

Refining 951

Chapter 951 - Blood Phantom

The blood phantom roared in pain and blew apart, turning into an endless fog of blood. Then, it started to evaporate as if it was being burnt by raging flames. If this were anywhere else, Zero's great sun sword intent would have been enough to kill the blood phantom, but this place was currently the blood phantom's home court.

A loud rumbling lingered as countless bulging blood vessels on the earth exploded. Raging waves of blood surged out and were drawn in by an invisible strength where they were then integrated into the blood phantom.

He shook and distorted, soon condensing into reality. With a roar, he stabbed his hand into his chest and tore out a mass of light.

This light was bright and dazzling, like a miniature sun. It hissed as it was fiercely corroded and annihilated.

The blood phantom spread out his arms. The skies roared as endless blood fog gushed out from nothingness, gathering together.

It tumbled without end like a boiling sea of blood. It released endless cruelty and destruction, as if it would drown the world.

"Boundless sea of blood..." The blood phantom muttered. Then, he grasped tightly with his hands and pulled down.

Rumble rumble –

The vast and inexhaustible blood fog in the heavens began to fall as if it really were a sea. All the sea water roared as it came crashing down. The dreadful waves soared up, crushing and dissolving everything in front of it until it was a part of the sea of blood.

With her hair rising around her, Zero began to release light. Faint traces of brilliance were emitted from her pores, as if a genuine sun was sealed within her body.

Lifting a hand, the sword of light in Zero's hand started to cry. The temperature in the air rose dramatically, like an invisible inferno was blazing all around.

Qin Yu quickly closed his eyes. But even though he responded quickly, he felt a bitter pain as tears directly fell.

In the next moment there was a thunderous crash. It spread into his ears, reaching into his heart. It sounded like it came from the distant past, the world-creating blow that split apart the heavens and earth!

The stuffiness in his chest loosened and a coppery taste filled his senses. Waves of cold and hot air rushed over him, lifting him up and sending him flying away.

In midair, he forcibly endured the pain coursing through him. He opened a slit in his eyes to see that the inexhaustible blood fog in the skies had disintegrated into countless pieces. Each piece was being wrapped up by flames and wildly burnt away.

Zero stood in the world, strong winds lifting her skirt and outlining her perfect physique. But in Qin Yu's eyes, she seemed especially delicate and fragile right now.

Mm...it had to be an illusion. How could someone as formidable as her be 'delicate' or 'fragile'?

Before this thought disappeared, Zero began to fall. The great sun sword in her hand also extinguished.

An impulse gushed out from Qin Yu's heart. It was powerful and direct, making the decision for him before he could do so himself.

With a roar, the two hearts in his chest beat wildly, forcing blood energy through his body. He flushed forward, like a giant fish swimming against the stream!

Kacha –

Kacha –

He could hear the sounds of cracking flesh and blood in his ears. They were dense and numerous, impossible to count. Qin Yu bitterly smiled but there was no other choice he could make. He reached out and swept Zero into his arms.

Thump –

With a ringing sound, Qin Yu's vision flashed black. He felt as if he wasn't holding onto a petite woman, but a giant mountain that crashed down from the heavens. At this moment, his arms were broken into several pieces and his ribs were mostly crushed.

Puff –

He spat out a mouthful of blood, much of it landing on Zero's face, forming a stark contrast against her pale complexion. Combined with the scene of blood fog disintegrating all around them, it made everything seem especially soul-stirring.

But what a pity, Qin Yu had no time to appreciate this. He only had one thought in mind – big sister, you really are heavy!

Bang –

The two people crashed into the earth. The ground caved in, forming a massive pit.

Qin Yu's eyes widened. He used up a great deal of strength to swallow back down his pitiful moans. He gasped for breath in great heaving gulps.

As if washed by the hot air coming from his mouth and nose, Zero returned to consciousness. Her ears were flushed red.

At this time, Qin Yu discovered that the Zero he first saw had come back.

"Thank you." She quietly said.

Qin Yu's lips twitched and he revealed an ugly smile. He thought that if he was able to choose, he really didn't want to have met her. He closed his eyes, stimulating his blood energy. He borrowed the powerful attributes of the Ancient race's Undying Body to heal his wounds.

Zero turned and sat down at the side with a blank expression. Looking around, she seemed worried and frightened.

Thinking a bit, she flipped her hand and took out a red stone. "Perhaps this can help you restore yourself quicker."

Qin Yu opened his eyes. He nodded and received the stone. With a thought, billowing blood energy gushed out and fused into his body.

His damaged flesh, blood, and bones immediately cheered in joy. It greedily absorbed this strength, causing a faint itching feeling to spread across him.

This stone unexpectedly contained the blood of a powerful life form. In fact, the reason it was crimson in color was because it was integrated with the blood.

After determining that this blood energy wouldn't harm him, Qin Yu started to absorb it wholeheartedly.

At this time and in such a strange and dangerous place, it was best to ignore any curiosity he had.

Recovering from his injuries was what mattered the most!

Mm?

Qin Yu frowned. He opened his eyes and put the stone away in his chest. He looked at the puzzled Zero and said, "Some people have come."

Zero's complexion changed, "How is your condition?"

Qin Yu shook his head, "We'll have to act accordingly and try to delay for as much time as possible."

The stone was in his chest and the blood energy within constantly flowed into his body. With each breath of time, his injuries were restored that much more.

Whoosh –

Whoosh –

The sound of breaking air approached. Several figures wrapped in light appeared at the end of his line of sight.

Qin Yu stood up. While pain wracked his body, he didn't reveal any of this. He pulled Zero behind him.

This woman was not in a good condition. While she appeared normal, in truth she was extremely weakened.

It was clear that thoroughly defeating the blood phantom had caused serious losses to her.

Shua –

Shua –

Six figures, though they were still some distance away, had already landed.

The light gathered to reveal the figures within. Their eyes swept around, widening with shock.

It was clear that they had sensed the aftermath of the battle between Zero and the blood phantom that had yet to fully disperse.

In fact, the reason these people appeared here was because they were drawn in by the fighting.

Their eyes gathered on Qin Yu and Zero. They furrowed their eyebrows in unison as they started to size them up.

After a brief silence, one of them asked, "Fellow daoists, may I ask what just happened here?"

Qin Yu said, "There was a battle."

His gaze was faint and he responded to this nonsense with nonsense. He glanced around at the six people.

"Now, do you have any other questions?"

Silence.

The six others clearly hadn't expected that Qin Yu's answer would be so cold and impolite.

The cultivator who spoke smiled, "We are all cultivators of Great Chu. Since we came to the Severed Heaven Abyss, we should help each other out. I can see that fellow daoists have been wounded. How about we travel together? We can even look out for one another."

Qin Yu said, "You're not wrong. We are indeed wounded, but that makes it even more so that we cannot trust others."

"How can you not understand such a simple truth? Or, are you intentionally probing us and planning on attacking us?"

The cultivator's smile froze and he frowned. His eyes locked onto Qin Yu. "Fellow daoist, you are overly suspicious of others."

Qin Yu reached out a hand and grabbed Zero. He took a step forward, "Make way."

At the same time, his thoughts stirred. The sun and moon force field dispersed, wrapping around them.

The cultivator's complexion changed and his pupils shrank. It was clear he was shaken.

After a brief silence the person coughed and took several steps back, "Since fellow daoist is so cautious, then I won't stop you. If you will."

Qin Yu and Zero started to walk forward.

"Hold on!" Another cultivator spoke up. He lifted a finger, "This fellow daoist may leave, but she must stay behind."

The air turned deathly silent. The temperature drastically fell.

Qin Yu narrowed his eyes and sighed gently. As he thought, bluffing wasn't always successful. At this time, the cultivator who spoke had a calm expression, but there was a mocking look in his eyes, as if he had sensed something.

Even if Qin Yu was willing to abandon Zero, there was no way he could leave here safely.

Since he couldn't leave, he could only fight his way out. As for whether or not he could succeed...that would depend on his luck!

He lifted a hand and pointed a finger. The world began to thunder – this was the shaking of the rules.

An invisible strength condensed in the air, crashing into the person who spoke.

Since he had chosen to attack, these six people were all enemies. To Qin Yu, dealing with any one of them first was the same.

If so, he would certainly choose one that was particularly loathsome.

“You dare...” This person was enraged. He clearly never thought that Qin Yu would attack so directly.

Just as he spoke, the anger on his face froze, transforming into panic.

Since Qin Yu chose to attack, there was no need to hold back. If he was able to directly wound or even kill one of these people at the beginning of the battle, that was certainly the best result.

So what Qin Yu chose to use was the Blue Finger, his strongest single-target offensive supernatural art. With his current strength, even a God boundary powerhouse would find it difficult to retreat unscathed.

Of course the reason Qin Yu chose to flip the table over was because he had another hidden card in hand. If the situation completely spiraled out of control and he fell into a hopeless situation, he could unseal the silver moon sword intent. Even if it meant that some greater peril might arrive.

So when he spoke of his luck at the start, that was not whether he could withdraw, but whether he could avoid the gaze from the blood moon.

Bang –

Space twisted in the attack and the Blue Finger struck the cultivator. Blood spewed out from his nose and mouth as he was sent hurtling backwards.

Between his eyebrows, flesh and blood cracked open to reveal pale bones. One could even see the dents covering them.

Even if he resisted with all his strength, he wasn't able to completely block the killing might of the Blue Finger. Just a little bit more and his head would have been blown open.

After his initial shock and anger, his fear could be imagined!

In Chai Yin's life, he was known as a genius. Although he didn't have a particularly noble family background, he was selected by his master at a young age and carefully cultivated. His life had been safe and smooth, and he had never encountered such a dangerous situation.

Just now, as he thought about his brush with death, his mind shook, causing his face to distort. “Kill him! Kill him!”

Qin Yu had attacked and both sides had completely torn apart any pretense of face. And in the Severed Heaven Abyss, tearing apart all pretense of face was equal to facing a life or death situation. Either they died, or the man and woman died. Their bodies and souls would be torn apart, without any traces of them left.

Of course, in the eyes of Chai Yin and his companions, the ones to die today would be Qin Yu and Zero.

Chapter 952 – The Terrifying Zero

“Die!” The cultivator who spoke first drew out a saber and slashed down.

Not only was this movement simple and crude, but the power behind it was equally brutal. Locked onto by the saber, Qin Yu’s heart shrank.

As he thought, anyone that dared to kill and rob others in the Severed Heaven Abyss wasn’t average.

Qin Yu made this judgment because when he first met these six people, he could feel the thick scent of blood and slaughter from them.

This was why he changed his original goal. Instead of drawing out the time, he would use an overwhelming initial assault to force these people into withdrawing.

The reason was simple. Facing these murderers, revealing any weakness or hesitation would cause them to bare their fierce fangs.

“If you have any strength left, kill one person first, otherwise you will have to protect yourself!” Qin Yu let go of Zero. Then, with a shout, he leapt forward to face the saber.

Dark golden light flickered deep in his eyes. He brought up his hands and punched out.

Holding the saber, Lian He suddenly felt irritated. Qin Yu’s punch wasn’t too strong, but it just happened to strike the weakest point of his sword potential.

Like a fishbone stuck in his throat, even if he had the power to break open the skies, he wasn’t able to exert even a third of his strength. This was like fighting with his hands and feet bound.

As the saber was halfway down, his wrist pulled back. The saber’s edge turned into a whip, tearing through the air.

Qin Yu seemed to have expected this. His punch dispersed and his fingers grasped outwards. In the depths of his eyes, a bronze mirror appeared.

“Soul Calming!”

With a shout, a white light shot out from between his eyebrows. It howled through space and landed on Lian He. He immediately stiffened and his eyes widened with shock. The saber in his hands exploded, releasing terrifying saber light.

Qin Yu drew in a deep breath. His five fingers closed up and he pressed down. "Great Dao Prospers Forever!"

