

Resonance 771

Chapter 0771: Fifth Division's First Victory

An enormous chain of energy slithered through the void like a venomous snake, piercing through the defenses of the Fiendish Devil Leader and penetrating its chest.

Despite its struggle, there were more and more chains of energy gradually piling up. The Fiendish Devil Leader was trapped.

Zhong Ling was delighted upon this sight, and he let out a grin.

The first division cheered loudly from the back as they chanted Zhong Ling's name in excitement.

In the previous confrontation, the Fiendish Devil Leader was suppressed by Zhong Ling despite its strength being at the Lesser Heavenly Resonance Tier. This clearly displayed Zhong Ling's capability and control over the power of Harmony.

In a sense, he was the undisputed number one in the Green Nether banner.

After Zhong Ling had trapped the Fiendish Devil Leader, he quickly closed his hands together and formed several seals. The seal technique was peculiar, like the opening of a dragon's mouth.

The banner members were surprised by the hand seal and exclaimed, "Sub Leader, are you going to use the Little Dragonbreath Art? I heard that this was the result of your study of the Heavenly Dragon Lightning Roar."

"The Fiendish Devil Leader is finished this time."

"Haha, the first division will be responsible for clearing yet another layer!"

The banner members cheered on in triumph.

At this moment, Zhong Ling's mouth suddenly puffed up and he spat after executing his hand seals. A viscous torrent of energy wrapped in domineering power was spewed out, and it penetrated through the void.

It was as if a river from heaven had flowed down from the sky, gushing towards the struggling Fiendish Devil Leader with majestic force.

The smirk on Zhong Ling's face grew wider.

As the torrent of dragonbreath was about to smash into the Fiendish Devil Leader, all of the banner members of the first division were shocked to find that the space around them had begun to twist violently. Ripples began to spread out like a falling pebble that broke the tranquil water's surface.

When they came back to their senses, they found that they had been ejected from the state of Harmony. At the same time, they were back outside the black hall of Fiendish Devil Peak.

The whole first division, including Zhong Ling, were left dumbfounded.

Why had it ended so suddenly?

It seemed like Zhong Ling's attack was on the cusp of striking the Fiendish Devil Leader.

"Ah hah! Sub Leader Zhong Ling, it looks like the first division cleared it again. The other divisions will have to be grateful to us."

In the same instance, the other four divisions of the Green Nether Banner started to appear around the entrance of the black hall. The Sub Leaders of the second, third, and fourth divisions looked over to Zhong Ling, smiling and clasping their hands together to congratulate him.

The members of those three divisions also nodded in admiration.

"You are indeed the strongest Sub Leader in the Green Nether Banner. The first division has been the first to clear every layer past layer twenty."

"We can just lie back and enjoy the benefits."

"It is not a bad thing for the Green Nether Banner to be led by Sub Leader Zhong Ling in the future."

Despite the praises from the crowd, Zhong Ling did not show any signs of a smile or celebration. Instead, he remained confused.

The banner members of the first division also remained in an awkward silence.

At this time, the Sub Leaders of the three divisions also realized that something was wrong. Why did the first division look so down despite their flattering victory?

"Hehe, I think you all may be congratulating the wrong person. The twenty-eighth layer was cleared by the fifth division."

At this moment, a playful laugh echoed from the side.

Everyone was puzzled as they turned to the side and saw the fifth division.

The words had come from none other than Zhao Yanzhi.

"Did Sub Leader Li Luo defeat the Fiendish Devil Leader of layer twenty-eight first?" the second division's Sub Leader asked in surprise.

"It can't be faked. After all, you can check with the Elders for confirmation," Mu Bi answered with a big laugh.

The members of the other four divisions all turned towards Li Luo, who had not spoken a single word, in shock. Who would have thought that the first to get through layer twenty-eight would be the fifth division!

In the past, the fifth division had the slowest progress amongst them!

Evidently, such a radical change must have had something to do with their new Sub Leader, Li Luo.

Feeling the gazes of the others, the members of the fifth division could not help but feel a little proud of themselves. At the same time, newfound recognition and support bloomed for their Sub Leader.

"Hehe, Sub Leader Li Luo is truly amazing. We will have another hero rising amongst us in the future." The Sub Leaders of the other three divisions praised and smiled at Li Luo, this time with a kind and friendly tone.

After all, there was not much competition between them and Li Luo. They knew that the position of Banner Leader was not meant for them. Now that Li Luo kept exhibiting such amazing feats, it might really be possible for him to surpass Zhong Ling in the future, so they would naturally not be too hostile towards him.

Li Luo also smiled and returned their congratulations politely.

When the first division saw how arrogant the fifth division were, some banner members could not help but chime in bitterly. "What are you so proud of? You just passed the layer once by pure luck. We were nearly about to kill the Fiendish Devil Leader already."

However, the words fell on deaf ears. After all, no one cared about how close the second place was.

After Zhong Ling's face changed for a while, he finally restrained his emotions. With no expression on his face, he could not be bothered to entertain Li Luo. Instead, he waved his hand and said in a slightly gloomy voice, "First division, prepare to enter layer twenty-nine."

Everyone in the first division looked at each other blankly. They had just experienced a tough battle that lasted for several hours, and now they were going to challenge layer twenty-nine without any rest?

Based on past experiences, they should take a break at this time. In particular, many of their banner members had been injured and eliminated from the battlefield during the conquest of layer twenty-eight. If they rested for a while, some of them might be able to recover and rejoin them for the fight later on.

Some of the banner members tried to persuade Zhong Ling, but no one dared to speak any further when they saw his gloomy expression. With that, the first division, which had just come out of the Fiendish Devil Cave, set off again.

Watching Zhong Ling and the first division heading back into the Fiendish Devil Cave, the other four divisions were a little stunned. In the end, the second, third, and fourth division Sub Leaders just gave wry smiles.

"Fifth division, rest in place," Li Luo commanded calmly, giving no regards to Zhong Ling and the first division.

Zhong Ling's actions were clearly driven by frustration. Naturally, he would not follow suit.

Zhao Yanzhi also gave her order at this time. "Banner members who have recovery arts, follow me to heal the injured members who were eliminated earlier."

Hearing this, some banner members got up and followed Zhao Yanzhi to tend to those who had been seriously injured and eliminated earlier.

Li Luo sat down in the lotus position, closed his eyes, and his mental state sank into his waterlight resonance palace.

Strand after strand of abstruse fiend light flew around in it. When Li Luo focused internally, a touch of joy flooded his heart as he could sense a total of one hundred and twelve abstruse fiend lights gained from his earlier victory in layer twenty-eight.

This was equivalent to over twenty high-grade Fiend Origin Pills!

And this was equivalent to the monthly stipend a Sub Leader in the Green Nether Banner received.

Without a doubt, the rewards from the Fiendish Devil Cave were fantastic for someone at the Fiend Palace Tier.

The most important point was that this was only layer twenty-eight. If he advanced further later, how great would the harvest be?

With this, even a calm and composed individual like Li Luo could not help but pine for the juicy spoils ahead.

At this moment, he finally understood that it was not the monthly stipend that revealed the true foundation among the Twenty Banners of the Heavenly Dragon's Five Lineages, but their Seventy-Two Layers of the Fiendish Devil Cave.

"It took us approximately ten hours to get through layer twenty-eight... Including our resting time, it would be great if we could clear three layers in three days. That would give me a reward of approximately five hundred abstruse fiend lights."

Li Luo was pleasantly surprised. At this pace, he might really be able to cultivate his two resonant palaces to the Greater Fiend Palace Tier in three months' time.

In fact, he might even exceed that!

Following this, Li Luo led the team to rest for four more hours while Zhao Yanzhi and her team tended to the recovery of over twenty banner members. They had recovered the majority of their battle strength and were ready to continue fighting in the Fiendish Devil Cave.

Of course, there were dozens of banner members who were seriously injured and could not join the next battle.

The fifth division gathered behind Li Luo with high spirits and a powerful presence. This inevitably made the second, third, and fourth divisions, who were about to enter at the same time, look sideways to avert their gazes. Undoubtedly, the confidence of the fifth division had returned after their spectacular performance in layer twenty-eight.

This was all thanks to the new Sub Leader of the fifth division, Li Luo.

Amidst the many gazes, Li Luo kept his composure and his expression barely changed. He simply gave an order and then marched into the Fiendish Devil Cave for his second conquest with the energetic fifth division.

Chapter 0772: Price

Layer twenty-nine of the Fiendish Devil Cave was clearly harder than the previous layer. With a larger number of Fiendish Devils, as well as more frequent appearances of Big Fiendish Devils, the fifth division was faced with a tough time. However, Li Luo did not rush to advance this time around. Instead, he chose to progress steadily with minimal casualties.

"Sub Leader, aren't we aiming to be the first to clear layer twenty-nine?" Zhao Yanzhi asked in confusion. Based on their progress, they were surely lagging behind the first division, who had entered the cave four hours before them.

Li Luo shook his head and answered, "There is no need to fight to be first again. In the previous layer, our victory ensured that the other divisions would no longer underestimate the fifth division. Furthermore, the first division entered layer twenty-nine way earlier than us. Zhong Ling is not keeping his composure and he will definitely aim to be the first to clear it, by hook or by crook. If we are too eager to compete with him, we will definitely pay a huge price and lose many of our members.

"That's not worth it at all. After all, this is only the first day.

"Besides, if Zhong Ling wants to charge ahead, let him do it. We can make use of this chance to recuperate and prepare for the next layer."

Zhao Yanzhi thought about it for a moment and then responded, "If Zhong Ling is really determined to be the first to clear layer twenty-nine, the first division will suffer huge losses. This will leave them incapacitated for the next two days. I'm afraid they will not be able to clear any more layers afterwards."

With a single swing of his blade, Li Luo finished off dozens of devils in front of him and continued calmly, "The key lies in... the third day.

"The third day is the most important. At that time, we will compete with the divisions from other banners. If the first division suffers heavy losses here, then they will definitely be unable to put up a fight against the divisions from other banners. When that time comes, the Green Nether Banner will need to depend on us, the fifth division."

Li Shi, Mu Bi, and others were stunned by his reply. His way of thinking was beyond their expectations. Li Luo was thinking about the honor of the Green Nether Banner, while Zhong Ling had been blinded by his competition with Li Luo.

Zhong Ling had lost by more than a little bit in every aspect.

Li Luo just smiled in response to their gazes. Ultimately, his father was still the Hall Master of the Green Nether Hall, and the Green Nether Banner was part of the Green Nether Hall. Thus, he had to take a long term view towards things. Besides, the Banner Leader position of the Green Nether Banner would belong to him sooner or later, so he definitely would not let the others in the Twenty Banners look down upon the Green Nether Banner.

"I wonder which banner and division we will meet. Hopefully, it won't be the top ten divisions and their vanguard team of elites." Zhao Yanzhi placed her hands together and prayed.

