Prodigies 901

The Prodigies War

Chapter 901: Supreme-King-Grade Herb

Meanwhile, Lin Xun was already rushing at his opponent. With a thrust of his palm, a flaming river of stars emerged with burning stars exploding within it.

It was the supreme-grade dao art, Combustion Star River!

The gold-robed man's expression changed drastically as he hurriedly retreated. However, he was unable to escape as Lin Xun rapidly closed in.

Lin Xun was simply faster. He moved so quickly it looked as if he was rapidly teleporting with each step.

Boom!

The raging star river rushed forth and swallowed the golden-robed man...

"NO! NOOO!"

In the sea of fire, the gold-robed man screamed in terror and helplessness. In the end, he was unable to avoid his fate of being burnt to ashes.

Several experts who had been watching in the distance gasped in horror.

Too strong!

Demon God Lin's offensive was simply overwhelming and looked impossible to avoid.

"You're courting death!" Suddenly, Lin Xun looked back and caught someone rushing toward the flower bud while he was engaged in battle.

Swish!

A blue crystal chain that was only as thick as a thumb shot forth, seeking to wrap around the flower bud and seize it.

Before it could reach its target, however, Lin Xun darted over and managed to snatch it out of the air. Tightly clenching the blue chain, he gave it a violent jerk.

Crash~

The chain seemed to scream in agony due to the sudden strain as an expert was yanked out of the shadows.

He was revealed to be a dauntless-looking youngster with tanned skin and long and narrow eyes.

Despite the sudden turn of events, his response was extremely decisive. He immediately abandoned the chain and twisted his body mid-air to stop before bolting away into the distance like an arrow.

"Trying to leave?"

Icy light surged in Lin Xun's black eyes as he threw a punch that perfectly integrated the Heavenshaking Destruction and Dao Meaning of Water.

Boom!

With a horrifying explosion, the tanned youngster was blasted to smithereens.

Instead of spattering to pieces, his body turned into specks of golden light. This was evidently not his actual body.

Golden Cicada Talisman!

Lin Xun immediately realized that the tanned youngster had used the power of the Golden Cicada Talisman, managing to flee like a golden cicada escaping from its shell.

In the blink of an eye, a top heaven pride was dead while another had fled!

The nearby experts' hearts turned cold. Demon God Lin's battle power was heaven-defying; he was steamrolling over every opponent, and no one was able to block even a single attack from him!

For a time, no one dared to approach the area again.

It was at this moment that the flower bud began to bloom, petal after petal trembling as they unfurled.

Suddenly, gorgeous dao light shone from the center of the flower as if it was a lamp that had been lit.

A split second later, however, the blossoming flower withered as its petals dropped off. At the same time, a speck of bright red light fell from its center.

Lin Xun reached out and grabbed it and found that it was a jade-like stone. Its upper surface was dotted with glaring tiny blood-red tear stains.

Although it was the size of an almond, it weighed roughly ten thousand pounds. In addition, he could feel wisps of refreshing energy undulations pulsing from its glossy surface.

The scene of a mighty phoenix sorrowfully crying tears of blood suddenly flashed in his mind, shocking his soul.

Tear-Stained Phoenix Bloodstone!

It was a priceless and unattainable godly material that could be used as one of the core ingredients to craft spirit weapons or Saint treasures.

In fact, even an almond-sized piece like this would be irresistible to an almighty Saint expert!

Godly materials were extremely rare and almost impossible to find, while the Tear-Strained Phoenix Bloodstone was a rare treasure even among godly materials.

It was undoubtedly a lucky find!

Lin Xun immediately noticed many greedy gazes nearby.

He stored the Tear-Stained Phoenix Bloodstone without skipping a beat and looked around menacingly. The nearby experts shivered in fear, and their greed was instantly extinguished.

"Heavens, it's an egofied ancient treasure!"

"Quickly, after it!"

On the branches in the distance, a white jade flag turned into a streak of white as it zipped away while many experts chased after it from behind.

Chaos immediately ensued as experts employed various methods in an attempt to subdue the white jade flag, bathing the area in rapid flashes of blinding light explosions.

Everyone could tell that this unusual artifact that had emerged from a flower bud was an exceptional treasure!

Lin Xun could not help but be tempted as well. Just as he was about to join the chase, he noticed a dazzling old bronze book emerge in another area.

It was also an egofied treasure and was swiftly flying away toward the end of a branch. Behind it, a group of experts were in close pursuit.

The flowers on the Ancient Dao Lantern Tree were blooming one after another as 'fruits' emerged from them amidst a flash of light.

However, these weren't actual fruits but amazing things such as egofied ancient treasures and mysterious inheritances.

There were even a few very bizarre unknown objects that were also clearly extraordinary.

The experts all over the Ancient Dao Lantern Tree were practically going crazy as they displayed various methods to seize the treasures.

It was utter mayhem with everyone either fighting or chasing or both at full throttle.

Shouts, roars, and the sounds of battle resounded endlessly across the tree.

Treasures fell like rain on the Ancient Dao Lantern Tree, making every heaven prides' eyes turn red with desire.

A cry of surprise rang out, "My god! Is that a supreme-king-grade herb? It has feet and wings and is running away!"

A sparkling spirit ginseng frantically sprinted through the air. It resembled a scholarly old man with green leaves sprouting from the top of its head and its thick roots shaped like a pair of stubby legs. There was also a pair of illusory wings growing from its back, making it look very mystical.

The spirit ginseng seemed to be alive and was desperately running away!

It was a mind-boggling sight.

There was no doubt that it was a supreme-king-grade herb that had gained sentience after living for countless years.

Such a supreme-king-grade herb was almost impossible to find in today's world. Any King stage old monster who saw it would certainly go all out to obtain it!

"Chase it down!"

Experts shouted, eyes red with madness and greed.

However, the white spirit ginseng was unbelievably quick, moving so fast it seemed to blink from spot to spot, making it impossible to catch up.

Crash~

Lin Xun found an opening and also made his move. With a flick of his wrist, the blue crystal chain sped toward the white spirit ginseng.

A surprising scene followed. The chain passed right through the ginseng, failing to bind it as if its body was incorporeal.

However, this only made Lin Xun's eyes brighten. What a spectacular treasure!

Boom!

He channeled his full power into the Baxia Imprisonment in an attempt to stop its movements. However, he never imagined that even this amazing dao art would fail to affect the egofied white spirit ginseng.

The other experts also attacked, displaying various methods to seize the ginseng. However, nothing worked as if the ginseng was impervious to all manner of techniques and matter.

Several experts were so triggered that they cursed out loud, "Damnit, is this old man ginseng untouchable?"

Others were also demoralized. Such a great treasure was right before their eyes, but they were not only unable to capture it and also felt as if they were being toyed with as they chased after it.

Lin Xun was also somewhat dispirited. To make things worse, the spirit ginseng was displaying a mocking grin while its eyes were filled with clear provocation and disdain.

"I can't do this anymore, I give up!"

Several experts could no longer endure and left in a huff to contest for other treasures, unwilling to waste time on the old ginseng.

Everyone understood that time was of the essence at this juncture, so who would willingly waste it?

Lin Xun didn't give up. He could tell that the old ginseng was merely acting as if it was running away but was in actuality toying with them.

Its fearless provocation was clearly founded on the strong belief that no one could subdue it.

However, Lin Xun still had something up his sleeve. He secretly resolved himself to salt the abominable old bastard the moment he caught it!

Whoosh!

While flickering through the air, the old ginseng noticed Lin Xun still relentlessly pursuing it. The mocking grin on its face grew wider as if feeling smug about how untouchable it was.

In fact, it even began to deliberately hover right in front of Lin Xun from time to time, only to immediately dart away with a flap of its wings when he tried to grab it. Its despicable antics and appearance made the flames of rage flare within him.

The number of experts chasing the old ginseng gradually decreased. Most of them had completely given up, realizing that the supreme-king-grade herb was not something the likes of them could capture.

Not long after, only Lin Xun remained. He continued to pursue the ginseng around the tree, drawing odd looks from many experts.

Demon God Lin seemed intent on trying to wear down that abominable ginseng!

It wasn't a bad situation for the rest of them. With Demon God Lin occupied, he would not have the time to compete for the other treasures. Hence, they were more than happy to let him continue the chase alone.

A few heaven prides even began to gloat, believing Lin Xun would not succeed and end up emptyhanded.

The chase soon reached a relatively high point of the tree where branches began to dip into the clouds.

The old bastard seemed a little tired and speechless as it looked at Lin Xun. It had not expected he would be so stubborn and appeared to be intent on wearing out its stamina.

Soon after, it sneered and continued to dart away while occasionally finding chances to appear behind Lin Xun and give him a fierce kick to the back.

Although the force was very small and was unable to harm Lin Xun, it was extremely humiliating. He would certainly become a laughing stock if it was known that the mighty Demon God Lin was being trampled on by an old herb.

Whoosh!

Suddenly, the old bastard rushed over again and extended its foot to kick Lin Xun's back with a smug smile.

At this moment, however, Lin Xun abruptly turned around, gnashed his teeth, and said, "Old bastard, I've put up with you for long enough!"

The old ginseng was stunned before it quickly displayed a mocking smile, thinking the kid was just verbally lashing out in anger.

This gave it an indescribable sense of satisfaction.

However, it soon saw that Lin Xun was also smiling. His smile was very cold and an old golden pagoda appeared in his hand.

The Prodigies War Chapter 902: Sparring The pagoda's color was actually a mix between plain jade and glass. However, the dense brilliant gold luster it gave off made it appear extremely magnificent.

Although it was only palm-sized, it was easy to see that the pagoda was an extraordinary artifact. Each part of its octagonal body was a world of its own, imprinted with the images of the sun, moon, mountains, rivers, heaven, earth, the cosmos, the stars, the ancient gods, and so on.

It was as if all traces of the ancient world had been branded onto the pagoda, giving it a boundless aura that seemed to encompass all of time itself!

Unfortunately, the pagoda was damaged. The words originally carved into the top of the tower were missing, leaving only a blurry and incomplete 'no.'

This was the Nameless Pagoda!

It was the most mysterious and supreme treasure Lin Xun possessed and contained a Buddhist verse linked to the secret of Fangchun Mountain.

The old ginseng immediately felt something bad was going to happen, causing its smile to freeze. It frantically fled as if horrified.

"Trying to escape? Too late!"

A ray of wonder-gold dao light shot out from the Nameless Pagoda and bound the old ginseng with a light sweep.

Light surged from the old ginseng's body in alarm, but it was useless no matter how it struggled. Its elderly face was filled with terror as it was pulled into the Nameless Pagoda.

Boom!

In the first level of the pagoda, the old ginseng suppressed by wonder-gold dao light realized the danger it was in and displayed a pitiful expression as it sent out a thought transmission, "Calm down my young friend, calm down. This is a misunderstanding."

Lin Xun's pupils shrank as his heart shook. The supreme-king-grade herb possessed intelligence!

He soon sneered and said, "Weren't you having a jolly good time earlier? Why aren't you laughing but instead begging for mercy now?"

The old ginseng had repeatedly provoked him while being chased and displayed such a loathsome mocking smile that even the usually good-natured Lin Xun had been triggered.

If the other party wasn't a supreme-king-grade herb, he would have strangled it to death long ago.

The old ginseng pitifully said, "Young friend, I am a spirit root of Cangwu Mountain. I have never harmed anyone ever since I gained sentience. I swear I had no evil intentions and was just having a little fun with you earlier. Please be magnanimous and forgive me for this once."

"Don't even think about it!" Lin Xun's tone was firm. It would be a waste not to consume such an unrivaled herb.

"Damnit, boy are you really not going to relent? Listen up! Back in the day, this Grandpa was well-known to be a fearsome character in Cangwu Mountain. I had countless disciples, and even the Saint experts showed me respect. What's a little brat like you in comparison? I'll give you another chance so hurry up and let me go. Don't make a mistake this time, or no one in the world will be able to save you!"

Suddenly, the originally pitifully begging old ginseng changed his tune and cursed with the mannerisms of a hoodlum with his hands clasping his waist.

Lin Xun was slightly taken aback by the swift transformation. He didn't expect the old ginseng to suddenly show a completely different persona.

Boom!

The reply, however, was a vicious whipping from the wonder-gold dao light, causing the old ginseng to scream as he let out a stream of expletives.

"I curse your ancestors #\$%..."

"Ouch, it hurts you b*tch, f*ck your #\$\$..."

How was this a supreme-grade-king herb? It was more like an old gangster!

Eventually, the old ginseng was brutalized until it was on the verge of tears and seemed to be on its last breath, leaving it unable to curse.

