

Prodigies 911

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Chapter 911: Comprehending the Dao

The top of the canopy towered into the clouds and was surrounded by purple mist. It looked as if it was part of a heavenly world.

On the topmost part of the trunk of the Ancient Dao Lantern Tree, which was thicker than a circle created by ten people linking their hands together, was a bronze flower that was slowly blooming in a miraculous manner.

It was only about the size of a fist, but it revealed measureless dao light that was as bright as the sun and illuminated the heavens and earth.

In addition, a grand dao sound echoed from within and drifted out, resembling the rhythmic sounds of a morning bell and evening drum, and it was deafening.

If someone looked closely, then they would see that the budding flower had exactly forty-nine petals. Every petal gave off a different aura as if they had been branded with different parts of the great dao. It was mystical beyond comparison.

“Fifty paths, forty-nine possibilities, escape is one option, a loss rather than a supplement...”

“This flower houses the implications of heaven, like a lamp used to deduce an image, unfolding something wondrous, just like that ‘one’ that leads all things to come into being in the way of the great Dao...”

“The blessing hidden within must be extremely important!”

Some experts were muttering to themselves as their expressions became increasingly fanatical.

In the vicinity were peerless experts such as Ji Xingyao, Yu Lingkong, Luo Jia, who had arrived. They were all witnessing the change in the flower bud, and none of them could hide their excitement.

There was no doubt that this was the Number One Fortune!

Lin Xun was also amazed by this sight. The last remaining bronze bud was truly startling beyond comparison.

However, if this was truly a treasure that was made by a Saint’s heart blood in the past, then all of these phenomena made sense.

Suddenly, Lin Xun heard a sweet-sounding voice being transmitted into his ear, “Lin Xun, you need to be careful. Yu Lingkong has already exposed his desire to kill you. You need to take caution!”

Lin Xun’s expression did not flicker. He had deduced that the voice had come from Bai Lingxi, and she was currently standing next to Yu Lingkong.

There were a few more disciples of Longevity Land next to her.

Lin Xun still remembered that when the festival first started, there were over a dozen Longevity Land disciples who had come to participate.

But now, over half had been eliminated. Only Bai Lingxi, Yu Lingkong, and a few others had managed to reach this place.

"I know," Lin Xun transmitted back. He wasn't surprised. After all, if Yu Lingkong didn't come to find him, then he would have gone to find the other guy first!

"Don't rush into this. Yu Linkgkong has long stepped onto the supreme bath, and he also holds the Saint Treasure, Longevity Palace. This is the most paramount treasure of Longevity Land and has all sorts of killing power. I beg you..."

Bai Lingxi sounded quite worried and anxious as she tried to warn him.

Lin Xun simply listened quietly as a wave of warmth appeared within his heart. Although he had many enemies, he also had many friends at his side.

Bai Lingxi was one of those friends.

"Lingxi, just promise me one thing," Lin Xun transmitted. "If Yu Lingkong and I end up fighting, then you should not try to interfere."

Bai Lingxi became startled, and her starry eyes flashed with a complicated light as she silently sighed inside. She now knew that it was pretty much impossible to stop this fight from happening.

This was because neither Yu Lingkong nor Lin Xun would retreat an inch from each other!

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Whoosh!!

Suddenly, an expert could no longer hold himself back and rushed forward to check the flower bud out.

But before he could get near, a stream of purple dao light flew out and hit him, sending him back forcefully more than a hundred feet back. His expression was quite dark after experiencing that.

When the other cultivators saw this, they felt their hearts turn cold. They suppressed their greed within and didn't dare to try to meddle now.

Someone sneered, "The blessing hasn't descended yet, but someone still wants to make the first move. Truly tired of living now."

Time slowly passed, and the bronze bud became even more resplendent so much so that no one could look closely at it. Furthermore, the bursts of grand and profound dao sound sounded like heavenly chants in their ears, causing their minds to tremble.

Crash~

Suddenly, that bronze bud began to fully bloom, gushing out ten thousand beams of dao light. Divine aura began to fill the air and pierce through the sky.

Everyone felt their eyes water. The scene in front of them had morphed into something else.

An ancient tree reached towards the sky with verdant branches overflowing with leaves that swayed gently in the wind. Underneath the tree was a simple and ancient blessed prayer ground.

The earth and sky were vast, clouds drifted across the heavens, and the air was filled with a subtle aura. It was as if they had arrived into the distant past as it had the flavor of time.

In the middle of the blessed prayer ground, there were ten figures sitting cross-legged on the prayer mats. There were men and women, old and young. Although they looked different from each other, all of them were filled with a divine aura that was quite imposing. There was a type of feeling coming off of them that made all creatures under heaven revere them.

It sounded as if they were discussing the Dao as the entire ground was filled with bright or warm or impassioned or soft sounds of voices. In the ear, it had a different kind of charm as if the great Dao sounds were echoing and resounding. This was a type of power that affected people's hearts.

For a moment, everyone was entranced by the scene and stood there motionlessly.

Within their hearts, a small strand of dao sound was flowing within, like the faraway sounds of nature. Everyone's minds had been touched by this and became blank. All subconsciously sat down cross-legged.

Lin Xun was not an exception to this. The current him was like an ignorant little child who was muddle headed and absent minded. He did not know what was going on or what was to come. Yet, he had involuntarily come across a type of dao force that was in harmony with the heavens and earth.

His entire body was filled with this dao force and began to glisten brightly in an ethereal manner. The energy within him began to move on its own and circulated endlessly.

While being mesmerized, he felt as if he could see a dragon coiling upwards, a phoenix spreading its wings, dozens of dao flowers floating down, and golden threads of aura criss-crossing around the ground.

A group of divine sages were debating in the grand and solemn scene between the heavens and earth.

Before long, these images all disappeared, and everyone suddenly woke up from their previous stupor.

Following that, they discovered that while none of the wondrous scenes were still here, the blessed prayer ground was still there, now completely empty. The group of divine figures and the ancient verdant tree had also disappeared completely.

"This..."

Everyone's eyes became fixated on something. Was that the Number One Fortune?

They couldn't see through it.

It was too wondrous. What had happened earlier was still lingering in their minds, so they obviously couldn't have been dreaming.

This no doubt signified that the blessing had already descended. It was in front of them, but was full of mystery and needed to be explored to be understood.

Buzz~~

Another difficult to comprehend undulation appeared and spread throughout the area. Within moments, everyone could see that a prayer mat had appeared below their feet.

At once, some people felt their hearts quiver as they sat down cross-legged. Immediately, they began to glow and strands of dao sound from the heavens enveloped them entirely.

Were they inheriting something?

When the other experts saw this, they immediately sat down on their own prayer mat without any hesitation.

Immediately, heavenly dao sound surged like the tide and poured down, bathing each cultivator within. There was no distinction between any expert, so it looked quite fair.

When the dao sound entered the ear, everyone trembled and their spirits began to resonate. Lin Xun immediately came to an understanding within his heart.

They were being given the wondrous truth of the great Dao that was being expounded by Saints. It was not a specific inheritance and instead a type of experience and understanding of the Dao.

Nonetheless, this type of experience and understanding was even more precious than a specific inheritance!

Lin Xun fully concentrated on the dao sound as his soul of the primordial spirit guarded him. He was worried that someone would try to ambush him now.

He carefully listened while operating the Qiuniu Heart in order to increase his comprehension. While observing the subtitles of the great Dao, he felt his body and mind being touched in myriad ways.

Within his meditation, it was as if he was recalling the distant past and was witnessing the Saints stepping up on the great Dao. As the rose abruptly above, they fought in all directions and advanced their cultivation paths wondrously.

Each path was different from another.

Some had been born under humble circumstances, yet were able to break free of the shackles, alter their fates, and step broadly and freely upon the path of the Saint.

Others had been born with extraordinary talent and experienced dangerous situations. After narrowly escaping death, they persevered on their paths, proving their Dao to become Saints.

And then there were those who had topsy-turvy paths, where every step of the way was accompanied by calamity. They had to step through piles of bones, wade through countless corpses, swim through enough blood to fill an ocean, and kill their way to prove their path!

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There were all sorts of ways and all sorts of practices. All of these made different experiences and practices that combined together into one large picture. This all spread within Lin Xun's heart.

He immersed himself in these experiences and relished them. By seeing the paths of the ancients, he could confirm and discover his own path, becoming enlightened. Some mysteries and secrets that he didn't understand in the past were now being unraveled, opening his eyes completely and proving to be incredibly fruitful!

Blegh!

Suddenly, an expert in the distance trembled profusely before coughing up some blood.

Following that, an apathetic voice resounded from the heavens and earth, "The heart is not strong enough in this attempt to understand the Dao, becoming deceived instead. You are not compatible with my Dao, and have no karma with this blessing. Begone!"

Right after the voice made its proclamation, that expert had no time to react before they were sent out of the void, disappearing from the ground.

Immediately following that, all of the cultivators who had been attempting to comprehend the great Dao being preached felt their hearts shake.

"Is this a type of test to select a disciple? Does whoever who comprehends this the best will have the opportunity to receive the fortune?" muttered some people after they came to a realization.

Those who were able to get to this part of the festival were all strong experts, and all of them had strong comprehension skills. Thus, they were easily able to see through the mysteries of this particular trial. They instantly became more cautious and did not dare to be rash.

Lin Xun was also the same. He didn't tarry and instead immersed himself again.

This was because he had also discovered that the different paths that were being shown here could also temper and confirm his own path. Everything that he was searching for within the dao would be helped immensely by the experiences here.

However, before long, his soul of the primordial spirit sharply sensed a killing intent and immediately warned him. Following that, a figure charged towards him.

Zhuo Kuanglan!

This guy was like an exceptional sword, and his entire aura was compacted perfectly. He took out a spirit sword and sliced it down towards Lin Xun at an incredible speed.

But just as he was about halfway there, the spirit sword was dissolved immediately by a nameless force. Even a sliver of aura did not remain.

In addition, he acted as if he had been struck by lightning as his frenzied movements to charge forward were being confined by an invisible force. He looked incredibly alarmed and frustrated.

From the sky, that same apathetic voice sounded, "Harboring the desire to kill during comprehension is no different than being possessed by a demon. Begone!"

"NO—!" Zhuo Kuanglan screamed furiously. It was quite obvious he felt wronged now. He clearly had no idea that this would happen; otherwise, he wouldn't have tried to do such a thing.

But it was too late for regrets. No matter how hard he struggled, he was still forcefully expelled out from the space, disappearing from view.

Everyone was startled by what had happened, especially Yu Lingkong and the others. All of their eyes flickered, and there was a hint of bewilderment on their faces.

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Chapter 912: Three Ways to the Absolute Apex

There were truly many cultivators who had other thoughts running through their heads while they were on the blessed prayer ground comprehending the dao. They believed that this was the best time to ambush a rival.

But once they witnessed Zhuo Kuanglan's example, all of these people felt cold sweat running down their backs. They secretly rejoiced that they hadn't taken action yet.

"A momentary slip caused him to lose the chance of a lifetime." There were some people who pitied him and inwardly sighed.

They were all aware that Zhuo Kuanglan was a peerless individual from the Feather Sword Sect who had a deep and immeasurable understanding of the sword.

The Number One Fortune was so close at hand, yet he had slipped up and caused himself to be banished. This was a tragedy.

That being said, there wasn't any true hatred between him and Lin Xun. The only reason why he acted was because of Xie Yutang.

Xie Yutang was also from the Feather Sword Sect, but he had been suppressed and overwhelmed by Lin Xun at the Sinking Sea. Zhuo Kuanglan saw that as an insult and immediately expressed his desire to get justice for his fellow disciple.

Unfortunately, he was expelled before he could even fight Lin Xun. Everyone was surprised.

"He can only blame himself for this."

As for Lin Xun, he wasn't affected at all.

Even if Zhuo Kuanglan hadn't been expelled by the external power, his ambush was destined not to work. In fact, he would have been rebuffed quickly.

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The grounds were old and mottled and were filled with the aura of age. A group of cultivators was all sitting on the prayer mats as the air echoed with the abstruse sound of the great Dao.

It resembled a true Saint chanting.

This was not only a precious experience for Lin Xun, but it was also an incomparably good fortune for the other cultivators.

This was a true Saint's experience and understanding of the Dao. Any hint that was being taught was a priceless treasure and hard to find. Even the eyes of the old freaks in the king stage would turn green at this.

As time passed, every expert who had come to a realization here revealed happy expressions. They had gained a lot from this session.

For a moment, the area that had been revealed by the bronze bud became silent and was filled with an aura of solemnity.

