

Chapter 1691: A Confident Xu Jing

Xu Jing's eyes shone brightly as he stared at the Flowery Monk and Jing Xu Zi.

Previously, both of them had strength that far surpassed him and could easily overpower him. However, today, he had taken the initiative to challenge both of them at the same time with just his strength alone.

His challenge was made not without a reason. In fact, he was really confident, and his confidence came from the Devouring Dark Devil Technique.

In the past year, no one but him knew about his own progress. Due to this reason, he was calm from the beginning until the end when he was faced with the Flowery Monk and Jing Xu Zi. He knew that even if they joined forces, they would not be a match for him at all.

They were merely two Mastery Refined Saint Stage Martial and Dao Cultivators!

The people present on the scene could not help but hold their breaths when they saw Xu Jing standing directly opposite the Flowery Monk and Jing Xu Zi.

Even Ren Zhong and Liu Hong Guang, the two moderators of the Rising Sky Ranking Battle, were staring at Xu Jing and the other two with utmost concentration. To be more precise, their attention was mostly focused on Xu Jing.

Naturally, they were no stranger to Xu Jing. He was the Young Mansion Master of Rising Sky Mansion, and they had seen him more than once. Due to this reason, they had a certain understanding of Xu Jing's innate talent and strength.

"It's already shocking that Xu Jing's cultivation base is at the Mastery Refined Saint Stage... However, it's even more shocking that he wants to challenge the Flowery Monk and Jing Xu Zi at the same time. Vice Mansion Master Ren, don't you think he's being a little too arrogant?" Liu Hong Guang asked through Voice Transmission as he looked at Ren Zhong.

"A year ago, he was merely an Early Refined Saint Stage Martial Cultivator. However, now he has broken through to the Mastery Refined Saint Stage. This is not something the Rising Sky Mansion's great cultivation resources could help him with. Due to this reason, I'm certain he must have had a fortuitous encounter during this past year. With this encounter, his strength must have grown a lot. It's only natural that he feels confident," Ren Zhong said through Voice Transmission, "If he challenges the Flowery Monk and Jing Xu Zi individually, he might stand a chance of winning. However, he's challenging both of them at the same time... This is really a sign of him being overconfident and arrogant."

"I wonder what kind of fortuitous encounter he had that made him so confident... Look at how confident he is. It's as though he's certain he'll be able to defeat the Flowery Monk and Jing Xu Zi at the same time," Liu Hong Guang added again.

“Previously, he was far from being comparable to the Flowery Monk or Jing Xu Zi. It’s normal for him to be arrogant and reckless now. It’s not necessarily a bad thing for him to lose this fight. It’s a good lesson for him so he won’t simply look down on people in the future,” Ren Zhong said solemnly.

Liu Hong Guang nodded in sign of assent.

“Damn it!” Although Xu Cen would not mind if Xu Jing was defeated, his expression still turned grave when he saw this scene. No matter what, Xu Jing still represented the Rising Sky Mansion. With how arrogant he was acting, it would be okay if he won, but if he lost, it would affect him and the Rising Sky Mansion. It would cause them to be the butt of jokes in the Rising Sky Mansion’s district.

As the Grand Elder of Rising Sky Mansion, it was only natural he did not wish for the sect to become a laughing stock because of Xu Jing.

It was unfortunate the situation was out of his control.

Meanwhile, the people in the surrounding were whispering among themselves.

Although Xu Jing appeared confident, nobody really thought highly of him.

Among the Ring Masters, only Duan Ling Tian had a grave expression on his face.

Whether it was the Wine-Meat Monk, Yu Xu Zi, Yin Xu Zi or the others, there was a hint of mockery in their eyes when they looked at Xu Jing. It was obvious they did not think Xu Jing was capable or strong enough to defeat the Flowery Monk and Jing Xu Zi now that they had agreed to join forces.

“Xu Jing, since you’re fighting both of us at the same time, we won’t take advantage of you. You can make the first move!” The Flowery Monk said as his eyes gleamed terrifyingly.

When he spoke, the kasaya on his body fluttered even though there was no wind, emitting a bloodcurdling aura. It was obvious he was getting serious about the fight.

The Flowery Monk was not the only one who was furious, Jing Xu Zi was furious as well.

Although Jing Xu Zi was a Taoist priest and was usually very calm, at this moment, he could no longer suppress the anger in his heart any longer due to the Xu Jing’s repeated provocations and humiliations.

“Flowery Monk, Jing Xu Zi, I know that both of you feel like I’m humiliating you. However, I just want you to know that the current me is different from before. Due to this reason, it’s better if you go all out when you’re fighting me. Otherwise, don’t blame me for not warning both of you when you die.” Xu Jing smiled sinisterly as he looked at the Flowery Monk and Jing Xu Zi.

Based on his words, it was obvious he planned to kill the Flowery Monk and Jing Xu Ji.

Since both the Flowery Monk and Jing Xu Zi had to take the Rising Sky Mansion into consideration, they did not dare to kill Xu Jing in fear of retaliation from the Rising Sky Mansion.

However, it was different for Xu Jing. Xu Jing had the Rising Sky Mansion, a fourth-rate force, backing him. Naturally, he did not have to fear the fifth-rate forces behind the Flowery Monk and Jing Xu Zi.

Even if the Brahma Temple and Pure Yang Shrine joined forces, it was nothing to the Rising Sky Mansion at all. This was the difference between a fourth-rate and fifth-rate force.

“You want us to go all out? We’ll see if you have the ability or not!” Jing Xu Zi who was usually calm was furious now.

“Both of you will find out very quickly if I have the ability or not.” Xu Jing smiled sinisterly again. The moment his words left his mouth, the air in within 100-meter radius of him began ripple for a moment as True Origin surged out of his body. In just a blink of an eye, it turned into a tornado again.

This was the same technique he had used earlier to kill Zhong Gu. It was his Territory’s technique.

His Territory was called the Typhoon Territory.

Whoever entered his Territory would be shrouded by the typhoon. The stronger his True Origin was, the stronger the force of his Territory.

This tornado was formed by him by consolidating all the tornados inside the Typhoon Territory. It was his Territory’s technique. Its concept was similar to how Duan Ling Tian consolidated the 10,000 sword rays in his 10,000 Swords Territory into a sword.

Unlike when he was fighting Zhong Gu, this time, Xu Jing fully used his strength at the Mastery Refined Saint Stage when he attacked.

Currently, the force of the tornado was stronger than the tornado he used to kill Zhong Gu in a blow.

Faced with the tornado, even the Flowery Monk and Jing Xu Zi’s expressions turned grave. Both of their bodies trembled simultaneously.

At this moment, the kasaya on the Flowery Monk and the dopo on Jing Xu Zi fluttered together loudly in the wind along with their True Origins.

At the same time, a Territory formed in within the area 100-meter radius around Flowery Monk. Next to him, another Territory was formed in within the area 100-meter radius of Jing Xu Zi as well.

Chapter 1692: Heinous Devil Qi

When the Flowery Monk and Jing Xu Zi was faced with Xu Jing’s Territory’s technique, they consolidated each of their own Territory from their True Origins.

The Flowery Monk’s Territory emitted a bright golden light.

Naturally, compared to the 10,000 Swords Territory that Duan Ling Tian consolidated using his Sun True Origin, the golden light enveloping the Flowery Monk’s Territory was not as dazzling. The golden light from Duan Ling Tian’s 10,000 Swords Territory was as bright as the sun, it was dazzling and splendid.

In comparison, the Flowery Monk’s Territory was not as dazzling. However, this did not mean his Territory was weak.

One could faintly see the faint images of Buddhas inside the Flowery Monk's Territory. These Buddhas appeared like statues. Some of them were standing, and some of them were sitting cross-legged. Some were elegant and graceful with their palms placed together devoutly while some made a Buddha hand sign. It was remarkably life-like.

With just a glance, there seemed to be at least a thousand Buddhas in the Territory.

"Thousand Buddhas Territory?" Duan Ling Tian raised an eyebrow. Although he was standing in the distance, he could still see how extraordinary the Flowery Monk's Thousand Buddhas Territory was. It might not be able to compare to his 10,000 Swords Territory, but it was still a class above the other Territories.

The statues of the Buddhas emitted a sense of pressure. Some of them had a kind expression, some appeared ruthless, some had a smile, and some had a dark expression as though someone had owed them money.

Meanwhile, Jing Xu Zi's Territory had also been consolidated.

Blue color appeared in Jing Xu Zi's Territory. The color in his Territory was similar to the blue of his dapo.

In this blue Territory, one could faintly see two gigantic swords that were moving continuously.

Both swords were more than thirty meters long and two meters wide. They revolved around Jing Xu Zi in a speed that was neither fast nor slow as though they were guarding him.

"The Two Qis Territory!" At the same time, Duan Ling Tian heard somebody exclaimed in a deep voice.

"Two Qis?" Duan Ling Tian's heart jolted. The words 'Two Qis' were not unfamiliar to him.

In his hometown on Earth, in his past life, there were many Taoism records that mentioned the words 'Two Qis' in that ancient and mysterious eastern country.

One Principle, Two Qis, Three Powers, Four Forms, Five Elements, Six Harmonies, Seven Stars, Eight Trigrams, and Nine Palaces.

All of these were recorded in the books of Taoism.

Although Duan Ling Tian did not know what they meant, he remembered them well.

"Although Jing Xu Ji's Territory is not as ridiculous as the Flowery Monk's Territory, the pair of Yin Yang Two Qis Swords inside his Two Qis Territory have a force that's by no means weak. Previously, he had used this pair of Yin Yang Two Qis Swords to overpower the Flowery Monk's Thousand Buddhas Territory and won the Flowery Monk by a narrow margin." A voice entered Duan Ling Tian's ears soon after.

"I've heard about that match as well... However, I also heard the Flowery Monk had used his Thousand Buddhas Territory to restrain Jing Xu Zi's Two Qis Territory and used his rich True Origin that was slightly stronger than Jing Xu Zi to overpower him as well," someone else chimed in.

“The strength of the Flowery Monk and Jing Xu Zi are on par with each other. Usually, their battles would either end in a draw or one of them winning by a narrow margin. This is not a secret in the Rising Sky Mansion’s district.”

“Even if that’s the case, if it’s based on force alone, Jing Xu Zi’s Two Qis Territory is actually much stronger!”

“I think so as well. The pair of Yin Yang Two Qis Swords in Jing Xu Zi’s Two Qis Territory is by no means inferior to his own Saint Weapon.”

“That’s right! For an occasion like the Rising Sky Ranking Battle that doesn’t allow the use of Saint Weapon, he has the advantage by using the Yin Yang Two Qis Swords in his own Territory.”

Duan Ling Tian heard the discussion around him, allowing him to learn more about the two gigantic swords in Jing Xu Zi’s Territory.

“Yin Yang Two Qis Sword? Interesting.” Duan Ling Tian’s eyes were trained on Jing Xu Zi’s Yin Yang Two Qis Swords.

At this moment, whether it was the thousands of statue-like Buddhas in the Flowery Monk’s Thousand Buddha Territory or the pair of Yin Yang Two Qis Swords that was rapidly revolving around Jing Xu Zi, both of them had begun to make their moves.

Faced with the terrifying tornado Xu Jing had cast in his Territory, the eyes of the thousand Buddhas in the Flowery Monk’s Territory gleamed brilliantly. For a moment, the two thousand lights that were flashing seemed like miniature suns. In the next instant, these Buddhas charged out like a swarm of hornets.

Along with the sun-like radiance that illuminated the place, the crowd noticed a golden Buddha had suddenly appeared before them when they regained their senses.

This huge golden great Buddha was like a towering mountain. Even the huge tornado Xu Jing had cast in his Territory seemed small in comparison. It did not even reach the waist of the golden great Buddha.

“This...” Upon seeing this, Duan Ling Tian was bewildered. Although he knew this was a Phenomenon cast by the Flowery Monk, he was still dumbstruck! This was because it was just too big, giving off a sense of pressure.

The pressure did not solely come from the force contained inside the Phenomenon, it also came from its size.

Imagine having a towering mountain appearing before oneself without any warning.

When the Flowery Monk’s Thousand Buddha Territory consolidated this golden great Buddha Phenomenon, Jing Xu Zi’s pair of Yin Yang Two Qis Swords had also moved. When it was close to the edge of the Territory, they began to devour the Territory Energy in a frenzy, causing the blue in Jing Xu Zi’s Territory to fade quickly.

