

SOVEREIGN 1241

Chapter 1241: Who Was The Luckiest

“When did Brother Ling Tian go missing? How did he even go missing?” Han Xue Nai looked at Xiong Quan with a dignified expression and demanded with anxiety apparent on her face.

Clearly, she had heard the discussion among the Ling Tian Sect traitors before her appearance and learned about Duan Ling Tian’s disappearance.

“It began more than half a year ago...” Xiong Quan sighed and then he explained the sequence of events. Eventually, he admitted guiltily, “Unfortunately, I’m too weak. I couldn’t enter the Lost Stone Forest to inquire about the whereabouts of Young Master.”

“The Lost Stone Forest, huh?” Han Xue Nai murmured as she squinted her eyes that held a glint of coldness in it.

Soon, Han Xue Nai looked at Little Black and Little Gold as she said, “Little Black, Little Gold, you’ll stay and protect the Ling Tian Sect... Little White and I will go to the Lost Stone Forest.”

“Sister Xue Nai, I want to go too,” added both the little fellows hurriedly.

“If you go along, what’ll happen if something befell Brother Ling Tian’s sect again?” Han Xue Nai glared at them. Then, under their helpless gazes, she left with the little girl in white after she asked Xiong Quan about the location of the Lost Stone Forest.

The white-clad girl was the white python from earlier, Little White.

After Han Xue Nai left with Little White, Little Gold looked at the other six people apart from Xiong Quan and said, “You guys were pretty lucky.”

Hearing Little Gold’s words, they could not help but smile bitterly.

Naturally, they knew why Little Gold would say that. If they had deserted the Ling Tian Sect and stood behind the Han Clan’s powerhouse, Han Jing, like the other traitors, they would have been dead by now.

“Li Si, fortunately, you’ve made the right choice,” Zhang San looked at Li Si and spoke to him through Voice Transmission. He was pleased with Li Si.

Li Si smiled awkwardly.

He thought of leaving, but he felt that it was unkind to do so. Besides, his old friend, Zhang San had not deserted the Ling Tian Sect too, so he stayed.

It seemed that he had made a wise choice indeed.

In fact, those who were really lucky were not Zhang San and the others. The luckiest ones were the people who were not at the Ling Tian Sect then. The group of Ling Tian Sect elders and disciples who were away felt the lingering fear in their hearts when they learned about the incident that day.

They had no doubts about it. If they had been there, they would definitely have chosen to desert the Ling Tian Sect.

After all, the Demon Emperor powerhouses had arrived later. Before they did, it had been hopeless for the Ling Tian Sect.

“Luckily, I was away for just a few days.”

“Yes, otherwise, we’d also be dead.”

“Everything’s good now. Not only did we survive, but we can continue to stay in the Ling Tian Sect... I heard that the Demon Emperor powerhouse isn’t just Young Miss Xue Nai who left. For the time being, even the two little ancestors who stayed behind are suspected to be Demon Emperor powerhouses!”

“With these Demon Emperor powerhouses, our Ling Tian Sect will be able to rise above all the other first-rate forces on Cloud Continent!”

...

The group of lucky Ling Tian Sect elders and disciple was constantly buzzing about it.

While they talked about it, their hearts were filled with thrill and joy in addition to feeling lucky.

On the Cloud Continent, the upper-level first-rate forces would, at most, be guarded by Martial Monarch Peak powerhouses because there was no Martial Emperor powerhouse.

The Ling Tian Sect, which had Demon Emperor powerhouses that were comparable to Martial Emperor powerhouses, had left the other upper-level first-rate forces on the Cloud Continent behind to a certain extent.

The little ancestors that they spoke about were naturally Little Gold and Little Black.

Little Gold and Little Black stayed behind to guard the Ling Tian Sect. Usually, they were not idle either and they liked to wander around. No one in the Ling Tian Sect had never been bullied by them.

At the summit of Ling Tian Peak, Little Gold and Little Black each sat on separate sides while Little Gold said regretfully, “How utterly boring... If I’d known this earlier, I’d have followed Sister Xue Nai to the Lost Stone Forest and left you here alone.”

“Do you think I’d let you go?” Little Black asked coolly, “Or maybe you thought that Sister Xue Nai just casually left the both of us here and that it wasn’t intentional?”

“Hmph!” After Little Gold heard him, she snorted and started to ignore him.

Those two little fellows were like a pair of quarrelsome lovers.

At Ling Xuan Peak.

There were only three days left till the selection day of the Martial Emperor’s disciples and followers.

"I managed to restore some memories... It's a pity I still can't remember who I am." On the side of Ling Xuan Peak, a voice suddenly sighed from the only multi-story pavilion on the spacious stone platform. The voice was laced with helplessness.

Duan Ling Tian, who had just woken up from his cultivation, shook his head and got down from the bed before walking out of the room.

Moments later, he left the multi-story pavilion.

Since the selection day of Martial Emperor's disciples and followers was only three days away, Duan Ling Tian could see many figures in front of the huts on the stone platform below.

These figures belonged to people like Duan Ling Tian.

Naturally, the similarity here meant that they had come to Ling Xuan Peak with the same objective as him, which was to join the selection of Martial Emperor's disciples and followers of Ling Xuan Peak.

Currently, these people were sparring in pairs or groups. The atmosphere there was very lively.

"Huh?" Suddenly, he seemed to notice something and turned to look beside him.

Following that, a gust of wind rushed beside him and an old figure appeared.

A closer look showed that it was the Martial Emperor's disciple, Qiao Zhong, from Ling Xuan Peak who had brought him there six months ago.

"Duan Ling Tian, the selection day of Martial Emperor's disciples and followers is just around the corner. Please be more careful these three days... Lu Zhong is troublesome," Qiao Zhong reminded him solemnly.

"Yes." Duan Ling Tian nodded but his expression was non-committal as if he did not take Qiao Zhong's words to heart.

Perhaps it could be said that he never took Lu Zhong to heart.

"Not only is Lu Zhong strong... More importantly, there's a Martial Emperor's direct disciple behind me. That Martial Emperor's direct disciple regards him as his right-hand man. He won't stand by if Lu Zhong suffers any harm in your hands," Qiao Zhong continued saying. As he spoke, his face became even more serious.

"Direct disciple?" This time, Duan Ling Tian's eyes lit up suddenly as if he was particularly interested in the direct disciple of Ling Xuan Peak.

"What do you mean? If Lu Zhong were harmed or killed, the Martial Emperor's direct disciple behind him would seek revenge?" Duan Ling Tian looked at Qiao Zhong and asked hesitantly.

"That's right." Qiao Zhong nodded.

Chapter 1242: Qiao Zhong

Qiao Zhong soon noticed the purple-clad young man before him had suddenly laughed upon hearing his words. The laughter sent chills down his spine.

“A Martial Emperor’s direct disciple?” Soon after, the laughter on Duan Ling Tian’s face disappeared. A hint of battle intent could be seen gleaming in the depth of his eyes.

Naturally, Qiao Zhong did not notice this at all.

He would have been surprised if he had seen it.

He believed that Duan Ling Tian’s strength was far stronger than most of the Martial Emperor’s disciples in Ling Xuan Peak. However, he would not believe it if one was to say that he was able to win against a Martial Emperor’s direct disciple.

Meanwhile, three figures appeared at the lone pavilion on the stone platform situated on the higher part of Ling Xuan Peak’s mid-mountain.

If Duan Ling Tian was here, he would be able to recognize with one glance that the person leading this group of three was none other than Lu Zhong.

At this moment, Lu Zhong said faintly to the two people behind him, “Retreat.”

“Yes,” the two of them responded before leaving.

After they left, Lu Zhong looked at the lone pavilion and bowed respectfully. “Senior Brother Song.”

The moment his words left his mouth, a figure appeared out of thin air in front of the lone pavilion. It was a young man clad in blue with a medium built and ordinary look.

However, the big black mole right on top of his right brow appeared to be particularly eye-catching.

“Lu Zhong, are you looking for me?”

The blue-clad young man was one of Martial Emperor Ling Xuan’s three direct disciples in Ling Xuan Peak. He was Song Ting, the second direct disciple.

“Senior Brother Song, I’d like you to make me the supervisor for the Selection of the Martial Emperor’s disciples and followers that’s going to be held in three days time,” Lu Zhong answered respectfully. He did not dare to relax in front of Song Ting.

A supervisor was responsible for supervising some of the Selection’s activities in the Selection of the Martial Emperor’s disciples and followers that would be held three days later. He would mainly be supervising the group of people joining the Selection of the Martial Emperor’s disciples and followers and recording their results.

Above the supervisor would be the judges.

The judges were two of the Martial Emperor’s direct disciples. Song Ting was one of them.

Due to this reason, Song Ting had the authority to select the supervisor.

“Why are you suddenly interested in this?” Song Ting asked. It was obvious he was curious about this.

“Senior Brother Song, I’ll be frank with you... I want to be a supervisor because I want to kill someone!” Lu Zhong replied through clenched teeth.

He did not have any secrets in front of Song Ting nor did he dare to keep any secrets from him.

It would not end well for him if Song Ting found out that he had hidden secrets from him.

To put it nicely, he was Song Ting’s right-hand man. To put it in an unpleasant way, he was only a pawn or a dog that was called at will.

If he was ordered to bite somebody, he would have no choice but to bite him!

As a master, if his dog suddenly bit him one day, he would definitely kill that dog without any hesitation no matter how much he had doted on the dog.

“Oh?” Song Ting’s eyes gleamed. He became even more curious. “You’re a dignified Martial Emperor’s disciple. Why would do you have enmity with someone who came to join the Selection of the Martial Emperor’s disciples and followers?”

“Senior Brother Song, he killed my brother, Lu Yi,” Lu Zhong replied furiously.

“Lu Yi is killed by him?” Song Ting’s face darkened immediately when he heard Lu Zhong’s words.

In Ling Xuan Peak, other than a few Martial Emperor’s disciples and followers who remained neutral, most of the Martial Emperor’s disciples and followers had chosen a faction.

They would either choose Song Ting, the faction of the Martial Emperor’s second direct disciple or the Martial Emperor’s third direct disciple’s faction.

Both factions were against each other.

Both Lu Zhong and Lu Yi belonged to Song Ting’s faction.

Song Ting’s eyes were filled with rage when he heard a member of his faction was killed.

As the saying went, ‘You’ll have to see who’s the owner before you beat the dog!’

In his opinion, whoever dared to kill Lu Yi must have looked down on him.

Song Ting’s face quickly regained its calmness as he asked indifferently, “The fact that he could kill Lu Yi means that he’s quite powerful... Are you sure you’re able to kill him to avenge Lu Yi?”

“Yes!” Lu Zhong nodded vigorously. He was very confident of his own strength.

Unless it was a person at the level of a Martial Emperor’s direct disciple or some freaky powerhouses who had already reached the peak of the Martial Monarch Stage, he had faith he could defeat them all.

“Prepare yourself. Three days later, follow me to the place where the Selection of the Martial Emperor’s disciples and followers will take place. I’ll make you a supervisor, and at that time, you can wait for an opportunity to kill that man,” Song Ting ordered.

“Yes.” Lu Zhong nodded his head respectfully. His eyes were shining manically. It was as though he could already see the enemy who killed his brother lying on the floor before him.

