the huge pit.

"Hey hey, hey, the movements here were tremendous. It must have unearthed some treasures. Yes, this is my great opportunity!" the girl murmured as she approached.

Her face was alight with joy and saliva was trickling down the corners of her plump lips. Her covetous expression looked quite comical on her pure and innocent face.

"Ahem."

Lin Xun coughed twice and made himself obvious. He realized that the little girl was not a threat.

"Ahh!"

Xia Xiaochong's eyes shot wide open, and her little mouth gaped open. She stared, dumbfounded at Lin Xun, who appeared out of nowhere.

Soon, she jolted to her senses and screamed, "Don't kill me! I leave the opportunity to you. I don't want it anymore! Goodbye!" She bolted in the way she came from like a frightened rabbit.

Lin Xun blankly watched her dart away. Then, he stroked his face subconsciously and thought to himself, "Am I that terrifying?"

"Hey, stop running! I have no bad intentions."

Lin Xun tried his best to look friendly and chased after her.

"My master told me to not talk to strangers. Don't come near me, otherwise, I will be forced to kill you!" Xia Xiaochong screamed in the distance, becoming more and more frantic.

"I already told you that I have no bad intentions. I'm just lost and wanted to ask for directions," Lin Xun explained helplessly.

"You are an adult, but you are still lost. I don't believe you. You're trying to trick me. You...you...you...don't follow anymore or I will get mad!" Xia Xiaochong turned her head and hissed through gritted teeth. She tried her best to put on a vicious look, but her face was so innocent that it instead looked very comical and had no deterrent power.

When she saw Lin Xun continue to approach her, she squealed, turned around and fled.

Lin Xun could tell that she was a young girl who hadn't experienced much in the world.

Shua!

With a flash, Lin Xun was already standing in Xia Xiaochong's path. "Little girl, I really..."

Before he could finish speaking, Xia Xiaochong was ramming headlong towards him, unable to stop her body from charging forward. He immediately stretched out one hand, holding her head down, and then picked her by the waist with his other hand and set her down in front of him.

"Why did you suddenly run in front of me?" Xia Xiaochong said in a daze.

Immediately after that, tears came to her eyes and she looked at Lin Xun with a pitiful expression.

"Please, please don't kill me. This is my first time training outside. If I die, my master will be heartbroken to death."

Lin Xun sighed helplessly, "There is no enmity between us, and we have never met before, so why would I kill you?"

"Oh?"

Xia Xiaochong scratched her head. "What you said seems to make sense."

She looked innocent and cute in a plain dress and her long pale blue hair tied into double buns, but she was a little clueless like a little child.

"Then, are you lost?" Xia Xiaochong stared at Lin Xun. Her dark and pure eyes lurked a puzzled curiosity.

Although it was a bit of a stretch to say that Lin Xun was lost, he still nodded seriously. He didn't know anything about the area and needed to understand the situation as soon as possible.

"Then is there anything I can do to help you?" Xia Xiaochong asked with concern. She seemed no longer wary and afraid of Lin Xun.

Her response made Lin Xun a little speechless. It felt a little strange that a clueless little girl treated him as someone who mentally inept.

"Of course, you can help me."

Then, Lin Xun asked the question he wanted to know the most, "Where are we?"

Xia Xiaochong blinked and said in a crisp voice, "This is Ziniu Mountain. Did you know that? But how did you get here?"

He only asked one question, but the girl responded several times so he couldn't help but lower his eyebrows in a frown.

"I'll ask and you can answer," he tried to say patiently.

Xia Xiaochong said cheerfully, "Okay, ask ahead."

"What is the closest city to Ziniu Mountain?"

"I don't know."

"You don't know?"

Lin Xun was at a loss for words again. Isn't this girl too clueless?

"That's right because there isn't a city within a thousand-mile radius of Ziniu Mountain. Do you not even know this?"

Lin Xun smiled awkwardly, feeling embarrassed. It turned out that the girl wasn't clueless, but apparently he had asked a very stupid question.

"Ahh, you are so pitiful. Not only are you lost, but there also seems to be something wrong with your brain." Xia Xiaochong's huge clear eyes were filled with sympathy. "Why don't you come with me? I will bring you to Master so he can take a look at your illness."

Something is wrong with my brain?

Take a look at my illness?

Lin Xun suddenly discovered that whenever he interacted with the little girl, he felt like he was always on the verge of going crazy.

"I will ask, and you will answer!" Lin Xun took a deep breath and raised his voice.

Xia Xiaochong acknowledged him, "Fine, it seems like you haven't given up and won't admit that there is something wrong with your head." Her innocent face was full of sincerity. "Well, it doesn't matter, since you're already so pitiful, I won't laugh at you,"

Lin Xun: "..."

He was truly speechless.

If the cultivators in the Ziyao Empire knew that the young genius whose brilliance filled the capital was speechless and was about to go crazy because of a clueless and innocent little girl, how would they feel?

In the end, Lin Xun compromised and decided to follow Xia Xiaochong. He gave up on asking questions because the girl's answers were always very hurtful.

