

## Sacred King 2271

### Chapter 2271

Just as they were about to approach the dao field, Elder Zhong suddenly paused and descended slowly from midair. He waved his hand and gestured for Su Zimo and the other two to descend from midair as well. "Those who come to the dao field to listen cannot stand in midair. Everyone has to stand on the ground to show respect to the Perfected Immortal." Elder Zhong explained. The four of them did not make much of a move. However, at the front of the dao field, a Tier 9 Heavenly Immortal expert seemed to have sensed something and turned his head slowly. When he caught sight of Su Zimo and the others, his eyes flashed coldly! At the same time, Su Zimo frowned slightly as he sensed a wave of hostility from the crowd at the front of the dao field that vanished in the blink of an eye. At that moment, Su Zimo had already descended to the ground. There was a sea of people in front of him and he could not see the source of the hostility at all. At the front of the dao field, "Qingyun, what's wrong?" The number one fairy of the inner sect, Yan Bingying, sensed the strange expression of the man beside her and asked softly out of curiosity. The man beside Yan Bingying was the number one of the inner sect, Fang Qingyun! "I saw an acquaintance." Fang Qingyun said indifferently with a calm expression. "Who is it?" Tang Peng asked from the side. "Su Zimo." Fang Qingyun said. "It's him!" Tang Peng's expression turned cold as a trace of resentment and killing intent flashed through his eyes. Before the 10,000 Year Meeting, the three of them wanted to teach Yang Ruoxu a lesson in order to curry favor with the Moonlight Sword Immortal. The cause was Su Zimo! Furthermore, Su Zimo and Yang Ruoxu were both from the lower world and Yang Ruoxu took good care of him. Back then, Fang Qingyun and the other two suffered a loss as well. Not only did they fail to teach Yang Ruoxu a lesson, they even caused Pang Yu's death! "Qingyun, I heard that Su Zimo also knows a mystical ability to reduce one's lifespan. Do you think that the battle back then ..." Yan Bingying had a confused expression and hesitated to speak. Fang Qingyun said, "The cultivators of the Pang Clan also sent me a message to inquire about this matter. They came to the same conclusion. ""Back then, that lad was only a Tier 8 Earth Immortal. Could he have killed Pang Yu, a Tier 9 Heavenly Immortal?"

Tang Peng frowned deeply, still in disbelief. Fang Qingyun said, "No matter what, that incident was caused by this Su Zimo. This kid has a good relationship with Yang Ruoxu, so he still needs to be taught a lesson. ""Senior Brother Fang, what do you think we should do?" Killing intent flashed in Tang Peng's eyes. He secretly made a beheading gesture and sent a message with his Soul Consciousness. "Do you want me to find a chance to ... ""Junior Brother Tang, don't be reckless!" Yan Bingying frowned and said, "I heard that Su Zimo was in the limelight at the Millennium Meeting and won glory for the Academy. ""That's right. Just teach him a lesson." Fang Qingyun smiled lightly and said, "So long as he understands one thing clearly, exactly who has the final say in the inner court! If he's smart enough to stand on our side, we can give him a chance. ""After all, he is the first on the Earth Leaderboard. He can be considered a talent. It would be a pity to just cripple him. ""Qingyun, do you have a way?" Yan Bingying sent a voice transmission, "Su Zimo's current status is not the same as before. He was only an outer court disciple before. Now that he has joined the inner court, although his cultivation realm is far inferior to ours, he is still the first on the Earth Leaderboard. ""We don't have to do it." Fang Qingyun smiled faintly and looked at the high and mighty figure who was preaching and teaching on the praying mat platform not far away. "Senior Brother Yuchan?" Yan Bingying's eyes lit up and said, "That's right. Senior Brother Yuchan is a true disciple. With his status, even if Su Zimo is the first on the Earth

Leaderboard, he is nothing in front of Senior Brother Yuchan.""But how can we get Senior Brother Yuchan to teach Su Zimo a lesson?"Tang Peng asked.Fang Qingyun said, "Senior Brother Yuchan followed Senior Brother Yuehua in the inheritance ground. Everyone in the academy knows that Senior Brother Yuehua dislikes Yang Ruoxu.""All I have to do is tell Senior Brother Yu Chan about the relationship between Su Zimo and Yang Ruoxu, as well as what happened in the outer sect previously. He'll naturally step forth to teach Su Zimo a lesson."..."There are five kinds of Qi in the spirit. The spirit is the strongest, the heart is the most willing, and the attainment is the greatest. The place to nourish the spirit is the Dao. The nine poverty and twelve sacrifice are the gates of Qi, and the heart is the total absorption. "

"Life is bestowed upon the heavens, the three elements return to one, returning to simplicity, discarding the false and retaining the true. That is the True One; True Immortals are one with the heavens ..."Although Su Zimo and the others were standing outside the crowd, they could still hear the voice of the True Immortal Yuchan from the praying platform in front of the Dao hall. It was gentle and clear.Every word of the True Immortal Yuchan was like a gem filled with mysteries that left a lasting aftertaste.Su Zimo scanned his surroundings, still thinking about the fleeting hostility he felt Just Now and was a little distracted."Elder Zhong, the disciples of the academy here don't seem to have low cultivation realms."Su Zimo took a rough look. Most of the Heaven Immortals around the Dao hall were above rank 5!There were almost none of them who were rank 1 Heaven Immortals like Su Zimo, Infanta Chi Hong and Liu Ping."Of course."Elder Zhong smiled. "When True Immortal disciples impart the Dao, they would usually impart the Dao techniques between Heaven Immortals and True Immortals, how to break through and what insights they have during the breakthrough. Therefore, it's the most helpful for high-level Heaven Immortals."Su Zimo nodded.Right then, for some reason, the True Immortal Yuchan's voice paused for a moment.On the praying platform, after a moment of silence, the True Immortal Yuchan continued imparting the Dao as usual.This short pause didn't elicit any reaction from the crowd.However, Su Zimo realized that the True Immortal Yuchan's gaze had drifted in their direction after the pause.This was the first time Infanta Chi Hong and Liu Ping had entered the inner sect. They were excited to be able to catch a legacy disciple imparting the Dao to them."It's such a rare opportunity for legacy disciples to impart the Dao. There are more than a hundred thousand inner sect disciples. Why are only half of them here?"Infanta Chi Hong asked softly.Elder Zhong explained, "There are some inner sect disciples who might be out traveling to complete some sect missions. There are also some inner sect disciples who are cultivating in seclusion. Naturally, they won't come out of seclusion rashly.""Of course, the Dao techniques imparted by each legacy disciple are different. It'll definitely be beneficial for us to listen to them.""Not bad, not bad."Liu Ping nodded hurriedly and said excitedly, "Just Now, Senior Brother Yuchan's words are truly mysterious. I've been pondering over them repeatedly and have new insights."

"Noisy!"At that instant, a ferocious roar could be heard on the dojo, like rolling thunder.Initially, the thunderous roar sounded above the Dao field. However, instantly, it descended upon the ears of Su Zimo and the others and exploded!Elder Zhong's expression changed slightly.He was a Grade 9 Heavenly Immortal and could withstand the impact of the voice.However, the Infanta Chi Hong and Liu Ping were only Grade 1 Heavenly Immortals. Their bodies swayed slightly and their ears buzzed. In fact, there was even a trace of blood seeping out of their ears!That voice alone was enough to injure the two of

them! Su Zimo managed to withstand it with his Grade 11 Qinglian True Body. However, he felt uncomfortable and frowned.

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Su Zimo narrowed his gaze and looked over. On a tall praying mat platform in the distance, Perfected Immortal Yu Chan was glaring at the four of them with a stern expression with a fiery gaze! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! At the same time, countless gazes looked over at them from the dao plaza. These gazes contained a bit of anger, a bit of surprise, a bit of disdain, and a bit of excitement ... Instantly, Su Zimo and the other three felt an unimaginable pressure! The attention of the tens of thousands of Heaven Immortals of the inner sect of Qiankun Academy was focused on the four of them at the same time – the pressure was unimaginable. Even Elder Zhong felt a little uncomfortable. His face was red, and he was a little embarrassed. Infanta Chi Hong and Liu Ping had just joined the inner sect and were only rank 1 Heaven Immortals. As such, they felt suffocated. Su Zimo's expression was unchanged. He had experienced even more severe and dangerous situations before. As such, the pressure naturally did not affect him much. "Senior Brother Yu Chan." Elder Zhong bowed hurriedly with an apologetic expression. "The three of them are Su Zimo, Infanta Chi Hong and Liu Ping. They have contributed greatly to the academy in this 10,000 Year Meeting." "The three of them have just joined the inner sect and do not know the rules of the inner sect. If they have offended you, please calm down and forgive them, Senior Brother Yu Chan." Elder Zhong explained the origins of Su Zimo and the other two before apologizing and making amends. He was extremely considerate and courteous. "Oh?" Perfected Immortal Yu Chan's expression was still cold as he asked, "So, the reason why you don't know the rules and etiquette is because you have contributed greatly to the 10,000 Year Meeting?" "This ..." Elder Zhong was speechless for a moment. That was not what he meant at all. To think that Perfected Immortal Yu Chan would not let this matter go. "I'm here to impart my teachings and welcome all of you, junior brothers. However, the few of you are too brazen and don't know how to restrain yourselves!" Perfected Immortal Yu Chan's tone turned colder. "You think you can be brazen just because you have contributed greatly to the 10,000 Year Meeting? This is the inner sect, not the outer sect!" A Tier 6 Heavenly Immortal sneered. "So you're the first on the Earth Rankings. No wonder you're so arrogant."