Duan Ling Tian was naturally unaware that Lu Zhong was planning to kill him.

At this moment, he was wandering around Ling Xuan Peak.

After staying at Ling Xuan Peak for so long, this was his first time studying Ling Xuan Peak in detail. The dangerously steep peak that soared up to the sky somehow gave him a completely new understanding.

“When I looking at this peak in front, it seems like I can comprehend the information that’s hard to understand in the back of my mind a little more... I don’t think it’ll be long before my Sword Profundity makes another breakthrough again!” Duan Ling Tian muttered to himself. His purple robe fluttered in the wind as he hovered in the air.

He was staring at the mountain peak that pointed up at the sky like a sword in the distance with utmost concentration. His eyes were fixed on it intently.

At this second, the entire mountain peak seemed to have transformed into a gigantic sword in his eyes.

A gigantic sword that soared all the way up to heaven.

“I heard from Qiao Zhong that Martial Emperor Ling Xuan won’t be showing himself this time at the Selection of the Martial Emperor’s disciples and followers that’s held by Ling Xuan Peak. Two of the Martial Emperor’s direct disciples will be in charge of it.” Duan Ling Tian returned to his senses. He seemed to have recalled something. “I wonder if Yang Hui is one of the two Martial Emperor’s direct disciples.”

Yang Hui was the person he met not too long ago at the peak of Ling Xuan Peak.

He remembered when he first met Yang Hui, Yang Hui was controlling and practicing his sword using his Spiritual Energy.

From his deduction, apart from being an Inscription Master, Yang Hui might be a direct disciple of Ling Xuan Peak’s Martial Emperor as well.

Today, he went to the peak of Ling Xuan Peak again, but he did not see Yang Hui this time.

During this period when the Selection of the Martial Emperor’s disciples and followers in Ling Xuan drew closer, each and every cultivation place of every Martial Emperors and Demon Emperors on every corner of Cloud Continent was bustling with activity as well.

This was because their cultivation places were also holding the Selection of the Martial Emperor’s disciples and followers.

When the news of all the Martial Emperors and Demon Emperors who were active on Cloud Continent were holding the Selection of the Martial Emperor’s disciples and followers spread out, it created a huge commotion in almost the entire Inner Land.

At the north of the Inner Land. A mountain valley was situated at an extremely cold place.

It was chilly here all-year round. The valley was snow-capped and misty, making it look like a fairyland.

In this place that was similar to a fairyland, there was a special lake that emitted a dense aura of coldness.

Although the weather was extremely cold to the point that all vegetation was frozen, the lake remained the same. The lake water glistened, unaffected by the cold.

Apart from the lake, there was another highlight in this huge valley. Everyone in the valley was a female martial artist. A group of women chatted pleasantly with each other, presenting a very lively scene.

In three days time, the Selection of the Martial Emperor's disciples and followers held by the You Han Valley would take place.

There was a small valley at the place where You Han Valley received people who came to join the Selection of the Martial Emperor's disciples and followers. There were many beautiful silhouettes walking out from wooden houses.

The entire isolated small valley was bustling.

Most of them had an anticipatory yet nervous look on their faces.

Only one person's face was glum and ugly. "Ever since that two little bitches left, they did not return... Don't tell me they really have a close relationship or something with that Martial Emperor's disciple?"

It was an ugly woman. Just a glance was enough to make people lose their appetite.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

Suddenly, the ear-piercing sound of wind whistling resonated in the air. It only stopped when it reached the sky above the small valley.

Everyone who had left their wooden houses in the small valley, including that ugly woman, raised their heads up to look at the sky one by one. Three women stood side by side in the sky.

A green-clad woman stood in the middle.

Two unparalleled beauties that could topple a nation with their looks stood beside her. One appeared seductive and enchanting while the other appeared obedient, gentle, and quiet.

Both had their own charms.

"It's them!" A lot of people in the small valley recognized the two women instantly.

A lot of them also looked at the ugly woman.

They recalled this ugly woman had almost killed the two women who were as beautiful as flowers. They felt it was a little regretful at that time when they thought the two women were going to die.

However, who knew that the situation would suddenly change.

A Martial Emperor's disciple appeared and rescued them.

"I remember... Ever since that Martial Emperor's disciple brought them away, they did not return. Initially, I thought they might've encountered some problems. I didn't expect to see them here again."

"The selection of the Martial Emperor's disciples and followers that's held by You Han Valley will begin soon. Now that they're here, it looks like they're here for the Selection of the Martial Emperor's disciples and followers too."

"It must be so... Then again, who's the green-clad woman? Why haven't I seen her before?"

...

As the saying went, 'Three women were enough for a drama'. Now that the group of women crowded together in the small valley, it appeared to be even more bustling and lively.

Many people had their attention on the green-clad woman. Although that ugly woman itched to kill the two beauties who were as beautiful as flowers, she could not help but dread the mysterious green-clad woman.

"Junior Sister Li, is she here?" Under the watchful eyes of the others, the green-clad woman finally spoke. When she was speaking, she glanced at the seductive and enchanting woman standing next to her from the corner of her eyes.

The woman was wearing a light purple clothing. She was so beautiful that she elicited an urge in the onlookers to nibble on her.

The woman was none other than Li Fei. The Li Fei who had become Martial Emperor You Han's direct disciple.

At this moment, Li Fei pointed toward the ugly woman and said, "Senior Sister Xu, it's her!"

Chapter 1243: Another Situation

When the green-clad woman called Li Fei 'Junior Sister', horror dawned on many people.

When Li Fei looked at the ugly woman, everyone, including that ugly woman, began to realize what was happening. They were able to guess the reason for Li Fei's return.

The green-clad woman looked at the ugly woman and asked calmly, "You're the one who almost killed Junior Sister Ke'er and Junior Sister Li?"

Although her face appeared calm, a murderous intent was hidden in her eyes.

"Yes. Who are you?" The ugly woman was quite brave and nodded her head directly. At the same time, she looked at the green-clad woman in front with a glum face. She felt the green-clad woman before her was not simple.

"How dare you?!" At this moment, a delicate shout filled the air. Along with a white flash, a pretty white figure appeared in front of the ugly woman in just a blink of an eye.

Slap!

A crisp sound appeared as the ugly woman's head snapped backward. She had just been given a hard slap.

The person who slapped her was the white-clad woman who had just appeared.

"You..." The ugly woman returned to her senses, and her anger flared up instantly. The Origin Energy on her body turned chaotic, and Profundity followed closely like a shadow as she prepared to attack the person who slapped her.

However, the moment she saw the white-clad woman in front of her clearly, she forcibly swallowed the words she was about to say next.

The person in front of her was none other than the Martial Emperor's disciple who had rescued the two women with appearances that could topple a nation whom she wanted to kill. She was so powerful that her strength was far from being comparable to hers.

"Kneel down and apologize to Senior Sister Xu!" The white-clad woman snarled coldly at the ugly woman.

In the next instant, when the ugly woman and most of the people were in a daze, the white-clad woman looked at the green-clad woman and greeted respectfully, "Senior Sister Xu."

"Senior Sister Ke'er, Senior Sister Li." Apart from greeting the green-clad woman respectfully, she was also very respectful and courteously greeted Ke'er and Li Fei as Senior Sisters.

Perhaps Ke'er and Li Fei's strength was not comparable to her, but as the Martial Emperor's direct disciples, Ke'er and Li Fei's positions in You Han Valley were far higher than hers.

Due to this reason, she needed to address the two women as Senior Sisters courteously when she saw them.

When the ugly woman saw the white-clad woman greeting the green-clad woman respectfully, horror dawned on her face as an ominous feeling rose up in her heart.

The moment she heard the white-clad woman greeted the two women — whom she itched to kill so she could derive pleasure from it — as Senior Sisters, her eyes narrowed right away. Despair immediately crept up on that ugly face.

Boom!

The way the white-clad woman addressed Ke'er and Li Fei was like a stone that set off a thousand ripples. It took everyone present on the scene who was ready to join the Selection of the Martial Emperor's disciples and followers by surprise.

Senior Sister?

This Martial Emperor's disciple actually addressed these women who came here to join the Selection of the Martial Emperor's disciples and followers as Senior Sisters?

Moreover, she was so respectful that it was extremely surprising.

“Don’t tell me that...” At this moment, many people began to have an inkling about what had happened, but they did not dare to confirm it.

It was because this was just too shocking.

“Flee!” Soon after, a swift figure charged out of the small valley and attracted many people’s attention.

It was none other than the ugly woman.

She wanted to flee since she had already guessed the identity of that green-clad woman and the current identities of the two women whom she itched to kill.

Martial Emperor’s direct disciple.

Only a Martial Emperor’s direct disciple would make the white-clad woman who was a Martial Emperor’s disciple become so respectful.

“Hurmph!” The green-clad woman was none other than Xu Rong, Martial Emperor You Han’s direct disciple. As she snorted, a vast energy surged out of her body.

The vast energy appeared in a flash and disappeared in a flash as well.

However, at the moment between, the vast energy that disappeared as soon as it appeared moved in front of the ugly woman, knocking her backward immediately.

“Barf!” When everyone else, apart from Xu Rong, was still in a daze, the ugly woman who was knocked back by Xu Rong’s energy coughed out a huge mouthful of blood. Her face paled immediately.

“She’s powerful!”

“That’s too powerful! From the beginning until the end, I didn’t even see her make a move!”

“Of course! Didn’t you see the Heaven and Earth Energy that dissipated the moment it appeared on her head?”

...

Many people were baffled.

“It looks like she really is the Martial Emperor’s direct disciple!”

“Although I had my suspicion, I didn’t dare to believe it... Putting everything aside, just her strength alone is at the level of a Martial Emperor’s direct disciple!”

“I think the two women beside her must have become the Martial Emperor’s direct disciples too! Otherwise, that Martial Emperor’s disciple wouldn’t have called them ‘Senior Sisters’.”

...

When Xu Rong made her move, everybody could guess her identity along with the Ke’er and Li Fei’s current identities.

Many people looked at Xu Rong with a burning gaze. Many of them looked at Ke'er and Li Fei with jealousy as well.

Boom!

Before the ugly woman even realized what was happening, Xu Rong made her move again and crippled her Dantian at lightning-speed. Apart from that, she had also sent her flying out.

The ugly woman immediately landed in the distance with a loud 'bang'. Her eyes were filled with despair.

"Junior Sister Li, I've already crippled her... Do the rest on your own," Xu Rong told Li Fei.

Li Fei did not hesitate at all. With a raise of her hand, she thrust a palm out, and a palm print solidified in the air before it landed heavily on the ugly woman's head.

Before the ugly woman regained her senses, Li Fei's palm print had already smashed on her head, killing her in a blow.

From the beginning until the end, Ke'er did not stop Li Fei from making a move at all.

Although Ke'er was kind, she was not blind.

The ugly woman had almost killed her and her Sister Ke'er. She deserved to die.

After Li Fei killed the ugly woman, she sighed in relief. It was as though she had finally removed a heavy burden. She and Ke'er immediately thanked Xu Rong, "Thank you, Senior Sister Xu."

"We're sisters now. There's no need to thank me." Xu Rong smiled.

In the next instant, Ke'er, Li Fei, and Xu Rong left again.