All of the experts were doing all they could to comprehend the lessons here that were left by an ancient true Saint.

Lin Xun was glowing all over as he experienced the different dao paths.

Every single dao path was mysterious beyond comparison. They were filled with difficult secrets, which made Lin Xun sink further within them as he tempered his own dao path.

Only now did he realize that there wasn't just one so-called supreme path!

There were some who cultivated their bodies to the extreme, tempering their blood to forge a new shell. This led them to transform their physical selves, reaching an unprecedented height and firmly establishing themselves at the summit.

This path could be called the 'Saint's Body' path.

Then there were people who carefully cultivated their qi by inheriting the methods of the past and developing them for the present. They practiced thousands of secret arts and all sorts of dao techniques before finally mastering them and sublimating them into a whole path. By doing so, they also stepped onto the supreme path.

This path could be called the 'Saint's Qi' path.

Then there were those who gave up on the physical and focused on the spirit, specializing in mind techniques, cultivating the spirit, controlling the spirit, accumulating spirit power, transforming spirit power...every step of the way led them to the supreme summit.

This path could be called the 'Saint's Spirit' path.

These three different cultivation methods were called the 'Three Ways to the Absolute Apex,' and each method contained its own obscure and mysterious aspects.

Since ancient times, those who were able to walk the supreme path had all used a method that was encompassed by one of the Three Ways to the Absolute Apex.

However, every cultivator had a different path to the apex, so there was no easy way to lump them all together.

As for the path that Lin Xun was using, it was under the umbrella of the Saint's Qi path.

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Lin Xun had never thought that he would encounter some mysteries regarding the absolute apex on the magical blessed ground.

In the past, he had been feeling his way through the dao on his own, experimenting and working until he reached his current state.

Even by doing that, there were still many enigmas that he had yet to untie. This was because there was very little about the absolute apex, and any information regarding it could only be found by chance. This made it inevitable that he'd be unable to find enough information to analyze it.

Things were different now. During his meditation, different paths to the apex had appeared before him, changing into different experiences and lessons. This allowed him to study these paths. Although it wasn't a true inheritance, he had gained a lot.

However, before long, he began to frown. His comprehension starting from the True Martial Stage to the Cyclic Derivation Stage had gone smoothly, making him feel euphoric. Any questions he had within his heart about those stages had been easily resolved. But when he reached the end of the Cyclic Derivation Stage, his gains had grinded to a halt.

"That's not right, the other experts are still in the midst of comprehension...based on that it must mean that whatever stage we reach is what we can experience.

"Since I am someone who has stepped onto the absolute apex path, I can only comprehend up to this path and review those experiences.

"This blessed prayer ground is too magical. But of course it is an inheritance from an ancient true Saint!"

Lin Xun continued to ponder as he sighed wondrously over this.

This kind of inheritance wasn't a true enlightenment or technique, but instead, it was a type of tool for cultivating experiences. It was obvious that the ancient true Saint had done this because they didn't want future generations to copy their path and instead wanted them to find their own paths.

This was a way for future generations to analyze and understand their own experiences, guiding them down their chosen path. If they hadn't reached a certain state, then it was destined that there was no way for them to comprehend more.

Since there was no way for him to exceed the Cyclic Derivation Stage comprehension, Lin Xun did not try to force it. His mind was clear as he began to comb through his own experiences and path.

Buzz~

More time passed, and the void began to undulate constantly, bringing more experts away as they vanished from the area.

Some had lost themselves and their dao heart, so they were eliminated.

Some had reached the limits of their comprehension and still tried to force it. Unfortunately, going too far also had its consequences, so they sank into an ego block and were banished.

Then there were also the people who had fallen into the illusion in the midst of their practice and believed that they had found the most perfect path to follow, so a heart demon appeared and they were eliminated.

This was the treacherous path to the great Dao. Although this was a chance, not just anyone could bear it.

Following that, only about a dozen people were left on the vast grounds.

Lin Xun was the first to wake up. He had thoroughly comprehended everything that was given to him and had incorporated what he had learned into his own path. He now completely understood the absolute apex path he was on, so there was nothing more for him to practice.

He immediately got up without any reluctance.

All of the remaining people were shocked by this.

This was because Lin Xun was the first who had not been eliminated after finishing. So what did this mean?

Did that mean that Demon God Lin's cultivation understanding of the Cyclic Derivation Stage had reached the same level as the true Saint from ancient times?

In actuality, Lin Xun had already reconstructed his cultivation stages to perfection when he was in the Deva Secret Realm. Thus, he didn't need to do much to fix his current cultivation path.

In fact, he had been comparing notes earlier to confirm his current path. Therefore, he had come to enlightenment very quickly.

Very few of the other cultivators had stepped onto the supreme path, so there were many hidden flaws within their own cultivation. Thus, they needed to spend more time and effort to analyze the examples before them.

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Outside Cangwu Mountain.

As more and more experts were eliminated from the blessed prayer ground, waves began to occur on the outside, and the clamorous sounds did not end.

At the same time, news regarding Lin Xun killing Sha Liuchan, Zhongli Wuji, Lei Qianjun and the others had also been brought out by some cultivators. This immediately caused a sensation.

There was a White Jade Lightning Lion that was expressionless as it stood there with icy eyes.

Everyone could feel a chill come off of it that made their skin sting. It felt as if there were daggers pointing at their backs, causing goosebumps to rise.

This White Jade Lightning Lion was Lei Qianjun's mount and was also his dao protector. It had immense power, but once news came out that Lei Qianjun had died, it had become furious.

The other experts also showed differing expressions. Their eyes flashed like lightning and killing intent filled the air, making the other cultivators' hearts thump loudly.

"This Demon God Lin needs to be punished!" uttered the Azure Flame Horned Beast in a chilly manner. Azure divine flames ignited around it. It was Mu Jianting's dao protector.

Although Mu Jianting hadn't been expelled from the mountain yet, the fact that he had been defeated twice by Lin Xun made the Azure Flame Horned Beast angry.

Even Granny Jin Po, who was one of the most important people there, couldn't stop her heart from palpitating. Demon God Lin had actually begun a slaughter fest at the Ancient Dao Lantern Tree, causing multiple peerless geniuses to fall. It was impossible to stay calm after hearing that.

"Even if he survives, he's bound to come out sooner or later," roared a Black Jade Dragon Elephant that was Zhongli Wuji's dao protector, causing the heavens to shudder. Many experts were so scared that they trembled.

Icy cold killing intent filled this area. All the experts knew that Demon God Lin had pierced the heavens and gotten into big trouble!

"The area around the Ancient Dao Lantern Tree has long been a killing ground where life and death could be decided on a whim. So why does Demon God Lin have to be suppressed and chased just because he killed a few peerless geniuses?"

There were also some people who felt that Lin Xun was being unfairly targeted. They believed that the ancient orthodoxies were using their own might to bully Lin Xun, who had no backer.

"If the Crape Myrtle Sword Demon's Ye Chen from the North Dipper World was still here, then these experts would have no choice but to bear it and keep silent."

"In conclusion, they're only doing this because they think Lin Xun is easy to push around!"

The crowd discussed this amongst themselves. Regardless of what happened, it was destined that this news would spread throughout West Infinity World. The young Demon God Lin was fated to become famous.

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Within the area of enlightenment, the atmosphere was austere and only around a dozen of experts were left. They were all meditating quietly, using all of their ability to comprehend what was given to them.

On the other hand, Lin Xun was strolling quietly around the area of enlightenment, observing everything within it.

The blessed prayer ground was vast and empty and had the scent of age hanging around it. It was extremely old.

Lin Xun truly could not have imagined that when the single bronze bud bloomed it would evolve into an extremely mysterious and ancient area of enlightenment.

The rumors should be true then. There was definitely an ancient orthodoxy in the past on Cangwu Mountain where the Saints converged. All of the spaces here, inducing the Ancient Dao Lantern Tree, are all ways to test their successors.

Or perhaps only those who could pass these tests were the true disciples of the ancient orthodoxy and could inherit the mantle...

But, what I wonder is, if this orthodoxy had a group of Saints here, why did it get destroyed in the river of history? Why does no one know about it? Even the rumors don't have much. The erasure is a bit too complete.

Also, if this orthodoxy truly existed in the ancient past, what would the name be?

Lin Xun combed through his memories of entering Cangwu Mountain and all of the experiences thus far. He truly now believed that there was something odd going on, and it was full of mystery.

Clang!

Right as Lin Xun was deep within his own thoughts, the air echoed with the sound of an ancient and ethereal bell ringing.

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Chapter 913: Dao Altar Heavenly Bell

The sound of the bell lasted for ages, like a ripple spreading out on a pond.

All of the experts who had been meditating woke up. Their expressions were all a bit reluctant as if they didn't want to leave.

It was obvious that they had profited much from this session, but unfortunately, it had to end.

At the same time, everyone who was left noticed that when the bell rang, the ancient blessed prayer ground disappeared, vanishing forever.

Instead, what caught everyone's attention was an altar that stood about a hundred feet tall. It was old and ancient. On the top was a lone bronze bell that glowed faintly. Runes covered the entire body, making it look incomparably magical.

At once, everyone's hearts shook, and their eyes glimmered with a fanatical light.

The Number One Fortune!

That bronze bell was the Ancient Dao Lantern Tree's best fortune. No one needed to think to know that this bell had an astonishing history.

Now everyone understood that the earlier meditation session was a trial. Only the experts who could endure to the end had the qualifications to fight over the best fortune.

Bang!

Many cultivators couldn't help from climbing the dao altar. However, as soon as they took a step, a terrifying pressure appeared, pressing down so hard that they felt as if they were about to choke.

But no one shrank back. They clenched their jaws and circulated their cultivations to the peak.

The dao altar was old and ancient and was made from a mysterious azure divine bamboo. Flying was not permitted, so everyone had to climb the steps one by one.

Although it only looked like a distance of a hundred feet, it was harder than scaling to the heavens. As they went up, the terrible restriction continuously oppressed them, pressuring their minds to the extreme.

Even though it was difficult, nothing could stop them from climbing up. On the contrary, this only made them even more eager to scale up higher.

Lin Xun had also moved. He endured the pressure to go up one step at a time.

His entire body glittered with a glow as his qi roiled throughout him. His speed was neither slow nor fast and simply could be described as steady.

Everyone was startled when they realized that the higher they stepped, the more the dao altar seemed to expand and become loftier.

Finally, it looked as if the dao altar had reached the skies. It was as lofty as a mountain, encompassing the heavens and earth, and was marvelous beyond comparison. The ancient structure had reached the pinnacle.

Furthermore, as they continued to climb, they found out that the distance to the peak was becoming longer and longer...

It was too miraculous. A dao altar that was only a hundred feet tall actually hid something so mysterious. Climbing it was like going to the heavens, which was shocking beyond measure.

Fortunately, only about a dozen cultivators were left, and all of them were peerless individuals among the younger generation. Being able to endure until now truly showcased how strong they were.

In addition, as they climbed, no one was eliminated or banished from the space.

Time passed, and everyone got closer to the top part of the dao altar while enduring the pressure. They could also now clearly see the bronze bell at the eaves.

It was bright and resplendent, about half a foot tall. The bronze material glowed while the bell was engraved with numerous hard-to-understand dao lines. It was truly an ancient treasure.

From afar, it looked like it could suppress the heavens and earth and reign supreme!

There was no doubt that this treasure's power was astonishing!

At this time, the atmosphere suddenly became tense. This was because they had almost reached the summit of the altar. In order to seize the bronze bell, a bloody and desperate fight was destined to take place.

As expected, a dangerous battle soon broke out. A few experts who were slightly behind the others impatiently attacked the ones in front of them.

Bang!

Luo Jia, a disciple of Miluo Palace, flipped a white hand and a bright treasure vase appeared on her head. It released an immortal and divine splendor, colliding with Li Qinghuan. Divine brilliance burst out between the two.

Li Qinghuan attacked first because Luo Jia was in front of him. She was a wall that was stopping him from seizing the fortune.

“Die!”

Yu Lingkong and a youth clothed in a gray robe clashed, starting another fight.

The gray-robed youth was named Shang Jia, and he was from an ancient sect. He was also considered a peerless individual among the younger generation in West Infinity World.

However, no one had thought that he would have a stunning performance against an apex expert like Yu Lingkong. In fact, he didn't look the least bit weak and was giving off a good show.

These were peerless geniuses. Every single one of them had hidden trump cards and had probably held back purposefully in the past. In order to compete for the Number One Fortune, they were finally showing all that they had.

Pop!

Within moments, the clothes around Yu Lingkong's shoulders ripped, revealing a bit of blood on his skin. He had actually gotten injured by Shang Jia's golden spear.