Another voice rang out from the crowd. Su Zimo found the voice familiar, but the crowd was too noisy for him to recall who it was. "So what if you're the first on the Earth Rankings? Even if he joined the inner court, he would only be a first tier Heavenly Immortal, and would be the junior brother of everyone in the inner court! "That's right. Even the top of the Earth Leaderboard has to respectfully greet us and respectfully address us as Senior Brother!" The crowd clamored. Given True Immortal Yuchan's status in Qiankun Academy, many inner disciples would naturally choose to stand on his side. Even if there were some Heavenly Immortals who felt that this matter was making a fuss out of nothing, they chose to remain silent. Under the lead of Fang Qingyun and the others, many cultivators began to denounce Su Zimo and the other two, loudly criticizing them. "So sorry." Liu Ping's face was flushed red and blood was still flowing from his ears. He looked guilty and kept bowing and apologizing. He was so anxious that he was sweating profusely. Princess Chi Hong was ashamed as well. She lowered her head and wished for nothing more than to find a hole to hide in. Elder Zhong was still alright. After all, he had cultivated in the inner sect for many years and many inner sect disciples were familiar with him. As such, they did not criticize him too much. However, Su Zimo and the other two had just joined the inner sect and the current situation was almost universally criticized! Su Zimo frowned slightly and felt frustrated. He had a

nagging feeling that something was amiss. Indeed, the four of them were conversing below. However, their voices were not loud and could not be considered as loud nor were they chattering incessantly. The Dao Hall was extremely spacious and could accommodate tens of thousands of people. They were seated at the back of the Dao Hall and unless one listened carefully, no one would notice the four of them. Furthermore, the four of them were not the only ones conversing in the Dao Hall. Many cultivators were discussing softly and exchanging their insights. If this Senior Brother Yuchan suddenly flew into a rage because of a few words from them, wouldn't his reaction be a little too much? However, Su Zimo had just joined the inner sect and did not know anything about it. He did not know the rules of the Dao Hall either. There was no way he could stand out and clash with a Perfected Immortal and legacy disciple of the academy just because of his intuition.

Perfected Immortal Yuchan said slowly, "People like you who have no respect for the senior brothers of the academy and those who preach the Dao are not welcomed in the Dao Hall just because you have some capabilities." After pausing for a moment, Perfected Immortal Yuchan hollered coldly, "Get lost!" When he heard that, Su Zimo felt a sense of injustice. His expression turned cold and his aura changed starkly! Sensing the change in Su Zimo's body, Elder Zhong was shocked and grabbed Su Zimo's arm hurriedly. In a flash, he blocked in front of the latter. "Zimo, don't be rash!" Elder Zhong sent a voice transmission hurriedly with his spirit consciousness. In Flaming Sun Palace, he had witnessed Su Zimo's methods and temperament. He was truly decisive to kill and could cause blood to splatter within five steps in a fit of rage! But now, the other party was Perfected Immortal Yuchan, a legacy disciple of the academy – he must not go against him! "Forget it." Elder Zhong sent a voice transmission, "We were in the wrong first after all. Let's go." Although the conversation in the Dao Hall was not a big deal, it was still a topic for ridicule. If they were to incur the wrath of a legacy disciple and clash head-on, Su Zimo would have a hard time in the inner sect in the future! In truth, Elder Zhong knew that even if they left now, Su Zimo and the other two would not have an easy time in the inner sect. The three of them had just joined the inner sect and were already scolded by a legacy disciple in front of tens of thousands of inner sect disciples – it was truly humiliating. From now on, no matter who came to preach the Dao, the three of them would attract strange gazes and ridicule the moment they stepped into the Dao Hall. "Hais." Elder Zhong sighed internally. He was a little confused and did not know why Senior Brother Yuchan would suddenly fly into a rage and target Su Zimo and the other two. It was almost as though he was deliberately making things difficult for them. It did not make sense that Perfected Immortal Yuchan and the other two did not know Su Zimo and the other two. "Let's go. It's all my fault." Liu Ping tugged at the corner of Su Zimo's robes as well and blamed himself with an aggrieved and ashamed expression. "Get lost from the Dao Hall!" "Don't disturb us from learning. The Dao Hall doesn't welcome you!"

A series of shouts sounded from the surroundings once more. Princess Chi Hong pursed her lips tightly and lowered her head in silence. She had never suffered such humiliation in the Flaming Sun Immortal Kingdom. However, this was Cosmic Academy. She was a princess in the Flaming Sun Immortal Kingdom and an ordinary inner sect disciple in Cosmic Academy. No matter what grievances she had to endure, she had to endure it! Su Zimo remained silent and closed his eyes, calming his emotions gradually. His initially clenched fists gradually relaxed as well. "You're a frog in a well from the lower world after all. You don't know any manners!" Perfected Immortal Yuchan sneered, "Why? Servant, why aren't you getting lost? Are you indignant?" Initially, Su Zimo was already prepared to leave after the persuasion of

Elder Zhong and the others. However, he suddenly stopped in his tracks when he heard that. Under normal circumstances, as a legacy disciple, Perfected Immortal Yuchan should not have known him. It was clear from Perfected Immortal Yuchan's reaction that he knew of Su Zimo's background! At the same time, Su Zimo finally recalled who the first few mocking voices in the crowd Just Now belonged to – Tang Peng! The reason for this matter was gradually becoming clear. If they were truly in the wrong first and were chased out of the Dao Hall, it was understandable. However, if someone was intentionally targeting them, Su Zimo would definitely not tolerate it!

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Su Zimo turned around slowly and looked in the direction of True Immortal Yu Toad with a mocking look in his eyes as he asked loudly, "I've just joined the inner sect and have never met Senior Brother Yu Toad. How did you know that I'm from the lower world?" Although Su Zimo did not intend to leave, he was not rash enough to confront True Immortal Yu Toad directly or fight him. He was only a level 1 Heavenly Immortal and a True Immortal could crush him to death with a single finger. Qiankun Academy had its own rules. Even True Immortal disciples could not casually attack fellow sect members if they were merely exchanging a few words or having a conflict in the dao field! If Su Zimo were to attack rashly and give True Immortal Yu Toad a chance to retaliate, he would truly be courting death. True Immortal Yu Toad knew that he had exposed himself with his words Just Now. However, he did not mind. He did not even care about a level 1 Heavenly Immortal who had just joined the inner sect, even the top of the Earth Ranking. "I'm asking you. Are you indignant?" True Immortal Yu Toad did not reply to Su Zimo's question at all. He merely glared at Su Zimo with a burning gaze and asked word by word. Every single word caused the voids to tremble and a rumbling might surged towards Su Zimo like raging waves! Everyone could tell that Su Zimo's rebuttal had truly angered True Immortal Yu Toad! At that moment, Su Zimo was not only enduring the pressure of the tens of thousands of Heavenly Immortals on the dao field, he was also facing the wrath of True Immortal Yu Toad! "Zimo, let's leave." Elder Zhong whispered with a pale expression. Although he was an Inner Sect Elder, in front of a Core Disciple, he still had to lower his head and did not dare to contradict a Core Disciple. "I'm indignant." Su Zimo had a fearless expression as he met True Immortal Yu Toad's gaze and asked indifferently, "Senior Brother Yu Toad, are you prepared to take me down?" Private fights were not allowed in Qiankun Academy. No matter who it was, they had to go to the Sword Discourse Arena if they wanted to fight! If True Immortal Yuchan wanted to fight him on the Sword Discourse Arena as a true disciple, he would be the one to lose face. It was like an adult taking the initiative to challenge a three-year-old child, and even announcing it proudly in public. This would only attract the ridicule of others.

Su Zimo was certain that True Immortal Yuchan could not afford to lose face like this! As expected, True Immortal Yuchan suddenly chuckled and retracted the terrifying aura Just Now. He said, "My cultivation level is far above yours. If I were to attack you, you would be even more indignant. Others would also say that I'm bullying the weak." "Just Now, I'm talking about the Dao Heart. The strength of the Dao Heart has nothing to do with cultivation. Since you're not convinced, then follow me to climb the Dao Heart Stairs." "Dao Heart Stairs?" Su Zimo frowned slightly. He had just entered the inner sect and had never heard of the Dao Heart Ladder. When Elder Zhong saw Su Zimo's confused expression, he explained softly, "The Dao Heart Stairs is an extremely special cultivation ground in the academy. It can only be used to cleanse one's Dao Heart." "There are a total of nine steps on the Dao Heart Stairs. Each stone step was left behind by the person with the strongest Dao Heart in the history of the academy."