Under the watchful gaze of the others, that pair of Yin Yang Two Qis Swords had also undergone an earth-shattering transformation.

First, their size expanded. Although it was nowhere near as ridiculously big as the Flowery Monk's Great Buddha Phenomenon, it was still bigger than the tornado. This was only the size of the swords.

Apart from this, Duan Ling Tian also noticed these two swords suddenly underwent a huge transformation. One of the swords turned completely black as a black mist spread in the surrounding, appearing devilish. However, its aura was one of nobility and righteousness. It was obvious it was not the aura of a devil.

On the other hand, the other sword turned a dazzling white. Its surrounding gleamed with a white splendor. Those with a lower cultivation base did not have the courage to stare at it directly.

"No wonder! I was wondering why this pair of identical swords are called the Yin Yang Two Qis Swords... As it turns out, these are their true forms. The Yin Yang Two Qis Swords indeed live up to their names!" Upon seeing this, Duan Ling Tian finally understood.

His eyes gleamed suddenly. As it turned out, the Great Buddha Phenomenon that was formed by the Flowery Monk's Thousand Buddhas Territory had suddenly waved its right arm. A mighty slap that was like a lofty mountain brought wind and thunder in its wake as it slammed toward the huge tornado.

At this instant, as a heaven-deafening noise reverberated in the air, the Great Buddha Phenomenon's slap landed on the tornado. Two waves of powerful energies collided, causing the air to vibrate and airwaves to roll out. A flurry of hurricanes charged out in all directions, making a noise that sounded like wails of despair.

In the next moment, under the watchful eyes of others, the Great Buddha Phenomenon that was like a lofty mountain suddenly quaked before it shattered.

Barf!

At the same time, colors drained from the Flowery Monk's face immediately. The moment he opened his mouth, he threw up a mouthful of dark blood. It was obvious that he was heavily injured.

As for the tornado, it had almost faded after being slapped by the Great Buddha Phenomenon.

However, it was strange that Xu Jing who was also at the Mastery Refined Saint Stage did not suffer any injuries, unlike the Flowery Monk. Instead, the tornado that seemed as though it was going to fade away once again regained its force.

"T-This..." Upon seeing this, the Flowery Monk's eyes turned as wide as saucers. Disbelief was written all over his face. He was not the only one. Even the spectators were dumbfounded.

What did this mean?

This meant that even though they were both Mastery Refined Saint Stage Martial Cultivators, the Flowery Monk's strength was actually inferior to Xu Jing.

Whoosh! Whoosh!

However, the bewildered crowd was soon distracted by the sound of two swords whistling in the air as it slashed across the sky. As it turned out, Jing Xu Zi had made his move with his Yin Yang Two Qis Swords.

The two swords that were black and white respectively slashed across the sky, bringing wind and thunder in its wake. The airflow also seemed to have stopped in its wake. Naturally, it did not really stop, it was just that the speed of the gigantic swords was so fast that it made it seemed as though the airflow had stopped.

In the next instant, Jing Xu Zi's Yin Yang Two Qis Swords clashed with the Xu Jing's tornado that had begun to sweep out again.

It must be said that in terms of offensive ability, Jing Xu Zi's Yin Yang Two Qis Swords were much greater than the Flowery Monk's Great Buddha Phenomenon. Both swords swept out in unison, and the tornado was shattered in just a split second. The Yin Yang Two Qis Swords, on the other hand, still had some lingering force.

"What a powerful attack!" Many people's hearts jolted when they saw this.

Jing Xu Zi's Yin Yang Two Qis Swords was quite an eye-opener to the crowd.

The people from Pure Yang Shrine smiled immediately.

They did not need the Flowery Monk. Just the Pure Yang Shrine's Jing Xu Zi was already enough to overpower Xu Jing, the Young Mansion Master of Rising Sky Mansion.

When everyone thought Jing Xu Zi had defeated Xu Jing, Xu Jing voice sounded in a timely manner, "Jing Xu Zi, your Yin Yang Two Qis Swords are indeed powerful! However, it's time to put an end to this!"

Xu Jing's voice now contained hints of wickedness and coldness, causing the people who heard it to shudder without a reason.

Before they even realized what was going on, they felt an aura that was even more terrifying than before surged out of Xu Jing's body.

For a moment, a more powerful and vast tornado that was laced with a heinous Devil Qi swept out in a terrifying speed. It was so fast that even the Flowery Monk and Jing Xu Zi could not react in time.

Chapter 1693: Xu Jing, The Peak Of The Refined Saint Stage!

Even Duan Ling Tian did not realize the sudden change in the situation. This was because his mind was currently thinking about something else.

Long before Jing Xu Zi's Yin Yang Two Qis Swords had swept out to the tornado Xu Jing had cast, Duan Ling Tian's attention was solely focused on the Yin Yang Two Qis Swords.

He had noticed something on the Yin Yang Two Qis Swords.

The 'something' he had noticed was different from his comprehension of the Sword Dao thus far. When he looked at the Yin Yang Two Qis Swords, he seemed to have comprehended something from it.

There were multiple pairs of Yin Yang Two Qis Swords crossing paths in his minds. Each pair of Yin Yang Two Qis Swords had different sets of actions. Although they were different, the Sword Dao seemed to be the same.

At this moment, some of the obstacles he had encountered with the Supreme Sword Dao Mental Cultivation Method, Sovereign Heart Sword, were solved immediately!

The final layer of the obstacle was broken through just like that!

The second stage of the Sovereign Heart Sword — the Sword Shadowed Heart!

At this instant, Duan Ling Tian had officially comprehended this stage of the Sovereign Heart Sword. It was a whole new stage. It was a more powerful stage!

Once Duan Ling Tian cast this technique, it would be so powerful that it was comparable to the offensive technique of an ordinary Heaven Rank Saint Grade Martial Tactic. It was completely different from the offensive technique of an Earth Rank Saint Grade Martial Tactic.

“So it’s actually like this... Sword Shadowed Heart.” When Duan Ling Tian regained his senses, realization dawned on his face. At the same time, a faintly discernible Sword Qi exuded out of his body tyrannically. As he stood there, it seemed as though his entire person had turned into a peerlessly sharp sword.

However, he was shocked when he snapped out of his daze.

How could he not feel shocked?

This was because he noticed that after Jing Xu Zi’s Yin Yang Two Qis Swords had overpowered the vast tornado Xu Jing had cast again, not only was Xu Jing not defeated, but he had released an even more powerful aura from his body. Moreover, the aura was something Duan Ling Tian was familiar with.

When the Devilseal Tablet in his Spatial Ring began to get agitated, he was hit with a realization. ‘Devil Cultivator! This Xu Jing is actually a Devil Cultivator? Wait a minute! He... he was concealing his strength!’

Horror dawned on his face when he thought of this.

When Xu Jing had concealed his strength, he was at the Mastery Refined Saint Stage. Just how powerful was he if he did not conceal his strength?

Even after Duan Ling Tian had comprehended the second stage of the Supreme Sword Dao Mental Cultivation Method, the Sovereign Heart Sword, and his strength had greatly increased, he was still horrified by this.

Just as horror dawned on Duan Ling Tian’s face, Ren Zhong, Liu Hong Guang, and Xu Cen who were the first ones to realize what was going also had a horrified expression on their faces. They were bewildered when they saw Xu Jing was not only exuding a more powerful True Origin, but his True Origin was laced with Devil Qi as well.

Currently, Xu Jing was like a different person compared to before.

Meanwhile, the huge tornado that appeared suddenly turned even more powerful. Moreover, it was emitting Devil Qi as well. The tornado was now as tall as the Great Buddha Phenomenon that was formed by the Flowery Monk's Thousand Buddhas Territory. It was sweeping toward the Flowery Monk and Jing Xu Ji at a speed that was ridiculously fast.

Faced with the speed of the tornado, both the Flowery Monk and Jing Xu Zi were suppressed to the point of suffocation.

Whoosh! Whoosh!

Horror dawned on both of them immediately as a terrifying thought appeared in their minds. 'T-The peak of the Refined Saint Stage! T-This Xu Jing has actually broken through to the peak of the Refined Saint Stage!'

They only had time to think about this, they did not have time to think about when Xu Jing had turned into a Devil Cultivator.

When they discovered Xu Jing's current strength and the horrifying technique he had cast, there was only one thought left in their minds!

'Retreat!'

At this instant, both of them began to flee in different directions.

When they were about to flee, Jing Xu Zi's Yin Yang Two Qis Swords had also been destroyed by that powerful tornado. The tornado did not decrease in strength as it continued to sweep out at lightning speed at the Flowery Monk and Jing Xu Zi who were fleeing for their lives.

"Senior Brother Flowery Monk!" The group of people of Brahma Temple had regained their senses, and horror dawned on their faces one after another.

The Abbot of Brahma Temple had also discovered Xu Jing's true cultivation base. His expression was grave as he worried about the Flowery Monk who was running for his life.

It was more or less the same as the Pure Yang Shrine.

However, the Abbot and the people from Brahma Temple people turned even more horrified soon after. This was because they saw the tornado that was emitting heinous Devil Qi had caught up to the Flowery Monk. Moreover, his entire person had been swallowed up by the tornado. As soon as he disappeared, blood mist appeared in the sky.

The Flowery Monk had died!

"NOOO!" The Brahma Temple's Abbot froze, his face had turned completely pale!

His direct disciple whom he thought the most highly of and whom he regarded as Brahma Temple's future hope, had died?

He could not accept this, but the bloody scene before him forced him to accept this fact.

Many people gasped when they saw the Flowery Monk turned into a mist of blood in just a blink of an eye.

However, nobody uttered a word since all of their attention was now focused on Jing Xu Zi.

One must admit that Jing Xu Zi was luckier than the Flowery Monk. Due to the fact that the Flowery Monk was injured, his speed when fleeing had decreased.

Jing Xu Zi, on the other hand, was not injured in the first place. Although his Yin Yang Two Qis Swords were destroyed, he was only injured after he managed to flee in the distance. Due to this reason, he managed to narrowly escape the tornado. However, he was still sent flying by the horrifying energy at the edge of the tornado.

Barf!

The moment Jing Xu Zi opened his mouth, he threw up a huge mouthful of blood immediately. He was further injured, and his face turned pale completely. He hovered in the air with great difficulty. His body swayed as though he was going to collapse.

“Jing Xu Zi, admit defeat right now!” At this moment, the Shrine Master of Pure Yang Shrine noticed the killing intent flashing in Xu Jing’s eyes. His heart turned cold immediately. He shouted loudly to remind Jing Xu Zi, fearing he would be killed if he was late in admitting defeat and followed in the Flowery Monk’s footsteps.

Jing Xu Zi’s importance to the Pure Yang Shrine was almost similar to how important the Flowery Monk was to the Brahma Temple.

To the Shrine Master of Pure Yang Shrine, everyone who followed him here could die but not Jing Xu Zi, the hope of the Pure Yang Shrine.

If Jing Xu Zi managed to grow stronger in the future, he would definitely be able to lead the Pure Yang Shrine to glory. He might even be able to lead the Pure Yang Shrine to replace the Rising Sky Mansion and become a fourth-rate force.

It was precisely because of this the Shrine Master of Pure Yang Shrine did not want Jing Xu Zi to die even if there was the slightest hope.

Meanwhile, after Jing Xu Zi who was further injured and baffled over Xu Jing’s cultivation base at the peak of the Refined Saint Stage heard his Master’s reminder, he suddenly regained his senses. With great difficulty, he opened his mouth to say, “I admit...”

Unfortunately, before the word ‘defeat’ came out of his mouth, a streak of black light flashed across the sky.

The speed of this streak of black light was not any slower than the tornado’s speed.

The streak of black light flashed and left a bloody hole in between Jing Xu Zi’s eyebrows. Jing Xu Zi’s eyes who were originally full of vitality suddenly lost its light, and his body jerked before it instantly fell from the sky.

Even with the reminder from the Shrine Master of Pure Yang Shrine, Jing Xu Zi was still too late in admitting defeat.

The lack of one word caused him to be sent to the other world, following in the footsteps of the Flowery Monk.

The two most outstanding people among the middle-aged generation in the Rising Sky Mansion's district had died in the hands of one person. Moreover, this person used to be someone whom they had defeated in the past.