Bang –

A towering sacred mountain phantom appeared between the heavens and earth. Its surface was lit up with endless blazing holy light, as if it were tumbling with scorching flames.

The mountain was split into seven layers, each one filled with millions of holy ghosts. They had snow-white wings on their backs as they prostrated themselves on the ground in worship.

At this time, the mountain phantom loudly arrived.

"Humph!"

With a sneer, the four other people also attacked. This battle wasn't some fair confrontation – all that mattered was killing the enemy. There would be no discussion of fairness.

Qin Yu's expression was as cold as a stone. He stared at Lian He who was being suppressed by the mountain and then faced the four others. He spat out a single word.

"Slow!"

As this word appeared, the flow of time within the world was influenced. The four blasts of supernatural arts that came his way were suddenly slowed down.

And at the same time, the speed at which the sacred mountain crashed down increased. This was because the flow of time around it had increased several times over.

One slowed, one quickened, this created a difference in time. While it only lasted for a single breath of time, this was more than enough for Qin Yu.

He grasped a hand forward. The phantom of a spear appeared in his hands. As he gripped his fingers together, the spear condensed into reality. He lifted the spear. The spear point tore through air, emitting a keening cry as it soared towards Lian He who was suppressed beneath the sacred mountain.

"No!" Lian He screamed in anger. He never expected that in a single confrontation he would be placed in such a dangerous situation.

For him to make a sound indicated that the strength of the Soul Calming God Light had been shaken away. But before he could resist it and retreat, the seven-layered sacred mountain had arrived.

The Great Dao that came from the Dao Monarch's cultivation went straight to the unsurpassed boundary. After Qin Yu was illuminated by a trillion Great Dao stars, he continued to perceive and meditate upon it. Now, its strength was several times greater than it was at the beginning.

Even if this Lian He had shocking strength, he wouldn't be able to easily withdraw. Moreover, what Qin Yu needed now was only a brief sparkle of time.

The Ancient God Spear arrived!

Puff –

The spear point tore through flesh and blood. It pierced through Lian He's chest and broke out through his back, causing blood to splash out. After this strike, the spear phantom slowly dispersed, leaving behind a bowl-sized hole where it was.

The light in Lian He's eyes quickly faded away. The flesh and blood at his wound wriggled as it tried to restore itself, but just as it began it lost all vigor. The aura of life vanished from his body, soon completely disappearing.

Qin Yu didn't bask in his victory. He twisted to the side, avoiding the attacks that came blasting his way. In the next moment a severe pain coursed through his body. Even if he was prepared for it, his vision flashed black and he almost fainted.

Without looking, Qin Yu could sense how poor his current condition was. There were at least several dozen openings torn into his body and each one was bleeding profusely.

I am definitely a bloody person now...

As this thought occurred, the two hearts within Qin Yu's chest wildly beat, controlling his body and tightened his flesh.

So the bleeding wounds vanished. Even the blood that flowed out permeated into his skin where it was reabsorbed.

The Ancient race's Undying Body was fully mobilized!

The four cultivators widened their eyes. They had clearly been shocked by what they saw, so they didn't immediately attack again.

This gave Qin Yu precious time to catch his breath. He wildly extracted the boundless blood energy in the red stone to restore his injuries.

"Lian He died, he actually died!" A cultivator muttered with a dazed expression.

They had known each other for many years now. The reason they entered the Severed Heaven Abyss was not for the Origin God corpse. Rather, from the beginning, the goal of these six people were the cultivators who came here.

Everything went smoothly and their harvests were considerable. But who could have imagined that after encircling these seemingly weak two people, the strongest amongst them, Lian He, would be slain.

A chill rose up in their hearts. As they looked at Qin Yu, there was awe in their eyes.

But soon this awe turned into wild brutality!

The stronger Qin Yu was, the more he had to die. Otherwise, none of them would have a good ending in the future.

Now, in order to kill Lian He, Qin Yu had to withstand their attacks and was heavily wounded...so this was the best time to kill him!

"This person must die!" Someone callously said. Each word dripped with icy killing intent.

Having worked together for so many years, the four people were already familiar with each other. After a brief moment of shock they erupted with their greatest strength.

Their figures flickered and they each appeared at a corner around Qin Yu. Their auras started to fuse together.

No, calling this fusion was inaccurate. To be more precise, it was similar to overlapping. While they didn't completely fuse with each other, they produced a powerful increase in strength.

This should be some kind of exquisite joint attack technique.

It was obvious that Qin Yu's sudden actions of attacking without hesitation and killing Lian He, no matter what losses he had to endure, had frightened the four people.

They chose to use the safest and most formidable method to kill Qin Yu – a joint attack method.

Bang –

The void rumbled as if an invisible mountain had arrived. The air condensed, like it had become a glacier.

And Qin Yu was suppressed within this glacier.

“Die!”

The four people shouted out in unison. The glacier shattered. As it broke apart, it quickened a resonance with the rules, unexpectedly producing a fearful attribute – that is, everything inside the glacier would collapse with it and be completely destroyed.

This was an ability similar to the annihilation of the world fragments.

But what a pity, while Qin Yu couldn't resist the destruction of the world fragments, this glacier couldn't kill him.

Puff –

Puff –

Wounds appeared all over Qin Yu's body, making his distressed appearance seem even more pitiful. But, he was incomparably gratified. Because he was sure that if he hadn't suddenly attacked, wounding one person and then doing everything in his power to kill Lian He, he would be facing an even stronger version of this joint attack. In his current condition, just one more person would have made this nearly impossible to withstand.

Since he hadn't died, then no matter how despairing the current situation was, there was always a chance to survive.

Chai Yin stared at Qin Yu with hatred in his eyes. Seeing how the joint power of four people still wasn't able to kill Qin Yu, his heart began to tremble.

As part of the troop, he understood the joint attack technique controlled by their group of six. Although he hadn't tried it yet, he was confident that as long as the six of them worked together, they could survive even if they faced an Origin God level opponent.

It was because of this that after they learned of the Severed Heaven Abyss opening, they had a brief discussion and decided to enter it to begin their hunt.

As long as they didn't set the Origin God corpse as their goal, then in their opinion, there was no risk to their safety.

But imagination was always different from reality. Lian He had been killed and Chai Yin was severely wounded. Even four others working together weren't able to kill him.

This was the joint strength of four people...

Even a peak God boundary expert would find it difficult to resist. This person's cultivation clearly wasn't that strong, so how did he achieve it?

Chai Yin couldn't figure out the reason, but there was one thing he knew for sure. They had to kill Qin Yu today, otherwise there was bound to be great trouble in the future!

He took a deep breath and his eyes fell on Zero. In the moment the battle began, she retreated far away. And, her aura...there was clearly a problem.

Chai Yin didn't know what connection there was between Qin Yu and Zero. In his opinion, since Qin Yu was willing to directly engage in a slaughter for her, he must highly value her. If he could capture this woman, then wouldn't Qin Yu just lower his head in defeat?

With this thought in mind, Chai Yin lifted his fingers and thrust down at his body, using a secret art to temporarily seal his injuries.

He tried circulating his cultivation. Although his strength was greatly weakened, it should be enough to capture that woman.

Shua –

Light flashed around his body. Chai Yin sneered and rushed forward, grasping out with his hand.

The air thundered. He intentionally released this sound because he wanted to distract Qin Yu and divert his attention.

He glanced at Qin Yu. Right now, Qin Yu was in the middle of the four others and didn't even glance his way. This caused Chai Yin to wonder...had he misjudged things?

No!

This person must be deliberately trying to fool me! How laughable! Do you think I'm going to fall for your tricks?

I've set my sights on this woman. I'll see just how long you can put on a front for!

But in truth, Qin Yu wasn't afraid at all. When he saw Chai Yin move, he didn't believe that Zero had no strength to resist.

Everyone had a hidden card in hand. Just like him right now. Even if he was in a dangerous situation, he could easily kill them all and escape as long as he unsealed the silver moon sword intent...as for Zero, how could someone as mysterious and formidable as her not have a hidden card?

And Qin Yu also wanted to know what kind of strength she was hiding.

“Ahh!”

There was a pitiful scream. The sneering Chai Yin’s eyes widened with fear.

He wanted to take back his quivering palm, but it was like he had been caught by a large invisible hand.

The temperature in the air began to fall at a dramatic speed. Chai Yin’s face was flushed red, and white mist appeared above his head.

His eyes grew larger and larger. Blood vessels bulged all over his body and his face violently twisted, as if he was withstanding some great pain.

Then, flames drilled out from his body.

That’s right. It was flames that could bring warmth, but that also carried the power of destruction. They drilled out from Chai Yin’s body and wrapped around him.

He was like a lit candle. But, the flames he released were too bright and the fire too intense, causing him to burn down way too fast.

So Chai Yin was burnt down at a speed visible to the naked eye. After several breaths of time, all that remained of him was ashes.

Hu –

A breeze blew past, whirling away the ashes. Then, in this world, there were no more traces of him left behind.

Zero slowly looked up. Her eyes fell on Qin Yu for a moment. After a brief pause, she looked at the four other cultivators in their joint attack formation.

“You people truly are disgusting.”

As she spoke, she casually raised a finger and pointed.

The complexions of the four changed. They screamed in their minds. In the perception of their souls, the world had turned hot red.

This wasn’t blood, but endless flames. It wrapped around their bodies and left no gaps.

After four pitiful screams, the world quieted down once again. Qin Yu could only hear the sounds of panting in his ears.

Zero looked at him, her eyes faint. “You aren’t afraid I will kill you?”

At this moment, her expression was cold like an asura...her terrifying aura was without end!

Chapter 953 – Meeting the Li Family’s Sword Maniac Again

Qin Yu shook his head, "I don't think you will."

"Why not?"

Qin Yu thought for a moment. "Because you should be hoping that I can find the Origin God's corpse with you...although I don't know for what reason."

Zero restrained her aura. "Your guess is correct, but that doesn't mean you won't have to pay a price. The favor I owed you for your help is repaid with this. In addition, I don't have much strength remaining, so if you really don't want to die, then make sure you protect me well."

Qin Yu earnestly nodded, "I promise."

Zero closed her eyes. When she opened them again, she was still herself, but no longer what she was.

Although this explanation was a bit convoluted, the meaning was easy to understand.

She looked at Qin Yu, panic and fear in her eyes. She mumbled, "I'm scared, I don't want to die..."

But it was clear she understood what had happened to her. She just had no strength to change it.

Qin Yu was silent for several breaths of time. He slowly said, "Don't worry. You will survive."

Zero's eyes widened. "Really?"

Qin Yu nodded.

Zero smiled. Although it was a bit forced, one could feel the ease coming from her heart.

As if she trusted Qin Yu's words.

"Are you really called Zero?"

"Mm."

"Why?"

"I'm an orphan."

Without any further explanation, there was a bit more warmth in Qin Yu's eyes when he looked at her.

"Let's go." As Qin Yu spoke he stretched out his arms to her. "If you're tired, you can sleep for a moment. Just like before."

Zero bit her lips and nodded. She leaned into Qin Yu's arms and closed her eyes, soon falling into a deep sleep.

Qin Yu looked up, glancing deep into the vast world. Then he shot into the skies. He was currently in an extremely distressed state, and his wounds were severe. They were so severe that his consciousness could collapse and he could fall into a coma at any moment.

But he had to leave this place. Zero's battle with the blood phantom had been too earth-shaking. It had managed to draw in a group of six robber cultivators, and it could bring even more.

The blue and black blood vessels on the earth constantly bulged and contracted, as if a mighty heart were beating through them.

All of the cultivators who made it past the barrier of broken world fragments and arrived here were shocked before coming to realize something – they could no longer land on the ground. This was because once the blue and black blood vessels sensed the approach of living creatures, they would rush over and wildly entangle them, crushing them into pieces and drawing them into the earth.

If it was just this, then for strong cultivators it wouldn't be too difficult to deal with. After all, with their cultivation it was simple to stay high in the skies.