However, it still refused to bow down. It gritted its teeth like a stubborn old gangster and said, "Just you wait..."

It lay sprawled on the ground, unable to move a muscle.

Only now did it resemble an old herb with a strong medicinal fragrance wafting from its body.

If not for the current situation, Lin Xun would have loved to cut off a piece of it to try.

"This fellow is sentient and has probably lived for many years so he might know something about Cangwu Mountain's secrets. There's no rush to process it..."

While contemplating, Lin Xun withdrew his spirit sense and put away the Nameless Pagoda.

At this time, he was already very high up on the Ancient Dao Lantern Tree. The branches reached straight into the clouds, and the surroundings were covered in a purple mist. There was also no one to be seen nearby.

The sounds of battle could still be heard from below as the experts continued to vie for the various treasures and blessings with experts perishing from time to time amidst the scuffles.

It was a bitter scene.

Anyone who could reach the Ancient Dao Lantern Tree was a top heaven pride of the younger generation. The loss of each one was no less than a heavy blow to their respective factions.

However, everyone couldn't care less about such things at this juncture as they desperately fought for the blessings.

This was the great dao struggle, where blessings were always accompanied by blood and death.

Boom!

Suddenly, the sounds of an intense battle rumbled from the purple mist in the distance.

Lin Xun sent forth his spirit sense and instantly discovered that two supreme heaven prides, Mu Jianting and Lei Qianjun, were facing off.

They were fighting over a leather scroll that sprinkled azure divine light as it danced in the air. Faint wisps of dao sound spread from the scroll, producing a deafening noise.

There was no doubt that it was a mysterious and unfathomable ancient inheritance!

It was no wonder that the likes of Mu Jianting and Lei Qianjun were fighting over it. In fact, even Lin Xun felt a little tempted.

From the misty dao sound and the light sprinkling from it, the inheritance recorded in the scroll was certain to be extraordinary.

In the end, Lin Xun held back from joining the fight.

He had no grievance with either of the two individuals, and there were plenty of other blessings to be found on the Ancient Dao Lantern Tree. Hence, it wasn't worthwhile to stick his foot into this affair.

Lin Xun decided to check out other places.

However, just as he was about to turn around and leave, a terrifying aura suddenly attacked.

Boom!

It was a pine-patterned sword that shone like the sun. A vast radiance wrapped in almighty power slashed at him from above.

Lin Xun instinctively dodged to the side.

The moment he moved, however, a thick rod entwined with horrifying lightning descended with power that could pulverize mountains.

It was no longer possible to avoid.

The attacks were too sudden and coordinated as if they had already calculated where Lin Xun would move.

"Doh!" At this critical moment, power bloomed from Lin Xun's tongue as a golden sound wave rippled outwards.

It was the Pulao Roar.

Unlike before, the golden sound wave abruptly transformed into densely packed restrictions as a phantasm of the divine beast, Baxia, emerged. With a stomp of its four hooves, the entire area was placed under a powerful restriction.

It was Baxia Imprisonment!

Two completely different secret arts were perfectly fused together by Lin Xun into a single roar.

The rod suddenly slowed down as if it was stuck in a quagmire.

Lin Xun immediately took advantage of the opportunity. He disappeared from the spot like a phantom and reappeared some distance away.

Boom!

The pine-patterned sword struck the spot where Lin Xun originally stood, causing space to collapse into itself with a loud boom.

Crack!

The lightning rod broke free of the restriction and smashed into the ground, causing a flurry of sparks to fly.

The surface of the tree was covered in a thick and dense layer of restrictions. If it was the outside world instead, the strike would have destroyed a large mountain!

If Lin Xun had reacted just a split second slower, he would have been caught between the sword and rod, and probably suffer a serious injury.

Although everything had transpired in the blink of an eye, the danger of the situation would make a chill run up any cultivator.

It was also at this point that Lin Xun finally got a clear look at the two experts who had suddenly attacked him.

"It's you guys!" Iciness surged in Lin Xun's black eyes as anger and killing intent surfaced on his handsome face.

In the distance, Mu Jianting and Lei Qianjun arrived side by side.

They had been fiercely fighting over the leather scroll just moments ago but were now displaying a united front.

Lin Xun realized that the fight earlier was just a front to trick him. Their real intention was to catch him off guard and deal a fatal blow!

This caused uncontrollable killing intent to surge in Lin Xun's heart. He had decided to not get involved and was just about to leave, feeling there was no reason to create a potential grudge over the scroll since he had no previous grievances with them.

Who could have anticipated that the duo would join hands against him? Furthermore, they had clearly intended on finishing him off with a single strike.

"As expected of Demon God Lin, such reaction speed is genuinely astonishing." Mu Jianting rubbed his palms together in admiration, appearing rather dignified and refined in his daoist robes.

"It is indeed a surprise." Lei Qianjun imposingly stood there as he gave off a fierce and oppressive aura.

"Why?" Lin Xun's voice was ice-cold.

Mu Jianting smiled faintly and said, "We just wanted to spar."

"Yeah, we just want to spar." A fierce and icy light flashed in Lei Qianjun's eyes.

From their demeanors, Lin Xun knew that it was impossible to get a straight answer. They were not going to reveal anything even if he asked again.

However, this only intensified Lin Xun's killing intent.

On his way here, he made sure to stay on guard against Yu Lingkong, Sha Liuchan, Zhongli Wuji, Qing Lian'er, and Zhuo Kuanglan, and never imagined that the two supreme heaven prides, Mu Jianting and Lei Qianjun, would also turn hostile against him.

No matter the reason, their actions had already touched Lin Xun's bottom line!

"Spar?"

Lin Xun displayed an emotionless expression. As he stepped forward, an incomparably terrifying aura surged around his body like a giant azure sun.

His aura had changed in an instant and now resembled a demon god. Meanwhile, his internal energy boiled to reach a whole new peak.

"Sure, let's have a good sparring session!"

Lin Xun's black hair began to float as his presence became akin to an abyss. Murderous intent burst from his body like a tsunami, enveloping the entire area.

Mu Jianting's and Lei Qianjun's pupils shrank in response to Lin Xun's transformation. The duo then exchanged a look and attacked in unison.

Swish!

Blinding sword light rose upwards, causing the sky to lose color. Mu Jianting's clothes fluttered around him as he rushed at Lin Xun, resembling a ferociously attacking sword king.

Rumble~

On the other side, Lei Qianjun's lips curled into an icy smile. He lifted his lightning rod and pounced like a ferocious tiger ready to unleash carnage and violence.

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Chapter 903: Unrivaled Might of the Demon God

Clang!

Lin Xun stepped forward and swung his fist. Dazzling fist-force erupted and collided with the pinepatterned sword with a deafening roar.

The power of the pine-patterned word was forcibly neutralized amidst an explosion of light.

"Strong!"

Mu Jianting's eyes narrowed.

Meanwhile, a Bixi phantasm emerged from Lin Xun's back. The hundred feet tall phantasm ruthlessly rammed into the incoming lightning rod with a tremendous force that seemed capable of sweeping away the sun and moon.

Boom!

The sky and land trembled as if a volcanic eruption was occurring. The huge force of the impact made the lightning rod buzz wildly, numbing part of Lei Qianjun's hand while his blood churned inside him.

He was also somewhat shocked. Only after exchanging blows with Lin Xun did he realize that the latter's strength was far greater than he had anticipated!

Kill!

Mu Jianting's robe billowed as his aura turned exceedingly fierce like a sword. Yin yang dao power pulsed from his blade as he slashed, sending out a stream of black and white qi that screamed of terrifying and deadly force.

Swish! Swish! Swish! Swish!

Black and white sword qi rapidly crisscrossed into a radiant sword net that enveloped every possible direction.

This was a supreme heaven pride, an individual that stood at the peak of the Cyclic Derivation stage and was far more outstanding than their peers.

Lin Xun fearlessly rushed forward without any intention of avoiding. His black hair danced around him as he employed the Nine Heavenshaking Destructions Art and the Tribulation Dragon Nine Transformations to meet the attack.

Time seemed to come to a standstill as the surrounding air rapidly exploded. It was as if two ancient divine mountains were colliding with a thunderous boom.

All kinds of terrifying scenes appeared like tidal waves as blinding light made the surrounding area fade into white.

In a few seconds, the two individuals exchanged over a dozen blows.

In the end, Mu Jianting lost the exchange. A dragon made of fist-force soared into the air, sending him flying as he almost coughed blood in agony.

"How is he so strong?"

Mu Jianting was a little shaken and surprised.

He had been following Lin Xun's feats since the Four Seasons Pavilion event and regarded him as a major opponent since the start of the five trials. Hence, Mu Jianting never once displayed any carelessness against such a foe.

However, he never imagined that this enemy would be so terrifying!

Boom!

On the other side, Lei Qianjun furiously swung his lightning rod. The sweeping blow was fierce and powerful to the extreme, boasting destructive force that could destroy the five elements.

However, it did not take long for him to also be forced back by Lin Xun's fist-force. This caused Lei Qianjun's expression to change slightly as he grew increasingly vigilant and serious.

The two supreme prides exchanged a quick look, seeing the surprise on each other's faces before they simultaneously attacked again with their full might.

After a brief probing, they thoroughly understood that neither of them was Lin Xun's match in a one-onone situation.

The only chance to suppress him was to join forces and use their full strength!

Rumble~

For a time, the loud booms continuously rang out as if landslides and tsunamis were constantly occurring. The frightening commotion soon drew the attention of many experts.

"Dang! Mu Jianting and Lei Qianjun have joined forces against Demon God Lin." Several people gasped in shock.

It was absolutely a battle for the ages: a rare clash between supreme heaven prides.

"What did Demon God Lin do to offend the two of them? He seems to have way too many enemies, right?"

Numerous experts were also amazed and nearly unable to believe what they were witnessing.

Previously, they had already foreseen that Demon God Lin would suffer an unimaginable blow after reaching the Ancient Dao Lantern Tree.

However, they did not expect that in addition to Yu Lingkong, Sha Liuchan, Zhongli Wuji, Qing Lian'er, and Zhuo Kuanglan, even Mu Jianting and Lei Qianjun would make their move against Demon God Lin!

Didn't he have way too many enemies?

"Hmph! If Demon God Lin was a successor of an ancient sect, would these supreme heaven prides dare to bully him like this? Rather than him causing trouble, it seems to me that they're after the blessings and Saint treasure in Demon God Lin's possession!"

There were also people who felt indignant for Lin Xun.

.....

Currently, several blessings born from the Ancient Dao Lantern Tree had already been seized, while others had managed to flee and disappear.

However, the heaven prides didn't give up because there were still many flower buds that had yet to bloom.

They were waiting for the next opportunity to present itself.

While waiting, however, they never imagined that they would witness such an unrivaled match.

More and more experts were alerted by the commotion and swiftly discovered the ongoing showdown.

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Boom!

As the battle grew increasingly intense, light began to steam from Lin Xun. He did not back down at all despite facing two supreme heaven prides, but instead chose to face them head-on.

In this moment, he was a demon god; his brightly shining figure was seemingly untouchable as he nimbly shifted around the battlefield like a mighty sun.

Mu Jianting and Lei Qianjun were not lacking either. They both displayed combat power far beyond their peers and wielded powerful ancient dao arts. One resembled a sword sovereign, while the other was akin to a thunder god. Although they displayed differing styles, they were both frightening in their own right.

Clang!

A sword struck from the east, gleaming with peerless sharpness. However, it was smashed to pieces by a punch from Lin Xun before it could approach, forcing Mu Jianting to retreat.

"Muddy Heaven Subdue!"

Lei Qianjun charged as he swung his rod overhead while lightning wildly danced around him.

Lin Xun's eyes flashed icily as he boldly advanced to meet his opponent. Fist-force surged forth like an unstoppable tsunami, seeking to sweep away everything in its path.

Light erupted between the figures as wind and dao light devastated the surroundings. Space began to collapse into itself, showing just how terrifying the fight was.

Meanwhile, Mu Jianting also attacked with sword-will, displaying impeccable teamwork with Lei Qianjun.

The duel was extremely dangerous with dao arts and explosions flooding the area. It was a sight that made many cultivators' hearts tremble.

"Disorderly Heaven Subdue!"

Lei Qianjun charged again with a battle cry. His imposing figure was suffused with lightning and the rod in his hand was wrapped in thousands of lightning bolts as if heralding the descent of a lightning tribulation.

Lin Xun met the attack head-on with fist-force. His fist-force was infused with the combined essence of the Nine Heavenshaking Destructions Art while also containing the Dao Meaning of Water, imbuing it with an indestructible sensation that could shake the very heavens itself.