"Hey, let's go. When my Spirit Accumulation Orb is filled with spirit power, I will take you to meet my master!"

The plainly dressed little girl led the way, walking with light steps. She looked like a carefree and innocent butterfly as her pale blue hair swayed in the air.

This was Xia Xiaochong.

The first cultivator whom Lin Xun met in Ancient Wasteland Domain was a clueless, simple-minded girl with a pure and kind heart.

[The Prodigies War](#)

Chapter 760: The Four Worlds

The vast mountains winded across the earth, surrounded by beautiful and magnificent clouds.

Ancient trees gathered into forests, towering into the sky. Even the plants and grass on the ground were lush and filled with vitality. There was an ancient and primitive aura everywhere.

Carrying a silver spear, Xia Xiaochong navigated through the underbrush with light steps, looking energetic, innocent and cute.

“Spirit Accumulation Orb?” Lin Xun couldn’t help being curious.

“Yes, it’s this.”

As Xia Xiaochong turned her hand over, a blue bead around the size of an egg emitted a cold sheen in the palm of her hand.

“When I hunt for savage beasts, I can use this orb to absorb their spirits. When the number of spirits that have been accumulated reaches a certain level, the Spirit Accumulation Bead will transform into Spirit Accumulation Jade, which can be used as medicine or to craft ancient treasures.”

Xia Xiaochong’s voice was crisp and pleasant, “The Spirit Accumulation Orb in my hand is only mid-grade and can only absorb Spirit Sea Stage beasts. I have been tasked with the mission to fill this Spirit Accumulation Orb with spirits and transform it into a mid-grade Spirit Accumulation Jade. Once I completed this I can report back to Master.”

“I see.” Lin Xun’s interest was piqued. He took the Spirit Accumulation Orb to investigate it closer. As soon as he instilled his spirit sense into it he saw strands of savage beast spirits suspended within the orb, including the green-horned python, the black earth fox, the flying cloud fire sparrow, the three-eyed partridge and a dozen others.

“Fill it with beast spirits, and it will transform into a spirit jade...It can be used as medicine and craft weapons...Does this treasure have such magical abilities?” Lin Xun exclaimed in amazement.

It was the first time he came across such a special treasure.

“Yes, according to my master, there are natural top-grade Spirit Accumulation Orbs in the world that can not only absorb the spirits of Cyclic Derivation level beasts, but also gather the qi of the great dao, which has an incredible effect on comprehending the secrets of the great dao.” Xia Xiaochong’s eyes gleamed yearningly.

“Hey, there’s saliva dribbling down your mouth.”

Xia Xiaochong quickly wiped the corners of her lips, chuckling, "How embarrassing."

Having said that, she didn't feel a tinge of embarrassment. Instead, she didn't seem to care.

Lin Xun was at a loss for words again. He really liked the girl's personality. She wasn't only innocent and carefree but also very cute.

"How many beast spirits do you need?" asked Lin Xun

A troubled frown creased Xia Xiaochong's face. "A lot and a lot."

"Then how many?"

"Maybe at least several thousand."

"That many?"

"That's right, it's very difficult for a mid-grade Spirit Accumulation Orb to transform into a mid-grade Spirit Accumulation Jade. Master said this is my test. If I don't succeed, I won't be allowed to return to the sect."

"Which sect do you belong to?"

"Oh, I forgot to tell you, I am from the Star Dome Sect."

"Star Dome Sect? Can you tell me more about it?"

"Haven't you heard that our Star Dome Sect is very famous in the Fire Spirit Province?"

"Oh?"

"Haha, it's famous for a reason that you won't be able to guess. It's because there are only two people in the entire Star Dome Sect."

"Two people?"

"Yes, it's just Master and me."

"How...amazing!"

Lin Xun didn't know what to say for a while. A sect had become famous due to its small number of people!

"I also think it's amazing!" But Xia Xiaochong raised her chin proudly, and her big eyes shone brightly.

"Sometimes, ignorance is bliss..." Lin Xun sighed to himself.

The two continued to chat along the way and Lin Xun, inadvertently, found out a lot of things.

Ancient Wasteland Domain.

It was an ancient, vast, beautiful and magnificent world. Since ancient times, countless sects had been born in this world.

There were countless races, clans and beings there, and the number of geniuses was as many as the clouds in the sky. It had an unimaginable ancient foundation and a grand history.

There was also a saying in the Ancient Wasteland Domain: one domain was divided into four great worlds, and each world contained three thousand provinces.

The four worlds were precisely the East Victory World, West Infinity World, South Wonder World and North Dipper World.

Every world was as vast as the other, spanning endless territories, and it was no exaggeration to say that there were three thousand provinces.

Moreover, there were little worlds scattered throughout the four great worlds. The overall size of each world was beyond imagination.

Additionally, each world had its own unique cultivation traditions and cultivation history, including different clans, races, and teachings...

When Lin Xun was in the Ziyao Empire, he was already astonished when he heard about the Ancient Wasteland Domain.

It was only later that he learned that there had been countless legendary figures emerging from the Ancient Wasteland Domain since ancient times because it was a tremendous world.