But it was clear that things weren't so simple, because there really was fresh blood flowing through these blue and black blood vessels.

And the flowing of this fresh blood emitted a sound. Listening to it, it was like several flowing brooks coming together. At the beginning there wasn't any problem listening to this, but as time passed, strange changes would occur.

The sound of flowing blood was like demonic whispers. It could affect the heart and mind of a cultivator. If they weren't able to fend it off, then it would eventually take control of their body.

And the end result of that was...

"Come back, Qian Rong, come back!" A man shouted, blood splashing out from his mouth and nose. His robes were torn open at the chest, revealing the slender palm print of a woman. The exposed skin was covered in frost, beginning to turn blue and black.

He struggled as he tried to catch up, but he was pulled back by a person beside him. The person said, "Yun Zong, she has already lost her mind and can no longer be helped! If you continue to approach her, she will kill you!"

"Ahh!" Yun Zong screamed in pain. "Why, why did this happen!?"

He stared on helplessly as the woman called Qian Rong calmly sat down on the ground. She allowed the blue and black blood vessels to envelop her in layers.

And soon after, the blood vessels contracted and contracted again. The sound of breaking flesh and bones filled the air, slowly dying down. Thick and viscous blood flowed out. When it poured onto the ground it was absorbed in the blink of an eye, becoming a part of it.

And from beginning to end, this woman showed no signs of resistance. She didn't reveal any pain or agony either.

As if in her eyes, being killed and having her flesh and blood mix into the ground was the most fortunate matter of her life – and her actions were the best evidence of this.

The cultivators who broke in were caught by this demonic sound. While they were frightened, they had no way to escape it.

Because the ground beneath their feet was all red. And wherever there was red, there were also blue and black blood vessels.

It wasn't that no one tried to destroy the blood vessels to clear out a safe place to rest.

But, their attempts all failed – anyone who tried was enveloped in thick blood, dissolving without a trace and becoming a part of it.

Since they couldn't evade them or destroy them, they could only continue forward.

If they found the source of these blood vessels, perhaps there was a chance they could survive. And in the eyes of some formidable cultivators, the place where these blood vessels converged was likely to be where the corpse of the Origin God was!

Some people were filled with despair and fear, some people cried in pain, some people had eyes filled with ambition and burning heat...but no one knew that the nightmare was only just beginning. When it finally arrived, everyone would become its prey.

No...the term 'prey' might be too soft. Perhaps describing it as 'food' was more accurate.

Qin Yu had no idea what dangers awaited him in the future. After calculating the time, he feared that Lei Xiaoyu could only last for ten more days or so, so he had no choice but to quicken his pace.

As he flew through the air, Zero woke up. Her condition was still poor. She lay on Qin Yu's back. There was a dignified look in their eyes as they saw the ground below them.

Along the way, he had seen many instances where cultivators took the initiative to passively die. So they also knew of the existence of the demonic sound.

Luckily, Qin Yu had the sun and moon force field as well as the jade embryo egg. As for Zero, perhaps because of the unknown existence within her, the two of them were completely unaffected by the sounds.

So although they were a little slower in breaking past the barrier of world fragments, they had caught up to those in the front. In fact, they had entered the front lines of the race.

Suddenly, Qin Yu slowed down. Zero raised her head and looked ahead.

A camp was hanging in midair and there were bright lamps all around. It was unknown what sort of fuel they were lit with, but it made one feel warm and safe.

Outside the camp, several eyes had noticed the paused Qin Yu and Zero.

"Eh?" Someone shouted in astonishment.

"Humph!"

There were also some people that coldly sneered with icy intent.

Li Hongyi furrowed her eyebrows. She looked at Qin Yu and also the pallid and weak Zero on his back.

It was unknown what she was thinking, but her eyebrows tightened together and her eyes turned even colder.

She stood up, a sword cry echoing around her. Invisible sword intent formed between the world, crossing through space to lock onto them.

Qin Yu rubbed his forehead, completely speechless. He had no idea whether he should laugh or cry.

But thinking about it, with her cultivation, it was reasonable for her to be at the front.

However, it seemed that his luck really was bad. He had encountered her for a third time.

The Li Family's Sword Maniac, Li Hongyi...

He had no idea what this woman was thinking in that mind of hers, but every time they met, her attitude was increasingly poor.

Whoosh –

With the sound of piercing air, Li Hongyi held her sword in front of her. Her voice was indifferent and cold.

“I said that you should not appear in front of me again. It seems you did not remember.”

Chapter 954 – Defend Against Injustice

In truth, Qin Yu knew what the reason was behind Li Hongyi's change in attitude.

He recalled Lei Xiaoyu who he had hidden away in the cave of the powerful dragon beast, and he couldn't help but think cold thoughts.

So after a brief pause, he said, “I am leaving now. Is it still too late?”

It seemed that Li Hongyi never imagined Qin Yu would react like this, just bowing his head and leaving.

Really, after suffering the attack from the God Mark Holy Stone, had all of his self-confidence been destroyed? Was there not a single drop of his pride left behind?

For some unknown reason, anger gushed out in her heart and her expression became colder. “There's no more time.” She lifted a hand. There was the sudden cry of a sword as a dense wind whipped into existence.

Although there was still a long distance separating them, Qin Yu could feel a stabbing pain rushing at him, as if he were facing the wind from an early winter morning.

At this time, Qin Yu couldn't help but inwardly praise her. She really was worthy of the title ‘Sword Maniac’. In a mere ten days, her sword cultivation had risen considerably.

As he thought, true cultivation geniuses existed in this world.

From the very beginning, Qin Yu was well aware of himself. He was just an ordinary person. Him being able to triumphantly rise to his current heights, possessing the strength to crush his peers and even fight above realms, was all thanks to the cards he had obtained through luck and chance.

Although luck and chance was also a part of a cultivator's strength, in terms of talent, Qin Yu was inferior. Of course, he wasn't belittling himself. Qin Yu could face anyone without shame and say he had his current cultivation base thanks to his hard work and perseverance.

Zhuo Han revealed a mocking expression, as if he could already see Qin Yu's bloodied image after being struck by this sword.

He didn't doubt Li Hongyi's strength at all. So if he were ever to discover what Qin Yu was thinking about right now, he would surely curse him for not knowing what death and danger were.

But what a pity, Li Hongyi's sword never came cutting down. A figure fluttered over and blocked Qin Yu's front.

Li Hongyi furrowed her eyebrows. She asked without expression, "Why?"

Silent Kite, "He is an old friend of mine."

"Old friend?" Li Hongyi frowned, her eyes as sharp as swords. "I never heard of this at the imperial capital."

Silent Kite's expression didn't change. "You should know I have no need to lie."

There was a deeper meaning behind her words.

If I am to protect someone, then not even you, the Li Family's Sword Maniac, will be able to harm them.

Li Hongyi's eyebrows rose up, adding a solemnness and heroic vigor to her faint expression. Her meaning was – since you're so confident in yourself, why don't we test and see whether my sword can pierce through your protection?

Zhuo Han hurriedly said, "Miss, please calm down. Fellow daoist Qin Yu's actions might be despicable, but there is no direct conflict between us. Since Miss Silent Kite has spoken up on his behalf, I ask that miss please pardon him. Do not ruin your friendship for such a person."

Li Hongyi was silent for several breaths of time. She put away her sword and turned around, "I won't attack him, but he must leave immediately."

Zhuo Han cupped his hands together towards Silent Kite. "The miss has already made concessions. I ask Miss Silent Kite for understanding..." He paused for a moment and glanced at Qin Yu. "Allow me to take the liberty to remind Miss Silent Kite. Even if someone is an old friend, you should try to recognize their true appearance as soon as possible."

He shook his head and walked away.

Silent Kite frowned, not saying anything. She looked at Qin Yu and quietly asked, "I'll only ask this once. Is Miss Lei still alive?"

Qin Yu felt a bit awkward. He had no idea when he had revealed a flaw in his disguise, but it was clear that Silent Kite had sensed something. Moreover, when she faced the Sword Maniac to protect him...although he didn't need it, it was still a favor.

And most importantly, Qin Yu could sense the precious emotions of a girl in Silent Kite's eyes. It was trembling right now, as if it could break apart at any moment.

So after thinking about it, he decided to maintain his silence. After cupping his hands together to express his thanks, he lifted Zero up and turned to leave.

Silent Kite's eyes flashed with light and she smiled. In her eyes, Qin Yu's silence was a sufficient answer. If he really had abandoned Lei Xiaoyu, he wouldn't be so hesitant. If so, there was only one explanation – she was alive and well.

Although she had no idea what the specifics were, as long as Lei Xiaoyu was still alive, then the biggest stain on Qin Yu's name did not exist.

Silent Kite really was happy...moreover, what she was even happier about was that Qin Yu didn't deny they were old friends.

This proved her initial guess was right. It really was him!

Of course, the reason Silent Kite was overjoyed was all established on this premise...if he was a stranger, what did it matter if he was good or bad?

Watching Qin Yu leave the scope of the camp, Silent Kite loudly said, "A thousand feet ahead, the power of the demonic sound increases to a whole new level. It is extremely formidable. You should make preparations before attempting to break through."

Qin Yu paused. He turned and glanced at her, nodding before changing direction.

Silent Kite's eyes widened. She watched as Qin Yu carried Zero, making a big circle to avoid the camp and then continue forward.

Did he not hear her warning? No, that wasn't right. Qin Yu had clearly nodded at her in acknowledgement.

Shua –

With a flicker of light, Silent Kite blocked his path. "You can't go there!"

Qin Yu said, "I thank Miss Silent Kite for the advice, but I know what I'm doing."

These words...she seemed to have heard them somewhere before.

Silent Kite's mind flew far away, returning to when she was captured in the obam's territory. At that time, Qin Yu was just like this. And reality proved that he could accomplish things that were seemingly impossible.

As she was lost in a daze, Qin Yu moved around her and continued forward.

It was clear that Silent Kite's voice had attracted many eyes from the camp.

Li Hongyi was expressionless. It was unknown what she was thinking about, but her eyes were quiet and cold.

Zhuo Han sneered, "Reckless and blind."

He had personally experienced the demonic sounds coming from the streams of flowing blood in front. Even if no one in this camp was weak, perhaps only Li Hongyi could resist it.

As for Qin Yu?

He was courting death!

Could it be that his last dregs of pride were aroused just now?

If this was true, then it was no surprise that this sort of person, the kind who had no idea of their own worth or weight, would be unable to recover from the setback of the God Mark Holy Stone.

However, Qin Yu's affinity with women still left him feeling envious.

Lei Xiaoyu, Silent Kite, and also Zero, who he was carrying on his back, these were all uniquely beautiful women.

And most importantly, Zhuo Han could faintly feel a strange mood coming from Li Hongyi.

This was the root reason he was so hostile towards Qin Yu!

There weren't many cultivators at the camp, and not all of them knew who Qin Yu was. After asking around, a thoughtful look came across many eyes.

Silent Kite had personally appeared to save him, but he clearly didn't treasure his life. Such a person was really 'special'.

Whatever. They would just take it as watching a brief play to relax their tense hearts.

Zero lay against Qin Yu's body. She could feel his broad and solid shoulders as well as his strong and steady heartbeat. It was calm, just like how it was at the beginning, without any change at all.

It was clear that the judgment and looks of these outsiders was unable to affect his mind.

This was a true man, someone whose thoughts and feelings were as stable as a rock, unmoved by any outside influence.

Hum hum, you people don't understand anything!

Without reason, Zero felt proud. She couldn't help but fight for injustice on Qin Yu's behalf.

This sort of feeling was as if her own family member had been misunderstood and mocked by others.

That's right, it was family. This was what Zero felt towards Qin Yu from the depths of her heart.

This was why she let Qin Yu carry her and slept against him.

Zero took a deep breath and sat up. She turned back to look at the camp, a cold expression on her face. She slowly said, "Sometimes, I don't understand why some people think they are cleverer than they actually are. Do they not know how embarrassing it is when they are brought back to reality?"