"If we meet them, so be it. We can't hide from these things forever. Besides, a stronger opponent will be good training for the fifth division." Li Luo did not care much about this. In fact, he was looking forward to personally experiencing just how strong the other elites were.

"I'm just a short-sighted woman without lofty ambitions like the Sub Leader, so what I think about is only the battle between the divisions and the rewards upon victory," Zhao Yanzhi replied with a coquettish smile.

"Are the rewards for victory good?" Li Luo asked curiously.

"Each banner member can get ten abstruse fiend lights, and the Sub Leader can get a God Origin Pill," Zhao Yanzhi explained. When she mentioned the God Origin Pill, she could not hide her desire for it in her tone.

"God Origin Pill?" Li Luo was confused about this new term.

"The God Origin Pill is the purified product produced from refining upper-grade Fiend Origin Pills. However, it is extremely rare. It has the same effect as dozens of upper-grade Fiend Origin Pills. In fact, a single God Origin Pill can be refined into hundreds of strands of abstruse fiend light.

"Unfortunately, the God Origin Pill is so potent that one needs a few days of cultivation after taking a single pill." Zhao Yanzhi finished off her explanation.

Hearing this, Li Luo's eyes lit up in surprise. Once again, he was experiencing the foundation and uniqueness of the inner divine continents. He had never heard of the God Origin Pill back in the Xia Kingdom.

Despite how wonderful it would be to obtain a God Origin Pill, there was no need to force it. If there was a chance, Li Luo would definitely not mind taking one to try. However, if they were really unlucky and encountered extremely powerful elites, he would have no choice but to give up and bear with it for the time being. After all, the Green Nether Banner's years of decline had inevitably left them far behind the top-ranked banners.

As they were chatting, the Fiendish Devils in front of them had been completely annihilated. With a wave of his hand, Li Luo commanded the fifth division to maintain their momentum and progress steadily.

However, their advance did not continue for long. Suddenly, the space around him began to distort and Li Luo's expression changed.

"It looks like the first division has cleared layer twenty-nine," Zhao Yanzhi stated.

"Zhong Ling is strong after all," Li Shi praised. Calculating from the time the first division had entered layer twenty-nine, they had taken approximately eight hours to finish things. Their pace was not bad at all.

"Saves us quite a bit of energy," Li Luo commented with a smile. He held back his resonant power as the space around him twisted and turned. A few moments later, the space around him stabilized and they were back outside the big gate of the Fiendish Devil Cave.

Everyone looked towards the first division in awe.

On first look, it was evident that a large part of the first division was missing, and the remaining banner members looked pale and exhausted. Without a doubt, they had gone through an extremely fierce fight.

In front of them, Zhong Ling's eyes appeared a little sluggish and his resonant power was in disarray.

"The first division lost over four hundred members," Zhao Yanzhi whispered to Li Luo.

"Zhong Ling is too rash. With so many casualties, the combat strength of the first division has fallen tremendously," Li Shi added.

Li Luo did not comment. It was unfortunate for the first division to have a Sub Leader like Zhong Ling, desperate for success.

Under the gazes of the other four divisions, the banner members of the first division remained silent and the atmosphere was depressing.

Similarly, Zhong Ling's face was also particularly gloomy. Although he was the first to clear layer twenty-nine, the price he had to pay for it was much larger than he had expected.

He glanced at Li Luo with cold eyes before turning around and ordering in a cold voice, "First division, take a rest and tend to the wounded."

The members of the first division followed accordingly.

Li Luo had never paid much attention to his stares. Evidently, his overeagerness for success had caused the first division to suffer heavy losses. Such a person was obviously not qualified to be the Banner Leader. It was no wonder he had failed to take the position after such a long time.

With a wave of his hand, Li Luo signaled for the fifth division to take a rest too. With so many casualties in the first division, they were no longer a threat. Now the fifth division had sufficient time to advance while minimizing their losses.

With that, each division took their rest separately.

In front of the Fiendish Devil Cave, various banners continued to be sent out from time to time. The atmosphere was always lively.

All of a sudden, the atmosphere escalated and many cheers roared out.

Li Luo opened his eyes, and Zhao Yanzhi's gentle voice came. "Sub Leader, look. The Gold Light Banner has gotten through to layer forty!"

Li Luo glanced over to the light curtain on one side of the main hall, and he saw the number of layers behind the Gold Light Banner rise to forty. At the same time, their ranking rose from fifth to fourth.

"Deng Fengxian is really capable. I heard that there are six Fiendish Devil Leaders in layer forty, and each has strength comparable to a Duke!" Zhao Yanzhi exclaimed.

"Six Fiendish Devil leaders, all close to Duke level..."

Li Luo's eyes could not help but freeze. Such a lineup was not any easier than fighting against a real Duke. The fact that the Gold Light Banner had cleared that layer proved that their strength was indeed at the top amongst the young generation in the Dragon's Fang Lineage.

As Li Luo's heart was fluttering, flashes flickered at the entrance of the main hall, and thousands of people emerged from it.

It was the returning members of Gold Light Banner.

The Gold Light Banner had eight thousand members, and it looked like they had lost nearly a thousand of them. Obviously, they had paid a heavy price in order to conquer layer forty. However, this level of loss was acceptable for their layer, and all the members in the Gold Light Banner were bursting with excitement.

Deng Fengxian led the team back to the resting area of the Gold Light Banner. Dressed in white, his imposing presence was extraordinary and attracted thousands of awe-inspiring gazes.

Li Luo withdrew his gaze. Deng Fengxian was indeed exceptional, and there was a gap between him and the Green Nether Banner that could not be ignored.

Still, this would only be temporary.

Two hours later, the fifth division finished resting.

It was already late at night, but the lights in Fiendish Devil Peak remained bright as day.

Li Luo took a look at the first division, but there was no movement from Zhong Ling. Evidently, their losses were too great, and they now required more time to recuperate.

The second day of the Fiendish Devil Cave expedition was approaching. Next up, it was their turn to shine.

"Let's go."

He signaled to Zhao Yanzhi and led the fifth division towards the entrance of the main hall.

Behind them, back in the Gold Light Banner's resting area, Deng Fengxian took a glimpse at Li Luo's back.

A Sub Leader of the Gold Light Banner whispered into his ear about what happened to the Green Nether Banner.

"Zhong Ling is too hasty, he will not be able to beat Li Luo." Deng Fengxian shook his head.

"The Banner Leader of the Green Nether Banner is most likely going to be Li Luo."

At this point, the Sub Leader of the Gold Light Banner next to him said worriedly, "Li Luo is the son of the Third Master. Once he rises up, he may pose a threat to the Gold Light Banner."

"Not a concern. Li Luo's talent is indeed extraordinary, but he's still too far behind. It's not so easy to catch up. As long as I'm still here, I can keep him down," Deng Fengxian responded calmly.

"And when I become the leader of the Dragon's Fang Lineage in the future, perhaps I will need a sharp blade like him," he continued with an air of dominance in his words.

The Sub Leaders of the Gold Light Banner were full of respect and trust for Deng Fengxian. They smiled and nodded in agreement upon hearing this.

Although Li Luo was exceptionally talented, it was a pity that he had arrived at such a terrible time.

Deng Fengxian alone would suffice as the head of the young generation of the Dragon's Fang Lineage.

Chapter 0773: Battle among the Banners

On the second day of the Fiendish Devil Cave's expedition, Li Luo successfully led the fifth division and cleared layer thirty without competition from the first division.

This took the fifth division nearly half a day. While their progress was definitely not fast, it was a stable and secure strategy that, most importantly, minimized the losses of the fifth division's members.

With such a method, Li Luo was evidently preparing for the third day's battle among the banners.

In addition, he had obtained around a hundred more abstruse fiend lights from the successful conquest of layer thirty. Such progress far exceeded that of his daily cultivation, and this was even before any of the high-grade Fiend Origin Pills. Li Luo was finally feeling the joy of reaping benefits from the Fiendish Devil Cave expedition.

It was no wonder the Twenty Banners were always so excited about it. With such wonderful and instant gratification, it was worth it no matter how hard or tiring it was.

Nevertheless, Li Luo did not proceed to layer thirty-one after conquering layer thirty. This was mainly due to the sharp increase in difficulty from layer thirty-one onwards, which would require the fifth division to go all in and push forward at all costs. This would not be ideal, considering that the third day was arriving. Their first priority should be conserving their strength for the upcoming battle.

After all, the original vanguard team of the Green Nether Banner, the first division, had their combat capability greatly depleted due to Zhong Ling's rash actions. If they encountered a strong opponent in the upcoming battle, they would stand no chance of winning at all.

Besides, everyone was coveting the rewards from winning the battle among the banners.

No one, including Li Luo, was willing to give that up.

With such an expectation, everyone ushered in the most heated third day.

The lively crowd had gathered in front of the Fiendish Devil Cave.

Four Banners. Twenty Divisions. All gathered.

Everyone nervously looked at the wall on the side of the hall, where a light screen continued to blink. Next up, the arrangement for the third day's battle among the divisions would be revealed.

The battle among the divisions was the highlight of every Fiendish Devil Cave expedition.

Every banner and their divisions would compete against one another, which was another form of training.

Everyone would give it their all in order to preserve the honor of their division.

Of course, it was not just about the honor, but the rewards as well.

As Li Luo looked at the light screen, Zhao Yanzhi, who was standing beside her Sub Leader, had closed her slender hands and prayed, "Please don't assign us one of the top ten divisions! Not the top ten divisions, please!" Li Luo could not help but laugh, although he understood why she felt that way. The Green Nether Banner was ranked fourteenth at the start of the expedition, and they had risen to thirteenth after their hard work in conquering layer thirty.

Yet even the slowest among the top ten divisions had managed to reach layer thirty-four after these two days of hard work. Such a gap could not be ignored.

Based on Li Luo's estimation, they would stand a chance as long as they were not put up against the top five divisions.

After all, Li Luo had the Nine Revolutions Draconic Breath Fiend Arts and the three Nine Revolutions Arts with him. While he might be the weakest Sub Leader among all Twenty Banners in terms of raw strength, he would still stand a chance with those arts if he went all in.

As Li Luo was lost in thought, loud chatter broke out in the hall.

The arrangement for the third day's battle among the divisions had been revealed.

Glancing over the light screen, Li Luo scanned for the Green Nether Banner's fifth division, and a line of words appeared beside it.

Green Nether Banner (fifth division) versus Dark Blood Banner (third division).

"So it's the Dark Blood Banner of the Dragon's Blood Lineage..." Li Luo was shocked. This was hardly considered a good matchup, as the Dark Blood Banner was currently ranked nine.

Although the third division of the Dark Blood Banner was not part of the vanguard delving team, their strength should not be underestimated.

While Li Luo was still digesting the news, the members of the fifth division had started cursing and complaining. This was indeed an unlucky matchup for them.