With a loud bang, Lei Qianjun's attack was once again neutralized. Meanwhile, Lin Xun was already rushing at Mu Jianting.

A gloomy look emerged between Lei Qianjun's brows. Even now, they were not only unable to kill Lin Xun but also failed to suppress him. This filled him with a grave sensation and indescribable anger.

As a supreme heaven pride, it was already shameful for him to join hands with Mu Jianting. However, it was even more humiliating that they were unable to subdue Lin Xun despite working together.

"Heaven Breaker Subdue!"

He furiously roared as he raised his rod and charged again, causing the surroundings to tremble.

Dazzling lightning runes appeared one after another on his giant body. It was the essence of the Lightning-Jolt Dao which flared with the radiance of ten thousand lightning bolts.

Thunder rumbled as if the gods were shouting as the weather rapidly changed.

It was undoubtedly an incomparably terrifying attack that was branded with the essence of countless secret arts. Just its aura alone caused the surroundings to fall into disorder as lightning wreaked havoc in the area.

"This is how it should be!"

Lin Xun's lips curved into a smile as he fused all nine fist-forces of the Nine Heavenshaking Destructions Art into his fist and prepared to release it.

Unexpectedly, the punch appeared empty and ordinary, containing no trace of smoke or fire. The moment it was released, however, the surrounding space rapidly began to collapse, and cracks spread as if unable to endure the power contained within the punch.

The crowd gasped in shock as their scalps tingled. The fight between these supreme heaven prides made them despair. How could any of them match these monsters who had reached the limit of the Cyclic Derivation stage? Anyone who even got too close would just die!

Dong!

Fist-force and rod collided. A split second later, the crowd saw Lei Qianjun being thrown backward. He staggered in the air in an attempt to stabilize himself, his face clearly much paler than before.

In contrast, Lin Xun appeared to be completely fine. He immediately rushed forward, intending to take advantage of this opportunity to subdue Lei Qianjun.

"Demon God Lin is incredible!"

Numerous experts were dumbstruck.

Even against two supreme heaven prides, he wasn't suppressed and was instead able to counterattack, defeat Lei Qianjun, and was now mere moments from dealing the finishing blow.

It was a horrifying and unimaginable outcome.

Chla!

However, before Lin Xun could deal the final blow, Mu Jianting intercepted from the side. His pinepatterned sword flowed with black and white yin and yang qi while giving off a heart-palpitating gleam. "Yin Yang Chop!"

Boom!

A stream of sword-will tore open an alarming crack in the air as it swung at Lin Xun's hand.

Lin Xun turned around and executed the Bi'an Stamp. It descended like a divine mountain with a Bi'an divine beast perched atop it looking down on the world.

Crack! Crack!

No matter how sharp or fearsome the black and white sword-will was, it still crumbled inch by inch under the Bi'an Stamp's pressure.

At the same time, Lin Xun stepped forward and a snow-white hornless ice dragon rose into the air and ruthlessly swatted Mu Jianting away with a swing of its tail.

Everyone was shocked and stupefied as their hearts trembled uncontrollably. Although they had expected Lin Xun to be very frightening, they never imagined that he would be this terrifying.

It was the perfect depiction of an unrivaled demon god!

He was insuppressible, unstoppable, and invincible. He made it feel inevitable as he defeated his opponents one by one.

Mu Jianting and Lei Qianjun were no ordinary individuals and were considered top tier even among the supreme heaven prides. They were clearly a step above the likes of Sha Liuchan.

Anyone else would have been single-handedly crushed by either one of them because they were nearinvincible in the Cyclic Derivation stage.

However, both of them had now been defeated despite joining forces!

In the distance, Mu Jianting was in a sorry state. His arm was bleeding, his chest was nearly shattered, his complexion was pale, and his blood churned wildly, making him feel the strong urge to cough blood.

On the other side, Lei Qianjun wasn't faring any better. His hands were still numb from holding the rod, and he did not dare to imagine what would have happened if Mu Jianting had not come to the rescue.

The duo's expressions had become very grave. They could already tell that Demon God Lin had likely attained the legendary supreme path. Otherwise, there was no way he would possess such irrational strength!

Rumble!

Lin Xun did not give them the chance to catch their breaths and immediately dashed forward. Clear light rumbled around him as his aura overflowed and soared into the sky. It appeared that he had no intention of sparing anyone.

"Demon God Lin...Demon God Lin..." The sight of this made several experts mumble incomprehensibly, unable to form proper sentences due to shock.

The Prodigies War

Chapter 904: King-level Forbidden Array

The fierce battle continued. However, the tides of the battle had clearly shifted.

Lin Xun resembled a ferocious tiger as he beat down the two supreme heaven prides, Mu Jianting and Lei Qianjun, to the point where they could not even lift their heads.

The crowd was in shock because it was a scene they never anticipated. None of them could have imagined that they would bear witness to a sight that left such a strong visual impact on them.

An expert sighed and said, "Does anyone remember that Demon God Lin did the same against Sha Liuchan and Qing Lian'er in front of the Four Seasons Pavilion?"

"Qing Lian'er ended up seriously injured while Sha Liuchan was defeated. If Zhongli Wuji hadn't interfered, I don't think anyone will be surprised by the fate that would have awaited them."

The crowd recalled the event and found that there were indeed some similarities to the duel they were currently witnessing.

However, although Sha Liuchan and Qing Lian'er were also supreme heaven prides, they were clearly inferior in terms of battle power to Mu Jianting and Lei Qianjun.

Despite this, they were receiving a one-sided thrashing from Lin Xun!

"Back then, Demon God Lin had already displayed the power of a top supreme heaven pride. However, his present self is clearly different from that time.

"In the first trial, he obtained a nine-petal fire lotus, which is equivalent to mastering a new dao essence and a supreme-grade dao art.

"In the second trial, he is suspected to have received a special reward for placing first in the Realm of Limits. Moreover, his combat power is bound to have undergone a radical transformation in the trial!

"In the Sinking Sea, he chose to perform a cultivation breakthrough while in a dangerous situation. Despite being hindered, he ultimately succeeded in advancing to the mid Cyclic Derivation stage!

"Everyone should know that for a supreme heaven pride like Demon God Lin, his combat power will undergo a significant transformation with each increase in cultivation level. Otherwise, Sha Liuchan would not have been defeated in a single strike and become so scared that he fled to avoid Lin Xun.

An expert delivered a detailed analysis where he calmly dissected Lin Xun's combat ability like an unraveling cocoon, attracting many listeners.

"Similarly, although it might look like Demon God Lin had gained nothing from the Spirit Lantern Illumination test, the spirit power he showed was unrivaled among his peers. It is known to most of us that the spirit is the key to deciphering life and death and forging the King dao. The fact that Demon God Lin's spirit is so strong must mean that his potential to become a King expert far surpasses our imagination! "In the fifth trial, the dao power Demon God Lin comprehended can't possibly be a mere 'vortex dao.' Otherwise, why would that ancient stone tablet self-destruct? That's something that has never happened before.

"This undoubtedly means that even if the dao power he has mastered is not as great as that of Fairy Ji and the others, it is definitely special and incomparable to ordinary dao powers!"

At this point, the experts felt as if the clouds had suddenly been dispelled, making everything clear.

"All of you should now understand that the current Demon God Lin is completely different from how he was before he participated in the Dao Lantern Festival. His battle power, cultivation, spirit power, and the dao power he wields have all undergone a tremendous transformation."

The expert's eyes burned brightly as he continued, "Under these circumstances, I doubt that even leader-level supreme heaven prides such as Fairy Ji and Yu Lingkong will be capable of suppressing Demon God Lin!"

Gasp!

His conclusion was met by a series of gasps as many experts felt a chill in their hearts. Had Demon God Lin...already grown so powerful?

They shifted their focus back to the battlefield and saw Lin Xun's upright figure clothed in brilliant pure light like a dazzling divine sun filled with almighty power disdainfully looking down from above.

Mu Jianting and Lei Qianjun appeared dim in contrast, unable to fight back as they were forced to keep dodging and retreating.

He's right!

The crowd felt rather complicated and unexplainably shocked. The battle was akin to the sun and mind competing to shine brighter in which Lin Xun was the unique and glorious sun!

.....

Plop!

After being knocked back yet again, Mu Jianting was ultimately unable to hold back from coughing blood.

His expression was dark and stormy while an indescribable sensation of sullenness, frustration, and anger welled up within him. Lin Xun's strength repeatedly surpassing his expectations had dealt a strong mental blow.

On the other side, Lei Qianjun was still bitterly resisting.

Although Lin Xun had not used a single treasure from start to end, his fists were far more terrifying than a supreme treasure. They were like the heralds of unstoppable natural disasters; majestic, indestructible, and dreadful forces that could sweep away everything in their path with oppressive power.

It made Lei Qianjun wonder how terrifying it would be if Lin Xun had used treasures to fight.

Dong!

Another shining fist swiftly approached with a simple yet ethereal aura and smashed into the Thunder Staff.

Lei Qianjun trembled uncontrollably, and his wrist almost broke. His entire body shifted downward and was nearly crushed into the ground.

"Go!"

In the distance, Mu Jianting shouted as he turned around and ran off.

The crowd was stunned. They never imagined that Mu Jianting, the mighty successor of the Jade Emptiness Temple and a supreme heaven pride who was famous in the West Infinity World, would end up retreating.

It undoubtedly showed that he knew it was no longer possible to turn the tides and thus chose to withdraw.

Swish!

Lei Qianjun didn't hesitate either. He immediately turned into a thunderbolt and crossed over three thousand feet in a flash.

"You guys were the ones who kept yammering for a spar earlier, so why are you guys leaving before the spar is over?"

Lin Xun coldly snorted as he gave chase with the Hornless Ice Dragon Step.

He had not used any killing moves previously not because he was showing mercy but because he was being cautious.

After all, he was certain that Mu Jianting and Lei Qianjun still had powerful trump cards in their arsenal that could threaten his life.

Hence, he had been waiting for them to reveal their hidden daggers.

However, he had not expected the two of them to completely ignore their dignity and flee under the watching eyes of the onlookers.

They were obviously unwilling to use their trump card at this juncture.

It was easy to guess why. Since the battle for the blessings on the Ancient Dao Lantern Tree wasn't over yet, neither of them wanted to expose their cards too early!

However, they had yet to ask whether Lin Xun agreed!

He was attacked for no reason and almost killed while the other party casually insisted it was merely a spar. How could he not feel angry about this situation?

Did they think he didn't dare to kill?

Swish!

Lin Xun moved like lightning as he chased with all his might.

"After them!"

The crowd of experts could see that Lin Xun had zero intention of relenting and immediately followed such as not to miss out on the action.

It wasn't that these experts were busybodies but because none of the remaining flower buds showed any signs of blooming. Otherwise, they would never abandon the possibility of contesting over blessings just to watch a fight.

.....

The Ancient Dao Lantern Tree's trunk was thicker the higher you went, making it resemble a maze with its branches reaching deep into the clouds.

The purple mist covering the tree also made it seem as if they were traveling to a higher world.

Although Mu Jianting and Lei Qianjun were extremely fast, they could not escape Lin Xun's spirit sense. Moreover, Lin Xun was faster when using the maximum speed of the Hornless Ice Dragon Step!

Behind the two supreme heaven prides, Lin Xun wore an indifferent look as he spoke in a voice filled with iciness and ridicule, "Why are you two running? Come on, let's continue our spar!"

Mu Jianting and Lei Qianjun gnashed their teeth in anger. Being suppressed by Lin Xun earlier had already left them extremely frustrated and ashamed, as such, Lin Xun's mocking words made them feel even more humiliated.

"Can't believe that you guys are also supreme heaven prides. I'm certain I had no grudge against either of you and have never competed with you guys for any blessings. How dare you guys launch such a despicable sneak attack on me? Don't you guys have any shame?

"Since you wish to be my enemy, leave your heads to atone for your sins! "

Lin Xun's voice rang out in the area. His words weren't only directed at Mu Jianting and Lei Qianjun but also for the other experts to hear.

"You're asking for death!" Lei Qianjun was furious, while Mu Jianting's expression had also turned exceedingly ugly.

"I'm asking for death? Hehe, if so, why are you guys running?" Lin Xun displayed a wide smile as his expression turned increasingly icy.

He was gradually catching up to the two of them.

Meanwhile, he made sure to keep vigilant so he would be prepared for any desperate attempts they might make. After all, even a cornered dog might jump over a wall. If they suddenly turned on him and threw out all of their trump cards, he would be ready to respond with his full power.

Boom!