Her voice wasn't loud but it spread everywhere. Because she used her cultivation, her complexion paled and her breathing sped up. But, she was satisfied, because these people would soon realize what it was like to be slapped in the face.

Mm, it was bound to be interesting!

Chapter 955 – The Smart Zhuo Han

Qin Yu revealed a helpless expression. But, he could clearly feel that Zero's actions all came from the bottom of her heart and she was trying to right the injustices committed against him. So when he turned his head and looked at her, he only smiled, quietly mocking himself that his self-discipline was still lacking.

To not be moved by outside factors...to be honest, he was simply suppressing his inner emotions, so at this time he did feel somewhat refreshed.

Sure enough, while the instinct of maintaining face and being popular might seem vain and boring, it was deeply imprinted in every person's heart.

Regardless of whether a person acknowledged its existence or not, it was still there.

He turned his face back forward and let out a breath. Since he wanted to give these people a slap, it was inevitable that he was going to offend others. Then, he might as well make this slap perfect so that his mood was better.

"Let's go."

"Mm."

Qin Yu stepped forward. The demonic sounds of the blood stream grew far more intense, like countless mosquitoes buzzing in his ears.

But mosquitoes were just mosquitoes. Besides being annoying, they weren't too significant, nor could they cause any true damage to him.

Zero lay on his back, not reacting at all. It was clear that with the tyrannical existence in her body, these minor mind-manipulating methods weren't able to affect her at all.

So when the eyes gathered on their backs, gazes filled with disdain, mockery, confusion...all these moods suddenly froze up.

Mouths subconsciously fell open in shock. Some people rubbed their eyes, then rubbed their eyes again until they were red, but still they couldn't believe what they saw.

They...had left like that.

Only by personally experiencing the demonic sounds of the blood stream and having its might increase by ten times or even more, would one understand how terrifying it actually was.

They were like countless thick and rusty needles stabbing into one's brain and wildly stirring around.

It did this not to control a cultivator's mind, but to directly destroy their will. As their mind collapsed, all that remained was their body, one that was easily manipulated.

Because of this, these people had no choice but to stop here and find some way to weaken or shield against the blood stream's demonic sounds.

But now, these two people they ridiculed as being idiots seeking death, had walked right into the chaos. They didn't stop, as if nothing happened to them at all.

Qin Yu and Zero continued forward without looking back. But, this silence was in itself the greatest taunt of all.

As they thought back to what Zero said when she turned her head, the people in the camp felt angry with shame. At this time...their faces really did hurt.

Zhuo Han sucked in a deep breath, suppressing his roiling thoughts. "I don't believe this. There must be a problem. With just him...this is impossible!"

He took a step forward and flew out from the camp. Soon, he crossed a thousand feet and entered into the region of the demonic sounds.

Hu –

In an instant, Zhuo Han's face drained of all blood. Blue veins stuck out on his neck as he forcibly restrained the scream coming from his throat. He withdrew in panic.

The demonic sounds were still there...it was true...it was all true...

Zhuo Han clenched his teeth. He turned and flew out again. This just happened to be the area where Qin Yu and Zero stepped into the region of demonic sounds.

He entered quickly and retreated just as quickly. The last trace of luck vanished from his mind.

Perhaps because the contrast between reality and imagination was too great, Zhuo Han was lost in an absentminded daze.

The entire camp was silent!

Zhuo Han's actions had confirmed what they were all thinking. They could not withstand the terrifying power of the demonic sound.

But Qin Yu and that obviously weak woman had unexpectedly been able to completely disregard it.

Abandoning all else, just this point proved that those two people far surpassed them.

After being abandoned by the God Mark Holy Stone, experiencing a bitter attack and becoming a holy forsaken, never to recover...all of this was just a great joke.

Had anyone ever seen a holy forsaken as strong as this before?

Li Hongyi was silent. She watched Qin Yu and Zero gradually fade away. Her eyes were deep and it was unknown what she was thinking, but her quickened breathing proved that she wasn't as calm as she appeared to be.

"Qin Yu..."

Silent Kite let out a breath. She suddenly realized something. On the day when the God Mark Holy Stone arrived, perhaps things weren't as simple as they seemed.

As she thought about the words Zero said, she was even surer of this. So, a smile widened across her face. She suddenly felt relaxed and happy.

To touch the God Mark Holy Stone and cause 3000 Great Daos to descend...if Qin Yu was fine, then the harvests he received on that day must have been beyond anyone's expectations.

However, this was the direction the script should have gone in to begin with. After all, he was someone who survived and escaped from the Great Dragon Overlord's claws.

Then a thought crossed Silent Kite's mind like lightning. She thought back to the mysterious cultivator who had suddenly appeared and joined forces with her father to cut down the Great Dragon Overlord.

Could that person also have been Qin Yu? The more she thought about this, the more likely it seemed!

On that day, after the Great Dragon Overlord was slain, Celestial Retribution conducted a deep investigation to find out information on that cultivator. But, they hadn't been able to discover any clues about him.

It was as if he had emerged out of thin air and vanished just as quickly, without leaving any traces of himself behind.

If this person didn't exist to begin with and was only someone pretending to be someone else, then it was naturally impossible for Celestial Retribution to find any traces of him.

With this, everything was explained.

Silent Kite suddenly laughed. She laughed because of her own shallowness and she laughed at the ignorance of these people around her.

They thought she had participated in the slaying of the Great Dragon Overlord, yet she hadn't shown up at that battle at all. Even so, she was regarded as one of the leading geniuses of the younger generation. Then, what sort of appraisal would Qin Yu be given, who participated in the battle and personally slayed the Great Dragon Overlord?

Perhaps even the so-called number one genius Xiao Qi would be impossibly far behind when compared to him.

No wonder Qin Yu had maintained his silence all along, not caring about what others thought about him.

In his opinion, maybe all of this was pathetic and ridiculous, not even worth his time to care about.

Strictly speaking, Silent Kite was also one of those people who was ignored, but she didn't feel any shame or anger. Rather, like Zero, she felt a bit of pride.

Perhaps it was because they had once fought side-by-side. Moreover, Qin Yu had once saved her life and saved her father's life.

As Silent Kite thought about this, she tried her best to keep her happiness locked in. But, her heart inevitably beat faster and her face flushed red, making her seem even more beautiful.

Zhuo Han returned to the camp. He just happened to see this. Although he didn't have any thoughts towards Silent Kite, he was a young man who cared about all beautiful women.

If before he had three points of hostility and seven points of disdain towards Qin Yu, then now he had seven points of hostility, two points of dread, and one point of fear that he wasn't willing to acknowledge.

He swept his eyes around. At some unknown time, people had stepped out of the camp and were staring at the direction Qin Yu and Zero departed in. Sensing the subtle emotions in their eyes, he thought he should say something.

"I don't believe he was able to achieve this with his own strength."

Seeing eyes gathering onto him, Zhuo Han drew in a breath and repeated his words. He then said, "We were all able to sense his cultivation. He absolutely hasn't entered into the God boundary. In other words, compared to you or me, he has only opened a few more paths to the God boundary.

"Miss Li is here. We all understand how strong she is. While she hasn't fought with Xiao Qi, I believe she isn't any weaker than he is. And Xiao Qi is the fabled super genius who has opened eight paths to the God boundary. Do you think Qin Yu is stronger than him?"

"Okay. Taking a step back, even if Qin Yu is stronger, then at most he has opened nine paths to the God boundary. Before reaching the God boundary, that is the limit one can reach. The disparity of a single path to the God boundary is large, but it absolutely isn't to the degree that we just saw."

Everyone's eyes began to shine. It was clear they started to believe his words. Because what they saw was far too shocking and unbelievable.

If Qin Yu was barely able to resist the blood stream's demonic sound then that was fine...but he crossed through it like he didn't sense anything at all.

Zhou Han took a deep breath, as if he wanted to vent all the anger in his chest. "And, there is one more point, the most important point. Don't forget that he was carrying a clearly injured woman on his back, one with a weak aura.

"It is impossible for a person to borrow the strength of another to block out the blood stream's demonic sound. We have already experimented and verified this. Qin Yu might be incredibly strong, but if that injured woman can pass through just like he did, then what is she depending on?"

"Treasure!" A cultivator standing outside the camp shouted out.

The eyes of the other people lit up, immediately revealing annoyance and regret.

Zhuo Han coldly sneered, "That's right, I am also thinking what you are all thinking. It seems that we have all been played with by this fellow daoist Qin. He deliberately used this shocking method to have a great impact on us, directly walking into the demonic sound region before we could react. This way, he was able to avoid the dangers of having been discovered with a treasure.

"I can't help but acknowledge that during my two encounters with fellow daoist Qin Yu, I have had to constantly reform my opinion of him. But in any case, he is a truly intelligent person. I really must admire him. Still, I have to say that he is a villain.

“Disregarding you and me, Miss Silent Kite didn’t hesitate to confront Miss Li Hongyi because of him. But, this person showed no intention of bringing Miss Silent Kite with him. Thinking about it, it’s likely to avoid the treasure becoming known to us in advance.

“While fellow daoist Qin Yu is reasonable for doing this, I still believe he is a true villain. So Miss Silent Kite, you really shouldn’t protect him.”

His last sentence implied something.

If you didn’t protect him, Qin Yu would have been wounded or killed by Li Hongyi. How could he have easily left into the strengthened demonic sound region? Perhaps that treasure he has might have fallen into their hands and helped them solve their conundrum.

Although Zhuo Han didn’t say this out loud, everyone here was wise enough to know what he meant. While Zhuo Han’s words were a bit suspicious in hindsight, they couldn’t help but agree.

So between their eyes, there was a bit of blame.

Chapter 956 – The Same Snowfield

Silent Kite suddenly thought this was all laughable. She felt sad for these people around her, and also felt ashamed that she had considered them her companions at one point.

Most of these people held the title of genius, but with their eyes held so high they couldn’t see anything below them, so how could they stand steady and truly reflect on themselves?

That’s right, Silent Kite acknowledged that Zhuo Han’s words were reasonable. When she heard them, she also wavered for a moment.

But she knew in her heart that all the things Zhuo Han said were self-righteous assumptions...and these assumptions were definitely wrong.

Qin Yu is not a villain, all of you are.

Sensing the vague eyes on her, Silent Kite thought for a while and decided not to explain anything.

She looked at Zhuo Han and lightly said, “Perhaps what you said is right. Since I made a mistake, I won’t continue to drag you all down. Then, I’ll be parting ways with you here.”

As her voice fell she turned and left. Her figure flickered and she vanished into the distance.

This result was completely unexpected. Everyone standing outside the camp was left stunned and shaken once again.

It was obvious they never imagined Silent Kite would give such a fierce response, even directly leaving on her own.

In all fairness, everyone knew that within the entire camp, besides that Sword Maniac Li, the strongest one was Silent Kite. Moreover, the Light Guard cultivation technique she trained in was able to restrain all demons and darkness. Her ability to resist the blood stream’s demonic sound was likely no weaker than Sword Maniac Li’s.

Originally, everyone was discussing a plan that placed Li Hongyi and Silent Kite at the center. They would combine their powers in an array formation to resist the blood stream's demonic sound.

But now, before the plan had begun, it had been cancelled.

Qin Yu left, vanishing beyond their line of sight. He had likely passed beyond the strengthened demonic sound region and it was impossible for them to think about seizing his treasure.

Now Silent Kite had also left...what could they do?

So some people started to look at Zhuo Han with ill intent.

No matter how smart you are, able to find the truth from the smallest details, why did you target Silent Kite?

This was the kind of person that talked themselves to death!

Zhuo Han's face darkened. But facing these eyes, he couldn't express anything. He had enraged the crowd. If he said anything else there was bound to be an acrimonious fall-out.

Although he was confident in his strength, if he was plotted against in the Severed Heaven Abyss, he feared he would die before he had the chance to respond.

