

SOVEREIGN 681

Chapter 681: Duan Ling Tian's Background

Even though grade three Weapons Craftsmen had appeared in the history of the Darkhan Dynasty, it was only for a brief moment.

Moreover, that was already a matter of a few hundred years ago.

At this day, in the Darkhan Dynasty and even in the various other Dynasties, there wasn't any word of the appearance of a grade three Weapons Craftsman.

It was precisely because of this that a grade three Weapons Craftsman could be considered to be an existence of legend in the eyes of the members of the Darkhan Dynasty.

It was imaginable that if a grade three Weapons Craftsman were to appear in a Dynasty, then it would surely cause an exceedingly great stir.

It was even to the extent that the Weapons Craftsman only had to promise a grade three spirit weapon as the price before being able to make the powers and experts of the various Dynasties to rush to his aid.

The temptation of a grade three spirit weapon was too great.

As the Emperor of the Darkhan Dynasty, although a grade four Weapons Craftsman was rare, it wasn't to the point there being none, so he could disregard Xiang Ying.

But if it was a grade three Weapons Craftsman, then he had to be afraid.

"Your Majesty, if you think I'm speaking like this intentionally, then you can go ahead and act arbitrarily!" Xiang Ying looked at the Emperor with a calm expression as he spoke via voice transmission.

The Emperor's expression was exceedingly gloomy, and for a moment, he didn't know how to choose.

Presently, he was obviously slightly irrevocably committed.

If he didn't do anything do Duan Ling Tian, then would his dignity as the Emperor of the Darkhan Dynasty's still exist?

If he were to do something to Duan Ling Tian, then wouldn't he likely offend the grade three Weapons Craftsman Xiang Ying spoke of?

Offending a grade three Weapons Craftsman wasn't a joke.

A grade three Weapons Craftsman only had to pay the price of a few grade three spirit weapons before being able to urge the numerous experts of the various Dynasties to look for trouble with the Darkhan Dynasty's Imperial Family.

The Darkhan Dynasty's Imperial Family did possess great resources and reserves, and there were experts as numerous as the clouds in it, yet it was impossible for the Imperial Family to constantly keep an eye on and protect their descendants and disciples.

Who knew if the grade three Weapons Craftsman wouldn't vent his anger on the direct descendant disciples of the Imperial Family?

At that time, even if the grade three Weapons Craftsman used a single grade three spirit weapon in exchange for the lives of 10 direct descendant disciples of the Imperial Family, there would probably be countless experts that came one after the other to put their lives on the line for it.

All of this wasn't something he was willing to see.

"Hmm? Why isn't his Majesty punishing Duan Ling Tian?" On the spectating area that belonged to the Imperial Family, Zi Shang sat upright as his brows frowned slightly.

He was originally prepared to watch the show, yet who knew that it would suddenly turn into awkward silence.

Right when the atmosphere in the Cage Battle Arena became slightly strange.

Swoosh!

A white colored bolt of lightning flashed past the sky above the Cage Battle Arena, and it instantly arrived before the Emperor as he called out respectfully. "Imperial Uncle."

The person that arrived by the Emperor's side was precisely the white clothed young man, the person that presided over the first phase of the Dynasty Martial Competition yesterday.

At this moment, although his voice wasn't loud, but it seemed to be exceptionally sonorous in the exceedingly silent Cage Battle Arena.

"Imperial Uncle?" For a time, many people were stunned.

"I never imagined that he's actually a direct descendant disciple of the Imperial Family! I wonder which Prince's son he is."

"I only know that the black clothed young man is the second son of his Majesty... As for him, I've never heard of or seen him before."

"The Second Prince is one of the three publicly acknowledged most outstanding young experts in our Darkhan Dynasty, and he's equally famous as the Zhang Clan's Eldest Young Master, Zhang Shou Yong, and the Ye Clan's Eldest Young Master, Ye Xiao! Who wouldn't know him?"

...

Within the Cage Battle Arena, the sounds of discussions went on ceaselessly, causing it to be extremely bustling.

Many people were curious towards the white clothed young man.

"Hmm?" When the Emperor heard this, he looked at the white clothed young man, his nephew, and asked via voice transmission. "Hao, what is it?"

The white clothed young man's brows raised as he spoke something via voice transmission.

A short sentence caused the Emperor's expression to change indeterminately before finally heaving a sigh of relief, and he seemed as if he'd obtained the answer to a difficult question.

Subsequently, the Emperor raised his head to look towards once of the first-class spectating area.

Duan Ling Tian frowned as he didn't know what the Emperor was doing, but he still followed along the gaze of the Emperor to notice that two people he recognized sat where the Emperor was looking at.

The Ye Clan's Patriarch and the Ye Clan's Second Young Master, Ye Xiang.

But at this moment, there was another person between the two of them.

There was a young man with a calm expression, and he slightly resembled the Ye Clan Patriarch and Ye Xiang between the brows, causing Duan Ling Tian to be unable to help but think in his heart. "Could it be that he's the Ye Clan's Eldest Young Master, Ye Xiao?"

Presently, Duan Ling Tian wasn't the 'fool' that had just arrived at the Darkhan Dynasty's Capital.

He'd heard of some things that were widely known in the Darkhan Dynasty.

Within the Darkhan Dynasty, there were three extremely outstanding young geniuses that were publicly acknowledged as the top genius martial artists in the younger generation of the Darkhan Dynasty.

These people were respectively the Imperial Family's Second Prince, Bai He, the Zhang Clan's Eldest Young Master, Zhang Shou Yong, and the Ye Clan's Eldest Young Master, Ye Xiao.

Amongst these three people, Duan Ling Tian only knew Zhang Shou Yong.

He clearly understood Zhang Shou Yong's natural talent in the Martial Dao, and even in the entire Darkhan Dynasty, Zhang Shou Yong was absolutely a top existence.

Since Ye Xiao was capable of being equally famous as him, Ye Xiao would surely not be weak.

Duan Ling Tian's thoughts hadn't finished spinning when he heard the Emperor speaking to him once more, yet the Emperor's tone had undergone a tremendous change.

"So you're Big Brother Wu Dao's son-in-law, it's really as the saying goes, a misunderstanding caused two that are related to almost cause harm to each other... It's indeed I who had done wrong as a senior today." The Emperor changed his attitude on a whim, his gloomy expression had instantly become warm as if he'd instantly transformed into an amiable senior.

He had the appearance as if he was a magnanimous senior that wouldn't fuss about things with his juniors.

This caused Duan Ling Tian to be unable to react for some time, and when he did, he glanced deeply at the Emperor.

Big Brother Wu Dao?

He naturally guessed who the Big Brother Wu Dao the Emperor mentioned was, it was undoubtedly the Feng Clan's Eldest Master, Feng Wu Dao.

As for why the Emperor wouldn't suddenly know of his relationship with Feng Wu Dao, based on Duan Ling Tian's guess, it was surely related to the white clothed young man and the Ye Clan Patriarch.

Earlier, the white clothed young man ought to have warned the Emperor.

Subsequently, the Emperor looked towards the Ye Clan Patriarch because it was very likely that he used a voice transmission to ask about the relationship between Duan Ling Tian and Feng Wu Dao.

When the Emperor completely confirmed it, it caused the following changes in his expression.

"Looks like that white clothed young man is very concerned about it... He actually knows that the Ye Clan's Patriarch has knowledge about my background." Duan Ling Tian glanced deeply at the white clothed young man that stood by the Emperor's side.

"The son-in-law of Lord Wu Dao?"

"So this young man from the Darkstone Empire has another layer of identity! Truly shocking."

"Lord Wu Dao's daughter is so outstanding, yet such a beauty is taken, what a pity."

"A pity? Even if Lord Wu Dao's daughter isn't taken, do you think you have the chance? Laughable!"

...

After they knew of the relationship between Duan Ling Tian and Feng Wu Dao, the entire Cage Battle Arena was once again in an uproar.

"What?! He's the son-in-law of Feng Wu Dao?" On the first-class spectating area that belonged solely to the Imperial Family, the old man in black clothed went slightly grim in expression.

"No... Impossible... How could this be?!" Zi Shang who sat by the old man's side had an extremely unsightly expression, as it never occurred to him that Duan Ling Tian would have this identity as well.

He'd arrived at the Darkhan Dynasty for some time and knew some things of the Darkhan Dynasty in detail, and amongst these things included the matter about the Eldest Master of the Feng Clan.

He knew that the Feng Clan's Eldest Master, Feng Wu Dao, was a top expert in the territory of the Darkhan Dynasty. Supposedly, his cultivation isn't inferior to that strongest person of the Imperial Family.

Due to this, Feng Wu Dao's status in the Darkhan Dynasty was special, and even the Emperor didn't dare offend him lightly.

This was something that anyone with good sense would be able to discern from the change in attitude of the Emperor after he found out of Duan Ling Tian's identity.

"I never imagined that this Duan Ling Tian is playing the role of a pretty boy as well." Zi Yan's beautiful brows knit slightly as she spat, and her tone was filled with disdain and contempt.

"Zi Shang." The old man looked at Zi Shang and spoke with slight fear. "Originally, I didn't have any reason to interfere in the matter between you and Duan Ling Tian... But now, since he has the identity of being the son-in-law of Feng Wu Dao, you can't kill him intentionally!"

"Otherwise, even Master is unable to protect you." As the old man finished speaking, his words were filled with fear, fear towards Feng Wu Dao.

Zi Shang had an unwilling expression as he muttered with a low voice. "Could it be that the enmity between me and Duan Ling Tian has to be let go like this?"

"Of course not!" The old man shook his head and said slowly, "It's alright so long as you don't kill him intentionally. At the same time, you can't intentionally cripple his cultivation either... You can do anything else. Sometimes, humiliating a person is more painful than killing the person."

With the reminder of the old man, Zi Shang's eyes lit up.

Right.

If I trample wantonly on Duan Ling Tian's dignity after I defeat him, wouldn't that be even more wonderful?

With Duan Ling Tian's pride, it would surely be difficult for Duan Ling Tian to endure the humiliation I give him.

He could imagine that Duan Ling Tian would surely feel that death was better than living at that time!

"Disciple understands." Zi Shang took a deep breath as a piercingly cold light flashed deep within his eyes.

Meanwhile, when facing the Emperor that had changed his attitude, Duan Ling Tian only glanced at him indifferently before looking at Xiang Ying who was stunned at the side since long ago. "Pavilion Master Xiang, thank you for what you did earlier."

Xiang Ying recovered from his shock when he heard Duan Ling Tian's voice, and he laughed in self-ridicule. "Looks like I shouldn't have interfered... If I knew you had such a relationship with the Feng Clan's Eldest Master, then I wouldn't have made a fool of myself earlier."

Never had he imagined that Duan Ling Tian had such a relationship with the Feng Clan's Eldest Master, Feng Wu Dao.

"No matter what, I, Duan Ling Tian, will remember this favor of yours in my heart." Duan Ling Tian shook his head and spoke with a serious expression.

Subsequently, Duan Ling Tian invited Xiang Ying to sit at the spectating area with the members of the Darkstone Empire.

Originally, with Xiang Ying's status and identity in the Darkhan Dynasty, he would disdain to sit at the second-class spectating area...

If he wanted to sit at the first-class spectating area, even the higher-ups of the Darkhan Dynasty's Imperial Family would warmly invite him to the spectating area they sat at.

Chapter 682: Horrifying Selection Process

Now, under the gazes of everyone present, Xiang Ying had agreed to Duan Ling Tian's invitation and descended by Duan Ling Tian's side.

"King Yong, this is the Darkhan Dynasty's Weapons Craftsmen Main Guild's Vice Guild Master Xiang." Meanwhile, Duan Ling Tian introduced Xiang Ying to King Yong, and introduced King Yong to Xiang Yin at the same time.

"The Vice Guild Master of the Darkhan Dynasty's Weapons Craftsmen Main Guild?" Earlier, King Yong had realized this person wasn't simple when he saw Xiang Ying stand up for Duan Ling Tian.

After all, it wasn't everyone that dared make a move against a member of the Imperial Family before the Darkhan Dynasty's Emperor, moreover, that old man had attacked Duan Ling Tian under the tacit approval of the Emperor.

Now, after he found out about Xiang Ying's identity, King Yong couldn't help but be shocked, and he hurriedly invited Xiang Ying to sit by his side. "Vice Guild Master Xiang, please sit down."

At the same time, he started to flash through his memories related to the Darkhan Dynasty.

In next to no time, he recalled it.

He seemed to have once heard someone say that the Darkhan Dynasty's Weapons Craftsmen Guild possessed three grade four Weapons Craftsmen. One of them was the Guild Master, and the other two were Vice Guild Masters, whereas, one of those two Vice Guild Masters seemed to be surnamed Xiang.

"Grade four Weapons Craftsman?" For a time, King Yong's feeling surged once more.

After all, even if it was the entire Darkstone Empire, there was only a single grade four spirit weapon, and it was in his possession.

A grade four spirit weapon could be considered to be a rare treasure to him and the Darkstone Empire.

Yet now, a grade four Weapons Craftsman that could easily refine a grade four spirit weapon had appeared before him just like this, and it caused him to be unable to refrain from being shocked, and his feelings surged extremely.

As for Duan Ling Tian, when he saw Xiang Ying and King Yong sitting down successively, he returned and sat down indifferently by Su Li's side.

"Duan Ling Tian." Su Li who broke out in cold sweat for Duan Ling Tian earlier raised his thumb at Duan Ling Tian, and he revealed admiration between his brows.

Never had he imagined that Duan Ling Tian had just made a trip to the Darkhan Dynasty, yet Duan Ling Tian had actually conquered the daughter of the Feng Clan's Eldest Master, Feng Wu Dao, and had even become Feng Wu Dao's son-in-law.