However, an unexpected event suddenly occurred before he could catch up.

Numerous flags suddenly appeared from every direction, numbering 108 in total as they rapidly positioned themselves around him.

In the blink of an eye, Lin Xun found that he was trapped.

His pupils abruptly shrank. A rune array!

Gurgle~

Tidal waves of densely packed runes were released from the flags and swiftly engulfed the area.

The scenery before Lin Xun instantly changed. It became foggy everywhere he looked, making it impossible to find any path. Moreover, his spirit sense had been blocked, and he could no longer sense the outside world.

"This is a King-level forbidden array!"

Lin Xun immediately identified the situation he was in. After all, he was a rune master who had spent many years studying rune arrays. In fact, he was even able to determine that the 108 flags were a rare ancient array artifact set!

It was a treasure from the ancient era that had been imprinted with wondrous and cryptic rune arrays. When activated, the flags would resonate with each other to instantly create a mighty rune array possessing unfathomable power.

A King-level forbidden array was even more terrifying. At the minimum, it required an ancient array artifact set with the might of a Supreme King Weapon to set up.

Such a powerful formation was capable of trapping and killing even a King stage expert and destroying an entire territory!

"What a big investment. To think that they would go so far as to employ a King-level forbidden array to deal with me..."

Lin Xun's black eyes were as deep as the night while his expression was frighteningly frosty.

He had realized that this was a meticulously prepared trap!

At the same time, Lin Xun finally understood why Mu Jianting and Lei Qianjun had not used any trump cards while trying to escape. They were using themselves as bait to draw him into the trap.

Or perhaps it would be more accurate to say that this array was their trump card!

"How devious!"

After figuring everything out, Lin Xun felt a chill in his heart. These supreme heaven prides had certainly employed very crafty and ruthless methods in order to deal with him.

The realization also filled him with hatred and uncontrollable killing intent.

However, Lin Xun soon calmed himself. His spirit sense spread out, and he began to study the array.

Any other expert would have despaired in this situation. Unfortunately, Mu Jianting and Lei Qianjun would never have imagined that their target, Lin Xun, was also a true-blue rune founder...

The Prodigies War

Chapter 905: Four Divisions King Array

Giant waves of densely packed runes rose like steam as they flickered intimidatingly.

Mu Jianting and Lei Qianjun stood outside the King-level forbidden array with gloomy expressions.

Despite managing to trap Lin Xun, they still felt ashamed and angered when they recalled the earlier battle.

"Heh, it seems that this is all Demon God Lin amounts to."

A group approached, revealing themselves to be none other than Sha Liuchan, Zhongli Wuji, Qing Lian'er, and a few others.

All of them were looking a little pleased with the result. Each person was also holding an array disk engraved with different runes. From the undulations given off by the disks, it was clear that they were being used to control the nearby King-level forbidden array.

"It's mostly thanks to you two that we managed to lure Demon God Lin into the trap." Zhongli Wuji cupped his fist at Mu Jianting and Lei Qianjun.

Mu Jianting indifferently said, "There is no need to be so polite. Our goals merely aligned for a while." "

Unfazed, Zhongli Wuji replied, "Brother Mu doesn't need to worry. We are only here to kill Lin Xun. The blessings and treasures in his possession will naturally belong to the two of you."

Only then did Mu Jianting's and Lei Qianjun's expressions soften.

It was clear that this had been premeditated, and they were secretly cooperating. Zhongli Wuji and the others wanted to kill Lin Xun, while Mu Jianting and Lei Qianjun had their eyes on his valuable possessions!

Sha Liuchan frowned and asked, "Miss Lian'er, this array will be okay, right?"

He was a little worried. To be frank, he had been really alarmed by Lin Xun's combat power earlier and was feeling inexplicably afraid.

"Relax, this array is called the Four Divisions King Array and was personally made by my ancestor using 108 battle flags. Once trapped by it, even rampaging dragons and King stage old monsters will not be able to escape!"

Qing Lian'er confidently declared with pride in her eyes. After all, she knew just how formidable the array was.

Everyone was relieved upon hearing this.

"Heh, Demon God Lin is in trouble now." There was a sense of triumph and resentment in Sha Liuchan's voice that resembled the elation from achieving revenge.

"If we weren't pressed for time to compete for the blessings, there would have been no need to trouble Miss Lian'er to use this array. I could teach him taught him his place in mere minutes!"

Zhongli Wuji appeared proud and aloof.

His words, however, drew contempt and annoyance from Mu Jianting and Lei Qianjun. If Demon God Lin was so weak, could he have overwhelmingly suppressed the two of them?

Moreover, wasn't Zhongli Wuji also implying that the two of them together could not compare to him?

Mu Jianting impatiently said, "Cut the crap. Hurry up and kill him. Time is running out."

The remaining flower buds on the Ancient Dao Lantern Tree would bloom soon. Hence, he did not wish to waste any more time.

"Brother Mu couldn't have said it better."

While speaking, Zhongli Wuji, Sha Liuchan, Qing Lian'er, and the others had already started to move into position and begin to operate their respective array disks.

Rumble!

Divine radiance suffused the surroundings as runes surged like waves.

The Four Divisions King Array seemed to awaken from its slumber as murderous intent swiftly unfurled into the sky, alarming the clouds.

In an instant, a white tiger, vermilion bird, green dragon, and black tortoise appeared at the four extreme corners above the array as undulations that would make even King experts shiver began to spread.

.....

"My god! What kind of horrifying array is that? Its presence feels far too dreadful. Will Demon God Lin be able to survive?"

By this time, many experts had already arrived some distance away. The sight made their expressions change drastically and their souls tremble uncontrollably.

"It's a trap set by a group of supreme heaven prides intending to kill Demon God Lin!"

Someone had noticed that Zhongli Wuji and others had gathered together with Mu Jianting and Lei Qianjun, which made everything clear.

"Demon God Lin is finished ... "

Numerous experts inwardly sighed.

Demon God Lin was admittedly an incredible expert who had fought his way up from the lower plane without any support or backing. He had singlehandedly stirred up the West Infinity World and proved himself among the younger generation.

Everyone could not help but feel regret and pity that such an amazing supreme heaven pride would meet his end on the Ancient Dao Lantern Tree today.

.....

In the King-level forbidden array.

As the array began to operate, rune patterns poured out like a silver river and rapidly flooded the entire array. Lightning flashed as raging flames, violently churning water, and tumbling boulders emerged, painting a scenery of mayhem and destruction.

Any other cultivator would have despaired long ago because it was impossible to avoid the onslaught, and they could only wait for death like a trapped beast.

In Lin Xun's eyes, however, these attacks were merely the product of various arrays. Although they were cryptic and terrifying, it wasn't as if there were no vulnerabilities to exploit.

Swish!

Lin Xun also moved the moment the array activated and began flickering around inside like an arc of electricity.

Crack!

Blinding lightning poured down like torrential rain. It looked impossible to withstand or avoid and was a scene that brought only despair. However, Lin Xun merely reached out and lightly pressed a certain spot.

The lightning storm abruptly collapsed and dissipated as if its death acupuncture point had been pressed.

Meanwhile, Lin Xun took advantage of the opening to dodge past the area.

It was an attack from the Lightning Thousand Illusion Array which was controlled by the white tiger and possessed astonishing destructive power.

For Lin Xun, however, breaking such an array was easier than taking candy from a baby.

After all, his title of rune founder wasn't just for show!

In the Ziyao Empire, even King stage old monsters would visit him in hopes that he would craft a rune armament for them.

Under such circumstances, how could Lin Xun possibly be afraid? This King-level forbidden array might be capable of slaying King stage old monsters, but that didn't include himself!

Bang!

Lin Xun treaded through a raging sea of molten lava and fire as a hornless ice dragon soared into the air and dove deep into the sea of fire. The sea of fire soon crumbled away like paper.

This was the Mythic Fire Sun Array that was controlled by the vermillion bird and possessed the power to burn away the sky and land.

Like its predecessors, it was easily neutralized by Lin Xun after discerning its weakness with a glance.

Lin Xun leisurely strolled through the array filled with deadly force that could threaten even King stage experts, neutralizing everything that was thrown at him.

"Do you guys really believe this is enough to kill me?"

His black eyes flashed like lightning as he gazed at the sky. Although it was covered by surging rune power, he knew that the other party was watching his every movement!

"You guys best wash your necks and wait. When the array is broken, I will take your heads as payment for this!" Lin Xun's calm words were brimming with ice-cold killing intent.

He retracted his gaze as his body was swiftly covered in a layer of dream-like Suanni Qi and disappeared from sight.

•••••

Zhongli Wuji stiffened as his pupils contracted. He seemed to have felt Lin Xun looking directly at him in that split second earlier.

What kind of gaze was that?

It was calm and indifferent like a black abyss that was overflowing with endless murderous intent!

"How can this be?"

Sha Liuchan's, Qing Lian'er's, and the others' expressions also changed. They had also felt Lin Xun's gaze like Zhongli Wuji.

Sha Liuchan could not help but ask, "Could something have gone wrong in the array? Didn't you say that even a King stage old monster would be trapped and killed?"

"This array was personally made by an ancestor of my Blue Luan Clan. How can there possibly be something wrong with it? He must be proficient in the art of runes, which is why he is always able to avert danger."

Qing Lian'er frowned, feeling somewhat bewildered. Even a King stage old monster would not be as relaxed as Lin Xun, let alone a Cyclic Derivation expert.

The only explanation was that Lin Xun was also adept in runes!

"Everyone, it looks like we'll have to use our full power!"

Qing Lian'er gritted her teeth as ruthlessness surged in her clear eyes. "Although it will consume a huge amount of aeth power, we no longer have a choice!"

"I kindly beseech the two of you to guard us while we focus." Zhongli Wuji looked toward Mu Jianting and Lei Qianjun, who both nodded in agreement.

Zhongli Wuji and the others didn't hold back any longer and channeled all of their power into the array disks.

Rumble!

The scenery abruptly changed inside the array and became increasingly terrifying.

Ao!

A green dragon rushed out from the green mountains in the east and released a roar that rippled across the nine heavens.

ROAR!

A hundred-foot-long white tiger leaped out from the black hellish area in the west, emitting blindingly sharp golden light as ominous killing intent shook the cosmos.

Crash~

In the molten land of the south, a vermilion bird spread its wings and soared into the air. Thousands of bright red flames rose from its gorgeous wings, burning space itself and incinerating the universe.

Dong!

In the vast lands of the north, a black tortoise lumbered forth. Its limbs were like pillars that could support the sky and every step it took shook the ground, crushing everything in its path.

An ancient and cryptic restriction power unfurled from the array like an almighty King stage expert descending upon the land, capable of subduing an entire world and sweeping through the eight barrens.

This was the true power of the King-level forbidden array. In the outside world, it could effortlessly burn an entire city to ashes and flatten ten thousand miles of mountains!

However...

At this critical moment, Zhongli Wuji and the others suddenly discovered that Lin Xun had vanished from the array!

"What's going on?"

Zhongli Wuji's expression darkened.

"Could he have already been exterminated?"

Sha Liuchan was also bewildered.

"He's still alive. Although we cannot lock down his location, the power of the array tells me that he's still hiding somewhere inside it!"

A cold and murderous light shone in Qing Lian'er's clear eyes. "Make sure not to show any negligence, otherwise, he will find an opening and make all our work go to waste!"

Zhongli Wuji and the others inwardly shivered, not daring to let themselves be distracted at this crucial juncture.

Nearby, Mu Jianting and Lei Qianjun were somewhat puzzled. Such a King-level forbidden array should be able to crush a Cyclic Derivation expert as easily as an ant. So why was it nothing but surprise after surprise with Demon God Lin?

Could...he still have a trump card up his sleeve?

The same thought instantly appeared in their minds: the Saint treasure!

Only the power of a Saint treasure could allow a Cyclic Derivation expert like Lin Xun to persist in the King-level forbidden array until now!

Previously, the two of them had still been somewhat skeptical when they heard the rumors of Lin Xun possessing a Saint treasure.

However, they were now almost certain that it was true!

Uncontrollable greed surged in their hearts at the thought of this.

The treasures in Demon God Lin's possession might even be better than the treasures on the Ancient Dao Lantern Tree!

The Prodigies War

Chapter 906: Blown Up By A Punch

In the King-level forbidden array, Lin Xun was wrapped in Suanni Qi which completely concealed his presence.

Omm~

In his hand, a small, thumb-sized bottle spurted out primordial-chaos-like light that rippled with peculiar undulations.

The restriction power fiercely surging at him from all directions was silently swallowed by the small bottle before it could get close.

It was the Dao Immeasurable Bottle!