Li Hongyi ended this farce. She appeared in the crowd, her cold eyes sweeping around. "Stop wasting time. We will try to enter by tomorrow at the latest."

Her voice fell and she moved back to the camp. There was no expression on her face and her eyes remained faint.

She was the Li Family's Sword Maniac. She had poured all of her life and soul into the sword, and her personality had become one with her sword intent. Even if she made a mistake, she would not lower her head.

Moreover, Sword Maniac Li didn't believe she had made a real mistake anywhere.

Qin Yu...if you really have been hiding yourself until now, I still despise you.

A man should stand tall and upright; he shouldn't need to hide his head and show his tail. Are you afraid of walking honestly and openly in the world?

You and I will eventually meet again. At that time, I will defeat you with the sword in my hand!

Bang –

The void thundered with endless sword cries. They were like roaring waves, reverberating into eternity!

....

Qin Yu suddenly furrowed his eyebrows. He turned his head back. For some reason, a startling feeling passed over his heart.

As if some extremely fierce animal had locked onto him.

Zero said, "What is it?"

Qin Yu shook his head, "It's nothing." He suppressed his surprise and asked, "How much farther until we arrive?"

Zero closed her eyes as if sensing something. When she opened them, her face was a little more pale and even her voice sounded weaker.

"We're close. As long as we pass through here, we can reach the final point.

"He...is there."

Qin Yu's heart trembled. While Zero said that the fallen Origin God in the Severed Heaven Abyss had thoroughly died...he thought back to when the earth split open and the thick blood vessels broke apart, condensing into a terrifying blood phantom that fought Zero...it was clear things weren't so simple.

At least, not as simple as Zero described it.

In Qin Yu's opinion, finding the Origin God's corpse wouldn't be the end. Rather, it would be the beginning of a grand play.

Qin Yu should have the qualifications to step onto the stage of this great play. But, as for whether he could survive until the plot finished? That would depend on his fate.

An hour later, the demonic sound vanished. Qin Yu's heart relaxed and the thundering roars from his chest began to calm down.

But this relaxation only lasted for a short period. He couldn't help but furrow his eyebrows together. Because at this time, it was far too cold.

With Qin Yu's current cultivation, it was an exaggeration to say he could battle his way across the Divine Dao boundary. But if he were truly engaged in brutal combat, there weren't many God boundary experts that could suppress him.

He felt cold...basically, this could be taken as a joke, but it was also the truth.

An extreme cold flooded the heavens and earth, covering every inch of space. And the most terrifying point was that his cultivation wasn't able to resist it at all.

The cold was like sharp needles that seized upon every opening to pierce through his flesh and blood, digging deep into his marrow.

"Ahhh!" Zero shouted. A faint blue color appeared on her pale face.

Her body shivered and she subconsciously held onto Qin Yu as if she wanted to melt into his body.

"It's so cold!"

Qin Yu let out a breath, which instantly froze into a white fog that crashed down in shards of ice.

At this time, without need for his orders, his two hearts started to beat with all their strength, pushing blood through his body. His blood began to boil over and roar as it circulated through him.

Due to the extreme cold trying to break into his body, the formidable attributes of the Ancient race's Undying Body were thoroughly activated.

Countless years ago, the heavens and earth were called the Great Desolate. The Ancient race was born in a land of bitter cold. They could grow to over 100,000 feet in height and they had an indomitable spirit as well as infinite power. They could lift their hands and pluck down the stars and the moon, and when they took a step they could shatter mountains and rivers!

At that time, the environment of the Great Desolate was innumerable times worse than where Qin Yu was now. But, the Ancients still survived and even flourished for a time.

Now, while the Ancients were nearly extinct, the power fused into their bloodline had been passed down intact.

The power of cold...unless it was tyrannical to the point where it could freeze the world solid, even making the rules unable to revolve, then it wasn't a problem for an Ancient.

In Qin Yu's senses, that incomparably terrifying cold retreated like a falling tide. He felt like a blazing oven. Even a massive iceberg could easily be melted by him!

Zero's complexion improved and warmth returned to her frozen limbs. She felt as if she were holding onto a stone that had been roasted red. All of the freezing chill was pushed back, unable to come any closer.

Everyone had their own secrets. She smartly didn't ask anything else. She only stuck herself closer to Qin Yu.

Thus, she felt warmth and comfort. Even her injuries dissipated a great deal.

"Are you alright?"

"Mm."

"Then let's hurry along."

The simple conversation came to an end. Qin Yu stepped forward. Although he was able to cross a thousand feet with one step, his pace was much slower than before.

The air gradually became colder. If the Ancient race's bloodline didn't have a formidable ability to resist the power of cold, then Qin Yu didn't doubt he would have frozen to death.

Suddenly, Qin Yu came to a stop. The ground had been frozen solid due to the extreme cold, but where he stepped now, the ice began to dissolve into a white mist.

As the mist lingered around, Qin Yu narrowed his eyes. He determined that he wasn't seeing things. A snowfield appeared in front of him.

Moreover, this snowfield gave off a vaguely familiar feeling.

After a period of silence, Qin Yu continued forward. The closer he got to the snowfield, the tighter his eyebrows became. When he stopped once again, he knew for sure that this snowfield was the same one they had come to when they first arrived at the Severed Heaven Abyss.

As if a mirror had produced a reflection of that snowfield and projected it here in front of Qin Yu.

But it was clear that this snowfield which was completely alike in appearance was far colder than the snowfield outside.

Mm...in fact, Qin Yu couldn't even determine which of these two snowfields was the reflection...

There was a greater possibility that the snowfield outside was the shadow...in this world, there was no logic in the shadow being more terrifying than the true self.

Since he saw the same snowfield, did that mean there was a similar crack that led to the abyss?

Qin Yu pursed his lips. He lifted Zero and continued forward.

Guessing wouldn't solve anything. Only his own eyes would give him the final answer.

This snowfield didn't seem far and was right in their line of sight. But, approaching it wasn't easy at all. Perhaps because this space couldn't withstand the extreme cold, it was distorted and folded up.

So Qin Yu spent at least five times the estimated time to approach the edge of this snowfield.

Dark golden light surged in his eyes. His gaze crossed over the endless white snow to fall into the distance...

As he thought, a pitch black crack appeared at the edge of his vision. It was incomparably deep, like a great open mouth. This wasn't a description, but the first thought that popped up in his mind when he saw it. It was accompanied with an intense sense of fear.

As if this pitch black crack could jump up at any moment, revealing sharp fangs and ripping him to shreds.

Qin Yu stiffened in place, not moving, as if he was being stared at by an apex predator. Cold sweat seeped out from his back and drenched his robes.

On his back, Zero's fearful expression faded away like the tide, turning cold and faint, without any waves.

She calmly looked at the snowfield and the distant crack in the earth. She patted Qin Yu's back and calmly said, "We've arrived."

With this pat, Qin Yu freed himself from that inexplicable state of horror. He gasped for breath, subconsciously withdrawing.

Zero said, "In this world, fear is the most meaningless thing. If you cannot overcome this, how do you plan on climbing the Great Dao?"

She closed her eyes. "Let's go. I'm already impatient to see my old friend."

Her aura disappeared. When Zero opened her eyes again, there was a brief period of vacantness before she violently coughed. A bit of blood spattered out from her nose and mouth. When it landed on Qin Yu's hot body, it immediately evaporated.

Qin Yu sucked in a deep breath. He suddenly understood why he felt that he owed Zero and had to protect her life.

So it was her all along!

Chapter 957 – An Unfair Destiny

Back in the obam's territory, in order to prevent the Ascendant Bluegold Array from being broken, Qin Yu decided to kill the fallen human array formation master, Blue Torrent. This person was incomparably strong, and the only reason Qin Yu managed to succeed in the end was all because one person bought time for him.

That person's name was Hu An. He fought until his mortal body finally collapsed and all that remained was his head. Before he died, Qin Yu made a promise to him...

Zero was the person that he told Hu An he would find.

He took out a jade bottle that had a drop of blood sealed inside. With a thought, the bottle's seal vanished.

Hum –

The drop of blood gently trembled. Leaning on Qin Yu's back, Zero suddenly stiffened, her eyes going wide as she looked at the bottle.

"This...this is..."

With this, he was sure.

Qin Yu took a deep breath. He felt the cold slowly flow through his chest and stomach before he breathed it back out. "This drop of blood came from your father."

Zero's eyes widened even further. "Father?"

Qin Yu didn't conceal anything. He explained what happened to Hu An. When he felt Zero shake, he said, "I was only acquainted with your father briefly and I have no idea what happened in the past. But, not once has he ever forgotten about you. Even as he died, his only wish was that I could find you and make up a little for what he lacked so much as a father."

Tears began to flow from Zero's eyes. She never imagined that in this lifetime, she would be able to learn about her family.

But why was he already dead?

After a long silence, Zero wiped away her tears. She quietly mumbled, "What was his name?"

"Hu An." Qin Yu hesitated for a moment, "As far as I know, he was related to Celestial Retribution."

Zero whispered in a low voice, "Hu An...then, did he tell you my name?"

Qin Yu said, "Hu Shan. It's a name that means coral."

Zero smiled. "So I had a name all along. Hu Shan...my name is Hu Shan..." She closed her eyes and gently laid down on Qin Yu's back. "You should be my father's friend. Then according to our ranks, I should call you uncle...this is a strange feeling. I suddenly feel as if I still have family in this world. No wonder I felt so close to you.

“Uncle Qin...this title is a bit awkward...I really thank you for not hiding this from me. Now, I’m a little tired. I’m going to close my eyes and rest a little. I’ll have to trouble Uncle Qin with protecting me...”

Her voice gradually faded away. Although her expression was calm, her heart and mind were in chaos.

Qin Yu said, “Alright.”

In truth, there were still some words he hid in his heart and didn’t speak. Since I made a promise with your father, I will do my best to help you survive.

Zero was Hu Shan, and Hu Shan was Hu An’s daughter. In a way, Qin Yu owed Hu An a life...this method of calculation was a bit complex and strange, but it was a good way to return it. Qin Yu determined that he owed her a great deal.

If so, then some previous thoughts of his needed to change.

At the very least, he couldn’t watch on helplessly as the woman hidden in Hu Shan’s body continued to recklessly destroy her vitality. Each time Hu Shan borrowed that woman’s strength, or each time that woman regained consciousness at the point of death, that caused immense damage to Hu Shan.

But how could he save her?

He couldn’t figure out the answer right now. He could only take a deep breath and suppress the tumbling thoughts in his heart and the bitterness in his mouth.

First there was Lei Xiaoyu, now there was Hu Shan...and being in the Severed Heaven Abyss placed him in great danger to begin with. Surviving here was difficult enough, but now there was a person on each of his shoulders.

You damned thief heavens, you really must think highly of me!

...

Great Chu’s Imperial Palace.

Zenith Sovereign Hall.

This magnificent and splendid imperial palace gathered the destiny of the nation. Even so, it couldn’t conceal the flavor of decay and the hint of chill in the air.

The First Emperor sat down. He occasionally coughed. Although it wasn’t fierce, it gave off a weak and frail feeling.

Many years ago, a rumor spread from the imperial palace that problems were beginning to occur with the First Emperor’s body. But since he was still putting on an unbelievably powerful front, after a few brief probes, all disturbances faded away.

There were even some people who clenched their teeth, believing that the First Emperor was deliberately trying to fish for traitors. But in reality, there was indeed a problem with Chu Tianpeng’s body.

Ever since he tried to break through the limits of his cultivation and suffered a backlash from his failure, the source of his doom had been planted.

At first he was still able to suppress it. But as time passed, it gradually spiraled out of his control. He had no choice but to consume his own vitality in order to maintain his current cultivation boundary.

Today, in the eyes of outsiders, he was still the First Emperor of the Great Chu Empire, a being as bright as the great sun. But, he was actually a lamp that was nearly out of oil.