However, the sword in Yu Lingkong's hand cried out loudly, causing the golden spear to burst apart. It jolted Shang Jia, splitting apart his armor. Blood burst forth, and the stark white of his bones appeared.

It was hard to say whether someone had definitively won this encounter, but Shang Jia was definitely on the losing end now.

Despite that, the experts around them were afraid. Shang Jia had kept a low profile earlier, but now he had revealed some incredible fighting strength. It was quite inconceivable.

Fights broke out and spread throughout the group. Even Ji Xingyao became entangled. She was currently fighting with an expert from the Night Demon Clan who had black wings on his back.

The Night Demon Clan was an extremely mysterious group. Rumor had it that a previous ancestor from the distant past was a soul born from a hellish pool that had grasped a secret skill called 'Night Demon Thorn.' It was extremely terrifying.

The one currently fighting Ji Xingyao was an expert from the Night Demon Clan called Shi Yun. He had clear features with skin that had a grayish tint to it and bright green eyes that resembled flames from a devil. His entire demeanor had the scary aura of a demon.

Shi Yun and Shang Jia both acted in the same way. In the past, they had stayed independent and did not draw the others' attention. But now, they were showing their astonishing strength and talent.

Lin Xun also felt a bit alarmed inside. He had now realized that it wasn't just himself who had hidden depths. In fact, all of the peerless experts here had deliberately held back and were extremely shrewd!

Swish!

Behind him, a scarlet tongue plummeted towards him. A chill ran through Lin Xun's heart. He didn't hesitate to activate Bixi Collision to defend himself.

The person who attacked him was a peerless genius from the Ba Serpent Clan named Ba Shanshui. He looked quite handsome, but his actions were extremely malicious and cruel. A giant forked snake tongue had appeared and above it flowed a scarlet liquid that was incredibly toxic. As soon as it touched a person, it would cause serious corrosion and would be hard to treat.

Rumble~

The forked tongue was sent flying. However, Ba Shanshui was quite decisive. When he saw that this move wouldn't work, he rapidly withdrew and headed in another direction.

If Lin Xun tried to chase him, then he'd end up losing his chance to speed up the dao altar. This evidently was what Ba Shanshui was targeting, which was why he had fearlessly tried to attack Lin Xun.

"If I ever catch you, then I'm going to sever your tongue!" Lin Xun's eyes were chilly as he glanced at Ba Shanshui. However, he did not end up chasing the other man.

The dao altar was very tall and unyielding, yet there was only one set of steps to the top. All of the experts were rushing up, so it was inevitable that conflicts would break out. This was because no one was willing to step aside for anyone else. At the same time, no one would tolerate anyone going before them.

Before long, Lin Xun came across Ji Xingyao. The latter glared at him as she clenched her teeth and slashed at him with her sword.

Screech!

The divine sword was only three feet long, but its power had condensed into a sword seal that exploded from the tip. It looked as if it could cut through time and slaughter all living things.

Tri-life Sword Seal!

This was an exceptional technique transmitted from ancient times. It could sever the past, present, and future karmic ties by condensing all sword intent into one seal, having the power to disturb heaven and earth.

Back in the Flame Capital Martial Arena, Lin Xun had once firsthand seen how terrifying this technique was. However, he didn't expect that as soon as he met with Ji Xingyao again that the latter would act ruthlessly immediately.

"This lass is definitely trying to take revenge on me!" Lin Xun's expression darkened, but he still endured it in the end and retreated a bit before going in another direction up the dao altar.

Ji Xingyao's elegant and flawless face immediately revealed a hint of disdain. She raised her snow-white chin and resembled a high and mighty fairy.

But in Lin Xun's eyes, this became an act of provocation instead!

Lin Xun felt his jaw ache as rage bubbled. This arrogant little lass was truly too infuriating.

He immediately transmitted, "Xingyao, if you want to be this ruthless, then I'm afraid I can no longer keep some secrets safe for you anymore."

"You..." Ji Xingyao's clear eyes became wide, and her eyebrows shot straight up. Anger appeared on her beautiful face. It was obvious that she wanted to slaughter the scoundrel Lin Xun as she believed that he was being too shameless. It had been so long, yet he was still trying to use that to threaten her. Did he truly believe that she'd back off?

"If you truly dare to do that, then I'll kill you!" Ji Xingyao's delicate and slender figure was full of holy and severe sword intent. She resembled a raging fairy with an incredibly imposing manner.

"I'm not intimidated," Lin Xun coldly huffed.

While conversing, the two of them continued to bolt up with all of their strength and didn't waste a moment.

Before long, Lin Xun came across a disciple of Longevity Land, who was a flirtatious young lady wearing a fiery red crane overcoat.

Lin Xun still remembered that when he had met Bai Lingxi in front of the Four Seasons Pavilion that this young woman had once mocked him.

However, Lin Xun didn't bother trying to engage with her and instead did all he could to rush forward.

"Back off!"

The woman wearing the fiery red crane overcoat was called Yan Xia. When she saw Lin Xun slip past her to go toward the top of the dao altar, she was angered and yelled out. She raised a hand to send out a fiery spirit whip, lashing at Lin Xun's back.

"Hmph!"

Lin Xun had no desire to be polite and reacted with all of his strength.

In the end, Yan Xia cried out mournfully. Within a breath of time, she had been sent back flying by Lin Xun's fist and had fallen down the altar horizontally.

"How dare he!"

"Demon God Lin, you're asking for death!"

Around them, the other remaining disciples of Longevity Land cried out indignantly and did not try to hide their killing intent.

"What? Do you guys want to play with me too?" Lin Xun's black eyes were icy cold.

“Quickly go up the dao altar and then deal with him!” In the distance, Yu Lingkong apathetically ordered them. His voice was tranquil yet was also threaded with a hint of scary chill.

They were almost at the top of the dao altar, so the fights became even more intense. Everyone was struggling against the awful pressure while also acting against the others. The situation had become quite dangerous.

Soon, some cultivators had begun to fall, dyeing the surroundings with blood. Lin Xun hadn’t even gotten the chance to take revenge on the Ba Serpent Clan’s Ba Shanshui when Li Qinghuan shoved a sword into the other person’s mouth. Ba Shanshui raised his head as he fell, showering the area with his blood.

The battles were too bitter. Even peerless geniuses could end up in great danger, so it wasn’t surprising that many people had already been injured.

Suddenly, a glaring golden light appeared, which made Lin Xun’s eyes flicker. Then a stabbing pain could be felt on his skin.

He immediately realized he had encountered a strong foe!

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Chapter 914: Battle Yu Lingkong

Pu!

Even though Lin Xun had frantically activated the Hornless Ice Dragon Step to dodge, he was still caught off guard and struck in the shoulder. Blood splattered everywhere.

Only then did he see that his opponent was Shang Jia. Clutching a golden spear in one hand and exuding intense fighting spirit from all over his body, he resembled a god of war.

Rumor had it that Shang Jia was born with extraordinary talent. He possessed a mysterious golden dao rune pattern on the palm of his hand, and the golden spear in his grip was precisely formed from this dao rune. It could pierce through any object with its unrivaled sharpness.

Shang Jia had already demonstrated his exceptional strength when he fought against Yu Lingkong, and now, he pointed his weapon at Lin Xun.

“Looking for trouble?” A murderous intent flashed in Lin Xun’s eyes.

That guy had suddenly attacked him and scratched his shoulder, so how would he not lose his temper?

“If everything goes as planned, once the Dao Lantern Festival is over, our clan will propose marriage to the Blue Luan Clan and arrange for Qing Lian’er to become my wife. If I kill you now, then you can be part of the betrothal gift to express my sincerity,” Shang Jia answered bluntly and coldly.

“So you did it for Qing Lian’er,” Lin Xun muttered to himself.

The two rushed upwards and exchanged blows at great speed.

Boom!

A fierce battle instantly broke out, but a minute later, Shang Jia was dripping with blood and almost had one of his arms severed off. The Broken Blade had slashed his shoulder.

However, within seconds, Shang Jia's injury healed, and his shoulder recovered to its original state, demonstrating his terrifying regeneration ability.

Deep in Lin Xun's eyes, cold intent gleamed. He realized that he had seriously underestimated his opponent. His foundation and strength were stronger than those of Mu Jianting, Zhongli Wuji, and Sha Liuchan.

"If that's all you have then I can kill you!"

Shang Jia didn't launch another attack but chose to retreat, climbing toward the top of the altar from the other side. He realized that it was impossible to kill Lin Xun without a long battle so he didn't want to waste more time.

"What a crazy..." Lin Xun's eyes were cold and chilling as he resisted the impulse to chase after the attacker. Since the other party didn't want to drag out the battle, he also didn't want to waste any more time.

The number one fortune was on the top of the altar, and compared to it, everything else was unimportant.

Before long, Lin Xun ran into a familiar person!

Mu Jianting!

When Mu Jianting noticed Lin Xun approaching his way, his expression visibly changed and he backed away far before Lin Xun could create trouble for him.

It was obvious that his previous tragic defeat at Lin Xun's hands had traumatized him. He didn't dare to face Lin Xun directly again.

Lin Xun ignored him and continued to charge forward.

There was no doubt that the path that led to the number one fortune would be a bloody one with fierce battles breaking out constantly between peerless geniuses.

Along the way, even Lin Xun couldn't avoid being stained with blood. Imaginably, the battles were terrifyingly fierce and intense.

Lin Xun finally reached the end of the path, but the pressure was even greater than before because almost at the same time, peerless geniuses such as Yu Lingkong, Ji Xingyao, Shang Jia, and Shi Yun also arrived one after another.

However, when they reached the summit of the altar, the fighting came to a temporary halt, and everyone faced each other nervously and guardedly.

In the central position stood an ancient table, on which sat a bronze bell inscribed with dense gray dao runes and bright azure light flowing around it.

This was the number one fortune irresistible to any cultivator in the world.

However, one had to face deadly dangers if one wanted to seize the great fortune.

Almost everyone knew that whoever dared to rush out first would become a target of everyone and face attacks from all sides!

Therefore, no one dared to make a reckless move.

"I have a suggestion...kill Lin Xun first and then we shall compete for this bronze bell. What do you guys think?"

Amidst the tense atmosphere, Yu Lingkong spoke aloud, ran his eyes across the cultivators, and finally cast a glance at Lin Xun.

All of a sudden, the expressions of Mu Jianting, Shang Jia, and Li Qinghuan changed subtly, as if tempted by the suggestion.

"We don't have any objection."

Besides Yu Lingkong, there were also three other successors from the Longevity Land, including Bai Lingxi, so when they heard Yu Lingkong's proposal, the other two immediately agreed without any hesitation.

As for Bai Lingxi, she pursed her red lips and didn't say anything. There wasn't a ripple of emotion on her beautiful and calm face, but in truth, she was extremely anxious and worried.

She never thought that Yu Lingkong would take the lead in attacking Lin Xun as soon as they reached the altar. Not only that, but he also encouraged the others to join in to deal with Lin Xun!

Some people kept silent, such as Ji Xingyao, Luo Jia, and Shi Yun.

But no matter what, Yu Lingkong's words pushed Lin Xun to the eye of the storm and put him in an extremely dangerous situation.

"Is a successor from the Longevity Land so useless? To kill me, you need to rely on other people. Yu Lingkong, it seems that you are nothing special." Lin Xun chuckled while his black eyes turned cold.

"Nonsense! I just don't want you to delay everyone from seizing the great fortune." Yu Lingkong was dressed in a jade-colored robe with his black hair flowing loosely down his back, but his most striking feature was the fierce and ruthless look in his eyes.

"Yu Lingkong, if you are not afraid then why would you need to make such a shameless suggestion?" Lin Xun made no secret of his contempt.

The two locked gazes, snarling at each other, and crackling sparks of lightning flew between their eyes.

One was a peerless figure from the younger generation of the Longevity Land in the South Wonder World, who had long made a name for himself. He was exceptional whether it was in background, strength, skills, and ability. He was so amazing that none of his peers dared to hold up their heads in front of him.

The other was Demon God Lin, who had only risen to fame in the past half a year through bloody killings, but many famous genius figures had already been defeated at his hands.

Undoubtedly, the clash between the two would attract a lot of attention.

Clang!

Yu Lingkong lightly tapped one finger on the sword in his hand, and the bright jade-like sword shone with a beam of blinding light, chilling everyone to the core.

“Since you think so, then I will kill you now so you can die in peace,” Yu Lingkong uttered calmly, his face devoid of emotion.

He was indeed very detached. His state of mind was like a solid boulder, which was a kind of restrained conceit and also an unrivaled superiority.