"It's over," Zhao Yanzhi lamented. She had prayed fervently that their opponent would not be someone within the top ten, but it came true in the end.

On the side, Li Shi and Mu Bi also shook their heads sadly.

"It's just the third division of the Dark Blood Banner. It's not their vanguard team," Li Luo comforted them with a smile.

"We are not the vanguard team of the Green Nether Banner either," Zhao Yanzhi retorted.

"So unlucky. A good opponent was assigned to the first division. I feel like we are getting targeted," she grumbled unhappily.

Hearing this, Li Luo turned back to the screen and scanned for the first division's matchup. Their opponent was the first division of the Hurricane Horn Banner, from the Dragon's Horn Lineage.

The Hurricane Horn Banner was ranked 17, slightly below the Green Nether Banner.

However, Zhong Ling and his team had suffered huge losses and would not fully recover even after a full day of rest. As such, it was hard to say who would emerge victorious even though their opponent was fairly weak.

Nonetheless, it was much better than having the Dark Blood Banner as an opponent. They had gotten lucky indeed.

The cries from the fifth division also attracted sympathetic looks from the Green Nether Banner's second, third, and fourth divisions. After all, the fifth division had gotten the toughest opponent amongst them.

Seeing this news, Zhong Ling's face remained unchanged, but there was a hint of joy in the depths of his eyes. As a matter of fact, he had been remorseful over his impulsive move previously, but he had accepted it, as regret alone would not change anything.

Thankfully, his matchup for the third day of battle among the divisions was not that difficult.

As long as he could defeat the first division of the Hurricane Horn Banner, the Fiendish Devil Cave expedition would be considered a success. On the other hand, there was a high probability that Li Luo's fifth division would be utterly defeated by the Dark Blood Banner. This would help keep their winning momentum in check.

Despite the multiple gazes, Li Luo remained calm and glanced across the hall to the other four banners.

The first division of the Gold Light Banner, led by Deng Fengxian, had a match against the first division of the Glass Bone Banner from the Dragon's Bone Lineage. Both teams were considered top tier, and it was bound to be a cataclysmic struggle.

On the other hand, the first division of the Crimson Cloud Banner, led by Li Fengyi, had a match against the first division of the Earth Scale Banner from the Dragon's Scale Lineage. The Crimson Cloud Banner was the stronger of the two, so barring any unexpected turn of events, they were the expected winner of the fight.

The first division of the Violet Spirit Banner, led by Li Jingtao, had encountered the fifth division of the Rock Bone Banner from the Dragon's Bone Lineage. As the weakest amongst the Twenty Banners, the Rock Bone Banner stood no chance against the Violet Spirit Banner at all.

As Li Luo continued scanning the list, he felt the worried gazes of Li Fengyi and Li Jingtao looking back at him.

Without a doubt, they were worried about their matchup.

Smiling back, Li Luo assured them that there was no need to worry.

Li Luo turned towards Zhao Yanzhi and asked, "Yanzhi, do you have any information about the third division of the Dark Blood Banner?"

Just as Zhao Yanzhi was about to respond, Li Shi, who was on the side, took over the conversation. "The Sub Leader of the Dark Blood Banner's third division is named Li Tong, and he came from a side branch

of the clan like me. However, he has had much better conditions than me. Previously, he was a Gold Fiend attempting to reach the Glass Fiend Tier, but he failed. His level is definitely above Zhong Ling's, and he is currently working on consolidating Fiend Dipper Energy in order to break straight into the Fiend Finisher Tier.

"This guy possesses an eighth-grade Groundflood Dragon resonance and has mastered the Six Revolutions Draconic Breath Fiend Art. Although Li Tong is only considered average amongst the renowned Dragon's Blood Lineage, his strength should not be underestimated.

"Although the third division of the Dark Blood Banner is not as powerful as the first division, it is still better than the other three divisions. In terms of overall strength, they are much stronger than our division."

Li Luo nodded slightly at his detailed explanation. There were three levels to the Fiend Body Tier: Silver Fiend, Gold Fiend, and Glass Fiend. These were the stages of training up one's physical body. However, most could only reach the Gold Fiend Tier before they gave up and turned to refining their Fiend Dipper Energy in order to break into the Fiend Finisher Tier.

Only the gifted ones could reach the Glass Fiend Tier before attempting to break into the Fiend Finisher Tier. This would give them a better foundation and ultimately make them even mightier than those who reached the Fiend Finisher Tier prematurely.

"No worries, guys. Our opponent may be strong, but there is no need to feel down before the fight.

"If you think about it from another perspective, this is a chance for us to boost our reputation once we defeat such an opponent. Nothing to lose, and everything to gain"

Li Luo cheered them on to boost the fifth division's morale.

Seeing their Sub Leader full of fighting spirit, the fifth division looked at each other and finally cheered up a little. After all, their division was different from before. Now they had a Sub Leader who had mastered the Nine Revolutions Draconic Breath Fiend Art, so anything could happen.

Like Li Luo had mentioned, there was nothing to lose. They were already expected to suffer a defeat against such a strong opponent. However, if they somehow won, they would be immensely rewarded for their victory.

Nothing to lose, and everything to gain

This was a good deal after all.

As the morale of the banner members slowly renewed, only Zhao Yanzhi rolled her eyes at Li Luo.

"Psh. Only a fool would believe those words!"

Chapter 0774: Li Qingfeng and Li Hongli

While a commotion broke out on the Dragon's Fang Lineage side over the battle among the banners, there was another lively crowd rallying on the side of the Dragon's Blood Lineage.

All four banners of the Dragon's Blood Lineage had gathered under the same sky today. The atmosphere was intense.

However, the Dragon's Blood Lineage members remained composed and smiling, unlike the rowdy crowd over at the Dragon's Fang Lineage. No matter who their opponents were, they showed no signs of panic and simply discussed among themselves or made bets on the results.

And beyond the dark sea of people, on the front-right side of the hall, there was a stone pavilion. Four people were sitting upright inside, sipping their tea and having a casual chat.

There were three gentlemen and one lady.

Amongst the three men, the man in the middle was the most outstanding. He was large and tall with a handsome face, donning a mysterious robe and had a warm smile on his face. Whenever he spoke, his voice was calm like a gentle breeze, giving people an inexplicable sense of security and trust.

There was a sword hanging on each side of his waist, each one exuding an extraordinarily fierce aura that caused the surrounding void to tremble from its presence.

Holding onto his teacup with a gentle smile, there was a distinguished air of dignity surrounding him.

The man was none other than Li Qingfeng, Banner Leader of the Gold Blood Banner from the Dragon's Blood Lineage.

As the descendant of the Dragon's Blood Lineage's Lineage Chief, he had a prominent status and reputation. Coupled with the talent and achievements that he had displayed, he was known as the best amongst the current generation in the Heavenly Dragon's Five Lineages. It was said that even the Dragon's Blood Lineage's Lineage Chief held high expectations and regarded him highly.

In the same stone pavilion, there was a lady beside Li Qingfeng who attracted special attention. She was wearing an exquisite, luxurious, purple dress with a lifelike red carp embroidered on it. Her smooth skin was white as snow and her lively eyes were especially charming, like a red carp gliding gracefully through a clear river stream.

Although she always had a smile on her face, there was a subtle kind of arrogance behind her gaze. Such pride was innate in her. She was like a flower in the high mountains, where ordinary people dared not approach, only to stare wistfully from a distance.

Her name was Li Hongli, Banner Leader of the Violet Blood Banner from the Dragon's Blood Lineage.

It was well known that there were two great goddesses of beauty amongst the Twenty Banners: Lu Qingmei of the Dragon's Scale Lineage and Li Hongli of the Dragon's Blood Lineage.

Lu Qingmei of the Dragon's Scale Lineage was the Banner Leader of the Holy Scale Banner, while Li Hongli of the Dragon's Blood Lineage was none other than the lady right here.

When it came down to appearance, Li Hongli was indeed stunning, and she exuded an air of superiority that put even attractive people to shame.

Lastly, the other two gentlemen in the stone pavilion were the remaining Banner Leaders of the Dragon's Blood Lineage.

Jin Ming, Banner Leader of the Silver Blood Banner.

Li Lu, Banner Leader of the Dark Blood Banner.

Although the four were gathered for tea, Li Qingfeng was clearly more outspoken. Whenever he talked, the other three listened attentively as a sign of respect and obedience towards him.

This included the proud and superior Li Hongli, who smiled sweetly as she gazed at Li Qingfeng's handsome face while listening.

This renowned beauty among the Twenty Banners evidently had some feelings of admiration for Li Qingfeng. "The matchup for the battle has been revealed," Li Qingfeng said with a smile as he lifted his teacup.

However, he did not bother looking at the screen, as it did not matter who the Gold Blood Banner was going to be up against.

"Boss, as long as you're not up against Lu Qingmei of the Holy Scale Banner, there really is not much to see," Jin Ming of the Silver Blood Banner joked.

"So what if they are matched against each other? Lu Qingmei has been suppressed by Brother Qingfeng all this time, I doubt she can come up with anything," Li Hongli chimed in with a teacup grasped tenderly by her slender fingers. At this instant, she gave Jin Ming a stare as if he had mentioned a name that irked her.

Jin Ming laughed in response. Everyone in the Twenty Banners knew that Li Hongli and Lu Qingmei were at loggerheads. Of course, it was mainly coming from Li Hongli, with her cold and arrogant personality. She had a noble background, with parents holding high executive positions in the Dragon's Blood Lineage. As a result, she would listen to no one among her peers in the Heavenly Dragon's Five Lineages except for Li Qingfeng.

On the other hand, Lu Qingmei was not from the direct bloodline even though she came from the Dragon's Scale Lineage. She was actually from an extended bloodline, but her talent was simply amazing. The Holy Scale Banner she led was top tier, second only to the Gold Blood Banner led by Li Qingfeng.

Among the Twenty Banners, the Holy Scale Banner was ranked two.

Meanwhile, the Violet Blood Banner led by Li Hongli was ranked three.

They had fought over the rankings multiple times, but ultimately, Lu Qingmei came out on top. This inevitably made the cold and proud Li Hongli unhappy.

"Lu Qingmei is indeed exceptional. She has already mastered the Heavenly Dragon Scale Armor Art of the Dragon's Scale Lineage. If we really went all out, I would have to work hard to win," Li Qingfeng said with a warm smile.

"Hmph. I have mastered the Dragon Lotus Art of the Dragon's Blood Lineage. Surely that can break her Heavenly Dragon Scale Armor," Li Hongli retorted.

"Haha. Li Hongli, your strength is unquestionable. If it weren't for the big boss here, I'm afraid we would all have to call you 'big sister' and take you as our leader," Li Lu of the Dark Blood Banner said.

"So it's my fault for stealing her limelight," Li Qingfeng added with a nod.