Chu Tianpeng wasn't willing to perish like this. And, the Great Chu Empire absolutely could not lose this towering pillar of support.

Otherwise the great empire would collapse within a day. They would have no ability to resist those man-eating obam on the other side of Overwatch Mountain!

Whether it was for himself, the continuation of the empire, or even to maintain the human race, the First Emperor believed he needed to keep on living.

Even if he had to abandon his own faith, crash into the abyss, and become a monster corroded by the darkness.

Suddenly, in a gloomier corner of the hall, faint traces of dark aura started to flow upwards into the outline of a figure.

The First Emperor wiped the corners of his mouth, cleaning away the putrid saliva. He said, "Has the opportunity arrived?"

A blurry face appeared in the shadows. He chuckled and said, "Yes. So, it's time for Your Majesty's arrangements to be activated."

The First Emperor faintly nodded. He pressed his palm forward and a blood red light flashed. Something appeared in his hand – it was an exquisite blood red jade.

It was dark red and flawless.

Pa –

With a light sound, the blood red jade broke into countless pieces that tumbled down. But, the pieces vanished in midair, completely disappearing before they reached the ground.

In the shadow, the blurry face laughed. "Your Majesty, be prepared. Once the preparations for the sacrifice are complete, I will open the channel and we will both descend."

The First Emperor said without expression, "I will be waiting."

Shua –

The shadow vanished from sight.

As this seemingly simple scene occurred in Zenith Sovereign Hall, the empire's greatest will arrived at the forefront of the war.

Since the war with the obam started once again, elite legions of the Great Chu Empire had been operating according to command.

The ridge of Overwatch Mountain separated the two great races. It stretched for billions and billions of miles, composed of innumerable mountain ranges.

Currently, there was a region formed from several mountain ranges that was designated as a restricted military zone. The Great Chu Empire's army was stationed in the surrounding area and a massive number of obam prisoners were delivered to it in droves. But, it was unknown what they were being used for.

And, no one had any idea that these obam that were sent here were imprisoned in cages, waiting for a certain time.

Now, that time had arrived.

The ones responsible for watching over the obam captives were elites drawn from the imperial army. They were supremely loyal to the royal family.

The commander took off his fierce helmet to reveal the face of a handsome young cultivator. His name was Chu Zhezhong and he came from the noblest bloodline in the world.

Many years ago after he rose through the ranks, he was secretly enlisted into the imperial army. All of the information concerning his identity was erased. To put it simply, everyone here, including him, were already considered dead people.

As a genius of the royal family, he should have had a bright and dazzling future. But because of a reason that couldn't be publicized, he was thrust into the dark for dozens upon dozens of years.

Luckily, this seemingly endless wait was now coming to an end.

Chu Zhezhong smiled and said, "Men, orders have arrived from the imperial capital. It's time to head off."

He lifted a hand and bowed deeply in the manner of the Great Chu Army. "While I haven't been able to accompany you all on the battlefield to slay our enemies for these past years, I can still die here with you all. In a way, that can be considered camaraderie from a fellow soldier. If there comes a day when we can meet underground, I will ask you all for a drink, and talk about today."

"Farewell, General!" A thousand soldiers roared out in unison. All of them had faces covered by visors, so it was impossible to see their true expressions.

Chu Zhezhong put his helmet back on. With a cold and cruel aura, he turned and waved his hand, "Begin." A one-sided slaughter started. In this dark cave hidden deep beneath the mountains, a brutal scene was displayed.

The obam that were imprisoned in cages screamed in despair and fear. Blood drenched the floor. Their heads separated from their bodies, with blood gushing out from mirror-smooth wounds.

If the head was chopped off, it was normal for blood to spurt out. But, the strange thing was that these obam corpses were spewing out far too much blood.

It was like an invisible hand was gripping their corpses and clenching tight, forcefully squeezing out all their blood.

There was just too much blood. As it gathered together, it flooded the underground cave, forming a lake. The obam corpses gradually paled, becoming weightless as they floated on the blood like drained sponges.

The thousand soldiers attacked in unison. The light of sabers constantly flashed in the dark. They continued for a full 12 hours until all the captive obam here were slaughtered.

As the head of the last obam was chopped off, the only sounds that remained in the air were their own loud breathing. Each breath they took drew in the thick stench of blood. But, there was no change reflected in their eyes.

Because they were the most terrifying killing machines in this world!

Chu Zhezhong raised his saber and said, "Everything for the Great Chu Empire!"

"For Great Chu!"

A thousand soldiers roared.

Puff –

Puff –

Blades cut into flesh and blood. Their last strikes were aimed at their own necks. Thus, their heads flew off their necks. As they died, they saw the headless corpses of their fellow soldiers falling into the lake of blood.

Pa –

With a dull thumping sound, all they saw was red as thick blood entered their noses, mouths, ears, and eyes.

Chu Zhezhong smiled. "It's good that I'm going to die now, otherwise it would be too shameful if I were to drown to death..."

That was his final thought.

No one knew that this youth, someone born from the royal family, possessing a noble bloodline and shocking talent, had quietly died here in the depths of Overwatch Mountain, in this cave filled with blood.

He should have lived a completely different life, one that was bright and radiant. But because of an unspeakable reason, he fell to his current state.

If this was destiny, then to him, destiny was far too unfair.

Chapter 958 – Blood Field

Before dying, Chu Zhezhong complained about the unfairness of fate. But he didn't know that besides him, countless people ended their lives in a similar way.

Just on the ridge of Overwatch Mountain, where humanity was waging war against the obam race, at least ten similar instances occurred in underground caves.

In addition, spies buried deep within obam territory joined together, using suicidal methods to erupt with terrifying killing power. They turned obam cities into living purgatories.

And in the empire, the Heavenly Punishment Division moved without warning. After reading out the evidence, 13 rebellions were successively eliminated.

In each place the field was littered with corpses, the blood staining the earth!

There was no right or wrong in a war between races. So while the dead obam could be disregarded right now, a large portion of the 'rebels' slain by the empire could be considered 'innocent'.

But to the First Emperor, none of this mattered. As long as he could survive, what did it matter if a hundred times, or even a thousand times more people died? In terms of significance, his life far outweighed the sum total of all those dead people.

So in the end, fate had nothing to do with fairness. All that mattered was who had the bigger fist...for those that were as weak as ants, that were ultimately their own fault. Who told them to be so weak? That they couldn't even control their life and death?

Millions upon millions of lives died, their blood gathering into a sea. This blood sacrifice that was enough to shock the world once revealed had been completed.

The blood sacrifice was exchanged for boundless strength that far surpassed one's imagination. It would be used to support the arrival of two Origin God existences into the Severed Heaven Abyss.

One person was the First Emperor and the other person had no name...even today, the First Emperor still wasn't able to determine this person's identity. But, there was one thing he knew for certain. Every Great Dao Seizer in this world could be considered his subordinate.

The First Emperor ascended to the top of this world, looking disdainfully down at society. His knowledge far surpassed that of common cultivators, thus he naturally knew more about the Great Dao Seizers. In fact, during his long life, he had personally cut down dozens of them.

He understood how cruel, bloody, and ruthless it was for a Great Dao Seizer to increase their strength...so if there was an Origin God boundary Great Dao Seizer, then unless they managed to reach the Origin God boundary before they degenerated into such a state, then this level of cultivation represented a sea of blood and a mountain of bones!

It was unknown how many amazing and brilliant cultivators had been refined and swallowed, destroyed as they wallowed in fear and unwillingness, all for this person to have an Origin God level cultivation.

Moreover, before the First Emperor reached the Origin God boundary and established the Great Chu Empire, Great Dao Seizers had already been active in the world. With this reference in mind, it was likely that this person's age far surpassed anyone's imagination.

Facing a bloodthirsty old monster who had lived for countless years and survived by consuming others, even the First Emperor didn't dare to underestimate him. In fact, in the depths of his heart, he even felt some vigilance and dread.

So while the First Emperor had agreed to cooperate, from the very beginning he had made other preparations. Of course, he believed that Nameless also realized this, but he didn't worry. If he could dispel any dark thoughts this other person might be hiding, that was more than enough.

This was because the First Emperor's condition couldn't be any worse. He didn't have much more time he could waste doing nothing.

From every dark corner of Zenith Sovereign Hall, black gas gushed out. It was as thick as mud and it slowly gathered together.

A well appeared. This time it was incomparably real. A figure walked out, covered in black robes. He smiled and said, "Your Majesty, the blood sacrifice is complete. We may leave now."

The First Emperor stood up, "Let's go."

The black-robed figure turned and pointed a finger. The round well behind him burst out with an incomparably potent power that flooded the entire hall.

What was strange was that there were no fluctuations outside the hall. Even the imperial palace's great array formation that had been constructed using countless treasures was unable to sense it in the least.

The well slowly expanded until it was ten feet wide. It inside was pitch black, as if it led to eternal death. This Nameless person, who was actually the infamous ancestor of all Great Dao Seizers, stepped forward.

Shua –

His figure vanished from sight as he fell deep into the well.

The First Emperor looked at the well, his eyes deep and profound. It was unknown what he was thinking.

He seemed to be hesitating. Or, perhaps he felt something was wrong.

But finally, after several breaths of silence, the First Emperor stepped into the well.

As mentioned above, he really was running out of time.

Even if he knew he couldn't trust this Nameless person and there would be enormous dangers in entering the Severed Heaven Abyss, he had no other choice...the First Emperor stood on the precipice of destruction. He could not retreat, he could only give it one final struggle!

Following the agreement, after the blood sacrifice opened the channel, it would allow all the two of them to ignore all obstacles and directly reach the deepest part of the Severed Heaven Abyss. But it was clear this wasn't the case. A light chuckle sounded out in his ears, "Your Majesty, you really are a good person."

The First Emperor opened his eyes in the darkness, his expression calm. "You want to attack me?"

Nameless stood across from him, "You should have guessed this would happen."

"Why?"

“The channel has opened and it is indeed enough for the two of us to use. But, I don’t want to share that thing in the Severed Heaven Abyss with you.”

The First Emperor lightly said, “You’re confident you can win?” He held his hands behind him and his back straightened. He looked around with disdain as a great aura burst out from his body. “If we fight here, the channel will inevitably collapse, and neither of us will achieve anything.”

Nameless nodded, “I never doubted this. Although Your Majesty hasn’t been enlightened for long, as the founder of a nation, you have the destiny of an empire supporting you. Your true strength is not much weaker than my own.”

He paused and continued to say, “But my advantage is that I have lived for far, far longer than you have. And, I’ve also made some preparations ahead of time.”

The First Emperor looked deeply at him. Without saying anything, he took a step forward. A boundless aura instantly erupted. When an Origin God attacked, it was like a volcano awakening. The terrifying might behind it could shake the heavens and earth.

The channel in the darkness immediately began to fiercely shake. But, Nameless didn’t seem worried about this. He smiled and said, “From the moment Your Majesty stepped into here, everything has been decided. So, why do you keep on trying with these futile attempts?”

As his voice fell, he pointed a finger between his eyebrows. With a bang, the person’s body exploded. Thick and viscous blood instantly spread out.

Like blood dripping into clear water, it spread at an astonishing rate. It covered up all the darkness in a blink of an eye, turning everything red!

The First Emperor’s pupils shrank, anger and shock in his eyes. Because what he saw had surpassed his expectations.

Nameless...had imploded.

He clearly sensed this; there was no doubt about it. Before an Origin God existence actually fought, he had imploded on his own initiative.

What was going on here?

But soon, the First Emperor understood everything. He looked at the blood red light that was howling towards him from all directions. He whispered, “So, this was only your puppet. No wonder it was Nameless...”

In the next moment, the blood red light submerged into the First Emperor.

...

Qin Yu suddenly stopped. His eyes stared at the floor as a touch of scarlet entered his vision. The sticky, blood red color resembled a branch that was baring its teeth and claws, then it started to extend and wildly grow in the snow.