Yesterday, he'd noticed that the daughter of the Feng Clan's Eldest Master looked at Duan Ling Tian with a slightly different gaze, but he didn't think too much of it at the time.

Now when he thought about it, it was because she favored Duan Ling Tian.

Duan Ling Tian naturally noticed the dubious gaze in Su Li's eyes, and he knew what Su Li was thinking, causing him to be unable to refrain from angrily rolling his eyes at Su Li.

"Duan Ling Tian, you're just leaving the Emperor of the Darkhan Dynasty aside like that? Isn't that improper?" Meanwhile, Su Li glanced into the distance.

Presently, Duan Ling Tian seemed to have completely forgotten the Darkhan Dynasty's Emperor that still stood there in the air.

"If he likes to stand there like an idiot, then let him." Duan Ling Tian shrugged and had an indifferent expression as he spoke.

The corners of Su Li's mouth twitched when he heard this.

That was the supreme Emperor of the Darkhan Dynasty, and he wasn't some tom, dick, or harry!

At this moment, the Emperor was slightly embarrassed, yet even though there was quite an amount of rage in the depths of his eyes, he didn't flare up.

Subsequently, under the escort of the two old men and the two young men, the Emperor ascended to the first-class spectating area that belonged to the Darkhan Dynasty's Imperial Family before looking at the black clothed old man and speaking respectfully. "Imperial Uncle."

"Mmm." The black clothed old man nodded. "Sit down."

After the Emperor sat down, Zi Shang and Zi Yan who sat at the other side of the black clothed old man stood up and bowed to the Emperor. "Your Majesty."

"Zi Shang, I've told you since long ago... You're the personal disciple of my Imperial Uncle, so you're of similar seniority as me, call me Big Brother or Senior Brother in the future." The Emperor shook his head.

"Zi Shang doesn't deserve such an honor." Zi Shang spoke with slight fear in his voice.

"Little Sister Zi Yan." Meanwhile, the black clothed young man that arrived behind the Emperor revealed burning desire and happiness when he saw Zi Yan.

"Second Prince." Zi Yan nodded to the black clothed young man, yet seemed to be unwilling to pay any more attention to him, and she completely disregarded the burning gaze of the Second Prince that seemed as if he wanted to swallow her.

"Prince Hao." Meanwhile, Zi Shang and Zi Yan looked at the white clothed young man that was beside the black clothed young man and greeted him.

The white clothed young man was the son of one of the Emperor's older brothers, and his name was Bai Hao. He was a young genius that had a natural talent that wasn't inferior to the Second Prince, Bai He.

In the past, Bai Hao very rarely stayed at the Darkhan Dynasty, and he was mostly gaining experience and tempering outside the Dynasty and wandering about in the various Dynasties, causing his experience to be abundant.

It was precisely because of this that few people in the Darkhan Dynasty knew his existence, and he'd only returned when the Martial Competition of the Ten Dynasties was about to begin.

Bai Hao nodded to Zi Shang and Zi Yan, and then he sat on a seat at the side, seeming to be a person that preferred his own companionship.

As for the Second Prince, Bai He, he walked out with large strides to sit by Zi Yan's side.

"Little Sister Zi Yan, it's alright that I sit here, right?" After he sat down, Bai He smiled as he asked, and he had the manner of performing the deed before asking for permission.

Zi Yan frowned imperceptibly as a wisp of detest flashed in the depths of her eyes, yet when she thought about his identity, she didn't flare up in the end.

Zi Shang noticed his younger sister's feeling, and he was deeply afraid that she would flare up, so he spoke to Bai He before she could. "Second Prince is joking, there's naturally no problem."

"Mmm." Bai He nodded indifferently.

Even though he was warm to Zi Yan, he was indifferent when facing Zi Shang, and it was even to the extent that slight disdain was contained in the depths of his gaze.

He looked down on Zi Shang from the bottom of his heart.

In his eyes, Zi Shang was only a lowly person that came from a tiny Imperial Kingdom, and it was only Zi Shang's good luck that allowed Zi Shang to be taken as a personal disciple by his Imperial Grand Uncle.

Otherwise, Zi Shang wouldn't even be worthy to carry his shoes!

Zi Shang naturally noticed the disdain and contempt in the depths of Bai He's gaze, and he knew what Bai He was thinking.

Zi Shang took a deep breath as strands of cold lights leaped about in the depths of his eyes.

"Bai He... I'll make you and Duan Ling Tian my stepping stones today!" Zi Shang cursed in his heart, and then he sat down slowly.

At the same time, the surroundings of the Cage Battle Arena recovered its calm, and no one arrived anymore for some time.

"Begin." Right at this moment, the Emperor spoke out and announced that the second phase of the Dynasty Martial Competition would begin.

This second phase of the martial competition was the true Dynasty Martial Competition.

Amongst the great figures of the Darkhan Dynasty, only Feng Wu Dao had attended the Dynasty Martial Competition between the young geniuses of the various Empires yesterday because of Duan Ling Tian, and it could only be considered to be a tiny warm up.

Now, the brilliant performance would official begin.

Along with the Emperor speaking out, the Cage Battle Arena went silent.

"Yes." Meanwhile, the old man that attacked Duan Ling Tian earlier and the other old man replied successively before flashing up into the sky and arriving in the sky above the Cage Battle Arena.

The two old men stood at two sides in the sky, and they seemed to have transformed into two statues in midair.

"The 30 young geniuses of the various Empires that advanced yesterday, please enter the arena." One of the old men spoke slowly, and even though his voice wasn't loud, it transmitted clearly into the ears of every single person present.

"It's time to go." Duan Ling Tian smiled to Su Li.

Su Li nodded.

Subsequently, the two of them left their seats to flash out.

Long Yun followed closely behind the two of them.

At this moment, Long Yun had a complicated gaze as he looked at Duan Ling Tian's back, as what he found out earlier caused him to be unable to avoid from feeling slightly shocked.

"Hmph! So what if your father-in-law is the Eldest Master of the Feng Clan, Feng Wu Dao? Feng Wu Dao is a top expert in the Darkhan Dynasty, yet he isn't worth mentioning in the Foreign Lands, and he's inferior to my master." When he thought up to here, Long Yun slightly consoled himself in his heart.

In next to no time, the 30 young geniuses of the various empires, including Duan Ling Tian, Su Li, and Long Yun, had gathered together and stood in the sky above the Cage Battle Arena.

"Now, the young geniuses that were recommended by the various powers of our Darkhan Dynasty, please gather together with the young geniuses of the various Empires... The first round of eliminations in the Dynasty Martial Competition today is about to begin!" Another elder spoke with a sonorous voice.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

...

Instantly, besides many young geniuses flashing out from the second-class spectating area, even the first-class spectating area had many young geniuses flash out from them.

Amongst the young geniuses that flashed out from the first-class spectating area, Duan Ling Tian only recognized Feng Tian Wu, Feng Yun Xiang, Zhang Shou Yong, Zhang Shou Yuan, Zi Shang, Ye Xiao, and the white clothed young man from the Imperial Family.

"So many people?" When all the young geniuses of the Darkhan Dynasty entered into the arena, the formidable array in the scene caused Duan Ling Tian to be unable to refrain from being shocked.

Including the him, there were only 30 young geniuses from the various Empires, whereas, the all the young geniuses of the Darkhan Dynasty were almost 100 people, and they appeared in vast groups in the sky of the Cage Battle Arena.

"Why have all of us been asked over?"

"I don't know."

"We'll know soon."

...

For a time, the sky above the Cage Battle Arena was filled with clamorous noise.

"Everyone, the first round of the selections will begin right away after I explain it to all of you..."
Meanwhile, one of the old men abruptly stepped up into the sky, and he stood in the sky above all of the young geniuses as he spoke in a clear voice that spread out and suppressed all the sounds in the surroundings.

Instantly, the sky above the Cage Battle Arena gradually returned to quietness.

The gazes of all the young geniuses including Duan Ling Tian descended onto the old man that spoke as they wanted to know what he wanted to say next.

"Today, the first round of the selection will be to eliminate people from amongst all of you until 20 remain... So all of you have to be mentally prepared." The old man spoke slowly.

"Until 20 remain?" The old man's words caused most of the young geniuses present to go grim in expression, and they were slightly fearful.

"Only the first round of the selections will eliminate us until 20 people remain?"

"Isn't this too horrifying? I was still thinking of showing my capabilities and passing through a few more rounds."

"I know my own limitations. I have no hope to obtain the positions to participate in the Martial Competition of the Ten Dynasties, but if I'm unable to fight a few battles, then how would I be worthy of the only recommendation position that the sect possesses?"

...

Many young geniuses couldn't help but shake their heads and were rather annoyed.

"What selection is so horrifying to actually want to eliminate more than 100 of us?" Unlike the annoyance of most of the young geniuses, Duan Ling Tian was instead filled with curiosity, and his gaze converged onto the old man.

Chapter 683: Obvious Difference Between The Weak and The Strong

"The first round of the selection in the Dynasty Martial Competition today will be carried out by the two of us. We'll exert our strength at the same time to gradually increase the force of our strength and

suppress all of you... So long as you're suppressed to the point of falling down, then you're considered to have been eliminated!

"The last 20 people remaining will pass through the first round of the selection and obtain the qualifications to participate in the second round of the selection." The old man spoke slowly.

Instantly, the young geniuses present understood the content of the first round of selection, and all of them revealed fearful expressions.

The two old men will be utilizing their strength to suppress us?

They could imagine that these two old men were surely existences at the Void Interpretation Stage or above.

"Begin." Right at this moment, the other old man stepped up into the sky and stood by the side of the first old man in the blink of an eye.

Duan Ling Tian's expression became serious when he saw this scene, whereas, the other people had serious expressions as well.

Whoosh! Whoosh!

Instantly, Origin Energy skyrocketed on the bodies of the two old men, and it seemed to have transformed into two balls of raging flames.

The two balls of flames coiled around the old men, causing them to seem as if they'd transformed into two titans that ceaselessly emitted white colored flames.

At the same time, the energy of heaven and earth roiled in the sky above the two old men, and it started to condense into numerous ancient horned dragon silhouettes.

In the end, 20 ancient horned dragons appeared above each of the two old men.

"Two first level Void Interpretation Stage martial artists!" Duan Ling Tian's brows raised as he discerned their cultivation from the phenomenon that appeared when the two old men exerted their strengths.

Suddenly, the two old men shouted out.

Immediately, the flames condensed into form by their Origin Energy covered the heavens and the earth as it swept out from all directions to smash together in collision.

Instantly, two extremely formidable Origin Energy abruptly exploded together.

For a time, waves of air swept out in all directions in the sky as the sounds of air exploding rose and fell continuously.

After the howling Origin Energy exploded out, they seemed to have transformed into an enormous net that enveloped the group of young geniuses.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

...

The terrifying Origin Energy swept down in descent, and it pressed down, causing the faces of most of the young geniuses to flush red.

Instantly, most of the young geniuses started mobilizing their Origin Energy and Concept to withstand this extremely formidable pressure, and some people had even withdrawn their spirit weapons.

Of course, there were also some people that were composed, like Duan Ling Tian, Zhang Shou Yong, Ye Xiao, Bai He, Bai Hao... And Zi Shang.

"Zi Shang." Duan Ling Tian looked at Zi Shang and couldn't help but frown.

Truthfully speaking, he was already surprised when he saw Zi Shang here today.

Now, when he saw Zi Shang was able to be composed under such pressure, he couldn't help but look slightly highly at Zi Shang.

"At this moment, even eighth level Void Initiation Stage martial artists have to use their Origin Energy to withstand the pressure that's coming from these two old fellows. Zi Shang is still able to maintain such composure until now, thus there's only one possibility..." Duan Ling Tian glanced at Su Li, and at this moment, even Su Li had to utilize his Origin Energy to withstand the pressure. In comparison, Zi Shang seemed much more unfathomable. "It's very likely that this Zi Shang has already broken through to the ninth level of the Void Initiation Stage!"

Ninth level of the Void Initiation Stage!

Needless to say, Zi Shang's strength caused shock in Duan Ling Tian.

"Su Li and Long Yun's fortuitous encounters can already be considered to be not bad... But even then, it's still far inferior to Zi Shang now! Looks like not only does this Zi Shang possess a master in the Darkhan Dynasty, it's possible that he has obtained other shocking fortuitous encounters." Duan Ling Tian guessed in his heart.

"It's even to the extent that his fortuitous encounters are extremely likely to be not inferior to my fortuitous encounter in the Sword Monarch's Treasure!" When he thought up to here, Duan Ling Tian couldn't refrain from gasping.

Never had it occurred to him that Zi Shang actually possessed such great fortune.

Now, when Duan Ling Tian was surprised from seeing Zi Shang being composed, Zi Shang was similarly surprised. "Looks like this Duan Ling Tian has already broken through to the ninth level of the Void Initiation Stage... Exactly what fortuitous encounters did he obtain?" After his surprise, Zi Shang's expression became unsightly to the extreme.

He originally thought that he could completely crush Duan Ling Tian this time, yet now when he saw Duan Ling Tian reveal such a shocking cultivation, he couldn't help but be slightly unconfident in his heart.

But in next to no time, the gloominess on Zi Shang's expression vanished. "Perhaps his cultivation is strong because his luck is good, and he obtained many precious spirit fruits... His comprehension of

Concept is surely unable to keep up with his cultivation." When he thought up to here, Zi Shang's mood was much better.

Right when Duan Ling Tian and Zi Shang were in confrontation with each other and were shocked by each other's cultivation.

Zhang Shou Yong, Ye Xiao, Bai He, and Bai Hao had shocked expressions as well.

Never had they imagined that there were actually so many people with comparable cultivations to them in the Darkhan Dynasty.

"Zi Shang... is actually a ninth level Void Initiation Stage martial artist as well?" Bai He looked at Zi Shang as his brows knit, and he seemed to be slightly unhappy.