Hearing the praises from the two, a smile finally appeared on Li Hongli's delicate and charming cheeks. She first rolled her eyes at Li Lu before commenting, "I am convinced of Brother Qingfeng's strength. In my opinion, his talent is on par with that of Li Taixuan from the Dragon's Fang Lineage back then. In the future, he could very well become the Dragon's Blood Lineage's Hall Master.

Hearing her mention that name, the expressions of everyone present changed immediately. Li Taixuan was a legendary figure in the Heavenly Dragon's Five Lineages. With him around, the Dragon's Fang Lineage had been well respected. Whether it was leading the Green Nether Banner, the Dragon's Fang Guardians, or later on as the Hall Master of the Green Nether Hall, he was always considered the best of the best in the Heavenly Dragon's Five Lineages.

Under his magnificent leadership, the Dragon's Blood Lineage was totally overshadowed by the Dragon's Fang Lineage. In fact, some had even said that if he were still around, he might already have broken into the King Stage and the Dragon's Fang Lineage might have overwhelmed the current ruling lineage, the Dragon's Blood Lineage.

"I dare not compare myself to Uncle Taixuan. Don't flatter me like that, Hongli." Li Qingfeng smiled and shook his head.

His eyes moved slightly as he continued, "Speaking of which, Uncle Taixuan's descendant recently returned to the Dragon's Fang Lineage. I heard he has entered the Green Nether Banner."

"Yeah, his name is Li Luo. I heard that he passed the Nine Revolutions Draconic Breath trial and obtained the Nine Revolutions Draconic Breath Fiend Art on the first day he joined the Green Nether Banner," Jin Ming of the Silver Blood Banner informed.

"Seems to be quite talented." Li Qingfeng nodded.

"Although he is talented, he has zero luck. After spending so many years in an outer divine continent, even the best talent would be wasted," Li Hongli commented with disapproval. She did not have a good impression of Li Taixuan because her parents were repeatedly defeated by him back in the day. When she was young and growing up, she often heard her father cursing about it, and she was naturally influenced by them.

"I heard that he is only at the Lesser Fiend Palace Tier at the moment. With such a level of strength, he was only able to obtain the Sub Leader's position due to his background," Jin Ming and Li Lu nodded in agreement as they mocked him.

The gap in strength between a Lesser Fiend Palace cultivator and them was enormous. It would not be easy for Li Luo to catch up to them.

After all, these extraordinary figures were giants that stood out even within the Twenty Banners, a paradise of talents.

While they were chatting, a banner member came running towards them and whispered to Li Lu, the Banner Leader of the Dark Blood Banner.

A look of surprise surfaced on Li Lu's face, then he waved his hand to dismiss the banner member. After which, he looked at Li Qingfeng and Li Hongli with a baffling smile.

"I just received news that the third division of my banner has been matched against the fifth division of the Green Nether Banner. And Li Luo is the head of the fifth division," Li Lu shared with them.

The three were startled by the news at first, then they each gave a smile.

Li Hongli said jokingly, "Li Lu, Li Taixuan suppressed our Dragon's Blood Lineage for a long time. It looks like we will have to rely on the Dark Blood Banner to restore our lost honor."

Li Lu could not help but laugh after hearing her. Although he knew she was joking, he still nodded approvingly.

"I will instruct the third division to treat our brother from the outer divine continent well," he replied.

Chapter 0775: Clash

"How is the venue for battle among the banners decided?" Li Luo asked Zhao Yanzhi as he prepared for the upcoming battle. The matchup for the battle had been revealed, and despite the mighty opponent, the morale of the fifth division was high. All that was left was the actual fight.

"If the highest achieved layer for any one of the two banners is below layer thirty-five, the battle will be held at the highest layer achieved by the lower ranked banner. So for us, the Green Nether Banner, our highest achieved layer is currently layer thirty-one. Thus, the battle venue will be set at layer thirty-one instead of the highest layer achieved by the Dark Blood Banner. But once both banners go past layer thirty-five, the battleground will simply be a match between the two banners with no Fiendish Devils thrown into the mix. After all, the Fiendish Devils get stronger as the layer increases, and they do not want to cause any distractions or interferences for the two parties' confrontation," Zhao Yanzhi explained patiently.

Li Luo nodded in understanding.

"Prepare to enter," he ordered the fifth division banner members behind as he headed into the energy vortex without any hesitation. Once again, he vanished into it.

Seeing this, Zhao Yanzhi, Li Shi, and Mu Bi looked at each other, gritted their teeth, and followed closely after their leader.

If worse came to worst, it would just be another defeat. It was not as if they had never lost before.

Like the river water flowing past, the fifth division members followed after them.

It was only after the last member of the fifth division disappeared into the energy vortex that the other members of the Green Nether Banners showed sympathy in their eyes.

Even the Green Nether Banner's first division would have a tough time against the third division of the Dark Blood Banner, one of the top ten in the rankings. And that was if all their members were fully prepared. It was likely a confirmed defeat for the fifth division, having been unlucky enough to encounter them.

At this point, only Zhong Ling stood up slowly with a hint of satisfaction hidden in his eyes. With a wave of his hand, he signaled for the first division to depart as well.

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When the third division of the Dark Blood Banner entered layer thirty-one, their Sub Leader, Li Tong, noticed that the mountains in front of them were shrouded in lingering clouds. And there were the shadows of many Fiendish Devils lurking around in the dense forest underneath.

With a muscular build, Li Tong's face seemed particularly fierce as he glanced around with a hostile gaze.

"Ptui!" He spat on the ground and complained, "What a letdown. I thought we could get an opponent of similar strength to play around with. Instead, we get a group of trash from the Green Nether Banner?"

"Sub Leader, do we go for them directly?" his men asked.

Li Tong shook his head and replied, "I am not interested in playing hide and seek with them. We head straight for the Fiendish Devil Leader and finish it off."

"Won't that be to their advantage? What if they lay in hiding during our battle with the Fiendish Devil Leader and ambush us afterwards?"

Li Tong sneered in response. "So what? This is an order from the Boss. We have to win overwhelmingly. Do you know who their Sub Leader is?"

Before anyone could reply, he continued eagerly, "The son of the renowned Green Nether Hall Master, Li Taixuan. His name is Li Luo, and he has been lost in some outer divine continent until very recently."

"The son of Li Taixuan, Li Luo?"

"I've heard of him. He just passed the Nine Revolutions Draconic Breath trial a few days ago, right?"

"He seems quite talented, but it's a pity he wasted all those years."

The members of the Dark Blood Banner chatted amongst themselves. After all, the time of Li Taixuan's dominance was not that long ago, so it was still fresh in everyone's minds.

Li Tong chimed in. "Li Luo is only at the Lesser Fiend Palace Tier currently. I am afraid he wouldn't even be able to become an elite member of the Dark Blood Banner. He gets to be the Sub Leader of Green Nether Banner's fifth division all thanks to his special background."

"Back when Li Taixuan was around, the Green Nether Banner totally overwhelmed the four banners of the Dragon's Blood Lineage. We dare not mess with Li Taixuan, but now that his son is back, we can have our sweet revenge."

"So this time, we, the third division of the Dark Blood Banner, must not only defeat the fifth division of the Green Nether Banner, but also rob them of this layer's reward. It will be even better if we can do so right in front of their eyes. If we pull this off, our division will be famous among the four banners of the Dragon's Blood Lineage."

When the other members heard his words, their chatter grew excited and their morale rose sharply.

Seeing this, Li Tong just smiled without speaking further. After determining the right direction and waving his hand, he took the lead onwards with his fifteen hundred division members following like a disastrous force of nature.

All of the Fiendish Devils in their path were obliterated in their wake.

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With such an ostentatious display of power, it was not long before the fifth division of the Green Nether Banner, which had entered layer thirty-one at the same time, noticed where they were.

"It looks like we have been underestimated," Li Luo said with a smile as he gazed far into the cloudy distance ahead. Under normal circumstances, the banners would hide their presence during such a clash as it was more beneficial to stay hidden. However, the third division of the Dark Blood Banner had no such intentions at all. They were clearly revealing their position with every individual blazing ahead with their resonant power blasting out in every direction.

This meant that they were extremely confident in their own strength.

"They seem to be charging straight towards the Fiendish Devil Leader's location," Li Shi informed.

"Are they thinking of finishing off the Fiendish Devil Leader before coming after us?" Mu Bi frowned upon seeing this.

"The people of the Dragon's Blood Lineage are always so arrogant," Zhao Yanzhi said furiously. With such an overbearing display of aggression, they clearly disregarded the fifth division completely.

Yet Li Luo did not mind it at all. Instead, he replied with a smile, "Isn't it great? Someone can help us defeat the Fiendish Devil Leader and we can just sit around for the rewards. Where else can we find such a good deal?"

His division gave forced smiles in response. Li Luo was not wrong, but their opponent was clearly going for the Fiendish Devil Leader first and then coming after them next. Even if they wanted to fight for a share of the rewards, they might not be strong enough to do so.

After all, the strength of the Dark Blood Banner should not be underestimated.

Li Luo could understand their worries. After all these years of decline, the Green Nether Banner no longer had the unrivaled confidence they possessed in the old days. Still, such things had to be taken one step at a time.

Ultimately, this fighting spirit and confidence could be rekindled as they overcame strong opponents one after another.

At this juncture, Li Luo commanded with a wave of his hand, "Proceed steadily, there is no need to rush. If they want to be good Samaritans and help us bait the rabble away, let them do it."

With that, the fifth division started to march towards the same destination as well. However, they were careful not to divulge their location, unlike the crude approach undertaken by the Dark Blood Banner.

Four hours passed by.

There was nothing noteworthy or surprising during this time.

It was not until the fifth division started to approach the Fiendish Devil Leader's area that the situation changed. As they approached, a violent blast of energy suddenly erupted.

Li Luo waved his hand for his team to pause their advance.

"They are fighting against the Fiendish Devil Leader," Zhao Yanzhi explained.

Li Luo nodded in agreement. The Fiendish Devil Leader of layer thirty-one was not any weaker than a cultivator at the Greater Heavenly Resonance Stage. If the fifth division were to fight it head-on, it would definitely be a tough battle. While the third division of the Dark Blood Banner was strong, they would not be able to end the battle any time soon.

"Sub Leader, should we charge in now?" Li Shi questioned.

Li Luo shook his head and replied, "They have likely prepared themselves for our ambush. If we charge in right now, we will be dragged into the battle. If things go awry, we may end up facing both the Fiendish Devil Leader and the Dark Blood Banner alone."

At this point, Li Luo groaned slightly and ordered, "Fifth division, prepare to achieve Harmony."

The grand battle was about to begin.

Upon Li Luo's command, the fifth division's banner members formed their hand seals for their respective Draconic Breath Fiend Arts. Soon, strand after strand of resonant power rose into the air and coalesced before Li Luo.