It expanded without end, doing its best to stretch out. The branches collided, fusing with each other.

Thus, the snowfield gradually turned into a blood field!

Hou –

Hou –

Deep and resonant roars came from deep in the blood field. The ground tumbled, rising and falling, as if terrifying life forms hidden within were tearing their way out.

Qin Yu's pupils shrank. Without hesitation, he completely restrained his aura and hurtled away like a falling meteor.

Bang –

The blood red snow layer on the ground shattered in an instant. Qin Yu fell into it. The sun and moon force field instantly spread out, covering him and Hu Shan.

“Shh, don't say a single word!”

Qin Yu stared at the blood red snow in front of him. It slowly trembled, falling back down after several breaths of time. A huge eyeball emerged from behind the layer of snow. It coldly swept its gaze around.

Qin Yu and Hu Shan were less than ten feet away from this eyeball. They could even see their reflection in it.

But for some unknown reason, the master of this eyeball was unable to see them. The eyeball turned around a few times, revealing a bit of doubt as it continued to move forward.

The eyeball came closer and closer. Qin Yu could even smell the scent of decay coming from it, like it had been buried in the earth for countless years.

Hu Shan tensed up, her face pale. But Qin Yu's hand that held her remained calm and unshaking. If it wasn't for him, she would have likely screamed out loud already.

In truth, Qin Yu was also very nervous. But one of his special characteristics was that the greater a danger was, the quieter and more focused he became. Although he had already prepared for the worst in his heart and could burst out with his greatest combat strength at any moment, he didn't reveal any of this.

Then, there was an angry roar. Qin Yu's body tightened up and dark golden light surged in the depths of his eyes. But in the end, he suppressed his impulse to attack. The giant eyeball suddenly retreated and a loud series of explosions followed.

The blood red layer of snow all around them frantically tumbled, as if it was a raging sea. Each snowflake was filled with a formidable power, like they were each a giant boulder.

Qin Yu's complexion was pale. He was like a leaf dancing in a storm, about to be pulled in and torn to pieces at any moment. But he stayed in place, motionless, like a rock that quietly withstood every impact.

Hu Shan bit her lips. She could clearly feel the great pressure Qin Yu was under right now. And she knew the reason she wasn't affected was because he was blocking everything for her.

In fact, while this pressure was terrifying, Hu Shan could still resist it. To be more exact, it was that mysterious existence within her that could easily accomplish this.

But each time she woke up, that would cause an immense loss to Hu Shan. What she lost was her vitality and lifespan. Qin Yu was helping her because it was the promise he made to her father before he died.

If Qin Yu had maintained his silence then he wouldn't have to endure all of this. But after he realized her identity, he honestly told her the truth.

At this moment, leaning into Qin Yu, Hu Shan felt what it was like to be protected by someone else for the first time, and what it felt like to be able to rely on someone. Warmth filled her heart.

Later, as the snow surged around them, Qin Yu suddenly moved. He stepped forward and howled away.

He suddenly stopped and changed direction, before pausing once again...it was like dancing on the edge of a blade; every movement was subtle, exactly avoiding the crushing power of the snow all around them.

Even if he couldn't evade the snow, he would still guarantee that he would withstand the least amount of crushing force possible.

Several breaths of time later, Qin Yu and Hu Shan retreated extremely far away.

This so-called extreme distance was not just horizontal. This was because he didn't retreat in a straight line. He constantly sank lower and lower, until he hid away in the depths of the snow.

The reason was simple. The horrifying beings slumbering deep within the snowfield had been revived after the snowfield turned into a blood field. Any creatures exposed above the blood field would automatically become targets that were mercilessly attacked.

On the other hand, if Qin Yu hid deep beneath the blood red snow, he had some assurance he could avoid their attacks.

Chapter 959 – Murong Qiye

An hour later, he let out a breath and said in a soft voice, "Let's rest first."

The crimson snow around them not only had a terrifyingly lower temperature, but it also had an overbearing ability to block divine sense. According to his calculation, unless he broke through to the Origin God boundary and his soul received a large-scale promotion that gave it a qualitative change, it would be impossible for him to break through the invisible barrier that it formed.

In terms of divine sense, Qin Yu was far too poor. But he had fused with the jade embryo egg. While he might not be able to see through all of the snow, finding a safe path wasn't difficult.

He placed Hu Shan to the side and sat down. The battle between the two terrifying creatures that had just woken up from deep below the blood field had caused shockwaves which rolled through the red snow, causing it to tumble along in waves. Because he was trying to remain hidden, he had no way to use his cultivation to resist, so he could only use his body, thus receiving injuries as a result.

The most important point was that Qin Yu's previous injuries had yet to heal. Now with more damage added to his original injuries, if it weren't for the fact that the Ancient race's Undying Body was extremely potent, any other cultivator in his place would have died.

Luckily, he had the bloodstone that Hu Shan had given him. This thing was fused with the blood of a formidable unknown life form, and its blood energy was nearly limitless. He had been drawing strength from up until now, but never once had he felt its blood energy fluctuations diminish.

"Ah!" Hu Shan shouted out loud, revealing a guilty expression. "Uncle Qin, don't absorb any more blood energy from it. While it's a treasure, it is still incomplete. The blood energy within has a cruel will hidden inside of it. If you absorb too much then it will affect your mind."

Before, upon hearing news about her father, she had fallen into sadness and forgotten about this matter. Now that she mentioned it, she felt a bit of hesitation and fear. She was scared that Qin Yu would dislike her because of this.

She had lived alone in the world. Now, she finally found someone that treated her well and whom she could rely on. She absolutely didn't want to lose him.

At this time, Hu Shan's heart was quivering and her eyes were red.

Qin Yu opened his eyes. He smiled and said, "It's fine. When you gave the stone to me, I sensed the cruel will in the blood energy."

"But..."

"Don't worry. It's not enough to affect me." When Qin Yu finished speaking he patted her shoulder and closed his eyes again.

He could perceive Hu Shan's emotions. She was a pitiful child.

An hour later, Qin Yu put the bloodstone away. He stood up and said, "Hu Shan, let's leave."

It wasn't completely safe at all times beneath the snowfield. He needed to move constantly according to the terrifying creatures in his sense.

Hu Shan nodded and crawled onto his back. Then, Qin Yu's figure flickered as he rapidly shuttled through the snow.

He looked around, his eyes constantly flashing with dark golden light. Two hearts beat powerfully in his chest, forcing blood energy to quickly flood through his body.

In this way he was able to release enough heat to withstand the bone-biting cold outside.

Of course, the sun and moon force field also helped. It kept Qin Yu and Hu Shan's auras locked within a limited scope, otherwise they would have been discovered already.

Qin Yu subconsciously furrowed his eyebrows. He suddenly realized something. With his current cultivation and all his cards, he could barely manage to survive the blood field. If it was any other cultivator then even if that cultivator was stronger than him, he feared they would die pitifully.

And in truth, if he used all his strength earnestly, how many cultivators who came to the Severed Heaven Abyss would be stronger than him?

If the region before where the blood stream's demonic sound suddenly rose was considered the first hurdle to overcome, then this snowfield that became the incarnation of blood would thoroughly cut off their road.

Unless the cultivators that came afterwards had an equally powerful card in hand, then they would inevitably die.

This included even formidable experts like Li Hongyi and Silent Kite!

Qin Yu didn't care about others, but these two women had their own connections with him. In particular, Silent Kite. He owed her a favor from the past.

He hoped they knew when to give up!

Bringing just Hu Shan was nearly Qin Yu's limit. He didn't have the ability to save anyone else. Moreover, in this boundless snowfield of blood, his perception was limited. If they came here then everything would depend on their own fate.

...

Li Hongyi lifted a hand and slashed down. Sword light shot out but produced no noise. Ripples appeared in the void, and between these ripples, the demonic sound suddenly weakened. Zhuo Han and the others followed quickly behind.

Sometime later, as many people paled and they were nearly unable to continue forward, the demonic sounds vanished.

They came out!

Everyone grew wild with joy. Their eyes filled with excitement and happiness.

Li Hongyi turned her hand and the sword vanished. She wavered where she stood, her face drained of color.

Zhuo Han quickly said, "Miss, are you alright?"

Li Hongyi shook her head, "I'm fine." She suddenly furrowed her eyebrows. The people around her who just emerged all sucked in a breath of air.

It was so cold!

The terrifying chill in the air was like countless needles poking into their bodies. Even with their cultivation they couldn't resist it.

"What's happening?"

"What a horrifying chill!"

"I cultivate the path of ice and yet I can't resist it!"

As people cried out in alarm, a layer of frost began to appear over their eyebrows and hair.

At the same time, their exposed skin started to look black and blue. This was a sign that their mortal bodies were being damaged in the extreme cold!

Li Hongyi drew in a deep breath. She lifted a hand and the sword appeared once again. She grabbed the hilt, knelt on one knee, and stabbed it down into the void.

Puff –

A third of the sword vanished from sight, as if it entered another world.

Then, veins began to appear on the sword blade. It was crimson in color, like magma was rushing through it.

A blazing heat was released from the blade. Although it wasn't able to completely counterbalance the terrifying chill in the air, it made everyone feel much better. At the very least, they no longer feared that they would freeze to death here!

"Thank you Miss Li!" People bowed in gratitude.

Li Hongyi didn't speak. She immediately sat down. Although her expression was faint, she wasn't able to conceal her weariness.

Zhuo Han took in a deep breath, "Everyone, Miss Li cannot resist this terrifying chill alone. We must each use our own respective methods."

"Of course."

"Fellow daoist Zhuo is correct!"

"I happen to have a Southern Ming Fire Lamp. It may be of some use."

Even if some of them had a slightly weaker cultivation, no one that was able to travel with Sword Manic Li was ordinary. Everyone quickly utilized their own treasures and abilities. When combined together, they managed to resist the cold coming from the outside.

Although they still felt cold, it wouldn't cause any substantial damage to them.

Everyone started to relax, a happy look on their faces.

Li Hongyi opened her eyes. She sharply said, "The chill in the air is strange, and the path forward is unknown. Don't celebrate too early."

Zhuo Han smiled, "If miss says it, none of us would dare to be careless. We will restore our strength here, and after making some more preparations, we will head forward again." He turned to the crowd and cupped his hands together, "Fellow daoists, in order to prevent any accidents, please recover as soon as possible."

Everyone nodded.

Zhuo Han sat down and started to revolve his cultivation, restoring the losses from when he passed through the blood stream's demonic sound. But as soon as he started, his heart throbbed. A terrifying swallowing strength spread out and nearly caused him to faint.

Several breaths of time later, this swallowing strength disappeared. Zhuo Han opened his eyes, gasping for breath as sweat dripped down his face.

"Fellow daoist Zhuo, you are..." Several cultivators at his side looked at him with surprise.

Zhuo Han bitterly smiled, "When I first started cultivating, due to my own greed I experienced a small accident. Since then I have suffered from a cold illness. I thought I had recovered since it hadn't appeared for all these years, but it came back just now."

He shook his head. "Thinking about it, it should be because the chill in the air is too terrifying."

Several people nodded in agreement. Having come this far, they were all considered experienced. But not once had they ever heard of such a terrifying chill existing in this world. It was a chill that could even freeze a God boundary cultivator to death.

After giving Zhuo Han some comforting words, the people closed their eyes and started to cultivate. When Zhuo Han felt their gazes move away from him, he took a breath and closed his eyes, hiding the anger and fear there.

He had made preparations ahead of time, so it shouldn't be erupting now. Where had a problem come from? Was it the blood stream's demonic sound, or could it really be the chill?

Zhuo Han couldn't figure out the answer. But none of that mattered. Since the problem had appeared, he needed to figure out a solution to solve it.

Moreover, he had to be quick about it. Otherwise, if it were to erupt again, he might not be able to withstand it. And if any clues were exposed...

Zhuo Han's heart shook. After calming his thoughts, he opened his eyes and glanced at the people around him. He looked carefully and discreetly, as if he were making an important decision.