After all, in his eyes, he'd never taken Zi Shang seriously.

Especially because when Zi Shang had just arrived at the Darkhan Dynasty's Imperial Family, he'd once privately requested for a spar, and when Zi Shang was about to be crushed by him, Zi Shang could only admit defeat humbly and respectfully.

Never had he imagined that Zi Shang who he'd taken to be an ant in the past would actually have a cultivation at the same level as himself.

"Zi Shang has surely obtained fortuitous encounters!" Bai He's eyes flickered with a cold and grim light, and he was able to guess some things.

"Brother Ling Tian... is actually at the ninth level of the Void Initiation Stage as well?" Zhang Shou Yong's eyes were filled with shock when his gaze descended onto Duan Ling Tian.

It could be said that he'd see Duan Ling Tian grow in strength.

From the time they first met to participating in the Darkhan Dynasty's Martial Competition together at this moment... All along this way, Duan Ling Tian who had a strength that was far inferior to him had actually caught up to his cultivation.

"I'm afraid it won't be long before Brother Ling Tian will completely surpass me." Zhang Shou Yong sighed in his heart.

This was something he didn't doubt in the slightest.

"These two people..." In next to no time, Zhang Shou Yong looked at Bai Hao and Zi Shang. "I've never seen them in the past... Looks like people of unusual ability are indeed hidden within the Darkhan Dynasty! Besides Bai He, Ye Xiao, and Brother Ling Tian, there're actually another two people that are able to compare with me in terms of cultivation."

At this moment, Zhang Shou Yong felt slight shapeless pressure, but in next to no time, he revealed a smile on his face.

"It seemed to have become more and more interesting..." Zhang Shou Yong muttered to himself.

When he saw so many young geniuses with comparable cultivations to him had appeared in the Dynasty Martial Competition, he felt the blood in his body was already starting to boil, and his entire body was filled with battle intent.

"Bai He, he is?" Ye Xiao's gaze descended onto Bai Hao, and he asked the nearby Bai He with a curious expression.

"He's my Imperial Uncle's son, Bai Hao. Ye Xiao, you have to watch out if you go against him... Brother Hao's strength isn't inferior to me," said Bai He to Ye Xiao.

"Oh?" Ye Xiao was slightly surprised when he heard this.

As the Darkhan Dynasty's Second Prince, Bai He had always had an arrogant character, and Ye Xiao knew this.

But to Ye Xiao's surprise, an arrogant person like Bai He actually admitted that his cousin brother had a strength comparable to his own.

At this moment, he had no choice but to look more highly upon Bai Hao.

"He's the Second Prince?" Duan Ling Tian's brows raised when he heard the conversation between Ye Xiao and Bai He, and he looked at Bai He.

Never had he imagined that this black clothed young man was the second son of the Darkhan Dynasty's Emperor, the Second Prince Bai He, the expert that was equally famous with Zhang Shou Yong and Ye Xiao in the Darkhan Dynasty.

"Hmph!" Duan Ling Tian had just glanced at Bai He when he was noticed by Bai He, and Bai He glanced coldly and indifferently at Duan Ling Tian as he grunted. "Duan Ling Tian, I hope you don't encounter me too early on... Otherwise, even if I can't kill you, I'll surely teach you a good lesson! So that I can let you know that a little kid like you doesn't have the qualifications to be arrogant before my Imperial Father in the Darkhan Dynasty."

Duan Ling Tian was indifferent when he heard Bai He's words, and he shrugged. "Second Prince? Since it's like this, then I'll be waiting. I only hope that you don't disappoint me." As he finished speaking, Duan Ling Tian's words were filled with deliberate provocation.

"You... You're courting death!!" When had Bai He ever been provoked like this? His expression instantly darkened, his eyes flickered with cold lights, and he seemed to have transformed into a venomous snake that was prepared to bite Duan Ling Tian at any moment.

Duan Ling Tian paid no further attention to Bai He and started observing the surroundings.

Presently, besides the few existences at the ninth level Void Initiation Stage maintaining their composure, Su Li, Long Yun, Feng Tian Wu, and another 10 plus people seemed to be comparatively at ease.

The remaining people had swiftly utilized their Origin Energy and Concept to resist the formidable pressure that came from the two old men.

The situation in the sky above the Cage Battle Arena clearly entered into the eyes of all the spectators present.

"Two Void Interpretation Stage experts are utilizing their strength to suppress them... The two of them haven't even utilized their concept, yet have already caused most of the young geniuses to be in confusion.

"Of course! Do you think the might of the Void Interpretation Stage is a joke?"

"Looks some young geniuses are unable to continue persisting."

...

Along with spectators in the third-class spectating area discussing animatedly.

Over ten people successively had their faces flush red in the sky above the Cage Battle Arena, and their bodies fell uncontrollably.

Meanwhile, even though they'd left the area the pressure enveloped, and their countenance had recovered slightly, yet their eyes were filled with helplessness and embarrassment.

They knew clearly in their hearts that they were already eliminated.

"Duan Ling Tian is actually so strong?" King Yong looked at Duan Ling Tian from afar with an astounded expression.

"Little Freak!" Xiang Ying who sat by King Yong's side was speechless for a long time before spitting out these two words.

In the Imperial Family's first-class spectating area.

"Even though this Duan Ling Tian is arrogant, his strength isn't bad... His cultivation seems to be able to compare with Bai He and Bai Hao." The Darkhan Dynasty's Emperor's brows frowned slightly as he spoke with a deep voice.

When he saw a little kid like Duan Ling Tian possessed such a deep cultivation, he felt a wave of displeasure in his heart.

The nearby black clothed old man had a slightly serious expression.

Not only was he surprised by Duan Ling Tian's cultivation, he was surprised by the cultivation of his personal disciple Zi Shang at the same time... When did Zi Shang break through to the ninth level of the Void Initiation Stage?

"Imperial Uncle, Zi Shang..." The Emperor had finally noticed Zi Shang who was composed like Duan Ling Tian, Bai Hao, and Bai He.

Chapter 684: We Still Have To Decide On The Specific Rankings?

The Emperor had a certain level of understanding of Zi Shang.

He knew that even though the personal disciple of his Imperial Uncle had not bad natural talent, yet it was merely not bad.

In the entire Darkhan Dynasty, young geniuses with equal natural talent to Zi Shang could be seen everywhere.

Sometimes, even the Emperor was unable to wrap his head around the reason why his Imperial Uncle didn't choose the group of young geniuses in the entire Darkhan Dynasty, but had instead chosen Zi Shang who came from a remote Imperial Kingdom, to be his personal disciple.

But now, he suddenly realized that his previous thinking was undoubtedly mistaken.

At this moment, Zi Shang revealed a cultivation that wasn't inferior to his son or nephew. "Ninth level of the Void Initiation Stage... Zi Shang has actually broken through to the ninth level of the Void Initiation Stage as well!"

"Imperial Uncle, what exactly is going on? How did Zi Shang's cultivation catch up to Bei He and Bei Hao in such a short period of time?" The Emperor looked at the black clothed old man as he took a deep breath and asked with slight curiosity.

"I don't know either." The old man shook his head, yet slight excitement seemed to have emerged in the depths of his gaze.

Truthfully speaking, it was even unexpected to him when Zi Shang revealed such a strong cultivation, and he felt pleasantly surprised from the bottom of his heart.

"Looks like the prediction of the Lord Oracle all those years ago was right... My personal disciple is from the faraway Azure Forest Imperial Kingdom! Zi Shang is my fated personal disciple." The old man's feeling surged.

All those years ago, the Feng Clan's Lord Oracle, the Ancestor of the Feng Clan's Eldest Master and Patriarch, had once made a prediction of his fate, and during this process, she'd given him a prediction.

According to what that prediction indicated, he headed to the Azure Forest Imperial Kingdom at a specially appointed time and just happened to encounter Zi Shang... It was precisely because of this that he'd taken Zi Shang as personal disciple long ago.

Even if Zi Shang's later display couldn't be considered to be outstanding, but so long as he recalled the prediction of the Lord Oracle, he would once again put his entire heart and soul into teaching Zi Shang.

He believed that the Lord Oracle's prediction wouldn't be nonsense.

Now it would seem that the prediction had come true, as the personal disciple he'd taken from his trip to the Azure Forest Imperial Kingdom was extremely outstanding. "The Lord Oracle is truly a divine being! Perhaps she knew long ago that Zi Shang would have this future."

Truthfully speaking, he was slightly perturbed in his heart when he took Zi Shang as his personal disciple in the beginning.

Especially the doubtful gazes from the people surrounding him had caused him to doubt the soundness of his decision on many occasions.

But he persisted in the end.

The facts proved that his persistence wasn't wrong.

"Even Imperial Uncle doesn't know?" The Emperor was slightly surprised, and then he guessed. "Looks like Zi Shang should have obtained some fortuitous encounter recently... Otherwise, it would be impossible for him to chase up to Bai He and Bei Hao in such a short amount of time."

"Perhaps." The black clothed old man nodded and neither agreed nor disagreed.

His gaze slowly descended onto the violet clothed young man, and then his eyes slightly narrowed. "Duan Ling Tian is the youngest amongst the young geniuses present... He seems to have already broken through to the ninth level of the Void Initiation Stage." In the end, the old man's brows slightly frowned, and he felt slightly afraid.

"Ninth level of the Void Initiation Stage? This kid has really concealed his strength deeply!" On the first-class spectating area that belonged to the Feng Clan, Feng Wu Dao shook his head and had a complicated gaze.

The nearby Elder Kong had a slightly dumbstruck expression at this moment.

As for the Feng Clan's Patriarch, he was completely stunned instead. "This... Duan Ling Tian is a ninth level Void Initiation Stage martial artist? He's stronger than Yun Xiang? He... He's still so young!"

Unknowingly, the gazes of most of the people in the surroundings of the Cage Battle Arena had descended in unison onto the violet clothed figure in the sky above the Cage Battle Arena.

That figure was a violet clothed young man sword shaped brows and starry eyes, and a handsome appearance.

Of course, if it was only an outstanding appearance, it wouldn't be sufficient for him to become the center of attention...

After all, he wasn't the only handsome young man in the sky above the Cage Battle Arena.

The part of him that attracted the gazes of everyone was his composed expression and that face that was shockingly young in the current occasion.

"In terms of age, amongst the over 100 young geniuses in the sky above the Cage Battle Arena, it seems that only Lord Wu Dao's daughter is younger than this young man of the Darkstone Empire." Someone couldn't refrain from speaking out in surprise.

"Now, including him, there are less than 10 people that are able to maintain their composure, and it's even to the extent that he hasn't even utilized his Origin Energy... He's undoubtedly the youngest amongst these people that are able to maintain their composure."

"His natural talent in the Martial Dao is truly too terrifying!"

"I originally thought that within the younger generation of our Darkhan Dynasty, people like the Second Prince, the Zhang Clan's Eldest Master, and the Ye Clan's Eldest Master were already the most outstanding figures... Now it would seem that we were looking at the sky from within a well."

"Yeah. Besides these people, there are many black horses this time... Firstly, it's this young man from the Darkstone Empire. The second is the white clothed young man that presided over the first phase of the Dynasty Martial Competition yesterday, and he ought to be a Young Prince... The last person who's also wearing white clothed seems to be a member of the Imperial Family as well."

"The Second Prince and these two white clothed young men were all recommended by the Imperial Family!"

"The Imperial Family is going to gain great honor this time."

...

The entire Cage Battle Arena was in an uproar, and it seemed like a market.

Right at this moment, the two old men that stood in the sky above all the young geniuses looked at each other before nodded, and then they exerted strength once more.

Whoosh! Whoosh!

Instantly, two extremely formidable Origin Energy flames skyrocketed on the bodies of the two old men once more, and they seemed to transform into circle after circle of white colored ripples that swept out towards the surroundings with the two old men as the center.

For a time, a fierce gale sprang up above the Cage Battle Arena, and some cultivators with low cultivations were even forced to close their eyes.

Bang!

With the two old men as the center, the Origin Energy ripples that spread out ceaselessly finally collided with each other to form an exceedingly strong pressure that swept down and enveloped all the young geniuses.

Instantly, the pressure endured by the young geniuses present increased greatly.

"Ah!"

"No!"

...

Instantly, waves of shrill cries sounded out as another ten plus young geniuses were pressed down from the sky and suffered the tragic fate of elimination.

At this moment, even Duan Ling Tian's expression went slightly serious, whereas, Zhang Shou Yong and the others were the same as well.

Even up till now, all the ninth level Void Initiation Stage young geniuses including Duan Ling Tian hadn't utilized their Origin Energy to resist the pressure that came from the two old men.

But everyone's nerves had tensed up as they became serious, and they were no longer as carefree as before.

Obviously, they felt a certain level of pressure.

On the other hand, Su Li, Feng Yun Xiang, the other eighth level Void Initiation Stage young geniuses, and the top figures amongst the seventh level Void Initiation Stage martial artists like Feng Tian Wu and Long Yun, had already increased the strength of their mobilized Origin Energy to resist the pressure that descended down upon them.

Based on their actions, they seemed to be at extreme ease, and it was as if they didn't feel much pressure.

"Amongst the 20 people that advance in the end... Besides ninth level Void Initiation Stage and eighth level Void Initiation Stage martial artists, there should be some seventh level Void Initiation Stage martial artists that can advance." Duan Ling Tian's eyes flashed as he looked at Feng Tian Wu and said via voice transmission, "Tian Wu, you can do it!"

Feng Tian Wu looked at Duan Ling Tian and nodded lightly, and extreme firmness could be seen within her pair of bright and beautiful eyes.

Duan Ling Tian smiled, and he was extremely confident of Tian Wu.

Even though Tian Wu's cultivation was only at the seventh level of the Void Initiation Stage, the Concept she'd comprehend far exceeded something ordinary seventh level Void Initiation Stage martial artists could compare to.