With a strong Dao Heart, the Heaven and Earth would tremble and the Great Dao would resonate, forming a supreme will!" Su Zimo asked, "In that case, the nine stone steps are not real?" "That's right." Elder Zhong said, "Although they are not real, each stone step truly exists." "Everyone who steps on the Dao Heart Stairs will have to withstand the supreme will left behind by the owner of the stone steps. If their Dao Heart cannot withstand it, they will fall from above." "One can only ascend to the second step after withstanding the impact of the first step. Every year, cultivators will head there to cleanse their Dao Hearts and attempt to climb higher stone steps." Su Zimo understood. In other words, the stronger one's Dao Heart was, the higher one could climb on the Dao Heart Stairs! The strength of one's Dao Heart had nothing to do with one's cultivation realm. It all depended on how firm one's heart was in seeking the Dao and how much temptation one could withstand. Life, death, illness, and the seven emotions and six desires – every single one of them was a form of tempering for one's Dao Heart. No matter how high one's cultivation realm was, it would be difficult to break free from it. Su Zimo asked again, "How many people in Heaven and Earth Academy can ascend to the ninth step?" "How many?" Elder Zhong was shocked. "Hahahaha!" "Indeed, this person who ascended from the lower realm knows nothing. He's just a frog at the bottom of a well."

"The ignorant are truly fearless!" When the many Heaven Immortals heard Su Zimo's question, they burst into laughter. In the crowd, Yan Bingying could not help but chuckle. "Senior Brother Qingyun, Su Zimo is bound to lose." "It's not enough to just lose!" Fang Qingyun shook his head gently. "If we can make his Dao Heart collapse and he can't cultivate in the future, we'll be able to comfort Junior Brother Pang Yu's spirit in heaven." "What should we do?" Tang Peng asked. Fang Qingyun smiled indifferently. "That will depend on Senior Brother Yuchan's methods." Elder Zhong rolled up his sleeves and wiped off his sweat. "Every single step of the Dao Heart Staircase is no ordinary stone step. How can it be that easy? From what I know, apart from the Patriarch, no one in the academy can ascend to the ninth step." "It's already good enough if they can ascend to the second step, let alone the ninth." "Most disciples of the academy, including legacy disciples, find it difficult to surpass the third stone step." When he heard that, Su Zimo understood why the surrounding Heaven Immortals were laughing. That suggestion of Perfected Immortal Yuchan was rather fair. However, since he dared to make such a suggestion, he must have immense confidence in himself. As for Su Zimo, he had never ascended the Dao Heart Staircase and had no experience. In that aspect, he naturally could not compare to Perfected Immortal Yuchan. "Su Zimo, are you afraid?" A mocking expression appeared on Perfected Immortal Yuchan's face. "If you don't dare, then apologize to me respectfully right here and scram. Don't let me see you again!" "Cut the crap and lead the way." Su Zimo replied indifferently. Elder Zhong wanted to stop him but it was too late. Sighing internally, he pondered for a moment before sending a voice transmission with his spirit consciousness, "Su Zimo, that's good too. It's fine if you agree to it. However, don't try to be brave on the Dao Heart Staircase. If you can't take it, retreat immediately and you won't be injured." "Su Zimo, you're too sharp." Elder Zhong lamented, "If you want to survive in the upper world, there are times when you have to endure. Just like earlier on, we were scolded and embarrassed. That's nothing much since we didn't suffer any losses. We can just leave. There's no need to try to be brave. "

"Elder, you're right." Su Zimo did not refute and merely smiled. "It's just that our Daos are different." There were countless cultivators and all of them pursued different Daos. Perhaps, some people's Daos were about restraint and caution. If they were asked to scram, they would scram. If they

were asked to kneel, they would kneel. There was nothing wrong with their Daos. Perhaps, there was no difference in their Daos. However, that was not Su Zimo's Dao or Araki Takeshi's Dao! From the moment Su Zimo stepped onto the path of cultivation, he wanted to fight against the heavens and avenge his debts of gratitude and revenge! It was better to live a grand life than to live an ignoble existence! If he wanted to live an ignoble existence, what was the point of seeking immortality? If he did not have such a Dao heart and perseverance, he would not have been able to reach this point! If he did not have such a Dao heart, he would not have dared to accept the challenge and ascend the Dao Heart Staircase with Perfected Immortal Yuchan!

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Perfected Immortal Yu Chan smiled faintly as he headed in the direction of the Dao Heart Stairs. To him, dealing with a rank 1 Heavenly Immortal who had just joined the inner sect was as easy as lifting a finger. Although he was a legacy disciple, he was ranked last among the hundreds of disciples in the inheritance ground and was nothing much. However, Moonlight Sword Immortal was different! In the inheritance ground, Moonlight Sword Immortal was one of the top three! If he could make use of this opportunity to get closer to Moonlight Sword Immortal and obtain some guidance from her, that would be a great opportunity! In the Qiankun Academy, no matter if it was the inner or outer sects, or the place of true inheritance, there would naturally be groups of various sizes and factions. If one was alone without any backing, it would be difficult for them to establish themselves in the academy. In fact, Heaven and Earth Academy usually turned a blind eye to the fights between disciples of different factions. In fact, they even tacitly agreed to it. As long as they did not violate the sect rules, there were more advantages than disadvantages for them to spar. The path of cultivation was filled with danger and bloodshed. If one did not have the experience of fighting in the academy, they would not be able to adapt to the cruel world outside after leaving the academy. Initially, Perfected Immortal Yu Chan merely wanted to chase Su Zimo out and embarrass him. However, Su Zimo's rebuttal enraged him. A rank 1 Heavenly Immortal who had just joined the inner sect and ascended from the lower world dared to go against him? So what if he was the top of the Earth Ranking? Perfected Immortal Yu Chan already had a plan in mind and intended to make use of the Dao Heart Stairs to teach Su Zimo an unforgettable lesson! There was no danger in the Dao Heart Stairs itself. However, if a cultivator who ascended the Dao Heart Stairs could not withstand the impact of the Dao hearts left behind by the experts above and insisted on not retreating, their Dao hearts would collapse and they would enter Qi Deviation! In the best case scenario, it would be difficult for their cultivation to improve. In the worst case scenario, their cultivation might even collapse! Tens of thousands of Heavenly Immortal experts headed towards the Dao Heart Stairs in a mighty manner, forming an extremely majestic scene in the inner sect. "What's going on?" Some of the other inner sect disciples did not know what was going on and went up to ask.

Someone laughed. "A rank 1 Heavenly Immortal who just joined the inner sect is causing trouble in the dao hall. He provoked Senior Brother Yu Chan and even wanted to compete with Senior Brother Yu Chan on the Dao Heart Stairs!" "Who is it? Are you crazy?" "You're from the Lower Realm. You don't know any etiquette." "No wonder." These disciples had long deviated from the truth through word of mouth. In other words, for the onlookers, the truth itself was not important. They only needed to know one thing. That was, a Level One Heavenly Immortal actually dared to challenge a Legacy Disciple! The crowd surged. Princess Chi Hong was originally lively and active, but at this moment, she had quietened down. She looked at Su Zimo with eyes filled with worry. Liu Ping clenched his fists tightly with a perturbed

expression. He looked around at the strange gazes from time to time and listened to the mocking laughter from not far away. He felt uneasy. Su Zimo's expression was calm as he followed the crowd. Not long after, the crowd of cultivators passed through a lush forest and arrived at a spacious area. This place was quite spacious, but it was still a little crowded to accommodate tens of thousands of cultivators at once. After all, the Dao Heart Stairs was a place to baptize and temper one's Dao Heart. It was rare for so many Inner Sect Disciples to appear at the same time. There was an altar in the middle of the area. Looking down, one could see that there were mysterious runes carved on the altar. They were densely packed and seemed to be some sort of formation restriction. In the middle of the altar, there was a stone staircase that rose from the ground and had a total of nine levels. Every single level of the stone staircase was neither ethereal nor corporeal. There was a strange light circulating on it and it emitted a boundless energy fluctuation! Standing before the altar, everyone felt as though they were not facing the Dao Heart Stairs. Instead, they were facing nine eternal peerless experts that stood between the heavens and earth and looked down at them! An invisible pressure shrouded the area. When Elder Zhong saw that Su Zimo had made up his mind, he knew that there was no way he could persuade him otherwise and sent a voice transmission with his spirit consciousness, "Su Zimo, there are a total of nine levels on the Dao Heart Stairs. The first stone step was condensed by the former Immortal King Tian Ming of the academy and is known as the Step of Longevity."