The atmosphere around the altar turned oppressive and tense, and everyone’s minds were drawn to the two of them.

Yu Lingkong wanted to subdue Lin Xun before fighting for the number one fortune. This was unexpected, but understandable after careful consideration.

This was because the Dao Lantern Festival had come to the final stage.

And Yu Lingkong had indeed announced on the Sinking Sea that he would kill Lin Xun with his own hands!

“To tell you the truth, I have been tolerating you for a long time. You have provoked me time and time again. Do you think that you’re the best and can do whatever you want?” Lin Xun’s expression was as calm as his. Moreover, he spoke very seriously, “Since you came to my door, I will fulfill your wish and send you on your way.”

Shua!

The surrounding space violently quaked. Without a word, Yu Lingkong came speeding forward with the ancient dao sword in his hand.

Like a flash of lightning, it illuminated the universe.

Endless waves of Dao Meaning power rolled up and raged amidst the fierce sword intent, producing many earthshaking visions one after another.

The sword intent seemed capable of sweeping the universe and dimming everything in the world!

Deep in Lin Xun’s eyes, cold intent gleamed for an instant. He circulated his qi around his body, activated his powers to the peak, and brought out the Broken Blade to fight.

Bang!

A crackling light seemed to explode in the void, causing the altar to rumble and buzz. The terrifying sword intent and the blade light clashed, unleashing destruction upon the world.

The two fiercely collided like the sun and moon competing for glory, or like two ancient mountains slamming into each other.

Everyone's expression tensed up, and they subconsciously drew back to avoid being swept into the shock waves.

The two successors of the Longevity Land were ready to join in to kill Lin Xun together with Yu Lingkong.

However, they didn't do so because they believed that Yu Lingkong could easily kill Lin Xun without their help.

They knew how strong Yu Lingkong was. He could be called the most dazzling genius in the entire South Wonder World.

Bai Lingxi breathed a sigh of relief. But soon, she couldn't help scrunching her brows in worry because she also knew how terrifying Yu Lingkong was. Can Lin Xun...can he survive?

Dressed in a plain dress, Ji Xingyao looked as cold as ice. Her bright eyes glowed a frightening light as she intently watched the duel, but there wasn't a ripple of emotion on her stunning face.

On the other side, Luo Jia was standing silently with a sacred aura flowing around her body like a celestial phoenix. The treasure vase above her head poured out divine brilliance and bathed her in a wonderful glow.

In addition to them, Shang Jia, Shi Yun, Li Qinghuan, and Mu Jianting were also watching the duel with intent gazes.

However, they were more concerned about the number one fortune on the table not far away!

It was the best time to fight for the fortune while Yu Lingkong and Lin Xun were locked in a fierce battle!

Boom!

The battle grew increasingly intense. Lin Xun was terrifying with an air of superiority like a demon god descending upon the world. The Broken Blade emitted wondrous white light as it flashed across the air and flooded the world with murderous intent.

But Yu Lingkong was even stronger. He seemed like a sacred being, sending Dao Meaning power roaring in all directions with a flip of his hand. Sword light beamed and dazzled everyone's eyes.

Meanwhile, someone finally couldn't help but make a move. It was Shi Yun from the Night Demon Clan. He wanted to take the chance to snatch the number one fortune.

Swoosh!

Almost at the same time, Ji Xingyao also moved. Her steps were swift and light, and without any showy movements, but her speed was much faster than Shi Yun's.

But she was stopped in her way.

Mu Jianting and Li Qinghuan were the culprits. They didn't fight for fortune, but instead attacked Ji Xingyao from different directions.

Ji Xingyao narrowed her eyes. Instantly, she could tell that the two had allied with Shi Yun. They were responsible for blocking her while Shi Yun was going to seize the fortune.

“Fight!”

However, Ji Xingyao didn’t panic in the slightest. Instead, the corners of her lips curled upwards in a cold smile.

As she spoke, Luo Jia flashed like a phoenix in the air and swooped down with incredible speed to obstruct Shi Yun!

Ji Xingyao and Luo Jia had also joined forces.

The incessant unexpected changes would make anyone dumbfounded. Who would have imagined that the peerless geniuses would all choose to ally?

But that only highlighted how dangerous and unpredictable the situation was. The slightest carelessness could lead to their death!

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Chapter 915: Unmatched Battle

Boom!

Luo Jia brought out a white jade vase that spewed out dazzling silvery brilliance like a silver river pouring down. Its power was so terrifying that Shi Yun’s expression changed, and he had no choice but to abandon the fortune and turn around to counter.

Shua!

Meanwhile, Mu Jianting and other peerless figures also acted, hoping to take advantage of this opportunity to seize the number one fortune on the table.

Suddenly, the area was instantly plunged into chaos, and a mass melee broke out.

It was indeed too intense and chaotic. The many peerless figures not only brought out their strongest means but also secretly formed alliances with one another, turning the already tense situation more dangerous and unpredictable.

However, the most intense battle still had to be the duel between Lin Xun and Yu Lingkong.

Both wanted to kill each other as soon as possible and so they unleashed their killing move as soon as the battle started.

Although the other experts were in a fierce scuffle, when they realized that there was no chance of them winning the number one blessing, they quickly held back and became prudently watchful, worried that someone would benefit from the chaos.

Many wished that Lin Xun and Yu Lingkong would fight to the death or both end up badly wounded.

Rumble—

Divine brilliance roared between the two, while Dao Meaning power repeatedly clashed in an earthshaking showdown.

“It seems that the mighty Demon God Lin isn’t that special!” Yu Lingkong’s voice was indifferent and cold as an unrivaled sword immortal. A snow-white dao sword shot into the sky, leaving trails of dazzling sword light behind it.

The sword light was full of obscure Dao Meaning and projected vast and grand visions across the air. It was extremely terrifying. Not only did it manage to take a chunk of Lin Xun’s hair, but it also sent a stinging pain running through his skin.

Lin Xun quickly activated the Hornless Ice Dragon Step to move further away before he countered with the Heavenly Yuan Six Slashes.

Sword qi ran unhindered across the air while blade lights crisscrossed across the sky, shaking the universe.

Many nearby experts had no choice but to retreat because the earthshaking collision could cause disastrous damage if they were caught inside.

Boom!

At the same time, Lin Xun activated the Nine Heavenshaking Destructions Art and advanced like a raging prairie fire at a headlong speed. The power of the fist was simple, unshowy but ethereal as it charged through the air, aiming for Yu Lingkong’s face with unstoppable speed and invincible strength.

A disdainful look shone in Yu Lingkong’s eyes. Without any wavering, he met the attack head-on.

He swiftly stretched out his fingers like blades.

Shua!

A purple palm blade slashed through the air with violent and tyrannical dao light raging around it.

Many experts were stricken and stunned at the tremendous power, realizing that it was an unrivaled dao art.

The Prison Dragon Violet Lightblade!

Faintly, there seemed to be a purple dragon roaming out of an abyss prison with a deafening roar, breaking free from the shackles of heaven and earth. Its power and might shook the mountains and rivers.

It was a unique dao art passed down the Yu Clan, formed from the perfect integration of the dragon battle great dao and the violet dragon true scripture.

The art instantly awed everyone into silence as violet light beamed into the sky and visions of a dragon soaring into the air filled the world.

Lin Xun’s pupils shrank. He sensed the terror of that blow. His opponent indeed had a remarkable mastery of martial arts. Not only were his sword skills astonishing, but he had also grasped many amazing dao arts.

It was impossible to avoid the attack because the distance between them was too close.

Endless Dao Meaning power erupted from Lin Xun with a thunderous rumble. He intended to meet the attack head-on.

All the mysteries of the Nine Heavenshaking Destructions Art was displayed in full majesty, causing the heaven and earth to quake and the air to tremble.

Boom!

The void tore apart like a cloth, collapsing inch by inch. Many experts paled from the explosion stinging their eardrums and drew further back.

The clash was too frightening and amazing. The aura alone was enough to make the hair stand on end.

Even the faces of Ji Xingyao and Luo Jia were contorted. As cultivators of the same level, they especially felt the mighty power of the attacks and knew that it had reached the pinnacle level!

Unquestionably, it was a pinnacle duel of the Cyclic Derivation Stage and represented the strongest level that cultivators of this stage could reach.

On the battlefield, both Lin Xun and Yu Lingkong were reeling back. The former was tottering with his skin twitching, while the latter's black hair was whipping around his handsome face and his blood and qi were tumbling around his body.

They were evenly matched in the collision.

But even so, it still shocked everyone that Demon God Lin was strong enough to hold his ground against Yu Lingkong.

It was unbelievable!

The Prison Dragon Violet Lightblade was remarkable and difficult to defend against, but Lin Xun managed to survive it!

Both Lin Xun and Yu Lingkong were surprised by the outcome, but that only deepened their killing intent.

Shua!

In the void, the dao sword and Broken Blade repeatedly clashed. Meanwhile, Yu Lingkong erupted with divine violet light like an arrow being released from the string and balled his hand into a fist and threw it downwards.

He performed another matchless dao art. His fist power, entwined with gorgeous purple lightning, split the space open and filled with air with an astonishing murderous aura.

That...

Many experts gasped.

"Violet Extreme Subdue Heaven Fist!" The successors from the Longevity Land all lit up with excitement and admiration.

It was a top dao art of the Longevity Land. By integrating the violet lightning dao meaning into the power of the fist, it contained the destructive power to smash yin and yang and obliterate all.

Everyone shuddered inwardly. Yu Lingkong is indeed terrifying. His foundation is too amazing!

Whether it was the Prison Dragon Violet Lightblade or the Violet Extreme Subdue Heaven Fist, they were both exceptional dao arts that would shake all ages. If an ordinary person grasped any one of them, then they could rule a territory of the world.

But Yu Lingkong had mastered both, which made him extremely terrifying.

Boom!

The space collapsed, and the flow of air turned turbulent.

With his body surrounded in misty violet light laced with dazzling bolts of lightning, Yu Lingkong aimed his fist directly at Lin Xun.

So strong!

So fierce!

So superior!

Lin Xun's black eyes flashed coldly. He took a step forward, and a snow-white ice dragon flew into the air. At the same time, he activated the Baxia Imprisonment and the Suanni Qi.

The two mysteries of the two secret arts fused, forming a wonderful power capable of imprisoning everything and obliterating the universe.

When Lin Xun was in the Realm of Limits, his cultivation base had already undergone earth-shaking transformations, and his strength soared to the perfect level of the Cyclic Derivation Stage. He had long comprehended and mastered the profound meaning of his cultivation arts and was able to manipulate them skilfully.

With a boom, the two clashed once again, exchanging hundreds of blows in the blink of an eye.

In the end, both were blasted back and separated in the void.

Lin Xun's handsome face turned pale.

Yu Lingkong staggered, and a vein popped on his forehead.

Both were astonished.

They had both brought out their killing move, but the result was still the same. A serious look passed over their faces, and their murderous intent grew more and more terrifying.

"Although those on the absolute apex path can be called the king of a cultivation stage, you are still inferior to me!" Yu Lingkong had an air of superiority and contempt.

As he was speaking, his hands folded together to form a violet palm seal, filled with a strange Dao Ripple, like a lotus flower, and launched it forward.

Buzz—

The palm seal seemed able to crush everything like a mighty mountain.

It was another superb dao art!

It was called the Ruyi True Treasure Seal! It was magnificent and indestructible!

The cultivators who were fighting in the melee in the distance couldn't help trembling inwardly, wondering what it would be like if they were to face Yu Lingkong.

That guy is too dazzling! He simply defies heaven!

On the contrary, Lin Xun became extremely calm. He cleared his mind of thoughts and relaxed his body, activating the Tribulation Dragon Nine Transformations and the Nine Heavenshaking Destructions Art.

Every move radiated an ancient and simple charm and harmonized with the great dao.

The two fiercely clashed again, displaying all sorts of shocking visions that shook everyone's hearts.

"You can't!"

Yu Lingkong fumed. He felt embarrassed to have not succeeded after his series of attacks. His opponent was only a youngster from a lower domain. What would the world think of him if this got out?

Boom!

Instantly, he assumed a fighting stance and performed all kinds of dao arts. Violet light flowed around his entire body like he could destroy everything in his way.

The furious Yu Lingkong was more terrifying than before. His power overwhelmed everyone. He resembled a god descending from the sky.

But at the same time, Lin Xun's bearing also changed. As he activated Yazi's Rage, his energy also soared in power.

All of a sudden, his body resembled a furnace of chaos. He slammed down and broke through Yu Lingkong's defense.

Bang!