Tian Wu was a possessor of the Fire Spirit Body, and she possessed an innate affinity towards Fire Concept, causing her to comprehend it extremely swiftly.

Bang!

Another enormous bang sounded out, and it came from the second ripple emitted from the roiling Origin Energy on the two old men colliding with each other.

For a time, waves of air once again covered the heavens and the earth as they swept out in the sky, and another later of extremely strong pressure fiercely pressed onto the group of young geniuses.

Subsequently, many people were eliminated.

Meanwhile, Duan Ling Tian's body was suffused with Origin Energy, and it formed into an Origin Energy barrier that enveloped him within.

No matter how the pressure from the two old men increased, Duan Ling Tian remained unmoving like a mountain.

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

...

At the same time, Zhang Shou Yong, Zi Shang, Ye Xiao, Bai Hao, and Bai He formed an Origin Energy barrier to resist the enormous pressure that descended from above.

Instantly, 12 ancient horned dragon silhouettes appeared above each of them...

72 ancient horned dragon silhouettes appeared at the same time was a magnificent sight.

"Six ninth level Void Initiation Stage martial artist!" A portion of the people present had already guessed the cultivations of Duan Ling Tian and the others, yet there was a portion of people that were completely ignorant. At this moment, all of them were shocked when they saw Duan Ling Tian and the others reveal their cultivations.

"Looks like the Dynasty Martial Competition today will surely be extremely interesting... Supposedly, besides competing for the qualification to participate in the Martial Competition of the Ten Dynasties, the group of young geniuses of our Darkhan Dynasty also have to decide on the specific rankings and win the various rewards distributed by the Imperial Family." Some well informed people couldn't help but speak out.

For a time, the atmosphere in the entire Cage Battle Arena was in an uproar once again, and sharp cries of excitement rose and fell without end.

In this way, it would also mean that every single one of them would have the opportunity to witness the battles amongst the top young geniuses of the Darkhan Dynasty!

How could they not be excited?

"We still have to decide on the specific rankings?" Duan Ling Tian clearly heard the discussion of the spectators in the Cage Battle Arena, and he couldn't help but be slightly shocked.

He originally thought that the Darkhan Dynasty's Martial Competition would be similar to the Darkstone Empire's Young Genius Competition and the Azure Forest Imperial Kingdom's Genius Competition, only the strongest young genius had to be decided upon and there was no need to decide on specific rankings.

Now it would seem that he'd guessed wrongly.

Besides deciding on the people who'll acquire the qualifications to participate in the Martial Competition of the Ten Dynasties, the Dynasty Martial Competition of the Darkhan Dynasty that was held today would also go a step further and decide on the rankings of the young geniuses in the Darkhan Dynasty.

Chapter 685: 20 People

"Hmm?" In next to no time, Duan Ling Tian noticed that besides the group of young geniuses that had come from the various Dynasties like him were slightly surprised, the people from the powers of the Darkhan Dynasty, like Feng Tian Wu and Zhang Shou Yong, weren't surprised and seemed as if they knew about this since long ago.

"Duan Ling Tian, are you confident in taking the first in the Dynasty Martial Competition?" Suddenly, a familiar voice entered Duan Ling Tian's ears via voice transmission, and it was precisely from Su Li.

Duan Ling Tian looked at Su Li and shrugged before replying via voice transmission. "I don't know."

"I believe in you." Su Li's words were filled with confidence towards Duan Ling Tian.

Originally, Su Li, who'd broken through to the eighth level of the Void Initiation Stage, thought he'd already surpassed Duan Ling Tian.

Only when Duan Ling Tian entered the arena and revealed a cultivation at the ninth level of the Void Initiation Stage did he find out that he'd been left behind by Duan Ling Tian as usual.

This caused him to be unable to help from feeling bitter in his heart, and after feeling bitterness, he couldn't refrain from being happy for Duan Ling Tian.

Duan Ling Tian was his friend, and he hoped that Duan Ling Tian would be able to go higher and further in the path of the Martial Dao.

Duan Ling Tian shook his head and smiled when he heard Su Li's practically blind confidence.

His gaze quickly swept past Zhang Shou Yong, Zi Shang, and the other ninth level Void Initiation Stage young geniuses...

He knew that these people would be his final opponents.

If he wanted to acquire a better ranking in the Darkhan Dynasty's Martial Competition, then he would have to compete with these people for it.

Right now, he didn't know their exact strength, and he only knew that they were ninth level Void Initiation Stage martial artists.

Bang!

Another enormous bang sounded out, and it was the third ripple formed by the two old men colliding together, and it caused an even stronger pressure to sweep down.

Instantly, another few people were eliminated.

Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang! Bang!

...

Numerous loud bangs continued resounding out without end, whereas, every single enormous bang would herald that the pressure that enveloped the group of young geniuses in the sky above the Cage Battle Arena had increased a step further, and it caused many young geniuses to be in a sorry state as they utilized their Origin Energy, Concept, and spirit weapons to resist this pressure.

Every single time, there would be many young geniuses that were eliminated.

Bang!

Another enormous bang sounded out, and five young geniuses were eliminated.

Two of these people were familiar to Duan Ling Tian, and they were the two sixth level Void Initiation Stage young geniuses from the Holdwin Empire.

"I hope all of you can hold on to the very end." The two young geniuses of the Holdwin Empire could be said to be acquainted with Duan Ling Tian, Long Yun, and Su Li. Even though they weren't so familiar with each other, they'd still wished them luck before leaving.

"Thank you." Duan Ling Tian nodded as he thanked them.

After the two young geniuses of the Holdwin Empire returned, the Holdwin Empire's representative, the old man surnamed Liu sighed before looking towards the nearby King Yong. "King Yong, based on the current situation. If nothing unexpected happens, then at least two of your Darkstone Empire's members will be able to pass through this first round of the selections." The old man's tone was filled with envy.

"Yes." King Yong nodded.

Unknowingly, his gaze had descended onto Long Yun.

He was able to discern that with Duan Ling Tian and Su Li's strength, it wasn't difficult for them to pass through the first round of the selections, whereas, it seemed to be slightly strenuous for Long Yun.

After all, Long Yun was only a seventh level Void Initiation Stage martial artist.

Originally, Long Yun could already be considered to be extremely outstanding for possessing a cultivation at the seventh level of the Void Initiation Stage at his age.

But everyone amongst the group of young geniuses present now were the top young experts of the Darkhan Dynasty, and Long Yun instead seemed slightly ordinary when amongst them.

At this moment, practically all the young geniuses in the sky above the Cage Battle Arena were existences at the seventh level of the Void Initiation Stage or above, and all these young geniuses were over 30 in number.

"Experts are really numerous like the clouds in the Darkhan Dynasty." Duan Ling Tian couldn't hold back his shock when he saw this scene.

After all, including himself, Su Li, and Long Yun, there were less than 10 people at the seventh level of the Void Initiation Stage and above in the various Empires.

In other words, over 20 people amongst the 30 plus young geniuses at the seventh level of the Void Initiation Stage or above were from the powers of the Darkhan Dynasty.

Bang!

The Origin Energy ripples emitted from the two old men were still colliding with each other's.

Every single collision would cause an extremely strong pressure to sweep out along with the collision, and layer after layer of pressure pressed down onto the 30 plus young geniuses at the scene as it intended to eliminate another 10 plus people.

However, this time, no one was eliminated.

The eighth level Void Initiation Stage martial artists were still fine, but those seventh level Void Initiation Stage martial artists had practically used every ounce of strength in their bodies at this moment, as only then were they able to prevent themselves from being pressed down from the sky.

Amongst the seventh level Void Initiation Stage martial artists, only Feng Tian Wu and Long Yun seemed to be at ease.

"The spirit saber in Long Yun's hand is a grade three Spirit Saber!" Duan Ling Tian's brows raised.

He was able to discern that the reason Long Yun could be so at ease like Tian Wu was because he possessed a grade three spirit weapon to rely on like Tian Wu.

Presently, the grade three spirit whip Duan Ling Tian had refined for her had appeared in Tian Wu's hand as she did her best to resist the pressure that descended from the sky.

Because there were many people present in the sky, so the ancient horned dragon silhouettes had practically squeezed together and its owner couldn't be distinguished, so not many people noticed that something was out of the ordinary with the spirit weapons in Long Yun and Feng Tian Wu's hand.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

Another three enormous bangs sounded out, and it successively resounded out after a short period of time.

At the same time, only 20 people remained amongst the young geniuses in the sky of the Cage Battle Arena...

The final outcome had appeared.

"Hu!" As soon as the results were out, Feng Tian Wu put away the grade three spirit whip in her hand and heaved a sigh of relief, and then her gaze unintentionally descended onto the nearby Duan Ling Tian.

Her pair of beautiful eyes contained tenderness that was soft as water.

Compared to Long Yun, Feng Tian Wu could be considered to be in a comparatively better state.

After all, the Fire Concept she'd comprehended was stronger than Long Yun's Saber Concept.

Long Yun's countenance seemed slightly pale, and his body was slightly trembling.

Of course, Long Yun wasn't the one in the sorriest state.

The people in the sorriest state were the other seven young geniuses at the seventh level of the Void Initiation Stage, as it was because of their foundation being slightly better than the other young geniuses that they were able to successfully advance.

These seven young geniuses were drenched in sweat at this moment, and they breathed heavily without end, as if they'd fought 3,000 rounds with another.

"You 20 have advanced... Rest for half an hour. After half an hour, the second round of the selections will continue! The second round of the selections will directly compete for the positions to participate in the Martial Competition of the Ten Dynasties." One of the two old men slowly spoke out.

For a time, the group of young geniuses in the sky above the Cage Battle Arena left successively.

"Duan Ling Tian, I'll surely trample on you beneath my feet and wantonly trample on your pride..." Before leaving, Zi Shang glanced viciously at Duan Ling Tian and swore in his heart.

"Hmm?" Duan Ling Tian frowned as he noticed a gaze that was like a venomous snake was staring at him with ill intentions. When he turned around to look, Duan Ling Tian noticed the figure that was heading towards the first-class spectating area that belonged to the Imperial Family.

"Zi Shang!" With just a glance, Duan Ling Tian recognized this voice, and it was precisely the figure of the former Zither Young Master of the Azure Forest Imperial Kingdom.

"Zi Shang is much more mature than before... If it was him from before, he would have surely been just like Bai He from before and talk a load of nonsense before me! Now, he didn't say a single word and had instead concealed his hatred within his heart."

"It can be said that during these past few years, he had already changed from a wild beast that was on a rampage into a venomous snake that is laying in ambush in the shadows." When he finished thinking, Duan Ling Tian felt slight fear in his heart.

If Zi Shang were to roar at him like a madman and speak of killing him, Duan Ling Tian wouldn't think much of it.

But Zi Shan was so calm now, and it caused him to perceive traces of danger.

For an unknown reason, he had a strong feeling subconsciously that Zi Shan was much more terrifying than the Second Prince Bai He.

"Let's go back." Su Li called out to Duan Ling Tian.

Duan Ling Tian nodded, and then he looked at Feng Tian Wu and laughed via voice transmission. "Tian Wu, don't forget to place bets for me when I enter the arena."

"Don't worry, Big Brother Duan." Feng Tian Wu replied with beautiful dimples on her face.

Subsequently, Duan Ling Tian and Su Li moved side by side to head towards the second-class spectating area that the group of people from the Darkstone Empire were seated at.

Along the way, Duan Ling Tian was able to notice two fierce gazes that were staring fixedly at him.

With a slight turn of his head, Duan Ling Tian noticed the owners of these two gazes.

Bai He, Ye Xiao.

"Ye Xiao probably wants to stand up for his younger brother." Duan Ling Tian wasn't surprised that Bai He wanted to go against him, and his gaze descended onto Ye Xiao as he guessed in his heart.

"Duan Ling Tian, Su Li, Long Yun... Congratulations." After Duan Ling Tian's group of three returned, King Yong and all the young geniuses of the Darkstone Empire congratulated Duan Ling Tian's group of three.

"Congratulations." The Holdwin Empire representative that sat at the side congratulated Duan Ling Tian's group of three with the group of young geniuses from Holdwin Empire.

"Thank you." Duan Ling Tian and Su Li lightly smiled as they replied.

Only Long Yun held a gloomy expression as he returned to his seat with eyes that flickered with bright lights, and what he was thinking was a mystery.

"Brother Ling Tian, even though I knew your strength wasn't weak, yet never had I imagined that you're actually a ninth level Void Initiation Stage martial artist." Xiang Ying who sat by King Yong's side looked at Duan Ling Tian and sighed.

Xiang Ying's words aroused the same feelings in the group of young geniuses from the Darkstone Empire. "Yeah, Duan Ling Tian... I truly never imagined that you're the strongest amongst us."

"Looks like you were concealing your strength a year ago, right?"

"Exactly! Didn't you conceal it a little bit too much?"

"If you made a move a year ago, Mo Xuan would probably not be able to withstand a single move."

...

After the group of young geniuses from the Darkstone Empire witnessed Duan Ling Tian's strength, they naturally thought that Duan Ling Tian had held back a year ago, and it was precisely because of this that Mo Xuan was able to obtain the honor of number one expert in the Darkstone Empire.

"Concealed my strength?" The words of everyone caused the corners of Duan Ling Tian's mouth to twitch.

One year ago, he's used a grade four spirit sword to exchange for the spirit fruit used by Void Prying Stage martial artists from Mo Xuan.

If he was capable of defeating Mo Xuan at that time, would there be any need to do this?

Chapter 686: I Have An Objection!

Even though it was a mere grade four spirit sword that was nothing in his eyes, it wasn't to the extent of casually giving it to a stranger, right?

Of course, Duan Ling Tian didn't explain further about it, yet when this scene entered into the eyes of the group of young geniuses of the Darkstone Empire, they thought Duan Ling Tian had tacitly admitted it.