"Jing Xu Zi!"

"Senior Brother Jing Xu Zi!"

When Jing Xu Zi died, horror dawned on the people from Pure Yang Shrine, the Shrine Master in particular. He was already anxious before this when he saw Jing Xu Zi die, his vision turned black immediately. His vital energy and blood rushed straight to his heart and caused him to throw up blood.

If it was not for the fact that he had a powerful cultivation base, he might have already passed out.

Meanwhile, silence descended on the scene.

Everybody's attention was on Xu Jing.

Although Xu Jing was the Young Mansion Master of Rising Sky Mansion, and the items in his hands were probably not any lesser than the Flowery Monk or Jing Xu Zi, he still kept the Spatial Rings of the Flowery Monk and Jing Xu Zi as war trophies.

"How's this possible?!"

"Xu Jing, the Young Mansion Master of Rising Sky Mansion, was defeated by the Flowery Monk and Jing Xu Zi previously! Any one of them could crush him easily. However, this time, they were both killed by him even though they had joined forces?"

"If I didn't witness this with my own eyes, I wouldn't have believed such a ridiculous thing as well!"

"Can someone tell me if I'm dreaming or not?"

"Impossible! Impossible!"

Many people began to exclaim out loud as they regained their senses. They were all bewildered by Xu Jing's strength.

A year ago, Xu Jing was only an Early Refined Saint Stage Martial Cultivator.

Previously, his cultivation base at the Mastery Refined Saint Stage had already baffled many people. They all thought he must have had a fortuitous encounter.

In the crowd's opinion, going from the Early Refined Saint Stage to the peak of the Refined Saint Stage in one year was unbelievable. However, the fact remained based on the strength Xu Jing had displayed earlier.

“I didn’t know Xu Jing’s a Devil Cultivator... After a year, he has actually fallen into the Devil Dao and became a Devil Cultivator?” Many people’s expressions turned grim when they realized Xu Jing was a Devil Cultivator.

“Even if he became a Devil Cultivator, it still seems quite far-fetched for him to rise to the peak of the Refined Saint Stage from the Early Refined Saint Stage in just one year, right?” Many people chimed in.

“It’s indeed far-fetched. However, this is the hard truth. If he didn’t break through to the peak of the Refined Saint Stage, it wouldn’t have been possible for him to kill the Flowery Monk and Jing Xu Zi this easily!”

“I can’t believe Xu Jing has broken through to the peak of the Refined Saint Stage. In this case, he must have held back some of his strength earlier when he killed Zhong Gu and when he first fought with the Flowery Monk and Jing Xu Zi.”

Chapter 1694: Target Shifted — Li Feng!

“Isn’t that obvious? If he didn’t show mercy the moment he made his move, the Flowery Monk and Jing Xu Zi would most likely not stand a chance at all. Perhaps, the reason he had allowed the Flowery Monk and Jing Xu Zi to make their moves first is to fool them.”

“To think I thought Xu Jing had overestimated himself initially. I can’t believe he’s actually a Devil Cultivator who has reached the peak of the Refined Saint Stage!”

“That’s right! If he had shown his strength at the peak of the Refined Saint Stage in the beginning, we wouldn’t have thought he was being arrogant for challenging the Flowery Monk and Jing Xu Zi at the same time.”

“I think he’d done this intentionally... If he had shown his strength at the peak of the Refined Saint Stage when he fought with Zhong Gu, the Flowery Monk and Jing Xu Zi might not accept his challenge even if they were allowed to join forces.”

“You have a point. In this case, it seems like Xu Jing has a scary and scheming mind!”

On the Nimble Chess Set, the crowd whispered about Xu Jing’s cultivation base.

Currently, Ren Zhong, the Vice Mansion Master of Sky Hurdle Mansion, Liu Hong Guang, the Second Elder of Raging Wave Mansion, and Xu Cen, the Grand Elder of Rising Sky Mansion were looking at Xu Jing skeptically as well.

They were not unfamiliar with Devil Cultivators. Moreover, they also knew many Devil Cultivators and that the cultivating speed of a Devil Cultivator was much faster than an ordinary Martial or Dao Cultivator.

However, even if Xu Jing was a Devil Cultivator now, it only took him a year to rise to the peak of the Refined Saint Stage from the Early Refined Saint Stage. His progress had alarmed them greatly.

What kind of monstrous progress was this?

Even if he was a Devil Cultivator, they had never heard of one that could break through to the peak of the Refined Saint Stage from the Early Refined Saint Stage in just a span of one year.

“Even in those powerful forces in the Upper Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land, I don’t think there are many people who can progress so fast in just a year, right?”

“How did Xu Jing progress so quickly?”

“That’s right! I wonder what kind of fortuitous encounter he had. Unfortunately, he probably won’t say anything about it. Since he’s the Young Mansion Master of Rising Sky Mansion, it’s not like we can force him to tell us.”

Ren Zhong and Liu Hong Guang exchanged glances with each other as they communicated using Voice Transmission.

They were truly baffled over Xu Jing’s progress in this one year. They were curious about what fortuitous encounter he had this year, but they knew Xu Jing would not tell them even they asked.

Everyone was selfish, let alone the fact that they were not even from the Rising Sky Mansion.

“The peak of the Refined Saint Stage...” In the distance, Duan Ling Tian’s expression turned even grimmer as he stared at Xu Jing.

Originally, at that instant when he comprehended the second stage of the Supreme Sword Dao Mental Cultivation Method, Sovereign Heart Sword, he was confident he could kill Xu Jing. Naturally, that was when he thought Xu Jing was at the Mastery Refined Saint Stage.

Although he had comprehended the second stage of the Sovereign Heart Sword, he did not dare to say he was 100% confident he could defeat Xu Jing who was at the peak of the Refined Saint Stage.

‘It’s a good thing I managed to comprehend the second stage of the Sovereign Heart Sword in time. Otherwise, I’ll be considered lucky if he didn’t manage to kill me. It’s absolutely impossible for me to kill him!’ Duan Ling Tian counted himself lucky when he thought about this.

However, Duan Ling Tian did not forget how he had managed to break through to the Sovereign Heart Sword’s second stage. He looked at the place where Jing Xu Zi was killed, and he thought to himself, ‘Jing Xu Zi, it’s your Yin Yang Two Qis Swords that allowed me to comprehend the second stage of the Sovereign Heart Sword.... Don’t worry, I’ll kill him to avenge you!’

Duan Ling Tian looked at Xu Jing as his eyes shone brightly.

After comprehending the second stage of the Sovereign Heart Sword, he was not afraid of fighting Xu Jing who had broken through to the peak of Refined Saint Stage. However, he was not confident he could kill him.

Based on his judgment, the gap between his and Xu Jing’s strength should not be too wide if they did not rely on external forces. Even if he was stronger, he would not be much stronger.

Duan Ling Tian was determined to fight Xu Jing this time since it was the best time to kill him and solve Han Xue Nai's crisis.

If Xu Jing had died outside of the Rising Sky Ranking Battle, it would definitely implicate the Greenwave Han Mansion, and that was something he did not want to see. Otherwise, he would not have come here alone to join the Rising Sky Ranking Battle.

The reason Duan Ling Tian wanted to kill Xu Jing initially was due to Han Xue Nai. However, part of the reason now was due to Jing Xu Zi as well.

Although he and Jing Xu Zi were strangers, Jing Xu Zi had indirectly helped him. This was a favor he needed to repay.

All along, Duan Ling Tian was someone who did not like to owe people favors, let alone a favor from a dead person.

Due to this reason, he was even more determined to kill Xu Jing to return this favor. His gaze turned even more determined as well.

"Young Mansion Master has actually broken through to the peak of the Refined Saint Stage?" The people from Rising Sky Mansion was in a commotion as well.

Since they were from the Rising Sky Mansion, they knew more than anyone else about Xu Jing. Due to this, they were even more baffled compared to other people. It was only now that they regained their senses.

Naturally, this was also because their cultivation base was not high enough.

Xu Cen, the Grand Elder of Rising Sky Mansion, had snapped out of his daze a long time ago.

"H-He has broken through to the peak of the Refined Saint Stage!" The muscles on Xu Cen's old face was twitching, and his eyes were filled with disbelief.

He really had no idea how Xu Jing who was merely at the Early Refined Saint Stage a year ago had risen to the peak of the Refined Saint Stage after a year. This was beyond his scope of understanding.

Although he did not understand it, it did not stop him from being interested in Xu Jing's fortuitous encounter. 'When I return to the Rising Sky Mansion, I must join forces with the other elders and the few Vice Mansion Masters to force him to tell us about his fortuitous encounter. Perhaps, my strength will also rise as quickly if I can also have the same fortuitous encounter?'

The moment he thought of this, his heart began to beat enthusiastically. The sorrow he felt over his grandson, Xu Can's death, had also dissipated a lot by now.

The people from Rising Sky Mansion who had finally snapped out of their daze were shocked by Xu Jing's cultivation base, and their eyes contained different kinds of emotions when they looked at Xu Jing.

"Xu Jing, I can't believe you've broken through to the peak of the Refined Saint Stage... I believe that everybody present on the scene must be curious as to how you managed to rise to the peak of the Refined Saint Stage from the Early Refined Saint Stage in just a year. I wonder if you can explain it to us?" Ren Zhong asked bluntly as he looked at Xu Jing.

Although he knew it was unlikely Xu Jing would answer him, he still could not help but ask.

Upon hearing Ren Zhong's words, Liu Hong Guang also looked at Xu Jing. His expression was a mixture of curiosity and anticipation.

Even the people from Rising Sky Mansion, Xu Cen, the Grand Elder of Rising Sky Mansion, and everyone else, including Duan Ling Tian, turned to look at Xu Jing as well.

The group of people from Brahma Temple and Pure Yang Shrine, including the Abbot and the Shrine Master, also looked at Xu Jing. Amidst the anger and hatred in their eyes, a hint of curiosity could be seen as well. It was apparent they were also curious about Xu Jing's fortuitous encounter in the past year.

There was no one who was not curious about Xu Jing's fortuitous encounter in the past year.

The fact that he had broken through to the peak of the Refined Saint Stage from the Early Refined Saint Stage was just too ridiculous.

In the distance, the hunchback young man who followed Xu Jing here had a smug expression on his face. He felt proud when he saw how the limelight had shifted to his Young Mansion Master.

He might not have any position in the Rising Sky Mansion, but he was the only person who knew his Young Mansion Master's secret. Although he knew his Young Mansion Master's secret, he did not dare to reveal it since he had sworn on the lightning penalty oath. If he went against his words, he would be struck to death by the Nine-Nine Heavenly Tribulation.

"Vice Mansion Master Ren, I know what all of you are thinking. I admit that I indeed had a fortuitous encounter in this past year. However, a fortuitous encounter can't be reenacted. It just so happens that I'm lucky," Xu Jing said calmly as everyone looked at him.

"What a pity." Upon hearing that, Ren Zhong sighed immediately. Nobody knew if he really believed Xu Jing's words. Naturally, it was not important whether he believed it or not.

After killing the Flowery Monk and Jing Xu Zi, Xu Jing had become the Ring Master again.

Meanwhile, the bright sun at the horizon had also begun to move west. Evening would fall in two hours time.

After Xu Jing became the Ring Master, there were still a few Ring Masters on the scene.

An Early Refined Saint Stage sectless cultivator whose strength was stronger came up and became the last Ring Master.

At the same time, another two Early Refined Saint Stage Martial and Dao Cultivators whose strength was quite powerful defeated Xu Gang and another Rising Sky Mansion's disciple, effectively replacing them as Ring Masters.

Many people sighed when they saw this.

Even if the Flowery Monk and Jing Xu Zi were not as powerful as the current Xu Jing, they would have been able to enter the top four of the Rising Sky Ranking without any problem if they did not die. It was unfortunate that both of them had died.

Naturally, they thought it would be easy for the Flowery Monk and Jing Xu Zi to make it to the top four of the Rising Sky Ranking was because of Duan Ling Tian, or to be more precise, Li Feng.

Although Duan Ling Tian had only fought twice, he had easily killed Xu Can, the grandson of Xu Cen, the Grand Elder of Rising Sky Mansion. That was more than enough proof of his strength.