Yu Lingkong forcibly brought up his numbed right arm to block the blow. A rush of pain shot through his arm. His sleeve tore apart, his skin split open, and his right arm was almost mutilated.

The other experts were aghast. Demon God Lin wounded Yu Lingkong first?

The two had been evenly matched all along, but Demon God Lin was the one who broke the balance first and injured Yu Lingkong!

Although it was only a minor injury and would not affect Yu Lingkong's ability to fight, it still appeared that Demon God Lin had the upper hand in the duel.

Many people could not believe it.

Yu Lingkong, who was born into a family of saints and trained in the Longevity Land, had been blessed with great luck since he was a child. He had never lost a battle ever since he started cultivating and was just like an invincible legend.

On the other hand, Demon God Lin came from a lowly domain and had no clan or sect to support him. He could never be compared to Yu Lingkong whether it was in terms of identity, status, and background.

But now, that happened!

How would it not be shocking?

Even Ji Xingyao and Luo Jia were greatly affected.

“You made me see blood?” Yu Lingkong sounded disbelief, and then his expression became more and more indifferent. He was infuriated.

His black hair pulsed, and he threw his head back and unleashed a long roar. The sound waves crashed into people’s souls like thunder.

Instantly, his bearing changed again. His eyes turned into a brilliant golden color with terrifying secret runes surging within them.

Boom!

Six black stone tablets emerged from his body, all of which were marked with distorted and bizarre golden dao runes on their surface. Following their appearance, a terrifyingly oppressive aura permeated the air.

“The Six Directions Demon Sealing Tablet!”

Ji Xingyao narrowed her bright eyes. It was a terrifying ancient treasure that could imprison and kill all spirits from all six directions.

The other experts were also stricken. Their spirits also felt oppressed. Although they were unaware of the origin of the Six Directions Demon Sealing Tablet, they could still tell that it contained unimaginable destructive power!

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Chapter 916: Saint Apparition

“Slash!”

Almost at the same time as Yu Lingkong activated the Six Directions Demon Sealing Tablet, Lin Xun bellowed and the Broken Blade erupted in a blaze of light in the air, displaying the profound meaning of the Burning Sun Slash.

The dao sword split into two parts and clattered to the ground.

Si!

Gasps rang out.

There was no question that the Broken Blade was a divine weapon of unrivaled sharpness since it could sever even Yu Lingkong's dao sword.

Yu Lingkong's expression grew increasingly cold, but he didn't care anymore. The six black stone tablets hovering around him erupted with golden dao runes that crisscrossed in the air before they crashed down from all six directions.

Lin Xun swiftly brought the Broken Blade up to meet them, and an ear-piercing metallic ring stung everyone's eardrums.

All the experts donned solemn expressions. Up to this point in the duel, the two had exchanged countless blows and had changed their fighting methods many times. Their imposing bearing also soared and continued to rise. Every single attack could be considered world-shaking.

Undoubtedly, both of them had unearthed all their potential in the Cyclic Derivation Stage, embarked on the absolute apex path, and were considered the strongest of this stage.

The collision sent Lin Xun stumbling back a few steps. The Six Directions Demon Sealing Tablet contained terrifying destructive power and was stronger than a weapon of the King Path.

Yu Lingkong also looked a little disheveled. The Broken Blade was unmatched in sharpness and tore down everything in its way, leaving multiple bloody scars across his body.

Both had been injured!

However, the aura of the two grew increasingly terrifying like two volcanoes on the verge of eruption. When they clashed again, their qi and energy seemed to be rioting and forming a terrifying brilliance around them.

They exchanged blows once again, each matching each other's skill. They were like real demon gods vying for supremacy. The clouds scudded across the sky, the world dimmed, and the air whimpered.

The other cultivators were still fighting, but their minds were all drawn by the battle. They were more hesitant to act because they knew that, under such circumstances, they wouldn't have a chance to fight for the number one fortune.

Anyone who fought for it would suffer full-power attacks from the others!

"Hmph!"

Yu Lingkong's face became overcast. The six black stone tablets hovered in the air and constantly crashed down, but it was still difficult to completely suppress Lin Xun.

Yu Lingkong had to accept reality. Even if he was prideful, he had to admit that his opponent was not weaker than him in terms of either foundation or combat strength!

"I can't let this continue..." Yu Lingkong's eyes were ice-cold.

If the battle dragged on even more, even if he managed to kill his opponent in the end, he could lose out on the opportunity to compete for the number one fortune.

The other experts might even get there before him!

Boom!

All of a sudden, Yu Lingkong seemed to have become a different person. He radiated a divine charm while brilliant light poured down from him like a waterfall, and his golden eyes shot out secret runes.

The space crumbled and collapsed around him.

Faintly, he resembled a divine being looking down at the world with disdain.

Shua!

Yu Lingkong put away the Six Directions Demon Sealing Tablet, replacing it with a simple and old wooden sword covered with signs of erosion.

But as soon as the sword was unsheathed, thunder clapped, lightning flashed, and bright purple stars emerged one after another. They orbited around the sword body as a destructive aura permeated the area.

Let alone other experts, even Ji Xingyao and Luo Jia tensed up, and their eyes flashed with a look of surprise.

The wooden sword was imbued with Saint aura!

Unquestionably, the sword was extraordinary, having been refined by a Saint in the past. The fact that it was instilled with the aura of the Saint Path was extraordinary enough.

"I never thought that an ant from the lower domain would possess such strength. You have surprised me," Yu Lingkong remarked coldly.

This was an acknowledgement that Lin Xun had the ability to compete with him, which shocked everyone.

"Ant? If you can't beat an ant like me then what are you?" Lin Xun did not back down.

"My patience has already reached its limit. I don't have the time or the mood to deal with you anymore. I am going to kill you now so that you can understand how great the difference between you and me is!" Yu Lingkong's expression became increasingly cold.

As his sword sliced through the air with a boom, lightning crisscrossed around it, rays of divine light shot from its surface, and a mighty Saint apparition took shape within the glow of the sword.

The Saint had a hazy and blurry appearance like an illusion, but its aura was undoubtedly terrifying. Its appearance caused the heaven and earth to whimper and wail as if they were surrendering.

Everyone was horror struck. Yu Lingkong's foundation is too heaven-defying. He activated some sort of forbidden taboo art, and a Saint apparition appeared!

"This is the gap between you and me. If I had used this at the beginning, do you think you would have lasted until now?" Yu Lingkong said with a superior indifference.

This was one of his trump cards, which he had never used in the past because he had always been invincible.

But now, he had to bring it out to kill Lin Xun.

“You are using power that doesn’t belong to you to kill me, do you not feel ashamed?!” Lin Xun was glowing brightly while obscure and terrifying Dao Meaning was raging within his body. He seemed to have become a giant abyss of unfathomable depths.

“That—?” Many experts palpitated. The waves of Dao Meaning surging around Lin Xun resembled a starry river black hole capable of swallowing everything.

“Yu Lingkong has brought out his trump card, so does Lin Xun also plan on using his trump card now? Or perhaps, he doesn’t have many cards up his sleeve.” Many experts were bewildered.

Rumor had it that Demon God Lin possessed countless treasures, including a Saint treasure, but they hadn’t seen any so far, so many people began to doubt the reliability of the rumors.

Boom!

The Saint apparition flashed within the sword light, full of murderous intent.

Instantly, Lin Xun was drowned out by the endless sword light.

Is it over for Demon God Lin?

Everyone’s hearts churned in their chest. The sword strike was undoubtedly terrifying. The Saint apparition seemed to possess earthshaking powers. Anyone who saw it would be petrified even from a distance away.

Now, before Lin Xun could counterattack, his figure had already been submerged. It was hard not to suspect that he would soon meet with misfortune.

“How could that be...” Bai Lingxi bit her lips, and her face scrunched up with worry. She had stopped herself several times already from impulsively running onto the battlefield to save Lin Xun.

“That guy is going to meet with misfortune.” Mu Jianting, Li Qinghuan and the others all secretly heaved a sigh of relief. Having seen the terror of Lin Xun, they knew that they would not be able to sleep or eat in peace if he survived.

“I’ve said earlier that Demon God Lin is nothing special! He’s not even worthy of carrying Senior Brother Yu’s shoes!” The two Longevity Land successors sneered.

Ji Xingyao’s clear eyes gleamed as she closely watched the battle. In her view, the shameless bastard wouldn’t be suppressed or killed so easily.

Good people didn’t live long, yet bastards who caused disasters lived for a long time. In Ji Xingyao’s eyes, Lin Xun was the epitome of a shameless bastard!

Yu Lingkong also secretly breathed a sigh of relief, glad that his trump card, which consumed huge amounts of energy, was worth the effort.

Boom!

However, before a smile fully spread across Yu Lingkong’s face, an unexpected change happened.

Lin Xun, who had been drowned by the Saint apparition, was rapidly breaking down the power that oppressed him. Even if the terrifying power contained a wisp of Saint power, it was still strangely extinguished upon contact with his body.

Rumble—

The Saint apparition violently flickered, while the Saint aura constantly dimmed.

Everyone who thought that it was over for Lin Xun was shocked beyond words.

Even that failed to suppress Demon God Lin.

That is the aura of the Saint Path, which even a small wisp of it is indestructible. How can Lin Xun block its great destructive power and even constantly disintegrate it?!

“He’s the same...he hasn’t changed...” Bai Lingxi’s tensed heart relaxed, feeling excited, and her bright eyes shone with the great radiance of joy.

“What bizarre and terrifying great dao power!” Ji Xingyao and Luo Jia were both astonished by Lin Xun’s power.

On the other side, Yu Lingkong’s face darkened. He was as shocked as the others. Even he couldn’t guarantee that he could withstand that power yet Lin Xun unbelievably dispelled it.

Unable to accept that, he charged forward and he began to glow brightly, drawing all attention.

Even if he had lost his upper hand, his power was still dazzling and his bearing was unrivaled. He was like a divine being who was born from the blessings of heaven and earth.

He bellowed like a clap of thunder. “Slash!”

“Now, it’s my turn.” Lin Xun’s black eyes flashed like lightning as he violently rushed up and his fist started flying.

Boom!

With a stretch of his hand, Yu Lingkong crushed the power of the punch. He didn’t want to prolong the battle any longer. He hoped to kill Lin Xun as soon as possible and fight for the number one fortune.

Buzz—

Terrifying waves of energy roamed above his head, forming a peculiar bronze building that was inscribed with sacred arts of the Saint Path as well as mysterious patterns.

Longevity Palace!

The supreme treasure of the Saint Path of the Longevity Land!

All of a sudden, the Dao altar was swaying and buzzing. The other experts turned ashen-faced and frantically retreated one after another, giving up on their melee.

No one thought that Yu Lingkong would bring out a Saint treasure to deal with Lin Xun!

Unquestionably, Yu Lingkong's killing intent had been ignited, and he wanted to quickly get rid of Lin Xun and put an end to the battle.

Boom!

A frightening aura filled the air. The Longevity Palace circulated the supreme laws of the Saint Path like it wanted to destroy the world, stifling everyone.

A Saint treasure!

How would it be ordinary?

If it was in the hands of a Saint, then it could wipe out the world, kill all demons and ghosts and obliterate the mountains and rivers!

It was the strongest treasure in the world. Moreover, the Longevity Palace could be considered one of the strongest among Saint treasures due to its incredible power.

"Lin Xun, what do you have to compete with me now?!"

Yu Lingkong's expression looked particularly chilling, especially with his hair flying about in the air and the Longevity Palace suspended above his head. He had become stronger than ever.

[The Prodigies War](#)

Chapter 917: Showdown Between Saint Treasure

Buzz—

The Longevity Palace was suspended in the air while the terrifying power of the laws of the Saint Path permeated the air. The waves of power were so strong and mighty that everyone was on tenterhooks and almost suffocated.

At that moment, Yu Lingkong was like the reincarnation of a god king and became the focus of everyone.

Complicated emotions mixed with fear swirled in everyone's minds. That was the Longevity Palace, a legendary Saint treasure that gained renown as early as ancient times.

Legend had it that, in the hands of a true Saint, even a wisp of its power could destroy the universe and obliterate all living things!

Who would have thought that Yu Lingkong had not only set foot onto the absolute apex path, grasped several superb dao arts, but also possessed so many trump cards up his sleeve?

The ancient wood sword earlier possessed unimaginable frightening strength and was imbued with the aura of a true Saint, allowing it to project a Saint apparition onto the world.

But now, an even more terrifying treasure appeared—the Longevity Palace, a Saint treasure!

It hovered above Yu Lingkong's head, releasing the power of the law of the Saint Path. A ripple of its aura alone made people almost suffocate. How could Demon God Lin fight against it?