"Among the nine stone steps, the first one is relatively easy. That's because most cultivators seek the Dao of Longevity. Once they step onto the Step of Longevity, their Dao hearts will be similar and it's easy for them to resonate." "The second stone step is called the Unfettered Step, and it was condensed by the academy's Immortal King Sui Xing. What this Immortal King sought was great freedom and freedom. He wanted to do as he pleased and as he pleased." "The impact and impact of the Unfettered Step on a cultivator's Dao Heart isn't too great. If you're unable to endure it, then you can just retreat." "The third stone step is the Step of Slaughter." When he spoke up to here, a trace of fear flashed in Elder Zhong's eyes, and he said, "Su Zimo, no matter what, you must not step onto this stone step!" "The Step of Slaughter has the greatest impact and impact on a cultivator's Dao Heart. If one's Dao Heart is unstable, then the slightest carelessness will cause one to fall into the desire to slaughter, lose oneself, and suffer from qi deviation." "In the academy, regardless of whether it's the inner court or elite disciples, most cultivators are unable to surmount this Step of Slaughter." "As for the later stages, I haven't come into contact with them. I heard there's the Step of Nature, the Step of Fearlessness ... Right!" Elder Zhong seemed to have thought of something and said, "The ninth stone step was condensed by our Patriarch's Dao Heart. However, no one in the academy is able to step onto it." "Su Zimo, are you afraid?" Right then, an ear-piercing teasing voice sounded, causing many cultivators to roar with laughter. When Perfected Immortal Yu Chan saw Su Zimo's silence, he thought that the latter was afraid and provoked him. "Su Zimo, if you're afraid, I'll compete with you!" At this moment, another voice sounded. Su Zimo looked over and saw many inner sect disciples crowding around Fang Qingyun, Yan Bingying and Tang Peng not far away. The person who spoke was Tang Peng! He was worried that Su Zimo would back off at the last minute out of fear of the reputation of being a legacy disciple. That was the reason why he jumped out impatiently. Tang Peng smiled. "Su Zimo, we're both inner sect disciples. I'm not bullying you for ascending the Dao Heart Staircase with you." "You?" Su Zimo glanced at Tang Peng from the corner of his eyes before retracting his gaze and saying indifferently, "You're not worthy."

Tang Peng was stunned for a moment before he was enraged! "Insolent!" "Brazen!" Before Tang Peng

could say anything, some inner sect disciples had already jumped out and hollered. Tang Peng's gaze was sharp like an eagle's and shone with a cold glint. He glared at Su Zimo with a murderous aura and said coldly, "Alright, let's see how many levels of the Dao Heart Staircase you can clear!" Su Zimo could not be bothered with him and walked towards the Dao Heart Staircase. Perfected Immortal Yu Chan was already standing there. "Zimo, be careful." Princess Chi Hong reminded softly with a worried expression. Liu Ping was nervous as well, as though he was even more nervous than ascending the Dao Heart Staircase personally. Elder Zhong sent another voice transmission, "Su Zimo, you must remember not to force yourself! If you feel that something is amiss, retreat immediately!" With his back facing the three of them, Su Zimo waved and arrived at the altar before long, standing side by side with Perfected Immortal Yu Chan. Right then, Tang Peng suddenly stepped forward and came to Su Zimo's left, sandwiching Su Zimo in the middle with Perfected Immortal Yu Chan.

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When Princess Chi Hong saw that, she was a little worried and asked softly, "Elder Zhong, will the two of them attack Zimo when they ascend the Dao Heart Staircase?" "No, cultivators are not allowed to fight on the Dao Heart Staircase." Elder Zhong shook his head gently. After pausing for a moment, he seemed to have recalled something and his expression changed slightly. "What's wrong?" When Princess Chi Hong saw Elder Zhong's odd expression, she asked hurriedly. Elder Zhong replied, "While fighting is not allowed on the Dao Heart Staircase, talking is not prohibited. If Tang Peng or Senior Brother Yu Toad were to provoke Su Zimo verbally during the Dao Heart Trial, there might be unpredictable consequences. "Verbal attacks were often even more frightening and dangerous. That was the reason why there were divine powers and mystic skills such as verbal attacks. Fights between top cultivators were extremely cautious. Most of the time, they would test each other verbally and search for flaws in the other party. During the Dao Heart Trial, if Su Zimo was provoked by Tang Peng or Perfected Immortal Yu Toad's words and revealed a flaw in his mental state, there was a high chance that his Dao heart would collapse! If Su Zimo had ascended the Dao Heart Staircase before and had some experience, he might be able to deal with it. But now, it was Su Zimo's first time ascending the Dao Heart Staircase. If anyone were to interrupt him verbally while he was undergoing the Dao Heart Trial, the consequences would be unpredictable. At that thought, just as Elder Zhong was about to send a voice transmission to remind them, Su Zimo and the other two suddenly moved. Almost at the same time, they ascended the first level of the Dao Heart Staircase! A series of mysterious lights shone from the sacrificial altar, forming a sealed barrier that isolated all sounds from the outside world. "We're a step too late." Elder Zhong sighed internally and could only pray secretly, "I hope that Su Zimo can survive this calamity. The heavens help the worthy." The first stone step of the Dao Heart Staircase. When Su Zimo stepped onto the stone steps, he suddenly felt a strong will that was slowly breaking through the obstacles on the path of cultivation and advancing forward courageously despite the hardships he had to face! "Immortals caress my head and grant me eternal life." "The world of mortals is full of intrigue, bloodshed, battles, karma, reincarnation ... I only seek the Dao of immortality!" Su Zimo seemed to be chasing after the footsteps of his predecessors, and he was moving through the endless river of time to temper his Dao Heart.

The Dao of Longevity was also the Dao that most cultivators sought. On the path of cultivation, only by adhering to one's own Taoist heart, not being disturbed by external things, and not being confused by inner demons, could one reach the other shore. Once one's Dao Heart was shaken, one's beliefs would

collapse along with it. At that time, inner demons would breed, and one's temperament would change greatly. Even one's cultivation and attainments could be completely dispersed in a short period of time! Su Zimo stood on the first step of the Dao Heart Staircase and endured the Longevity Will to temper and cleanse his Dao Heart, making it purer and firmer! The power of the Dao Heart Ladder was not targeted at the physical body or the Primordial Spirit, but at the Dao Heart. Only with a strong enough Dao Heart could one remain unaffected by the Longevity Will. For example, some cultivators might seek the Sword Dao. The Way of the Sword required one to advance courageously, and one would rather break than bend! However, under the impact of the Longevity Will, if one's Dao Heart was not firm enough, they would be confused and even doubt themselves. Why did one have to break rather than bend? Why did one have to die indiscriminately? There was only hope and eternal life if one was alive. Once such confusion arose, one's Dao Heart would waver. Perfected Immortal Yu Chan and Tang Peng had climbed the Dao Heart Staircase countless times and were the most familiar with the Longevity Will on the first step. The two of them had a relatively easy time dealing with it. "Su Zimo, what's the Dao you seek?" Tang Peng's eyes flashed with a cold glint as he suddenly asked. Although Su Zimo heard Tang Peng's voice, he was immersed in the tempering of his Dao Heart and could not be bothered with anything else. When Tang Peng saw that Su Zimo did not answer, he continued, "No matter what your Dao is, you should at least learn how to judge the situation. That's the only way you can survive and attain eternal life!" Su Zimo remained expressionless and did not answer. During that period of time, Tang Peng tried to provoke Su Zimo verbally but the latter turned a deaf ear to it. Later on, Tang Peng's Dao Heart was almost broken by the Longevity Will because he was constantly distracted by talking. Frightened, he hurriedly maintained his Dao Heart and guarded his Bier. Perfected Immortal Yu Chan did not say anything.

Even if one's Dao Heart was broken on the first step, the damage dealt would not be great. However, if Su Zimo could continue climbing and reach the third step, that would be the best opportunity to strike! "Senior Brother Qingyun, how long do you think Su Zimo can last?" Yan Bingying asked. A Heaven Immortal at the side pouted his lips and said in disdain, "It's already not bad if he can last for 15 minutes on the first step of the Dao Heart Staircase." Fang Qingyun shook his head gently. "That person's Dao Heart is firm and it won't be an issue for him to pass the first step. It's just a matter of whether he'll end up on the second or third step." Right then, Perfected Immortal Yu Chan moved and raised his foot, stepping onto the second step! "So fast!" As expected of a legacy disciple. He managed to pass the test of the Longevity Staircase in such a short period of time! A series of exclamations sounded from the crowd. The moment Perfected Immortal Yu Chan stepped onto the second step, he turned around and looked at Su Zimo with a fake smile. "I'll be waiting for you at the front." Although that statement seemed simple, it was filled with provocation. Furthermore, it brought immense pressure to Su Zimo! However, Su Zimo was unmoved. His expression was calm as he continued to endure the Dao Heart Trial of the Longevity Staircase. This trial of the Dao heart on the stone steps was all new to him. The reason why he took a long time was not because his Dao Heart was not strong enough, but because he was too unfamiliar with the Dao Heart Trial and needed time to adapt. In the blink of an eye, 15 minutes passed. Tang Peng's eyes shone brightly as he suddenly took a step forward and ascended the second step! "Hahahaha!" The moment he stepped onto the second step, Tang Peng turned back to look at Su Zimo and laughed. "You're too slow. If you can't hold on ..." Before Tang Peng could finish, Su Zimo moved as well. He stepped onto the second step and was not far behind Tang Peng! Tang Peng's voice came to a stop. He was a Level 9 Heavenly Immortal and had cultivated in Heaven and Earth

Academy for many years. He had ascended the Dao Heart Staircase hundreds of times, if not thousands. However, Su Zimo had just joined the inner sect and was only a Level 1 Heavenly Immortal. Furthermore, he was from the lower realm. Yet, he was not weaker than him?