"Amongst the 20 young geniuses that have advanced today..." Duan Ling Tian sat by Su Li's side as he closed his eyes in meditation, and he thought in his heart. "There is a total of six ninth level Void

Initiation Stage martial artists including me... Besides that, there are Su Li, Feng Yun Xiang, and another three eighth level Void Initiation Stage martial artists."

"The last nine people are seventh level Void Initiation Stage martial artists that include Tian Wu and Long Yun... I wonder exactly how many positions there are to participate in the Martial Competition of the Ten Dynasties?" At this moment, Duan Ling Tian couldn't help but be slightly worried about Feng Tian Wu.

In the past, even though he'd heard about the number of positions for Darkhan Dynasty young geniuses to participate in the Martial Competition of the Ten Dynasties, but all of that was basically some rumors, and it couldn't be believed to be true.

Some people said there were only five positions, some said there were 15 positions, some said seven, and some said eight...

All in all, before the Imperial Family of the Darkhan Dynasty officially announced it, everything was possible.

"That Martial Competition of the Ten Dynasties is a competition between the young geniuses of the ten Dynasties including the Darkhan Dynasty! Logically speaking, every Dynasty wouldn't be allowed too many young geniuses, yet it was impossible for very little to be allowed either."

"According to my guess, it ought to be not more than ten people." Duan Ling Tian guessed in his heart.

While Duan Ling Tian closed his eyes in meditation, the entire Cage Battle Arena was bustling with noise and excitement, and besides discussing the 20 people that had advanced, even more of them were discussing one of the young geniuses.

The six ninth level Void Initiation Stage experts including Duan Ling Tian were the first to be discussed.

After that, the attention of everyone moved towards the positions to participate in the Martial Competition of the Ten Dynasties.

"I wonder how many positions are there to participate in the Martial Competition of the Ten Dynasties?" Many people were curious.

In the first-class spectating area, Feng Tian Wu silently sat on her seat and closed her eyes.

If one were to look carefully, one would be able to notice that she was cultivating, and it seemed slightly like a last minute effort.

Half an hour later, the two old men that presided over the first round of selection earlier had flashed out successively, and they once again arrived in the sky above the Cage Battle Arena and stood there in the sky.

One of the old men spoke slowly. "Next, the second round of the selections of the martial competition today will begin... The second round of the selections will decide on the strongest 10 young geniuses! These ten young geniuses will obtain the qualifications to participate in the Martial Competition of the Ten Dynasties that's held one year from now."

"Ten positions?" Duan Ling Tian opened his eyes when he heard this, and a flowing light flashed within it.

"Ten positions." The gaze of Su Li who sat by his side couldn't help but light up.

If there were ten positions, then he would be confident in obtaining one.

"Ten positions..." The nearby Long Yun frowned slightly, and he looked to be slightly unconfident.

Suddenly, Long Yun's gaze descended onto Duan Ling Tian, and there seemed to be slight unwillingness and helplessness mixed deep within his gaze.

After a year, he was filled with confidence and thought he would be able to defeat Duan Ling Tian in the Dynasty Martial Competition.

But unfortunately, his dreams were beautiful, yet reality was brutal.

The ninth level Void Initiation Stage cultivation Duan Ling Tian revealed caused Long Yun to be astonished and feel slight despair arise from the depths of his heart at the same time.

It turned out that while he was thinking that under the assistance of his master, he'd possessed a strength more formidable than Duan Ling Tian, yet Duan Ling Tian had already left him far behind once again.

Meanwhile, Long Yun had a feeling as if the gods were unfair for bringing Duan Ling Tian into this world after allowing his existence to be born.

In next to no time, Long Yun took a deep breath and slowly returned to his senses. "Ten positions... There are a total of six ninth level Void Initiation Stage martial artists including Duan Ling Tian. These six people are existences that are difficult for me to shake at this moment."

"In other words, I can only compete for one of the other four positions... Otherwise, I'll be fated to be unable to participate in the Martial Competition of the Ten Dynasties." Long Yun who was originally filled with confidence felt pressure assault him, and he was slightly unable to catch his breath.

At this moment, when they heard that there were only 10 positions, the other young geniuses that had passed through the first round were both happy and worried.

20 people, 10 positions.

A 50% chance.

Amongst the nine seventh level Void Initiation Stage young geniuses that had advanced, besides Tian Wu and Long Yun who were still cultivating, all the others revealed helpless and bitter smiles.

Obviously, they didn't carry too much hope.

"For the sake of saving time... The six ninth level Void Initiation Stage young experts from the second round will directly advance!" In next to no time, the old man in the sky above the Cage Battle Arena spoke out once more.

"This is being done for the sake of allowing the second round of the selections to end as soon as possible... After the 10 positions to participate in the Martial Competition of the Ten Dynasties is set, the strongest 10 young geniuses will be ranked into a specific ranking! The young geniuses with high rankings will obtain generous rewards from our Darkhan Dynasty's Imperial Family.

"Do any of the other 14 people have objections?" As he finished speaking, the old man asked.

"Directly advance?" Duan Ling Tian's gaze lit up when he heard the old man.

In this way, he didn't have to fight in the second round of the selections, and this was a very normal rule.

Su Li, who sat at the side, glanced enviously at Duan Ling Tian.

Objection?

When they heard the old man, all the seventh level Void Initiation Stage young geniuses that advanced from the first round smiled bitterly.

What objection could they possibly have?

A ninth level Void Initiation Stage martial artist was sufficient to crush them in every aspect.

As for the five eighth level Void Initiation Stage young geniuses including Su Li, besides Su Li having no objection, the other four people including Feng Yun Xian had flickering gazes at this moment.

Their gazes descended in unison onto the spectating area that the group of Darkstone Empire members were seated at.

More precisely speaking, their gazes descended onto Duan Ling Tian.

"Duan Ling Tian... Looks like some people aren't convinced of your strength." After Su Li noticed the gazes of these four people, he couldn't help but make fun of Duan Ling Tian.

"If they're not convinced, then we'll fight!" Duan Ling Tian shrugged, and his eyes revealed slight cold lights. "But I'm afraid they'll be unable to bear the consequences of fighting me!"

At the same time, billowing killing intent flashed on Duan Ling Tian's body.

The others were fine and didn't notice anything, but Su Li who sat by Duan Ling Tian's side was instead able to clearly sense the terrifying killing intent, and frightful coldness emerged from the bottom of his heart.

"What a terrifying killing intent!" Su Li glanced fearfully at Duan Ling Tian. This good friend of his that he'd known since his youth seemed to have become more and more unfathomable.

"Looks like even if I have master's assistance... It isn't easy for me to surpass Duan Ling Tian." Su Li couldn't help but sigh in his heart.

"What? Yun Xiang... You want to challenge Duan Ling Tian?" On the first-class spectating area that belong to the Feng Clan, the Feng Clan's Patriarch, Feng Tian Nan, looked at Feng Yun Xiang who was by his side and asked curiously.

Feng Yun Xiang nodded lightly.

As far as he was concerned, even though Duan Ling Tian was a ninth level Void Initiation Stage martial artist, Duan Ling Tian was too young, after all. So, Duan Ling Tian's cultivation was probably piled up by relying on a large amount of spirit fruits.

Presumably, Duan Ling Tian's comprehension of Concept wasn't great.

The ninth level of the Void Initiation Stage sounded frightening, but in terms of Origin Energy, it only surpassed the eighth level of the Void Initiation Stage by the strength of a single ancient horned dragon.

In other words, so long as Duan Ling Tian's comprehension in Concept was inferior to the Concept of an eighth level Void Initiation Stage martial artist, then an eighth level Void Initiation Stage martial artist might have a chance to defeat Duan Ling Tian.

Now, based on his own inference, Duan Ling Tian's comprehension in Concept ought to be inferior to him.

So he wanted to challenge Duan Ling Tian.

But when he thought about how Duan Ling Tian was the son-in-law of their Feng Clan's Eldest Master, Feng Wu Dao, he was slightly hesitant, and his gaze unintentionally glanced at Feng Wu Dao.

"Big Brother, Elder Kong... Do the two of you approve if Yun Xiang challenging Brother Duan?" Feng Tian Nan noticed Feng Yun Xiang's worries, and his gaze moved to descend onto Feng Wu Dao and Elder Kong before asking with a slight smile.

"Go ahead if you're confident." Feng Wu Dao's reply was very straightforward.

"I agree with what the Eldest Master said." Elder Kong nodded.

When he heard Feng Wu Dao and Elder Kong, Feng Yun Xiang's gaze lit up, and he didn't have any worries any longer. Feng Yun Xiang stood up hurriedly and was about to speak out to challenge Duan Ling Tian.

But unfortunately, he was too late.

"I have an objection!" A slightly hoarse and unpleasant voice suddenly sounded out from one of the first-class spectating areas.

Subsequently, everyone at the Cage Battle Arena saw a figure flash out from the side of the Ye Clan's Patriarch, and the figure arrived in the sky above the Cage Battle Arena in the blink of an eye.

This was a young man in green clothes around the age of 37 or 38 and had an ordinary appearance.

"Ye Lu!" Instantly, many people recognized this green clothed young man.

Ye Lu was a figure in the younger generation of the Ye Clan that possessed a strength merely inferior to the Eldest Young Master, Ye Xiao, his cultivation was at the eighth level of the Void Initiation Stage, and at the same time, he was one of the people that had advanced from the first round.

"Ye Lu wouldn't be intending to challenging Duan Ling Tian as well, right?" Feng Yun Xiang frowned and sat back down in the end, and he silently watched the events unfold.

On the first-class spectating area that the Ye Clan members were seated at, the corners of the Ye Clan's Second Young Master, Ye Xiang, curled into a cold smile, and his vicious gaze descended onto Duan Ling Tian who was at the second-class spectating area below him.

"Duan Ling Tian, so what even if you're at the ninth level of the Void Initiation Stage? Can your Concept keep up with your cultivation? Even though Ye Lu's cultivation is inferior to you, his Water Concept has already been comprehended to the eighth stage, and it's surely stronger than you!"

"Just wait to be defeated by Ye Lu!" Ye Xiang was extremely complacent in his heart.

Obviously, he didn't think Duan Ling Tian had comprehended a Concept to the eighth level or above, and it was even to the extent that he felt Duan Ling Tian's comprehension in concept wasn't even at the seventh level.

As far as he was concerned, Duan Ling Tian was like a piece of fish on the chopping block before the second strongest experts in the younger generation of the Ye Clan, Ye Lu, and Duan Ling Tian would be at Ye Lu's mercy.

"What objection do you have? Feel free to speak of it... If you're not convinced with any ninth level Void Initiation Stage young expert, feel free to challenge that person. So long as you're able to defeat that person, then he must participate in the second round of the selections along with you and the other 14 people." The old man looked at Ye Lu and spoke slowly.

Chapter 687: Water Dragon Destruction

Along with Ye Lu's appearance and the old man speaking out, the surroundings of the Cage Battle Arena were deathly silent.

The gazes of many people had simultaneously descended onto Ye Lu.

"Ye Lu ought to be thinking of challenging that young man from the Darkstone Empire."

"I think so too... That young man is too young, after all. Even if his cultivation isn't bad, the Concept he has comprehended ought to not be strong to any extent."

"Cultivation can be pushed up by spirit fruits... But Concept can only be raised by relying on one's self."

...

The spectators discussed animatedly in the surroundings of the Cage Battle Arena.

Besides Duan Ling Tian, Su Li, and Long Yun who neither agreed nor disagreed when they heard these discussions, most of the people had similar thoughts.

Obviously, all of these people didn't know of the existence of Concept Fragments.

If it was said that spirit fruits could push up a person's cultivation, then Concept Fragments were similarly able to push up one's comprehension of Concept.

"The other ninth level Void Initiation Stage young geniuses are fine... But I'm not convinced of the strength of this person from the Darkstone Empire! I want to challenge him!" As expected, Ye Lu's gaze passed through the sky and flashed past the group of young geniuses from the Darkstone Empire before finally locking onto Duan Ling Tian.

His eyes were filled with dense battle intent!

Because many people had already guessed Ye Lu's decision earlier, they weren't surprised by the outcome now.

Right at this moment, the old man's gaze descended onto Duan Ling Tian and he spoke slowly. "This young genius from the Darkstone Empire, please come over and battle this Ye Clan's young genius in a battle of life and death!"

Whoosh!

Duan Ling Tian didn't say anything before directly leaving his seat and soaring into the sky, and in the blink of an eye, he'd arrived in the sky above the Cage Battle Arena to stand facing Ye Lu.

"Are you sure you want to challenge me?" Duan Ling Tian looked silently at Ye Lu before asking indifferently.

"What, you're afraid?" Ye Lu started laughing.

"Afraid?" Ye Lu's words caused Duan Ling Tian to be unable to refrain from being stunned, and then he shook his head and laughed. "Perhaps there are many people in this world that can make the current me afraid of them, but you're not amongst them."

"You'll change your opinion soon." Ye Lu's tone was clear and filled with confidence.

"Is that so?" Duan Ling Tian's smile remained unchanging, yet suddenly, he restrained his smile, and his expression become exceedingly cold. "I'll give you a chance... There's still time for you to admit defeat now."

"What? Could it be that you're arrogant to the point of thinking you can kill me?" Ye Lu laughed, and his laughter grew louder and louder as if he'd heard an extremely great joke.

"Looks like you have already made a decision." The corners of Duan Ling Tian's mouth curled up like lightning, and an evil arc hung there.

Earlier, when the old man had explained the rules of the second round of selections, he already had come to a decision in his heart.

No matter who it was, so long as they dared challenge him, then he would surely kill the person!

In this way, not only would he be able to empty out a position for Tian Wu and allow her to have a better chance of obtaining the qualifications to participate in the Martial Competition of the Ten Dynasties, he could also warn the others to make them not dare underestimate him.