They left as quickly as they came, leaving behind only a group of women in the valley whose faces were filled with shock. It was only when the three women's figures disappeared from their sight that they finally snapped back to reality and shifted their attention to the ugly woman's body.

Other than taking pleasure in her misfortune, there was not an ounce of pity at all.

The action of the ugly woman in the past had long infuriated them. Now that she had died, they felt as though the sky had brightened up a little.

"I wonder how the two women became Martial Emperor You Han's direct disciples," somebody said inquisitively.

"At first, I thought they're merely acquainted with that Martial Emperor's disciple, but who could've known when we meet again, they've already achieved what I always long for," many people whispered and sighed.

Soon after, they voiced their speculation again.

"There's one thing I'm sure of... Their innate talent must be quite good!"

“Of course! Otherwise, why would Martial Emperor You Han willingly accept them as her direct disciples?”

However, they would not be able to guess Martial Emperor You Han had accepted Ke'er and Li Fei as her direct disciples because of some other reason and not because of their innate talent.

While the various cultivation places of Martial Emperors, like Ling Xuan Peak and You Han Valley, were bustling with activities, Lost Stone Forest at the west of Cloud Continent's Inner Land was a different story.

Originally, Lost Stone Forest was also extremely busy due to the Selection of the Martial Emperor's disciples and followers.

However, when a teenage girl and a little girl made their appearance, the entire Lost Stone Forest quieted down, and many people began to gather in the center of Lost Stone Forest.

All this was because of the two uninvited guests in the center of Lost Stone Forest.

“Sister Xue Nai, don't tell me that Martial Emperor Shi Qi or something doesn't dare to come out?” Under the watchful eyes of the others, the little girl who was dressed in white asked the yellow-clad teenage girl by her side. Her bright eyes were sparkling innocently.

Upon hearing her words, the group of Martial Emperor's disciples and followers were rendered speechless.

She actually said their Lord Martial Emperor of Lost Stone Forest did not dare to come out?

This little girl really dared to say the damndest thing.

Upon hearing the white-clad little girl's words, the yellow-clad young girl replied at a speed that was neither too quick nor too slow, “As the saying goes, ‘The monk might run away, but the temple remains’. He'll come out!” It seemed like she was not anxious at all.

The yellow-clad woman was none other than Han Xue Nai who had rushed here from Ling Tian Sect. After she brought the white-clad little girl, Little White, with her, she continued on her journey here.

The Martial Emperor's disciples and followers whom they encountered could not catch up to them at all.

Naturally, many Martial Emperor's disciples and followers attacked them when they arrived. However, all of them turned into souls under their hands.

Due to this reason, the Martial Emperor's disciples and followers who gathered here did not dare to attack anymore.

In their opinion, the yellow-clad teenage girl who appeared to be only fifteen or sixteen years old and that white-clad little girl who looked no more than ten years old were no different from a demon.

“Who are you? How dare you trespass into our Lost Stone Forest!” A furious voice resonated in the air. Three figures appeared. They were none other than the three direct disciples under Martial Emperor Shi Qi of Lost Stone Forest.

After they appeared, they immediately surrounded Han Xue Nai and Little White.

“Little White, I’ll leave them to you.” From the very beginning until the end, Han Xue Nai did not even look at the three people who had just appeared as though she thought they were beneath her.

Naturally, Han Xue Nai really thought they were beneath her.

Upon hearing Han Xue Nai’s words, Little White’s huge sparkling eyes gleamed immediately. In the next instant, she disappeared before the watchful eyes of the crowd and the three Martial Emperor’s direct disciples.

“SHIT!” An ominous feeling instantly rose up from the three Martial Emperor’s direct disciples’ hearts. Horror dawned on them immediately.

Not only that, but the expression on their faces was also destined to be the last expression they showed in this world since a blood hole appeared on their throats in the next instant.

All three Martial Emperor’s direct disciples died.

Chapter 1244: Compensation

The scene took all the Martial Emperor’s disciples and followers of Lost Stone Forest who rushed here by surprise.

Many people even began to rub their eyes vigorously as though they wanted to make sure their eyes did not deceive them.

In just a blink of an eye, the three Martial Emperor’s direct disciples were killed by the harmless-looking white-clad little girl who did not look older than ten years old.

Soon after, colors drained from the faces of some onlookers. Some even cried out loud in surprise, “What?! They’re the Martial Emperor’s direct disciples?”

These people came here to participate in the Selection of the Martial Emperor’s disciples and followers that was going to be held by Lost Stone Forest. At first, they only wanted to join in the fun and see what the consequences were for trespassing into Lost Stone Forest.

Who knew they would witness this scene that would be forever etched in their minds?

The moment the little girl who did not look older than ten years old vanished from her spot, a bloody hole appeared on all the three huge young and middle-aged men’s throat before they died.

Such a scene was extremely shocking to them.

Although they were in shock, they did not feel that it was inconceivable.

After all, in their opinion, that little girl might be a powerful demon who had transformed into a human. Her real age might even rival their grandmothers’ age.

However, the moment they learned of the identities of the three men who were killed from the Martial Emperor’s disciples and followers, they were all horrified and dumbfounded.

The three men who were killed were the Martial Emperor’s direct disciples?

They were here to join the Selection of the Martial Emperor's disciples and followers so they naturally had quite an understanding of the term 'Martial Emperor's direct disciples'.

A Martial Emperor's direct disciple was usually a genius who had yet to flourish, someone overflowing with talent or someone at the peak of the Martial Monarch Stage and had strength that surpassed most people below the Martial Emperor Stage.

However, today, those three people had been killed by a little girl, whom they suspected was a demon who had transformed into a human, before they even realized what was happening. ()

"A Demon Emperor! She must be a Demon Emperor!"

"She killed three Martial Emperor's direct disciples in just a blink of an eye! She must be an Emperor Stage powerhouse!"

"Oh, gosh! Why would a Demon Emperor trespass into our Lost Stone Forest and kill three of the Martial Emperor's direct disciples?"

"From their exchange earlier, it seems like they're here for Lord Martial Emperor."

"Could it be they're actually enemies of Lord Martial Emperor?"

Many Martial Emperor's disciples and followers and those people who came to participate in the Selection of the Martial Emperor's disciples and followers buried their heads together in discussion. It was extremely lively.

The eyes they used to look at the white-clad little girl in the distance had completely changed as well.

"Why isn't Lord Martial Emperor here yet?" Some of the Martial Emperor's disciples and followers were perplexed. They believed their Lost Stone Forest's Lord Martial Emperor should have already learned about what happened here.

At this moment when some of the Martial Emperor's disciples and followers' minds were filled with thousands of questions, a voice that seemed to resonate from all directions entered everyone's ear

"Who are you? Why did you trespass into my Lost Stone Forest and kill three of my direct disciples?" A figure appeared before the crowd along with the slightly glum voice.

Based on his words, it was clear who it was that had spoken.

Martial Emperor Shi Qi!

The moment this person appeared, Han Xue Nai and Little White shifted their attention to him immediately, raising their eyebrows. Han Xue Nai asked calmly, "Martial Emperor Shi Qi?"

"That's right! I'm Martial Emperor Shi Qi." Martial Emperor Shi Qi's piercing eyes gleamed. He was completely consumed with flames of fury.

He only had five direct disciples.

One of them had deceived him and fled after stealing his thing. Currently, another three were dead. This meant he was only left with one direct disciple.

To be honest, he was not particularly concerned about the life-and-death of his direct disciples.

However, he cared a lot about his prestige and image.

If the other Martial Emperors and Demon Emperors knew that four out of five direct disciples under his, Martial Emperor Shi Qi, command were dead, they would definitely burst out laughing.

“Don’t you think the two of you owe me a compensation since you trespassed into my Lost Stone Forest and killed my direct disciples?” Martial Emperor Shi Qi asked in a deep voice.

Since the white-clad little girl was able to kill three of his direct disciples so quickly, it meant that she was an Emperor Stage powerhouse.

The other yellow-clad teenage girl who seemed like the leader of the duo was most likely stronger than the white-clad little girl.

Due to this reason, he felt that these two people must be Emperor Stage powerhouses!

Moreover, they had to be Demon Emperors too.

“Compensation?” Before Han Xue Nai opened her mouth, Little White snorted before she smirked.

“Don’t you think you should compensate me for asking me to compensate you?”

Since Martial Emperor Shi Qi was quite certain the white-clad little girl was a Demon Emperor, he did not dare to underestimate her even though she looked young. He asked in a deep voice, “What do you mean?”

“What do we mean?” This time, it was Han Xue Nai who smirked instead. “You’re Martial Emperor Shi Qi right? Did I hear that more than six months ago, your direct disciple named Zhou Yi or something snatched away my Brother Ling Tian’s woman? And we haven’t heard from my Brother Ling Tian ever since he came to your Lost Stone Forest... Today, if you don’t give me an explanation, I’ll send you to the other world to accompany your three direct disciples!”

When Han Xue Nai reached the end of her sentence, a piercing light appeared in her bright eyes as though she was about to devour a certain somebody.

Zhou Yi?

Brother Ling Tian’s woman?

At this moment, Martial Emperor Shi Qi had an inkling about what was happening. He finally understood this yellow-clad teenage girl and white-clad little girl’s intention. It was all for the sake of that purple-clad young man who caused a ruckus in his Lost Stone Forest more than six months ago.

The moment he thought of that purple-clad young man, he was instantly consumed with irritation.

Until now, when he recalled the scene that took place more than six months ago, he was still consumed with a lingering fear.

That purple-clad young man who possessed a horrifying strength with the help of that mysterious stone tablet had almost killed him. That was the biggest crisis he had ever faced ever since he broke through to the Martial Emperor Stage.

If it was not for the purple-clad young man's sudden departure, he would not be standing here.

"Zhou Yi again!" The moment Martial Emperor Shi Qi recalled this incident, he thought of Zhou Yi again. He gnashed his teeth in hatred.

In his opinion, this incident was caused by Zhou Yi. If Zhou Yi did not snatch the purple-clad young man's woman away, there would not be so many incidents that happened one after another.

What was worst was the fact that Zhou Yi had deceived him and switched the mysterious stone tablet that the purple-clad young man left behind. This was no doubt the biggest provocation he had ever encountered.

Martial Emperor Shi Qi felt irritated again the second he thought about Zhou Yi who was now hidden somewhere, studying that stone tablet.

Although Martial Emperor Shi Qi knew what happened, he naturally would not obediently disclose everything to Han Xue Nai. He snorted before he snapped in irritation, "Hurmph! I don't know what you're talking about."

Chapter 1245: The Defeated Martial Emperor, Shi Qi

"All I know is you killed three of my direct disciples. Today, you'll have to compensate me! Moreover, the compensation has to satisfy me!" Martial Emperor Shi Qi said loudly. When he reached the end of his sentence, his eyes shone brightly.

Upon hearing Martial Emperor Shi Qi's words, disdain could be seen in the depth of Han Xue Nai's gaze. At the same time, she asked curiously, "I wonder what kind of compensation you want from us?"

"You killed three of my direct disciples and caused a heavy loss to my Lost Stone Forest. You two must be Demon Emperors. Make an oath using the Nine-Nine Heavenly Tribulation and swear thirty years of servitude to me!" Martial Emperor Shi Qi answered.

