#### Sprit Vessel 491

### Chapter 491: Battle To The Death

"Haha! Feiyun, you're done for! That was only my puppet yet you still got tricked into using your last move of the order, how are you going to take us on now?!" A black figure landed from the sky and attacked Feiyun without any hesitation.

He wasn't afraid anymore without the King's Order.

With a disdainful flash, Feiyun flipped his palm and used the order again for the fourth time. This young king got eviscerated into multiple pieces with blood flying everywhere.

The guy died an indignant death, not understanding why.

"What?! Feng Feiyun, how can you use it four times, three should be the max!" Someone screamed, astounded.

The scream also revealed his location. Feiyun flew upward and used the order for the fifth time, rendering the person to ashes. Those would be his last words.

Using the power of the King's Order relied on one's divine intents. Normal people only had ten but Feiyun had an unimaginable number at forty. They couldn't expect how often he could use his order.

"Something's wrong, retreat!" The young assailants quickly ran with the fastest speed, leaving only after-images behind.

Feiyun stood in the center of the street and slammed his order out for the sixth time. Two figures were forced out from the western sky with holes appearing on their body. Though they had defensive treasures, it wasn't enough to protect them from the power. They fell to the ground, breathless.

The other ones have all ran away, there was no way of catching up.

Suddenly, Feiyun felt his back becoming lighter. Someone has taken Xiaoxiang off him.

It was the lord of Beauty's Smile, Wan Huazhu. She was running on an ethereal bridge while carrying Xiaoxiang and made it several dozen miles away.

"You court death!" Feiyun shouted as his hair crazily flapped. He flew upward with blood pearls for eyes like a devil and unleashed another attack from the order towards the horizon.

She waved her sleeve and unleashed a ray that actually destroyed the attack. She said: "Feiyun, you're still too weak to be my match even with the King's Order. Ye Xiaoxiang will forever belong to Supreme Beauty, no one can change this reality. Kill him, leave no trace behind."

With that, she continued running on her bridge and left this domain entirely.

Feiyun could only watch Xiaoxiang being taken away from his very back. At this particular moment, he felt that he was simply too weak versus the real masters.

'Poor Xiaoxiang, she has never done anything wrong! Why is heaven so unfair towards her!'

"No!" Feiyun screamed and felt that it was all his fault that she was found again. If it wasn't for him, she wouldn't have run away from Supreme Beauty.

He felt that he was breaking his promise with Hongyan as well. He nearly shattered his teeth from channeling all of his power in order to take her back at any price.

"Stop right there." A half-step Giant standing on a rooftop unleashed a monstrous palm strike from the sky.

Feiyun stopped and used the order with both hands. He spat out a mouthful of blood in order to empower the order. The seven brilliant figures retaliated against the palm.

"Rumble!" At his level, he couldn't fully use the order's true power so he was still weaker than a halfstep Giant. The palm pushed his legs down on the concrete while his hands cracked with blood streaming down.

A half-step was far stronger than a fifth-level Heaven's Mandate - the difference between heaven and earth.

The second-half step from Beauty Smile stood among the clouds and stomped downward. A monstrous food with a black miasma crushed down below.

"Boom!" Even the Heavenly Phoenix Physique couldn't withstand this strength. Feiyun's arms exploded, leaving the bones behind. If it wasn't for the blood refinement of his bones in the past, everything would have crumbled.

He couldn't handle a half-step right now, let alone two.

"Boom!" Feiyun dropped to one knee while coughing blood repeatedly. If it wasn't for the order, he would be dead by now.

"Rumble!" The devilish spine on his back - as majestic as a mountain - emitted a malefic force.

"Boom!" It seemed to be coming back to life and made Feiyun's back tremble. His bones and veins turned black; everything was stained with an evil affinity but brimming with power.

The spine represented absolute strength - something that could shoulder the sky for eternity. Yama was dead but his spine remained.

"Rawr!" His bones issued metallic clanking while his hair grew longer and eyes reddened.

He finally stood up straight and shattered the palm strike pushing down on him before leaping upward and unleashed a palm towards a half-step.

"What the hell is that?!" This half-step was frightened and quivered before the aura of Yama.

Nevertheless, his mental state was still stable due to his great cultivation and retaliated with a punch. The monstrous power from Feiyun slammed on his hand and destroyed his fingers, repelling him backward.

He became extremely frightened. How the hell did Feiyun become so strong?

How could he had lost given his cultivation?

"Rawr!" A howl resembling a wild beast rang next to his ear. His brain couldn't handle it so he was panicking and quickly channeled the soulbound artifact in his dantian to attack behind him.

Feiyun appeared behind him and grabbed both of his shoulders. The soulbound artifact pierced through Feiyun's body but he didn't give a damn as he roared and tore this half-step giant in two pieces. His organs fell down instantly.

There was a fist-sized hole on his chest with blood gushing out but he didn't seem to notice.

The remaining three half-steps shuddered in horror, thinking that Feiyun was a devil at this moment.

"He's grievously wounded and won't last much longer. Let's kill him together." One of them attacked first with a dao technique. He created the shadow of a great beast and sent it for Feiyun's head.

Feiyun looked up and opened his mouth. A black ray shot out and pulled the beast closer, allowing him to swallow it. Next, he rushed forward again.

The three half-steps used their strongest attacks and barely managed to hold him back.

The four of them annihilated the entire area, leaving only ruins behind. All the cultivators in this location were killed by the shockwaves.

"Rumble!" All three were seriously injured. One of them got clawed by Feiyun so half of his face was bleeding. The other had his right hand completely torn apart, blood was still oozing from his shoulder. The third was pulverized with one eye completely gone and his nose crushed. His entire face almost caved in completely.

Feiyun was in a worse position with blood everywhere. Who knows how many bones were broken in his body? There were two wounds on his back and shoulder, deep enough to separate him into two pieces.

Feiyun punched the sky to break the barrier and began to run.

"We can't let him run, the consequence will be unimaginable!" The three half-steps turned into three rays and gave chase.

Feiyun was in a state of chaos without any strength left in his body, losing all sensation. The black energy began to recede back into the spine. Exhaustion and drowsiness struck him.

"I can't close my eyes or death awaits me!" Feiyun could feel the three half-steps inching closer so he bit his teeth and continued flying.

Eventually, he depleted his energy and fell straight from the sky.

A slender figure flew up and caught him before could crash into the ground. When she stepped into the ground again, a formation appeared, allowing them to sink into the earth and vanish.

"Boom!" The three half-steps all attacked that location and left a gigantic crater. Alas, the two have escaped without a trace.

"An evil treasure-seeking art, Ghost Immortal Retiracy. Who saved him just now?"

"This is problematic, we have to report to the boss right away."

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In a secret location at the capital, two people emerged from the ground. Feiyun grabbed Long Cangyue and said with a cold glare: "Go... back... to the mansion... summon the three marquises... tell them... to mobilize the army... to destroy Beauty's Smile..."

## Chapter 492: Raging Fury

Feng Feiyun has never been in a worse situation. This was the result after the spine was activated. His blood carried a strand of evil affinity now with a black shimmer. Though the majority have returned to the spine, the malefic force was still lingering and devouring the life in Feiyun's blood.

The spine allowed him the power to tear a half-step to pieces. Alas, the side effect nearly took his life.

He was taken back to the Divine King Mansion now.

"Such a monstrous evil affinity, assaulting both my divine intents and soul on top of consuming my body." Feiyun sat in the meditative pose with spirit stones in both hands in order to stop the evil from spreading.

The spine was already part of his body but its power has been stored inside and never actually activated. The demonic blood and the spine were restraining each other before so he was completely stable.

His strength alone couldn't stop this affinity right now so he had to use the vessel to barely stop the spreading.

"The spine is powerful but it will affect me mentally if I don't control it. I'll end up just like Feng Mo after it takes over my mind."

Feng Mo refined Yama's heart but he was changed completely and started walking on the evil path. He has essentially become a different person, no longer the old Feng Clan Master.

The same would happen to Feiyun if he couldn't control this malefic force.

On the second day, his physical wounds were dealt with but the evil affinity was still there so he couldn't open his eyes just yet.

"It's too much, I definitely can't use this spine until I reach the level of Giant. It's suicidal if I can't control it." Feiyun continued using his vessel to suppress his body. Waves of black mists returned to the spine so his blood turned red again. The evil affinity disappeared and was replaced with life force.

Feiyun slowly opened his eyes and was aching all over. Who knows how long it has been?

He took out a jade box from his spatial stone. Inside was a four-thousand-year rose given to him by one of the three Untethereds, Ning Fengxian.

Feng Feiyun sold him the silkworm egg so he gave the rose to him to repay the favor. This rose could replenish one's vitality. One of this age was rare enough. Surely there wasn't a second one in the dynasty.

If time wasn't of the essence, he wouldn't want to use something so rare.