"Stop trying to be deliberately mystifying! I won't kill you today since you're the son-in-law of Lord Wu Dao... But, I'll still defeat you and deflate your arrogance!" Ye Lu shouted out with a grim voice, and the clothes he wore fluttered without the wind blowing on it.

At the same time, vast Origin Energy suffused Ye Lu's body and enveloped him within, and he seemed as if he was within a ball of white colored flames.

Whoosh!

Simultaneously, the energy of the heaven and earth roiled above Ye Lu to condense into 11 ancient horned dragon silhouettes that were vast and powerful.

It wasn't just that, along with his Origin Energy, strands of blue colored energy leaped up within it, and another eight ancient horned dragon silhouettes appeared in the sky.

"Eighth level Water Concept!" Instantly, many people present couldn't help but exclaim with surprise.

Comprehending eighth level Water Concept at the eighth level of the Void Initiation Stage didn't just test one's natural talent in the Martial Dao, it tested one's comprehension even more...

As far as many people were concerned, Ye Lu's ability of being able to attain such a state was extremely hard to come by.

"No wonder he dares challenge this young man from the Darkstone Empire, it turns out that he came prepared."

"Even though this young man is a ninth level Void Initiation Stage martial artist, but the Concept he has comprehended is probably not even at the seventh level... It's very likely that he'll lose."

"Looks like the Ye Clan is going to be in the limelight this time!"

...

Many people in the surroundings of the Cage Battle Arena were whispering in discussion.

Most people were filled with confidence towards Ye Lu as they didn't think that this young man, Duan Ling Tian, would be able to compare with Ye Lu in terms of Concept comprehension.

After all, Duan Ling Tian was truly too young.

According to the thinking of ordinary people, they wouldn't think that the Concept Duan Ling Tian comprehended was strong to any extent.

At the same time that Ye Lu utilized his Origin Energy and Water Concept, a spear appeared out of thin air within his hands.

Whoosh!

The spear shook as Origin Energy swiftly fused into it and it was like a stone sinking into the ocean.

Instantly, another six ancient horned dragon silhouettes and 3,800 ancient mammoth silhouettes appeared beside the existing 19 ancient horned dragon silhouettes in the sky above Ye Lu.

"Grade four spirit weapon!" Instantly, many spectators in the surroundings couldn't refrain from exclaiming in surprise.

Of course, even more people weren't surprised.

Perhaps with Ye Lu's status in the Ye Clan, it wasn't sufficient for him to possess a grade four spirit weapon, but it was the Dynasty Martial Competition today, and it was related to the face of the Ye Clan. Even if it was by way of lending, the Ye Clan would lend a grade four spirit weapon to Ye Lu.

No matter if Ye Lu won or lost today, it was related to the face and honor of the Ye Clan, so it was impossible no matter what for the Ye Clan to treat it casually.

"The strength of 25 ancient horned dragons and 3,800 ancient mammoths..." As he gazed at the phenomenon Ye Lu brought about from utilizing his entire strength, Duan Ling Tian had a calm gaze and stood on the spot without moving like a mountain, and it was as if his expression would remain unchanged even if Mt. Tai collapsed before him.

"Ye Lu is attacking with his full strength right off the bat... Looks like he doesn't dare underestimate this young man from the Darkstone Empire either."

"On the stage that is the Dynasty Martial Competition, no one dares be careless! Once one is careless, it's very likely that it would signify loss.

"Indeed."

...

Under the gazes of the crowd of spectators in the Cage Battle Arena, Ye Lu attacked.

Ye Lu's spear flashed out as if it had transformed into a bolt of lightning, and its speed was so swift that some spectators with low cultivations were even unable to see Ye Lu's shadow, whereas, in the eyes of the spectators with strong cultivations, the current Ye Lu had flashed to arrive near the Darkstone Empire's Duan Ling Tian in the blink of an eye.

"Water Dragon Destruction!" Suddenly, an explosive shout sounded out throughout the quiet Cage Battle Arena.

Under the gazes of everyone present, Ye Lu stopped moving as the spear in his hand shook, and then his roiling Origin Energy roared as it shot out with the eighth level Water Concept follow it like a shadow.

Swoosh!

Ye Lu's hand shook and the grade four spirit spear in his hand that was coiled with Origin Energy that contained Water Concept seemed to have transformed into a water dragon that pierced towards Duan Ling Tian.

Instantly, the exceedingly terrifying force on the tip of the spear pressed onto the sky to the point the airflow in the surroundings pulsed and emitted a wave of low sounds of exploding, and it was as if a water dragon was emitting a wave of dragon roars.

"Your martial skill isn't bad... But unfortunately, you're too weak." Right when many people broke out in cold sweat for Duan Ling Tian, Duan Ling Tian's faint voice slowly resounded out and spread throughout the entire Cage Battle Arena.

Right when everyone couldn't help but be stunned, they saw Duan Ling Tian move. He didn't dodge but instead flashed out to intercept the grade four spirit spear Ye Lu pierced over that seemed like a water dragon leaving its cave.

"Is Duan Ling Tian courting death?" When they saw this scene, many people felt their scalps go numb and felt that Duan Ling Tian's actions were no different than suicide.

The spear of another was flashing over with full fury, yet you're using your body to intercept it?

Wasn't this courting death?

Of course, the gazes of many people lit up and seemed to have seen through Duan Ling Tian's intentions.

"Since you're seeking death, then you can't blame me!" When he saw that not only did Duan Ling Tian not dodge but instead moved to intercept him, Yu Lu revealed a frenzied expression as the spirit spear in his hand shook and the condensed energy on the tip of his spear instantly exploded out.

This was the high grade Earth Rank martial skill that he was executing, Water Dragon Destruction's, trump card. It used condensed energy to transform into a water dragon, and at the instant it arrived close to the opponent, it would explode.

It utilized its formidable collision force and even explosive force to heavily injure and even annihilate the opponent in one go!

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

...

At almost the exact same instant that the energy on the tip of Ye Lu's spirit spear exploded out, many of the spectators in the surroundings of the Cage Battle Arena had subconsciously stood up.

"Duan Ling Tian..." There was no lack of people that knew Duan Ling Tian amongst them, like King Yong, Xiang Ying, and Su Li.

Of course, there were also some people like Feng Wu Dao, Elder Kong, and Zhang Shou Yong who knew Duan Ling Tian that still maintained their composure, and it was as if they were filled with confidence towards Duan Ling Tian.

"If he can't even defeat Ye Lu, then this Duan Ling Tian doesn't have the qualifications to be my opponent." The corners of the Second Prince, Bai He's, mouth curled into a cold smile.

"Duan Ling Tian!" Zi Shang stared concentratedly at the scene before him, and he seemed as if he wasn't willing to miss the slightest detail.

He wanted to see to what extent his enemy of the past had grown to.

Under the gazes of everyone present, at the instant the energy on the tip of the grade four spirit spear in Ye Lu's hand exploded, Duan Ling Tian made a move.

People with deep cultivations were able to notice that with a raise of Duan Ling Tian's hand, a violet colored sword light flashed by.

Clang!

In the next moment, a jarring sound of weapons colliding resounded out abruptly, and it spread throughout the Cage Battle Arena, causing many spectators with low cultivations to flush red, and some even bled from their seven apertures and cried out loudly.

Subsequently, many people saw that Duan Ling Tian seemed to have appeared out of thin air behind Ye Lu.

Right when they were surprised and bewildered.

Whoosh!

The grade four spirit spear in Ye Lu's hand instantly slipped out and fell down to the Cage Battle Arena.

At the same time, those with discerning gazes were able to see fresh blood was dripping ceaselessly from the hand that Ye Lu held his spear with, and as it fell through the sky, it was dazzling and resplendent like numerous beautiful red roses.

Chapter 688: Slitting The Throat With A Single Strike

Whoosh!

At the instant that the spirit spear fell, the Origin Energy and Water Concept on Ye Lu's body went out along with it, and his entire body fell straight towards the ground.

Bang!

Under numerous astonished gazes, Ye Lu fiercely fell onto the iron cage that covered the Cage Battle Arena, and he was suspended just like that on the iron cage in midair.

For a time, the scene was deathly silent.

Drip! Drip!

...

The fresh blood on Ye Lu's body was still ceaselessly dripping, and it dripped onto the Cage Battle Arena and sprayed into numerous beautiful and resplendent 'roses.'

In next to no time, everyone was able to notice that Ye Lu was completely devoid of movement and signs of life at this moment.

Because of their angle, the crowd of spectators on the eastern spectating area were able to clearly see that Ye Lu's blood was flowing from his throat, and there was a long and narrow injury on it.

"It's a sword mark! His throat was slit with a single strike... A one hit kill! Ye Lu's throat was sliced open with a single strike." Instantly, many people on the eastern spectating areas couldn't refrain from exclaiming in surprise.

In next to no time, the feelings of shock started spreading from the eastern spectating area and spread throughout the entire Cage Battle Arena.

For a time, practically everyone knew that the second strongest expert in the Ye Clan's younger generation, Ye Lu, was killed with a single strike to the throat by the Darkstone Empire's Duan Ling Tian.

"What a swift sword! I'm an eighth level Void Initiation Stage martial artist at any rate, yet I was still unable to clearly see the trace left behind by his sword when Duan Ling Tian attacked earlier."

"If you're able to discern it, then Ye Lu probably would be able to as well... In that way, he wouldn't have died."

"His seemed to have attacked Ye Lu once after he blasted back the grade four spirit spear in Ye Lu's hand... This is even more terrifying!"

"The speed of his attack is too swift! The ancient horned dragon silhouettes weren't even in time to condense completely into form."

...

Sounds of discussion rose and fell in the entire Cage Battle Arena, and most people were shocked by the speed that Duan Ling Tian attacked.

Even though Duan Ling Tian had fought a battle, yet no one knew exactly how great his strength was.

Because he only used a single sword strike to kill his opponent, and it was a sword strike that was swift to the limit.

Because the phenomenon of ancient horned dragon silhouettes hadn't completely condensed into form, so even the Void Interpretation Stage experts present that possessed unique gazes were unable to know exactly how strong Duan Ling Tian was.

They could only rely on their own guesses.

"This Duan Ling Tian's strength is much stronger than Ye Lu... When he attacked, there seemed to be more than a single Concept! I vaguely heard a wave of the sound of lightning and wind, and it ought to be both Wind Concept and Lightning Concept used together." On the first-class spectating area that belonged solely to the Imperial Family, the black clothed old man spoke with a slightly serious expression.

"I heard it as well." The Darkhan Dynasty's Emperor that sat beside the old man nodded, and then his gaze descended onto the violet clothed young man that stood in the sky above the Cage Battle Arena. "As expected of Feng Wu Dao's son-in-law, he's extraordinary, as expected!"

Now, the Emperor was able to understand why Duan Ling Tian was able to possess such arrogance when facing him.

Duan Ling Tian was a peerless genius with a proud and unyielding character, and he wouldn't bend before anyone.

"Two concepts?" The old man's words caused the nearby Bai He's expression to go slightly grim.

After all, even he had only comprehended a single Concept, and an Advanced Force...

The time and energy needed to be spent in order to comprehend two types of Concepts was something that was difficult for him to imagine.

"Duan Ling Tian's comprehension ability is actually so strong?" Bai He stared at Duan Ling Tian with eyes that were filled with envy, and at the same time, his gaze flickered with cold lights as he muttered and guessed. "But since he utilized two types of Concept, I presume none of his Concepts have attained the ninth level... Otherwise, he would utterly have no need of utilizing the second Concept to kill Ye Lu.

"Duan Ling Tian... I'll defeat you for sure!" Even when he found out that Duan Ling Tian had comprehended two concepts, Zi Shang wasn't afraid in the slightest, and the depths of his burning gaze seemed to contain flames that leaped about and were waiting for a chance to swallow Duan Ling Tian up.

Amongst the people of the Imperial Family, only Bai Hai alone was comparatively more composed.

After a trace of astonishment flashed within the depths of Bai Hao's gaze when he saw Duan Ling Tian's display, he didn't make any further movement.

On the first-class spectating area that belonged solely to the Feng Clan.

"This..." The Feng Clan's Patriarch, Feng Tian Nan, was completely dumbstruck as he looked at the distant violet clothed young man with disbelief.

Never had he imagined that the strength of this violet clothed young man would actually be so terrifying.

From the beginning until the end, killing an eighth level Void Initiation Stage martial artist that had comprehended eighth level Concept was as simple as killing a chicken and cutting grass.

"Eldest Master, look, that Ye Clan Patriarch's face has turned black! Hahahaha! But unfortunately, the Young Miss is at the critical moment of her cultivation and is unable to see this battle. Otherwise, she would surely be happy for Brother Duan." The nearby Elder Kong looked at Feng Wu Dao who was by his side as he laughed happily.

"He probably had the intention of making way for Tian Wu by killing Ye Lu." Feng Wu Dao didn't look at the Ye Clan's Patriarch, and his calm gaze descended onto the violet clothed figure in the distance as he muttered with a light voice.

"Looks like Brother Duan cares about the Young miss very much." Elder Kong smiled.

At this moment, Feng Yun Xiang who sat by the side of Feng Tian Nan had a slightly stiff appearance, and the depths of his eyes even emitted a sheen of feeling lucky from surviving a disaster.

He could imagine that if it wasn't for Ye Lu challenging Duan Ling Tian a step before him, then the person who was dead now wouldn't be Ye Lu, and it would instead be him, Feng Yun Xiang!

At this instant, Feng Yun Xiang felt the clothes on his back become completely wet from his cold sweat, and the feeling of almost losing his life was something he'd felt for the first time.

"As expected of the Eldest Master's son-in-law... This cultivation is far from something I can compare to." Feng Yun Xiang took a deep breath, and when he looked at Duan Ling Tian once more, his gaze seemed to contain slight fear.