He was doomed!

.....

The appearance of any Saint treasure would force even a Life Death Stage King to withdraw from the battle, let alone Lin Xun.

This was a well-known fact in the world and had been recognized since ancient times!

“No matter how strong he is, he is doomed!” The two successors from the Longevity Land smiled triumphantly. They were scared out of their wits when they saw Lin Xun crush the Saint apparition, but that worry was completely dispelled now.

That was the Longevity Palace!

A treasure that had been protecting their Longevity Land for years!

Bai Lingxi’s pretty face paled, and her graceful body went stiff. Her mood was the opposite of the two Longevity Land successors. Her relaxed mind immediately tensed up again.

“The great trouble is going to die after all.” The countenance of Mu Jianting, Li Qinghuan and the others grew cold. They had been looking forward to this moment for a long time.

As for Ji Xingyao and Luo Jia, they had been secretly analyzing and weighing the situation, but in the end, they still concluded that it was impossible for Lin Xun to turn the situation around!

.....

“Lin Xun, I already told you that you will die this time!” Yu Lingkong uttered indifferently like a high and mighty king. Streaks of light burst forth from his eyes, making him look more ruthless and cold. He radiated the absolute confidence of a ruler of the universe

“Ridiculous. With your ability, I bet you can’t even display one-thousandth of the treasure’s power. I don’t know why you are so smug!” Surprisingly, there wasn’t a tinge of panic on Lin Xun’s face.

Instead, his black eyes grew more and more cold and menacing.

“Even if it’s one ten-thousandth of its power, it is enough to kill a little ant like you!” Yu Lingkong seemed unruffled by his words.

The Longevity Palace buzzed above his head, releasing terrifying Saint powers that completely shrouded him and protected him.

Boom!

He didn’t drag out the duel any longer. He didn’t want to give Lin Xun any chance to breathe. He stepped forward and began to perform the profound secret of the Prison Dragon Violet Lightblade and the Violet Extreme Subdue Heaven Fist.

A scene stunned everyone.

The Longevity Palace flared up with bright light, and Yu Lingkong’s power soared to an unprecedented level.

His power was unlike before—it made all the other experts feel despair.

As Lin Xun watched Yu Lingkong activate the mysterious cultivation arts, he calmly assessed the waves of energy coming from the Longevity Palace.

With a calm and cold expression, he casually brought out a golden pagoda and let it glow above his head.

Everyone's pupils shrank. Is that the Saint treasure that Lin Xun has?

Boom!

But before everyone could see what was happening, Yu Lingkong was already charging forward with murderous intent. The fingers of his left hand flashed a purple hue like the edge of a blade, and his right hand was filled with blinding, crackling lightning.

Two types of superb dao art were perfectly integrated and activated simultaneously!

At the same time, Lin Xun also made a move.

He no longer had any reservations and began to activate the Sacred Combat Art along with Yazi's rage.

Within his body, the Divine Derivation Wheel was roaring and pouring out waves of pure great dao power. It was as though a world was spinning inside of him.

All his energy, spirit and qi seemed to be ignited as he activated the Nine Heavenshaking Destructions Art and the Tribulation Dragon Nine Transformations with both hands.

Even the soul of his primordial spirit was circulating the Little Divine Mediation Art and manipulating the Broken Blade to attack.

Lin Xun's aura skyrocketed within seconds.

"Kill!"

The two collided with a rumble that shook the sky. Lights beamed into the clouds. It was as though suns were exploding one after another. It was so dazzling that no one could look at them directly. Two peerless geniuses were fighting to the death with everything they got!

Contrary to everyone's expectations, the pagoda above Lin Xun's head managed to withstand the oppressive force of the power of laws of the Longevity Palace and also blocked its killing attacks.

The change was so sudden that many experts' eyes widened in disbelief.

Even Yu Lingkong was shaken. He had brought out all his ultimate means and summoned the Longevity Palace, thinking that he could kill Lin Xun in one blow.

Who would have thought that he would fail?

That pagoda was suffused with shimmering golden light, flowed with obscure power and radiated a sacred aura. Although it was not threatening, it remained unsuppressed in the clash with Longevity Palace.

Undoubtedly, it was a Saint treasure.

Boom!

Lin Xun no longer held back and unleashed all his strength.

He had always concealed the Nameless Pagoda because its origin was too mysterious and shocking. In addition, its entire body was made of genesium, and it hid great mysteries and secrets.

However, he couldn't care about that anymore if he wanted to defeat the Longevity Palace, so he activated the treasure again and indeed it achieved the desired miraculous effect.

Longevity Palace was no longer a threat, and it allowed Lin Xun to show his great skill.

"No matter what, you will have to die!" Yu Lingkong simmered with rage like an enraged divine god. Purple light frantically circulated his body as he activated all the superb dao arts he had mastered.

At the same time, he communicated with the Longevity Palace and ordered it to break through the obstruction of the Nameless Pagoda.

However, Lin Xun had become a completely different person. He feared no one in a battle!

Boom!

He gathered power and qi to his fist, incorporating the Star Annihilation Heaven Devourer into his martial arts.

There was no dazzling brilliance nor earth-shattering rumble. There was nothing but an ancient, simple and restrained charm, yet it sent chills into one's heart.

The terrifying crash echoed continuously on the altar, plunging the area into chaos as though a great destruction had happened.

Fortunately, the collision happened here, otherwise, it would have set off unpredictable and terrifying disasters in the outside world.

This was because the duel was at the pinnacle level of the Cyclic Derivation Stage, and the two powers could easily kill any half-step kings!

Yu Lingkong's furious expression turned to shock tinged with confusion and terror. His previous high and mighty look had completely faded. He couldn't believe that the Longevity Palace would be obstructed.

Lin Xun's strength exceeded his expectations.

It was impossible for Yu Lingkong to remain calm after all the sudden and unexpected changes.

However, he was, after all, a peerless figure of the younger generation so he remained fairly unruffled in the face of the change of situation.

He emitted a beautiful purple glow as he activated superb dao arts to their full power, including the Prison Dragon Violet Lightblade and Violet Extreme Subdue Heaven Fist. Those arts were even more majestic and powerful after being strengthened and amplified by the Longevity Palace.

However, Lin Xun destroyed them all at once. It wouldn't have mattered even if he had mastered thousands of dao arts.

After integrating the power of the Star Annihilation Heaven Devourer with the Sacred Combat Art and Yazi's Rage, Lin Xun produced unimaginable power and instantly wiped out all attacks in his way!

Pu!

After hundreds of exchanges, Yu Lingkong finally staggered backwards from the force of Lin Xun's punch and carelessly failed to block the Broken Blade from slashing the skin of his shoulder.

Everyone stared dumbfounded.

Even the Longevity Palace was being blocked, allowing Yu Lingkong to be wounded by Lin Xun! Everything was too unbelievable!

"You deserve to die!" Yu Lingkong raged, his handsome face livid. Following the furious bellow, he activated another superb dao art.

"Lucky Light Feather!"

A pair of gold symbol runes shot out from his golden eyes and transformed into a pair of magnificent light feathers, radiating the feeling of age and history.

Chi!

Although Lin Xun managed to dispel the blow, a strand of his black hair turned a snow-white shade, lost its life, and withered into ashes.

It was as though life flashed before one's eyes!

Undoubtedly, it was a powerful dao art that corroded life and vitality.

Terrified, Lin Xun fought more and more aggressively.

No one expected this battle of the pinnacle level would be so intense and fierce.

Every attack was remarkable.

Similarly, shocking changes happened at every critical moment.

The two had already exchanged thousands of blows, but the outcome of the battle remained to be decided. The audience was stupefied by the battle.

The main thing was that both of them had set foot on the absolute apex path, mastered top-grade dao arts, possessed remarkable strength, and owned a Saint treasure!

The battle was akin to the tip of a needle against a grain of wheat; the outcome was unpredictable.

"Damn it! That guy turned out to be so strong!" The two successors from the Longevity Land gnashed their teeth. They couldn't accept the fact that even the Longevity Palace failed to kill Lin Xun.

"The rumors are indeed true. Demon God Lin possesses amazing treasures and even a Saint treasure!"

Many cultivators' eyes shone brilliantly. They were certain that the pagoda suspended above Lin Xun's head, fighting against the Longevity Palace, had to be a Saint treasure.

Also, it had to be extraordinary. Otherwise, it wouldn't stand a chance against the Longevity Palace!

"How could it be..."

Mu Jianting, Li Qinghuan and the others were extremely bitter. The stronger Lin Xun was, the more fearful and conflicted they felt. They wished that he would die as soon as possible.

They had been trying to get close to the number one fortune, but to no avail because anyone who got near the number one fortune would be surrounded and attacked by everyone else.

Therefore, most of their attention was on the duel between Lin Xun and Yu Lingkong.

Boom!

While different thoughts were swirling in everyone's mind, a tremendous change happened on the battlefield.

[The Prodigies War](#)

Chapter 918: Sacrifice Life

Boom!

Yu Lingkong was wounded once again. Lin Xun's fist slammed into the left side of his chest with a mighty force and would have blasted through his body if he wasn't wearing his extraordinary chest armor.

He coughed up blood, and a sense of danger flooded his heart.

But compared to that, the shame and anger inside his heart were worse. He had been wounded once again, something he had never suffered before.

In contrast, Lin Xun became more and more calm. Ever since the Dao Lantern Festival began, he had fought many formidable opponents and experienced many battles, which honed and transformed his strength again and again.

For example, in the Realm of Limits, he underwent a comprehensive breakthrough, then on the Sinking Sea, he underwent another breakthrough. His spirit power also soared to a new height in the Spirit Lantern Illumination test and finally he obtained the Star Annihilation Heaven Devorer grand dao power in the Stele Forest.

Although he had received a series of amazing experiences and gains, he needed time to properly digest and understand them.

However, this extremely arduous battle provided him with a kind of real tempering and training. It allowed him to organize and understand all of his harvests along the way and subsequently his combat strength underwent significant transformations.

Now, his energy and qi were blazing around his body, and his mind had never been clearer. All sorts of new comprehensions rushed up, allowing him to temper himself in the most comprehensive way in this extreme battle!

He continued to push forward, like a demon god moving unhindered through the universe.

Yu Lingkong's expression finally changed as a feeling of imminent danger enveloped him.

Although he had mobilized tremendous power before, it took a toll on his body and he was almost unable to bear it any longer.

Pu!

His face paled and a jet of blood sputtered out of his mouth. It was a sign of exhaustion.

The other experts were aghast.

Yu Lingkong seemed superior and unrivaled like a god-king. Not only had he mastered all sorts of superb dao arts, but he also possessed a heaven-defying foundation as well as countless trump cards.

But now, he couldn't hold on anymore!

This was too unimaginable and unbelievable. They had never thought that a peerless genius such as Yu Lingkong would be in such a state!

The two Longevity Land successors looked the worst of them all. They had lost control of their emotions, unable to accept what they witnessed.

The saint treasure Longevity Palace has already been brought out! How can Lin Xun win against it?

How is that possible?

Boom!

On the contrary, Lin Xun felt stronger than ever. His qi was pulsing around his body like never before, and the power of his punches was unstoppable, quaking the sky and the earth.

"Damn it!" The veins on Yu Lingkong's forehead popped, and his hair seemed to be standing erect with anger. Ever since he started cultivating, he had been invincible, so this blow was no doubt an unerasable shame to him.

He decided to go all in!

At that exact moment, Lin Xun dove down from the sky and wielded his fist downwards. The power of his punch blotted out the sky. Yu Lingkong mobilized all his strength to block the attack and only barely managed to dispel the blow.

His blood and qi frantically tumbled around him, and his condition worsened. He knew that if he didn't counter soon, it would be impossible to turn the battle around.

However, Lin Xun had no intention of allowing him a chance to breathe. When the power of his punch was dispelled, a snow-white blade slashed through the air with astonishing speed.

Silent Emptiness Slash!

The world turned deathly silent. All sounds seemed to have faded from the world, leaving only a streak of illusory blade light flickering in the air.

Yu Lingkong was petrified, and his hair stood on end. The feeling of crisis made him retreat without hesitation, but he was still a step too late. The sharp edge of the Broken Blade struck him in the chest.

With a crack, his chest armor tore apart like paper, leaving a bloody scar across his body and blood rushing forth as if it was coming from a spring.

He had almost been split open!

Yu Lingkong couldn't help screaming in agony. He flew up into the air, and a jet of blood sprayed out of his mouth.

The strike startled the world!

The blow was too fierce, invincible, and unstoppable like a strike of god. It came so suddenly and unexpectedly, and it inflicted severe injuries to Yu Lingkong.