It was shining like a red jade with a strange medicinal fragrance. A mortal would gain several years of life just by sniffing it once.

Feiyun took out one petal and placed it in his mouth while carefully putting the rest away.

A monstrous energy as pure as breastmilk for an infant entered his body. The hidden wounds caused by the half-steps were cured and the violet energy in his central palace became replenished.

After refining this petal, he has completely recovered while his violet energy increased by three thousand strands for a total of 73,000, one step closer to the third level.

Footsteps came from the outside. Feiyun knew that it was Long Cangyue after using his divine intent and let down his guard.

"You're awake?" She asked.

"Come in." He had a new impression of her. At the very least, she risked her life to save him from three half-steps.

Though she did it for herself because she still needed him to become the empress, ultimately, he still owed her his life. In the future, if they were to become mortal enemies, he would remember this and spare her.

"Mother knows that you're injured so she asked the emperor for a fourth-ranked pill, Seven-flowers." She looked as beautiful as always with her amazing figure and perfect skin. An aura of nobility surrounded her, befitting of a princess.

Fourth-ranked pills were exceedingly rare, even more precious than four-thousand-year-old spirit grasses.

This particular pill was personally crafted by the current Grand Tutor. After seventy-seven years, he had only created seven pills. Its medicinal power was amazing. Though it couldn't bring back the dead, as long as the person still had one breath left, it could bring them back in a short time.

This was a life-saving panacea. There were only three left in the dynasty; this was one of them.

"Then express my gratitude to the Divine Consort. I will accept this pill." Feiyun wasn't reserved and accepted the pill. Though he had recovered, this would be good for an emergency.

"How long have I slept for?" He asked.

"Four days." Cangyue answered.

"That long?" Feiyun didn't expect to be so heavily injured this time despite his Heavenly Phoenix Physique.

His eyes flashed with murderous intent. A man would always get his revenge: "Are the three marquises back in the mansion?"

Long Cangyu said: "Someone interfered so the army can't get into the capital."

### "Who?"

"The Grand Chancellor. That fox is using the current chaos as an excuse and ordered the gate captains and Forbidden Guards to not open the entrances. If the Martial Army were to make their way in, they would consider it a rebellion." She said.

After the emperor entered his state of cultivation, half of the capital's most powerful defensive system consisting of the Nine Gates City Guard and Forbidden Guard was under Beiming Moshou's control. This was the elites among the elites of the dynasty.

"Beauty's Smile must have bribed Beiming Moshou or the two sides are connected in the first place. It's not that easy to stop the army, we'll destroy it no matter what." Feiyun stood up with surging battle intent, whether it be for himself or Xiaoxiang.

Cangyue said: "Mother told me to tell you that the capital is not stable right now, don't break the current stalemate by bringing the army inside. It will affect her plans."

"There's no discussion. Tomorrow is the Flower Competition but I'll be turning Beauty's Smile Pavilion into hell."

Cangyue remained quiet.

Feiyun came outside and saw a eunuch sneaking around so he grabbed him. This was Bi Ningshuai who had snuck inside. The guy got rich after stealing from many young kings at Supreme Beauty.

"Hey! Let go, let go of me!" Ningshuai shouted.

"How bold, huh, stealing from the Divine King Mansion?" Feiyun grabbed his shoulder and clenched harder, causing the guy to groan.

"Stealing? C'mon now, if I wanted to steal, I would have taken everything already. Your father is here to see how you're doing after hearing about the ambush and that you have one foot in the coffin. Keke, I didn't expect for you to drop down so low... Ahh! Stop, not so hard, I'm just playing." Ningshuai screamed.

"Who told you?" Feiyun let go.

"Scholar Heaven Calculating." Ningshuai said.

"Take me to him, I got something important to ask him."

Ningshuai rubbed his shoulder: "Like what?"

"Stop blabbering or I'll put you in the capital prison so that you will never see the sunlight again." Feiyun threatened.

"Fine! I'll just take you then." Ningshuai shuddered. The capital's prison was no joke. Even someone skilled like him would have a hard time escaping.

Ningshuai led the way and asked: "Who was bold enough to try and kill the current Divine King?"

"Dead men." Feiyun coldly uttered.

Ningshuai didn't dare to ask after hearing his tone. He knew that Feiyun was truly angry this time and wanted to meet the scholar about this. He could feel a storm brewing at the capital. Something big was going to happen.

The elusive scholar was always on the move but Ningshuai could always find him.

"He's here?" Feiyun looked up at the plaque with a tinge of surprise.

This was Su Yun's place, Heart Reached Villa.

Su Yun and the scholar were playing chess and drinking tea. The two looked quite relaxed with two maids serving them, certainly enjoying their time.

"Boom!" Feiyun walked forward and kicked their chess board, causing pieces to fly everywhere. Even the teapot and cups were knocked down with spilled tea.

The gentlemanly scholar in his white daoist robe smiled: "Brother Su, looks like we won't have peace to play chess today, but don't worry, I have memorized the positions. We'll go again later."

Su Yun smiled back: "Brother Feng, why are you so angry? Yunyun, get some tea for him. Make it dense so that he'll have an easier time swallowing his anger."

Feiyun didn't show any reservation at all and sat straight down: "If anyone else going to talk about tea, I'm going to burn this villa down."

## Chapter 493: Intense Preparation

"It would be a shame to burn such a nice villa." Bi Ningshuai murmured while his eyes shadily darted around, wanting to find a few expensive items.

Su Yun and the scholar became serious after feeling Feiyun's fury. Ji Yunyun brought a new pot of tea and poured a cup for Feiyun. The smoke billowed with a nice scent.

Feiyun didn't drink and said: "I'll leave after three questions."

"Go for it." The scholar knew that Feiyun was here to find him and even knew the three questions.

"First, what is the relationship between Beiming Moshou and Beauty's Smile?"

The scholar pondered for a bit before swinging his sleeve. A plume of light flew out to contain this area. He didn't want other cultivators to spy on their conversation.

After sufficient preparation, he began: "Beauty's Smile has the heretical sacred ground, Mount Potala, behind it. The existence there has deep ties with the royal clan and is supporting the Crown Prince just like Beiming Moshou. That's their relationship."

Despite the vague comment, Feiyun could see that the power of this sect has permeated into the capital, hidden inside Beauty's Smile.

Beauty's Smile and Beiming Moshou wanted to help the current crown prince, so Moshou would naturally help Beauty's Smile out against Feiyun.

If there were actually heretical masters hiding in that place, then taking Xiaoxue back or even destroying it would become at least three times harder.

Feiyun said: "My second is, how do I get the army into the capital?"

"No need for that. If you want to destroy that place, the key is in the quality of the people, not quantity." The scholar said.

Feiyun naturally understood that too, but if he were only to invite the three marquises into the capital, then someone could take advantage of their absent and create chaos. The capital was in a delicate situation right now. He couldn't risk doing that.

He went on to ask: "Third question, where is the third Untethered, Ning Fengxian, right now?"

This daoist owed Feiyun a huge favor. This Giant at the ninth level could take care of all possible developments.

The scholar revealed his hands from his sleeves and began calculating. After a while, he opened his eyes and said: "Southern Sky Temple."

"Thank you, I'll be going now. You two can keep playing." Feiyun stood up and left without drinking his tea.

He didn't directly go to the temple but rather back to the Feng Mansion to see Wan Xiangcen then Wolong Sheng.

He wasn't that impetuous of a person so he chose to be careful with sufficient preparations by maneuvering the experts from the Feng and Destruction before returning to the Divine King Mansion.

"When are you making your move?" Long Cangyue saw that Feiyun has made up his mind so she didn't try to convince him otherwise.

"Tomorrow is the Flower Competition at the capital, but Beauty's Smile will disappear from this world beforehand." He spoke with a cold glare.

He gathered a glow on his finger and began to carve runes and symbols on the wall. At the center was the word, "Beauty's Smile Pavilion".

These runes and symbols were different, representing different powers. They consisted of triangles, circles, cross, and checkmark. Powers on the same side were connected with arrows.

The capital was quite complicated. He needed to take care of every single detail to ensure a lack of mistake.

Cangyue stood behind him and said: "Beauty's Smile is very powerful and has relationships with other powers. Once you attack, there will be a reaction. For example, the slave auction and the assassin palace. They won't just stand idly by and will send their masters."

Beauty's Smile, Earth's End, and Fate Ending were all powers under Mount Potala. Their interests were aligned so once one was attacked, the others would surely retaliate.

Feiyun agreed: "I've taken this into consideration. Tonight, you go to the palace and ask the Divine Consort to prepare. I hope no news will come to the emperor before I destroy Beauty's Smile. I'll be taking full responsibility afterward."

The emperor has entered a state of cultivation and closed off his divine intents. He wouldn't know what was happening with the capital unless someone were to tell him.

"Can you handle this by yourself?" She asked.

Feiyun flicked the wall harder and all the runes and symbols fell down back into lime powder. He looked back at her and said seriously: "I can."