He was either an outstanding powerhouse at the Intermediate Refined Saint Stage who was already close to the Mastery Refined Saint Stage or a Mastery Refined Saint Stage powerhouse!

Soon after, someone glanced at Duan Ling Tian before glancing at Xu Jing and muttered, "One of the two Rising Sky Mansion's disciples whom Li Feng killed was the grandson of the Grand Elder of Rising Sky Mansion... I wonder if Xu Jing, the Young Mansion Master of Rising Sky Mansion, will fight Li Feng or not!"

Although his voice was not loud, everyone still heard it.

Everyone's eyes began to flit between Duan Ling Tian and Xu Jing.

Even Xu Cen was looking at Xu Jing eagerly. Although he felt Li Feng who had killed his grandson would admit defeat immediately if Xu Jing challenged him, he still hoped Xu Jing would challenge Li Feng to take him down a notch.

As for Li Feng, he would, naturally, find a chance to kill him in the future. Even if Li Feng joined the Sky Hurdle Mansion or Raging Wave Mansion, he would definitely find an opportunity to seek revenge for his grandson.

'Even if he doesn't challenge me, I'd want to challenge him!' Duan Ling Tian smirked inwardly as he looked at Xu Jing when he noticed everyone's eyes were on him and Xu Jing.

Chapter 1695: Since You Want A Battle, A Battle It Is Then!

What a joke!

The reason Duan Ling Tian came here to participate in the Rising Sky Ranking Battle was to kill Xu Jing, the Young Mansion Master of Rising Sky Mansion.

Naturally, Duan Ling Tian was the only one aware of this.

When the group of people was wondering if Xu Jing would challenge Duan Ling Tian or not, Xu Jing finally shifted his gaze to Duan Ling Tian. To him, this aloof young man called Li Feng was just a sectless cultivator.

To be honest, when he found out Duan Ling Tian had killed Xu Can, not only did he not hate Duan Ling Tian, but he even had a better impression of him.

Xu Can was the only one who could threaten his position in the Rising Sky Mansion before he cultivated the Devouring Dark Devil Technique. Xu Can was the only person among his peers who could fight for the position of Mansion Master with him. Now that Xu Can was dead, he no longer had a rival for the position. However, even if Xu Can did not die, he was not afraid of fighting him. He was at the peak of the Refined Saint Stage after all!

The Flowery Monk and Jing Xu Zi who were at the Mastery Refined Saint Stage had even been killed by him. Was there any need for him to be afraid of Xu Can who was merely at the Intermediate Refined Saint Stage?

Although Xu Jing had no interest in seeking revenge for Xu Can, in the face of the eager looks from the people of the Rising Sky Mansion, he quickly made up his mind to challenge Li Feng.

In his opinion, challenging Li Feng was a mere formality. Since Li Feng had witnessed his strength earlier, he did not think Li Feng would dare to accept his challenge.

Although it was just a mere formality, it would be enough to elevate his position in the hearts of the people from Rising Sky Mansion. This would undoubtedly be beneficial to him when he became the Mansion Master in the future.

Under the watchful eyes of the others, a person soon walked out from the group of Rising Sky Mansion's people.

"Please, Young Mansion Master." The moment this Rising Sky Mansion's disciple appeared, he went to the chess piece Xu Jing was on and challenged Xu Jing.

Naturally, nobody really thought he had the courage to challenge Xu Jing. They all knew this was all just ruse so that Xu Jing could challenge Li Feng, Duan Ling Tian's fake persona.

"I admit defeat." Just as everyone had expected, Xu Jing admitted defeat as soon as the disciple from the Rising Sky Mansion challenged him.

In the next instant, without waiting for Xu Jing to challenge Duan Ling Tian, everyone shifted their eyes to Duan Ling Tian since they knew what Xu Jing's next course of action was.

Just as they had expected, after Xu Jing admitted defeat, he soared up into the sky before he arrived on Duan Ling Tian's chess piece. Xu Jing maintained his position, hovering in the air. He looked down at Duan Ling Tian domineeringly. "You're Li Feng, right? To think you actually dare to kill disciples from my Rising Sky Mansion! Fight me if you dare!"

Fight me if you dare?

Xu Jing's words obviously implied that if Duan Ling Tian did not accept his challenge, it would mean he was a coward.

However, the crowd did not approve of his words.

"Hurmph! Does he think he can provoke Li Feng into accepting his challenge by saying such words?"

"That's right! It might still work if he didn't reveal his true strength, However, now that he has shown his true strength, how could Li Feng possibly accept his challenge? Isn't that just seeking death?"

“Li Feng should only be a Mastery Refined Saint Stage Martial Cultivator like the Flowery Monk and Jing Xu Zi at most.”

“The Flowery Monk and Jing Xu Zi are really quite pitiful... If Xu Jing didn’t deliberately conceal his cultivation base, they wouldn’t have fought with him, and they wouldn’t have died.”

“Exactly! This Xu Jing is too cunning!”

The crowd whispered among themselves. They did not think Duan Ling Tian would accept Xu Jing’s challenge since he was so powerful.

It could be said that in the Rising Sky Mansion’s district, or even in all of the fourth-rate forces’ districts, it was unlikely there was anyone below the age of fifty who was as strong as Xu Jing. He was not even fifty years old yet, but he was already at the peak of the Refined Saint Stage!

Such a person was rare even in those quasi third-rate forces.

Just when everyone thought Duan Ling Tian would admit defeat, he stepped out and looked at Xu Jing indifferently. “Based on your words, it seems that you think I’ll admit defeat?”

“Don’t tell me you’re not going to admit defeat?” Xu Jing smirked when he heard Duan Ling Tian’s words.

“Why should I admit defeat? Since you want a battle, let’s battle then!” Duan Ling Tian continued to say nonchalantly. However, when he reached the end of his sentence, his voice got louder.

Since you want to battle, let’s battle then!

The moment these words left Duan Ling Tian’s mouth, silence immediately descended on the Nimble Chess Set. One could even hear the rapid and faint breathing of the people present on the scene.

Everyone’s eyes were trained on Duan Ling Tian.

“This Li Feng actually accepted Xu Jing’s challenge?”

“My goodness! Isn’t he afraid of death?”

“With Xu Jing’s strength, unless Li Feng’s also at the peak of the Refined Saint Stage, he won’t be a match for Xu Jing at all. Since he dares to accept Xu Jing’s challenge, don’t tell me he’s also a Martial Cultivator at the peak of the Refined Saint Stage?”

“How’s that possible? Don’t forget he’s not even forty years old yet.”

“A Martial Cultivator below the age of forty who’s at the peak of the Refined Saint Stage, put aside there’s no one like that in the Lower Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land, even if such a person exists in the Upper Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land, he would be considered outstanding there as well.”

When the crowd regained their senses, they began their discussion that revolved around Duan Ling Tian.

“Little Brother Li Feng, don’t be rash! Although Xu Jing has only broken through to the peak of the Refined Saint Stage, and his cultivation base is not that stable yet, his cultivation base is still at the peak

of the Refined Saint Stage no matter what. The Mastery Refined Saint Stage can't compare to it at all." At this moment, Ren Zhong reminded Duan Ling Tian through Voice Transmission.

Liu Hong Guang also reminded him as well.

Whether it was Ren Zhong or Liu Hong Guang, both of them did not want Li Feng to accept Xu Jing's challenge since he might be killed.

Li Feng was a talented Martial Cultivator that they regarded highly. Naturally, they did not wish any harm to fall upon him.

Unfortunately, faced with their words, Duan Ling Tian merely smiled and responded through Voice Transmission, "Thank you for your concern, but I believe he doesn't have the ability to kill me."

The peak of the Refined Saint Stage?

Cultivation base was not stable yet?

Upon hearing Ren Zhong's words, Duan Ling Tian's originally chaotic emotions began to calm down.

Naturally, he believed Ren Zhong's words.

After all, he was the Vice Mansion Master of the fourth-rated force, Sky Hurdle Mansion.

Previously, he was most worried that Xu Jing's cultivation base at the peak of the Refined Saint Stage had already stabilized since it would not be easy to deal with him anymore if that was the case.

However, after learning that Xu Jing's cultivation base had not stabilized, he felt more at ease. Naturally, he only felt a little at ease. Even if Xu Jing's cultivation base had not stabilized yet, it was still at the Refined Saint Stage. The Mastery Refined Saint Stage could not compare to it at all.

Ren Zhong was unaware of Duan Ling Tian's current cultivation base. If he knew his cultivation base was only at the Pristine Refined Saint Stage, he would most likely be so shocked that he would get a heart attack!

Killing Xu Can, an eminent powerhouse in the Intermediate Refined Saint Stage, when his cultivation base was only at the Pristine Refined Saint Stage. Nobody had heard of such a ridiculous thing before in the Dao Martial Saint Land.

However, Duan Ling Tian had done it.

"Good! Good! Very good!" Xu Jing who was momentarily taken aback by Duan Ling Tian accepting his challenge so directly finally regained his senses. His eyes were sparkling as he looked at Duan Ling Tian. "Li Feng, I must admit you're pretty brave! Unfortunately, not all brave people can survive in this world of martial artists! I'll quickly show you how foolish you are for accepting my challenge. Wait a minute! Perhaps, you won't even know how foolish you're being since I'll probably be able to kill you in one blow!"

When Xu Jing reached the end of his sentence, he smiled mockingly. It was as though he was certain Duan Ling Tian would be killed by him.

“Is that so?” Even if Duan Ling Tian had a good temper, he could not help but feel furious when he heard Xu Jing’s words.

“What? Are you angry?” Xu Jing flashed a dazzling smile. “Well then, you better get angry all you want now... You might not get a chance later on.”

“Hurmph!” Duan Ling Tian snorted and ignored him. He only stared at him coldly.

“You can make the first move. I won’t take advantage of you,” Xu Jing said mockingly.

When Duan Ling Tian heard Xu Jing’s provocative words, the flame of rage surged up in his heart.

However, most people felt indifferent when they heard Xu Jing’s words since they felt he had the capability to speak such words.

“Did Li Feng’s head get kicked by a donkey? To think he actually accepted Xu Jing’s challenge!”

“Could it be he doesn’t know he’s seeking death?”

“Hurmph! He’s just seeking death!”

Not many people in the crowd regarded Li Feng highly.

Apart from some sectless cultivators who looked at Duan Ling Tian worriedly, everyone was watching this as though they were watching a show.

These people were mostly from the other sects and had a dislike for sectless cultivators. They particularly disliked sectless cultivators who were outstanding like Duan Ling Tian since it made them feel jealous. The fact that he possessed such a cultivation base at his age was even more infuriating.

Duan Ling Tian rose up into the air from the giant chess piece. He finally came to a stop when he was at the same height as Xu Jing.

Determination could be seen in Duan Ling Tian’s eyes as he looked at Xu Jing.

‘Xue Nai, Brother Ling Tian will help you eradicate this problem today... From now on, you can be as carefree as you were before.’ When Duan Ling Tian thought of the current Han Xue Nai who was laden with anxiety compared to the mischievous Han Xue Nai from before, he felt his heart ached again.

Due to this reason, he must kill Xu Jing today no matter what even though it was a little difficult with his current strength.

‘And Jing Xu Zi... Although we’re strangers, since your Yin Yang Two Qis Swords had indirectly helped my Sovereign Heart Sword make a breakthrough, it can be considered as me owing you a favor. I’ll repay you today. When Xu Jing dies, you should be able to rest in peace in the nether world,’ Duan Ling Tian thought to himself.

Chapter 1696: Battle

Under the watchful eyes of the others, Duan Ling Tian and Xu Jing stood on opposite sides of each other.

Although there were many people on the Nimble Chess Set, they were extremely quiet. Everybody was looking at Duan Ling Tian and Xu Jing with utmost concentration.

Although they already knew what the outcome of the battle would be, deep in their hearts, they still hoped for a miracle. After all, it would make the show more exciting if a miracle happened. After all, if Xu Jing killed Li Feng just as they had expected, they would not be surprised at all.

Ren Zhong and Liu Hong Guang exchanged glances with each other and shook their heads tacitly before they sighed.

They felt helpless over Li Feng's rashness.

Although they wished there was something they could do, they could not interfere at all since this was Li Feng's own choice.

At this moment, Duan Ling Tian, who was using the name Li Feng, stared coldly at Xu Jing. Since Xu Jing had asked him to make a move first, he, naturally, would not decline.