...

In the deepest parts of the blood field, a pitch black crack was deeply embedded into the earth. It was utterly dark, dropping off with no end in sight. But at this time, a blood red light bloomed in the endless darkness. It bloomed with difficulty, pushing away the surrounding darkness to reveal a round well that was saturated with blood.

The head of the well expanded until a single person was able to squeeze out from it. Then, one person emerged. He wore white robes and had a beautiful appearance. Even if he was clearly a man, he still left one's mouth parched and their heart beating faster.

"Huh! I finally came out. This exit was too narrow." The white-robed man complained beneath his breath. He shook his head, "But if I can save some strength, I should save it. There is plenty of work left to do."

“You worked so hard to prepare for all these years, but in the most critical moment, something might have gone wrong. What do you think, fellow daoist?”

After he finished speaking he lowered his head. His eyes sparkled as if his gaze pierced through the darkness and looked at something deep below.

After waiting a while and receiving no response, the white-robed man rubbed his nose and revealed an awkward smile. “If you are like this then it isn’t giving me much face. And I’m someone who was born with a great focus on face. So if you cause me to lose face, I will make you feel uncomfortable.

“Ah...phrasing it like that doesn’t seem too threatening. Well, I came here to cause trouble to begin with...as I thought, my main body has been asleep for far too long. After just waking up, it seems my bad habit of talking too much has emerged again.

“Then let’s not waste time chatting anymore.”

The white-robed man’s smile disappeared. He seemed warm when he smiled, but when his smile vanished he seemed especially cold, like a deep winter night after a warm spring day.

He cupped his hands together and bowed, “Fellow daoist, my name is Murong Qige. If you are not happy about today’s result, then you can seek revenge on me at any time.”

As he spoke, he stood up. With his hands placed behind his back, Murong Qige nodded and then fell down.

Whoosh –

The sound of splitting air blasted out. A series of afterimages followed behind him, as if a bolt of white lightning had shot down from the heavens and broken through the darkness!

Chapter 960 – Eating Humans

Strictly speaking, Qin Yu had underestimated the determination of Li Hongyi and the others. They saw the blood field and also sensed the dangers hidden within it, yet after a brief pause, they still chose to enter.

After paying the price with the death of two monks, they came to realize how incredibly stupid it was to fly over the blood field.

After rushing into the red snow and passing through the layers of ice, they used up a great deal of energy and escaped the terrifying creatures up above.

At this time, even the formidable Li Hongyi started to feel grief. The others were all injured.

A flame silently burned above their heads. It released heat but didn’t melt the snow, only forming an invisible repulsion that shoved away the red snow to form an empty space and also isolated their auras.

The corpses of two cultivators were placed in front of them. Zhuo Han looked away and slowly said, “We must process the corpses of these two fellow daoists. Otherwise, once the smell of blood is revealed, it will bring about a great deal of trouble.”

He took a breath and said, "I need another fellow daoist to exit with me and bury them." He swept his eyes around. "I know that doing this is troublesome, but we have no idea who among us will keep on living. If it was you or I that died, I would hope that I could be buried peacefully and not casually abandoned."

After a brief silence, a cultivator lifted a hand. "Brother Zhuo is correct. I am willing to go with you."

Li Hongyi opened her eyes and glanced at Zhuo Han. "Be careful."

"Miss, please rest assured." Zhuo Han cupped his hands together. He reached up and took a palm-sized piece from the flame above their heads. Then, he lifted a corpse on his back and headed outside.

The other cultivator picked another piece of the flame and lifted the second corpse, silently following behind.

The two people walked slowly, not making a single sound. Soon they vanished from sight. Luckily, as they travelled, they didn't encounter any dangers.

After determining that they were far enough away from the camp, Zhuo Han stopped. He turned and looked at the silent cultivator behind him. "Let's choose this area." He knelt down and put the corpse on the ground. As he took a breath, his eyes turned red.

Terrifying blood runes started to appear at the edges of Zhuo Han's eyes, crawling down his face and the nape of his neck. Then, traces of black energy were released from his pores.

A guttural, beast-like roar came from deep within his throat. Zhuo Han abruptly got on all fours and took a bite from the corpse's neck.

At almost the same time, there was the sound of tearing flesh and blood from behind him, followed by loud chewing and swallowing. It sounded like a starving beast in the winter finally catching prey and being able to eat its fill.

When all sounds disappeared, the two corpses had vanished. Besides ripped pieces of clothing, there was only the even darker red snow, silently speaking to what had happened here.

Zhuo Han opened his eyes and let out a satisfied groan. He felt as if he had come back to life again.

He stretched out his tongue and wiped the blood from his lips. He looked down at his blood-soaked clothes. With a thought, all of this blood quickly disappeared, fusing into his body through his skin.

"That's enough. We've been gone for too long. If we don't return now, they might begin to suspect us."

The cultivator behind him sighed, "A corpse is much worse than a living cultivator. In my current condition, I can barely suppress the seething blood energy within me."

Zhuo Han nodded, "That's right. We need to find a way to eat a living person."

His complexion suddenly changed and he shouted, "Be careful!"

The cultivator behind him turned around to dodge. But then he froze in place, anger and shock in his eyes.

Zhuo Han stepped away, a flame in each of his hands.

“Give me back the fire!”

The cultivator screamed and wildly chased after him.

Zhuo Han didn't stop. He rapidly withdrew backwards.

The pursuing cultivator grew slower and slower, white frost covering his body at a speed visible to the naked eye, freezing him.

His eyes were wide open, full of hatred and despair.

Zhuo Han lifted a hand and tapped the man's forehead. “My problem is much more serious than yours, so a corpse simply cannot satisfy me. So, I really do apologize, but only by eating you will I be able to survive.”

Pa –

The frozen cultivator's chest was pierced through and his heart shattered. He fell backwards, landing on the ground. Zhuo Han pounced on him, his mouth gulping and gobbling. His aura began to rise at a noticeable pace.

In this world, only one type of existence could swallow other cultivators to increase their own cultivation – they were the Great Dao Seizers!

He had unexpectedly degenerated to such a state.

After drinking the warm heart blood, Zhuo Han started to eat meat. He chewed happily and with joy, blood splashing from his lips and teeth. Suddenly, Zhuo Han stiffened and his gnawing mouth stopped in place.

The red snow in front of him was pushed out from within. A figure walked out, her eyes taking in the scene.

Silent Kite's eyes widened. Then, without hesitation, she stormed away.

If she was in her prime, she would be strong enough to kill Zhuo Han. But after entering the blood field, no matter how many methods she had, the cold chill still pierced through her defenses, causing her strength to drastically fall.

“Stop there!” Zhuo Han roared. He tossed away the corpse in his hands and chased after her.

His body shivered. All the satisfaction and enjoyment in his eyes had turned to unease and fear.

No one wanted to turn into a devil, and he didn't want to either. But, Zhuo Han's original talent could only be considered ordinary at best. He wasn't resigned to being mediocre for the rest of his life, becoming a common, unnoticeable foil to those truly talented geniuses.

So after being tempted, he didn't hesitate to degenerate.

The first person Zhou Han ate was his big brother. He had been a close relative who called him brother, but regarded him as a slave.

He would never forget the first time he ate the flesh and blood of another person. His soul had trembled, making him wallow in the feeling.

From that moment on, he leapt up and became a new generation of genius in the Zhuo Family. He enjoyed the most beautiful scenery he had ever experienced.

This was the first time Zhuo Han had ever been discovered by someone. He stubbornly chased after Silent Kite. The fear and horror in his eyes gradually transformed into a cruel killing intent.

No matter what, Silent Kite had to die. His status as a Great Dao Seizer could not be exposed.

Of course, a reason why Zhuo Han dared to have such intensely murderous thoughts was that he discovered Silent Kite had been injured by the cold chill. Right now, she was in a state of unprecedented weakness...this was a chance that the heavens had granted him to correct his mistake.

“You cannot escape. I will catch you and slowly eat you! You will become a part of my body, and I will become more powerful than before!

“Hahaha, Silent Kite, this is your fate!”

Zhuo Han fiercely bellowed. More and more black energy emitted from his body. It wrapped around him until only a pair of red, animal-like eyes were revealed.

He fell to the ground and ran on all fours, his speed growing faster and faster.

An anxious look entered Silent Kite’s eyes. After she stumbled into Zhuo Han and discovered his identity as a Great Dao Seizer, there was no more hope for reconciliation between the two. Once he caught up to her, all that remained would be a dead end.

She clenched her teeth and pressed a finger between her eyebrows. Light released from all around her body. As she bathed in it, her speed increased.

At the same time, black and blue spots appeared on Silent Kite’s skin. This was the power of cold invading her body. After it was no longer suppressed, it started to wreak havoc through her body. But even though she did this, she couldn’t cast him off. Rather, Zhuo Han started to close the distance between them even faster than before.

Silent Kite had personally witnessed what happened to a person who fell into the hands of a fallen Great Dao Seizer before. She could never accept such a result. If she couldn’t escape, then she would risk her life and fight!

Shua –

Silent Kite suddenly stopped and spun around. She lifted a hand and thrust out a palm.

“Great Sun!”

Bang –

A blazing light erupted and the temperature in the air dramatically rose. Even the icy red snow wasn’t able to withstand the heat and began to melt.

Silent Kite went all-out in this attack, exhausting her final strength.

“Ahhh!” Zhuo Han roared in pain. The black energy that wrapped around his body seemed to have encountered its natural enemy. As the light shined on it, most of it dispersed into nothingness.

His half-exposed face rapidly turned red and swollen like a vicious ghost.

The Light Guard’s cultivation method inherently restrained all dark and evil forces in the world. And, a Great Dao Seizer was themselves the most evil and corrupt existence of all.

As the cold energy within her body completely erupted, a layer of ice began to appear on Silent Kite’s body. She looked at Zhuo Han who was fiercely rushing at her, and her lips curved up in a mocking taunt.

Even if she died, she would not allow herself to fall into his hands.

Hou –

A roar echoed in the air. The red snow all around started to rise and fall like a stormy sea.

Zhuo Han stopped. Although his bloodthirst continued to wear away at his mind, he knew that he couldn’t continue going forward. Otherwise once the terrifying creature hidden deep in the snowfield locked onto him, there was no way he would be able to escape by himself.

“Ahhh!” He howled in rage and anger before turning and fleeing. As black energy continued to swirl around him, he rapidly vanished from sight.

Silent Kite relaxed. She really was worried that Zhou Han would be overcome with his desire to eat and swallow, and would risk his life to reach her.

Even if she was only bitten once, that was an incomparably disgusting matter to her.

Although both paths led to dying, not dying to a degenerated human was already lucky.

She closed her eyes. Within her mind, all sorts of thoughts flickered by. She thought back to her father in the imperial capital. After she died, he would be left alone in this world. Would he be lonely? Perhaps she should have listened to her father’s words and not come here. But, there was no medicine to eat for regret.

The red snow tumbled more and more. Silent Kite could hear loud and cruel breathing in her ears. Death should be coming for her soon.

Her final thought was of Qin Yu. According to his speed, he should have entered the snowfield already.

But what a pity, she had never been able to meet him. She still owed him an apology and thanks.

If there was no fate for them in this life, she could only look forward to the next...if there was a chance...

Silent Kite’s field of vision darkened. She saw the fierce head rise up from the tumbling red snow and its drooling teeth and lips.

This fellow’s mouth was very large and its teeth were also very sharp. If it ate her, she shouldn’t feel any pain and she shouldn’t smell its breath either, right?

Silent Kite closed her eyes. So, she didn't see that just as the fierce mouth was about to close down on her and swallow her, a shadow tore out from the raging red sea of snow, grabbing her against his chest and avoiding the sharp teeth by the mere breadth of a hair.

Kacha –

The teeth snapped shut and broke. As roars of pain and hatred filled the air, the shadow rushed into the roiling red snow and vanished from sight.