She gave him a deep stare before leaving to put on an official outfit. A group of eunuch accompanied her inside the golden carriage and headed for the palace in the middle of the night.

Meanwhile, Feiyun stood by himself in the mansion to look at the bright moon. Suddenly, a group of flames came out of nowhere behind him. They gathered and turned into a beauty.

Even the other experts in the mansion didn't detect her.

Nangong Hongyan asked: "You're maneuvering against Beauty's Smile?"

"Yes, I have promised to bring Maestro Ye back to you, safe and sound." Feiyun smiled.

She seemed to be glowing under the moonlight: "Why didn't you talk to me about it first?"

Feiyun paused for a bit before answering: "It's no big deal, just leave it to me. You just sit back and watch the fun."

"I must join in." She knew that Beauty's Smile was no joke since it involved too many powers including Mount Potala.

Though Feiyun had recalled his three marquises and the army, it still wouldn't be easy.

Just one wrong move and he would lose the entire board. Blood would stain the capital.

On the other hand, he didn't want to put her in a dangerous situation so he hid it from her.

"Very well, I'll bring you along when I attack." He acquiesced.

"When?"

"After three days. I need three days to prepare so come to the mansion then. I'll take you to save Maestro Ye." He answered.

"Really?" She asked with skepticism.

Feiyun said: "Why would I lie to you about something so important? Just return to Supreme Beauty and wait for my news, don't worry."

After confirming that she had really left, he went out alone and headed for Southern Sky.

He needed a real master to preside over the situation in order to deal with Beauty's Smile. If he could invite Ning Fengxian, his force would surely be enough.

Tonight was full of turmoils and underlying currents at the capital. Some could smell the smoke of war already, that something big was going to happen but not the exact time.

Early morning on the second day, before the nine bells could ring at the capital, a group of cultivators riding qilin bulls appeared inside the southern gate.

"Clank, clank!" Their iron hooves crushed the thick snow while issuing metallic clanking.

Feiyun wore a black armor with a dragon helm with his saber on his back, riding at the front.

To the left and the right of him was a monk and a daoist, respectively. The monk looked around seven or eight years old with a golden radiance covering him. His appearance looked like a child but he had a dignified and sad temperament.

This was a big shot - Southern Sky's abbot, Monk Maitreya. He cultivated the Unaging Scripture so he still looked like a kid despite being 700 years of age.

On the other side was one of the three Untethered of the Daoist belief, Ning Fengxian.

Behind them were the loyal soldiers of the Divine King Mansion, primed to fight with an opposing aura. The pedestrians on the street quickly gave way, thinking that something big was going to happen.

"Halt, it is not time to open the city gate." A mighty voice came on top of the dark wall.

Feiyun took out his King's Order. A light exploded and caused the badge to send out a black ray more than several hundred meters in the air.

"Open the gate!" Feiyun shouted.

"Greetings, Divine King."

"Greetings, Divine King."

All the soldiers near the gate kneeled, causing loud clanking noises with their armor plates.

The captain of this gate, Zhang Chonglin, came out. He wore a black armor with a pair of tiger eyes as bright as two lamps. His vitality and power were dense like a primal beast as he let out a lion roar: "Under the Grand Chancellor's order, in this period of chaos, the gates of the capital will only open for six hours a day. Soldiers from the Martial Army cannot enter without permission."

He was naturally powerful to become the captain of one of the nine gates. He didn't give a damn about Feiyun. In his eyes, the guy might be the current Divine King but his cultivation was too weak. There was no way he would kneel against someone like him.

## Chapter 494: Battler Heavenly Marquis

Feng Feiyun wore a dark expression and put away the order: "Not kneeling before the Divine King? This is an act of disdain towards the imperial authority, a crime worthy of death."

Zhang Chonglin's eyes had a black luster just like two abysses. He sneered and said: "Haha! Little boy, you think you're a badass now? In the eyes of the big shots, you're nothing since you'll be dead in just one year. Are you even strong enough to kill me? Wait and train for a few more decades."

He didn't give a damn about Feiyun. He had cultivated for 400 years and was in this captain position for more than 160 years. He had several million elite troops under his command. Both his cultivation and roots at the capital far exceeded Feng Feiyun.

The guy at his current cultivation using the King's Order couldn't hurt him right now.

"I see, insulting the Divine King, only adding to your crime. I will have to make an example out of you first then report it later. Senior Ning, please take down this arrogant fool." Feiyun was looking for an excuse to take down Chonglin but the guy decided to jump down the pit himself.

Ning Fengxian was a daoist but not one without emotions and desires. Those at his level all had hands stained with blood.

Chongin channeled his power and shouted: "Feng Feiyun, you want to kill me, boy?!"

"Bless be the Supreme, this daoist does not want to kill but unfortunately, I owe my friend Feng a favor. My apology." Ning Fengxian's eyes suddenly became stern and flashed with waves of lightning.

A thick ray of lightning suddenly descended and slammed into the wall.

"Nine Firmaments Lightning..." Chonglin gathered a monstrous amount of energy and unleashed nine dragon-tigers. Alas, his attacks were easily torn apart by the lightning and it slammed on his body.

"Boom!" His armor turned into dust as his body fell down the high wall and turned into ashes.

He simply couldn't withstand this level of lightning. A gate captain went down just like that.

"Amitabha." Buddha Maitreya placed his palms together and chanted.

The gate guards were horrified by the scene of their captain being killed. This Divine King was too ruthless, daring to kill just about anyone.

They kept kneeling on the ground without daring to lift their head.

Feiyun walked forward while holding his saber with a bloodthirsty aura: "Zhang Chonglin disrespected the royal clan so I have made an example of him. What are you all waiting for? Open the gate already. Are you trying to distract the royal clan too?"

Several soldiers at Heaven's Mandate virtually pissed in their pants from horror. They got up and opened the gate, not wanting to follow Chonglin's footsteps.

A massive army was already waiting outside. The moment the gate opened, they all kneeled and shouted in unison: "Greetings, Divine King!"

Their cries echoed for several hundred miles.

There were three Heavenly Marquises under the Divine King - Battler, Lion, and Elephant. They had seven hundred million troops under their command.

This particular battalion was under the Divine King and usually camped in his own land. When Long Chuanfeng abdicated, these marquises returned to the capital, afraid that Feiyun wouldn't be able to take care of the situation because Chuanfeng has gone into isolated cultivation.

The three marquises were enough to make others wary of this faction once more.

They didn't bring all the troops back, only ten millions for each of them for a total of thirty millions, camped outside the seventy towns near the capital.

Feiyun gave the order: "Battler Marquis and fellow soldiers, follow me to Beauty's Smile. Lion Marquis, stay behind to watch this gate. Elephant Marquis, lead your men to watch over Earth's End. If they dare to send reinforcement, kill first, talk later. March!"

These soldiers were the elites. They divided themselves into three sections. The one with the strongest aura was heading for Beauty's Smile. Their bloodthirst was strong enough to create groups of black clouds looming overhead.

The ground quaked before their coming. The cultivators who trained in the morning were all scared out of their mind, thinking that the sky was falling down.

"Rumble!" Eighty thousand chariots rode in, all pulled by mighty bulls. They were crafted with refined steel, each weighing tens of thousand pounds and standing at nine meters tall. There were runes and formations on the surface in the form of fierce beasts.

A black banner hanging on a thick pillar fluttered with the wind. One word was written with blood on it, "Battler".

"Pluff!" The banner issued a deafening noise as it fluttered.

A tall and burly man stood on top of the banner with muscles as tough as steel. His arms were as thick as a wheel. He wore an armor created by asteroids, weighing at 380,000 pounds.

"Where is the Divine King?!" Battler Marquis cried out causing several old buildings to cave down the ground.

Feiyun was also shaken and nearly fainted from this cry. The guy's power far exceeded Feiyun's expectation.

He raised his King's Order and shouted back: "Your king is here!"

Battler's round eyes stared intensely at Feiyun for a bit with a rock-firm and unyielding pose. He asked: "Where to attack?"

"Beauty's Smile Pavilion!" Feng Feiyun wasn't afraid at all. The guy had sharp eyes; an ordinary person would go blind just looking at them.

"Rumble!" Battler pulled up the gigantic banner and propelled himself into the air. He turned into a ray and once high enough, he threw down the banner with both arms.

"Whoosh!" The banner cut through the sky and flew for thousands of miles before crushing Beauty's Smile's entrance. It drilled through the ground by more than ten meters.

The earth quaked again with explosive blasts. Several palaces inside instantly collapsed.

Battler floated in the sky and pointed towards the direction of the banner and cried: "Kill!"

This single word resonated like thunder in the night sky and woke up so many cultivators. The formations in the capital instantly broke down.

The Martial Army heard the order and crazily rushed forward as if they were possessed.

Ning Fengxian stroke his white beard and said: "Little Friend, you should have told me that this madman was coming back to the capital. I didn't need to help at all."