At this moment, the Sun True Origin that rose up from Duan Ling Tian's body was like a dazzling sun. It instantly spread all over the place, causing many people to squint their eyes.

"What kind of attribute does Li Feng's True Origin have? Why does it feel so peculiar?"

"That's right! This is my first time seeing such a True Origin as well!"

When Duan Ling Tian's True Origin surged out of his body, many people began to discuss among themselves.

Soon after, under their watchful eyes, Duan Ling Tian was fully enveloped by a layer of golden light. The golden light that was akin to the sun continued to expand before it finally settled into the form a gigantic ball of light that was 100 meters wide in diameter.

"His Territory really doesn't allow anybody to see inside." Upon seeing this, many people smiled wryly.

Everybody present on the scene, apart from Xu Jing and the hunchback young man who had followed him here, had seen Duan Ling Tian's Territory earlier. Although they were not greatly shocked, they were still somewhat surprised.

This was their first time seeing such a Territory after all.

Soon after, someone chimed in, "Somehow, I'm certain Li Feng's Territory has something to do with swords."

"Isn't that obvious? When Li Feng and Xu Can fought earlier, he had consolidated his Territory into a golden sword to kill Xu Can," someone else said.

Meanwhile, Xu Jing could not help but feel astonished when he saw Duan Ling Tian's Territory hanging in the sky like a dazzling sun.

The Territory before him that looked like a dazzling sun caused him to be unable to see what was going on inside. The unknown was the scariest thing.

Due to this reason, although Xu Jing was now a Devil Cultivator at the peak of the Refined Saint Stage, he stopped looking down on Duan Ling Tian's Territory and faced it with a solemn expression.

The hunchback young man who followed Xu Jing here was also bewildered by Duan Ling Tian's Territory. It was his first time seeing such a peculiar Territory after all!

However, the moment he thought of his Young Mansion Master's current strength, he relaxed again. A mocking smile appeared on his face as he thought to himself, 'It's useless even if your Territory's special. You're destined to die in Young Mansion Master's hands!'

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

As a series of loud explosions reverberated in the air, Duan Ling Tian who was covered in a layer of golden light finally made his move. The moment he moved, his 10,000 Swords Territory moved as well.

When the Territory moved, it encountered a powerful resistance. Due to the friction caused by the force of resistance, a loud noise sounded in the air.

When the True Origin on Xu Jing's body whirled and the Devil Qi surged up to the sky, the huge golden ball of light that enveloped Duan Ling Tian in it — which was the 10,000 Sword Territory that was consolidated from the Sun True Origin — also shrank drastically.

In just a blink of an eye, Duan Ling Tian's figure appeared before everyone's eyes again.

During this process, apart from Ren Zhong, Liu Hong Guang, and Xu Cen, nobody else saw this at all.

Ren Zhong and the other two could see as Duan Ling Tian's Territory was rapidly shrinking, the 10,000 Swords that was whizzing inside had also gradually fused into one. In the end, it appeared in his hand in the form of a three-foot-long blade that was shining splendidly with a golden light.

Although the three-foot-long blade in his hand was not a real sword, the Sword Qi it emitted was extremely terrifying.

Under the watchful eyes of the others, Duan Ling Tian wielded the golden three-foot-long blade. His entire being emitted Sword Qi as he stood there.

'Sword Cultivator!' At this moment, many people's hearts jolted as this thought appeared in their minds. Everyone was almost certain Duan Ling Tian was a Sword Cultivator.

"The sword in his hand seems to be consolidated from his Territory... The terrifying Sword Qi it's emitting is even scarier than the Yin Yang Two Qis Swords that was transformed by Jing Xu Zi's Territory," many people who were more perceptive exclaimed in shock.

"That's right! There's indeed a huge gap between Jing Xu Zi's Yin Yang Two Qis Swords and the sword in his hand," many people chimed in.

This was because the golden three-foot-long blade in Duan Ling Tian's hand also contained the profundity of the second stage of the Sovereign Heart Sword, the Sword Shadowed Heart.

If one paid closer attention to it, one could faintly see the translucent shadows of swords revolving around the surroundings of the golden sword in Duan Ling Tian's hands.

These sword shadows only appeared after Duan Ling Tian had cast the Sword Shadowed Heart, the second stage of the Sovereign Heart Sword.

At this moment, Xu Jing had also solidified his Territory. He snorted as he mocked Duan Ling Tian. "Hurmph! So what if he's a Sword Cultivator? He's still too weak to withstand a single blow from me!"

However, Duan Ling Tian did not respond to him. To be more precise, Duan Ling Tian did not respond to him verbally. He responded with the sword in his hand that was shining dazzlingly like the sun.

Whoosh!

The sword slashed across the sky along with Duan Ling Tian. It gave off a peculiar feeling. It was as though Duan Ling Tian had transformed into a sword himself as he charged toward Xu Jing with a bellow.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

Faced with this menacing Duan Ling Tian, Xu Jing did not dare to be careless as well. With a flick of his hands, his Typhoon Territory also moved out at this moment. Soon after, it twisted and turned into a huge tornado.

The Devil Qi surged up powerfully in the tornado. Although it was not as powerful as when he cast it to kill the Flowery Monk and Jing Xu Zi, there was only a slight difference in the strength.

Under the watchful eyes of the others, Duan Ling Tian and his sword rushed into the tornado.

Gasp! Gasp! Gasp! Gasp! Gasp!

The crowd gasped in unison as they stared pitifully at the figure who had rushed into the tornado.

However, they were given a huge shock soon after.

This was because they did not see any blood mist that they had come to expect. "This Li Feng actually survives after rushing into the tornado that Xu Jing transformed using his Territory?"

"He's indeed not a simple person! I think Li Feng is most likely a very rare outstanding powerhouse among the Mastery Refined Saint Stage Martial Cultivators."

"Exactly! However, accepting Xu Jing's challenge is going to be the biggest mistake of his life. It'll definitely cause him to lose his life."

"He's just too rash! Otherwise, with his innate talent, let alone a fourth-rate force, even a quasi third-rate force would fight to the end to accept him as a disciple."

Many people sighed, feeling that Duan Ling Tian had been too rash in accepting Xu Jing's challenge.

Chapter 1697: Wind Dragon Embodiment

Naturally, Duan Ling Tian who had charged into the tornado did not die. A layer of translucent Sword Energy had already appeared around him, protecting him tightly within it.

Even if the tornado's energy was extremely tyrannical, all it did was made the Sword Energy quake, but it did not manage to crack it all.

There was no doubt the Sword Energy came from the profundity of the second stage of the Sovereign Heart Sword, Sword Shadowed Heart. Although it had merged with the Sun True Origin, it had completely overwhelmed the Sun True Origin. One could not see the Sun True Origin at all. Only energy that was powerful enough would be able to contain another energy. Based on this, one could tell the second stage of the Sovereign Heart Sword was not ordinary.

This was where Duan Ling Tian's confidence came from. The confidence that he might be able to kill Xu Jing.

If the Sovereign Heart Sword had not broken through to the second stage, Duan Ling Tian was not confident he could win Xu Jing at all. After all, Xu Jing was a Devil Cultivator at the peak of the Refined Saint Stage.

If he had not broken through to the second stage of the Sovereign Heart Sword, let alone a Devil Cultivator who was at the peak of the Refined Saint Stage, Duan Ling Tian was not confident he could defeat a Martial, Dao or Devil Cultivator at the Mastery Refined Saint Stage. At most, he could only come to a draw with them if he was not defeated.

Due to this reason, Duan Ling Tian's breakthrough to the second stage of the Sovereign Heart Sword was like a timely rain to him.

With his hand holding onto the three-foot-long blade that the 10,000 Sword Territory had transformed into and fused with the second stage of the Sovereign Heart Sword, the Sword Shadowed Heart, Duan Ling Tian felt as though the three-foot-long blade had become an extension of his body. The sword moved in accordance to his heart without any delay at all.

Whoosh!

Duan Ling Tian, who was not affected after charging into the tornado, thrust the three-foot-long blade out at once. A streak of dazzling golden light shot out from his hand immediately.

At the same time, the three-foot-long blade brought Duan Ling Tian to pass through Xu Jing's Territory safely as he charged toward Xu Jing. To be more precise, he was aiming at the point between Xu Jing's brows.

"How fast!" Almost at the same time, Ren Zhong, Liu Hong Guang, and even Xu Cen's hearts jolted.

They discovered something shocking. Duan Ling Tian's current speed was not something a Martial Cultivator at the Mastery Refined Saint Stage could possess. "H-He... He... H-He has broken through to the peak of the Refined Saint Stage as well?"

After this thought rose up in the minds of these three people, their hearts beat faster. It felt as though their hearts were going to leap out of their chests.

Another powerhouse who was at the peak of the Refined Saint Stage! How could they not feel shocked when they saw this?

Ren Zhong and Liu Hong Guang's eyes were shining brightly, in particular. When they looked at each other, they could see the hostility in each other's eyes.

After witnessing Duan Ling Tian's strength, they all wanted even more to recruit Duan Ling Tian to their own sects.

Even a quasi third-rate force might not have such an outstanding genius Martial Cultivator.

They had never heard of someone who was at the peak of the Refined Saint Stage below the age of forty in the Lower Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land.

At this moment, they finally understood why Duan Ling Tian was so confident and had rejected their advice and insisted on accepting Xu Jing's challenge.

As it turned out, he was actually a Martial Cultivator who was at the peak of the Refined Saint Stage, and he did not fear Xu Jing at all.

At the same time, Xu Cen hastily reminded Xu Jing, "Be careful, Young Mansion Master. He's also a Martial Cultivator at the peak of the Refined Saint Stage!"

Although he did not like Xu Jing very much, this battle concerned Xu Jing's safety so he had no choice but to be cautious about this matter.

If Xu Jing had died here, he would definitely face a severe punishment when he returned to the Rising Sky Mansion. Moreover, he might even have to pay for Xu Jing's life with his own life.

He was the leader of the Rising Sky Mansion here after all. It was his responsibility to look out for Xu Jing's safety.

Right now, Xu Jing was no longer the playboy and good-for-nothing Xu Jing from before. The current Xu Jing had a cultivation base at the peak of the Refined Saint Stage. He was the future hope of the Rising Sky Mansion.

Currently, Xu Jing had already broken through to the peak of the Refined Saint Stage. If he was given enough time, he might be able to lead the Rising Sky Mansion to become a quasi third-rate force in the Lower Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land.

In the Dao Martial Saint Land, the quasi third-rate force was an absolutely powerful force.

Not only did they monopolize the best Saint Stone reserves, but they even occupied the Saint Martial Secret Zone. The Saint Martial Secret Zone was a secret zone that could help many talented Martial Cultivators to soar up into the sky. It contained all sorts of cultivation resources and rare treasure.

Becoming a quasi third-rate force was the dream of every fourth-rate force.

Naturally, it was difficult to attain this dream. Although it was difficult, it did not stop them from trying to attain it.

The Saint Stone reserves were still not that important. However, the Saint Martial Secret Zone was the foundation of a quasi third-rate force. It was something fourth-rate forces would go all out for.

In the Dao Martial Saint Land, the Saint Martial Secret Zone was also called the genius' cradle.

"The peak of the Refined Saint Stage!" Even without Xu Cen's reminder, Xu Jing could also tell Li Feng, who was charging at him with his blade and disregarding his tornado, was a powerful opponent. It was obvious a Mastery Refined Saint Stage Martial Cultivator could not compare to him at all.

Even if both the Flowery Monk and Jing Xu Zi joined forces, they would still not be a match for Li Feng.

"Hurmph!" Xu Jing snorted suddenly. A moment later, the Typhoon Territory rapidly shrunk. In the end, it transformed into a miniature tornado in front of him. The tornado had shrunk until it was twice of Xu Jing's size. Although it was small, the energy contained in it was not weak at all.

When Duan Ling Tian thrust the three-foot-long blade into it, he could clearly sense the terror from the Devil Qi that was spreading out from the tornado. It was rapidly devouring his Sun True Origin. Moreover, the miniature tornado had also begun to threaten the protective Sword Energy on his body to a certain extent.

"Wind Dragon Embodiment!" Xu Jing shouted out at the moment when Duan Ling Tian was still in shock over Xu Jing's technique. Then, the miniature tornado suddenly twisted before it transformed into a divine dragon that was formed from the wind.