Lin Xun had a peculiar expression. He was originally struck by a flash of inspiration to test it out and never imagined that the magical little bottle would be capable of storing the restriction power of the array!

He could clearly feel the attacking force, essence, and aura of the array being calmly sucked into the bottle.

"What an incredible artifact. It can not only swallow attacks and accumulate their power but is also capable of accommodating the power of an array. It's simply amazing..."

Lin Xun inwardly sighed in amazement. The Dao Immeasurable Bottle was the special reward obtained in the second trial and was an exceptionally unique artifact.

Even until now, Lin Xun had yet to unearth the full extent of its abilities.

Hmm?

Lin Xun suddenly noticed that as the bottle swallowed more and more power, strange cryptic runes began to emerge on its surface.

At the same time, the bottle started to become hotter and buzzed as if it was going to be filled soon.

However, when Lin Xun tried to control it with his spirit power, the bottle suddenly stopped shaking and stabilized as it gave off an azure glow.

Its suction power grew even stronger, devouring all of the restriction attacks as if it had infinite capacity.

Understanding dawned upon Lin Xun.

The Dao Immeasurable Bottle did not need to be controlled. On the contrary, spirit power was the key to releasing its power!

.....

"Is he dead yet?"

Outside the King-level forbidden array, Sha Liuchan had become somewhat antsy, his forehead dotted with sweat. While the King-level forbidden array's power was terrifying, it was also very draining to control.

Of course, if there was a rune founder or King stage expert present, they would be more than capable of controlling it without much effort.

Although Sha Liuchan, Qing Lian'er, and the others were a few of the most outstanding individuals among the younger generation, they were still only Cyclic Derivation experts and were unable to sustain the array for prolonged periods.

"Nope."

Qing Lian'er's face had also become a little ugly. Her breathing was slightly ragged and her complexion quite pale, which were signs that she was beginning to tire as well.

"How did it come to this?"

Zhongli Wuji's expression was gloomy as a sense of foreboding rose within him.

Come on, this was a King-level forbidden array!

So why was it unable to kill a Cyclic Derivation youngster?

Sha Liuchan growled, "Qing Lian'er, are you scamming us? Why do I feel like my power is draining faster and faster?"

"Shut your trap! Do you think I'm as devious as Demon God Lin?" Qing Lian'er frowned, clearly displeased.

"Miss Lian'er, if this goes on, it won't take more than fifteen minutes for us to be completely exhausted!" Zhongli Wuji took a deep breath and tried to calm himself.

Qing Lian'er did not dare to guarantee anything at this juncture and ultimately gritted her teeth and said, "Hold on a little longer..."

Zhongli Wuji replied in a low voice, "We shall endure a little more then."

They had initially been ecstatic at the sight of Lin Xun being trapped, but all of them now wore ugly and uncertain expressions, stuck between a rock and hard place.

"It seems that the situation is taking a turn for the worse." Lightning seemed to flash in Lei Qianjun's eyes.

Mu Jianting explained with a calm expression, "It's actually rather simple to understand. The King-level forbidden array's full power can only be brought out by a King stage expert or a rune founder. Zhongli Wuji and the others don't have a deep understanding of runes, and their cultivation is far below the King stage. Hence, it is only natural for mistakes to occur. "

"What's more, don't forget that Demon God Lin possesses a Saint treasure. How can it be so easy to kill him?"

.....

"What's going on?"

The experts watching from afar also realized that something was wrong. If they were to think about it logically, a King-level forbidden array should be more than capable of instantly deciding victory.

Hence, it was very unusual for there to be no result after so long.

"That King-level forbidden array can't be a fake, right?"

Several experts voiced a certain suspicion. However, their words nearly made Qing Lian'er vomit blood. Fake? This was an ancient treasure made by an ancestor of the Blue Luan Clan and had been passed down through many generations!

Some experts began to banter, "It created such a big disturbance, but seemed to have ended up firing a blank...isn't that a little embarrassing?"

Embarrassing?

Embarrassing my ass!

Sha Liuchan was so angry that he wanted to strangle someone. This wasn't a show! They were genuinely trying to kill Demon God Lin!

"Hehe, so many supreme heaven prides, and they even set up a King-level forbidden array, yet they can't deal with a single Demon God Lin? Hehe...heh..."

The sarcastic voice and shrill laughter were rich with ridicule.

All of a sudden, Zhongli Wuji snapped as murderous intent burst from his eyes.

Mu Jianting and Lei Qianjun also frowned. The situation was growing out of hand. If Demon God Lin somehow managed to escape, it would be extremely humiliating for all of them.

Mu Jianting inquired, "Do you guys need help?"

He naturally didn't wish to see such a great opportunity go to waste. It was more than being disgraced because the revenge of Demon God Lin would be far more dire.

However, his words only made Zhongli Wuji and the others feel increasingly embarrassed and annoyed. Wasn't he implying that they weren't capable enough to handle this?

"No need, we can resolve it ourselves!" Zhongli Wuji and the others secretly swore to squeeze out every drop of power they had.

.....

I'm reaching my limit.

Lin Xun observed that even while channeling his maximum spirit power, he was beginning to lose control of the Dao Immeasurable Bottle as it began to tremble again.

Rustle!

Lin Xun immediately put away the Dao Immeasurable Bottle and rose to his feet, deciding that this was the time to start breaking the array.

.....

"He's finally shown up!"

Sha Liuchan was drenched in sweat and panting. However, he quickly turned ecstatic at the sight of Lin Xun.

"Quickly, surround him with full power."

Zhongli Wuji and the others were also overjoyed that Lin Xun had appeared, believing that he was about to reach his limit and had no choice but to stop hiding.

Rumble!

The power of the King-level forbidden array became increasingly terrifying as light rumbled across the area.

Mu Jianting, Lei Qianjun, and the experts watching in the distance were the first to notice the change in the situation. It seemed as if the deciding moment would soon arrive.

In an instant, everyone's hearts rose in their chests.

.....

Even further away, a smile spread from the corners of Yu Lingkong's lips as said to Ji Xingyao in a low voice, "Watch carefully, the victor will soon be decided."

"A group of supreme heaven prides joined forces and are even employing a King-level forbidden array. There's no honor even if they win, and the outside world will only laugh at them." Ji Xingyao wore a serene expression while her tone was as cold as snow. Yu Lingkong merely smiled and said, "In the great dao struggle, no one can deny that connections and backgrounds are also a source of strength."

"However, you can only rely on yourself to truly rise above and attain the supreme King stage absolute peak king realm." Ji Xingyao clearly did not agree with Yu Lingkong's viewpoint.

"Miss Ji, you seem to be reluctant to see him die." Yu Lingkong frowned imperceptibly.

Ji Xingyao nonchalantly said, "If it were me, I would not use such a method to kill my enemy. In short, such a victory is unfair."

Yu Lingkong applauded. "Miss Ji has a great mindset."

However, Ji Xingyao's expression suddenly froze at this moment as astonishment flashed in her eyes

Being ignored by her made Yu Lingkong a little unhappy, but when he followed Ji Xingyao's gaze, he was also taken aback as a dreadful light began to shine from his eyes.

.....

Boom!

The fluctuations of the King-level forbidden array became increasingly terrifying as if it was a chaotic furnace about to burn away everything in the world.

Zhongli Wuji and the others wore sinister expressions while inwardly excited. It was time to end it since Demon God Lin had appeared.

Mu Jianting and Lei Qianjun poised themselves to immediately rush in and seize the Saint treasure and blessings the moment Lin Xun was killed.

"Is Demon God Lin at the end of his rope?" The expressions of several experts fluctuated in uncertainty with mixed emotions.

"It's already amazing that he managed to last so long in a King-level forbidden array. Even if he's killed, this feat will definitely shake the West Infinity World."

"Eh? Is that?"

Many experts were soon astonished to discover that Lin Xun had appeared outside the still vigorously operating King-level forbidden array...

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"Demon God Lin, you're finished!" Sha Liuchan laughed loudly despite panting heavily and on his last legs. He was feeling an unprecedented amount of joy and exhilaration.

Once Lin Xun was dead, all of the shame he had suffered would be washed away!

"Is that so?"

"Of course, if he survives, I'll happily chop off my head and give it to him as a gift!"

At this point, Sha Liuchan froze because he finally realized that something was wrong. He nearly jumped three feet in the air as his jaw dropped in shock. "You you you...when did you get out? "

"I I I...just came out." Lin Xun displayed a wide grin. He stood there with his hands behind his back, his body bathed in clear, dreamy light.

Sha Liuchan's expression immediately became very entertaining to look at. It contained dismay, anger, embarrassment, and indescribable panic.

He never imagined that Lin Xun would casually walk out of the King-level forbidden array.

"You!" In the distance, Zhongli Wuji, Qing Lian'er, and the others were also completely dumbfounded and felt like they were hallucinating.

It was just far too bizarre. That's a King-level forbidden array! How can such a thing happen?

There weren't the only ones. The watching experts in the distance were also stupefied. What the hell is going on?

Boom!

Lin Xun launched his assault without waiting for them to return to their senses. He rushed forth and appeared in front of the closest target, Sha Liuchan, as his fingers clenched into a fist and ruthlessly smashed downward like a divine mountain.

Bang!

Caught off guard, Sha Liuchan's body immediately caved inward as his bones abruptly snapped amidst an explosion of flesh and blood.

The Prodigies War

Chapter 907: Overwhelming Might of the Demon God

Moments earlier, everyone believed that it was only a matter of time before Lin Xun died after being trapped in the King-level forbidden array.

After all, it was a King-level forbidden array controlled by a group of supreme heaven prides. Such terrifying power would make any expert despair.

Who could have imagined that such a reversal would occur?

The most unbelievable part was that the King-level forbidden array was still operating and clearly undamaged. Despite this, Lin Xun seemed to have walked out untouched!

It was too abrupt and caught everyone off guard.

It was only after Sha Liuchan was killed that the experts present finally snapped back to reality.

Blood splattered onto the ground.

Sha Liuchan was a supreme heaven pride, but he was unable to withstand even a single punch from Lin Xun and was killed on the spot. The bloody scene was so horrific that it immediately returned everyone to their senses.

There was no disputing the fact that Demon God Lin was somehow able to survive the King-level forbidden array and even walked out of it unharmed!

"You...how dare you!"

Zhongli Wuji was shocked, angry, and horrified. How could they fight when even the King-level forbidden array failed to deal with Demon God Lin?

"How dare I? Shouldn't you think before you speak?" Lin Xun was already rushing over again as he spoke. He was filled with hatred and anger and refused to tolerate them any longer.

At the Four Seasons Pavilion, Zhongli Wuji had already clamored that he would be the first to kill Lin Xun before they arrived at the Ancient Dao Lantern Tree. Presently, they had cooperated and planned to use a King-level forbidden array to kill him. It was simply unacceptable!

Boom!

Lin Xun charged like an unstoppable demon god, striking terror in everyone present.

"Hmph!" Zhongli Wuji's eyes turned sinisterly cold as he unleashed his trump card.

Clang!

The Black Spirit Demon Subduing Shuttle shot forth like a bolt of lightning. It was strangely swift and possessed an unimaginably terrifying penetration power.

Swish!

Meanwhile, a glittering snow-white blade flew out from Lin Xun. He was prepared for the attack and would not be caught by surprise like before.

Clang!

The two objects collided. Instead of treasures, they resembled two unrivaled masters exchanging blows, producing bursts of terrifying light and deafening explosions.

Zhongli Wuji shuddered from the impact, causing him to nearly cough blood. The most alarming thing, however, was that his Black Spirit Demon Subduing Shuttle had a clear chip and had been nearly cut in half.

This was an ancestral weapon of the Zhongli clan. Although it was no Supreme King Weapon, it had always been capable of rivaling the power of such weapons. Despite this, it had received serious damage after a single clash!

"Run!"

Zhongli Wuji turned around and fled. Controlling the King-level forbidden array had consumed most of his strength, and now even his trump card had been damaged. How could he possibly have the courage to face Lin Xun again?

However, he was already a split second too slow because Lin Xun had seized the initiative after releasing the Broken Blade and thrust his palm at the opponent.

On his palm, the Bi'an Seal was compressed to the limit as blinding light blossomed from it.

Thump!

Zhongli Wuji was struck on the back by the seal the moment he turned around. The sound of bones shattering rang out as he was sent flying into the air, almost fainting due to the pain as he violently coughed blood.

At this critical moment, he waved his sleeve and summoned an umbrella covered in swirling black light. It opened with a buzzing noise, covering the earth and sky.