Li Luo had activated the Draconic Atavism Scripture and prepared himself to enter the state of Harmony.

Boom!

In the forest far ahead, aggressive energy blasts shot out repeatedly with deafening roars traveling hundreds of miles in response.

Their clash appeared to be more intense than expected.

This struggle went on non-stop for the next ten minutes.

When Li Luo and the rest of the division noticed a dense strand of earth fiend energy rise into the sky, they understood that the Dark Blood Banner had slain the Fiendish Devil Leader.

Bang!

In the same moment, a flowing energy torrent split the dense forest ahead into two and charged straight into the direction where the fifth division was located.

Li Luo focused his mind into the state of Harmony instantly. At the same time, he gathered his energy and shot out a blast directly towards the incoming energy wave.

BOOM!

The two energy blasts clashed aggressively, uprooting the trees in the surrounding field.

Accompanying the energy blast was booming, arrogant laughter coming from the forest ahead.

"Hahaha, we've waited the whole day for you all, but none of you dared to join the fight? It's just like what was rumored, the Green Nether Banner is really just a collecting point for trash! You guys truly are a disgrace to Li Taixuan's legacy!"

Chapter 0776: Duel with Li Tong

Hearing the thunderous laughter from afar, the fifth division's faces turned red with anger. The Dark Blood Banner's jeers were outrageous!

Nevertheless, Li Luo looked into the depths of the mountains with great interest, only to see thousands of shadows standing around in scattered positions. Despite them seeming disorganized at first glance, there was a special regularity to their positioning.

There was a thick lake of energy rippling above the heads of this group, and at the center of that majestic swirl of energy was a burly figure floating in the air.

He was grasping a broadsword with a gilded ring handle, and its blade was engraved with mysterious seals. There seemed to be faint, golden lines adorning the sword, and an unusually fierce glow condensed on the tip of the blade. Meanwhile, there seemed to be a silhouette of a blood-red wolf howling into the sky within the glow.

This individual should be the Sub Leader of Dark Blood Banner's third division, Li Tong.

At this point, Li Luo recalled the information shared about Li Tong earlier. While he was a Gold Fiend, just like Zhong Ling, his resonant power was definitely one notch higher. Perhaps it was like what Li Shi had shared, Li Tong had been training to break into the Fiend Finisher Tier after failing at his attempt to become a Glass Fiend.

As Li Luo was gauging Li Tong's strength, a fierce gaze locked onto him and a sinister laughter cackled. "Are you Li Luo?" Li Luo nodded in response as he concentrated his mind and lifted himself into the air with the energy gathered from the fifth division.

"Sub Leader Li Ton, you sure are kind—you helped us clean up the Fiendish Devil Leader. And it seems you have lost quite a number of your members, am I right?" Li Luo said as his gaze scanned across the third division, noticing some casualties on the right side. Clearly, they had paid a price in order to defeat the Fiendish Devil Leader quickly.

Hearing this, Li Tong retorted angrily, "Screw you! Are you even worthy of using me as free labor?"

"Li Tong, watch your words," Li Shi replied coldly from the side.

Li Tong glared at Li Shi for a moment before sneering back. "Li Shi, didn't you say that the Sub Leader position for the Green Nether Banner's fifth division would be yours sooner or later? Why are you the subordinate of someone at the Lesser Fiend Palace Tier now? What happened to your arrogance from before? Or perhaps it was always a farce, considering that a Lesser Fiend Palace rat managed to tame you? If that is the case, then there was no need to act so high and mighty when you dealt with me in the past! Psh!"

At this point, Li Shi was fuming with anger, but before he opened his mouth to retaliate, Li Luo stretched out his hand to stop him.

"There is no need to argue with such a person. As long as you bash him into the ground, his mouth will naturally be sealed tight," Li Luo replied with a laugh.

As for Li Tong in the distance, his gaze flickered fiercely as he replied with a cold smirk, "Your skills are nothing compared to Li Taixuan's, but I can see that you picked up on his arrogant attitude. So be it. Your father has ridden roughshod on the Dragon's Blood Lineage for many years. Today, I'll collect some interest from his son!"

When he finished his words, he let out a long roar, and the pool of energy around him rose up like clouds and mist. He lifted his gilded ring broadsword and swung it down forcefully.

In the next moment, several sword lights that were hundreds of feet long slashed down from the sky. Wrapped in an extremely aggressive and domineering aura, they headed straight in the direction of the fifth division.

Each and every sword light boasted the might of a Heavenly Resonance Stage opponent.

Faced with this, Li Luo's face remained calm as he raised his palm, and the powerful energy gathered from the fifth division immediately blazed into action. As his mind visualized it, a huge mirror of water and light was formed in the air in front of him.

The mirror was dazzling, as if it could reflect everything in the world.

The sword lights flew straight into it. However, similar sword lights came out of the mirror at the moment of collision and clashed with them.

Bang!

The space around them vibrated fiercely as the sword lights raged on.

With this encounter, Li Luo gained a sense of his opponent's strength. The state of Harmony achieved by the Dark Blood Banner's third division, coupled with Li Tong's individual power, was comparable to the strength of a middle stage Greater Heavenly Resonance cultivator.

Meanwhile, on Li Luo's side, they were on the level of an early stage Greater Heavenly Resonance at best. He understood this well after using Harmony over the past two days.

Despite their power difference, Li Luo still possessed the Nine Revolutions Draconic Breath Fiend Art to help bridge the gap.

The banner members mainly provided their energy during Harmony, and it was ultimately up to the Sub Leader's capability to utilize it adeptly.

"The Nine Revolutions Draconic Breath Fiend Art is really something, but there is a big gap in strength between you and me. Even the Nine Revolutions Draconic Breath Fiend Art can't save you!" Li Tong sneered when he saw Li Luo blocking his first strike.

Once again, he clenched the gilded ring broadsword tightly in his fist and took a step out, causing the void under his feet to tremble. Above his blade, strands of light shadows arose as if a giant, blood-red wolf had bared its sharp fangs ferociously.

"Dragon-general resonance art, Blood Wolf Fang!" Li Tong cried out as he slashed his blade once more. This time, the world appeared to turn dark red, and a gigantic, blood-red sword light cut through the sky.

The blood wolf dashed forward with its fangs bared, fusing with the sword light.

With one slash, a one hundred-foot-long area of the forest was torn apart.

Although Li Tong had an arrogant and fiery personality, his strength was indeed not bad.

Over at the fifth division, Zhao Yanzhi, Li Shi, and Mu Bi's faces changed upon seeing this.

Li Luo could tell from the bloodthirsty attack that Li Tong was trying to crush the fifth division's morale and end the battle instantly.

"Too naive." Li Luo laughed. This battle was the perfect chance for the fifth division to show its strength to others and gain self-confidence. The third division of the Dark Blood Banner was the perfect opponent for this.

If they could defeat the third division, their status among the banners would rise tremendously.

Even the other banners would look at the fifth division of the Green Nether Banner differently when they succeeded.

With that, Li Luo clapped his hands together, and the Golden-Jade Onyx-Elephant Blade appeared.

"Level Two Divine Elephant Power!

"Thunderpeal avatar, Two Sonic Pulse!"

After Li Luo whispered those words, the Golden-Jade Onyx-Elephant Blade started buzzing and vibrating. In the next moment, a majestic and tyrannical force came forth like an ancient, giant elephant, surging directly into Li Luo's arms and inflating them. The veins in his arms swelled and writhed like earthworms upon this change.

Boom!

At the same time, two peals of thunder echoed within his body. His flesh and blood seemed to ignite, and his body was rapidly strengthened.

Li Luo was now able to tolerate Level Two Divine Elephant Power without catastrophic side effects.

He took a deep breath as he studied his stronger physical self. It seemed like he could better utilize the power of Harmony now.

He stared at the incoming blood wolf sword light calmly. The bloodthirst was so intense that it seemed to dye the sky crimson.

Forming a hand seal with a single hand, the resonant power drained rapidly from his body, and a black dragon banner emerged on his blade.

He then swung the Onyx-Elephant Blade.

Instantly, the void split apart with a dark trace. The next moment, billowing, dark water gushed out, and a lifelike, enormous, black dragon swam out of the water. Clothed in a strong, domineering aura, it charged towards the incoming blood wolf sword light head-on.

The space beneath its dragon claw appeared to have distorted.

The faces of the third division were the ones that changed this time around.

Li Luo's counterattack was more terrifying than they had expected!

"Sub Leader, that is a Duke Art!" one of the banner members shouted.

"Nonsense, of course I know that!" Li Tong replied gloomily. The dominant aura of the Underworld River's Black Dragon far exceeded that of a normal dragon-general resonance art. Li Luo was truly capable, possessing both the Nine Revolutions Draconic Breath Fiend Art as well as a Duke Art!

However, he was not completely unprepared for it.

Li Tong took a deep breath and told the third division with his gloomy voice, "Prepare to execute the secret art! Strengthen the Dragon Wolf!"

Hearing this, many banner members turned serious and formed their respective hand seals immediately. Resonant power condensed in their bodies and then, turned into wisps of dark-red air rising into the sky.

Li Tong took another deep breath. The multiple wisps of dark-red force gathered together into a blood-red ball of light. He grabbed the ball, and with a forward push of his hand, it vanished and reappeared in front of the blood wolf sword light. The blood wolf opened its large mouth and swallowed it in one gulp.

ROAR!

As the blood wolf swallowed the blood-red ball of light, its original body of about a hundred feet rapidly grew in size. This time, blood-red dragon scales started to sprout out of the wolf's body and the wolf's claws turned sharper.

After just a short while, the blood wolf had transformed into a monstrous dragon wolf. At this time, the black dragon that was surfing the waves of the black river utilized the water to suppress it, and the blood-red dragon wolf seemed to have lost its special sense of dominance. As the two seemingly sentient beasts roared and clashed in the shuddering skies, the banner members from both sides watched on nervously.

Chapter 0777: Radiance Revealed

Bang!

A frightening tempest born from energy burst out in the air, and both sides stared at the point of collision.

At the source of the explosion, the black dragon riding atop the Underworld River was viciously tearing at the Dragon Wolf with berserk energy undulations being gradually eroded by the power of the black water.

Both parties were quickly racking up injuries, and subsequent ones became more and more severe.

The only thing was that the injuries did not leave behind any form of blood. But the energy that made up each art began to dissipate at an increasing pace.

Clearly, the Underworld River's Black Dragon Banner held an advantage as it was a Duke Art. In addition to the support provided by the fifth division's Harmony, it had essentially been executed by a greater Heavenly Resonance Stage cultivator and now possessed incisive power.

Still, the Blood Red Dragon Wolf was not that lacking either. As the two arts continued to clash, tempestuous winds were generated from the aftereffects of their blows, and trees were constantly felled in the forest as though the apocalypse had come.