Feiyun had heard of Battler before, the number one among the eight marquises. However, he didn't expect for the guy to be so fierce. If it wasn't for the orderly yet wild formation of the army heading for Beauty's Smile, he would think that Battler was sieging the city.

"Looks like he is at ninth-level Heaven's Mandate too." Feiyun said.

Ning Fengxian replied: "He's already the number one monster beneath Enlightened Beings since 180 years ago. However, this person is arrogant with a fiery temper. He even offended the Jin Emperor and made a great mistake, nearly got decapitation as the punishment but the Divine King beseeched for his sake."

"Great mistake?" Feiyun was surprised.

"It's a long story, I'm not clear either. I only know that it has something to do with the Grand Chancellor." Fengxian said.

The little monk who has been keeping quite the entire time said: "I know a little about this. The Grand Chancellor wanted to eliminate Battler so he tricked the marquis into entering a forbidden place in the palace and the emperor caught him. In his fury, the emperor suppressed the marquis and wanted to kill him. However, the Divine King entered the sacred ground of the royal clan and invited some ancestors to come out to speak for the marquis' sake. The emperor finally conceded and spared the guy. Nevertheless, the marquis was imprisoned for eighty years before being released."

"Because of this, the Divine King was affected too. He left the court on his own accord and went south to the pagoda for 180 years without taking a single step out."

"After Battler got out of the prison, he killed his way into the Grand Chancellor's mansion and killed the chancellor's oldest son then threw his corpse at the entrance before leaving without giving a damn. He has been staying at the Divine King's land for one hundred years without returning to the capital."

Feiyun looked at the sky. The clouds of death have entered the capital like a tsunami. Battler was in the front with an unstoppable momentum.

"Fierce indeed! Daring to kill the Grand Chancellor's firstborn and left the corpse by the door? I'm utterly speechless." Feiyun was afraid that after trampling out Beauty's Smile, Battler would send his troops for the chancellor's mansion. This ferocious man could really do anything so Feiyun quickly headed towards Beauty's Smile.

Though Feiyun didn't like Beiming Moshou, this wasn't the right time to attack the guy. Moreover, that faction was truly strong. An all-out fight would only result in heavy losses on both sides and others would take advantage of it. Furthermore, the capital would be in a state of chaos too - not something Feiyun wanted to see.

Fengxian and the monk glanced at each other before following Feng Feiyun.

"Rumble!" The massive army surrounded all of Beauty's Smile and formed countles blockades. This has turned into a grand battlefield.

Every buildings in a two hundred miles radius of Beauty's Smile were completely trampled by the war chariots.

Many cultivators ran away while others felt their legs giving in from having never seen such a big scene of battle.

"Kill! Kill! Kill!" The massive army chanted in union resulting in a thunderous noise. Dust and stones flew everywhere. Beauty's Smile was a ship in the middle of the ocean, ready to capsize at any moment by the raging waves.

A banner continued to flutter at the entrance and scared the soul out of the cultivators and courtesans inside.

This was the army's murderous and battle intent, condensing into a soul that was much stronger than the aura of a cultivator. Normal people would lose all courage even before a fight broke out.

## Chapter 495: Kill!

Today was the Flower Competition. Beauty's Smile was preparing jade flower pots while the slaves and maids were prepping the stage. None expected for something like this to happen.

The gate of the pavilion had nine Grand Profound Formation, capable of stopping an all-out attack from a Giant. Alas, they have crumbled right now, broken by the war banner.

A crack starting at the entrance led all the way inside. The upper echelon was alarmed since this development was too much.

"The Martial Army is inside!"

"Feng Feiyun is attacking!"

"Didn't the Grand Chancellor say that this was impossible? What the hell is going on?!"

Feiyun was in full armor with a great saber resting on his shoulder: "From today on, Beauty's Smile Pavilion will disappear from the capital!"

"How impudent! If anyone dares to take a step forward, I'll make them bleed!" A slightly old and thin figure rushed out of the pavilion. He had a gold crest with a qi image of a divine soul.

This was a half-step Giant named Lu Yun. He stood proudly on a high wall and stared down at Feiyun in the front.

"Keke! Ignorant fool!" A black shadow rushed out from behind Feiyun. Now, this was an actual Giant - a senior from Destruction Corpse Cave who just happened to be staying at the capital and was asked to come and help by Feiyun.

Huo Xinbing had a black corpse-controller cloak with a dark smile on his face. He flew to the sky and unleashed a frightening dark ray.

"Rumble!" A corpse talisman landed right on Lu Yun's head and slammed him down the wall, resulting in a grievous and grotesque injury.

Just one move alone from this Giant shattered several dozen defensive formations. Three more jade palaces were crushed so more than one hundred weak cultivators died on the spot.

Lu Yun was aghast after seeing this and ran deeper into the pavilion's territory.

Xinbing took off his cloak and threw it forward. It turned into a death pouch sealing the entire sky and pulled Lu Yun inside.

The pouch flew back and became smaller in Xinbing's palm. It jumped and contorted with a miserable scream from Lu Yun.

"Keke! A half-step is enough to create a powerful corpse." Xinbing sounded like a ghost as he spoke.

Normally, Xinbing wouldn't carelessly hunt half-steps to create corpses because this was an immoral matter that would incite backlash or an all-out war between two powers.

This wasn't the case today. He had the Divine King behind him so he could boldly kill people. The consequence would fall on Feiyun so he didn't need to worry.

He turned Lu Yun into a black corpse that came out from the pouch. For other people, this corpse was useless but these corpse controllers considered it a priceless treasure.

"Anyone else wants to take me on? I'm in the mood right now." Xinbing turned at the pavilion and roared.

"Rumble!" Golden clouds rushed out of the pavilion with a palm reaching for his head.

A Giant from the pavilion has taken action with immense power causing the air to quake.

Xinbing was not afraid at all and laughed before rushing forward using corpse-controller techniques. The ground cracked and three Corpse Monarchs at the Giant level came out.

They were as tough as steel with round eyes coursing with lightning. Even their teeth and fingernails had a metallic shimmer.

Xinbing and these three corpses fought against that other Giant. The world quaked with the roars of the corpses.

"Pluff!" Eventually, the corpses had the upper hand and knocked the opposing Giant flying. He spewed out blood causing the air to burn like a wave of fire. Xinbing used his cloak in order to capture this Giant just like before.

"Rumble!" This Giant wasn't so easily refined. He used a forbidden technique and unleashed a white ray that broke through the cloak then ran for the pavilion.

As he was running, Battler Marquis slammed him into the ground. His corpse exploded into several pieces with blood burning the air again.

Too damn strong!

A Giant was killed with just one slap. This scared the experts in the pavilion to the core.

"What a waste!" Xinbing murmured and blew out a cold gale to blow away the fire on the corpse. He stored the big pieces of flesh away.

Money couldn't buy these valuable fleshy bits so he naturally wouldn't waste it.

It didn't take long before a half-step and an actual Giant have fallen. The crowd was shocked, aware that the pavilion wouldn't be able to escape this disaster today. Blood was about to run like rivers.

A beautiful woman stepped out of the pavilion with beautiful decorative pins and jewels in her hair. Her waist was thin while her facial features were impeccable. Moreover, her cultivation was also at fourth-level Heaven's Mandate. [ref]

Mo Xinlan bowed towards Feiyun and said softly: "Your Excellency Divine King, our Lord knows you are here for Maestro Ye. If you withdraw now, she will personally bring the maestro to your mansion and apologize."

"Who are you?" Feiyun sneered.

"I'm the number one courtesan of Beauty's Smile, Mo Xinlan." Her pretty eyes blinked with the rippling waves of autumn.

Wan Huazhu sent her here to negotiate because she was both beautiful and strong.

Feiyun insisted: "You're not qualified to talk to me, tell your lord to come out."

Her smile froze with her plan being ruined so she had to leave.

Huazhu came out from the tallest building with several old men behind her. She looked at Feiyun and said: "Your Excellency, I am here to accept the punishment. As long as you call back your troops, we will acquiesce to any demand."

Feiyun still had a cold smile: "You think I will take your words? This is only buying time. Hand Xiaoxiang over and I can leave your corpse intact."

Feiyun almost lost his life to this wily lady who sent out four half-steps for him. How could he have vengeance for this?

She was only surrendering to buy time for Mount Potala and the Grand Chancellor to come help. He wasn't fooled by this attempt.

Her expression darkened: "Feng Feiyun, do you know who is our backer? You won't be the Divine King for long if you touch us."

"Just the heretical Mount Potala, you think I don't know?" Feiyun was undeterred by the threat and raised his King's Order: "Martial Army, heed my order. Attack Beauty's Smile and kill all non-surrendering combatants!"

The army rushed forward after the order with surging bloodthirst. The powerful members went in front to attack the formations and break down the walls.