Everyone was stupefied.

No one thought that Lin Xun would be so swift and domineering. He gave Yu Lingkong no chance to fight back at all.

The two Longevity Land successors cried out sharply.

Mu Jianting, Li Qinghuan, and others turned ashen-faced, hearts thumping violently.

The faces of Ji Xingyao and Luo Jia contorted with shocked disbelief while waves lifted high in their hearts. Lin Xun's performance completely exceeded their expectations.

"Ahh..." Yu Lingkong roared at the top of his voice. He erupted in a blaze of light, and the injuries across his body were healing at an incredible speed. His imposing aura was still as strong as before.

How could he accept the fact that he was seconds away from being suppressed and killed?

Boom!

However, before he got up, Lin Xun was already charging towards him again.

At this point in the battle, he knew how terrifyingly strong Yu Lingkong was and that he would become a great trouble to him in the future if he allowed him to live!

Therefore, he decided to kill him once and for all.

It was at that moment when a roar rang in the distance, "Stop, Demon God Lin! Look at who this is!"

The shout came from Sun Chuan, a successor from the Longevity Land.

A young man was restrained in front of him with a sword pressing against his throat.

The young man was precisely Yue Jianming!

Lin Xun's eyes instantly narrowed, and his face turned extremely cold and menacing. He never thought that Yue Jianming, who had already given up fighting for the fortune and stayed at the bottom of the Ancient Dao Lantern Tree, would be captured as a hostage!

Undoubtedly, this was premeditated!

The other experts' expressions also turned strange. They couldn't believe that the high and mighty Longevity Land successors would do something as despicable as capturing hostages.

Moreover, even if they could save Yu Lingkong, then this despicable matter would become a stain on Yu Lingkong for the rest of his life, unable to be removed.

Everyone in the world would think that Yu Lingkong was inferior to Lin Xun, and he used someone else's life to threaten Lin Xun in order for himself to live!

Even Ji Xingyao and Luo Jia couldn't help frowning.

Undoubtedly, Yue Jianming had been captured long ago. In other words, this was planned earlier, which sent chills down everyone's spine. Who would believe that the successors from the Longevity Land would use such a dirty trick?

"Do you all want to die?" Lin Xun's eyes were colder than the depths of an abyss while his heart was about to explode with killing intent. His every word was filled with a murderous aura.

"Hmph, if you want your friend to live, then do as we say. If you play any tricks then don't blame us when it goes wrong!" Sun Chuan gave Lin Xun a sinister look as he firmly clutched Yue Jianming and pricked his throat with the sword tip. Drops of bright red blood trickled down his neck.

Taking advantage of the opportunity, the other Longevity Land successor rushed over to help restrain Yue Jianming.

The area fell eerily silent, and the tension in the air was palpable.

Many people found it hard to breathe.

Everyone could tell that Lin Xun's anger was mounting like a volcano about to erupt at any moment. The murderous intent surging around him was overwhelming, palpable and extremely terrifying.

"Let him go, and I'll release you all. Otherwise, none of you will leave here alive!" Lin Xun uttered indifferently, doing everything he could to contain the murderous rage churning inside of him.

Sun Chuan secretly breathed a sigh of relief. He was not afraid that Lin Xun would go back on his words, but they were afraid that he didn't care about Yue Jianming's life!

They made the right bet. The mighty Demon God Lin would have to forbear and back down when it came to the life and death of his friend!

A glint flashed in Sun Chuan's eyes. "We won't push you too far. If you want your friend to live, then hand over the pagoda in your hand!"

This time, even Ji Xingyao couldn't stand it anymore.

Is this not too far? I can't believe the successors from the Longevity Land would have such an ugly side!

Yu Lingkong kept silent, desperately trying to treat his wounds.

He didn't add a single word, but he had already decided in his heart that once he survived, he would kill Sun Chuan and announce to the world that this matter had nothing to do with him!

Only by doing this could he save his reputation. As for Sun Chuan, he didn't care at all.

"You want me to hand over the pagoda?" Lin Xun muttered, his expression growing colder and colder. He never thought that such shameless words would come from the mouth of a Longevity Land successor. He felt like he was about to burst from rage.

"You heard right, so don't sound so confused." Sun Chuan felt incredibly smug and triumphant like he had pinched Lin Xun's weak spot.

"Senior Brother Sun, isn't that too much? I believe the elders of our sect would not approve of this," Bai Lingxi asked coldly, unable to hold back anymore.

Sun Chuan's face darkened as he snapped, "Bai Lingxi, I could tell that you have some sort of relationship with that kid! Remember that you are a successor of the Longevity Land. How can you betray your sect and help that kid? This is an unforgivable crime!"

Bai Lingxi narrowed her bright eyes, and anger spread across her beautiful face. She never thought that she would be treated and scolded like that.

But before she could say anything, Yue Jianming suddenly raised his head to look at Lin Xun with shame and apology. "Lin Xun, I'm sorry to trouble you. You have helped me many times along the way, but I have done nothing but repeatedly cause trouble for you..."

He drew a deep breath, and his face bore a look of determination. "You treat me as a friend, so I won't let anyone blackmail you!"

A bad feeling flooded Lin Xun's heart, and his face dramatically changed. "No!"

But it was too late. After Yue Jianming finished speaking, he looked liberated and lunged forward and threw himself at the sword tip.

Pu!

Blood spurted everywhere, dyeing the void a striking red.

The audience fell utterly silent and still.

No one thought that Yue Jianming would sacrifice himself in such a resolute and calm manner.

And he did that to prevent Lin Xun from being blackmailed.

Everyone's heart brimmed with indescribable shock.

Bright red blood sprayed over Sun Chuan as he stood there blankly with widened eyes.

Beside him, Yu Lingkong and the other Longevity Land successor were petrified. It never crossed their minds that Yue Jianming would be so firm and unwavering.

[The Prodigies War](#)

Chapter 919: Enraged Demon God Lin

On the contrary, Lin Xun was silent and almost suffocating in his fury.

Perhaps, Yue Jianming couldn't compare to the top genius figures, but he was still an amazing genius!

In Lin Xun's heart, his friend wasn't inferior to anyone. Also, Lin Xun had nothing but gratitude towards him because he was only able to participate in the Dao Lantern Festival because of his kind invitation.

Moreover, Yue Jianming had always stood unwaveringly by his side. Even though he might not be as strong as the others, he still didn't hesitate to throw away his life for him!

But now, he died...

And he did it for one simple reason—to not let him be blackmailed by other people...

Before he died, he never made a single request from him. He never even mentioned that he wanted revenge!

Lin Xun's chest seemed to be blocked by a rock. His face was red, and he was about to explode with rage. An indescribable wave of fury and hatred crashed through his heart like a raging river.

"Hah, Lin Xun, you saw that he killed himself. It has nothing to do with me. I take back my suggestion just now, just pretend nothing happened," Sun Chuan explained stiffly.

Shua!

When Lin Xun raised his head, his black eyes were like a pair of raging abysses, brimming with cold murderous intent that made Sun Chuan's hair stand on end, as though he had fallen into an ice cave.

"You all deserve to die." Anger overcame Lin Xun, and he completely broke out. He had an indescribable amount of hatred and sorrow that he needed to vent.

Boom!

Dazzling light erupted from him, and his imposing aura amplified, filling the world. At that moment, he resembled a true demon god.

"Run!"

Yu Lingkong's complexion drastically changed. He was desperately trying to recover, but Yue Jianming's sudden death changed everything

He knew very well that he would be no match for Lin Xun, who was in a fit of rage, and he had to retreat instantly.

Shua!

Yu Lingkong forced himself up with all his strength, operated a series of dao arts, and rushed down the altar.

"Do you want to leave? Impossible!"

Lin Xun was brimming with hostility. He integrated the Bi'an Stamp and the Ba Xia Imprisonment and lashed down. It was as though a sacred mountain was descending from the sky. With a boom, Yu Lingkong was blasted across the air, coughing up blood. His face blanched.

"Die!"

Almost at the same time, the Broken Blade flickered across the sky before it slashed downwards with incredible speed. It instantly took the life of the Longevity Land successor next to Sun Chuan, splitting him into two.

Everyone was shaken.

In a rage, Demon God Lin looked particularly cold, bloodthirsty, ruthless and decisive.

The Longevity Land successor was undeniably a top genius talent, but he got rid of him like a mere weed!

"How dare you—" Sun Chuan screamed, almost going crazy from the shock.

PA!

Lin Xun lashed out with another kick, knocking out all his teeth and sending him onto the ground. Everything darkened in front of him, and he almost fainted.

He scrambled up to flee for his life. He noticed that Lin Xun was going to kill Yu Lingkong and had no time to deal with him for the time being.

Pu! Pu!

However, as soon as he stepped forward, a slashing stroke by the Broken Blade severed his legs from the waist, and his upper body collapsed to the ground.

Sun Chuan screamed in horror, unable to stand up, and blood gushed from him like a waterfall, staining the ground bright red.

Many cultivators were chilled to the core. This was too tragic and too chilling.

It could have been a one-hit kill, but Demon God Lin clearly intended to torture him to death!

At the same time, the Nameless Pagoda above Lin Xun's head was attempting to kill Yu Lingkong, who had restored some of his strength. Although he had sustained heavy injuries, he was still incredibly strong and tyrannical.

He was difficult to kill.

If Lin Xun didn't take the chance to kill a peerless figure like him, then there could be many obstacles in the future.

"Lin Xun, you will die a tragic death. Do you know who I am? If my father and master find out about this, they will tear you to pieces and turn your bones into dust!" Sun Chuan howled in misery, his voice filled with resentment.

He was a high and mighty successor from the Longevity Land, and he was from a clan with a long-standing history, but now his legs had been severed, and he was on the verge of death. He was about to go berserk, unable to accept it.

Pu! Pu!

However, before his voice faded, Broken Blade unleashed its mighty power and slashed off his arms from the shoulder, turning him into a human rod.

It was so inhuman and so cruel that it chilled many experts. Demon God Lin in rage was a ruthless killer.

Meanwhile, Yu Lingkong was coughing up blood, looking the worst he had ever been.

His greatest trump card was the Longevity Palace, but it had been pinned down and unable to show its power. At the same time, he had suffered heavy injuries and was unsurprisingly suppressed by Lin Xun.

This was hard for him, who had always been prideful, to accept it. It was just that the deadly threat made him unable to think too much. All he could do was fight with all his strength to break out of the danger.

Suddenly, he thought of someone—Ji Xingyao!

But when he raised his eyes, he saw that Ji Xingyao was competing with Shang Jia, Shi Yun and others for the number one fortune, and looked like she had no time to deal with other things.

Then, Yu Lingkong turned his gaze to Bai Lingxi and saw that she was charging in the direction of Lin Xun.

Yes, Bai Lingxi was going to make a move!

Yu Lingkong felt relieved. He knew that Bai Lingxi and Lin Xun were friends so he thought she would be stuck in a difficult situation, but at this critical moment, she stepped forward without hesitation and gave him a glimmer of hope.

But in the blink of an eye, Yu Lingkong was struck dumb. Bai Lingxi came rushing over quickly, but she lost even faster. In a split second, Lin Xun sent her flying across the air with a punch. She slammed to the ground in embarrassment and coughed up blood.

“How could that be?” Yu Lingkong fumed. Although he knew that Bai Lingxi was no match for Lin Xun, he was still hopeful, like a drowning man grasping at straws.

But Bai Lingxi failed!

At the same time, Bai Lingxi sent a voice transmission to Lin Xun, “Okay, now you can kill him as you want. Even if I return to the sect, I won’t be punished.”

It turned out to be a feint attack to deceive Yu Lingkong.

Boom!

Lin Xun exploded and no longer wavered.

“Do you think that you can kill me?” How would Yu Lingkong be willing to die so easily? He roared at the top of his voice and brought a terrifying aura enveloping his body.

All of a sudden, purple light rose like mist across the area and even the Longevity Palace was buzzing and producing powerful ripples of energy.

However, Lin Xun continued unabated. He manipulated the Nameless Pagoda to obliterate the Longevity Palace, while he threw a punch across the air.

Bang!

Yu Lingkong's head exploded!

Everyone fell deathly silent, and their eyes snapped wide with shock. They felt a chill go through them, and their hearts trembled incessantly.

So terrifying! So chilling!

A young man from a lower domain killed Yu Lingkong, a leading figure of the younger generation of the Longevity Land, who was known as invincible among his peers!

The overpowering punch could only be described as tyrannical. It smashed Yu Lingkong's head, and blood gushed everywhere!