This was the 'compensation' he wanted.

Although he suspected the yellow-clad teenage girl and white-clad little girl before him were both Demon Emperors, he did not think they were powerful enough to defeat him. He was a Fourth Level Martial Emperor after all.

His strength could be considered as above average among all the Martial Emperors and Demon Emperors on Cloud Continent.

In his opinion, these two Demon Emperors were very likely no match for him.

This was because he knew all the Demon Emperors who were stronger than him on Cloud Continent, and these two standing before him were not among them.

“30 years of servitude?” Han Xue Nai and Little White were stunned when they heard Martial Emperor Shi Qi’s words.

As for the group of onlookers, all their eyes brightened immediately, regardless if they were the Martial Emperor’s disciples and followers or the people who came to participate in the Selection of the Martial Emperor’s disciples and followers. ()

In their opinion, they would have a good show to watch soon.

“Do you think Lord Martial Emperor would be able to subjugate them for thirty years?”

“I guess so... I can see that Lord Martial Emperor is very confident. Although he knows these two are Demon Emperors, he’s not scared at all.”

“If Lord Martial Emperor really manages to subjugate them, we’ll have two additional Demon Emperors in our Lost Stone Forest! I’m a little excited just thinking about it.”

Many Martial Emperor’s disciples and followers felt a little excited.

“I can’t believe we get to see Martial Emperor Shi Qi before the Selection of the Martial Emperor’s disciples and followers even begins.”

“I’ve long heard that Martial Emperor Shi Qi is at the Third Level Martial Emperor Stage. So many years have passed, he might have already broken through to the Fourth Level Martial Emperor Stage.”

“He must have already broken through... Otherwise, he wouldn’t be so confident in front of those two who might be Demon Emperors.”

...

The participants of the Selection of the Martial Emperor’s disciples and followers held by Lost Stone Forest had a discussion among themselves.

They were confident in Martial Emperor Shi Qi’s strength.

“Little White, somebody wants us to subjugate ourselves to him for thirty years,” Han Xue Nai said as she looked at Little White. She was the first to return to her senses.

“Well then, let’s see if he has the ability or not.” Upon hearing that, Little White’s bright eyes shone coldly as she looked at Martial Emperor Shi Qi. Although her tone was calm, a murderous intent was hidden in it.

Martial Emperor Shi Qi did not respond to Little White’s provocation. Instead, he said, “I’ll let you know if I have that ability or not. Very soon, you’ll tremble under my strength and will willingly swear thirty years of servitude to me.”

“In that case, I’ll play with you,” Little White replied nonchalantly.

“It’s my pleasure!” Martial Emperor Shi Qi answered nonchalantly as well. The moment the words left his mouth, the robe on his body fluttered as he emitted waves of bloodcurdling aura. It caused most of the onlookers to take a few steps back.

Some people with lower cultivation base were even forced to retreat far behind.

A Martial Emperor’s strength was just too strong. It was so strong that it sent chills down one’s spine.

As for Little White, she did not seem like she was afraid of the aura that Martial Emperor Shi Qi emitted. It was as though she did not feel anything at all.

Whoosh! Whoosh!

Martial Emperor Shi Qi and the white-clad little girl vanished on the spot at lightning-speed from the eyes of most people present on the scene. They could only hear the distinct sound of wind whistling that disappeared as soon as it appeared.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

...

Before they even realized what was happening, they heard a series of deafening explosions that reverberated in the air.

They did not even have a chance to squint their eyes to have look when a flurry of hurricane swept out and sent them flying like arrows leaving its bow.

Only the Martial Emperor’s disciples stayed rooted to their spots, squinting their eyes.

Boom!

The group of Martial Emperor’s followers and disciples and more than 90% of the participants of the Selection of the Martial Emperor’s disciples and followers looked extremely wretched. Suddenly, another explosion resonated in the air and an even more terrifying hurricane swept out.

This time, even the Martial Emperor’s disciples were sent flying.

As for the others, their condition worsened. They were pale and bleeding profusely.

Some were even sent flying out of everyone’s sight.

For a moment, other than the two people who created the storm, only Han Xue Nai remained in the center of the storm. Although the storm raged furiously, she remained unmoved and stable like a mountain.

“Barf!” When the group of Martial Emperor’s disciples who were awfully pale managed to stabilize themselves, they heard the sound of someone throwing up.

They squinted and looked toward the center of the storm just in time to witness Martial Emperor Shi Qi throwing up blood. After he was done throwing up, his face turned horribly pale and the hand that was holding the seven-foot-long spear was trembling non-stop.

It was apparent that Martial Emperor Shi Qi had used the Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Spear in his hand earlier. However, he was still defeated in the end.

As for the white-clad little girl who stood in front of him with a short dagger, she was merely breathing a little heavily. Apart from the few drops of sweat on her forehead, she looked no different from before.

The difference in their strength could be seen from this.

“L- Lord Martial Emperor is defeated?” The group of Martial Emperor’s disciples was stunned and baffled.

The Lord Martial Emperor who was like an undefeatable God in their minds had actually been defeated?

When the group of Martial Emperor’s disciples was still stunned and the remaining people were still confused, Martial Emperor Shi Qi looked at the white-clad little girl with a pale face before he asked with dread, “Who are you exactly?”

However, Little White did not answer him. Instead, she merely asked nonchalantly, “So, do you still want us to give you an explanation and swear thirty years of servitude to you?”

Little White’s pointed words were extremely unpleasant to hear. It caused Martial Emperor Shi Qi to turn even paler when he heard it.

It was like a slap to his own face!

A blatant slap to his own face!

This was everyone’s thoughts.

At this moment, the group of Martial Emperor’s followers and other people began to regain their senses. All of them were staring at the scene before them in confusion.

The owner of Lost Stone Forest, Martial Emperor Shi Qi, was defeated in this battle?

Moreover, he seemed to be injured as well.

“Just tell me, what happened to my Brother Ling Tian after he came to your Lost Stone Forest? Where’s he now?” Han Xue Nai asked again as she looked at Martial Emperor Shi Qi.

Chapter 1246: The Ten Great Saint Weapons Rankings

Martial Emperor Shi Qi’s mind went completely blank.

His mind kept replaying the scene from earlier. Even after he used his full strength and his Quasi Royal Grade Spirit Spear against the white-clad little girl who looked no older than ten years old, he was still defeated.

At this moment, he realized this white-clad little girl was not only a Demon Emperor, but she was also a Demon Emperor who was more powerful than him.

Moreover, this Demon Emperor was here for the sake of the purple-clad young man.

“Didn’t you hear my Older Sister Xue Nai’s questions?” When the childish voice that was filled with iciness entered Martial Emperor Shi Qi’s ears, he regained his senses and was hit by a pang of realization.

Naturally, he was no stranger to this voice. It was the voice of the white-clad little girl who had defeated him.

He immediately looked at the yellow-clad teenage girl standing nearby with a horrified expression. Only fear could be seen in his eyes now.

What a joke!

This white-clad little girl was already far more powerful than him.

He strongly suspected the yellow-clad teenage girl whom she addressed as ‘Older Sister’ might be even more powerful than her.

“P-Please say it again,” Martial Emperor said to Han Xue Nai fearfully. From his tone, compared to his previous aggressive and overbearing manner, he seemed to have transformed into another person.

Naturally, this was because he did not know the white-clad little girl’s strength earlier. Otherwise, he would not have acted that way.

The strong ones ruled on Cloud Continent.

Even if he was a Martial Emperor who was usually high and mighty in front of ordinary martial artists, he would still have to be humble when he encountered someone more powerful than him.

The difficulty that a Martial Emperor went through was far from being comparable to an ordinary martial artist.

Due to this reason, they would be willing to do all kinds of crazy things in order to survive, let alone admitting defeat.

Han Xue Nai glanced at Martial Emperor Shi Qi coldly and repeated her words again in annoyance.

Upon hearing it, Martial Emperor did not dare to slack and quickly replied.

He began to recount what had happened the day he met Duan Ling Tian, how Duan Ling Tian had obtained strength that was comparable to his through the mysterious stone tablet and even how they fought each other.

He did not dare to hide anything as he recounted the incident.

He recounted everything in detail, including how Duan Ling Tian lost his sanity and left while Feng Tian Wu was brought away by someone else. How Zhou Yi, his direct disciple, had deceived him before he took that stone tablet away with him.

Right now, he no longer cared about his prestige and image. Nothing was more important than his life.

He did not dare to lie. It was too risky.

If these two young misses were not happy with his story, they might just kill him in a bad mood. At that time, what was gained would not be able to make up for what was lost.

“Stone tablet? It made Big Brother Ling Tian lost his sanity?” Frowning, Han Xue Nai looked at Martial Emperor Shi Qi and said, “Describe that stone tablet to me now.”

Han Xue Nai had her own suspicion regarding the mysterious stone that could make its user lose his sanity and possess horrifying strength, but she was not entirely certain about it.

“If it’s really the Devilseal Tablet... Then I’m afraid Brother Ling Tian is in a bad situation.” While interrogating Martial Emperor Shi Qi, Han Xue Nai’s heart jolted, and it was filled with worries.

In the face of Han Xue Nai’s query, Martial Emperor Shi Qi did not dare to slack. He quickly described every characteristic of that stone tablet that he knew. “It’s weird actually... That stone tablet lacks a corner.”

“It really is the Devilseal Tablet!” The moment Martial Emperor Shi Qi finished his words, Han Xue Nai’s face turned a little glum. “How can this be so coincidental? The Devilseal Tablet is coincidentally in Brother Ling Tian’s hand?”

Han Xue Nai could still remember that time when she first came to Cloud Continent with Qing Nu. Apart from coming here to relax and travel, Qing Nu was actually here on her father’s order to search for the Devilseal Tablet.

It was because her father had received news that the Devilseal Tablet was on Cloud Continent, the Mortal Continent.

At first, she thought she was merely a passing traveler on Cloud Continent, but who would have ever thought that she would meet her Brother Ling Tian and three other little guys who were extraordinarily talented. Due to this reason, she had formed an indissoluble bond here on Cloud Continent.

“That time, Qing Nu spent a few years searching every corner of Cloud Continent, but she still wasn’t able to find the Devilseal Tablet... I can’t believe it’s actually in Brother Ling Tian’s hand.” At this moment, Han Xue Nai’s feeling was very complicated. At the same time, she was worried about Duan Ling Tian too.

She knew very well just how horrifying that Devilseal Tablet was.

“D-Did you say my Brother Ling Tian left after leaving that stone tablet behind?” Han Xue Nai asked again.

“Yes.” Martial Emperor Shi Qi did not dare to slack as he quickly nodded his head in reply. “Not only did he not retrieve the stone tablet, but he didn’t even bring his woman along with him.”

“How can you prove that all you said is true?” Han Xue Nai subconsciously narrowed her eyes as she stared at Martial Emperor Shi Qi. Her eyes were gleaming coldly.

When Martial Emperor Shi Qi saw the coldness in Han Xue Nai’s eyes, his heart turned cold. He hastily took an oath and swore by the Tribulation Oath — the Nine-Nine Heavenly Tribulation. “I, Martial Emperor Shi Qi, swear by the Nine-Nine Heavenly Tribulation... If what I said earlier contains even a tiny bit of lie, I’m willing to be struck to death by lightning!”