Their bloodthirst frightened the mind as one palace went down after another. There was no stopping them.

"Kill! Kill!" The sounds of steel and battle raged on.

Feiyun also joined the fray. Those loyal guards couldn't stop his blade at all. His path was ladened with bloody corpses.

"Rumble!" The experts from Mount Potala finally came out - three Giants and eight half-steps.

"Three old monsters from the mountain, five hundred years of cultivation and up. They're top members among Giants."

They all had spirit treasures - a bloody mountain, bloody river, and a bloody spear. They were notorious in the cultivation world, even heretical cultivators shivered after hearing their names.

They were actually hiding in Beauty's Smile in order to wait for the chaos at the capital. This would be a powerful fighting force.

Battler declared without any fear and went to fight all three by himself: "Today is your funeral, Bloodcloud Trio."

He simply relied on his fists. Each attack made the trio vomit blood; it was not an even fight at all.

There were also Giants and half-steps under Battler in the army with the ranking of Divine Commander. The remaining heretical experts couldn't take on these fierce soldiers at all.

Furthermore, 80,000 chariots with loud rumble slowly pushed for the pavilion like 80,000 meat grinders. Cultivators at Heaven's Mandate had no chance of stopping them.

This was a formation created by an army of more than ten million troops. Even Giants would have to run before this might.

# Chapter 496: Dominating Armament

The chaotic battlefield was filled with ruins. Pavilions crumbled and tiles turned into trash. Blood stained the white flowers.

This used to be the number one location for romance-seekers in the world but now, it has turned into a massacre. Many beautiful women were ruthlessly killed. In the eyes of the soldiers, the order was much more important than mercy or lust.

Feiyun stood on top of a broken palace. The smoke and dust of war virtually covered him entirely but he stood there unmoving with six shiny diagrams for protection.

The world became quiet and he still didn't move. He seemed to have turned into a statue as he focused on listening and could hear even the sound of a speck of sand being blown by the wind.

"Whoosh!" Suddenly, a sword slash cut through the sky like a lightning arc.

Feiyun spinned around and turned into a gale, allowing him to disappear from the spot to dodge the murderous slash. Furthermore, he did a full circle in the air and unleashed a saber slash with the form of a dragon and an earth-splitting power.

"Boom!" A black figure leaped out of the air, as ethereal as a ghost with ripples around him, wanting to blend back inside.

This was a genius of the assassin palace with an amazing stealthing technique.

"Still want to run?" Feiyun snorted and all 9,932 beast shadows appeared in his palm. He unleashed an attack and blew the guy flying with spewing blood.

"Boom!" Next, he stomped the guy to death. This was a powerful assassin with techniques nearly rivaling Du Shougao.

After taking care of him, Feiyun turned into a ray to chase after Ye Xiaoxiang.

It didn't take long before he caught up to her and an old woman with only one hand. He darted through the air and appeared before the two of them and gave the old woman a cold glare.

It was Aunt Qin whose hand got severed by him a few days ago. Her wrinkly face was looking especially fierce after seeing Feiyun again. She lifted her walking stick and pointed it at Xiaoxiang's throat like a sword.

Feiyun said sharply: "Where do you think you're taking her?"

"Feng Feiyun, I know you're strong but move and see if I won't leave a hole on her neck." The old woman's voice was hoarse and chilling.

Several more old men came to protect her flank. These were the high elders of Beauty's Smile who have cultivated for two to three hundred years.

One of them looked rather friendly. He was riding an armored beast and said: "Xiaoxiang, Beauty's Smile is your home, do you actually want to see it gone?! Ask His Excellency to withdraw."

Xiaoxiang's dantian has been sealed by Aunt Qin so she looked especially feeble. She bit her lips and looked anxiously at Feiyun. Her eyes were full of emotions: "You came for me this time, right?"

She didn't want to misunderstand again like last time at Supreme Beauty. She couldn't believe he would make such a grand move just for her sake - one that would affect the entire capital.

Feiyun said: "I told Hongyan that I would bring you back safe and sound."

She smiled wryly and nodded before forcing herself to speak: "Thank you."

Thank you - these words represented manners and politeness. Of course, also a certain amount of distance.

True friends and lovers would never need to say "thank you" to each other.

"No need for that." Feiyun spoke and instantly disappeared. Next, he unleashed a blade towards Aunt Qin.

She wasn't weak and has been paying careful attention to him. The moment he slightly moved, she let go of everything and decided to kill Xiaoxiang before trying to fight Feiyun.

Alas, she was still underestimating his speed.

"Pluff!" The glint of the blade came down like a water curtain and severed Aunt Qin's other arm. The stick fell as well, issuing a clank.

Feiyun landed next to Xiaoxiang and pulled her behind him before unleashing another energy slash to blow the old woman away. The energy annihilated her internal organs so she fell down like a dead dog, no longer moving.

Feiyun whispered: "You don't need to be afraid of her anymore."

The attack was simply too fast so the old men couldn't react at all.

"Damn you!" They gathered their violet energy and unleashed purple rays at him.

Xiaoxiang was worried that Feiyun wasn't a match for these seniors.

"Boom!" Feiyun used his beast souls again and punched forward. All the old men were blown flying with their body cracking from the force.

Though he couldn't take on a half-step just yet, it was no problem to kill the older cultivators.

"Come!" Feiyun held her and started to withdraw.

She was full of complicated emotions. Which girl didn't want to see her man furious for her sake? But Feiyun wasn't doing it for her; he was doing it for Hongyan.

This was her closest little sister, how could she be jealous of Hongyan? Maybe returning to the capital was a mistake, she thought.

The entire Beauty's Smile has been sealed by the experts from the Feng with many layers of barriers. Only the real masters would know that a battle was going on.

Nevertheless, the cultivators from the pavilion still managed to leak the information.

Reinforcement was coming.

A massive force came from the northern sky causing souls to waver.

"This is... the power of a fourth-ranked spirit treasure!" Feiyun could sense this murderous power too so he turned and looked.

There was a blue ray crossing through the sky and shattered the spatial barriers to head for Beauty's Smile.

A Giant with a first-ranked spirit treasure could destroy a city from a thousand miles away. A first-ranked was already that powerful so a fourth-ranked was even more terrorizing. There weren't that many in the entire dynasty, only powers like the four great clans could have one of them.

For example, the Blood-being Exalted Pot taken from the King of the Yang World by Bi Ningshuai was a fourth-ranked treasure.

After reaching this level, they were called Dominating Armaments. Just possessing one could propel a power to the top and protect it for generations to come.

These weapons were powerful but creating them was an arduous task that required a massive amount of resources; not all were available in the dynasty.

Moreover, a Grand Blacksmithing Master needed to do the refinement process with all of his effort in order to successfully create one.

Furthermore, the spirit inside required ten thousand years of gestation. All of these requirements must be met for it to reach the fourth-ranked.

Even the Feng didn't have a single one right now. The entire dynasty combined didn't have twenty of them. Each was famous with their own legends. Whenever one came out, something earth-shattering was going to happen.

Even a Giant would turn into ashes if they were struck by the real power of this weapon.

This particular fourth-ranked weapon has activated completely. Just a single ray alone instantly destroyed a half-step Giant from the army and turned his body into green smoke.

It was surrounded by a brilliance so no one could see what was inside.

"Rumble!" Its aura erupted completely and made more than ten thousand soldiers explode into smithereens. Blood gathered like a river.

Feiyun was nearly struck by the ray as well but he used his Swift Samsara to escape. Alas, his arm was wounded and the shirt sleeve rendered to ashes.

Ning Fengxian and Buddha Maitreya who were presiding over the situation both attacked at the same time with their second-ranked treasures. However, these treasures got destroyed instantly and became scrap metals.

A second-ranked against a fourth-ranked was akin to using a wooden stick versus a saber.

"We'll just see about that!" Fengxian jumped into the sky with his whisker. A monstrous qi image of a daoist appeared behind him while a green river emerged below. He threw his whisker out and formed a mantra with both hands in order to summon the Nine Firmaments Lightning.

The power of this technique was comparable to a Heavenly Tribulation. This was one of the greatest offensive arts in the daoist faction.

Fengxian was a ninth-level Giant so he could gather a monstrous amount of lightning. Eighteen bolts descended from the sky, wishing to repel the attacking treasure.

Alas, this still wasn't enough. Part of his daoist robe got destroyed by the weapon after this exchange.

"I can't. This treasure is being controlled by eight Giants at the same time from far away. I can't stop it unless I have a fourth-ranked treasure as well." Fengxian backed off.

The power of a fourth-ranked treasure made a ninth-level Giant helpless.

#### Chapter 497: Soul Of An Enlightened Being

The blinding blue ray in the sky acted like a resplendent moon. This fourth-ranked spirit treasure was hidden in thick layers of mist so one could only sense its formidable power, not its appearance.

Someone wanted to hide this incredible weapon from prying eyes. It was certainly a great power secretly helping Beauty's Smile.