He also learned that he was currently situated in the Fire Spirit Province of the West Infinity World in the Ancient Wasteland Domain.

The West Infinity World.

It was a world that was very unfamiliar to Lin Xun.

Before he came to the Ancient Wasteland Domain, he had only heard about the general situation of the East Victory World.

This was because the East Victory World was known as the true holy land of the Ancient Wasteland Domain!

The oldest and largest sects in the Ancient Wasteland Domain were established there, so it was considered the central area of the Ancient Wasteland Domain.

It wouldn't be an exaggeration to say that nearly half of the sects and clans with a history tracing back to ancient times in the Ancient Wasteland Domain were located in the East Victory World.

As far as Lin Xun knew, the Omega Sword Sect, where he could find Yun Qingbai, was located in the East Victory World!

"Xiaochong, have you heard of the East Victory World?" asked Lin Xun.

"Of course, I've heard about it, just like the West Infinity World, it is a famous holy land in the Ancient Wasteland. It isn't only flourishing but it is also watched over by Saints. It is the place that most cultivators in the world yearn to train in," Xia Xiaochong answered without thinking about it.

Lin Xun's spirit was lifted. "Then, do you know how to get to the East Victory World from the West Infinity World?"

"I don't know." Xia Xiaochong shook her head, "It's too far away. When I was young, I heard from my master that the East Victory World isn't a place that everyone can go to. You have to cross many worlds and great provinces to get there. To an ordinary person, it's no different from trying to ascend heaven."

Lin Xun's heart sank. Is it that far?

He suddenly realized his problem. The end of the void tunnel that he entered from the empire should have been the East Victory World.

But an unexpected change happened and caused the void tunnel to explode. By accident, he came to the unfamiliar West Infinity World.

"Do you want to go to the East Victory World?" Xia Xiaochong asked curiously.

Lin Xun didn't hide anything from her. He nodded. His first purpose in coming to the Ancient Wasteland Domain was to get revenge and to do that, he had to go to the East Victory World.

This was because the Omega Sword Sect was there. Yun Qingbai was also there!

"You're so ambitious," Xia Xiaochong complimented, and her innocent face was alight with amazement.

Lin Xun stared at her, at a loss for words. I just want to go to the East Victory World, so what does that have to do with ambition?

Lin Xun couldn't help asking, "Oh right, your master should know how to go to the East Victory World, right?"

"Of course."

Xia Xiaochong hesitated, "When I return to the sect, I can ask for you."

"I appreciate it." As Lin Xun was speaking, a sound pierced the air, and a group of cultivators whizzed towards them on beams of light.

It was a group of young cultivators consisting of handsome men and gorgeously dressed women. They all had an extraordinary air around them and looked like they came from a powerful sect or clan.

But soon, Lin Xun looked away. Most of them were only at the Spirit Sea Stage, and the strongest was a Heaven Ascension Stage cultivator. Given Lin Xun's current strength, they couldn't possibly threaten him.

"Hey, isn't she the little thing from the Star Dome Sect?" someone said mockingly.

The group of people paused in the air as they roared past.

Xia Xiaochong's cheeks puffed up, and she snapped, "Hmph! My name is Xia Xiaochong! I am not a little thing!"

"Hahaha."

The men and women all roared with laughter. They all knew about Xia Xiaochong's character, so their attitudes were very disrespectful.

Among the group of cultivators, some women even frowned at Xia Xiaochong with disdain like they thought very little of her.

The youngster who headed the group asked mockingly, "Little Chong, there are only ten days left to practice on Ziniu Mountain. Have you collected enough beast spirits?"

"No." Xia Xiaochong shook her head.

Lin Xun raised his eyebrows. He had to admit that Xia Xiaochong was indeed a carefree and innocent girl. She answered the youngster in a very straightforward manner and didn't seem to notice his mocking tone.

The youngster continued to ridicule her, "It seems like your Star Dome Sect is going to embarrass itself in the Grand Sect Competition of the Fire Spirit Province. Your master is going to lose face because of you."

"Senior Brother Mo Feng, why waste time with a stupid girl? Let's act quickly. We can't let our Cloud Nest Sect fall behind in the Grand Sect Competition," a woman reminded him impatiently.

"Fine!" Mo Feng nodded and immediately led the group towards the rolling mountains in the distance.

They didn't glance once at Lin Xun from the beginning to the end.

Lin Xun didn't think much of it, but Xia Xiaochong seemed a little upset. Her eyes turned red and tears rolled down from her big eyes.

"Those guys were indeed very rude. Do you want me to teach them a lesson for you?" Lin Xun asked. He couldn't bear to see the poor little girl sobbing.

Xia Xiaochong shook her head, looking low-spirited. "I don't care about their ridicule. I am just worried that I will embarrass Master in this competition. Master has always been very kind to me, so I don't want him to be disappointed."

Lin Xun thought for a moment before he said, "Can you tell me what this Grand Sect Competition is all about?"

He had already decided in his heart that, if possible, he wouldn't mind helping the little girl.

Xia Xiaochong inhaled deeply and wiped away the tears on her face with her hands, trying to calm herself down before she explained the so-called Grand Sect Competition.