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

...

In just a blink of an eye, nine thunderous sounds resonated in the air, corresponding to Martial Emperor Shi Qi's oath.

Taking an oath using the Tribulation Oath, the Nine-Nine Heavenly Tribulation, even a Martial Emperor would not be able to defy it. Otherwise, he would also be struck by lightning to death.

Since Martial Emperor Shi Qi dared to make such an oath, it meant he did not lie earlier.

Duan Ling Tian did indeed leave behind the Devilseal Tablet, and that tablet was stolen by Zhou Yi, his direct disciple, by means of deceit.

Feng Tian Wu, on the other hand, was brought away by a powerhouse named Chi Huo.

After making his oath, Martial Emperor Shi Qi sighed in relief. Thank goodness he had the ability to read the situation and did not lie. Otherwise, he would not have survived.

"You better pray that nothing happens to my Brother Ling Tian... Otherwise, I'll completely annihilate your Lost Stone Forest!" After casting a cold glance at Martial Emperor Shi Qi, Han Xue Nai's body moved and disappeared from Martial Emperor Shi Qi's eyes at an extremely swift speed.

From the beginning until the end, Martial Emperor Shi Qi did not even see Han Xue Nai's figure clearly at all.

"As expected, her strength is indeed stronger than the white-clad little girl." Martial Emperor Shi Qi discreetly wiped his cold sweat away. At the same time, he anxiously looked at the white-clad little girl standing nearby anxiously. He was afraid this young miss would not let the matter go.

"Hurmph!" Little White snorted coldly before she followed Han Xue Nai and left. Only then did Martial Emperor Shi Qi heave a sigh of relief as though a burden had been lifted off him.

Soon after, Little White caught up to Han Xue Nai who had decreased her speed before asking, "Sister Xue Nai, since he wanted to kill Brother previously, why didn't you kill him earlier?"

"Don't you think it'll be better to leave him alive and let Brother Ling Tian avenge himself?" Han Xue Nai asked.

A pang of realization hit Little White instantly. Then, it seemed like she had recalled something and she asked worriedly, "B-But... What if... Brother is..."

Little White did not continue, but the meaning was obvious.

"If something really happened to Brother Ling Tian, I'll annihilate his entire Lost Stone Forest! No matter where he, Martial Emperor Shi Qi, hides, I'll search for him and kill him." Little White's words were like a blasting fuse that fully ignited Han Xue Nai this powder cask.

"I'm sure Brother will be alright," Little White muttered.

“I hope so too.” Han Xue Nai nodded, but her eyes were filled with worries.

According to Martial Emperor Shi Qi’s description, she could roughly guess what her Brother Ling Tian had gone through. “Brother Ling Tian had forcefully drawn the Soul Remnant Energy from the Devilseal Tablet into his body and deviliated in one fell swoop. From there, he managed to possess extraordinary strength. However, after he was deviliated, he lost his sanity... Right now, all I hope is that was his first time using the Devilseal Tablet. Otherwise, things will really be troublesome.” Han Xue Nai was most worried about this.

When a person used the Devilseal Tablet for the first time, it would have some side effects but not to the extent where it would threaten his life.

However, if one kept using it, the side effects would consume his life. Although the person’s physical body was still alive, it would only be an empty shell at most.

An empty shell that was controlled by the Soul Remnant Energy from the Devilseal Tablet.

“Sister Xue Nai, I heard you mentioned the Devilseal Tablet or something earlier... Could the mysterious stone tablet that Martial Emperor Shi Qi mentioned be the Devilseal Tablet you mentioned?” Soon after, Little White recalled Han Xue Nai’s words. Although she did not speak loudly, she was still heard by Little White.

“That’s right. It’s the Devilseal Tablet.” Han Xue Nai nodded.

Little White learned about many things after listening to Martial Emperor Shi Qi’s story. Curious, she asked, “What exactly is that Devilseal Tablet? How could it allow Brother to possess such a strong energy in such a short time? Not only that, the side effects seem to be quite severe too.”

“The Devilseal Tablet is one of the Ten Great Saint Weapons according to the Dao Martial Saint Land’s Ten Great Saint Weapons Rankings,” Han Xue Nai explained.

“What?!” Upon hearing this, Little White was shocked. “It’s said that the weapons on the Dao Martial Saint Land’s Ten Great Saint Weapons Rankings are all Super Saint Weapons! They are extremely rare and precious treasures. If an ordinary person obtains it, it’ll be enough for him to roam the Dao Martial Saint Land with ease.”

“However, that’s only when they are deified. Even if the Saint Weapon is very powerful, it won’t be able to fully display its power if the person controlling it is weak. However, apart from the Devilseal Tablet, the boost in offensive power that the other Super Saint Weapons in the Ten Great Saint Weapon Rankings grants to martial artists is far greater than ordinary Saint Weapons,” Han Xue Nai continued.

“Why apart from the Devilseal Tablet? Isn’t the Devilseal Tablet a Super Saint Weapon as well?” Little White asked curiously.

“The Devilseal Tablet became a Super Saint Weapon and is listed in the Ten Great Saint Weapon Rankings, not because of the offensive power boost that it grants a martial artist... Actually, the offensive power boost that it grants is far less compared to many other ordinary Saint Weapons. The reason it became a Super Saint Weapon and is listed in the Ten Great Saint Weapon Rankings is due to its surprising ability — it can suppress Devil Cultivators!” Han Xue Nai continued to explain. When she reached the end of her sentence, a hint of respect could be seen in her eyes.

Chapter 1247: Zhong An

The Devilseal Tablet had always been a legend in the Dao Martial Saint Land.

It was also the Variant in the Ten Great Saint Weapon Rankings.

If the Devilseal Tablet was used to deal with a Devil Cultivator, it would be able to suppress the Devil Cultivator. It would get the job done with only half the effort.

However, if the Devilseal Tablet was used against an ordinary Martial or Dao Cultivator, it would not be as effective as most ordinary Saint Weapons even though the Devilseal Tablet could be considered as an offensive Saint Weapon.

After finding out about the use of the Devilseal Tablet from Han Xue Nai, Little White could not help but gasp in surprise.

When she learned about the side effects of the Devilseal Tablet, about how a person would lose his sanity completely and become a zombie after using the Devilseal Tablet multiple times, she could not help but feel worried about Duan Ling Tian.

“Sister Xue Nai, Brother will be okay, right?” Little White had a worried expression on her face, and her big sparkling eyes appeared to be very pitiful.

“Don’t worry, blessed are the good men. Brother Ling Tian will be alright.” Han Xue Nai smiled as she reassured her.

Although she told Little White not to worry, she was actually worried since she had no idea how many times her Brother Ling Tian had used the Devilseal Tablet.

If she knew that her Brother Ling Tian had used the Devilseal Tablet three times, she would not have felt so optimistic. ()

“The most important thing right now is to find Brother Ling Tian,” Han Xue Nai said.

Little White nodded before she and Han Xue Nai proceeded to fly toward the direction where Martial Emperor Shi Qi said Duan Ling Tian had left in. They intended to look for traces of Duan Ling Tian to find him.

At this moment, Duan Ling Tian was naturally unaware that somebody was worried about him and was looking for him everywhere.

In Ling Xuan Peak, the Selection of the Martial Emperor’s disciples and followers continued as planned.

The Selection of the Martial Emperor’s disciples and followers that was going to be held by Ling Xuan Peak would be carried out on a vast stone platform situated at the mid-mountain of Ling Xuan Peak.

This stone platform was so vast that the small stone platform that housed the residential area could not compare to it all. The area it occupied was extremely huge.

Early in the morning, many people had appeared above the vast stone platform. They were either the Martial Emperor's disciples and followers from Ling Xuan Peak or people who came to participate in the Selection of the Martial Emperor's disciples and followers held by Ling Xuan Peak.

Somehow, the originally noisy and bustling atmosphere turned completely quiet the moment a figure appeared.

"It's Senior Brother Song Ting!"

"Senior Brother Song Ting is here!"

...

After it had quietened down, a commotion broke out again.

Many Martial Emperor's disciples and followers were staring at the person who came from afar excitedly. Their eyes were filled with excitement as though they had just seen an idol they admired very much.

"Song Ting?"

"Who's Song Ting? He doesn't seem like an ordinary person."

...

Those people who came to participate in the Selection of the Martial Emperor's disciples and followers had no idea who Song Ting was at all.

"A person who could elicit such respect from the group of Martial Emperor's disciples and followers naturally would have a high position... Don't tell me he's actually one of the Martial Emperor's three great disciples in Ling Xuan Peak?" Someone opined. Many people agreed with him as well.

"That has to be it."

Although this group of people agreed with him, they could not help but ask the Martial Emperor's disciples and followers standing close to them. It was as though they would only feel at ease if they had direct confirmation.

"That's right. He's the second disciple of our Ling Xuan Peak's Lord Martial Emperor — Song Ting."

"Senior Brother Song Ting isn't only the Martial Emperor's direct disciple, but he's also one of the two great judges for the Selection of the Martial Emperor's disciples and followers held by our Ling Xuan Peak today," many Martial Emperor's disciples and followers responded.

Although they had already somewhat guessed it earlier, after they confirmed Song Ting's identity with the group of Martial Emperor's disciples and followers, many people still exclaimed in shock with looks of admiration on their faces.

The Martial Emperor's direct disciple!

This was a person they looked up to.

When Song Ting appeared, two people appeared behind him like shadows.

“Lu Zhong!” With just a glance, Duan Ling Tian who stood in the crowd immediately identified one of the people standing behind Song Ting. It was none other than the Martial Emperor’s disciple who tried to pick a fight with him but was thwarted by Qiao Zhong in the end.

Lu Zhong was the older blood brother of the muggers’ leader whom he had killed before coming to Ling Xuan Peak.

When Duan Ling Tian killed the muggers’ leader, he did not know he was also the Martial Emperor’s disciple.

Naturally, he would not have shown mercy even if he knew.

When Duan Ling Tian noticed Lu Zhong, he also saw him.

When Lu Zhong saw Duan Ling Tian, his eyes immediately turned red. It was as though he had transformed into a vicious beast lurking in the dark, ready to pounce and kill at any given time.

“He’s the one who killed Lu Yi?” Although Song Ting was not looking at Lu Zhong, it seemed as though he had eyes at the back of his head since he instantly noticed something was not right with Lu Zhong. He immediately looked in the direction where Lu Zhong was looking at.

Soon after, his eyes landed on Duan Ling Tian.

“Yes.” Lu Zhong gnashed his teeth in response. The eyes that were glaring at Duan Ling Tian almost bulged out of his sockets. He itched to swallow Duan Ling Tian whole.

However, Duan Ling Tian was not bothered about Lu Zhong at all.

He thought nothing of Lu Zhong.

He was looking into Song Ting’s eyes that were looking at him as well. It was as though the slightest thing would spark a fire.

However, not long after Duan Ling Tian and Song Ting’s eyes met, Song Ting quickly retracted his gaze. It was as though he found it beneath him to exchange glances with Duan Ling Tian. He completely looked down on Duan Ling Tian.

“Martial Emperor’s direct disciple?” Duan Ling Tian’s gaze contained a strong hint of battle intent when he looked at Song Ting.

Unfortunately, Song Ting did not notice that.