Eight Giants worked at the same time to increase the power of this fourth-ranked spirit treasure so they were able to push back a ninth-level Giant like Ning Fengxian. Even his lightning failed to stop it.

"All of these Dominating Armaments are very famous. I just need to see its shape to know who is helping Beauty's Smile." A cultivator gazed inside the blue light but it blinded him. Blood dripped down his cheeks as he screamed.

"Boom!" The weapon flashed again and released a rain of light. So many soldiers were crushed to a pulp along with their armor.

Two Divine Commanders at fifth-level Heaven's Mandate held their spear as if they were holding a dragon. They were still ready to fight against the incoming attack. Alas, the flashing light turned them into bloody specks.

This power was simply unstoppable. Even a regular spirit treasure would be broken instantly.

"Again." Ning Fengxian and Buddha Maitreya glanced at each other before going again.

This daoist and monk were unfathomable after cultivating for many years. They had plenty of exquisite methods belonging to the two doctrines.

"Sacred Dao Art!" Fengxian's body was covered with daoist laws and an immortal river flowing beneath him. A holy flower gathered on top of his head and unleashed a sacred technique. Billowing clouds surrounded the weapon instantly.

"Unaging Scripture!" The child-like monk sat in the meditative pose in the sky and placed his palms together. He began to chant Buddhist scriptures as golden words spewed out of his mouth. They turned into a golden river and smashed into the sky.

The two of them combined were still having a hard time stopping this weapon. The two arts were quickly subdued.

The weapon continued to grow stronger as the eight masters in the distance continued to pour in their power.

"They have Super Giants controlling this weapon so it can exert its full power." The monk and daoist were pushed back repeatedly. They were certainly stronger than the enemies but the weapon disparity was too great.

The army was at risk of being routed and the heretical experts hiding in Beauty's Smile would be able to escape.

"Bi Ningshuai, let me borrow your Blood-being Exalted Pot!" Feiyun shouted and made Ningshuai fly out of one of the palaces.

This palace was naturally the treasury of Beauty's Smile. This damned thief has taken more than half of it for his own so now, as he was flying out to answer Feiyun's call, spirit stones kept dropping out of his robe.

He quickly picked up these stones and said: "It can't see the light or the Yang World's King will come to the capital and peel off my skin."

"If you don't take it out right now, I'll be the one peeling off your skin." Feiyun threatened by grabbing the thief by the neck.

Feiyun had the spirit vessel which was a holy artifact, countless times more frightening than a fourthranked spirit treasure. However, his low cultivation made it impossible for him to use it to its strongest extent.

Only when he reached the Enlightened Being level would he barely be able to use it. Thus, lending it to Ning Fengxian was impossible as well since the guy wasn't capable of waking the vessel up.

The light in the sky gathered into a boundless ocean. It wanted to rush out of the Sacred Dao Art and Unaging Scripture. The monk and daoist have tried their best but it was useless.

"The pot got taken by Honglian, it's not on me right now." Ningshuai said emotionally: "We're good friends so I would help you if I could. Hey, hey, let go of me now, my spirit stones are still on the ground."

"Men, capture this thief and throw him into the capital's prison for me." Feng Feiyun called two soldiers over. They directly put a fetter around his neck and wanted to take him away.

"No! Fine, I'll let you borrow it then." Ningshuai cried and took out the pot for Feiyun.

"Thanks." Feiyun smirked.

The pot was the Yang King's best spirit treasure. It was full of evil energy and looked just like a skull with blood gushing out like a faint ocean. Just holding it gave a shuddering sensation.

Feng Mo said that Yama's skull was taken by the Yang King. Perhaps he used it to refine the skull into this particular weapon.

Feiyun didn't think too much and jumped into the sky, intending of handing it to Ning Fengxian.

Meanwhile, a raging battle was tearing the sky apart. Everyone felt suffocated as if the sky was falling down.

Both Fengxian and Maitreya retreated with wounds on their body. This was due to their great cultivation and pure vitality. If it was a different Giant, just the light of the weapon would turn them to ashes.

"Senior, you can borrow this Dominating Armament." Feiyun threw out the exalted pot.

He wasn't worried about Fengxian taking it away because everyone knew that it belonged to the Yang King. Who would want to provoke such a monstrous existence by stealing it?

Fengxian took it and could feel its power. He said with surprise: "Exalted pot! I see, with this armament, I'll take down several Giants today then."

A majestic power erupted from Fengxian. His robe turned into a firmament as he empowered the pot. It exuded its own power and made the sky tremble.

This was the real power of the pot, countless times stronger than the previous attempt when Feiyun and Ningshuai were using it.

A ninth-level Giant was quite a powerful master in this world. Now, he also had a Dominating Firmament. The guy went up to the sky and fought against the blue ocean. Sparks went flying and even the fabric of space was being torn apart.

Feiyun pulled Xiaoxiang dozens of miles away. The pressure remained so he took out his ring and Thunderfire Jewel in order to stop the shockwaves.

"The capital is the center of the Jin dynasty with numerous great powers, but not more than five can possess a Dominating Armament. It has to be the Beiming." Feiyun's eyes turned cold.

That clan's Nether Ice Grinder is a Dominating Firmament, very similar to the blue expanse in the sky right now.

Another monstrous wave came from a different direction. The martial army was sieging the depth of the pavilion.

"Boom!" A yellow ray shot to the sky and broke the spatial barrier. It seemed to be traveling in to the sea of stars above.

This power of an Enlightened Being was even more monstrous than a Dominating Armament. Numerous soldiers from the army were turned into bloody mists.

"Shit! There's an Enlightened Being hiding in Beauty's Smile?!"

"That's definitely the power of an Enlightened Being, so damn strong!"

Feiyun also felt this aura. If there was really an Enlightened Being in beauty's Smile, the entire army could be routed despite having the number advantage.

"It's just a soul, I'll take you on!" Battler declared with a golden glow around his body, making it look just like bronze.

Feiyun heaved a sigh of relief: 'There aren't that many Enlightened Beings around, even Mount Potala only has one on the other side of the dynasty. There's no way that this person would be here at the capital right now.'

Nevertheless, this soul was still quite powerful. Only someone at Battler's level could take it on. Others would lose after the first exchange.

The casualty was great for the heretical experts hiding in the pavilion; many were from the last generation. Today would definitely go down in history.

They began to retreat and followed Wan Huazhu deeper inside.

"There's something else lurking in Beauty's Smile?" Feiyun became curious.

"I know! There must be a treasury there. They want to take the treasures and run." Ningshuai's eyes lit up with only treasures in his mind. Despite the looming dangers in that location, he still wanted to run over.

Xiaoxiang hesitated for a moment before speaking: "I... I heard that in that far location is an imprisoned millennium spirit beast. Every month or so, Earth's End would send many slaves there to feed the beast."

## Chapter 498: Beginning Of Death

A spirit vein was the accumulation of energy and momentum of the world. It contained the energy veins, providence, and other natural laws.

This particular one beneath the capital was called a "Dragon Vein" because it was the largest in the dynasty and contained a massive amount of providence. It allowed the capital to have peace and prosperity. Thus, those who came to the capital could enjoy the thickest spirit energy for cultivation.

The Dragon Vein flowed beneath the ground like a surging golden ocean.

More than thirty cultivators from Beauty's Smile were led by their lord, Wan Huazhu. They sat on top of a millennium spirit beast with a protective barrier. The beast jumped into the Dragon Vein and swam through this massive wave of energy.

It was powerful enough to withstand the maelstroms in this vein. The other beasts living here hastily made way for it.

The cultivators within this barrier could hide their presence so the imperial experts could sense them at all. A glance or using their divine intent would only spot the beast, not the riders on top.

The beast was escaping far away but the Feng and Destruction experts were nowhere to be found. Feiyun did a risk analysis and took the risk. He summoned his vessel and jumped into the Dragon Vein.

The power of the vessel has yet to be activated so it floated on the raging current like a regular boat.

The old and melancholic boat with its eighteen broken sails continued forward through the waves.

The diagram of the Dragon-horse floated above in order to protect the ship from the murderous gales in this place.

"Pavilion Lord, Feng Feiyun is after us."

An old woman at the back of the beast spotted Feiyun.

Wan Huazhu turned back and was quite surprised to see the guy. There were many dangers in the vein so without this beast, she wouldn't dare to enter it. Feiyun was only at second-level yet he was fine and well right now? Truly shocking.

She quickly realized that the ship was the thing protecting him. It had an aura that even the Dragon Vein was afraid of.

"He's suicidal going by himself."

"That's perfect, our pavilion is destroyed because of him. Blood for blood then."

A beautiful woman wearing a moon robe with rippling eyes and breath as sweet as the orchid took out an ancient sword. She drew more than one hundred sword mantras and unleashed a ray towards Feiyun.

Feiyun was leaving marks behind for reinforcement and suddenly, he felt a terrifying sword slash coming for him.