It was another of Zhongli Wuji's trump cards, the Universe Umbrella, that boasted incredible defensive power. The umbrella was covered in mystical dao runes that could reflect an opponent's attacks.

"Lin Xun, are you that determined to kill me? Aren't you worried about the Zhongli Clan's vengeance when you leave Cangwu Mountain?" Zhongli Wuji threatened with an ugly expression while inwardly panicking.

He could not comprehend how Demon God Lin could be so terrifying that even a King-level forbidden array had failed to kill him. Moreover, his combat power was irrationally strong.

Lin Xun's eyes were ice-cold as anger rose in his heart. It was clearly the other party who repeatedly tried to kill him first yet Zhongli Wuji was now acting like a victim and even threatening him. This was simply intolerable.

Swish!

The Broken Blade shot forth like a flash of illusory light. In the blink of an eye, a slit was torn open in the Universe Umbrella.

Zhongli Wuji's expression changed drastically as his soul nearly left his body in alarm. What kind of treasure is that? Why is it so freakishly powerful?

Qing Lian'er came to his rescue at this dangerous juncture. She arrived wielding a long and narrow azure battle blade that resembled a bird's beak.

Dong!

Instead of avoiding the attack, Lin Xun threw a punch. Resplendent fist-force swiftly neutralized the strike with a loud rumble while Qing Lian'er was sent careening through the air with a shriek as if she had been viciously struck by a hurricane.

Meanwhile, Lin Xun refused to relent and dove at Zhongli Wuji!

He hated this always evilly smiling person the most. In fact, he even strongly suspected that the idea to trap him came from Zhongli Wuji.

.....

"Should I go or not?" Lei Qianjun stirred restlessly. He could tell that the Broken Blade wielded by Lin Xun was an extraordinary item and was likely a spirit weapon!

Spirit weapons were supreme treasures forged from real divine materials, possessing power that was even more horrifying than Supreme King Weapons. In fact, some of the stronger spirit weapons would not lose out to Saint treasures!

"Wait a little longer." Mu Jianting, however, sensed that the situation didn't bode well for them. The fact that even a King-level forbidden array could not trap Lin Xun had deeply shaken him, causing him to become even warier of the latter.

He suspected that even several of his trump cards would be of no use against Lin Xun.

•••••

After exiting the King-level forbidden array, Lin Xun displayed his overwhelming power and slayed Sha Liuchan with a single punch before anyone could react.

Now, he was steamrolling over Zhongli Wuji and Qing Lian'er. That unstoppable presence shocked the watching experts in the distance and left them in a trance.

Crack!

Another hole was torn open in the Universe Umbrella as the sound of something breaking spread from it. It was a sign that the ancient treasure had been ruined.

However, Zhongli Wuji didn't have time to feel heartbroken over it. He could feel a fatal danger looming over him as he fled with all his might like a panicked dog that had lost its home.

As a supreme heaven pride, he had never felt so miserable in his life. The indescribable shame and panic that flooded him made him feel as if he was on the verge of falling apart.

Qing Lian'er wasn't in good shape either. The King-level forbidden array had been her best trump card, and she never imagined that it would fail to kill Lin Xun. It was a devastating blow to her.

She had already tried to flee several times, hoping to avoid Lin Xun for the time being and wait for another opportunity to strike back at him again. However, he always forcibly intercepted her the moment she showed any sign of escaping.

This left her with no choice but to fight for her life.

Boom!

The Universe Umbrella was finally sliced apart by the Broken Blade and exploded. An incredible ancient treasure was thus destroyed.

"Brother Mu, how much longer are you guys waiting before you make your move?"

Zhongli Wuji screamed in fear. He was at the end of the rope and could only place all his hopes on Mu Jianting and Lei Qianjun.

However, his heart soon turned cold because neither of them reacted to his plea for help!

"You guys..."

Zhongli Wuji was furious. However, his neck was broken with a loud crack before he could finish his sentence, leaving him still glaring angrily even in death.

Another supreme heaven pride had been killed!

The watching experts' eyes nearly popped from their sockets. There were powerful ancient factions behind Zhongli Wuji and Sha Liuchan. How could Demon God Lin kill them just like that? Wasn't he the least bit afraid of the consequences?

It was simply unimaginable.

Qing Lian'er shrieked in terror as her entire body turned cold. Before this, she had always viewed Lin Xun as a target to be bullied and never expected that a youngster from the lower plane, who had no one to rely on, would be so ruthless and decisive.

"It's your turn!"

Lin Xun looked over with cold black eyes that resembled the abyss, causing Qing Lian'er to shiver uncontrollably as if she was in an ice cave as her face turned deathly pale.

What kind of person is this?

That's not right!

He's not a person but a demon god!

Even the proud Qing Lian'er despaired at this moment. She regretted offending such a fearless demon god.

"Miss Lian'er, don't be afraid. We will not allow Demon God Lin to do as he pleases!"

Mu Jianting finally made his move. With a howl, he charged into battle as his pine-patterned sword glowed, sending blasts of sword-will in all directions.

Boom!

Meanwhile, Lei Qianjun attacked from another side with his Thunder Staff.

"Get lost. You guys merely defeated losers. Do you think you can stop me from killing anyone?!" Light intensified around Lin Xun as he swung his deadly fists.

He was still pissed off. He had no grudge with them yet they not only narrowly failed to kill him with a sneak attack but they also subsequently laid a sinister trap for him. If not for his mastery of runes, he would have met his end in the King-level forbidden array.

To make things worse, these two guys were now trying to protect Qing Lian'er. They truly embodied the essence of taking a mile after being given an inch. Hence, he strongly believed they deserved nothing but death!

Swish!

The Broken Blade whistled through the air and struck at Mu Jianting, while a hornless ice dragon phantasm rose from Lin Xun and rushed at Lei Qianjun.

Meanwhile, he continued to advance toward Qing Lian'er to finish her off.

A single individual was simultaneously attacking three supreme heaven prides. If word of this got out, it would almost certainly result in a huge commotion.

Who in the West Infinity World or even the entire Ancient Wasteland Domain would dare to be so arrogant and aggressive?

Boom!

The sky and land shook as the air exploded while Lin Xun swiftly closed in on Qing Lian'er, crossing a thousand feet in a flash.

Mu Jianting's face turned white with rage as he shouted, "You dare?!"

He and Lei Qianjun desperately attacked as they rushed over.

Meanwhile, Qing Lian'er turned and ran. She had already lost the will to fight and did not have any hope that Mu Jianting and Lei Qianjun would be able to save her from the unstoppable Lin Xun.

Unfortunately, she was still a beat slow. Heavenshaking fist-force from Lin Xun slammed into her, causing her to burst into chunks of flesh.

At the same time, Mu Jianting and Lei Qianjun finally arrived only for a Bixi phantasm to emerge from Lin Xun's back and block their attacks.

Rumble!

Erratic explosions of light resulted from the dreadful clash. The watching experts in the distance were frozen in place, rendered speechless by the events since a while ago.

The overwhelming might of a demon god was fully displayed by Lin Xun at this very moment!

The Prodigies War

Chapter 908: Extinction Lightning Eye

Mu Jianting and Lei Qianjun ultimately failed to save Qing Lian'er, and she was killed by Lin Xun. She burst into chunks of flesh and blood, painting a horrific and bloody picture.

The watching experts in the distance shivered. Too strong! He did what he said and killed after declaring it. Even two supreme heaven prides were unable to stop him!

Surprisingly, after Qing Lian'er's body exploded, her primordial spirit abruptly turned into a blue luan phantasm and swiftly flew away.

It appeared she had abandoned her body right before dying and was able to preserve her primordial spirit.

However, a dao sound spread from Lin Xun's mouth as the Pulao Roar was unleashed in the form of a golden sound wave.

Boom!

Qing Lian'er's primordial spirit suffered heavy damage, causing her to scream in agony as she nearly disintegrated.

In the end, only a wisp of her spirit managed to escape.

It wasn't mercy from Lin Xun. Instead, it was because he no longer had the attention to spare due to the ferocious attacks from Mu Jianting and Lei Qianjun.

"Lin Xun, you're seeking your own death!" Mu Jianting was furious. He and Lei Qianjun had tried to save Qing Lian'er, only for her to almost die. It was humiliating to even think about.

"Still dare to make such threats when you're in danger yourself? Do you actually think I can't handle you two?" Lin Xun turned around with frighteningly cold eyes and did not hesitate to rush at Mu Jianting and Lei Qianjun.

Qing Lian'er's escape left him in a sour mood and made him hate Mu Jianting and Lei Qianjun even more. These two had repeatedly made a mess of his affairs, and he could no longer forgive them.

"How dare you almost kill the person we wanted to protect?!" Mu Jianting and Lei Qianjun also had angry expressions as terrifying auras pulsed from them.

"Cut the crap and hand over your lives!" Lin Xun went straight for the kill. Resplendent fist-force made the surroundings tremble as the sky changed color due to the overly terrifying energy fluctuations.

Moreover, a clear divine radiance spread from him as every inch of his skin flowed with the power of Dao Meaning, making him resemble a glorious sun.

Boom!

Mu Jianting and Lei Qianjun didn't back down. One controlled an ancient pine-patterned sword, while the other wielded a Thunder Staff as they fiercely clashed with Lin Xun.

"We were acting weak earlier because we wanted to use the array to kill you. Did you actually believe we're afraid of you?"

Mu Jianting abruptly raised his head, revealing a handsome face filled with murderous intent and piercing cold eyes.

His tall figure stepped forward, instantly shrinking the distance between his feet, as a stream of runes flowed from his pine-patterned sword and rained down upon Lin Xun with terrifying power.

Clang!

Both parties clashed head-on, producing a screeching clang that pierced the eardrums. It was clear that both sides had no intention of avoiding.

For a time, the area was filled with scenes of great destruction as blinding light unfurled along with destructive power that would shake anyone's heart.

Clang! Clang! Clang!

The two individuals clashed over a dozen times in an instant as they fiercely fought. It wouldn't be a stretch to call it an earth-shaking duel between the apex.

There was no denying that Mu Jianting was clearly much stronger than before. His pine-patterned sword displayed a whole new level of power, allowing his combat power to rise accordingly.

However, he was ultimately pushed back and forced to retreat as he coughed blood. His body was in disarray, and his expression had become very unsightly.

He was strong, but Lin Xun was stronger!

To make it worse, Lin Xun was also fighting against Lei Qianjun as well. Despite being in a one versus two scenario, Lin Xun remained unmatched. This made Mu Jianting shocked and angry.

Shiing!

The glittering illusory Broken Blade flashed in the air, almost succeeding in cutting Mu Jianting's neck.

A strand of his long hair was sliced instead, only managing to flutter in the air for a moment before it was torn to bits and destroyed.

Mu Jianting's heart jumped in alarm. He no longer dared to let himself lose focus again. After all, the opponent was too strong and unimaginably difficult to deal with.

Lin Xun grew increasingly illusory as bright clear light seemed to steam from him. He moved so quickly that he seemed to flicker in the air as he controlled the Broken Blade to deal with Mu Jianting while he clashed with Lei Qianjun.

His fists were not the least bit inferior to the Broken Blade. They were ferocious, savage, and indestructible, making him resemble an ancient demon god.

Boom!

It didn't take long before Lei Qianjun also staggered back, his heart beating wildly in horror. He had no choice but to retreat because Lin Xun was simply too strong.

"If I knew this would happen, I should have joined forces with the others to kill you earlier!"

The more he thought about it, the more he regretted it. They should have acted decisively while Lin Xun was facing Zhongli Wuji and the others instead of opting to watch from the sidelines and miss what might have been their best opportunity.

"Even if you guys made your move back then, it wouldn't do anything to change the outcome."

Lin Xun inwardly sneered. To think Lei Qianjun was shameless enough to make such a remark as if Lin Xun had some kind of amazing advantage over them.

The Sacred Battle Art churned ferociously in his body, causing his presence to abruptly change again by bestowing it a fearless and invincible aura.

Rumble!

He charged forward, still using the Nine Heavenshaking Destructions Art. However, his fist-force was now different from before. The aura alone greatly shook the group of experts in the distance, making them feel despair and fear.

The sky and land began to ripple due to the terrifying energies of the battle as Lin Xun seemed to transform into an almighty demon god that was sweeping through the nine heavens with unstoppable momentum!

"This..." At a certain spot extremely far away, Yu Lingkong's heart shuddered as his eyes rapidly flickered.

"I can't believe he became stronger again, is this his real limit..." Although Ji Xingyao appeared calm on the outside, her heart was churning wildly.

Thud! Thud! Thud!

Lei Qianjun immediately sensed that this wasn't good and tried to resist with all his might. However, he was still forced back by punch after punch.