“Senior Brother Zhong An!”

“Senior Brother Zhong An!”

...

Soon after, a series of courteous greeting resonated and attracted Duan Ling Tian’s attention.

Duan Ling Tian discovered another young man in his thirties was making his way here in the company of another two men.

From the exchanges of the group of Martial Emperor's disciples and followers in his surroundings, Duan Ling Tian discovered the young man's identity.

Zhong An, the third direct disciple under Martial Emperor Ling Xuan's command.

Two days ago, Duan Ling Tian had learned about the situation in Ling Xuan Peak from Qiao Zhong. He knew that Ling Xuan Peak was divided into two factions. These two factions were led by the two Martial Emperor's direct disciples under Martial Emperor Ling Xuan's command.

Today, he finally saw the leaders of the two factions.

Song Ting, the Martial Emperor's second direct disciple.

Zhong An, the Martial Emperor's third direct disciple.

"At first, I thought the one named Yang Hui is either the second or third Martial Emperor's direct disciple, but it seems like I'm wrong." A silhouette appeared in Duan Ling Tian's mind.

The scene of the young man using his Spiritual Energy to wield the sword at the peak of Ling Xuan Peak was still vivid in his mind.

'Don't tell me Yang Hui is actually the Martial Emperor's first direct disciple who's always secretive with his movements and whereabouts just like Martial Emperor Ling Xuan according to Qiao Zhong?' Duan Ling Tian thought to himself. The more he thought about it, the more he found it plausible.

Chapter 1248: The First Selection

"Duan Ling Tian." Soon after, a familiar voice rang by Duan Ling Tian's ears. He did not need to look, he knew who the owner of the voice was.

It was none other than Nangong Yi who came to Ling Xuan Peak to participate in the Selection of the Martial Emperor's disciples and followers.

There were two faint sounds of wind whistling approaching him. He could easily guess that Nangong Chen was with Nangong Yi as well.

"You're here." Duan Ling Tian nodded slightly.

After Nangong Yi appeared behind Duan Ling Tian, his gaze unconsciously landed on Lu Zhong who was standing behind Song Ting in the distance. He asked with dread in his voice, "Duan Ling Tian, did Lu Zhong look for you?"

"Yes, he did." Duan Ling Tian nodded in response to Nangong Yi's question.

"Did you win him?" Nangong Yi asked, surprised.

"We didn't battle." Duan Ling Tian shook his head.

Although Lu Zhong did look for him, he did not attack him all. Due to this reason, there was no winner or loser.

“Didn’t battle?” Nangong Yi was surprised.

In fact, when Lu Zhong came to find him, he was furious. If it was not because Lu Zhong was wary of the fact that he was a participant of the Selection of the Martial Emperor’s disciples and followers and he was not the real killer, Lu Zhong would have attacked him immediately.

Duan Ling Tian, on the other hand, was different.

Lu Zhong’s younger blood brother had died directly in Duan Ling Tian’s hands. By right, Lu Zhong would not let him go so easily.

“Are you confident in going against him?” Nangong Yi did not ask for the reason, he was more curious about this matter.

Although Duan Ling Tian had killed Lu Yi, Lu Zhong’s younger brother who was a Martial Emperor’s disciple, his attack at that time was sudden and took his opponent by surprise.

If Lu Yi had been prepared, it would have been almost impossible for Duan Ling Tian to kill him.

After all, Duan Ling Tian’s cultivation base was just too low. The strength boost that his Spirit Weapon could grant was just too limited.

Lu Yi had died due to his own recklessness.

If it was the Duan Ling Tian from six months ago, Nangong Yi was certain he would not win if he went against Lu Zhong, the Martial Emperor’s disciple, who was stronger than his younger brother, Lu Yi.

Among all the Martial Emperor’s disciples, his strength was in the top three.

However, six months had gone by. He had no idea how much Duan Ling Tian had raised his cultivation base. Due to this reason, he did not carelessly come to a conclusion.

After all, it only took Duan Ling Tian a month to restore his cultivation base to the First Level Void Interpretation Stage from the First Level Core Formation Stage previously.

Six months had gone by, just how much did Duan Ling Tian restore his cultivation base?

He had no clue at all.

“Confident?” When Duan Ling Tian heard Nangong Yi’s question, he was momentarily stunned before he smiled faintly. His smile was so mysterious that it made Nangong Yi feel even more curious.

Nangong Yi could not suppress his curiosity and ask again, “What? You’re confident?”

However, Duan Ling Tian still did not answer him, causing him to feel a little frustrated.

In the distance, Song Ting and Zhong An, the Martial Emperor's second and third direct disciples in Ling Xuan Peak, gathered together. This was a sign that the Selection of the Martial Emperor's disciples and followers of Ling Xuan Peak was about to begin.

Song Ting and Zhong An were the two great judges for the Selection of the Martial Emperor's disciples and followers today.

Naturally, apart from the two who were the judges, there was another group of Martial Emperor's disciples who would work together with them in the Selection of the Martial Emperor's disciples and followers.

As the supervisors today, the group of Martial Emperor's disciples would supervise the selection today.

"Third Junior Brother, it has been a long time since I last saw you," Song Ting greeted Zhong An with a smile. Those who did not know any better would really think that he and Zhong An had a good brotherly relationship with each other. After all, they were both apprentices to the same master.

"That's right, it has been such a long time... Second Senior Brother," Zhong An responded faintly. A smile could be seen on his face as well. However, the smile did not reach his eyes.

A hint of hostility gleamed in the depth of both their eyes.

"Since we're both here, should we begin the Selection of the Martial Emperor's disciples and followers?" Song Ting asked.

"Yeah, let's begin." Zhong An nodded. He glanced at the surroundings before announcing loudly, "All the martial artists who are participating in the Selection of the Martial Emperor's disciples and followers today, descend on the stone platform below... The first selection will begin in fifteen minutes."

The moment Zhong An's words spread out, a group of people descended one after another like dumplings being dropped down on the vast stone platform.

Duan Ling Tian and the Nangong brothers did not join the crowd.

It was only until the crowd descending began to thin that they descended. They landed on the side of the stone platform firmly and waited for the Selection of the Martial Emperor's disciples and followers to begin.

Not long after Duan Ling Tian and the two others landed, an annoying voice resonated in the air. His voice was filled with mockery. "Tsk tsk... Nangong Chen, they're your companions?"

A middle-aged man who was dressed in a silver robe appeared before the three of them. From the beginning until the end, he did not look at Nangong Chen at all. His gaze was firmly fixed on Duan Ling Tian and Nangong Yi instead.

"I've not seen the two of them before... Hmmm, I guess this means their cultivation base must be below the Seventh Level Martial Monarch Stage huh?" A mocking smile appeared on the silver-robed middle-aged man's face when he reached the end of his sentence.

Based on his words, it was obvious that he had stayed at the same place with Nangong Chen for his cultivation during these six months.

When Duan Ling Tian and the other two first arrived in Ling Xuan Peak, each of them had been arranged to stay in different cultivation places.

Duan Ling Tian, whose cultivation base was below the Fourth Level Martial Monarch Stage, was assigned to one place.

Nangong Yi, whose cultivation base was above the Fourth Level but below the Seventh Level Martial Monarch Stage, had been assigned to another place.

And Nangong Chen, whose cultivation base was above the Seventh Level Martial Monarch Stage, had been assigned to another place away from Duan Ling Tian and Nangong Yi.

Since the silver-robed middle-aged man was assigned to the same place as Nangong Chen, it meant that his cultivation base was at the Seventh Level Martial Monarch Stage six months ago.

Moreover, since he dared to ignore Nangong Chen in such way and blatantly provoked Duan Ling Tian and Nangong Yi in front of him, it meant that he did not fear him. His strength must be at least on par with Nangong Chen or he might be even stronger.

Nangong Chen who usually did not talk much had an aloof expression on his face as he snarled loudly, "Scram!"

When Nangong Chen snarled at the silver-robed middle-aged man, his face turned grave immediately. He glared at Nangong Chen and snapped loudly, "Nangong Chen, let's hope none of your companions faces me in the selection later... Otherwise, I'll beat them to death until they don't even have an intact body to be buried!"

The silver-robed middle-aged man's piercing eyes shone as though he was about to devour somebody when he reached the end of his sentence.

"Well, we'll have to see if you have that ability to beat us until there are no bodies left to be buried." Nangong Yi who was initially clueless snorted when he heard the silver-robed middle-aged man's words.

Only Duan Ling Tian remained silent from the beginning until the end. He merely cast a cold glance at the silver-robed middle-aged man before retracting his gaze again.

An unnoticeable killing intent flashed in the depth of his eyes.

"You'll soon find out if I have that ability or not! Even Nangong Chen doesn't dare to guarantee that he can win me, let alone a little boy like you who haven't even entered the Seventh Level Martial Monarch Stage! If I want to kill you, it'll be as easy as stepping on an ant!" Upon hearing Nangong Yi's words, the silver-robed middle-aged man continued to mock him. Finally, he left under Nangong Yi's furious gaze and stood at the side.

Nangong Yi retracted his gaze and instantly looked at Nangong Chen before he asked, "Nangong Chen, you can't defeat him?"

"We're well-matched," Nangong Chen replied nonchalantly, taciturn as always.

“No wonder he’s so mad and dares to provoke you, Duan Ling Tian, and me.” Nangong Yi snorted.
“However, it’s okay for him to provoke you and me, but how dare he provoke Duan Ling Tian! He really wants to die!”

When Nangong Yi reached the end of his sentence, he looked at Duan Ling Tian and saw that Duan Ling Tian was calm. It was as though he was not infuriated by the silver-robed middle-aged man’s provocation.

Nangong Yi immediately felt slightly disappointed.

To Duan Ling Tian, the incident with the silver-robed middle-aged man’s was just a minor issue. He had forgotten about it quickly.

Fifteen minutes quickly passed by.

“Fifteen minutes have gone by.”

“The first selection is going to begin soon... I wonder what it’s going to be!”

“We’ll soon find out.”

...

Many people whispered among each other. They were nervous and filled with anticipation in regards to the Selection of the Martial Emperor’s disciples and followers.

There were no more than ten people, including Duan Ling Tian, who could remain calm.

Even Nangong Yi looked glum as he waited attentively for the first round of the Selection of the Martial Emperor’s disciples and followers to begin. ()

Under the watchful eyes of the others, Song Ting and Zhong An flew out at the same time and arrived at the sky above Duan Ling Tian and the others. They did not say anything for a long time as they hovered in the air.

“What’s going on?”

“What are they trying to do now?”

...

When the crowd was still puzzling over the situation, Song Ting and Zhong An finally made their moves. Their bodies moved slightly, and a tremendous wave of aura surged out of their bodies.

The aura belonged to a powerhouse who had reached the peak of the Martial Monarch Stage spread toward Duan Ling Tian and the others.

It was not simply a matter of one plus one when the auras of the two powerhouses who had reached the peak of the Martial Monarch Stage merged.

The aura enveloped the ground, everyone became shaky apart from Duan Ling Tian and several dozens of people.

Boom!

Soon after, some people could no longer endure it. With a slam, they fell on the ground on their backs, and their faces were utterly grave.

Boom! Boom! Boom!

...

In the next instant, more and more people fell.