Naturally, the divine dragon that was formed by the wind was extremely ferocious and terrifying. As it howled, the air seemed to quake.

When the tornado was undergoing the transformation, Duan Ling Tian discovered the three-foot-long blade in his hand was no longer being restrained. Although it was no longer restrained, Duan Ling Tian did not intend to continue his attack on Xu Jing.

As though he had noticed something, Duan Ling Tian immediately moved back.

At the same time, the divine dragon that was transformed from the miniature tornado suddenly twisted its head and immediately crashed on the place where Duan Ling Tian was previously standing.

The sky shook immediately.

Boom!

As a loud noise reverberated, ripples appeared in the sky.

Terrifying airwaves appeared in the sky, creating a flurry of hurricanes. This was enough to show how terrifying the attack was.

Meanwhile, Duan Ling Tian who had dodged the attack was washed over with a sense of fear. "I can't believe Xu Jing actually mastered such a horrifying martial technique. The force of this martial technique must be an offensive technique in the Earth Rank Prominent Saint Grade Martial Tactic. Moreover, he must have cultivated it to the highest stage — the Impeccable Stage!" Duan Ling Tian speculated.

Duan Ling Tian had indeed guessed correctly. This martial technique of Xu Jing that was called the Wind Dragon Embodiment was indeed an offensive technique in an Earth Rank Prominent Saint Grade Martial Tactic. Moreover, it was also one of the few strongest offensive techniques in the Rising Sky Mansion. It was a technique that was on par with the Space Shattering Origin Detonation that Xu Can had mastered.

“Hurmph! You’re quite fast in dodging, huh?!” Xu Jing snorted when he saw how fast Duan Ling Tian had dodged his first attack.

His gaze when he looked at Duan Ling Tian was completely different now.

Previously, his gaze contained hints of disdain, but now, it no longer held contempt as he looked at Duan Ling Tian. Instead, it was replaced with solemnity.

He had no choice but to take this seriously at this moment.

Previously, he was not aware of Li Feng’s strength. However, based on the earlier situation, he could tell Li Feng’s strength was not inferior to him. He was also at the peak of the Refined Saint Stage. He could also tell that Li Feng had only broken through to the Refined Saint Stage not too long ago, just like him.

Although his expression was solemn, he did not intend to retreat at all. The fact that they were equal in strength aroused his desire for victory even more.

Meanwhile, the spectators finally regained their senses. It seemed like they had seen a ghost when they looked at Duan Ling Tian. “T-This Li Feng is actually so p-powerful?”

“Just from the strength he displayed earlier, and how he managed to dodge Xu Jing’s offensive technique, his strength is most likely at the peak of the Refined Saint Stage!”

“My goodness! He’s not even forty years old yet! A Martial Cultivator at the peak of the Refined Saint Stage who’s not even 40 years old! I think even in those few quasi third-rate forces in the Lower Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land don’t have somebody like that right?”

“No wonder he accepted Xu Jing’s challenge so confidently! Initially, I thought he was just being rash. However, it seems that he really has confidence in himself!”

“Although he’s also at the peak of the Refined Saint Stage, based on the attack earlier, it seems like his strength is slightly inferior to Xu Jing.”

“I noticed that as well. His strength’s indeed slightly inferior!”

The spectators discussed among themselves. Their topic only revolved around Li Feng, who was Duan Ling Tian’s fake persona.

At this moment, the limelight had completely shifted to Duan Ling Tian.

Meanwhile, a voice resonated in Duan Ling Tian’s ear. He could tell the voice belonged to Ren Zhong, the Vice Mansion Master of Sky Hurdle Mansion. “Little Brother Li Feng, if you feel you’re no match for Xu Jing, make sure you admit defeat in a timely manner... If you admit defeat, I can make a move to save you!”

The moment Ren Zhong's Voice Transmission was over, Liu Hong Guang's Voice Transmission arrived. The content of his Voice Transmission was more or less the same.

Although he knew the reason they were so nice to him and why they were concerned about his well being, Duan Ling Tian still expressed his gratitude politely.

At the same time, he shifted his gaze back to Xu Jing and said indifferently, "Young Mansion Master of the Rising Sky Mansion, you're indeed more powerful than the rumors say."

Chapter 1698: Xu Jing's Death

When Xu Jing whose expression had turned solemn when he witnessed Duan Ling Tian's strength heard his words, his expression turned grave immediately.

His opponent's calm voice enraged him. In fact, up until now, he had undeniably had the upper hand.

Xu Jing was not the only who thought so. Even Ren Zhong, Liu Hong Guang, and Xu Cen had thought so as well.

However, they did not know this was Duan Ling Tian's intention.

When Duan Ling Tian saw the disdain in Xu Jing's eyes again, he knew he had successfully achieved what he wanted.

When he made his move earlier, he did not use all his strength so that Xu Jing would let his guard down. If things go accordingly, he had the confidence to kill Xu Jing before he could admit defeat.

Although Xu Jing was arrogant and prideful, if he knew Duan Ling Tian was stronger than him, he would not hesitate to put his pride aside and admit defeat to save his own life.

This was not something Duan Ling Tian wanted to see.

Due to this reason, as Duan Ling Tian and Xu Jing continued to fight, he maintained his earlier strength to fight with Xu Jing. For a moment, it seemed as though he was placed in a disadvantageous position and appeared slightly wretched.

When the group of sectless cultivators saw this, their hearts beat faster for Duan Ling Tian's sake.

"This Li Feng is obviously not Xu Jing's match, so why isn't he admitting defeat?"

"That's right! Don't tell me he really thinks he'll be able to win Xu Jing? If this continues, he'll be killed by Xu Jing!"

"If I were him, I would've admitted defeat a long time ago. Could it be Li Feng feels his pride is even more important than his life?"

The group of sectless cultivators was extremely worried for Duan Ling Tian. They were unaware the person in question was actually having fun playing this game.

At this moment, even Ren Zhong and Liu Hong Guang could not help but break out in cold sweat because of Duan Ling Tian.

“Young Mansion Master, kill him!” At this moment, somebody from the group of Rising Sky Mansion’s people shouted. This led to many people shouting immediately as well.

“Kill him!”

“Kill him!”

The group of Rising Sky Mansion’s people shouted. Their voice entered Xu Jing’s ears. For a moment, he felt smug and puffed up with pride.

As he walked in the air, a hint of coldness flashed in his eyes as he looked at Duan Ling Tian and said in a low voice, “It’s time to end the game now!”

The moment he finished speaking, his attack became even more violent and faster.

Duan Ling Tian’s eyes gleamed when he saw this. His chance had finally arrived.

When he saw Xu Jing controlled the Wind Dragon to charge at him, Duan Ling Tian faked a panicked expression before he began to flee.

“Trying to flee?” When Xu Jing saw the expression on Duan Ling Tian’s face and his action, disdain flashed in his eyes. His figure moved as his speed increased again.

Roar!

The roar was akin to the roar of a real dragon.

Xu Jing used his Territory that had been consolidated from his True Origin and acted together with the Wind Dragon that was transformed from his martial technique as he flashed across the sky while charging at Duan Ling Tian with bared fangs. His speed was so fast, Duan Ling Tian could not compare to him at all.

The Wind Dragon caught up to Duan Ling Tian in no time at all.

Xu Jing’s figure came to halt as a victorious smile appeared on his face when he saw the Wind Dragon ruthlessly slammed on Duan Ling Tian’s back.

Bang!

As a loud sound reverberated in the air, the Wind Dragon that was cast by Xu Jing exploded with terrifying energy, causing the air to ripple. If it was an ordinary Martial Cultivator who had just broken through to the peak of the Refined Saint Stage had received this blow, he would have undoubtedly died.

However, was Duan Ling Tian’s strength comparable to an ordinary Martial Cultivator who had just broken through to the peak of the Refined Saint Stage? To be more precise, was Duan Ling Tian’s defense comparable to an ordinary Martial Cultivator who had just broken through to the peak of the Refined Saint Stage?

In fact, Duan Ling Tian’s body was even more powerful than a Six-clawed Divine Dragon who was at the same stage with him.

However, Duan Ling Tian still suffered a heavy injury from Xu Jing's attack since his cultivation base was merely at the Intermediate Pristine Saint Stage despite his powerful body and the Sword Energy's protection that was transformed from the Sun True Origin that fused with the Sword Shadowed Heart, the second stage of the Sovereign Heart Sword.

At the moment when Duan Ling Tian was injured, and Xu Jing had a smug smile on his face...

Whoosh!

The sound of sword whistling in the air that disappeared as soon as it appeared reverberated suddenly like a howl in the middle of a silent and tranquil night.

In Ren Zhong, Liu Hong Guang, and Xu Cen's eyes, a swift golden sword ray shot out from Duan Ling Tian's hand. Its speed was so fast. In fact, its speed was twice the speed of his previous attack. Moreover, the speed of this sword ray was even faster than Xu Jing's Wind Dragon.

At this moment, if they still could not figure out that Duan Ling Tian had been concealing his strength, it could be said that their long lives had been lived in vain.

Horror dawned on Xu Cen's face. He immediately shouted to warn Xu Jing, "Young Mansion Master!"

Unfortunately, due to the fact that Xu Jing was currently gloating over Duan Ling Tian being injured by his attack, he was caught off guard by Duan Ling Tian's attack. Due to this reason, the swift golden sword ray was only a foot away from him when he finally realized what was happening.

At this instant, the golden sword ray did not feel like a sword ray. It felt more like a blazing sun to him. A blazing sun that was crashing toward him!

Spurt!

Blood splattered everywhere. A bloody hole appeared in between Xu Jing's brows.

However, a smug smile still remained on his face. This was destined to be the last expression in his life.

Barf!

At the same time, Duan Ling Tian who had suffered quite a heavy injury also could no longer endure it anymore. The moment he opened his mouth, he threw up a huge mouthful of blood.

Blood spattered the sky like dazzling red roses.

Although Duan Ling Tian was heavily injured, he did not forget to collect Xu Jing's Spatial Ring as his war trophy.

It was only when Duan Ling Tian had taken Xu Jing's Spatial Ring, and Xu Jing's body had crashed on to the giant chess piece into a bloody mess did the crowd regain their senses.

The entire place fell silent again.

"Young Mansion Master!" Xu Cen's shout snapped everyone out of their daze.

However, as Xu Cen shouted, two swift figures had already appeared beside Duan Ling Tian to protect him as they glared at Xu Cen. It was as though they were afraid Xu Cen would attack Duan Ling Tian out of rage.

They did not dare to let their guards down in front of Xu Cen based on his previous action.

Naturally, the two figures were none other than Ren Zhong, the Vice Mansion Master of Sky Hurdle Mansion, and Liu Hong Guang, the Second Elder of Raging Wave Mansion.

In the beginning, they were also baffled as to how Duan Ling Tian managed to kill Xu Jing at the critical moment.

However, they had watched Duan Ling Tian and Xu Jing's fight from the beginning until the end. They understood, at the moment Xu Jing was killed, that Duan Ling Tian was only pretending to be weak to deceive Xu Jing.

Due to this reason, Xu Jing had let down his guard and caused his own death at the critical moment.

'Looks like Li Feng already has the intention to kill Xu Jing from the very beginning. Otherwise, he wouldn't have planned this so thoroughly,' Ren Zhong thought to himself.

Liu Hong Guang had the same thoughts as Ren Zhong as well.

They could see Duan Ling Tian was more powerful than Xu Jing, it was not impossible for him to kill him in a direct battle. However, if he had done that, it would give Xu Jing a chance to admit defeat.

Due to his scheme, Xu Jing had fallen into his trap and was led by the nose by Duan Ling Tian. In the end, he could not escape death.

At this moment, Ren Zhong and Liu Hong Guang felt utterly delighted in their hearts.

A genius Martial Cultivator with such intelligence was rare even in the Upper Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land, let alone the Lower Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land.

If such a person joined their sects, they could start counting the days before their sects become a quasi third-rate force.

Due to this reason, they had urgently appeared next to Duan Ling Tian to protect him.

"Li Feng! To think you actually dare to kill the Young Master of Rising Sky Mansion!" When Xu Cen saw Ren Zhong and Xu Cen were already by Duan Ling Tian's side, he knew he could no longer make a move. However, he could not let the matter go just like that!