At the thought of that, Tang Peng's anger, jealousy, suspicion, indignation and all sorts of complicated emotions surged uncontrollably. What rights did a servant have? Both of us ascended the second step at almost the same time. How would others view me? Am I inferior to a servant and a Level 1 Heavenly Immortal? All sorts of thoughts surged into Tang Peng's mind and his head felt like it was about to explode. His eyes were bloodshot and his expression was dark while the essence qi within his body was in chaos. "Not good!" Fang Qingyun frowned. "Tang Peng's Dao Heart has fallen." Before he could finish his sentence, Tang Peng cried out and fell straight down the Dao Heart Staircase onto the altar in an extremely wretched state. Tang Peng's face was pale as he panted heavily. His entire body was trembling and his pupils were dilated as though he had suffered a great shock!

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The Dao heart intent of another Immortal King was condensed on the second stone step. Initially, Tang Peng's Dao heart was only at the second stone step. Now that he had ascended the second stone step, he failed to stabilize his mind and defend his Dao heart. Instead, he wanted to mock and attack Su Zimo. As a result, his Dao heart revealed a flaw and was instantly destroyed by the powerful intent of the stone step! This was the Carefree Stair and the impact on a cultivator's Dao heart was not too strong. Even so, a crack appeared on Tang Peng's Dao heart. He would have to enter seclusion for a period of time upon his return before he could recover completely. "Tang Peng has embarrassed himself greatly this time round. He took the initiative to provoke but ended up falling." "He was probably too careless." "This Su Zimo is truly capable. He managed to ascend to the second level on his first attempt at the Dao Heart Staircase." The surrounding inner disciples whispered to each other. When Princess Chi Hong and Liu Ping saw that Su Zimo was fine, their expressions relaxed as well. Fang Qingyun raised his head slightly. Two inner sect disciples behind him understood and hurried forward to help Tang Peng down. Even after leaving the Dao Heart Staircase, Tang Peng did not seem to have recovered from his stupor. His body trembled continuously and his gaze was empty, as though he did not recognize anyone. The Dao heart intent of the second stone step had too great of an impact on him. Although he had fallen from the Dao Heart Staircase after his Dao heart was lost, his mind had yet to extricate itself from it. Fang Qingyun closed his fingers and a spirit light appeared on his fingertips, tapping gently on Tang Peng's glabella. Tang Peng's expression froze and he fainted. Fang Qingyun said, "Let him sleep for a while. He'll regain his consciousness after he wakes up." On the Dao Heart Staircase, Su Zimo and True Immortal Yu Toad stood side by side once more. "Not bad," True Immortal Yu Toad chuckled and said leisurely, "To think that you would be able to clear the first level's Dao heart trial so quickly." On the second stone step, True Immortal Yu Toad had a relaxed expression. While enduring the Dao heart trial, he could still divert his attention to speak. Su Zimo remained silent. "Actually, the Carefree Will of the second stone step is nothing much. The third step is the true Dao heart trial!" True Immortal Yu Toad continued.

Su Zimo remained silent. The reason why True Immortal Yuchan spoke was because he wanted Su Zimo to reply. Once he replied, no matter what it was, he would definitely be distracted. However, Su Zimo did not fall for it. Thus, True Immortal Yuchan stopped probing. He remained silent and focused on resisting

the trial of the second stone step. "Good or evil, good or evil, black or white, I don't care!" "I only want to be free and unfettered. I want to do as I please. The world, the rules, the seven emotions and six desires, nothing can restrain me!" Under the influence of that Dao heart, Su Zimo felt as though he had returned to Tianhuang Mainland and was back to the time when he had just started cultivating. He was back on the path of cultivation and only wanted to be carefree! Holding on to his carefree Dao heart, he lived more freely and freely. There was no burden on his body, and he could do whatever he wanted. Su Zimo gradually lost himself in this state, unable to extricate himself. However, when he saw the countless citizens of Yan Country destitute and homeless, and when he saw Su Hong pass away with his own eyes, his heart was still filled with intense emotions! It was as though something had broken through the fog and broken free from the shackles of his carefree self. "I want to establish a Dao," Su Zimo stood on the second stone step and suddenly said something. His voice was so soft that almost no one could hear him clearly. However, these four words exploded in his mind like a sudden clap of thunder! Those were the words that he said personally back then. From then on, he embarked on an extremely difficult Dao with an uncertain future. On that Dao, no one could help him or give him any experience – he could only advance alone! However, when Su Zimo woke up, the Dao of carefree could no longer affect his Dao heart. That was the heart of Wu Dao! He advanced courageously and was fearless! Right then, Perfected Immortal Yu Chan stepped onto the third stone step and turned back to look at Su Zimo with a faint smile. "I'll wait for you at the front." Before his sentence was finished, Su Zimo stepped onto the third stone step as well! There was quite a stir in the crowd. More than half of the tens of thousands of inner sect disciples present could not ascend to the third stone step.

But now, this rank 1 Heavenly Immortal who had just joined the inner sect had already surpassed most of them! "Not good," Elder Zhong, on the other hand, looked solemn and worried. He said, "The third stone step is the Step of Slaughter. It's the most dangerous step. Once the Taoist Heart is lost, it's very likely that it will lead to Qi Deviation and the destruction of one's cultivation!" When Perfected Immortal Yu Chan saw Su Zimo follow closely behind and ascend to the third stone step as well, the smile on his lips vanished and his expression darkened. This time round, he did not say anything to provoke Su Zimo. Because even he had to concentrate fully on the 3rd stone step, calm his heart, condense his energy, and guard his soul with his mind to resist the impact of the Slaughter Dao Heart! Although he could ascend to the third stone step, he had never been able to cross this step. "Kill! Kill! Kill!""The Dao of Massacre exists in one's heart!""Any concerns, shackles, obstacles, obstructions, and karma can only be killed!""Only by killing can you destroy everything and everything in the world and carve out a bloody path so that there will be no more obstructions in front of you!" The moment he stepped onto the third stone step, Su Zimo felt a chilling killing intent that was so thick that it was almost corporeal descending upon him! The Dao of Massacre was one that upheld the word 'kill' regardless of right or wrong in everything! Killing intent enveloped and attacked one's heart! If one's Dao heart was not strong, resolute or pure enough, there was a high chance that they would lose their rationality and enter Qi Deviation after being affected by the killing intent! Su Zimo defended his Dao heart and withstood the killing intent on the third stone step continuously. The killing intent was much more frightening and dangerous than the Longevity and Unfettered intents from before and the impact was much stronger as well! However, no matter how strong the killing intent was, it could not shake Su Zimo's Wu Dao heart! The two true bodies were connected. The Dao heart stairs were not only testing the Dao heart of Qinglian's true body but also the Dao heart of Wu Dao's true body! Although it was in Qinglian's town that stepped onto the Dao heart stairs, Wu Dao's true body that was far away in the Demon Territory was also undergoing the

tempering and baptism of the Dao heart.

No matter how strong the killing intent was, how could it defeat the spirit of Wu Dao's heart!"I want to establish my Dao!"I want to break the shackles of fate that bind all living beings!"I want to change the fate of all living beings!"I want all living beings in this world to be able to cultivate and become immortals. I want everyone to be like dragons!"The Dao of Massacre could destroy everything but it could not destroy Su Zimo's Wu Dao heart. It could not sever the True Martial Great Dao!Bang!Su Zimo roared and his gaze was like lightning. Suddenly, he lifted his foot and stepped onto the fourth stone step!The crowd was shocked and was in an uproar!On the third stone step, Perfected Immortal Yu Chan was still trying his best to defend against the impact of the killing intent and was already struggling.Su Zimo's actions caused his Dao heart to waver and he was almost defeated by the killing intent!"Not good!"Perfected Immortal Yu Chan was shocked and hurriedly focused, wanting to stabilize his Dao heart and hold on.Right then, Su Zimo glanced sideways and said indifferently, "Senior Brother Yu Chan, I'll wait for you at the front."That was initially said by Perfected Immortal Yu Chan to agitate Su Zimo. But now, it was the final straw that crushed his Dao heart!"You!"Perfected Immortal Yu Chan was enraged and his killing intent surged.The moment that killing intent appeared, it was uncontrollable and burst forth like a ferocious beast!