At this moment, the Ye Clan's Patriarch that sat on another first-class spectating area had an extremely unsightly expression at this moment.

Ye Lu was the second strongest expert in the younger generation of their Ye Clan, and now that he was killed, it also meant that their Ye Clan had lost a future Void Interpretation Stage expert.

To any power within the Darkhan Dynasty, a Void Interpretation Stage expert was someone who played a decisive role.

"Duan Ling Tian!" The Ye Clan's Patriarch revealed a gaze of hatred as he stared fixedly at Duan Ling Tian, and he wished for nothing more than to transform into a wild beast that swallowed Duan Ling Tian alive.

"Impossible... Impossible! How could this Duan Ling Tian possibly be so strong? How could this be possible!?" The Ye Clan's Second Young Master, Ye Xiang, shook his head ceaselessly as he was unwilling to believe that everything before his eyes was real. "I'm surely dreaming, I'm surely dreaming!"

"Enough!" Ye Xiao who sat nearby seemed to feel Ye Xiang was too noisy, and he frowned as he shouted out in a low voice.

Instantly, Ye Xiang was frightened and stopped muttering to himself.

"Brother... Ye Lu is dead!" After a short moment, Ye Xiang returned to his senses, and he looked at Ye Xiao with an extremely unsightly expression.

"I'll take revenge for Ye Lu." Ye Xiao's expression was as normal, and up until now, Ye Xian didn't reveal the slightest fluctuation in feelings as if he was an outsider.

Ye Xiang's sorrowful and enraged eyes contained a trace of the light of hope when he heard this.

"Duan Ling Tian!"

"Duan Ling Tian!!"

"Duan Ling Tian!!!"

...

In the third-class spectating area of the Cage Battle Arena, the crowd was in an uproar and shouted Duan Ling Tian's name loudly.

Duan Ling Tian stood in the sky above the Cage Battle Arena, and as he heard the shouting that entered his eyes, he lowered his head to look toward for a while before lightly shaking his head. "The current me seems to be no different than that 'great celebrity' that were chased after in the earth of my previous life."

Before he left, Duan Ling Tian grinned and looked around in his surroundings as he spoke with a sonorous voice. "If there are still people that are unconvinced of my strength, I welcome you to continue challenging me."

Arrogant!

Needless to say, Duan Ling Tian was extremely arrogant now.

But the people present didn't think anything bad about Duan Ling Tian because of this. This was because he'd used his strength to prove that he had the ability to be arrogant.

For a time, besides Su Li and Feng Tian who was still cultivating, the remaining 13 young geniuses couldn't help but reveal a bitter expression.

Challenge Duan Ling Tian?

Isn't that courting death?

The warning of their predecessor's failure was still hanging on the iron cage of the Cage Battle Arena.

Ye Lu's corpse seemed as if it was constantly warning them to not rashly challenge Duan Ling Tian.

"Duan Ling Tian, I truly never imagined that not only has your cultivation risen, even your comprehension in Concept had attained such a level... You deserve being the number one genius in the history of our Darkstone Empire!" King Yong was excited to the point of slightly losing his composure when Duan Ling Tian returned to the spectating area that everyone from the Darkstone Empire sat at.

"When I saw Brother Ling Tian that day, I'd perceived that Brother Ling Tian was extraordinary... Brother Duan's elegant demeanor today has caused me to be filled with admiration." Xiang Ying who was by King Yong's side spoke out as well.

"King Yong, Pavilion Master Xiang, you're too kind." Duan Ling Tian spoke modestly.

"Duan Ling Tian, nice!" After Duan Ling Tian returned to his seat and sat down, he saw Su Li give him a thumbs up.

"It was just an eighth level Void Initiation Stage martial artist." Duan Ling Tian shook his head and smiled, and he didn't feel that killing an eighth level Void Initiation Stage martial artist was something worth being complacent about.

It was just an eighth level Void Initiation Stage martial artist?

The corners of Su Li's mouth twitched when he heard Duan Ling Tian's casual words, and then he had a bitter smile on his face.

In terms of cultivation and Concept, Ye Lu who'd fought Duan Ling Tian earlier was comparable to him... Perhaps, by relying on the formidable offensive strength of his Sword Concept, it would be sufficient to suppress Ye Lu, yet it was extremely difficult for him to truly defeat Ye Lu.

Of course, this didn't mean that he was unable to defeat Ye Lu.

So long as he utilized the grade three spirit sword that his master gave him, then killing Ye Lu wouldn't be a difficult matter.

"Brother Ling Tian, you're formidable!" The representative of the Holdwin Empire looked at Duan Ling Tian and wasn't the slightest bit stingy with his words of praise.

"Yeah, you're formidable!"

"Too formidable!"

"Brother Ling Tian, with your strength, you'll surely be able to show extraordinary talent during the Martial Competition of the Ten Dynasties that's a year from now.

...

The entire group of young geniuses from the Holdwin Empire followed the old man to flatter Duan Ling Tian, and they weren't the slightest bit stingy with their words of praise.

At the same time that Duan Ling Tian's strength had shocked them, it caused them to feel reverence that came from the bottoms of their hearts.

Chapter 689: Ninth Level Sword Concept

At the same time, the representatives of many Emperors had come over one by one to warmly greet King Yong.

Of course, King Yong knew his own ability and knew that their interests weren't in him, and their final objective was to get acquainted with Duan Ling Tian.

Presently, not only was Duan Ling Tian the son-in-law of the Feng Clan's Eldest Master, he was even a monstrous genius in the Martial Dao that possessed a terrifying strength, and it was sufficient to make the representatives of the various Empires look up at him and exhausts their efforts to curry favor with him.

Duan Ling Tian originally wanted to disregard the representatives of the various Empires, but for the sake of not making it difficult on King Yong, Duan Ling Tian responded to every representative of the various Empires with a slight smile, and by the time he'd greeted all of them, he felt his face had become stiff from smiling.

"Whoosh!" Duan Ling Tian heaved a sigh of relief after the representatives of the various Empires left.

No matter if it was his past life or his current, this sort of social courtesy annoyed him the most. "Fame brings trouble for men just like fat does for pigs... This saying isn't wrong in the slightest."

"You're taking pleasure in my misfortune?" Duan Ling Tian glared angrily at the nearby Su Li when he saw Su Li was laughing to himself.

Only now did Su Li stop laughing, and then he changed the topic. "Duan Ling Tian, do you think the other three eighth level Void Initiation Stage martial artists will issue a challenge to the other five ninth level Void Initiation Stage young geniuses?"

A total of six ninth level Void Initiation Stage young geniuses had appeared during the Dynasty Martial Competition this time, and the reason Su Li said five was because Duan Ling Tian had just revealed his strength and proven himself.

So as far as Su Li was concerned, it was impossible for the other three eighth level Void Initiation Stage martial artists to challenge Duan Ling Tian unless they weren't afraid of death.

So they could only choose from the other five people.

"How would I know?" Duan Ling Tian shook his head. "Aren't you an eighth level Void Initiation Stage martial artist? What? You don't intend to challenge a ninth level Void Initiation Stage martial artist?"

"There's no need." Su Li shrugged and grinned. "There're 10 positions at any rate... Now that the Ye Clan's Ye Lu has died, the competition has grown smaller, and I have the confidence to obtain a position. Since it's like this, then why should I go waste my strength?"

"When did you become so lazy?" Duan Ling Tian was speechless when he heard this.

Of course, he believed that with Su Li's strength and the grade three spirit sword in Su Li's possession that came from Su Li's master, even if Ye Lu didn't die, it wouldn't be a difficult thing for Su Li to obtain one of the positions to participate in the Martial Competition of the Ten Dynasties.

"Looks like there really is someone who wants to issue a challenge... I wonder who his target is." Su Li's gaze that looked into the distance lit up abruptly.

Duan Ling Tian followed along Su Li's gaze to look over when he heard this.

In the distance, a thin figure instantly flew to arrive in the sky above the Cage Battle Arena, and he drew the attention of everyone in the surroundings of the Cage Battle Arena.

This was a young man around the age of 35, his expression dark, and he seemed to give others the feeling that he was undernourished, yet his eyes were bright to the point they were like a pair of dazzling stars.

"It's the Darkmoon Sect's number one disciple in the Inner Court, Feng Yu[1]!"

"He's the Head Disciple of the Darkmoon Sect, Feng Yu?"

"This Feng Yu is a sword cultivator... Supposedly, his sword is even swifter than a bolt of lightning, and it's swift to the point that he kills without spilling blood."

...

Many people in the surroundings of the Cage Battle Arena recognized the thin young man.

Feng Yu.

The number one disciple in the Inner Court of the Darkhan Dynasty's Darkmoon Sect and the Head Disciple of the Darkmoon Sect.

In the Darkmoon Sect, Feng Yu could be said to be an outstanding talent in the Martial Dao that was respected by all, and coupled with him being the personal disciple of the Darkmoon Sect's Leader, he'd long since been decided upon, yet not announced as the selected person to become the next generations Sect Leader.

"Killing without spilling blood?" Duan Ling Tian and Su Li looked at each other before shaking their heads and laughing when they heard the discussions of some people.

They were similarly capable of killing without spilling blood.

Of course, if one wanted to achieve this, it required spending much more complicated effort than killing people as they would ordinarily, so it could be said to be an arduous, but fruitless task.

So they usually couldn't be bothered to do that.

As far as they were concerned, that was only a fancy method of killing.

Presently, so long as it was someone who possessed formidable strength, practically all of them weren't surprised by this ability of Feng Yu's, because they were similarly capable of achieving it.

So long as one possessed sufficient strength and speed, killing another without spilling blood wasn't a difficult thing.

"I wonder who this Feng Yu will challenge," said Su Li.

"It should be Zi Shang." Even though Feng Yu didn't look towards any of the ninth level Void Initiation Stage young geniuses after appearing in the sky above the Cage Battle Arena, Duan Ling Tian still made his guess.

"Zi Shang? That person from the Darkhan Dynasty's Imperial Family? I saw Long Yun staring fixedly at him as if Long Yun knew him..." Su Li's face was filled with bewilderment. "Moreover, I keep having the feeling that this name is slightly familiar... It seems as if I've heard it somewhere."

"Do you know about the five great young masters of the Azure Forest Imperial Kingdom?" Duan Ling Tian smiled as he asked.

"Of course." Su Li nodded. "Long Yun is ranked at the end amongst the five great young masters... But with his current strength, he ought to be the strongest existence amongst the five great young masters."

Including Long Yun, Su Li had met four of the five great young masters.

They were respectively Crazy Young Master who was ranked at the top, Flame Young Master who was ranked the second, and Sword Young Master who was ranked at the fourth.

Suddenly, Su Li's eyes lit up as if he'd recalled something. "I remember now! Zither Young Master... Zither Young Master who's ranked the third amongst the five great young masters of the Azure Forest Imperial Kingdom seems to be called Zi Shang."

"Exactly, it's him." Duan Ling Tian nodded.

"I said earlier that Long Yun ought to be the strongest existence amongst the five great young masters now... But I never imagined that I've slapped my own face in the blink of an eye. I truly never expected that there's actually someone amongst the five great young masters who acquired fortuitous encounters that surpassed Long Yun." As he finished speaking, Su Li couldn't help but sigh.

He'd heard of the Zither Young Master, Zi Shang, and according to rumor, Zither Young Master's natural talent wasn't much superior to Long Yun.

As far as Su Li was concerned, since Zi Shang was able to possess this cultivation at the ninth level of the Void Initiation Stage today, Zi Shang had surely obtained some fortuitous encounters.

Otherwise, it would be impossible for Zi Shang to advance so quickly.

In Su Li's opinion, the fortuitous encounter he and Long Yun obtained were already considered to be extremely good, but when compared with Duan Ling Tian and Zi Shang, it seemed to be quite inferior.

"Feng Yu, who do you want to challenge?" In the sky above the Cage Battle Arena, the old man asked Feng Yu.

At the same time, Feng Yu slowly raised his head, and his gaze directly descended onto the first-class spectating area that belonged to the Imperial Family before flashing past the three young figures.

All these three young men were young geniuses at the ninth level of the Void Initiation Stage.

The young geniuses of the Imperial Family had occupied an entire half of the amount of ninth level Void Initiation Stage young geniuses in the Dynasty Martial Competition today, and the Imperial Family could be said to be in the limelight.

"Feng Yu wants to challenge the young geniuses recommended by the Imperial Family?" Instantly, many people cried out with low voices.

"Amongst the three young geniuses of the Imperial Family, the strength of Second Prince is something that anyone from the Darkhan Dynasty knows very well... So Feng Yu probably won't challenge Second prince, whereas, the other two people are unfamiliar faces."

"Both the other two people are wearing white clothes... One of the one clothed young men is that person that presided over the first phase of the martial competition yesterday! This person's cultivation is surely not weak."

"Of course! Otherwise, the Imperial Family wouldn't make him preside over the Dynasty Martial Competition yesterday."

...

Endless discussions sounded out in the surroundings of the Cage Battle Arena, and all of them were guessing who Feng Yu's target would be.

In the end, the gazes of most people descended onto the white colored figure that was the most unfamiliar to them...

This person and the Second Prince, Bai He, sat at both sides of the drop dead gorgeous beauty.

"Hmph!" When he noticed the numerous gazes from the surroundings, Zi Shang's expression sank slightly, as this feeling of being looked down upon caused him to feel displeased.

"I challenge him!" In the end, Feng Yu chose his target.

It was just like most of the people present had guessed, the target Feng Yu chose to challenge was Zi Shang.

"Zi Shang, you must try hard... If you're defeated by an eighth level Void Initiation Stage martial artist, then not only are you losing face for yourself, you're also losing face for Imperial Granduncle and our Darkhan Dynasty's Imperial Family." Bai He looked at Zi Shang and mocked via voice transmission.