The fight between the two dragons continued for several minutes before a victor finally emerged. The Underworld River's Black Dragon's claw brought with it a corrosive strike that pierced the Blood Red Dragon Wolf's skull, shattering it into motes of light.

Although it had won, much of its strength had also been sapped, but it channeled what remained of its power and rushed towards the Dark Blood Banner.

Li Tong's expression was ugly as he had not expected that he would be unable to restrain Li Luo's single strike with the aid of the third division's secret art.

The bright side was that the power of the move had been sapped.

He smacked out with a palm, and his energy took the form of a gigantic palm that swatted at the now significantly more illusory black dragon.

A thunderous boom rang out.

When the energy palm struck, the Underworld River's Black Dragon opened its maw, and a bright blade light burst out of it.

It was a concealed blade wheel that was now baring its fangs.

The blade wheel was so sharp that it felt like just looking at it could cut someone. It spun forward instantly, shattering the gigantic palm before whirling towards the group from the third division of the Dark Blood Banner.

This sudden development took Li Tong by complete surprise. He had been tricked and ambushed by Li Luo!

That brat had actually hidden a mighty dragon-general resonance art inside his own Duke Art!

This hidden dagger had been played to the point of perfection.

The sharp blade wheel flew past extremely quickly, and Li Tong was unable to react appropriately in time. He could only hunker down, channeling all of the energy provided by Harmony into an energy barrier before the third division.

Swoosh!

The blade wheel whistled when it collided heavily with the energy barrier, causing ripples to bloom violently on its surface.

A brief moment later, the barrier shattered.

Although the blade wheel had weakened slightly, its might was still unparalleled as it barreled into the midst of the Dark Blood Banner's third division under Li Tong's furious gaze.

Psssssh!

Numerous banner members were sent flying and spitting blood. Some were even grievously injured and sent packing, leaving the battlefield a mess.

In a short span of time, the third division had lost more than a hundred members.

Raucous cheers erupted on the Green Nether Banner's side. All of them were inspired by this sight as they had never imagined that they would emerge victorious in any clash against such a powerful enemy.

"Li Luo!" Li Tong bellowed angrily with a belligerent and vicious look arising in his eyes. As a result, his face seemed a little distorted in his fury.

He had not expected such a result.

The Dark Blood Banner's third division originally had the intention of toying with the Green Nether Banner. Unfortunately, they had not even managed to achieve that, only being injured instead.

If others learned of this result, their division would become the laughingstock of the Dragon's Blood Lineage. At that point in time, his Banner Leader would not forgive him.

With this in mind, a ferocious and cruel glint took root in his eyes as he roared, "Dark Blood Banner's third division, if you do not want to be mocked as the joke of the Dragon's Blood Lineage, then you have to dig out all the remaining reserves of strength you have left!"

The gold ringed blade in his hand chopped at his own thumb, spilling fresh blood as he severed his own finger. The sight caused even his own banner members to grit their teeth. All of them similarly took out daggers and sliced at their arms, causing rivulets of blood to spray out from each and every one of them.

With Li Tong's severed finger as the core, fresh blood quickly coagulated around it. And the energy provided by Harmony coursed forth with even greater vigor.

At the same time, the severed finger seemed to have gained a life of its own—it began to wriggle and expand. In the short span of several breaths, it had turned into a one hundred-meter-tall flesh golem.

The golem possessed the head of a dragon but the body of a wolf. It was covered with dark-red scales, and fiendish air shrouded it like a dense, bloody mist.

It exuded frightening pressure, causing the void to shake.

The Dragon Wolf seemed a little similar to the one Li Tong had summoned before, but the new one was not only more life-like, but it had two heads as well.

The two dragon heads bared their fangs, and bright, crimson saliva dripped from its mouth, corroding the ground beneath.

Zhao Yanzhi's anxious voice was transmitted into Li Luo's ears. "Sub Leader, be careful. This is the Dark Blood Banner's secret art, the Two-Headed Sanguine Dragon Wolf!"

Li Luo's gaze shrank as he stared at this abomination. The aura that the Two-Headed Sanguine Dragon Wolf gave off was merciless and potent. He could feel that it had even reached the late stage of the Greater Heavenly Resonance Stage.

The Dark Blood Banner truly had some impressive trump cards.

"Li Luo, being able to coax out the Dark Blood Banner's secret art indicates your strength," Li Tong praised as his face was flushed. The resonant power coming from his body seemed to be gradually weakening, and the expressions of his banner members were similarly exhausted and sluggish.

Bringing out this killing move had taken a massive toll upon them.

However, there was no other choice, as this was a battle they could not afford to lose. He would not have any way to explain himself to the Banner Leader otherwise, and it would also be a loss of face for his division.

Li Luo glanced squarely at Li Tong with his vicious gaze and lightly nodded. "Your Two-Headed Sanguine Dragon Wolf does seem to be decent."

"Still trying to posture at this point? Are you still concerned about your face even when you're at death's door? Prepare to bring your banner members and scam home!" Li Tong felt dissatisfied upon seeing Li Luo's calm gaze.

Li Luo only smiled and shook his head. "Do you really think you've beaten me?"

"Hmph. How else could this end? Li Luo, you might possess uncanny talent, but it's unfortunate that you squandered your early years in a wasteland!" Li Tong retorted.

Li Luo indifferently replied, "You might have forgotten something important. Those who obtain the Nine Revolutions Draconic Breath Fiend Art are able to obtain a Nine Revolutions Art."

This was met with a cold reply. "Stop pretending. The Nine Revolutions Art might be domineering, but you only obtained it a couple of days ago. How could you possibly have grasped it? It doesn't matter what happens in the future, but today, you will fall to the Dark Blood Banner's blade!" With that, he raised his index finger and pointed towards Li Luo.

Roar!

The Two-Headed Sanguine Dragon Wolf's eyes were locked upon Li Luo, and it gave off a draconic roar that seemed to be mixed with the sounds of wolves howling.

Bang!

The Dragon Wolf dashed forward, piercing space on its way. It carried imposing amounts of killing intent that soared into the skies. It was a gigantic beast akin to a force of nature, directly barrelling towards the fifth division.

At this point, both the earth and space trembled and shattered before it.

Meanwhile, the members of the Green Nether Banner had turned a little pale with fear evident in their eyes.

At this point in time, Li Luo's calm voice echoed out and assuaged their fearful hearts. "Banner members, calm yourselves and maintain the state of Harmony. Channel all of your remaining energy to me!"

They each took a deep breath before circulating all of the resonant power within them. Strand after strand of energy arose from the depths of their bodies and condensed into an energy lake above them.

Li Luo's eyes were shut tight and his hands were clasped together, forming a series of hand seals so quickly that he left afterimages in their wake.

The energy that surrounded him quickly rushed towards him as its nexus.

Roar!

The Two-Headed Sanguine Dragon Wolf seemed to have turned into a torrent of fiendish crimson energy that was rushing towards them like a storm. The fifth division couldn't help but feel a primal sort of fear arising from within them in the wake of this peerless attack. Even Zhao Yanzhi, Li Shi, and Mu Bi, who were Silver Fiends, had bated breaths as shock arose within their eyes.

In a blink, the Two-Headed Sanguine Dragon Wolf was right before them.

Once it broke into their formation, they would pay a heavy price with countless individuals being injured.

Meanwhile, a look of berserk joy arose within Li Tong's eyes. Although they had been in danger, it seemed that he would attain victory in the end.

After this, the Dark Blood Banner's third division would become well known for beating this group of weaklings.

However, just as Li Tong felt a sense of anticipation, he noticed that Li Luo had finally opened his eyes. Li Luo's mouth seemed to be moving slowly, and he could vaguely make out a sort of boundless thunder flickering within.

Afterwards, energy seemed to have condensed right behind Li Luo, which quickly took the form of a gigantic dragon silhouette. It possessed an ancient aura of mystery and regality. Even the Two-Headed Sanguine Dragon Wolf paused in its tracks when it was hit with the pressure.

Afterwards, the dragon manifestation opened its maw.

Cold air arose from beneath Li Tong, which then rushed towards the sky.

It was at this point that he was reminded of a familiar Nine Revolutions Art.

"Nine Revolutions Art, Heavenly Dragon Lightning Breath!"

At that very moment, the dragon manifestation behind Li Luo belched out a dazzling torrent.

The torrent of dragonbreath seemed to contain endless thunder and lightning, releasing boundless amounts of destructive power.

Even worldly natural energy was annihilated wherever the dragonbreath passed by, vaporized into nothingness.

The fiendish Two-Headed Sanguine Dragon Wolf stood before it.

The Dragon Wolf could barely resist the imposing might of the dragonbreath for a few breaths of time before eventually vanishing into a puff of smoke.

At the same time, the might of the Heavenly Dragon Lightning Breath had not diminished in the slightest, and Li Tong and the rest of the third division were engulfed by it.

A moment later, all that remained in its wake was just a smoldering patch of charred wilderness.

The entire Dark Blood Banner's third division was nowhere to be seen.

Chapter 0778: Startled Banners

Dragon's Fang Lineage, Fiendish Devil Peak

There was a lot of murmuring in the crowd standing before the Fiendish Devil Cave.

Every division had determined the victors in their respective battles. They had thus left the field to arrive before the hall to chat. Some were ecstatic, some were proud, others were dejected and depressed.

Li Fengyi and Li Jingtao had naturally obtained victory, but they did not leave, only gathering their divisions to await outside the Fiendish Devil Hall. Their expressions were a little solemn as their gaze was focused upon the energy vortex at the main entrance to Fiendish Devil Peak.

They were anxiously awaiting Li Luo's results.

"Do you think he can win?" Li Fengyi frowned slightly as a look of worry could be seen on her fair and bright complexion.

Li Jingtao paused to think before replying, "Little Brother's talent is uncanny, but he has spent too much time in the outer divine continent. If he had a year and a half's worth of time to quietly cultivate, I think he would be able to eke out a victory."

Li Fengyi rolled her eyes. "What sort of crap are you spewing? Do you think I'm asking about the future?" Li Jingtao had always been left a little helpless when faced with this blunt Second Sister of his. "I think the key factor that will determine Li Luo's victory will be his mastery of the Nine Revolutions Art. The sheer power of a secret art is well known to both of us. Although there is a gap between him and Li Tong, utilizing Harmony will shrink the chasm between them, and victory will be decided by their methods."

Li Fengyi frowned again. "I heard that cultivating a Nine Revolutions Art is complicated. Even though he was able to learn it, he will still need a period of time to grasp and utilize it."

"You don't have to worry. The Dark Blood Banner is already stronger than the Green Nether Banner to begin with. Thus, if Little Brother loses, it would not put him under a lot of pressure. This could be treated as a training exercise, and our Lineages are at loggerheads with each other anyway. There will be no shortage of opportunities to challenge them in the future," Li Jingtao explained.