Toward the end, he could not stop himself from coughing blood as his complexion turned deathly pale and his body convulsed uncontrollably.

He had suffered grave injuries, and his internal energy had fallen into disorder while he continued to be one-sidedly brutalized by Lin Xun.

Bang!

In the end, he was sent flying into the air like a kite with a broken string.

Meanwhile, Mu Jianting was also in a precarious situation. When Lin Xun activated the Sacred Combat Art, the Broken Blade's power was also greatly boosted. Its sharpness became even more unrivaled and its killing qi began to affect the surroundings.

The pine-patterned sword shook and wailed incessantly under the unforgiving beating and seemed to be on the verge of breaking. Mu Jianting's long hair was messily scattered, his clothes were in tatters, and any visible skin on his body was covered in wounds and blood.

These were injuries inflicted by the blade qi released from the Broken Blade!

The experts in the distance were paralyzed by shock.

Sha Liuchan was killed by a punch, Zhongli Wuji's neck was snapped, and Qing Lian'er was left with only a wisp of her spirit and barely managed to escape.

Now, even Mu Jianting and Lei Qianjun were completely suppressed and suffered heavy injuries. All of this only showed how invincible and frightening Lin Xun was!

"It seems that he has also stepped onto the supreme path of the Cyclic Derivation stage. No wonder he dares to act so fearlessly." Killing intent flashed in Yu Lingkong's eyes. The revelation made it impossible for him to remain composed.

Ji Xingyao was silent as she recalled the first time she fought Lin Xun in the Flame Capital. She had already faintly perceived back then that he had attained the supreme path. However, she had been uncertain about it.

These suspicions had now been further confirmed.

At this point, a change occurred on the battlefield.

The completely suppressed Lei Qianjun suddenly roared, "I've put up with you for long enough. Die!"

Swish!

A vertical eye opened on his forehead, and a bizarre and terrifying pitch-black thunderbolt that made even the sun and moon appear dim in comparison shot out and headed straight for Lin Xun.

"Extinction Lightning Eye!" In the distance, Yu Lingkong's and Ji Xingyao's expressions changed slightly.

It was an innate talent power that had been lost countless years ago that was incomparably frightening because it went against all natural order with its ability to destroy all arts!

They never imagined even in their wildest dreams that Lei Qianjun's true trump card would be such a dreadful innate talent power.

Although Lin Xun was prepared for such a development, due to the close proximity, the black thunderbolt still managed to pierce a bloody hole in his shoulder.

The most bizarre part was that the black thunderbolt contained the power of extinction. In an instant, the power spread to the surroundings, attempting to erase his life-bound Divine Derivation Whee!!

It was the foundation of his cultivation. If destroyed, Lin Xun's cultivation would be crippled.

"Lin Xun, it's time for you to die!" Lei Qianjun laughed loudly.

"Is that so?"

With an icy snort, a black hole emerged around Lin Xun as a strange suction power emerged.

Star Annihilation Heaven Devourer!

In the blink of an eye, the abnormality in Lin Xun's body was devoured without a trace. Even the wound on his shoulder swiftly began to heal.

"What..." Lei Qianjun froze as if struck by lightning, confused by what had transpired.

He was in an extremely weak state because he had yet to properly master the power of the Extinction Lightning Eye and had barely managed to pull it off.

He had originally believed it would easily cripple Lin Xun. Who would have anticipated that Lin Xun would instead recover in a flash

He wasn't the only one to have such thoughts. Yu Lingkong and Ji Xingyao were also greatly alarmed. How could the extinction power be completely ineffective against Lin Xun?

Was this even possible?

By this juncture, Lei Qianjun had already gone completely mad, unable to accept reality. He tried to execute the Extinction Lightning Eye again only to cough blood and fail.

His energy had been depleted, and he could not use it a second time!

"Die!"

Lin Xun stormed at him with an icy expression.

"Brother Mu!"

At this critical moment, Lei Qianjun was scared out of his mind and tried to ask Mu Jianting for help. However, the following scene only made him incomparably angry.

Mu Jianting, who was being suppressed by Broken Blade, suddenly drew back and fled. From start to end, he did not show any indication of trying to save Lei Qianjun.

Lei Qianjun's heart turned cold, feeling as if he had been stabbed in the back. He was furious and unable to imagine that his ally would abandon him at such a time.

Boom!

Fist-force arrived, violently jerking Lei Qianjun back to reality. However, it was too late to dodge, and his chest was instantly crushed as he was sent flying like a sandbag.

His eyes nearly popped from their sockets as he glared at the fleeing Mu Jianting with clear hatred.

With a loud thud, he crashed into the ground a thousand feet away and could no longer rise to his feet. Blood spurted like a fountain from the bloody gaping hole in his chest.

Lei Qianjun struggled to turn his head and look at the approaching Lin Xun, displaying a look of utter resentment as he struggled to speak, "Lin Xun, you...you can't kill...me, I...will come back...to take revenge on you..."

However, he died before he could finish.

The Prodigies War

Chapter 909: Obtaining Good Fortune

Lei Qianjun was dead.

He was full of despair and regret before he died. Furthermore, Mu Jianting's last minute betrayal was of such a great surprise to him that he wasn't able to react in time to dodge. Instead, a single fist from Lin Xun blasted his entire chest apart.

All of the experts present were shocked silly and fell silent. No one could have imagined that this fight would have ended up this way.

Earlier, the two of them along with Zhongli Wuji and the others had joined hands and set a trap. The plan was to ensnare Lin Xun within a King-level forbidden array.

Everyone had thought that Lin Xun had no way to turn this around and was destined to be killed by the trap. At that time, many experts had sighed and thought that it was too bad for him.

However, a miracle had happened, and he had somehow managed to get out of this death trap.

Who would have thought that Lin Xun would simply stroll out of the giant array capable of trapping and killing old freaks in the King stage? Not a single hair of his had been harmed, so it was quite unbelievable.

Shortly after that, Sha Liuchan was slaughtered by a single fist, Zhongli Wuji had his neck cleanly snapped, and Qing Lian'er met with calamity and only managed to escape with a sliver of her damaged spirit.

All of this was extremely shocking, making it seem as if Lin Xun was someone that no one could prevail against, even someone from the Heavens.

And now, Lei Qianjun had died while Mu Jianting had fled. Everyone here was completely awed by this scene. Their minds went blank as they stood dully in one spot.

They had all been peerless individuals of the younger generation and were known for their excellence throughout the West Infinity World. They were dazzling beyond comparison.

Yet all of them had been met with calamity. The casualties were disastrous as Lin Xun had defeated them all by himself. This was too shocking.

If news of this came out, then it was destined to cause a big uproar!

.....

Eh?

On the battlefield, Lin Xun was about to chase after Mu Jianting when he suddenly noticed that a vertical eye had appeared from Lei Qianjun's ruined corpse. It had a halo of black lightning around it and gave off an incredibly odd aura.

The Extinction Lightning Eye!

Lin Xun's pupils became constricted. Before he could react, he saw that the vertical eye acted on its own. A sudden burst of lightning sparks came out and engulfed Lei Qianjun's corpse before it disappeared in the void.

It acted so quickly that Lin Xun couldn't even try to stop it.

This made his expression grow dark. He recalled what Lei Qianjun had said just before he had died. "Lin Xun, you...you can't kill...me, I...will come back...to take revenge on you..."

"Is it because of that vertical eye?" Lin Xun sighed inwardly.

However, Lin Xun was quite certain that even if there was a chance that Lei Qianjun was alive, it'd take some time before he could completely recover!

Lin Xun decided not to tarry and continued to clear up the battlefield as much as he could.

Although this fight had been incredibly vicious and dangerous, the gains were also quite large. Sha Liuchan and Zhongli Wuji had died, so all of their treasures had become Lin Xun's spoils.

Furthermore, these items were quite out of the ordinary!

For example, Qing Lian'er had left behind a set of array flags and formation discs that was capable of setting a formation that could trap a King level expert.

Furthermore, the lucky opportunities that these peerless experts had snatched in the past had now all become spoils in Lin Xun's storage item.

While Lin Xun was sweeping up the spoils from the battlefield, the cultivators in the far distance were slowly getting over their shock. When they saw him scooping up treasures, no one tried to steal any even though they were all jealous of his luck.

After all, Lin Xun had just slaughtered his way through a group of peerless experts right in front of them. Who would have the guts to try to rob him of the loot?

In the far distance, Yu Lingkong's cold eyes flickered slightly, but he ultimately didn't make a move in the end.

"Why aren't you making a move?" Ji Xingyao suddenly looked towards Yu Lingkong. She had acutely sensed that the latter's killing intent had wavered slightly.

"I'm not in a hurry."

Yu Lingkong smiled slightly as his expression came tranquil again. "I'll allow him to live for a bit longer. After all, he's destined to die by my hand sooner or later."

"It looks like you have a lot of confidence in killing him." Ji Xingyao's eyes flashed with an unknown light.

Yu Lingkong's lips curved up slightly into a profound smile as he said, "Miss Ji, perhaps you would also be this way if it was a life or death situation, right?"

Ji Xingyao didn't bother replying and simply turned around to go elsewhere.

Yu Lingkong also didn't try to restart the discussion. He raised his eyes and glanced at Lin Xun in the distance before turning around and leaving.

.....

"They all left? I had thought that they wouldn't be able to resist attacking now, but apparently they're all becoming more cautious now."

Lin Xun lifted his head while he was in the middle of picking up his spoils. His dark eyes scanned the distance, and he frowned ever so slightly.

Earlier, when he had been fighting with Mu Jianting, he had sharply sensed that there were some strong auras watching them attentively from a hidden place.

If it weren't for that, then he would have chosen a blitzkrieg strategy and quickly slaughtered his enemies instead of getting entangled with Mu Jianting and the others.

In addition, there was a reason why he didn't leave immediately. He had been waiting to see if there was anyone else who wanted to jump out.

However, contrary to his expectations, no one came out in the end. Evidently, that giant battle from earlier had made the people hiding in the dark much more wary and cautious, so they didn't dare to directly intervene.

"This is a bit tricky then ... "

Lin Xun pondered as he knew that when his enemies became more careful, it only meant it'd make things more difficult for him.

In the end, he wasn't that concerned though. He still had some trump cards in his hand. If he truly encountered a fatal danger, then he would still have some insurance.

Swish!

Before long, Lin Xun's figure flashed, and he left with his spoils of war, disappearing into the distance.

"That's Demon God Lin for you, eh...with something this big happening, in the future, who in the younger generation within the West Infinity World could possibly compete with him?"

The spectating cultivators on the side only began discussing what had happened after Lin Xun left. All of them felt complex feelings about it.

"Perhaps only peerless individuals like Fairy Ji or Young Master Yu can compete with him."

"Even a King-level forbidden array couldn't kill him. You guys, just what kind of treasure does Lin Xun hold to be able to do that?"

There was also someone who was trying to be clever as he sneered, "Demon God Lin has truly broken things apart and caused a big commotion. Do you believe those geniuses are easy to kill? Even if he's able to leave here with his life, as soon as he comes off of Cangwu Mountain, those old freaks from the orthodox powers will keep their eye on him and try to kill him!"

Someone else reminded him, "Friend, remember that a loose tongue may cause a lot of trouble. In the future, don't talk behind Lin Xun's back. He is truly a fierce guy who is not afraid of anything. He doesn't care about your origins or background and will simply kill who he pleases!"

Before long, everyone else went their separate ways.

Although the fight earlier had shocked them, they were still more interested in the fortunes and opportunities that were lying in the Ancient Dao Lantern Tree.

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By now, over half of the group of experts who had entered the Ancient Dao Lantern Tree had died. Many experts had fallen down in intense fights, causing waves to ripple.

There were also some who had realized something was off. In an effort to stay alive, they gave up on the chance to seize an opportunity and firmly decided to leave and head back down to the bottom of the Ancient Dao Lantern Tree. Now, only a small fraction remained. These were all peerless individuals, such as Yu Lingkong, Ji Xingyao, Luo Jia, etc.

Contrary to their expectations, after the first batch of fortune descended, there were still some bronze buds that hadn't bloomed yet.

Before long, the experts began to wait in hiding, and all the fights and quarrels disappeared.

Time slowly passed by, and the atmosphere on the Ancient Dao Lantern Tree became even more silent.

Then splendorous, divine purple light came out of the small bronze flowers that dotted the ancient tree. It made the place seem dreamy as a pure and holy radiance filled the air.

"Why haven't more blessings descended yet?" Many cultivators were bewildered. This was too out of the ordinary and did not follow what had happened during previous Dao Lantern festivals.