His eyes narrowed as a plume of fire issued a phoenix cry. Two blinding rays came out like fiery chains and shattered the sword slash.

His Heavenly Phoenix Gaze had reached a high enough level to unleash rays capable of contending against a spirit treasure.

"Pluff!" The rays struck the woman and shattered her sword mantras. Blood began dripping out of her eyes.

"Xinlan, back off. You're not his match." A hunchback old woman blocked before her and raised her decrepit finger to unleash another ray.

The old woman was far stronger than the young girl earlier. The ray was able to gather the energy of the Dragon Vein to culminate in incomparable sharpness.

Feiyun used his Samsara Steps to dodge it. The ray struck the vessel and its power got absorbed, unable to damage the ship in the slightest.

"Bang." Feiyun landed back on the vessel and slowed down.

The cultivators on that beast were immensely powerful. The majority was at Heaven's Mandate while Wan Huazhu was a Giant. Feiyun was relying on his speed to stay alive or she could destroy him with one move.

The other old women were quite amazing too, infinitely close to being half-step Giants.

"Hall Lord, if we don't take him down, he'll lead the army right to us." One old woman said.

Huazhu also attacked but inside this Dragon Vein, the power of a Giant still became weaker. Plus, she couldn't cause a big commotion or the experts from the royal clan would figure it out right away.

"I'll go kill him, everyone, go on ahead." A fifth-level old woman took the initiative and flew above the Dragon Vein to attack Feiyun. A fifth-level was no joke, she could reign an entire domain by herself or take up a high position in a great power.

Feiyun took out the King's Order. Seven golden figures came out and slammed her into the river, leaving her grievously wounded.

The power of this insignia right now could damage a fifth-level Heaven's Mandate cultivator.

"Rawr!" A strange beast living in the dragon vein as long as a gluttonous dragon with scales all over its gigantic head swallowed the old woman.

The majority of these beasts were ancient breeds that could survive in the Dragon Vein. Plus, they utilized the vein to grow several times stronger than those outside.

Nevertheless, the cultivators from Beauty's Smile were nowhere to be found now.

A millennium beast was on the same level as a Giant, cultivation wise, but was even stronger in combat. Its speed was naturally amazing and could fly dozens of miles away in a split second.

Feiyun gave chase with his vessel again. Due to the aura of the Myriad Beast Physique, the other beasts in the river also steered clear of him.

He sent out his divine intents in order to find the other cultivators. Alas, the energy here was very chaotic on top of the complicated terrain. He could only sense things within a hundred miles.

"Oh? This is..." He found a floating corpse inching closer.

He swung his sleeve and a light came out to pick up this female corpse. It has been burnt to a crisp by nefarious energy.

The moment he touched the corpse, a bone-chill sensation struck him. This corpse energy was trying to invade his body.

He channeled his bloodline and a phoenix flame expelled this energy from his body.

"That's their number one courtesan, Mo Xinlan, why did she die here? What the hell did they meet?"

Xinlan was at the fourth-level and was quite talented. Without the King's Order, Feiyun wouldn't be a match for her. Alas, this beautiful and powerful lady has turned into a corpse.

It made Feiyun much more cautious about the unknown danger ahead.

"Hmm, such a great nefarious energy of death in her corpse; even the beasts don't want to eat her. No wonder why she floated all the way down here. Did they meet something up ahead?"

Feiyun's ring floated in his palm while the six diagrams emitted a faint light. He was ready for anything coming up ahead.

"Boom!" Suddenly, the corpse turned evil with a green glow in her eyes then attacked Feiyun.

This corpse was as tough as steel; it had experienced the second level of corpse transformation.

"Second transformation already? She must have been struck by a powerful corpse energy, actually, that's might be why she died in the first place." Feiyun had this thought before using his ring to blow her back into the Dragon Vein.

An energy gale in there crushed the corpse into black dust, quite a pitiful end for a beauty. When she was alive, she was the focus of the show, beloved by all. Now, not even a strand of hair remained.

Feiyun was used to death so he wasn't shaken at all and moved forward.

A bit later, two more female corpses appeared - one old and one young. They were inside the vein with oppressive death energy in the form of black smokes. These beasts living in the vein all ran away. They could sense the danger.

They drifted by the vessel and he could recognize them. One of them was an old woman near the halfstep level.

He took a deep breath and went on. Occasionally, one or two corpses would come by. Six was the highest number; all these corpses were turning black.

They were on the verge of turning into Corpse Evils.

"The entire group got annihilated?"

Suddenly, a spirit beast roared ahead with powerful shockwaves from a fight rushing by.

Feiyun quickly gave chase to see which monster had taken down so many experts.

#### Chapter 499: Third-ranked Spirit Treasure

"Boom!" A black energy of death billowed over like the night curtain and caused the Dragon Vein to turn and churn.

It slammed into the vessel so Feiyun cut his palm and swing his blood over. It ignited into flame and extinguished the engulfing energy.

"Bam!" A corpse was blown flying over his head and slammed stuck into the stone wall.

Feiyun glanced over and was slightly shaken. It was Wan Huazhu, a real-deal Giant!

The pavilion lord has fallen in this Dragon Vein.

The danger ahead could kill a Giant so Feiyun hesitated about moving forward.

The cries of the millennium spirit beast came about.

"Rumble!" A monster resembling a golden flood-dragon was running away. Three heads have been severed and six claws out of eight were gone. Half of its body had been cut off so only the front half spanning for several meters was running away.

This beast was powerful enough. As long as its soul was still there, it could still survive a decapitation.

This was a frightening scene like a beast running away from hell. The wounds had black smokes oozing out of it. The malefic energy of death was invading its body.

"A beast like this is tougher and faster than a Giant but this is still the result? It might have escaped but it won't be able to refine that malefic energy. Death is inevitable." Feiyun continued to watch the beast running like crazy on the river.

Despite its injuries and the malefic energy inside stopping it from using ten percent of its power, Feiyun right now couldn't suppress it at all, not even with the King's Order.

"Its strength is draining away; the malefic force must be eating its vitality. Just one more hour and it will be dead then I can grab its soul."

"Refining this soul could boost my ring up to the third rank." Feiyun was tempted but he remained patient and simply watched.

He was right. After an hour, the beast became increasingly slower as if it had fallen into a quagmire. Its scales were dark; life force sapped away by the malefic force.

"Such mighty death energy, even a millennium spirit beast can't stop it." Feiyun took out the King's order and directly attacked the beast.

It exuded a golden light and split the beast in half.

"Boom!" A beast soul more than seventy meters long rose from the corpse. It had three heads, eight claws, and three wings. A great pressure came out in the form of radiance.

Just the soul alone was powerful enough. Feiyun wouldn't have dared to get close if it wasn't for the malefic energy eating away at it.

He fought against this soul that was growing weaker by the minute. Its cries became softer and softer, it wouldn't be long now.

"Not good, the King's Order is weakening too." The order shouldered the wills of the previous kings. In order to use them for the most powerful attack, he needed to empower them with spirit stones.

The energy from these spirit stones was on the verge of depletion.

He put away the order and activated his own beast souls. He gathered the energy into his palm and did a full force attack, blowing the beast soul away.

He didn't give it a chance to regain its breath so he continued forward, each strike encompassing the power from his entire body. After seventy-eight consecutive palms, the soul finally stopped moving.

Feiyun was also heaving and panting after using too much spirit energy.

It wasn't easy taking one of this level down even though his phoenix soul was quite intimidating against other beasts. Today, he had all the advantages so he could finally take this one down.

He took out the ring and activated the six diagrams. A terrible black plume came out.

Formations circled on the ring and made the black light even stronger just like a black sun.

"Activate!" Feiyun used the vessel to suppress the ring and forcefully open a hole. A maelstrom began to suck the soul of the millennium beast into the hole.

"It must reach the third rank. It must!" Feiyun murmured.

A third-ranked treasure was fundamentally different from a second-ranked one, like the difference between a teenager and a toddler. Meanwhile, a fourth-ranked treasure was a fully armed general. This was a gap akin to the distance between heaven and earth.

"Just a little bit more, this soul isn't enough to upgrade it." Feiyun was slightly disappointed.

The ring was now at peak second rank, just one inch away from being a third rank.

"The golden strings!" Feiyun thought about these golden spirit strings.

The spirituality inside was amazing, enough to materialize into these strings. This could perhaps be the origin of spirituality.

Just one string was enough for a pseudo-treasure to gain its own spirituality and become a first-rank spirit treasure.

Now, the ring was just a bit from reaching the next level. Perhaps the spirituality inside could propel it just enough. He quickly took out the spirit stone and took out an exquisite string. He activated the hole of the ring again and inserted the string.

It quickly melted into a golden ocean of spirituality. The ring's spirit has risen again.

Feiyun was ecstatic and quickly inserted a second, third, fourth, fifth, and sixth!