Li Fengyi sighed. "The Gold Light Banner has triumphed over the Dragon's Bone Lineage's Glass Bone Banner. Their momentum and power have strengthened once again. I do hope that Little Brother can regain some of our lost vigor in the future."

"If we, the older siblings, can't do so, how can we trouble our younger brother?" Li Jingtao grinned.

Li Fengyi's face turned red and she crossed her arms. "So what if that's the case? Our Little Brother is Third Uncle's son. Can't you expect more from him?" Looking at Li Fengyi's combative stance, Li Jingtao hurriedly sealed his mouth shut lest he found trouble when he didn't want to.

In an area not too far away, the Gold Light Banner members were currently the subject of countless envious individuals. Deng Fengxian was seated atop a rock recuperating, and his resonant power was boiling within his body. The previous fight was simply too exciting.

The Dragon's Bone Lineage's Glass Bone Banner was an impressive opponent. In fact, they had managed to suppress the Gold Light Banner in the past. It was only now that they had managed to regain the advantage.

Deng Fengxian looked at the entrance to Fiendish Devil Peak, and his gaze flickered when he discovered Li Fengyi and Li Jingtao. It seemed they were awaiting Li Luo's result.

"Boss, Li Fengyi seems to be hoping that the Green Nether Banner's fifth division will be victorious," a banner beside him mocked.

Another banner member laughed. "They are just indulging in their own personal fantasies. Let's not even talk about the sheer gap between their two divisions. Even if they are victorious, so what? It's not like we are in the past anymore. The Gold Light Banner reigns supreme in the Dragon's Fang Lineage. In another half a year, the Chief Banner Leader selection will begin, and that position is destined to be held by the Boss."

These words caused Deng Fengxian to only smile faintly. "If Li Luo is able to demonstrate uncanny ability, it would be a blessing for the Dragon's Fang Lineage. When I become the Chief Banner Leader and clash against the other four Lineages, I will need capable subordinates that are able to fight."

"Haha, the Boss is truly farsighted," the rest praised.

Meanwhile, the Green Nether Banner was currently gathered on the right side of the main hall.

The atmosphere within the four divisions was a little depressing. Although some had managed to eke out a victory and others had lost, none had managed to make it through layer thirty-one.

The vanguard, the first division, was even more pitiful. They had lost to the Hurricane Horn Banner's first division.

Zhong Ling had a glum face and his eyes were furious.

They had challenged the Hurricane Horn Banner's first division countless times and always walked away the winners. But this time they had simply suffered too many casualties and their strength as a whole had eroded. As a result, the opponent was able to turn the tables.

Zhong Ling could feel that the glances from the other three divisions were filled with a sense of dissatisfaction. As the vanguard of the Green Nether Banner, the first division had received more benefits and advantages than the rest, having to bear the brunt of the banner's progress. However, it seemed as though he had not reaped the success they had wanted, and his own reckless decisions had given the Hurricane Horn Banner a chance to return the favor.

Although these gazes were discreet and indirect, Zhong Ling felt his heart twitching in discomfort.

It was all that damn Li Luo's fault. He infuriated him to the point that he had lost his sense of calm.

Still, things could be said to be alright. The fifth division was bound to lose, and his own disappointing results would not be as prominent then.

Just as he had these thoughts in mind, Fiendish Devil Peak's main hall roiled with energy undulations and shadows were shot out from it.

At that point in time, he saw more than a thousand individuals surge out from the distortion.

It was the Green Nether Banner's fifth division.

When they appeared, some of the banner members couldn't stop themselves from excitedly announcing the news. "The Green Nether Banner's fifth division emerged victorious over the Dark Blood Banner's third division! We've also managed to advance through layer thirty-one!"

As the members celebrated, their surroundings fell silent for a few moments. The numerous members of the different banners in the Dragon's Fang Lineage seemed a little taken aback before shock took over their expressions.

The Green Nether Banner's fifth division had beaten the Dark Blood Banner's third division?!!

The patiently waiting Li Fengyi and Li Jingtao were similarly surprised before they glanced at each other. Absolute joy surfaced from their very faces.

The members of the Gold Light Banner who were not far away were also completely shell shocked. Even Deng Fengxian's gaze narrowed when he heard the news.

The Green Nether Banner's second, third, and fourth division Sub Leaders couldn't believe their ears and even suspected that they might have misheard something. It was only when they glanced at each other and pinched themselves hard that they realized that this was the unadulterated truth.

Raucous cheers burst out amongst the banner.

However, there was one individual who had been drowned by the celebrations, his expression turning grim. Zhong Ling.

Ping!

Just as cheers resounded throughout the Dragon's Fang Lineage's Fiendish Devil Peak, on the Dragon's Blood Lineage side...

Li Lu furiously flung the teacup in his hand onto the floor, smashing it into pieces.

His gaze was full of unbridled wrath as he glared at the miserable Li Tong. A gloomy voice was transmitted through gritted teeth.

"You piece of complete trash. Did you just say you lost to the Green Nether Banner's fifth division?!" Silence reigned in the area as Li Qingfeng, Li Hongli, and Jin Ming were all frowning at this sight from their pavilion.

Chapter 0779 – Heavenly Origin Records, Emyrean Chronicle

Facing the furious Li Lu, the defeated Li Tong appeared to shrink into a corner as he explained, "Li Luo has the Nine Revolutions Draconic Breath Fiend Art. He used the Heavenly Dragon Lightning Breath, a Nine Revolutions Art, against us. There was nothing we could do to defend ourselves."

"Enough excuses. You are the first division in the Dragon's Blood Lineage to lose to the Green Nether Banner in the past ten years," Li Lu chastised.

He was extremely embarrassed by this result. Just moments ago, he was boasting to Li Qingfeng and Li Hongli that the Dark Blood Banner could get their sweet revenge on Li Taixuan by starting with his son, but now? Li Tong had returned heralding a humiliating ending.

The Green Nether Banner had been frail for all these past years, unable to even select their own Banner Leader. No one would have ever imagined that the Dark Blood Banner would lose against them.

Li Qingfeng waved his hand and spoke up for him. "Forget it. A loss is a loss. It's just one battle among the banners after all. At least now we know that the son of Li Taixuan is indeed something... Mastering the Heavenly Dragon Lightning Breath in such a short span of time speaks volumes about him."

Hearing this, Li Tong looked back at him with eyes filled with gratitude.

"Looks like the Nine Revolutions Art he got is the commonly seen Heavenly Dragon Lightning Breath. At least it's not one of the best ones among the thirteen," Li Hongli added with a hint of nonchalance on her charming face.

"You are too picky on the details. Whether it's common or not, the Heavenly Dragon Lightning Breath is still a Nine Revolutions Art. We should not underestimate its power," Li Qingfeng replied with a grin.

"Nonetheless, this performance from Li Luo should be his limit. As someone at the Lesser Fiend Palace Tier, he has already done very well to come this far. He might get to bask in the glory for a bit, but that is merely the firefly's glow compared to the dazzling moonlight radiating from Brother Qingfeng. None in this generation of the Heavenly Dragon's Five Lineages will be able to steal your limelight," Li Hongli complimented with a sweet smile.

"Don't flatter me like that, Hongli. There are countless talents in the Heavenly Origin Divine Continent, and many brilliant ones among the Heavenly Emperor Bloodlines as well." Li Qingfeng smiled back.

"With your strength, Boss, you are definitely at least near the very top of the young generation in the Heavenly Origin Divine Continent. In the future, you will surely make a name for yourself on the Heavenly Origin Record's Empyrean Chronicle." Banner Leader Jin Ming of the Silver Blood Banner gratuitously added to the praises with a broad smile. Li Qingfeng's eyes lit up instantly upon hearing about the Empyrean Chronicle. The Heavenly Origin Records were created by the Golden Dragon Bank's Heavenly Origin Divine Continent headquarters. It comprised numerous things from the Heavenly Origin Divine Continent, including its famous individuals, historical events, as well as several lists meant for ranking purposes. Amongst them all, there was a list that attracted everyone's attention: the Duke's Index.

There were multiple ranking lists in the Duke's Index, and the Empyrean Chronicle was one of them.

It recorded the names of the young talents that appeared in the Heavenly Origin Divine Continent from time to time. While there was no ranking amongst those on the chronicle itself, one had to have outstanding and spectacular achievements to even find themselves on that prestigious list.

Most of the individuals on it were at the Heavenly Resonance Tier and generally older than Li Qingfeng. While the momentum surrounding his achievements resembled the younger days of the great Heavenly Emperor Li, he would still need to prove himself with significant actions to get on to the Empyrean Chronicle.

Like all the hot-blooded youths, such fame and vigor greatly attracted Li Qingfeng.

It might seem cliché, but his name would spread throughout the world if he managed to get on the Empyrean Chronicle, riding on the coattails of the Golden Dragon Bank's reputation. "Speaking of the Empyrean Chronicle, the Bloodline of Heavenly Emperor Qing is truly remarkable. I heard that Chu Qing managed to injure a Duke and retreat unharmed despite being just at the Greater Heavenly Resonance Tier," Li Hongli suddenly said.

Li Qingfeng nodded in agreement. "Chu Qing is indeed gifted. He has dual resonances, one at the quasi ninth-grade and one at the upper eighth-grade. Furthermore, he has mastered the famed Duke Art of the Bloodline of Heavenly Emperor Qing, God of War's Heaven Penetrating Fist. He is truly a formidable guy."

"And there is also Qin Yi with a ninth-grade water resonance. High and aloof, she has also been nicknamed the Fairy of Water. Still, she has not even reached the Heavenly Resonance Tier, but I heard she has already been listed on the Empyrean Chronicle due to her stunning beauty," Jin Ming chuckled. Hearing this, Li Hongli gave him a deadly stare, and he quickly restrained his smile.

"Speaking of which... Chu Qing is the direct disciple of Hall Master Qin Lian from the Bloodline of Heavenly Emperor Qing, isn't that right? And Qin Yi is her daughter," Li Qingfeng responded with a smile. At this moment, everyone turned their attention over playfully as Qin Lian's name was mentioned.

There was a huge incident involving Qin Lian many years ago. Everyone in the Heavenly Origin Divine Continent knew about it as it nearly caused a fight to break out between the two powers of the Heavenly Emperor level.

Back then, Li Taixuan from the Bloodline of Heavenly Emperor Li and Qin Lian from the Bloodline of Heavenly Emperor Qing had been engaged.

However, Li Taixuan was not interested in an arranged marriage. Instead, he fell in love with Tan Tailan, who came from the most ordinary of backgrounds. After Li Taixuan openly rejected the marriage in public, Hall Master Qin Lian was enraged. Rumors had it that the Fire Lotus Hall led by Hall Master Qin Lian had issued a secret order forbidding anyone in their hall from having any sort of involvement with the Dragon's Fang Lineage. If any conflicts or disputes arose with them, a battle to the death was required to resolve the situation. It was only after Li Taixuan and Tan Tailan left the Heavenly Origin Divine Continent that the incident slowly dissipated from recent memory.