The people who fell first were mostly from the same cultivation place as Duan Ling Tian. They were all martial artists below the Fourth Level Martial Monarch Stage.

They could not endure the auras from the two powerhouses who had reached the peak of the Martial Monarch Stage that enveloped them.

Soon after, apart from Duan Ling Tian, everyone from the same cultivation place as him for the past six months fell to the ground. They were all eliminated.

“Hurmph! They’re all trash!” Song Ting snorted in disdain as he looked at the scene from above.

“This is also because our Ling Xuan Peak didn’t set a requirement for the participants of the Selection of the Martial Emperor’s disciples and followers this time... Otherwise, they wouldn’t have the qualifications to participate at all. However, it seems like they’ve bitten off more than they can chew even if they successfully came here,” Zhong An chimed in nonchalantly. He did not find it surprising as he watched the scene below him.

“With this feeble strength, all of you want to be the Martial Emperor’s disciples and followers in our Ling Xuan Peak?”

“You’ve overestimated yourselves!”

Many Ling Xuan Peak’s Martial Emperor’s disciples and followers who were watching from the sky smirked disdainfully.

Chapter 1249: Gravitational Stair Formation

All martial artists below the Fourth Level Martial Monarch Stage soon fell on the ground. They could no longer get up.

As for the remaining martial artists above the Fourth Level Martial Monarch Stage, even the weakest one was able to withstand Song Ting and Zhong An’s aura albeit with great difficulty.

Naturally, they all looked wretched.

A few moments later, Song Ting and Zhong An finally withdrew their auras. Looking at the crowd sitting on the ground, Song Ting shouted coldly, “Throw these trashes out! Do you think anyone can simply join our Ling Xuan Peak just like that?”

The moment Song Ting's words left his mouth, the group of Martial Emperor's followers who had been waiting immediately acted and brought the people who had fallen on the ground away.

Only a group of people with incredible strength, including Duan Ling Tian, was left on the vast stone platform.

"The first selection has ended. We're going to start the second selection soon..." Zhong An said at a speed that was neither hurried nor slow as he looked at the people who had passed the first selection.

In the next instant, Origin Energy filled the sky with just a lift of his hand.

At this moment, the sky quaked, and ripples begin to spread out instantly. Like a stone that was thrown into a calm lake, ripples continued to spread out ceaselessly.

"Inscription Formation!" At the same time, everybody present on the scene could sense the rich Inscription Formation aura instantly. They knew Zhong An had activated an Inscription Formation.

Among the crowd of people who had passed the first selection, there were a few people, including Duan Ling Tian, who were not surprised by this.

This was because they had already noticed there was an Inscription Formation hidden here.

This Inscription Formation was extraordinary. It was personally set up by an Inscription Master at the Martial Emperor Stage or above. Unless one was an Inscription Master as well, one would not have known about this.

Under the watchful eyes of the others, the Inscription Formation was activated, and a translucent cylinder appeared in the sky. From the top until the bottom, the cylinder appeared to be hollow as though one could easily pass through it.

The cylinder was around 100 meters long. The space inside could accommodate about ten adults at each plane. It would be very crowded if it was any more than that.

Apart from that, the translucent cylinder was separated into seven different colors. The seven colors were the colors of rainbows.

Red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, and violet.

"The Gravitational Stairs Formation?" Duan Ling Tian identified the Inscription Formation with just a glance at the cylinder.

He was no stranger to this Inscription Formation. He had a record of this Inscription Formation in his mind.

The Gravitational Stairs Formation was an Inscription Formation that could only be inscribed and set up by an Inscription Master at the Martial Emperor Stage or above. It was neither an offensive nor defensive Inscription Formation.

If one really had to put a label to it, then it could be categorized as an assistive Inscription Formation.

The Gravitational Stairs Formation was mainly set up using a fixed number of Earth Profundity Fragments and a great number of supreme-grade Origin Stones along with other materials. It would form a Gravitational Stairs once it was activated.

The cylinder in front of everybody's eyes was a Gravitational Stairs.

From the bottom to the top, it had seven colors. It was red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, and violet — the seven colors of the rainbow represented the different gravitational force in the Gravitational Stairs.

If one did not possess enough strength, it would be impossible for one to climb the Gravitational Stairs.

It was because the higher the Gravitation Stairs was, the gravitational force would become even more horrifying.

"This is the Gravitational Stairs Formation..." At this moment, Zhong An began to introduce the Gravitational Stairs Formation. His explanation was similar to the information in Duan Ling Tian's mind.

"So this is the legendary Gravitational Stairs Formation!"

"It's said that only the strongest Martial Monarchs are able to successfully climb the Gravitational Stairs formed by the Gravitational Stairs Formation... It's extremely difficult for an ordinary Martial Monarch to go through this."

"I've heard that before. However, we'll definitely be able to do it as the Martial Emperor's disciples of Ling Xuan Peak."

"Let alone the Martial Emperor's disciples, it won't be difficult even for us Martial Emperor's followers to do it."

The group of Martial Emperor's disciples and followers buried their heads together in discussion. Each of them was confident in their own strength.

Naturally, this was because they had heard about the Gravitational Stairs Formation before.

"Gravitational Stairs Formation... If we don't have a cultivation base at the Seventh Level Martial Monarch Stage or above, it'll most likely be impossible for us to pass." Many people sighed.

"Not necessarily... Who knows, a Sixth Level Martial Monarch might just be able to pass through this Gravitational Stairs with the help of various Profundities that far exceed his cultivation base?"

"Oh yeah, that's possible as well."

...

The group of Martial Emperor's disciples and followers studied Duan Ling Tian and the others with interest. They looked forward to seeing them enter the Gravitational Stairs. They wanted to see how many people could climb the Gravitational Stairs.

“It’s difficult for a person whose cultivation base is lower than the Seventh Level Martial Monarch Stage to climb the Gravitational Stairs?” Nangong Yi’s face was a little glum when he looked at the Gravitational Stairs in the sky. However, a hint of anticipation gleamed in the depth of his eyes.

“Usually, it’ll be difficult for a martial artist below the Seventh Level Martial Monarch Stage to climb it... But, if you’re very determined and have a Profundity that far surpasses your cultivation base, you’ll stand a chance of passing this stage,” Duan Ling Tian said.

There was a detailed record of the Gravitational Stairs Formation in his memory.

He believed that as long as his cultivation base made a breakthrough to the Martial Emperor Stage, along with the familiar yet strange message in his memory, he would be able to inscribe and set up a Gravitational Stairs Formation on his own if he had enough materials.

“The Gravitational Stairs is the second selection for all of you today... Only those who can pass this round will be allowed to enter the next round!” Zhong An continued to announce as he looked at Duan Ling Tian and the others.

“Those who enter the next round will become the Martial Emperor’s followers of our Ling Xuan Peak... Even if you don’t pass the third selection, you can still remain in our Ling Xuan Peak as a Martial Emperor’s follower,” Song Ting chimed in after that.

Apart from Duan Ling Tian, the eyes of everyone on the vast stone platform brightened immediately. Even Nangong Chen who was usually aloof and taciturn was not an exception.

“Little Yi, I’ll avenge you soon... You can just stop and rest for a while in the other world and wait for this enemy who killed you. At that time, you can give him a good bashing!” In the distance, Lu Zhong glared at Duan Ling Tian with hatred. If it was not for the fact that he did not dare to disrupt the Selection of the Martial Emperor’s disciples and followers today, he would have long made his move and kill this enemy who killed his younger brother.

In his opinion, he would be able to personally avenge his brother soon.

“There’s going to be a good show to watch soon.” An old man stood at another side as he looked at Lu Zhong. A faint smile could be seen playing at the corner of his mouth.

“Qiao Zhong, what good show?” Another old man beside him asked curiously.

“You’ll find out very soon,” the old man called Qiao Zhong answered nonchalantly with a smile.

Qiao Zhong was the old man who brought Duan Ling Tian to his cultivation place six months ago. At that time, he was the one who blocked Lu Zhong when he tried to pick a fight with Duan Ling Tian.

He was also a Martial Emperor’s disciple in Ling Xuan Peak.

However, unlike Lu Zhong, he was a member from Zhong An, the Martial Emperor’s third direct disciple’s faction.

“As long as we pass this selection, we’ll be able to become the Martial Emperor’s followers?” The eyes of the people on the vast stone platform brightened.

They knew very well that it was almost impossible for them to become the Martial Emperor’s disciple with the strength they currently possessed. Due to this reason, they could only settle for second best and become the Martial Emperor’s followers.

As long as they become the Martial Emperor’s followers, they would be able to stay in Ling Xuan Peak and enjoy the cultivation resources here.

Moreover, a Martial Emperor’s follower would still have the chance to be promoted to become a Martial Emperor’s disciple once they become powerful. They might even become a Martial Emperor’s direct disciple if they caught Martial Emperor Ling Xuan’s eyes.

“The second selection will begin now... Ten of you will form a group and enter the Gravitational Stairs from below. Whoever comes out on top will be regarded as passing the second selection,” Song Ting said, his voice resonated loudly in the sky.

After Song Ting’s words left his mouth, nobody, including Duan Ling Tian, moved.

Nobody was willing to go out first and be the lab rat.

When Song Ting saw this, his face turned glum. He asked with a frown, “What? Are all of you giving up?”

Only then did someone begin to make a move. One by one, they rose up into the sky. In a span of ten breaths, a group of ten was finally formed as they stood below the Gravitational Stairs.

Duan Ling Tian glanced at them and discovered none of the ten people were at the Seventh Level Martial Monarch Stage or above.

‘It’ll be difficult for these people to pass the Gravitational Stairs,’ he thought to himself.

He was very familiar with the Gravitational Stairs Formation. Naturally, he was familiar with the Gravitational Stairs too.

It was almost impossible for an ordinary martial artist at the Seventh Level Martial Monarch Stage or below to successfully climb the Gravitational Stairs.

Naturally, that was only for ordinary martial artists at the Seventh Level Martial Monarch Stage or below.

If those martial artists at the Seventh Level Martial Monarch Stage or below were strong and had comprehended a strong Profundity, it would not be difficult for them to climb the Gravitational Stairs.

Take the current Duan Ling Tian for example. Although he was not a martial artist above the Seventh Level Martial Monarch Stage, it would still be easy for him to climb the Gravitational Stairs since the Profundities he had comprehended were strong.

When Song Ting saw ten people standing at the bottom entrance of the Gravitational Stairs, his face turned a little warmer, and he said casually, “Enter.”

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

...

At this moment, the ten people standing at the entrance of the Gravitational Stairs began to make their move. One by one, they rushed into the Gravitational Stairs.

Their bodies were lightning fast initially. However, they gradually slowed down after entering the Gravitational Stairs.

The higher the stair — where it was closer to the violet zone — the stronger the gravitational force was.

On the contrary, the lower the stair — where it was closer to the red zone — the weaker the gravitational force was.

After the ten of them unleashed all of their energies and entered the Gravitational Stairs forcefully, they managed to pass through the red, orange, yellow, and green zone even though their speed was turning slower and slower.

When they reached the blue zone, their movements began to slow down drastically. It seemed like it was difficult for them to continue moving upward.

All ten of them were stuck in the blue zone on the Gravitational Stairs.