Everyone was petrified, finding it hard to believe that Yu Lingkong was killed just like that. They were all shocked beyond belief.

He was a peerless genius renowned all over the South Wonder World, and he was born into a family of saints. He trained in the Longevity Land and possessed a foundation superior to any of his peers. Additionally, he owned several unrivaled treasures. He was perfect and flawless in every aspect.

But now, he had been slaughtered...

This matter would cause an earthquake in the world and set off monstrous storms.

The clan and sect behind Yu Lingkong would inevitably be enraged.

After the battle, Demon God Lin's fame would rise further, and his prestige would be pushed to an unprecedented height because he had proved with hard facts that he had the potential to suppress and kill even those on the absolute apex path!

Lin Xun stood in the same spot, his resentment still simmering. After the death of Yue Jianming, he couldn't feel a hint of joy from killing Yu Lingkong.

He turned around, his black eyes flashing like lightning. Glaring at Sun Chuan, who had been severed beyond recognition, he asked coldly, "Who came up with the idea of using Yue Jianming as a hostage?"

Sun Chuan smoldered with resentment. "Don't even think about it!"

Pu!

Lin Xun didn't hesitate to kill him.

The area fell deathly silent once again. Everyone's heart became a vortex of emotion. Other than Bai Lingxi, the Longevity Land successors on the altar had all been wiped.

No one could have predicted this outcome!

The mass melee continued, and the peerless figures were still vying for the number one fortune. But they all knew that no one would succeed if everyone attacked anyone who got close to the fortune.

Moreover, now, there was also Demon God Lin who was strong enough to kill Yu Lingkong. The situation on the altar changed once again.

Lin Xun didn't pay attention to them. He turned around and carefully put away Yue Jianming's body.

"I promise, I won't let this kind of thing happen again in the future...Rest in peace, I will take your bones back to your homeland for burial," he murmured.

"Huh?"

Suddenly, Lin Xun's heart pounded, and a bad feeling shrouded him. He saw the Longevity Palace suddenly exuding a terrifying Saint aura as if it was awakening.

Boom!

The dazzling power of the Saint Path shot out from the saint treasure like waterfalls, aiming to kill Lin Xun.

Let alone Lin Xun, even the others never expected that a disaster would strike Lin Xun while he was off guard for a moment.

Suppressed by the Nameless Pagoda, the Longevity Palace hadn't been able to display its true power, and made almost everyone forget the terror of this Saint treasure!

Chi!

The space shattered, obliterated by the terrifying laws of the Saint Path.

Caught off guard, even though Lin Xun manipulated the Nameless Pagoda to block the attack, he was still blasted across the air.

Pu!

Blood pooled at the back of his throat and overflowed the corners of his lips. His body suffered unimaginably serious injuries, showing signs of collapsing at any moment!

The Longevity Palace, a treasure of the Saint Path, possessed legendary brilliance. How could it be compared with ordinary treasures?

Lin Xun would have been doomed if he didn't have the Nameless Pagoda!

Lin Xun was too careless. He also didn't expect such a thing to happen.

Buzz—

Before he could react, the Longevity Palace came charging towards him once again. Its Saint power was as monstrous and overbearing as the sea!

[The Prodigies War](#)

Chapter 920: Is Someone Bullying You?

The Longevity Palace presented a simple, unshowy bronze color, yet it appeared magnificent and terrifying with the supreme aura of the Saint Path circulating it.

It seemed to have woken up from silence, and the power that erupted from it was even stronger than when it was in Yu Lingkong's hands.

Even from afar, its power filled everyone with despair and killed any thought of fighting back.

In truth, Lin Xun was indeed unable to budge. Firstly, it was because he had been seriously wounded from the terrifying blow, and secondly, the Longevity Palace was too terrifying.

He was frozen to the spot just from its oppressive aura alone. It was so strong that even his spirit almost crumbled.

It should be mentioned that Lin Xun's spirit had been cultivated to the level of Spirit Flower Convergence!

Even so, it was directly overpowered and suppressed, unable to resist at all. Imaginably, the power of the Longevity Palace was immeasurable.

That was the true power of a Saint treasure!

It was also the first time that Lin Xun faced the threat of a treasure ever since he started cultivating. He deeply felt helpless and powerless for the first time in his life.

All he could do was activate the Nameless Pagoda with all his strength, hoping that it could get him out of the predicament.

But he also knew that the hope of that happening was very slim. The Longevity Palace had already occupied the upper hand due to his carelessness.

At this critical juncture, an indifferent voice reverberated between heaven and earth—

"In the land of blessings, no foreign objects are allowed to interfere, step back!" As the voice rang out, the bronze bell buzzed on the table in the center of the altar.

Clang!

Just like primal chaos creating the world, the heaven and earth were quaking violently and a gush of boundless supreme power swept the world, rushing to the Longevity Palace.

The audience was paralyzed as if struck by lightning. Their spirits flickered and tottered like they were drunk.

The Longevity Palace shook and rumbled, bursting out with endless dao light. The power of laws of the Saint Path rushed forth like a tide, surging turbulently.

However, the power of the bell was unstoppable, suppressing the power of the Longevity Palace!

Too unbelievable!

Who would have imagined that the bronze bell would display its divine power to expel the Longevity Palace?

This was a real showdown between saint treasures!

Obscure dao runes surfaced around the Longevity Palace. There were all sorts of scenes, including ancestral sacrifice and the carnage of gods and demons.

Its power grew increasingly terrifying as if it was a true Saint. It launched thousand beams of power of laws of the Saint Path to fight against ripples of power of the bells!

Everyone's scalp went numb, and their liver and gall were splitting apart. The two powers were too strong, beyond their comprehension, just like a real battle between Saints!

The indifferent voice resounded once again, "The sound of the bell is all living beings, and the Saint Path originates from all living beings. To fight against it is a great rebellion!"

Boom!

The sound of the bell deepened, as though it was gathering the power of the common people.

The Longevity Palace was surrounded by surging dao runes and a sacred aura, but in the end, it gave up on the battle like it knew it was useless.

Buzz—

Its brilliance wildly circulated its body as it spewed out a stream of gorgeous light to collect Yu Lingkong's body. Then, it tore apart the void and vanished.

It was unstoppable!

At the same time, the ancient bell sound also faded into silence.

If Yu Lingkong's body hadn't disappeared, everyone would have thought that it was a dream

A showdown between saint treasures?

It was the first time that they had seen the extraordinary power of the Saint Path. It was indeed terrifying beyond belief and made them feel so small and insignificant!

Lin Xun broke out in a cold sweat after narrowly escaping death.

Only then did he realize the meaning of the name ego-field saint treasure. It represented a saint treasure that possessed the unfathomable power of the laws of the Saint Path.

Lin Xun started to doubt whether Yu Lingkong was truly dead.

On the table, the half-foot-tall bronze bell was still and silent, and the indifferent voice never rang again.

Everything happened in the blink of an eye, and when everyone returned to their senses, only Lin Xun was left in a wounded state on the battlefield.

The experts who had been watching all along launched into action, charging at Lin Xun with murderous intent!

“You—!” Bai Lingxi panicked and rushed forward without hesitation to protect Lin Xun.

Mu Jianting, Li Qinghuan, Shang Jia and the others also acted. They wanted to take this opportunity to get rid of Lin Xun, a formidable opponent.

They could tell that Lin Xun was extremely weak after suffering a blow from the Longevity Palace.

It was the best time to kill Lin Xun!

Shua!

Mu Jianting was the first one to get close to Lin Xun. He hated Lin Xun to the bone, so he wouldn't miss out on the opportunity to kill him.

“Despicable!” Rage pulsed through Bai Lingxi's veins. She had been paying close attention to the situation, so she couldn't tolerate the others attacking Lin Xun at this time.

Shua!

As her figure fluttered, a dreamy glow formed around her. She summoned her dao sword and swung it with all her strength.

Sword intent repeatedly clashed in the air with a deafening rumble. Bai Lingxi and Mu Jianting fought at close quarters, erupting with dazzling and gorgeous light.

The silence on the altar instantly broke!

Chi!

A golden spear pierced through the air with unrivaled sharpness, exuding intense murderous intent and aiming straight for Lin Xun's heart.

Shang Jia also made a move. Back when he was climbing up the dao altar, he had also launched a sneak attack at Lin Xun, hoping to stand up for Qing Lian'er, use Lin Xun's life as a betrothal gift, and propose marriage to the Blue Luan Clan.

But now, he seized the opportunity to launch an even more ruthless attack.

Given his condition, Lin Xun had no choice but to dodge the attacks. It was difficult to disguise his serious injuries. The Saint Path power of the Longevity Palace was too terrifying. If the Nameless Pagoda hadn't lessened the blow, then he would have been subdued and killed on the spot already.

Shua!

Li Qinghuan also came charging at him from the other side, launching a bright blade of light from an unexpected angle.

Some of them wanted Lin Xun's life, while some wanted to seize the pagoda in Lin Xun's hands. Although their motives differed, they still all attacked at the same time.

Who would miss out on the rare opportunity to snatch the Nameless Pagoda? After all, it held out against the Longevity Hall, which indicated that it had to be a Saint treasure.

Lin Xun would be incredibly difficult to deal with once he recovered since he could kill even Yu Lingkong!

Bai Lingxi might not be weak in battle, but she was quickly pushed to the edge of danger after facing multiple attacks from several peerless figures.

As for Ji Xingyao and Luo Jia, they didn't participate in the battle but continued to fight for the number one fortune on the table. Since all cultivators had changed their target to Lin Xun, that gave them a rare opportunity to seize the fortune.

In short, the situation was changing constantly like a storm.

Lin Xun had become the target of a multitude of arrows, and his situation was even more dangerous than before!

He wouldn't have been able to survive if not for the protection of the Nameless Pagoda!

Pu!

Before long, Bai Lingxi was coughing up blood.

Lin Xun's eyes were ice cold as he glowered at everyone while anger was building up in his heart. He couldn't stand the people trying to take advantage of the chance to take his life.

But he had to accept the fact that he was wounded. If it continued, then he would be exhausted to death, if not killed.

"When the tiger comes down from the mountain, it will be bullied by dogs..." Lin Xun sighed but he didn't give up. He thought of the white ginseng!

Knowing that Lin Xun wanted to borrow some of his medicinal power to repair his wounds, the old rogue was hopping mad and refused without any hesitation. "Impossible! Don't even think about it! I've only formed one wisdom root after so many years of hard work. How can I let you have it?!"

Lin Xun was in no mood to joke around. Even the most precious medicine might not be able to repair his current injury. It was a pity that he had already consumed all the Golden Essence Jade Liquid obtained from the lair of the Single-Horned Golden-Eyed Beast King when he broke through to the Cyclic Derivation Stage.

Otherwise, he wouldn't even need to wrangle with the old rogue. He was only discussing it with him because he didn't want to destroy the old herb.

"If I can't live, then neither can you!" Lin Xun made up his mind to devour the old guy whole!

"What are you going to do?" The old rogue screamed, "All right, all right, don't do anything, I promise you, okay?" He wrinkled his nose in a grimace.

In the end, he pulled out one of his roots and a verdant leaf and threw it grudgingly, "If my foundation is not enough to become a herb saint in the future, little bastard, you will have to take responsibility!"

A pleasant and ethereal voice rang from the pagoda, "Lin Xun, are you injured?"

Lin Xun's heart fluttered.

A giant jade stone that he carefully placed on the first floor of the pagoda began to buzz before breaking apart with a crack.

A slender and beautiful figure stood upright, as illusory as a dream. Wisps of black mist that were as dark as eternal night rose from her.

She was dressed in a huge black cloak with half of her face concealed by the brim of her hat. Only her fair chin and her pale lips peeked out from her hat.

Even so, she was no doubt a breathtaking beauty. Her sweet lips were slightly pursed, the bridge of her nose was high, and her skin was fair and flawless.

Xia Zhi!

She finally woke up from slumber, but she was significantly taller and more elegant than before. Her black cloak could no longer cover her ankles, exposing her slender and fair feet that were as perfect as if they were carved from jade, glistening in the light.

Xia Zhi had been an innocent and flawless little girl back then, but now she had grown into a graceful and beautiful young woman.

"It seems like every time I see you, you are in a very distressing situation. Is someone bullying you again?" Her clear voice was filled with an ethereal and tranquil charm like the sounds of heaven.

Xia Zhi casually flipped over her hat, and a purple spear and a black umbrella appeared in her hand.

"I'll help you."

She had said the same thing as when they were in Feiyun Village. Her clear eyes shone with a serious look like black gemstones.

Her voice was filled with righteousness, exactly the same as back then, and hadn't changed in any way.