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The killing intent surged into True Immortal Yu Toad's consciousness and True Immortal Yu Toad's Essence Spirit was tainted with blood."Not good!"True Immortal Yu Toad was alarmed and realized that something was amiss. He hurriedly composed himself and held his breath, wanting to dissipate the killing intent in his heart.However, the killing intent on the third stone step was extremely ferocious and swarmed in the moment it found an opening!Given True Immortal Yu Toad's strength, he could not defend against the killing intent of the third stone step to begin with.Now that his Dao heart was shaken, his consciousness was taken over by the killing intent in the blink of an eye. His eyes were bloodshot and his expression was extremely menacing!"Kill! Kill! Kill!"True Immortal Yu Toad waved his arms repeatedly with a tragic expression. He roared at the top of his lungs and was already in a frenzy.Everyone could tell that True Immortal Yu Toad's Dao heart was corroded by the killing intent and he was in a state of Qi Deviation that he could not extricate himself from!"This is bad,"Fang Qingyun frowned slightly and murmured softly.The tens of thousands of inner sect disciples were horrified as well.Under normal circumstances, when cultivators ascended the Dao Heart Staircase, their Dao hearts would not be able to withstand the impact of the will on the stone steps and they would be able to escape unscathed if they hurried down when they saw that something was amiss.However, True Immortal Yu Toad's situation was different this time round.That was because Su Zimo surpassed him and ascended the fourth stone step, causing his Dao heart to waver and reveal an opening.Right then, he was enraged and killing intent surged in his heart.That killing intent resonated with the killing intent on the third stone step and instantly occupied True Immortal Yu Toad's consciousness. It was already too late for him to break free.There were many inner sect disciples outside the altar. However, none of them could step forward to save him at that moment.The barrier formed by countless runes outside the altar could not only isolate sound, it could even isolate everything. The power of a Heaven Immortal expert could not penetrate it at all."Senior Brother Qingyun, what should we do?" Yan Bingying was worried when she saw that."Someone will come."Fang Qingyun had a calm expression and was in no hurry.True Immortal Yu Toad was a legacy disciple and there were many experts in the academy. If

someone sensed the commotion here, they would definitely not stand by idly.

True Immortals, regardless of their strength, were a force that could not be ignored in any sect. Right at that moment, a figure stepped past the many cultivators and instantly pierced through the barrier outside the altar, arriving before the Dao Heart Stairs. With a wave of his sleeves, his sleeves extended for dozens of feet and directly swept True Immortal Yuchan down from the third stone step. "Elder Xuan?" Elder Zhong exclaimed softly. The person who attacked was the old man Su Zimo saw outside the Earth Grade Secret Pavilion. This old man was quite mysterious in the Heaven and Earth Academy. He guarded the various secret pavilions of the sect. Sometimes, he would be in the Earth Grade Secret Pavilion, and sometimes, he would be in the Heaven Grade Secret Pavilion. No one knew his cultivation state or his status in the Academy. All they knew was that there seemed to be no one in the Universe Academy that dared to offend Elder Xuan. Now, seeing that Elder Xuan could easily pass through the barrier of the altar, it proved that Elder Xuan's cultivation had surpassed the Heavenly Immortal Realm. Even though True Immortal Yuchan had been saved by Elder Xuan from the third stone step, he still hadn't regained his consciousness. His expression was ferocious, and his eyes were blood-red. His face and neck were covered in blood, and he roared and struggled continuously. However, Elder Xuan's sleeves seemed to contain boundless strength as they wrapped around True Immortal Yuchan's body, preventing the latter from moving at all! After more than ten breaths, True Immortal Yuchan gradually calmed down. The blood vessels in his eyes and face gradually receded, as though he had regained consciousness. Elder Xuan withdrew his sleeves. True Immortal Yuchan opened his mouth slightly, as though he wanted to say something. "Pfft!" However, he did not say a single word. Instead, he spat out a mouthful of blood and fell straight to the ground, unconscious. Elder Xuan glanced at True Immortal Yuchan and shook his head slightly. His attack was already very fast, but he was still a step too late. True Immortal Yuchan's Dao Heart was penetrated by the Massacre Intent and completely collapsed. His cultivation of more than a hundred thousand years was destroyed overnight! True Immortal Yuchan's Dao Fruit was already filled with cracks in his consciousness. Even if he could wake up, he would not have much combat strength left. The only thing he retained was the experience of cultivating to the True Immortal Realm.

"How is Senior Brother Yuchan?" Yan Bingying could not help but ask. Fang Qingyun's gaze was deep as he said faintly, "From now on, he's most likely a cripple. He should have no choice but to spend the rest of his life in the servant yard." Psst! Many cultivators were speechless with shocked expressions. In everyone's hearts, a legacy disciple was an unreachable existence. Never had they imagined that under their gazes, he would fall from the lofty altar and shatter into pieces, and he would suffer such a miserable fate! Instinctively, many cultivators turned their gazes towards the green-robed cultivator standing on the fourth stone step. The mockery, contempt and arrogance in the eyes of many inner sect disciples had vanished. Although True Immortal Yuchan's cultivation was destroyed because he ascended the Dao Heart Staircase, it was inextricably linked to Su Zimo! "That person crippled a legacy disciple the moment he joined the inner sect. How ruthless!" "He's the leader of the weighbridge after all ...""What sort of Dao Heart did that lad condense to be so strong that he could cross the third stone step?" Even most of the legacy disciples of the academy could not cross the killing intent on the third stone step! But now, the Massacre Stone Step was surpassed by a rank 1 Heavenly Immortal who had just joined the inner sect and had never ascended the Dao Heart Staircase before! "Zimo won!" Princess Chi Hong finally revealed a smile as she applauded. After Elder Zhong calmed down from the shock in his heart, he

heaved a sigh of relief and shook his head. "To think that Su Zimo would be able to cross the third stone step on his first attempt at the Dao Heart Staircase. The younger generation will surpass us in time." "I knew that Senior Brother Su would definitely win!" Liu Ping chuckled as well. "Kid, why are you calling him Senior Brother Su now?" Princess Chi Hong relaxed and asked jokingly when she saw that Su Zimo was fine and even defeated True Immortal Yuchan and Tang Peng. Liu Ping replied in all seriousness, "Although we're at the same cultivation realm, I'm definitely not as strong as Senior Brother Su in terms of combat strength. Therefore, it's only logical for me to address him as senior brother." "Furthermore, my life was given to me by Senior Brother Su. It's not too much to call him my benefactor." Liu Ping pursed his lips and continued, "However, we're from the same sect after all. It's a little awkward to address him as benefactor."

"Su Zimo has already defeated Senior Brother Tang Peng and Senior Brother Yuchan. Why is he still standing at the top?" "Could it be that he still wants to cross the fourth stone step?" "What a huge ambition!" Discussions broke out in the crowd and Princess Chi Hong could not help but ask, "Elder Zhong, what sort of intent is hidden on the fourth stone step?" "I heard that the fourth stone step is a natural step." Elder Zhong replied, "I've never experienced the exact feeling either." "However, the difficulty of climbing the Dao Heart Staircase will only increase. I heard that there's a step of the Sword Dao at the end that is even more dangerous than the Massacre Staircase!"

## **Chapter 2278**

The outcome of the battle between Yu Chan True Immortal and Su Zimo had already been decided. However, the tens of thousands of inner sect disciples present had no intention of leaving. Everyone's gaze landed on the green-robed cultivator on the fourth stone step. They wanted to see how long this new disciple could last! After saving Yu Chan True Immortal, Elder Xuan did not leave. Instead, he stood at the side of the altar and watched Su Zimo quietly. "His potential is indeed extraordinary. I didn't expect his Dao heart to be so strong." Elder Xuan muttered softly. When he first saw Su Zimo outside the Earth Level Secret Pavilion, he could tell that Su Zimo was outstanding at first glance. He had a high opinion of Su Zimo in his heart. However, he did not expect Su Zimo to be able to reach the fourth stone step on his first attempt at the Dao Heart Staircase and last for so long! Elder Xuan's opinion of Su Zimo rose to another level. "After so many years, the Academy has finally recruited a good seedling." Elder Xuan nodded secretly as a look of admiration flashed across his eyes. On the fourth stone step of the Dao Heart Staircase, Su Zimo did not move. He closed his eyes and experienced the Will of Nature on the fourth stone step. "The Way of Nature, Unity of Heaven and Man." "All living things in the world have their own ways of survival. All living things are nurtured without harming each other. Their Daos run parallel without conflicting." "Our cultivation should be quiet and do nothing, following the Way of Heaven." "As the saying goes, Man follows Earth, Earth follows Heaven, Heaven follows Dao, Dao follows Nature!" Unlike the ferocious and bloody Massacre Will, the Will of Nature was like a drizzle in early spring. It infiltrated with the wind and silently moistened everything, subtly influencing Su Zimo's Dao heart. He had just broken free from the bloody swamp of the Massacre Will and was bathed in a warm and gentle spring rain. It was like sweet dew after a long drought. In this drizzle, Su Zimo's essence, energy, and spirit were greatly comforted and comforted. He could not help but sink into it and linger. This was even harder to resist than the Massacre Will Just Now! The time Su Zimo spent on the fourth stone step was longer than the time spent on the previous three stone steps combined. For a moment, Qinglian's Taoist heart was about to sink. However, the Dao heart of Wu Dao's

true body was burning fiercely!