The hope of the Rising Sky Mansion had been cut off by this Li Feng!

He was very certain once this news spread out to the Rising Sky Mansion, Li Feng would definitely become the number one enemy of the Rising Sky Mansion.

“He wanted to kill me, but I can’t kill him? What a joke!” Duan Ling Tian, who had recovered a little after consuming the Healing Medicinal Pill, wiped the blood off the corner of his mouth before he replied with a smirk, “Don’t tell me the people from Rising Sky Mansion are always this arrogant?!”

Perhaps an ordinary person would be afraid of Xu Cen’s threat, but Duan Ling Tian had come all the way here to kill Xu Jing. How could he possibly be afraid of Xu Cen’s threat?

“Xue Nai, Brother Ling Tian has helped you to get rid of Xu Jing... From today onward, you’ll be able to live the happy and carefree life you wanted.” At this moment, a delicate figure appeared in Duan Ling Tian’s mind and caused the smirk on his face to disappear. It was replaced with a warm smile.

Naturally, in other people’s eyes, it seemed as though he was just smiling goofily.

“H-He actually killed Xu Jing?” At the same time, the spectators finally regained their senses. They gasped in shock as they looked at Duan Ling Tian who seemed to have a silly smile on his face. The silly smile on Duan Ling Tian’s face appeared out of place on his aloof face.

However, nobody paid any attention to this at all. Their attention was on the fact that Duan Ling Tian had killed Xu Jing.

When they saw Xu Jing had died, there was a smile on the faces of the people from the Brahma Temple and Pure Yang Shrine. They were also looking at Duan Ling Tian with a hint of warmth in their eyes.

“Thank you, benefactor Li Feng.”

“Thank you, fellow Li Feng.”

Two voices entered Duan Ling Tian’s ears in a timely manner and took him by surprise.

When he lifted his head, he realized the people who had sent him the Voice Transmissions were none other than the Abbot of Brahma Temple and the Shrine Master of Pure Yang Shrine.

He had killed Xu Jing and had indirectly avenged the Flowery Monk and Jing Xu Zi.

“Li Feng!”

“Li Feng!”

At the same time, the sectless cultivators on the scene had also burst into a commotion. One by one, they shouted Duan Ling Tian’s fake name excitedly.

Duan Ling Tian killing Xu Jing had also indirectly avenged Zhong Gu. Naturally, they were excited.

Chapter 1699: First Place in the Rising Sky Ranking

When Duan Ling Tian killed Xu Jing, the sectless cultivators felt delighted and satisfied.

Let alone the Rising Sky Mansion’s district, even in the entire Upper and Lower Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land, sectless cultivators were always oppressed by those who had forces backing them. After all, those who were in a force usually had better cultivation environments and cultivation resources.

Sectless cultivators, on the other hand, could only rely on natural resources and was usually much more lacking.

However, today, Duan Ling Tian, or more accurately, Li Feng, a sectless cultivator, had killed Xu Jing.

Who was Xu Jing? He was the Young Mansion Master of the Rising Sky Mansion!

If Duan Ling Tian had killed Xu Jing before today, many people would be surprised but not to this extent since the current Xu Jing was different from before.

Not only did he kill Zhong Gu, a strong powerhouse among the sectless cultivators, who was his old rival, but he also killed both the Flowery Monk and Jing Xu Zi even when they had joined forces. In the past, both the Flowery Monk and Jing Xu Zi could have defeated him easily.

However, in just a year, he had risen to the peak of the Refined Saint Stage from the Early Refined Saint Stage, making him the strongest person among the middle-aged generation in the Rising Sky Mansion's district.

If there was no Duan Ling Tian, Xu Jing would, naturally, be the strongest person among the middle-aged generation in the Rising Sky Mansion's district after the Rising Sky Ranking Battle ended.

Unfortunately, the appearance of Duan Ling Tian, or Li Feng, did not only pull him down from the clouds, but it had made him fall into hell as well, never to stand up again.

It was because of this most people were extremely shocked by Duan Ling Tian killing Xu Jing. Most importantly, he was not even forty years old yet.

"He's not even forty years old, but his cultivation base is already at the peak of the Refined Saint Stage... This Li Feng is really a monster! Previously, it seems like he had shown some interest in joining the Sky Hurdle Mansion or the Raging Wave Mansion. Whichever one he chooses, it would not be a stretch for them to become a quasi third-rate force a few dozen years later if he joins them," somebody exclaimed loudly all of a sudden.

At once, everyone shifted their attention to Ren Zhong and Liu Hong Guang. Both of them were the representatives for the Sky Hurdle Mansion and the Raging Wave Mansion. Earlier, Duan Ling Tian did express interest in joining one of their forces.

Ren Zhong and Liu Hong Guang exchanged glances with each other, and both of them could see the hostility in each other's eyes.

After all, there was only one Li Feng. It was impossible for them to split him into half.

"Li Feng, as the Grand Elder of Rising Sky Mansion, I'll give you a chance to live... As long as you join our Rising Sky Mansion and swear on the lightning penalty oath that you'll spare no efforts in working for the Rising Sky Mansion, I can pardon you on behalf of the Rising Sky Mansion! Moreover, the Rising Sky Mansion will also nurture you with all that we have. It's not impossible for you to become the Mansion Master of the Rising Sky Mansion in the future!" Right at this moment, a Voice Transmission suddenly entered Duan Ling Tian's ears. It was a Voice Transmission from Xu Cen, the Grand Elder of the Rising Sky Mansion.

Based on Xu Cen's words, it was obvious if Duan Ling Tian was willing to swear on the lightning penalty oath, the Rising Sky Mansion would not find any trouble with him.

Although Xu Cen wanted to kill his grandson's murderer, even he could not help but appreciate Duan Ling Tian's talent.

If he could bring a genius like him back, he would definitely be considered as having done something of great merit. At that time, nobody would blame him for Xu Jing's death as well.

As for the Mansion Master of Rising Sky Mansion, although he loved his son a lot, from what Xu Cen could see, as long as he's wise enough, he would realize the benefits of Li Feng joining the Rising Sky Mansion.

The Rising Sky Mansion used to be a quasi third-rate force before it fell and became a fourth-rate force. Due to this reason, the Rising Sky Mansion was even more eager compared to the other fourth-rate forces to gain the status of a quasi third-rate force.

For the clan's interest, one could completely put aside one's personal enmity.

"Elder Xu, did I hear you correctly?" Upon hearing Xu Cen's Voice Transmission, Duan Ling Tian looked at him before he openly and casually said, "You actually want me to join your Rising Sky Mansion? Even if you can cast aside the enmity caused by me killing your grandson, don't tell me your Mansion Master will also be able to put aside his enmity and not make things difficult for me?"

The moment Duan Ling Tian's words left his mouth, the entire place broke into a commotion.

It did not cross anyone's mind that Xu Cen who had wanted Li Feng dead would extend an olive branch to him.

Ren Zhong and Liu Hong Guang, on the other hand, understood Xu Cen. After all, Li Feng's innate talent was just too great. If they had him, barring any unseen circumstances, it would not be difficult for him to lead a fourth-rate force to become a quasi third-rate force in the future.

At once, their eyes as they looked at Xu Cen was filled with hostility.

"Little Brother Li Feng, don't believe him! He's most likely trying to deceive you, and he probably wants you to go with him so he can kill you in the middle of the journey." Ren Zhong transmitted his voice to Duan Ling Tian, sowing discord between Duan Ling Tian and Xu Cen. He did not wish for Duan Ling Tian to join the Rising Sky Mansion even though he understood Xu Cen's intention.

Liu Hong Guang's Voice Transmission reached him as well. The content of the Voice Transmission was more or less the same. He was also trying sow discord between him and Xu Cen.

Naturally, Duan Ling Tian could guess both their intentions. Although he found it funny, he still reassured them that he would never join the Rising Sky Mansion.

After receiving Duan Ling Tian's reply, Ren Zhong and Liu Hong Guang were very pleased since this meant they had one less rival.

"The Grand Elder of the Rising Sky Mansion actually wants Li Feng to join the Rising Sky Mansion?" Many people were in disbelief when they regained their senses.

“Don’t tell me he has forgotten that his grandson is killed by Li Feng? Moreover, the Young Mansion Master of the Rising Sky Mansion is also killed by him?” Somebody asked curiously.

“You’re being too naive. With Li Feng’s innate talent, put aside the fact that he has killed the Young Mansion Master of Rising Sky Mansion, even if he kills the Mansion Master of Rising Sky Mansion, the people from Rising Sky Mansion would still welcome him if he wants to join them... A Martial Cultivator who has reached the peak of the Refined Saint Stage before the age of forty is more than extraordinary!”

“That’s right! As long as such a talented Martial Cultivator is given enough time to grow, it wouldn’t be difficult for him to lead a fourth-rate force to become a quasi third-rate force in the future.”

“A personal enmity is nothing compared to the future of the entire sect.”

The crowd discussed among themselves. They felt it was not entirely inexcusable for Xu Cen, the Grand Elder of Rising Sky Mansion, to propose something like that.

When the group of Rising Sky Mansion’s people heard Duan Ling Tian’s words, they were furious. They felt Xu Cen, the Grand Elder of Rising Sky Mansion, was humiliating their Rising Sky Mansion. However, after they had calmed down, they felt Xu Cen was not wrong in his decision.

“You don’t have to worry. As long as you swear by the lightning penalty oath to stay loyal to the Rising Sky Mansion for the rest of your life, I can promise you that, let alone me, even the Mansion Master won’t make things difficult for you,” Xu Cen immediately said. Although Duan Ling Tian had publicly replied to him earlier, he was not angry.

“It seems like the Mansion Master of the Rising Sky Mansion is just as cold-hearted as you... I’m sorry, I’m not interested in joining such a heartless sect.” Duan Ling Tian rejected him directly.

Ren Zhong and Liu Hong Guang smiled when they saw Duan Ling Tian rejecting Xu Cen, but Xu Cen’s expression turned extremely grave.

Meanwhile, Duan Ling Tian looked at Ren Zhong and Liu Hong Guang before transmitting his voice to both of them at once. “Vice Mansion Master Ren, Elder Liu, I’m afraid none of the people from the Rising Sky Mansion would be able to enter the Rising Sky Ranking today. I’m worried after Xu Cen brings his men away, they’ll hide and ambush me when they get a chance. Due to this reason, I’d like to leave on my own first. Is it okay if I wait for both of you at the mountain range 100 meters to the west?”

Upon hearing that, Ren Zhong and Liu Hong Guang nodded their heads.

Indeed.

If Xu Cen brought his men and leave first, they could hide outside Nimble Valley to ambush Duan Ling Tian. Even both of them would not be able to guard against that.

Although Xu Cen was the strongest powerhouse among the group of Rising Sky Mansion’s people who were here, there was a Vice Mansion Master of Rising Sky Mansion staying in a town near Nimble Valley.

If Xu Cen went to find him, it would not be difficult for them if they wanted to ambush and kill Duan Ling Tian.

Due to this reason, they agreed to Duan Ling Tian's proposal. "Okay, go wait for us in the mountain range 100 meters to the west. Both of us know where that is. In any case, although the finals of the Rising Sky Ranking Battle has not taken place, we can both conclude you're ranked first in the Rising Sky Ranking. I'm sure nobody will object to this as well."

"After all, your strength is plain for everyone to see and judge. It's only natural for you to rank first in the Rising Sky Ranking," Ren Zhong and Liu Hong Guang told Duan Ling Tian.

"In that case, thank you very much, Vice Mansion Master Ren and Elder Liu." After Duan Ling Tian expressed his gratitude, he flew and left directly under the watchful eyes of the others.

Xu Cen's eyes gleamed when he saw Duan Ling Tian had left the Nimble Chess Set, and he immediately wanted to chase after him.

Unfortunately, with Ren Zhong and Liu Hong Guang here, it was difficult for him to take even a single step forward.

"Vice Mansion Master Ren, Elder Liu, what are both of you trying to do?" Xu Cen's expression was grave. "Right now, none of my Rising Sky Mansion's disciples stand a chance of being ranked in the Rising Sky Ranking, don't tell me I can't even bring my men away?"

"Elder Xu, you can leave, but you'll have to wait for fifteen minutes... The same goes for everyone from the Rising Sky Mansion," Ren Zhong replied nonchalantly.