There were only the indigo and violet zone left in the Gravitational Stairs above the blue zone. Once they made it past the violet zone, they would be regarded as passing the Gravitational Stairs.

Chapter 1250: Betting With One's Life!

Everyone present on the scene was staring at the ten people in the Gravitational Stairs with utmost concentration.

After the ten of them had reached the blue zone of the Gravitational Stairs, every step was difficult for them. Every step they took was extremely difficult that it seemed unlikely for them to make it through.

“Just a little bit more before that guy makes it through.” Soon after, everyone present on the scene noticed a man who had almost passed through the blue zone to enter the indigo zone.

Once he entered the indigo zone, he only needed to go through the violet zone before he would be regarded as passing the entire Gravitational Stairs.

The reason this guy almost made his way out of the blue zone was due to the fact that he was using his Spirit Weapon, on top of the Origin Energy and Profundity he had unleashed, to withstand the great gravitational force.

Both of his arms were raised over his head as he held the Spirit Sword tightly in his hands. The Origin Energy on his body that had merged with many Profundities made him seem like he had transformed into a gigantic sword.

This sword had its tip pointed up as he did all he could to dispel the uninterrupted flow of gravitational force inside the Gravitational Stairs to help reduce the pressure.

Whoosh!

At the same time, he relied on his force to soar up into the sky and enter the indigo zone of the Gravitational Stairs in one breath.

Just as everyone's eyes brightened because they thought this man stood a chance of passing the Gravitational Stairs—

Boom!

The indigo zone of the Gravitational Stairs suddenly released an even more powerful gravitational force. It slammed into the man, causing him to fall like an arrow that left its bow.

Barf!

Under the watchful eyes of the others, the man threw up a mouthful of blood before he was sent flying by the gravitational force, causing him to lose the chance of becoming the Martial Emperor's disciple or follower.

"I'm too careless." After he was sent flying, he sighed and wiped the blood off his mouth. He left quietly after that.

It was precisely because he was happy that he had made it into the indigo zone of the Gravitational Stairs that he became careless. It resulted in him being sent flying by the gravitational force of the Gravitational Stairs.

Otherwise, he would not be so wretched even if he did not manage to enter the violet zone of the Gravitational Stairs.

Although he was eliminated by the Gravitational Stairs, he served as an example to the people after him. Based on his experience, the others learned they could use their Spirit Weapons to dispel the uninterrupted flow of gravitational force inside the Gravitational Stairs.

The remaining nine people took out their Spirit Weapons one after another. With the help of the strength from their Spirit Weapons, they were able to make it to the indigo zone of the Gravitational Stairs.

Unlike the other man who was careless, they advanced slowly, making sure their steps were firm and successfully withstood the gravitational force in the indigo zone.

"Duan Ling Tian, they've made it up to the indigo zone. Do you think they'll be able to reach the violet zone and make it through the Gravitational Stairs?" A voice suddenly resonated by Duan Ling Tian's ears. It was Nangong Yi.

After Duan Ling Tian, who was keeping an eye on the situation inside the Gravitational Stairs, heard Nangong Yi's question, he replied, "They'll not be able to make it through the Gravitational Stairs... As for going into the violet zone, well, maybe one of them will be able to."

There was one among the remaining nine who was quite powerful. He could be considered as the best among Sixth Level Martial Monarch Stage martial artists.

“Only one person will make it to the violet zone? Nobody will be able to make it through the Gravitational Stairs?” Nangong Yi’s face turned glum when he heard Duan Ling Tian’s words.

He had some impression of the ten people who entered the Gravitational Stairs. They were all people from the same cultivation place with him in the past six months. They were all above Fourth Level but below the Seventh Level Martial Monarch Stage.

Some of these people were even more powerful than him.

“Then, does this mean that I have no hope of passing the Gravitational Stairs?” Nangong Yi’s face turned glum. Despair could be seen in the depth of his eyes.

Soon after, another person was sent flying from inside the Gravitational Stairs.

This person actually wanted to rely on the Spirit Weapon in his hand and charged into the violet zone of the Gravitational Stairs by force in one breath. However, as soon as the Spirit Weapon in his hand touched the violet zone, it triggered an even more powerful gravitational force that sent him flying.

After he was sent flying by the Gravitational Stairs, he sighed. He left in a daze, slightly battered.

As time went by, more people were eliminated.

In the end, only one person was left.

He was also the person whom Duan Ling Tian had a better impression of.

This person forcibly charged into the violet zone of the Gravitational Stairs with the help of his Spirit Weapon and entered it completely.

When most people thought he was going to pass the Gravitational Stairs, he was sent flying downward. His body slammed down on the vast stone platform with a loud ‘Bang’.

By the time he stood up, his entire body was covered in blood. His appearance was wretched.

Before he left the vast stone platform, he announced to the crowd, “I’m giving all of you a piece of advice. If your cultivation base is not at the Seventh Level Martial Monarch Stage or above, it’s better not to overestimate your strength.”

His words left a dark shadow in many people’s hearts. These people were all below the Seventh Level Martial Monarch Stage, including Nangong Yi. The only exception was Duan Ling Tian.

“Hurmph! You don’t have a cultivation base at the Seventh Level Martial Monarch Stage and above, and yet, you still dream of becoming a Martial Emperor’s disciple or follower in Ling Xuan Peak? You guys really overestimated yourself!” At this moment, a disdainful snort broke the silence on the vast stone platform. It was the silver-robed middle-aged man who had provoked Duan Ling Tian and the other two earlier.

Many people, including Nangong Yi, were infuriated when Duan Ling Tian suddenly said at a speed that was neither fast nor slow, “How smelly... Whose mouth is so stinky?”

“Pssst!”

“Hahahaha... Indeed it’s stinky! I can also smell it!”

The entire place was silent for a moment before people burst out laughing after they regained their senses.

The group of martial artists below the Seventh Level Martial Monarch Stage, including Nangong Yi, laughed as they continued to joke, releasing their anger to their hearts’ content.

“Boy! You’re going to die!” The silver-robed middle-aged man finally snapped back to reality. His eyes were cold as he glared at Duan Ling Tian.

If it was not for the fact that this was not somewhere he was allowed to wreak havoc, he would have instantly killed the purple-clad young man. It would be like beating the lion before the dog to warn the others of the consequences of offending him.

“It seems like the smell is getting worse now,” Nangong Yi said sarcastically as he deliberately pinched his nose.

As the silver-robed middle-aged man glared at Nangong Yi and Duan Ling Tian, he said to incite them, “Y-You... You... You two boys! If you dare, enter the Gravitational Stairs with me right now! I’ll show you just how impossible it is for ants like you to climb the Gravitational Stairs and pass the second selection!”

Nangong Yi turned grave immediately when he heard this.

He really did not have the confidence to pass the Gravitational Stairs.

In his heart, he had already made mental preparation for getting eliminated.

However, in the face of the silver-robed middle-aged man’s provocation, he really did not know how to respond.

At this moment, Duan Ling Tian looked at the silver-robed middle-aged man and asked, “You mean you can go through the Gravitational Stairs? And pass the second selection?”

“Of course!” The silver-robed middle-aged man answered as though it was a matter of course.

“Looks like you’re quite confident in yourself.” After taking a long look at the silver-robed middle-aged man, Duan Ling Tian proceeded to look at Nangong Yi and smiled. “Since he’s so confident, let’s join him in this game then.”

“Alright.” Although Nangong Yi had no idea what Duan Ling Tian was planning, he still agreed to it in the end.

In his opinion, although he did not possess the strength to climb the Gravitational Stairs, it was not difficult for Duan Ling Tian to climb the Gravitational Stairs with his strength.

As the silver-robed middle-aged man rose up into the sky, he looked at Nangong Chen and mocked, "Nangong Chen, you'll soon witness the scene of your two companions being eliminated by the Gravitational Stairs. Just an ant who hasn't even stepped into the Seventh Level Martial Monarch Stage, and you still dare to challenge the Gravitational Stairs. You really have overestimated yourself too much!"

Duan Ling Tian narrowed his eyes and asked in a provocative tone, "Since you're so confident, do you dare to make a bet with me then?"

"What bet?" The silver-robed middle-aged man snorted.

"Let's bet whether the three of us and you will be able to pass through the Gravitational Stairs and pass the second selection or not," Duan Ling Tian said.

"How should we bet? Bet with what?" The silver-robed middle-aged man tried to maintain his imposing manner as he glared at Duan Ling Tian before smirking.

"Bet with our lives!" When Duan Ling Tian narrowed his eyes, his eyes gleamed coldly.

'Bet with our lives!'

The moment these words left Duan Ling Tian's mouth, a commotion immediately broke out.

Even the two Martial Emperor's direct disciples, Song Ting and Zhong An, instantly shifted their gaze toward Duan Ling Tian.

"Interesting." Zhong An smiled as he looked at Duan Ling Tian with interest. "I like this guy."

"Hurmph!" Unlike Zhong An, Song Ting merely snorted coldly. It was obvious he knew Duan Ling Tian was the person who killed Lu Yi, Lu Zhong's younger brother.

As for the silver-robed middle-aged man, he was also taken aback the moment he heard Duan Ling Tian's words.

After he noticed everyone's eyes shifting to him, he regained his senses. He looked at Duan Ling Tian and asked in a deep voice, "How do you want to bet?"

Until now, he still stubbornly tried to maintain his imposing manner.

"Let's all swear by the Tribulation Oath — the Nine-Nine Heavenly Tribulation... If any one of us three fail to pass the Gravitational Stairs or if you successfully pass the Gravitational Stairs, the lightning penalty from the Nine-Nine Heavenly Tribulation will strike me to death!" Duan Ling Tian looked at the silver-robed middle-aged man and enunciated each of his words clearly, "On the contrary, if the three of us pass the Gravitational Stairs, and you're unable to pass, you'll be killed by the Nine-Nine Heavenly Tribulation's lightning penalty instead!"

The second these words left Duan Ling Tian's mouth, the entire place immediately fell silent.

"Is this purple-clad young man c-crazy?" When people snapped out of their shock, they began to whisper among each other. They felt that Duan Ling Tian had gone crazy.

According to Duan Ling Tian, if either him, Nangong Chen or Nangong Yi, did not pass the Gravitational Stairs, he would die.

Even if all of them passed, he would also die if the silver-robed middle-aged man managed to pass the stairs.

Only if all three of them passed the Gravitational Stairs and the silver-robed middle-aged man failed to pass will the silver-robed middle-aged man die.

“Are you sure you want to bet like this?” After hearing Duan Ling Tian’s words, the silver-robed middle-aged man looked at Duan Ling Tian with a sneer and smirked coldly.

In his opinion, this purple-clad young man in front of him was merely digging his own grave.

“Do you dare?” Duan Ling Tian asked nonchalantly.

Do you dare?!

The second these words left Duan Ling Tian’s mouth, the crowd’s eyes shifted to the silver-robed middle-aged man again. He instantly became the center of attention again.

“Interesting, interesting!” Zhong An flashed a brilliant smile.

Song Ting who was standing next to him, on the other hand, narrowed his eyes as he stared intently at the purple figure as though he was deep in thoughts.

“Why wouldn’t I?!” The silver-robed middle-aged man smirked and said, “But, your life is not valuable enough to bet with me. Unless... you count Nangong Chen’s life in as well.”