It was the flames of war! That was an unyielding resistance, a fearless war that fought against the heavens! At this moment, Wu Dao's original body and Qinglian Town's thoughts were connected. They resisted the erosion of nature's will together. The flames of war incinerated the drizzle and dispersed the spring breeze! What peace and quiet? What complying with the Heavenly Dao? If I wanted to comply with the Heavenly Dao, I, Su Zimo, should not have stepped into the path of cultivation. I would have died long ago in that small town in the corner of Tianhuang Mainland! Wu Dao's chances are slim, but I have nothing to fear. Wu Dao, I am willing to walk alone! On the fourth step, Su Zimo suddenly opened his eyes and took a step forward! Pa! Su Zimo's feet had already stepped onto the fifth stone step! "Heavens, he's up another stone step!" "Hurry, inform Senior Brother Lin that someone has ascended the fifth stone step!" "What a strong Dao heart!" "How can a rank 1 Heavenly Immortal who ascended from the lower realm possess such a strong Dao heart?" A commotion broke out from the crowd in a deafening manner. Old Xuan nodded slightly with an even deeper look of admiration in his eyes. The fifth stone step, the Fearless Step. Su Zimo stood on the fifth stone step for less than ten breaths. Before everyone's discussions died down, Su Zimo raised his foot and stepped onto the sixth stone step once more! "Ah!" "Look!" A series of exclamations sounded as many cultivators looked at the green-robed figure on the Dao Heart Steps with dumbfounded expressions as though they had seen a ghost! "Sixth stone step? Impossible, impossible!" "If I remember correctly, he's only just stepped onto the fifth stone step. How could he have ascended another stone step so quickly?" The eyes of many cultivators were filled with disbelief. "This is impossible!" Finally, a cultivator could not hold it in any longer. He dashed toward the Dao Heart Steps while mumbling, "Something must be wrong with the Dao Heart Steps. I'll give it a try too!" After the cultivator stepped onto the first stone step, he stumbled down the stairs before he could even ascend to the second stone step.

The cultivators who were eager to give it a try immediately gave up on the thought after seeing this. Old Xuan remained calm. The Dao Heart Steps had existed for countless years. Each step was formed by the will of the Dao Hearts of various peerless experts. It was impossible for something to go wrong. However, even Old Xuan had no idea how Su Zimo was able to ascend the fifth stone step so quickly. The fifth stone step was the Fearless Step. The will of the Dao Heart on this step was extremely similar to the will of Wu Dao's heart. Therefore, it was extremely easy for one to pass the trial of the Dao Heart on the fifth stone step with Wu Dao's heart. "Senior Brother Qing Yun, this Su Zimo is indeed impressive." Yan Bingying could not help but exclaim when she saw this. Although she was ranked in the top ten of the inner sect, even she had not broken through to the fourth stone step. "Fufu. "A hint of jealousy flashed through the depths of Fang Qingyun's eyes before disappearing quickly. He chuckled softly. "Don't worry, he'll definitely stop at the sixth stone step." "That's right." Yan Bingying nodded. "The sixth stone step is the Step of the Sword Dao and has an even stronger impact on the Dao Heart than the Step of Massacre." "Senior Brother Qing Yun, you stopped at this step the previous time." Fang Qingyun said indifferently, "During this period of time, my Dao Heart has been perfected. When I try again after a hundred years of cultivation, I'll definitely be able to cross the sixth stone step and reach the seventh step! At that time ..." The moment he said that, the figure on the Dao Heart Steps moved once more! Just like before, he simply lifted his foot and took a step forward! Bang! The seventh stone step! Fang Qingyun's expression froze and he could no longer continue. Yan Bingying's red lips were agape and her beautiful face was filled with shock. Her eyes were filled with disbelief. The seventh stone

step! There seemed to be less than five people among all the disciples of Qiankun Academy, including legacy disciples, who could reach the seventh stone step! To think that Su Zimo who had just entered the inner sect would be able to reach this step! This time round, there was not much noise from the crowd.

On the contrary, the surroundings of the altar gradually calmed down and became so silent that one could hear a pin drop! Tens of thousands of cultivators gathered together and everyone held their breaths in shock as they looked at the figure on the Dao Heart Steps. Many cultivators forgot to breathe or speak. There was only a single thought left in everyone's minds. How many steps could this person reach? "Could Su Zimo be able to reach the eighth step of the Dao Heart Steps?" Tens of thousands of cultivators gathered together and everyone held their breaths in shock as they looked at the figure on the Dao Heart Steps. Many cultivators forgot to breathe or speak. There was only a single thought left in everyone's minds. How many steps could this person reach? "Could Su Zimo be able to reach the eighth step of the Dao Heart Steps?"

## Chapter 2279

A green-robed cultivator stood on the eighth stone step. His black hair danced in the wind and he exuded an indescribable aura. The tens of thousands of inner sect disciples of the academy looked at that figure with conflicted expressions. Some of them had yet to recover from their shock. Some of them revealed looks of admiration and respect. Some of them lowered their heads in shame ... Just Now, they could only feel their cheeks burning in embarrassment at the thought of their mocking and disdainful sneers. That figure was merely standing on the eighth step of the Dao Heart Staircase. However, it was as though he had already ascended to the peak of the immortal Dao and was looking down on all living beings! In reality, that was not an illusion. None of the tens of thousands of inner sect disciples present had ascended the eighth stone step of the Dao Heart Staircase before! Even if most of the legacy disciples appeared, they would have to lower their heads when they saw that figure on the eighth stone step! The strength of one's Dao heart had nothing to do with one's cultivation realm. However, in the hearts of many cultivators, the higher one's cultivation realm was, the stronger their Dao heart would be. But now, Su Zimo's appearance had shattered the understanding of many cultivators. A rank 1 Heaven Immortal who had just entered the inner sect, ascended the Dao Heart Staircase for the first time and ascended from the lower realm ... In everyone's opinion, it would be extremely difficult to surpass the third stone step of the Dao Heart Staircase, let alone advance further. Right now, all of those identities were gathered on a single person. And that person was standing on the eighth stone step! Everyone still felt an intense sense of disbelief in their hearts. How was that possible? If they had not witnessed it with their own eyes, they would not have believed it no matter how many people described it. "Su Zimo, oh, Su Zimo." Elder Zhong shook his head and sighed, lamenting, "I never expected that he would cause such a huge commotion the moment he entered the inner sect." For him to stand on the eighth stone step of the Dao Heart Staircase for the first time after entering the inner sect, that was equivalent to stepping on all the inner sect disciples! The shock of Su Zimo ascending the eighth stone step for many cultivators was even greater than the crippling of Perfected Immortal Yu Chan! Liu Ping was long used to Su Zimo's methods.

In his opinion, it was only natural that Su Zimo could ascend the ninth stone step. While Princess Chi Hong was delighted, she was also somewhat disappointed. She originally thought that she was already considered a rare genius. Although she was not as good as Su Zimo, there was not much of a difference.

There was always a chance for her to catch up in the future. But now, she suddenly realized that the gap between the two of them was getting bigger and bigger. Even though their cultivations were at the same level, it seemed like she would never be able to catch up to that figure! Fang Qingyun was extremely shrewd. Even if True Immortal Yuchan was crippled, he did not take it to heart and did not show much emotion in his eyes. However, at this moment, a trace of gloom appeared in his eyes. He suddenly felt a huge threat! Originally, he did not take Su Zimo, who had just entered the inner sect and ascended from the lower realm, seriously at all. In Fang Qingyun's opinion, with his methods, wanting to deal with Su Zimo was as simple as crushing an ant! Moreover, the difference between their cultivation realms was so great that Fang Qingyun had never regarded Su Zimo as an opponent. However, when Su Zimo stepped onto the eighth stone step and attracted the gazes of all the inner sect disciples, Fang Qingyun realized that his opponent in the inner sect had appeared! Although this opponent was still very weak now, he would definitely become a strong enemy in the future! "He ..." Right then, a woman's whisper sounded from the side. Fang Qingyun glanced sideways and saw Yan Bingying staring fixedly at the figure on the eighth stone step. Her eyes were a little dazed as she muttered softly, "What has he experienced? How can he have such a strong Dao heart ...?" Fang Qingyun was most familiar with Yan Bingying's gaze. It was a gaze that was mixed with a hint of curiosity and admiration. Yan Bingying had only looked at him before! Instantly, Fang Qingyun's expression darkened as killing intent surfaced. Initially, he only wanted to teach Su Zimo a lesson. However, at this moment, his killing intent was triggered! As the number one fairy of the inner sect, Yan Bingying was interested in him. That was something that he knew long ago. However, he did not express his attitude clearly. However, that did not mean that others could lay their hands on Yan Bingying!