"I have a hunch that once another blessing descends, it will be destined to be special. In fact, it's quite likely that it will be an unprecedented good fortune. Actually, it's likely that the Number One Fortune might appear this time!"

There were other people who were looking forward to what would happen next.

As for right now, Lin Xun had already awoken from his meditation session. His strength had been restored to its peak state. In fact, his cultivation had even improved compared to before.

He had also sensed that there was something unusual about the Ancient Dao Lantern Tree, so he had arrived in the vicinity of the canopy of the tree earlier.

Now that he had some leisure time, Lin Xun began to go over all of the treasures he had gotten earlier.

He had gotten quite a haul after entering the Ancient Dao Lantern Tree.

The first thing he obtained was a precious and rarely found divine material called the Tear-Stained Phoenix Blood stone. Following that, he had suppressed a spiritually aware and unique king level herb.

After he fought his way through that bloody battle, he obtained even more astonishing treasures. There were secret ancient treasures, precious medicinal herbs, rarely seen divine materials, and so on. He had more than a dozen total.

For example, he had taken an azure blade that resembled a sharp, long and narrow bird's beak that was called the Contrary Spirit Luan's Cry. It was an ancient treasure that was passed down through the Blue Luan Clan.

Then there was the Thunder Staff he had stolen from Lei Qianjun, and its history was quite astounding. It was called the Wild Demon Thundering Staff, and it was a treasure that was personally made by a Saint from the Great Desolate Lightning Clan.

In addition, he had also obtained Sha Liuchan's Splendid Dark Halberd and Zhongli Wuji's Purple Jade Scepter.

Every item he had gotten was marvelous beyond comparison. Only true king-level items could possibly match them!

There were even more miraculous medicines and materials. They had all sorts of usages and glittered pleasingly. Their value was immeasurable.

From this, it was obvious that these peerless geniuses had startling deep foundations. They had all been born in ancient orthodoxies so they had access to valuable cultivation resources that far surpassed what ordinary cultivators could get.

There were four essentials for cultivation: money, companions, techniques, and resources. Out of all of them, money was the most critical, so it was obvious to see how important it was.

Even a pig would be able to gain enlightenment with the help of a generous amount of cultivation resources and turn into a supreme and imposing pig cultivator!

To Lin Xun, the item that made him most happy was the leather scroll and the King-level forbidden array.

The leather scroll was filled with an azure aura, and he had taken it from Lei Qianjun. It was one of the fortunes that the latter had obtained earlier.

The most stunning thing about this leather scroll was that it was being confined by a golden dao rune power. At Lin Xun's current level, he was unable to open it!

Lin Xun remembered that Mu Jianting and Lei Qianjun had pretended to fight over this scroll, which had briefly piqued his interest. This had given them the opportunity to ambush him.

However, he could now tell that this item was one of the fortunes that was born from the Ancient Dao Lantern Tree.

The Prodigies War

Chapter 910: Number One Fortune

The leather scroll was bound shut with a thread made of golden dao runes, and it was impossible to open.

However, it emitted a splendorous azure divine light and dao sounds drifted out from it. It resembled sages chanting the dao and was so loud that even the deaf could hear it.

It was truly quite miraculous!

Lin Xun's spirit force was quite powerful, and he had long stepped into the spirit flower convergence stage. Despite that, he was still unable to peek within the scroll to see its mysteries.

Lin Xun muttered to himself, "Does this leather scroll contain mysteries that are too paramount and far exceed my current comprehension level?"

He had noticed that the key to opening the scroll lay in the strand of runes that resembled a golden thread.

After analyzing it carefully, he was quite surprised. This was because the golden strand of runes gave off the shocking scent of a Saint.

"Azure divine light, echoing dao sound, bound by a golden rune strand...this leather scroll must hide a mystery that is extremely profound!"

After examining it for a long time, Lin Xun finally stored it away carefully in the Nameless Pagoda. Then, he looked at the King-level forbidden array set.

This array had a hundred and eight flag poles made of white jade and three formation discs. It was called the Four Divisions King Array and was personally created by the ancestor of the Blue Luan Clan.

Once it was used, it could link with the power of heaven and earth and use the power of the four cardinal directions to create a restriction. It could even trap and kill king-level experts!

From this it was easy to tell that this was a giant killing machine with power beyond imagination.

However, only true rune founders and king level experts could exert the full power of this mysterious array.

Earlier, when Qing Lian'er and the others arranged this array, even though they worked together to operate it, they were only able to use about thirty percent of its destructive power!

After analyzing the secrets of the King-level forbidden array, Lin Xun felt a bit scared. He was certain that if a rune founder had been the one to activate it earlier, then he would have been slaughtered within moments.

"It's too bad though. This array not only consumes a lot of energy continuously, but it also requires over ten thousand pieces of high grade aeth essence. The consumption is way too high..." Lin Xun sighed inwardly.

He was quite aware that this kind of King-level forbidden array needed to be placed onto a divine and wondrous essence vein in order to work properly. Otherwise, there was no way for someone to just take it out and use it on the go.

After all, using over ten thousand pieces of high grade aeth essences in one instance was a bit too much. This was true not only for regular cultivators, but also experts who were from ancient orthodoxies.

In fact, this many aeth essences could actually be used to buy a king-level weapon instead!

"However, if it can trap and kill an old freak in the king level, then the price may be worth it..." Lin Xun silently made a decision to make this a trump card of his and not reveal it unless it was completely necessary.

What made him rejoice was that he had obtained thirty thousand pieces of high grade aeth essence from the jade storage bracelet that Qing Lian'er left behind.

It was evident that she had known the consumption that the formation required was quite high, so she had prepared in advance.

Unfortunately, she was not at the king stage nor was she a rune founder. Even if she prepared as much as could, it was impossible for her to reveal the true might of this killing array.

Buzz!

The previously quiet Ancient Dao Lantern Tree suddenly acted as if it was awakened. It emitted an undulation that no one could understand.

Within moments, a bright and resplendent purple divine splendor spread out from the bronze trunk, astonishing everyone with the glow.

Lin Xun wasn't the only one affected. The other experts who were within the vicinity were all alarmed. Everyone wondered if another blessing was about to descend.

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Outside Cangwu Mountain, many cultivators were waiting in worry. The Ancient Dao Lantern Tree had stayed silent for too long. Almost twelve hours had passed yet there was still no sign of the tree stirring.

An expert frowned. "Did something bad happen?"

At that moment came a rumble, and everyone could see a divine purple luster had appeared halfway up Cangwu Mountain. The light shot up to the heavens and broke apart the clouds in the sky.

Before long, the heavens, earth, mountains, rivers, and all living things had been dyed with a divine purple light that was brilliant and elegant.

"This..."

Many experts were awed by this scene and opened their eyes wide. Following that, chaos broke out.

"A big blessing must be descending!"

Even Granny Jin He felt her heart pounding with excitement. They had already waited for a long time, but the divine scene in front of them all made them realize that an unprecedented blessing was coming down, unlike any that had descended before!

•••••

"A great blessing is truly about to be born..." Underneath the Ancient Dao Lantern Tree were many experts. To keep themselves safe, they had long gone below to retire and were no longer willing to fight.

However, once they witnessed this new phenomenon, many of them felt their hearts stir and a desire to compete began to come up again.

A few experts clenched their jaws and began to move up the Ancient Dao Lantern Tree. They were no longer satisfied with just watching and didn't want to miss this once a lifetime opportunity.

There was a risk of dying, but as long as they were able to snatch some luck, then all of it would be worth it!

Halfway up the tree, they were stunned silly by something. The remaining flower buds that had not yet opened were all withering!

"What's going on?"

Everyone was astonished and could not believe their own eyes.

As the flowers withered and peeled off of the branches, they resembled opportunities being lost. Once the shed petals hit the air, they dissolved into ashes and disappeared without a trace.

All of those bronze flower buds represented different blessings!

Unfortunately, now all of the remaining buds were withering and wilting. This was like seeing all of the blessings being destroyed before their own eyes. All of their hearts trembled, and they found this hard to accept.

How could things come to this?

"Look! The blessings that those bronze buds held are all going into the canopy of the tree!" someone howled.

This roused the shocked experts. The other cultivators on the tree also noticed the oddities going on. They soon realized that the flower buds were withering because the opportunities they held within were drifting elsewhere.

It was as if an unseen force was devouring and hoarding the power, sending it towards the canopy of the tree!

There was a phenomenon going on in the tree canopy area, and it looked as if a purple sun was glowing. The light was resplendent and illuminated the skies and clouds. It was extremely dazzling and wondrous.

In fact, even those at the bottom of the tree and surrounding Cangwu Mountain could clearly see this.

"Heavens, that is ... "

A sound echoed from a different area, and all of the cultivators looked surprised. This was because they realized it was not a sun but instead a bronze bud that was in the process of blooming.

It was because the light that it was giving off was too bright and resplendent, which made it resemble a giant sun illuminating the heavens and the earth.

"The Number One Fortune. This has to be the Number One Fortune. It's unprecedented and has rarely been seen, so it's destined to be different from the others," muttered an old freak as he trembled with excitement.

All of the other old experts reacted in the same way. They all saw that the Number One Fortune was too distinct, which made it very obvious that the previous Dao Lantern Festivals were nothing like this one.

In the past, nothing like this had ever happened before. In fact, the other bronze buds had their fortune sucked away and sent to a single flower bud in the top. It was too magical.

They resembled a bunch of advisors going to pay their respects to the king!

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"It's here!"

Yu Lingkong quickly got up as his eyes beamed out a ray of rainbow light. He flashed and disappeared quickly.

"I'm not sure what the Number One Fortune is. Is it an inheritance? Or remnant of a Saint? Or is it some kind of divine material?"

Ji Xingyao was also thinking hard at the side as she paced around. She soon floated up and headed towards the distance.

"The battle of the great age is imminent, so unprecedented blessings will appear. This time, whoever has the ability will snatch it within their hands..."

Luo Jia looked pensive. Her entire slender body sparkled and was as dazzling as a holy phoenix.

"Old Rogue, what did you say?"

Just as Lin Xun was about to head out, he suddenly sensed something in the Nameless Pagoda. The old ginseng had muttered, "Do you think whelps like you can touch this blessing? Don't even think about it."

The ginseng then leisurely said, "Do you want to learn more? Heh heh, then let me go first!"

It was simply a supreme-king-grade herb, but it was acting like an old gangster.

Bang!

Lin Xun didn't tarry. He immediately activated the wonder-gold dao light to suppress the old ginseng, tormenting him until he screamed all sorts of profanities that dirtied the ear.

In the end, the old ginseng surrendered with an indignant expression, looking as if he wanted to die. "That's the foundation of Cangwu Mountain and is the crystallization of Saint's heart blood. I can promise that you so-called geniuses are not worthy of it. In fact, it's more likely to be a calamity for you guys instead!"

Lin Xun's heart chilled. This old rogue clearly knew something important.

"Be more clear!" Lin Xun insisted with an angry tone. He sent another strand of wonder-gold dao light to suppress the old herb after waiting for it to become more energized.

In order to deal with this old gangster, it was necessary to use force, otherwise it'd be impossible to get any cooperation out of him.

"How the heck would I know any of the details?" howled the old gangster angrily.

Lin Xun continued to torment the old ginseng, ignoring its shrieks. Unfortunately, the old rascal didn't say anything of note.

Finally, the old ginseng couldn't take it anymore and screamed, "You brat, if you have the guts then just kill me now. Otherwise, I'm going to kill you the day I get out of this!"

He had emphasized the word kill, sounding like a complete gangster.

No one would have ever imagined that a wise supreme-king-grade herb could actually act like a low life gangster.

In the end, Lin Xun no longer tried to torture answers from him. After pondering a bit, he turned around and headed towards the canopy.

Although the old rogue didn't give any real details, it was still enough for him to understand that the bronze flower bud contained a blessing that a true Saint had used their heart's blood to make. It was truly worthy of being called the foundation of Cangwu Mountain!

This would no doubt astonish many people since it was related to a true Saint. The blessing in question had to be extraordinary!

Purple divine light emitted from the canopy of the Ancient Dao Lantern Tree. At the very top, there was a bronze flower bud in the midst of blooming, gushing out rays of divine dao light.

Rumble~~

Bursts of dao sound came out one after another from the bronze bud. It resembled a giant clock that was shaking up the heavens and earth.

Once Lin Xun arrived there, he could see that all of the peak level experts, such as Yu Lingkong, Ji Xingyao, and Luo Jia, had also arrived.

Everyone was staring at the bronze bud that was beginning to bloom with different expressions on their faces.