"Boom!" The ring finally transformed with heavenly hymns and cries of beasts.

The ring floated upward and spun while issuing resonating clanks. It had reached the third rank. The six diagrams became even more realistic, seemingly capable of forming six oppressive momentums.

Feiyun channeled all of his energy just to wake up the ring. Formations circled around and a white ray shot out for eight hundred miles, killing an eight-hundred-year beast in the river.

"Haha!" Feiyun laughed. With this weapon now, he could have something to go against the members of the upper historical list.

Feiyun walked up to the corpse of the beast and used his stone saber to carve out a core around the size of a fist. Only spirit beasts had these spirit cores, similar to the dantian and violet palace of cultivators. It contained the purest spirit energy and dao laws of the beast.

These cores were too rare because there weren't that many spirit beasts in the dynasty, not to mention killing one and taking its core.

"I'll reach third-level in just two days with this core." Feiyun's foundation was ready, only missing spirit energy. The core was full of energy and easy to absorb.

He had 73,000 strands of violet energy right now in his palace. At 100,000, he would reach the third level.

With that, he would definitely grasp the power to compete against the upper geniuses. The majority of them were at the fourth level.

His talents were naturally greater than them due to his Immortal Phoenix and Myriad Beast Physiques. These two things allowed him to jump a level and compete against them.

He put away the core and glanced further down the river. Death energy was billowing there as if a vast power was hidden inside.

He activated his phoenix gaze. The vision crossed through the energy and sure enough, there was a supreme beauty meditating inside while floating on the Dragon Vein. Her black hair flowed like a waterfall with a body as magnificent as jade. Though she was surrounded by death energy, she also exuded a white and holy glow just like a moon goddess.

She was absorbing the essences and energy in the Dragon Vein in order to strengthen her body that was becoming increasingly resplendent.

Feiyun was shocked to see her, 'why is she here?! Refining the vein's power for her own gains? Looks like she had turned the imperial guardians here into her corpse slaves too for protection.'

Suddenly, he felt a chill emanating down his body. Something was now glaring at him.

#### Chapter 500: Refining The Spirit Core

A dangerous sensation pricked his back. It came from the bottom of the Dragon Vein so Feiyun used his divine intents and felt that a terrible power was coming for him.

A creature with scales all over its tail, spanning for over a hundred meter, surged from the vein.

"Whoosh!" Feiyun was as fast as lightning but he barely dodged the attack. His robe got stained by a mucus-like liquid and corroded into ashes.

"What is that? A beast or a spirit beast?" Feiyun recalled the vessel and leaned against the wall like a bat while looking at the surging river.

"Rawr!" The roar of the beast made the wall vibrate continuously.

The vein was connected to all of Central Royal. Because of the dense energy here, there were many powerful beasts and even spirit beasts living inside.

The aura just now came from a spirit beast, much stronger than the one from Beauty's Smile.

"My millennium core must have led this lord of the vein to this place." Feiyun speculated.

He had two ways to survive at this moment. One, to yield the core to this monster and use that opportunity to escape. Second, relying on the Evil Woman.

Both methods were relatively dangerous. Of course, the first would mean losing the core and making it much harder to reach third-level Heaven's Mandate.

The second was even more dangerous. After all, awakening the woman would incite her wrath and at that point, having ten lives still wouldn't be enough.

"Rawr!" The gigantic tail came again. Feiyun finally got a good look of it - it was a serpent with scales as large as a palm.

He used his movement technique and turned into a ray while protecting himself with the King's Order to head for the death energy up front where the Evil Woman was.

He wanted to use her aura to scare this monster.

"Boom!" The King's Order successfully repelled the monster's attack.

Nevertheless, he was still blown flying into the thick death energy. He quickly used his ring to stop its effect.

The other cultivators from Beauty's Smile were invaded by the energy coming from the Evil Woman and died. He didn't wish to follow their footstep.

Though his Immortal Phoenix Physique was amazing at stopping this death energy, he still needed to be careful against the Evil Woman.

She was meditating and absorbing energy in the Dragon Vein as her hair fluttered.

There were six corpses in golden robe sitting behind her. They were all at the second stage of corpse transformation. These were the royal guards, all killed by her and turned into her slaves.

"Her aura is quite strong, that powerful monster doesn't dare to come." Feiyun stealthily approached closer to her in order to avoid the monster.

He was still staying thirty miles away because it was too dangerous up ahead. Just her pulsing energy up there could crush him to death.

The power of an Enlightened Being was unreal. Just a single breath from them could turn him into blood.

A single flick could kill a Giant from ten thousand miles away.

The monster didn't dare to come closer and only occasionally howled.

"She's stealing from the vein, hmm, with the blood of the billions of lives in the southern region, she might be trying to reach the fifth transformation."

Feiyun was knowledgeable and had seen a Corpse Monarch at the sixth transformation before. He knew that each stage required a massive amount of energy just like a cultivator getting ready to withstand the tribulations. Being careless would end with death.

The fifth transformation required a great amount of vitality. Half of the citizens in Grand Southern have been massacred. Their blood permeated into the ground and turned into a river. This was her preparation for the next transformation.

The vitality was enough, she just needed energy now.

Ordinary spirit veins wouldn't be able to handle this fifth transformation so she needed to use the plentiful Dragon Vein beneath the capital.

"She has that Daomization Stone so her probability of success is quite high, must be around ten percent."

From fourth to fifth, the probability of success was one percent. However, due to the stone, the Evil Woman increased the odds by ten times.

She cultivated the "Three Corpses Slashing The Dao" technique. If she could fuse all three forms together, her chance of success would be even greater.

Feiyun felt a bit down. The two of them were both experts in their last life at Heaven Emergence. Alas, her cultivation was coming back much faster while he was still stuck at second-level Heaven's Mandate.

"No, she had cultivated for more than one thousand years while I'm only starting again for a few years, so of course I can't match her right now. But I do have to do it faster, this woman has murder in her veins, she might even refine the entire dynasty after reaching the fifth level."

Feiyun took out the tough-as-steel core with monstrous life energy inside. Carelessly using this wild energy could destroy one's meridians and veins.

This thing was similar to a cultivator's dantian. A cultivator who didn't know how to use the energy inside could end up imploding. But of course, Feiyun knew how to use this core.

"After reaching third-level by absorbing this core, my cultivation will become so much better. Swift Samsara will be fast enough that even spirit beasts can't catch up with me. Running shouldn't be a problem then."

Feiyun's finger danced like a calligraphy brush as he carved spirit energy on the core, wishing to cover it with multi-layers.

After finishing this, he finally grabbed it with both hands. A maelstrom formed inside and spirit energy strands oozed out.

The core had much more energy than a regular spirit stone. Moreover, it had been refined by the beast so it was very easy to absorb.

Feiyun had 73,000 strands of violet energy and this number was increasing rapidly. Every minute, twenty more would come out in his dantian.

In just one day, 23,000 strands were born in his body so he was at 96,000 right now, closer and closer to third-level Heaven's Mandate.

Meanwhile, the capital was in an uproar. Beauty's Smile has been trampled into ruins. All the cultivators were frightened - this was their first time witnessing the power of the Divine King Faction.

On the second day of court, the palace was in a furor. More than forty officials from the civil and military branches accused Feiyun of misconduct. Among them were marquises and members from the Nine Ministers. They listed a total of thirteen crimes.

Alas, the guy who was the main character of this issue was nowhere to be found so they had to postpone this matter.

"You guys think Feiyun got killed by those pavilion experts?" A few prodigies were together - both men and women. All were young kings of this generation. Ling Donglai was cutting his fingernail with a knife and sneered: "Intelligence stated that he had entered the Dragon Vein to chase after the fleeing experts but he still hasn't come out."

"If this is true, then he might be dead down there." A girl with long yet thin brows and skin as white as snow said. She had a white flowery glow around her - this was a genius of the Daoist Gate.

"I heard the royal clan sent several big shots in there to find him. Even the emperor was paying attention to this. Several millennium spirit beasts down there were stirred recently. If they can't find him in three days, he might be inside a beast's stomach already." Long Shenya said.

"Hmph! I hope he's alive so I can personally defeat him." Donglai has been annoyed because he was ranked below Feiyun on the lower list.

Shenya was surprised by the aggression and smiled back: "Divine Commander, I heard you have found another treasure recently so your cultivation improved."

Donglai spoke without hesitation: "I made it to third-level."

The ones here were shaken after this because Donglai wasn't even twenty just yet. This talent was indeed comparable to those on the upper list. Even the current so-called number one genius, Feiyun, wasn't as fast as him in terms of cultivation speed.

Donglai was amused by the face of these prodigies. In fact, he found a spirit grass in an ancient ruin to broke through the third-level. A while later, he found another ancient treasure and was at peak third-level now.

'If I were to tell them that I'm about to reach fourth-level, what kind of face are they going to make?' He knew better than to reveal everything.