Because Zi Yan who he'd always admired was sitting by his side, he didn't dare directly speak these words and could only mock Zi Shang via voice transmission.

He liked Zi Yan, yet he disliked her older brother, Zi Shang, extremely.

No!

Precisely speaking, he looked down upon Zi Shang from the bottom of his heart.

"Don't worry Second Prince, I'll absolutely not lose face for my Master and the Imperial Family." Zi Shang took a deep breath and suppressed the rage in his heart when he heard Bai He's voice transmission, and he refused to admit being inferior.

"Then I'll wait and see." Bai He nodded, and the corners of his mouth curled into a ridiculing smile.

"Big Brother, good luck!" Zi Yan's beautiful face was slightly red as she cheered Zi Shang on.

Zi Shang nodded at Zi Yan with a tender expression before gesturing at his Master and the Emperor, and then he flew into the sky to arrive in the sky above the Cage Battle Arena to stand in confrontation with Feng Yu.

"Darkmoon Sect, Feng Yu." Feng Yu's eyes that were bright like stars stared fixedly at Zi Shang who stood in confrontation with him as he spoke slowly.

"Zi Shang." Zi Shang spoke indifferently.

"You seem to be a member of the Imperial Family? Or perhaps it's I who possess limited information and knowledge, yet I've never seen nor heard of you in the past." Feng Yu said, "In the past, I only knew that the Imperial Family had a Second Prince, and he's one of the three great young experts of our Darkhan Dynasty."

"Even you said so, that was the past." Zi Shang's tone was flat, yet so long as it was an attentive person, they would be able to discern a trace of proud and overbearing arrogance within that flat tone.

"Looks like you're extremely confident of your own strength! But, I'm not an eighth level Void Initiation Stage martial artist that's as weak as the earlier Ye Lu..." As Feng Yu spoke, the Origin Energy on his body pulsed, and at the same time, a peerlessly sharp aura instantly stretched out within his Origin Energy.

Sword Concept!

Instantly, the Origin Energy on Feng Yu's body flawlessly merged with his Sword Concept to transform into a sword shaped flame that enveloped his entire body within, causing him to seem as if he'd transformed into a sword.

Whoosh!

In the sky above Feng Yu, 11 ancient horned dragon silhouettes had appeared first before another 9 ancient horned dragon silhouettes appeared subsequently.

"Ninth level Sword Concept!" Duan Ling Tian's pupils couldn't help but constrict when he saw this scene.

Chapter 690: Zi Shang Displaying His Skill

"Feng Yu has actually comprehended ninth level Sword Concept!"

"He deserves to be called the publicly acknowledged number one sword cultivator in the younger generation of our Darkhan Dynasty, he's extraordinary as expected. His cultivation is merely at the eighth level of the Void Initiation Stage, yet he has already comprehended ninth level Sword Concept!"

"Feng Yu's strength is even stronger than the Ye Clan's Ye Lu that was killed earlier!"

...

While Duan Ling Tian was surprised, the entire Cage Battle Arena had gone into an uproar, as all of them were shocked by the ninth level Sword Concept that Feng Yu utilized.

Ninth level Sword Concept!

It wasn't rare, yet it was sufficient to be shocking when an eighth level Void Initiation Stage martial artist comprehended such a concept.

Such comprehension ability was truly monstrous!

"Ninth level Sword Concept..." Duan Ling Tian noticed that Su Li who sat by his side was staring fixedly at Feng Yu now with a gaze that was filled with burning battle intent.

Obviously, as a sword cultivator, Su Li had aroused battle intent towards Feng Yu.

"Feng Yu's strength isn't bad... But he's older to Su Li by seven or eight years. So, based on current circumstances, he's inferior to Su Li in terms of natural talent and comprehension ability." Duan Ling Tian thought in his heart.

Of course, Duan Ling Tian knew as well that there was no lack of assistance from the mysterious Master behind Su Li that allowed Su Li to obtain such a great advancement within such a short period of time.

Perhaps, in the course of Su Li's cultivation, there was utterly no lack of spirit fruits.

Even if it was Sword Concept fragments, Su Li similarly had no lack for them.

"Su Li, are you confident in defeating him?" Duan Ling Tian laughed via voice transmission.

"If I don't utilize my grade three spirit sword, then I'm not a match for him... If I utilize my grade three spirit sword, then he'll lose for sure!" Su Li replied via voice transmission.

Meanwhile, Duan Ling Tian noticed that when Feng Yu utilized his Origin Energy and ninth level Sword Concept, a spirit sword that was coiled with Origin Energy had appeared in his hand.

At the same time, another six ancient horned dragon silhouettes and 3,800 ancient mammoth silhouettes appeared in the sky above Feng Yu...

"Grade four spirit sword!" Duan Ling Tian's brows raised as he vaguely guessed where Su Li's confidence came from.

In terms of cultivation, Su Li and Feng Yu were comparable.

In terms of Sword Concept, Su Li was inferior by a level, and it was an ancient horned dragon worth of strength difference.

In terms of spirit sword, the spirit sword in Su Li's possession was a grade higher than the spirit sword in Feng Yu's possession, and it provided Su Li with more than a single ancient horned dragon worth of strength.

In terms of combined strength, Su Li surpassed Feng Yu slightly.

Of course, it wasn't much.

Normally speaking, if the two of them were to really fight a bloody battle, then they would surely be on par and find it difficult to decide on a victor.

But when he thought of the strong confidence that Su Li revealed earlier, Duan Ling Tian believed that Su Li surely had the confidence to win for sure, or perhaps Su Li had an ability or method to assure his victory.

Duan Ling Tian wasn't surprised by this.

Su Li's master was a sword cultivating expert from the Foreign Lands that had studied the Dao of sword cultivating for many years. Perhaps he'd already taught Su Li some formidable methods that belonged to sword cultivators.

All these abilities were derived from sword skill, yet they surpassed the sword skills themselves.

For example, if a high grade Earth Rank sword skill were to be studied a step further by an expert that was proficient in the path of sword cultivating, the expert would perhaps be able to derive many things from it.

It was even to the extent that they were capable of perfecting the sword skill to the point of being almost a Heaven Rank sword skill.

"Duan Ling Tian, do you think Feng Yu can defeat Zi Shang?" Su Li asked suddenly.

Duan Ling Tian's gaze locked onto the two people in the sky above the Cage Battle Arena.

At this moment, Feng Yu held the sword with a single hand as 26 ancient horned dragon silhouettes and 3,800 ancient mammoth silhouettes surrounded him from the sky like a host of stars surrounding the moon.

It wasn't just that, the raging Origin Energy on Feng Yu's body had converged together to form a vast sword shaped flame that enveloped his entire body, causing him to seem to have transformed into a sharp sword.

Compared to the current Feng Yu, Zi Shang stood there like an ordinary person.

Not a trace of Origin Energy could be seen on Zi Shang.

Zi Shang stared at Feng Yu with a calm gaze, and then he finally spoke slowly in reply to Feng Yu's question from before. "So what if you're stronger than Ye Lu? In my eyes, no matter if it's him or you, you're both ants! I don't care about the strength between ants." Zi Shang's tone was extremely calm, yet the contempt it contained caused many people to be stunned.

"What do you think now?" Duan Ling Tian looked at Su Li and didn't directly answer Su Li's question but instead asked a question in reply.

"Looks like he's a monster just like you!" Su Li sensed the confidence in Zi Shang's words, and he shook his head and laughed bitterly.

"Zi Shang is really confident."

"He actually takes Feng Yu to be an ant... I wonder if he really possesses strength, or is being deceiving."

"His age is obviously slightly younger than Feng Yu... Could it be that he has comprehended ninth level Concept as well?"

"So long as he isn't being deceiving, then it's very likely that he has comprehended ninth level Concept."

...

The atmosphere of the Cage Battle Arena that had calmed down once again rose into an uproar because of Zi Shang's words.

Some people felt that Zi Shang was being deceiving, yet there were also some people that felt Zi Shang really possessed strength.

"Ant?" Feng Yu's expression darkened as the sword shaped flames on his body skyrocketed slightly, and his eyes squinted with a fierce gaze as his gaze that was like a sword stared at Zi Shang. "You take me to be an ant?"

As the Head Disciple of the number one sect in the Darkhan Dynasty, the Darkmoon Sect, Feng Yu possessed arrogance and dignity of his own.

Today, he was belittled by someone who wasn't well known in the Darkhan Dynasty in the past. This caused the killing intent in the depths of his heart to grow ceaselessly, and in the end, he was unable to restrain it any longer, causing it to gush out.

Shocking killing intent flashed ceaselessly within Feng Yu's eyes.

"I'll give you a chance... Kneel down and kowtow three times, and I'll spare your life." Zi Shang paid no attention to what Feng Yu said, and he stood in the sky, his clothes fluttering without any wind blowing upon him, as he looked calmly at Feng Yu and spoke slowly.

Kneel down and kowtow three times?

Zi Shang's words caused the crowd of spectators in the Cage Battle Arena to be unable to refrain from going into an uproar.

"Isn't Zi Shang too arrogant?"

"He actually wants the Darkmoon Sect's Head Disciple, Feng Yu, to beg for forgiveness before him? He's thinking wishfully!"

"I'm more and more unable to see through him... Does Zi Shang really possess strength or is he being deceiving?"

...

The confusion in the eyes of the surrounding crowd of spectators grew deeper and deeper, whereas, even more people were instead anticipating how the events would progress.

"Imperial Uncle, looks like this disciple of yours is very confident of his strength." On the spectating area that belonged solely to the Imperial Family, the Darkhan Dynasty's Emperor glanced at the black clothed old man by his side and smiled.

"Confidence is a good thing." When the old man spoke, he had a calm face that was calm like an ancient well.

"Hmph! Zi Shang, I hope you don't slap yourself in the face." The corners of Bai He's mouth curled into a wisp of a sneer.

At this moment, the expressions of the higher-ups of the Darkmoon Sect were extremely unsightly.

Zi Shang's contempt and humiliation towards their Darkmoon Sect's Head Disciple was no different than humiliating the Darkmoon Sect.

"Want to take my life? That will depend on if you have the ability." In the sky above the Cage Battle Arena, Feng Yu was completely enraged and couldn't restrain his rage any longer, and his figure flashed out to seem to transform into a sharp sword that brought about a wave of terrifying waves of air that pierced towards Zi Shang.

At the same time, Feng Yu's body flashed out, the grade four spirit sword pulsated before him and transformed into nine greyish sword lights in the end, and they were like shadows as they flashed out along with him to aim directly towards Zi Shang's vital points.

Under his extreme rage, he'd struck a killing blow!

"It's the Darkmoon Sect's high grade Earth Rank sword skill, Nine-Vassal Demon Swords!"

Instantly, there were people that recognized the sword skill Feng Yu executed.

The Nine-Vassal Demon Sword was a sword skill with extremely shocking offensive ability. Once it was executed, not only would one seem as if one had transformed into a sword, even the spirit sword in one's hand would transform into nine fierce and swift sword lights that were mobilized forward by one's own speed.

Its offensive ability was strong and its speed wasn't weak.

Amongst the various high grade Earth Rank sword skills, the Nine-Vassal Demon Sword could be considered to be a first-rate sword skill.

Swish! Swish! Swish! Swish! Swish!

...

The nine greyish sword lights moved like shadow, and they caused waves of ear piercing sword howls as they swept towards Zi Shang.

At this instant, the hearts of the surrounding spectators couldn't help but rise to their throats as they gazed concentratedly at the development of the events before them.

The following scene was something they anticipated extremely.

"Zither Young Master looks to really be much stronger." Duan Ling Tian's attention had always been on Zi Shang.

He noticed that from the beginning until the end, Zi Shang had a carefree expression that wouldn't change even if Mt. Tai collapsed before him, and it was as if Zi Shang utterly didn't take Feng Yu seriously.

"He ought to make a move now." When he saw the nine sword lights were about to pierce through Zi Shang's body, Duan Ling Tian was shocked in his heart.

Practically at the instant Duan Ling Tian's thought at emerged.

Zi Shang made a move.

Whoosh!

Duan Ling Tian saw a white bolt of lightning flash by, and in the next moment, Zi Shang's had already soared into the sky to arrive at a higher point.

At the same time, a seemingly ancient and simple zither had appeared in Zi Shang's hands.

"It isn't that zither from all those years ago!" With a single glance, Duan Ling Tian discerned that this zither wasn't the zither Zi Shang used in the past. "This zither is a grade four spirit weapon."

Swish! Swish! Swish! Swish! Swish!

...

At practically the exact instant that Zi Shang soared into the sky, the nine sword lights that Feng Yu executed had followed Zi Shang to soar into the sky and flash towards Zi Shang once more.

Those nine sword lights seemed as if they had grown eyes, and they continued to flash towards the vital points on Zi Shang's body.

They seemed as if they wouldn't stop before killing Zi Shang.

"It's over." Amongst these numerous ear piercing sword howls, Zi Shang's calm voice sounded out.

In the next moment, the people with deep cultivations were able to clearly see Zi Shang's hand pluck a string on the zither in his hand, and then his hand shook abruptly.

Instantly, a strand of material Origin Energy shot out from the tip of Zi Shang's finger that plucked the zither string, and accompanying this strand of Origin Energy was a strand of azure energy and fiery red energy.

Clang!

Suddenly, the sound of a zither that was ear piercing and displeasing instantly resounded out, and it suppressed the waves of sword howls that rose and fell without end.

"So fast!" After Duan Ling Tian saw the zither string being plucked by Zi Shang and the tiny Origin Energy light that instantly flashed out swiftly, he was shocked greatly in his heart.

It was too swift!

Om!

Subsequently, Duan Ling Tian felt something flash before his eyes.

In the next moment, the figure that soared into the sky and charged at Zi Shang with full fury had stopped for a moment before continuing to charge into the sky.