But with the return of Li Luo, tongues began wagging once again.

What if Hall Master Qin Lian heard about the son of Li Taixuan and Tan Tailan? Although Li Jingzhe of the Dragon's Fang Lineage had mentioned letting bygones be bygones... how would the current generation react to this? "It seems as though the birthday of the Dragon's Blood Lineage's Respected Elder is coming up, right?" Li Hongli smiled with her cherry-red lips.

As if he understood where Li Hongli was coming from, Li Qingfeng nodded and said, "As the Mountain Ruling Chief, the Respected Elder has always wanted to pull ourselves closer to the Bloodline of Heavenly Emperor Qing. He even tried to arrange a marriage a while back, but to no avail..."

"I heard the other Elders saying that the Respected Elder may be inviting guests from the Bloodline of Heavenly Emperor Qing for his birthday, perhaps even Hall Master Qin Lian... Perhaps he would like to use this chance to break the ice between our two bloodlines."

Li Hongli bit her lips and smiled lightly. "Hall Master Qin Lian is not one to forgive and forget so easily. If she's really been invited... there will be a good show to watch."

Li Qingfeng smiled in response. Indeed, if Hall Master Qin Lian came, she would definitely bring along her favorite disciple... the famed one on the Emyrean Chronicle, as well as her beloved daughter. At that time, some conflict would inevitably arise.

Nonetheless, this had nothing to do with them. These were the troubles started by the Dragon's Fang Lineage back in the day. They would simply let the situation deal with itself. With that, Li Qingfeng stood up without any more words. With a wave of his hand, he led the banner members and left the square.

The Fiendish Devil Cave expedition had come to a closure. While some things had gone wrong, the mistakes were insignificant in the grand scheme of things. A small loss from the third division would not change the gears that had already been set into motion.

After all, this place was unlike the resource-deprived outer divine continents.

Chapter 0780 – Flowing Thunder Dragon Fang

Li Luo's first Fiendish Devil Cave expedition had concluded with fantastic rewards. Adding on the gains from defeating the Dark Blood Banner's third division, he should have gotten a total of five or six hundred strands of abstruse fiend light.

This was equivalent to nearly half a month of cultivation.

With such great rewards, it was no wonder why everyone was bursting with excitement whenever the Fiendish Devil Cave reopened.

After experiencing its joys for himself, Li Luo was already looking forward to the next expedition.

Moreover, he got a boost in his own reputation in addition to the abstruse fiend lights. Things couldn't have turned out any better.

Although the third division of the Dark Blood Banner was not considered the vanguard unit, they were still part of the Dark Blood Banner, who currently ranked ninth. On the whole, their banner's strength far exceeded that of the Green Nether Banner. With his victory, Li Luo had exceeded everyone's expectations and made a name for himself within the Heavenly Dragon's Five Lineages.

Many amongst the other four lineages had started talking about him.

While it was not enough to bring about respect and admiration for him, people had started noticing how gifted the son of Li Taixuan was.

After all, reputation required time to build up. With this, Li Luo had gotten a good head-start.

There was still a long way to go. He was confident that in the near future, the eyes of contempt that fell upon him would subside as soon as they heard about the Green Nether Banner.

As the son, he had to preserve the hard-fought honor and respect that his dad had brought to the Green Nether Banner years ago.

After the Fiendish Devil Cave expedition, Li Jingtao and Li Fengyi had dragged Li Luo out for a celebration party, along with a few Sub Leaders from their banners. This would be a good opportunity for Li Luo to get to know them and expand his network in the Dragon's Fang Lineage.

Li Luo was grateful for this opportunity. At the same time, he was truly relieved for the kindness and care shown by his brother and sister. After all, his greatest worry before coming to the Dragon's Fang Lineage was the discrimination and challenges he would have to face from his family members due to the conflict of interests.

He still remembered vividly the struggle for power back in the Xia Kingdom's royal family, and the last thing he wanted was to waste more energy on such needless fights. Although he was prepared to put up a fight if necessary, he was glad that Li Jingtao and Li Fengyi were so accepting of him. Now he could fully focus on his cultivation.

This was the best result he could ever ask for.

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After his first Fiendish Devil Cave expedition, Li Luo's days passed by peacefully.

His cultivation was his biggest focus everyday.

After spending three whole days refining the God Origin Pill, his waterlight resonant palace had reached approximately twenty-seven hundred strands of abstruse fiend light.

He was now more than halfway towards his goal of five thousand.

Over the remaining days, he continued his training at the Green Nether drill grounds to improve his understanding and synchronicity with the fifth division. With better synergy between them, the energy would flow better during the state of Harmony.

Furthermore, the other three divisions, apart from the first division, of course, had become more polite and friendly towards him. They would smile and greet him whenever they passed by each other in the Green Nether drill grounds.

Without a doubt, this was because they had recognized Li Luo's strength after his victory at the Fiendish Devil Cave.

However, this also led to Zhong Ling flaring up and demonstrating his jealousy and hostility towards Li Luo openly, causing the relationship between the first and fifth divisions to turn tense.

In addition, the interactions between each division had changed. The fifth division banner members were more confident after defeating the Dark Blood Banner's third division. They knew that they were not necessarily weaker than the first division, and who knew what the future would hold? They could very well become the vanguard team for the Green Nether Banner.

Nevertheless, Li Luo was not too bothered about this tension as the Sub Leader. He simply continued to focus on his cultivation daily.

As a result, the strands of abstruse fiend light in the waterlight resonance palace increased at an amazing pace.

Furthermore, he had headed to the Four Flags Pavilion of the Dragon's Fang Lineage during this time. That was where they kept their resonance art library, and Li Luo had gone there to search for a powerful dragon-general resonance art.

He needed a new attack to complement his continuous improvements. After all, the Underworld River's Black Dragon Banner was not suitable for ordinary situations despite its formidable strength. It was far too strenuous on him as a Duke Art.

As for the Thousand Watery Knives Wheel, it was still a tiger-general resonance art in the end. Even though its power was close to that of a dragon-general resonance art after his improvisation, it was still limited.

As such, it was crucial for him to master a dragon-general resonance art.

Despite the abundance of resources present in the Four Flags Pavilion, it was still a far cry from House Luolan's resources. Li Luo was unable to find anything satisfying after two whole days of searching.

This was partly because of his high requirements.

He wanted a powerful dragon-general resonance art that could be used in tandem with a bow. Although he had been using the Onyx-Elephant Blade, he actually preferred using a bow and arrow ever since the beginning...

On top of that, the dragon-general resonance art needed to be compatible with his dual resonances, as it would be easier to layer triple resonances onto it.

And this was why nothing in the Four Flags Pavilion was good enough for him.

Li Luo was not willing to relent on any of his requirements. In the end, he could only return home in disappointment.

Luckily, Li Fengyi, who had brought him to the Four Flags Pavilion, had sneakily reminded him that he could use his connections if none of the dragon-general resonance arts in the Four Flags Pavilion caught his interest.

On the next day, Li Luo headed straight for the back mountain of Dragon's Fang Mountain.

Li Jingzhe was pleasantly surprised by his visit, although his face remained serious as usual.

The duo had a nice chat in the pavilion for over half the day.

With the help of the wine, Li Luo finally summoned up the courage to raise his request.

"You sly little brat. So you came here with an ulterior motive, " Li Jingzhe jokingly replied.

Then he casually took out a jade tablet that appeared to be made of a broken tooth, and it had a faint trace of thunder power hidden in it.

As he handed the jade tablet to Li Luo, he explained, "This is what I cultivated long ago, but it fits your requirements."

Li Luo was thrilled to accept it. As he held onto the jade tablet, he could sense significant amounts of information flooding into his mind.

High-grade dragon-general resonance art, Flowing Thunder Dragon Fang.

This dragon-general resonance art required both dragon resonance and lightning resonance power, perfectly in line with the Thunder Dragon resonance that Li Luo possessed. What's more, it was compatible with bow artifacts. This was exactly what Li Luo was looking for.

"I heard of your stellar performance at the Fiendish Devil Cave. Let this be a small little reward for you." Li Jingzhe smirked as he looked at the pleasantly surprised Li Luo.

"Thank you, Grandpa!" Li Luo exclaimed back happily.

"However, this art doesn't just require dragon resonant power, but also thunder resonant power..." Li Jingzhe explained.

Looking back at his deep gaze, Li Luo replied cheerfully, "Grandpa, you must have sensed the lightning resonance within me, right?"

Evidently, the reason Li Jingzhe had taken out this particular art was because he had noticed that Li Luo had a lightning resonance hidden within his triple resonances.

"Little brat, you sure are full of surprises," Li Jingzhe responded with shock. As a King, his observation ability was extraordinary. Moreover, Li Luo had no intention to hide anything in front of him.

"It's no big secret, just triple resonances with a primary and secondary attribute," Li Luo explained honestly.

"This is a truly rare sight. While it's not uncommon to see resonances split into primary and secondary attributes, you have three resonances with dual attributes! So you have six types of resonance power in total," Li Jingzhe said.

"The three secondary resonances are really weak. They can only help to assist the primary ones," Li Luo humbly replied.

"Perhaps, but they will be useful in the future." Li Jingzhe pondered.

"Say what?" Li Luo asked back.

Li Jingzhe shook his head and commented, "In the coming days, the old man at the Dragon's Blood Lineage will be hosting his birthday celebration. I heard that he has invited Qin Lian from the Bloodline of Heavenly Emperor Qing, so things will likely get heated."

At this point, he noticed the lost look on Li Luo's face. With a smile, he patiently explained the incident to Li Luo.

Li Luo finally understood after hearing the whole story.

"Qin Lian has a disciple named Chu Qing, who is one of the most talented amongst the young generation in the Heavenly Origin Divine Continent. She also has a daughter named Qin Yi, who possesses a ninth-grade water resonance and is known for her unparalleled beauty throughout the continent," Li Jingzhe elaborated.

"Grandpa, you mean Qin Lian will send those two to duel me?" Li Luo asked.

"Chu Qing is older than you, so he most likely won't be making any moves on you for the time being. But you will have to be careful when it comes to Qin Yi. Don't be seduced by her charm," Li Jingzhe joked.

Li Luo was at a loss for words. Although he had never met Qin Yi before, he had never seen anyone prettier than his girlfriend back home either.

After all these years spent with Jiang Qing'e, he was somewhat confident in his ability to control himself.

The conversation on this matter ended here. After casually chatting with his grandfather some more, he left the place fully satisfied.

As he watched Li Luo leave, Li Jingzhe grinned a little and pondered over it.

"Li Luo's acquired resonances... are truly special.

"Taixuan, what exactly happened in the ancient ruins?"

"Heavenly Emperor Qin's reaction was indeed a little exaggerated back then...far more than it should have been..."