Although Liu Hong Guang remained silent, judging by the way people from the Raging Wave Mansion flew out one after another to block the group of Rising Sky Mansion's people from leaving with a wave of his sleeve, one could see the stance he had taken.

At this moment, even if Xu Cen was very stupid, he could tell that Ren Zhong and Liu Hong Guang had already reached an agreement with Li Feng.

Although he was furious, there was nothing he could do at this moment.

Just as Duan Ling Tian left the Nimble Chess Set and the Nimble Valley, Ren Zhong cast a glance at the surrounding and announced in a loud voice, "Everyone! This Rising Sky Ranking Battle can be said as the most brilliant one compared to the battles in the past several hundreds of years... Li Feng has not even reached the age of forty, but his cultivation base has already reached the peak of the Refined Saint Stage. Moreover, he even killed Xu Jing who was at the peak of the Refined Saint Stage. I'm sure none of you would object to me giving him the rank of number one in the Rising Sky Ranking, right?"

Chapter 1700: Xu Jing Is Still Alive?

Nobody would have ever thought the moment Li Feng left, Ren Zhong would immediately announce him to be first in the Rising Sky Ranking. However, everyone agreed with his words.

Let alone the fact that Li Feng had killed Xu Jing who was at the peak of the Refined Saint Stage, just his cultivation base alone that was at the peak of the Refined Saint Stage was already enough to allow him to sail through the battle!

No participants in the Rising Sky Ranking Battle would even think of fighting Li Feng at all.

Due to this reason, even if Li Feng did not leave, the battle between Li Feng and the other Ring Masters would have just been a formality since they would admit defeat anyway. They would not have dared to fight with him. After all, up until now, those who had fought Li Feng had all been killed by him.

Three Rising Sky Mansion's disciples had all died in Li Feng's hand one after another.

Although they were not certain if Li Feng would only kill people from the Rising Sky Mansion and not the others, they were not going to take the risk. If they were wrong, what awaited them would only be death.

A person only had one life. Once a person died, everything was over.

Due to Duan Ling Tian's departure and Ren Zhong and Liu Hong Guang obstructing him, Xu Cen who could not chase after Duan Ling Tian immediately said mockingly, "Vice Mansion Master Ren, isn't this a little too presumptuous?"

Although he also felt Li Feng would definitely rank first if he did not leave, his heart felt unwilling when he recalled how easily Li Feng had left and even obtained the honor of being ranked first in the Rising Sky Ranking Battle.

"Presumptuous?" Before Ren Zhong replied, Liu Hong Guang smirked as he said, "Elder Xu, it doesn't seem like you're qualified to say whether we're being presumptuous or not, right?"

Xu Cen's expression turned grave as someone stepped out and challenged the Rising Sky Mansion's disciple who had taken Xu Jing's place earlier, replacing him as Ring Master.

"All of the nine Ring Masters present, is there anyone who objects to Li Feng being ranked first in the Rising Sky Ranking? If you object to this, you're free to come to our Sky Hurdle Mansion another day and fight Li Feng!" Ren Zhong announced with surety as he looked at the nine Ring Masters.

When Liu Hong Guang heard Ren Zhong's words, he frowned, feeling slightly uncomfortable in his heart.

What did he mean by going to their Sky Hurdle Mansion to battle with Li Feng?

Could it be that he thought Li Feng had already agreed to join their Sky Hurdle Mansion?

Not wanting to be outdone, Liu Hong Guang immediately chimed in, "Exactly! If there's any of you who are dissatisfied with the results, you can come to our Raging Wave Mansion in the future to fight Li Feng. If you win, the first place of the Rising Sky Ranking will go to you."

Upon hearing Ren Zhong and Liu Hong Guang's words, the nine Ring Masters looked at each other. None of them dared to utter a word.

What a joke!

Li Feng's strength was obvious. Fighting him was just seeking for one's death.

Soon after, the Wine-Meat Monk was the first to say, "I don't have any objection."

Wine-Meat Monk's expression had remained grave ever since the Flowery Monk had died. He was his junior brother after all. He did not have any biological brother, therefore, he had long regarded the Flowery Monk as his own blood brother. It was only natural he was furious when his blood brother was killed.

Since Li Feng had killed Xu Jing, it could be said that he had inadvertently avenged the Flowery Monk. Due to this reason, he felt a sense of gratitude toward Li Feng and did not wish to be a hindrance to him at this moment.

When the Wine-Meat Monk spoke up, Yu Xu Zi and Yin Xu Zi from the Pure Yang Shrine also followed in his footsteps and expressed their opinion.

Following that, a few sectless cultivators also said they did not have objections.

Looking at how everyone had said they did not object to this, the remaining few Ring Masters acquiesced as well, agreeing that Li Feng should be ranked first in the Rising Sky Ranking.

"In that case, the first place of the Rising Sky Ranking has already been determined to be Li Feng! As for the second place to the tenth place, the battle will start tomorrow... For now, let's stop for the day." When Ren Zhong's words left his mouth, he collaborated with Liu Hong Guang to retrieve the Nimble Chess Set.

Everyone immediately returned to the Nimble Valley.

After 15 minutes, Ren Zhong and Liu Hong Guang no longer stopped Xu Cen and the others from the Rising Sky Mansion from leaving.

However, before Xu Cen left, he could not help but transmit a message to Ren Zhong and Liu Hong Guang separately.

The content of the message stated that only one of them would be able to successfully recruit Duan Ling Tian. He would be willing to reward whoever who would tell him about Duan Ling Tian's whereabouts.

Unfortunately, Ren Zhong and Liu Hong Guang did not even bother with him.

Reward?

Would they lack any of the things Xu Cen had? Moreover, what could compare to such a talented genius like Li Feng?

Xu Cen's face turned green before it turned pale when he saw Ren Zhong and Liu Hong Guang ignoring him. In the end, he could only clench his teeth and bring the people from Rising Sky Mansion away with him furiously.

At the same time, Duan Ling Tian had already reached the mountain range 100 meters to the west of Nimble Valley.

When all was quiet in the dead of the night, Duan Ling Tian who was resting on an ancient pine tree in the mountain range heard a voice in the distance. "Did you hear? The Mystical Sky Mansion is recruiting Saint Stage geniuses below the age of forty in the Dao Martial Saint Land in a year's time... It's said that the Mystical Sky Mansion's Saint Martial Secret Zone would also open in a year's time."

As he narrowed his eyes, he could see two men flying side by side in the dark sky.

"Yes! I only heard about it today. Only a quasi third-rate force has a Saint Martial Secret Zone, and it only allows Saint Stage geniuses below 40 years old to enter it. Once you enter, let's not talk about a huge fortuitous encounter, your strength will rise even if your fortuitous encounter is small," the other voice said, gradually fading away.

Soon after, the voices faded as the two figures traveled further and further away.

"A quasi third-rate force called the Mystical Sky Mansion? They're recruiting Saint Stage geniuses below 40 years old? The Saint Martial Secret Zone?" In the dark night, Duan Ling Tian's eyes lit up like two brilliant stars in the dark night.

Originally, he had planned on choosing either the Sky Hurdle Mansion or Raging Wave Mansion based on the conditions that Ren Zhong and Liu Hong Guang would present him after the Rising Sky Ranking Battle had ended.

His objective was to use a fourth-rate force as a springboard to soar to the top. After he had broken through to the Eminent Saint Stage, he planned to go to the Upper Province of the Dao Martial Saint Land to search for his fiancée, Ke'er. Moreover, he could use the help from a fourth-rate force to inquire about this father.

However, when he heard a quasi third-rate force called the Mystical Sky Mansion was going to recruit disciples who were Saint Stage geniuses below the age of forty, another thought rose up in his mind.

Compared to a fourth-rate force, a quasi third-rate force would undoubtedly be a better springboard.

Moreover, he was also curious about the Saint Martial Secret Zone or something that only a quasi third-rate force possessed since it was his first time hearing about it.

'In that case, I have no choice but to stand Vice Mansion Master Ren and Elder Liu up... It's a good thing I didn't use my real identity. Li Feng is merely a name I made up so I don't have to worry about them pursuing and killing me out of rage and humiliation.' When Duan Ling Tian thought about this, he proceeded to leave the mountain range in the dark of the night.

At this moment, whether it was Ren Zhong or Liu Hong Guang, none of them knew Li Feng had already stood them up and left in advance.

At this moment, they were still eagerly waiting for tomorrow to arrive.

They were excited just by imagining Li Feng joining their sects after the end of the Rising Sky Ranking Battle tomorrow.

Duan Ling Tian was, naturally, unaware of this. However, even if he was aware of it, he would still leave as well.

Whether it was Ren Zhong or Liu Hong Guang, he knew why they treated him so well. It was all because of his high innate talent. Otherwise, they would not have bothered with him at all.

Now that he had found a better option, naturally, he did not have to limit himself to the Sky Hurdle Mansion or the Raging Wave Mansion.

Although it was Ren Zhong and Liu Hong Guang's job to protect him during the Rising Sky Ranking Battle, he still felt indebted to them. "Vice Mansion Master Ren, Elder Liu, I'll return your favor eventually in the future if there's a chance!"

Duan Ling Tian did not like to owe anyone favors after all.

After leaving the mountain range, he returned to the Greenwave Han Mansion's district and the Greenwave Han Mansion.

With his current strength, unless it was a Greenwave Han Mansion's powerhouse at the Eminent Saint Stage or above, nobody could detect him if he deliberately concealed himself.

Although he was a Martial Cultivator at the Intermediate Pristine Saint Stage, his strength was actually equivalent to a Martial Cultivator at the peak of the Refined Saint Stage!

Naturally, it was not a problem even if he did not conceal his presence. After all, not only did he know Han Xue Nai, the Eldest Miss of Greenwave Han Mansion, but he also knew Han Zheng Tian, the Mansion Master of Greenwave Han Mansion.

He originally wanted to look for Xue Nai to surprise her. However, he changed his mind and looked for Han Zheng Tian first. He was sure his Uncle Han was anxious about this matter as well.

Due to this reason, Duan Ling Tian decided to reveal his presence. Sure enough, his presence was soon detected by the others.

He had switched his disguise to the aloof Ling Tian from the previous time he was here. Some of the Greenwave Han Mansion's disciples who were patrolling recognized him so they did not make things difficult for him.

Duan Ling Tian was able to meet Han Zheng Tian, the Mansion Master of Greenwave Han Mansion, without any obstacle.

"Little Tian, you're back? How did it go?" Han Zheng Tian asked, unable to hold himself back when he saw Duan Ling Tian had returned.

Counting the time, the Rising Sky Ranking Battle should have ended by now. Since Duan Ling Tian had returned, it was obvious he just came back from the Rising Sky Ranking Battle.

"It's a success!" If it was Han Xue Nai, Duan Ling Tian might tease her a little, but it was not appropriate for him to joke in front of Han Zheng Tian.

Han Zheng Tian was elated. However, he still asked for confirmation, "That friend of yours really killed Xu Jing?"

When Duan Ling Tian had left previously, he had said he would ask a friend from a quasi third-rate force to kill Xu Jing, the Young Master of Rising Sky Mansion, during the Rising Sky Ranking Battle. Due to this reason, Han Zheng Tian had no idea it was Duan Ling Tian who had personally made a move.

"Yes." Duan Ling Tian nodded. Although he had succeeded, he did not feel the need to explain too much.

"Thank you, Little Tian!" Han Zheng Tian, naturally, did not doubt Duan Ling Tian's words. After taking a deep breath, he actually bowed to express his gratitude to Duan Ling Tian. It surprised Duan Ling Tian that he quickly got out of the way. "Uncle Han, you can't do that! I treat Xue Nai as my biological sister so her problem is my problem as well... You're her father and also my senior, there's no need for you to be so courteous."

Upon hearing that, Han Zheng Tian smiled, Meanwhile, he heaved a sigh of relief. The stone that was pressing on his heart had finally disappeared.

Upon seeing this, Duan Ling Tian bade him farewell and went to look for Han Xue Nai.

He was bored during the journey so he took out Xu Jing's Spatial Ring with just a thought.

When he dripped his blood on it to claim blood ownership, he realized he could not do so.

Naturally, he knew what this meant.

"Xu Jing is still alive?" Horror dawned on Duan Ling Tian immediately.