Right then, on the altar, Old Xuan who was guarding the secret chamber suddenly turned around and looked at Fang Qingyun deeply expressionlessly. There were no emotions in that gaze. However, in that instant, Fang Qingyun felt as though a basin of cold water had been poured over his head as he broke out in cold sweat and shuddered internally! Just a moment ago, Elder Xuan's gaze seemed to have seen through his entire body from head to toe, inside and out. All of his thoughts, secrets and even the killing intent that had just risen in his heart Just Now could not escape Old Xuan's eyes! Fang Qingyun lowered his head hurriedly and avoided Old Xuan's gaze. The darkness on his face vanished as he composed himself and panted slightly. In that instant, he felt as though he had just walked through the gates of hell! "Senior Brother Qingyun, what's wrong?" Yan Bingying noticed Fang Qingyun's abnormality and asked. "Nothing." Fang Qingyun replied vaguely. Yan Bingying asked again, "Senior Brother Qingyun, how long do you think Su Zimo can last on the eighth stone step?" "I'm not sure." Fang Qingyun was irritated and replied absent-mindedly. Seemingly oblivious to Fang Qingyun's change, Yan Bingying continued, "Senior Brother Qingyun, it was indeed wrong of us to underestimate Junior Brother Su previously because of his background." Fang Qingyun harrumphed coldly and did not reply. As though she had thought of something, Yan Bingying suddenly said, "Junior Brother Su can't possibly reach the ninth stone step, right?" "Impossible!" At that point, Fang Qingyun said instinctively, "The ninth stone step was condensed by the Patriarch of the academy and is known as the Step of Wisdom." "Even Senior Brother Yuehua would not be able to withstand it and fall from the Dao Heart Stairs the moment he stepped on the ninth stone step." "What's Su Zimo? How can he withstand the supreme wisdom of the Patriarch?" The moment he said that, the figure on the eighth stone step moved once more. Piak! Su Zimo raised his foot and strode towards the ninth stone step! Many cultivators held their breaths and widened their eyes, glaring fixedly at the figure on the Dao Heart Stairs without even daring to blink. They were

afraid that they would miss the most critical moment if they blinked. From the eighth stone step to the ninth stone step, Su Zimo seemed to be taking that step with extreme difficulty.

His foot hovered above the ninth stone step and did not land for a long time! The hearts of the tens of thousands of inner sect disciples were suspended high as well, as though they were at the tip of their throats. All of them looked nervous, as though they were the ones involved. Ten breaths. Twenty breaths. A quarter of an hour passed by ... It seemed like he could not take that step any further. Just as everyone was about to relax, Su Zimo's foot landed on the ninth stone step with a thud and he ascended to the top!

## **Chapter 2280**

Unlike the Moonlight Sword Immortal, Su Zimo did not fall down the moment he reached the ninth stone step. Instead, he stood firmly on it with his back straight and unmoving! The ninth step! Ever since the Dao Heart Stairs existed, apart from the Patriarch, no one else in Qiankun Academy had been able to reach the ninth step! The ninth step was known as the Step of Wisdom. The Patriarch of the academy was an erudite man who could see through all things and knew the secrets of the heavens. He possessed boundless wisdom and the ninth step was formed by the Patriarch! It was said that after the Moonlight Sword Immortal failed to reach the ninth step, she only said a single sentence, "The Patriarch's Dao heart is untouchable. He possesses supreme wisdom and is unpredictable!" Ever since then, the Moonlight Sword Immortal never attempted to climb the ninth step again. As for the other disciples of Qiankun Academy, they did not even have the ability to touch the ninth step, let alone stand on it like Su Zimo! "Impossible!" Fang Qingyun clenched his fists instinctively and growled from the depths of his throat. However, he quickly realized that he had lost his composure and hurriedly composed himself, hiding the killing intent and hostility in his eyes as he looked around. Thankfully, no one noticed him at all. Even Elder Xuan did not look at him again. Everyone's gazes landed on the figure on the ninth stone step! This was truly the center of attention! No one spoke. Tens of thousands of inner sect disciples were gathered in the huge venue. However, it was completely silent. Everyone was waiting for an outcome. Could this Rank 1 Heaven Immortal who had just ascended from the lower realm and joined the inner sect pass the Dao heart trial on the ninth stone step? It had not been long since Tang Peng fainted and Perfected Immortal Yu Chan was crippled. Any one of those incidents was enough to cause quite a stir in the academy. However, most cultivators had already forgotten about it and no one cared. More and more cultivators gathered around the Dao Heart Stairs. It was not only the inner sect disciples; some legacy disciples had also rushed over from the legacy area and the entire Qiankun Academy was alarmed! Swash! Right then, a strange fluctuation appeared in midair. Immediately after, an old man in white robes appeared out of thin air with a walking stick. Although his hair and beard were white, he was hale and hearty. His eyes were bright as he looked at the green-robed cultivator on the Dao Heart Stairs.

"Look, it's the Great Elder!" "Even the Great Elder is alarmed!" Waves of restlessness appeared in the crowd. Elder Xuan lifted his head slightly and glanced at the First Elder before withdrawing his gaze. He didn't say anything. Suddenly! Another figure appeared in another part of the void. As soon as this figure appeared, a thick murderous aura spread out. Behind him, it was as if a mountain of corpses and a sea of blood had appeared! This old man looked much younger, but his face was pale and his eyes were gloomy. His whole body was emitting a cold aura that kept people away. After the old man appeared,

many disciples of the Academy could not help but shiver. "It's Second Elder!" "I heard that the Second Elder is in charge of law enforcement. He is the most ruthless and impartial. There was once a true disciple who broke the rules of the sect and was directly crippled by him!" "Silence! Don't let Second Elder notice you!" The ripples that had just appeared in the crowd quickly calmed down. Swoosh! On the other side of the void, a pitch-black hole was suddenly burned by a ball of flames. An old man walked out from within, as though he was bathed in flames. Within the flames, countless divine weapons floated up and down. "It's the Eighth Elder of the Academy!" Elder Zhong said softly, "The Eighth Elder is in charge of all the divine weapons and Dharma treasures in the Academy. If you want to obtain the best Dharma treasures and divine weapons in the sect, you have to obtain the permission of the Eighth Elder." "Senior Brother Su caused such a huge commotion when he ascended the Dao Heart Stairs for the first time. Three elders have already appeared!" Liu Ping was secretly speechless. "Ascending the Dao Heart Stairs is an unprecedented achievement." Elder Zhong lamented, "It's only natural that these elders would appear to witness this scene." As the three of them spoke, another old man appeared in midair. This elder wore green robes. After he appeared, the entire place was filled with a faint medicinal fragrance that refreshed one's heart. "This is the Seventh Elder of the Academy." Elder Zhong saw that Princess Chi Hong and Liu Ping were confused and said, "The Seventh Elder is in charge of all the spirit pills and miraculous medicines in the Academy. The Immortal Alchemists in the Academy are all under the Seventh Elder's management."

Before he finished speaking, another old man appeared! This old man had a benevolent look and looked extremely friendly. He had a smiling face and a white face without any facial hair. At first glance, one would have a good impression of him. "This is the Fourth Elder." Elder Zhong bowed slightly in the direction of the Fourth Elder and said, "The Fourth Elder is mainly in charge of external affairs in the Academy. He also has some battles and trials in the Academy." "For example, things like leading you to participate in the 10,000-year Meeting are under the Fourth Elder's responsibility. I am under the Fourth Elder's command." "How many elders are there in the Academy?" Princess Chi Hong could not help but ask. "There are many elders in the Academy, and their cultivation realms are all different. However, there are only nine elders with the highest status!" Elder Zhong said, "The nine elders each have their own duties and control everything in the Academy. Under the Patriarch are the nine elders." While Elder Zhong was speaking, another two Elders appeared. The Ninth Elder controlled the talismans of the Academy. The Sixth Elder was a beautiful middle-aged woman with an outstanding aura. With a cold expression, she was in charge of all the buildings in the Academy, including the array formations! In the blink of an eye, seven of the nine elders had arrived! "By the looks of it, there's a chance that the nine elders will be gathered!" Liu Ping whispered. As expected, it didn't take long before another two elders came together! The Third Elder was in charge of all the immortal mountains, spirit peaks and grotto-heavens of the Academy. He controlled the Essence Spirit Stones, Essence Spirit Liquid and other cultivation resources of the Academy and was in charge of issuing sect missions. The moment the Fifth Elder appeared, he caused quite a stir. It was as though there was a massive army gathered behind him as he emitted a murderous aura with a rumbling might that was suffocating! The Second Elder was in charge of law enforcement and his killing intent was sinister and cold. On the other hand, the Fifth Elder's murderous aura gave people a feeling of desperation! The nine elders of Heaven and Earth Academy appeared and stood in midair, surrounding the Dao Heart Staircase as their gazes landed on Su Zimo!

Many cultivators were nervous and excited. It was a rare occasion for the nine elders to gather! Most of the inner sect disciples present might not have the chance to meet the nine elders of the Academy even after cultivating for hundreds of thousands of years. Right now, everyone was making use of such an opportunity to catch a glimpse of the nine elders with the help of a rank 1 Heaven Immortal who had just entered the inner sect. "It's unusual for the nine elders to appear at the same time. Could there be a deeper meaning?" Elder Zhong pondered for a moment and seemed to have thought of something. His heart skipped a beat as he whispered, "Could it be ...""What?" Liu Ping could not help but ask hurriedly out of curiosity. "The nine elders might be interested in taking him in as a disciple!" Elder Zhong said sternly. "Ah!" Princess Chi Hong and Liu Ping exclaimed softly. Elder Zhong said with a stern expression, "If he can become a disciple of one of the elders, he will be a legacy disciple of our Academy!" "Su Zimo is trying to ascend to the heavens in a single step!"