

Swordsman 151

Chapter 151: Go through the Heavenly Palace

At the very edge of the corridor, Jian Wushuang was standing side by side with Baili Chen, followed by a large group of disciples behind them.

Unlike the Dragon Gate, the Heavenly Palace was open to the public and could be seen by everyone.

"Jian Wushuang, this is your first time going through the Heavenly Palace, right?" Baili Chen asked with a smile.

"Yes." Jian Wushuang nodded.

"I have to remind you that the trial of Heavenly Palace is very simple. Although there are some hindrances created by these puppets, just go as far as you can. And don't forget, you can't stop or retreat. Once you do, the trial will end. Got it?" Baili Chen said.

"Can't stop?" Jian Wushuang frowned and asked, "In other words, I have to keep moving forward?"

"Yes, as long as you don't stop, you can go forward at a normal speed or even a very slow speed. Also, keep in mind that the Heavenly Palace is a total of one kilometer long." Baili Chen said.

"One kilometer?" Jian Wushuang suddenly changed color.

In the outside world, traveling a kilometer would only take a minute. But the Heavenly Palace was filled with puppets that would try to stop him. So it was impossible for him to rush straight to the very end of the corridor.

Just move forward as far as possible.

"Are you ready?" Baili Chen asked.

"Of course." Jian Wushuang nodded.

"Okay. Let's start."

Swoosh! Swoosh! As soon as the sentence finished, Jian Wushuang and Baili Chen turned into a Flowing Light at the same time, directly rushing toward the end of the corridor.

The competition to see who could go farthest in the Heavenly Palace had started.

And they both started at the same time.

At the edge of the corridor, a large number of the disciples were watching with anticipation.

The moment Jian Wushuang and Baili Chen appeared in the corridor, the puppets immediately came to life and rushed towards them.

"Baili Chen ranks second on the Earthly Dragon List."?? A weird light shone in Jian Wushuang's eyes.

"I have been steadily cultivating in the Sword Tomb for the last two years. My strength has skyrocketed, even to the point where I can kill common experts in the Yin-Yang Void Realm. However, it is said that the top ten experts on the Earthly Dragon List are also capable of killing warriors in the Yin-Yang Void Realm. And those ranked in the top three are at a monstrous level. This Baili Chen ranks second on the Earthly Dragon List. Between the two of us, who is stronger?"

Jian Wushuang looked forward to competing with Baili Chen. When he saw ten puppets rushing toward him, a cold light flashed in his eyes.

"Get out of my way!"

A howl of rage sounded out in an instant as the cold sword shadow swept out.

With an overwhelming amount of Sword Essence of Earth, the unbridled Sword Shadow instantly hit the puppets and knocked them away without even giving them a chance to touch Jian Wushuang.

Without waiting, Jian Wushuang continued to attack, but ten more puppets rushed towards him.

The strength of these ten puppets was obviously stronger than the puppets he just repulsed.

"The farther forward we move, the stronger these puppets will be. They will also be a greater hindrance, right?" Narrowing his eyes, Jian Wushuang felt like he had a basic understanding of the trial in the Heavenly Palace.

Now that he understood the situation, he would use his full power and move forward.

"Come on."

With a growl, Jian Wushuang instantaneously released his full power. Wielding an unbridled Sword Shadow, he used the Fiery Wind Sword Essence to the pinnacle of his ability.

The terrifying sword shadow, like a fire dragon, easily bombarded the puppets and knocked them backwards.

Jian Wushuang had not been hindered at all, so he continued to rush forward, attacking the puppets in the process.

On the other side, Baili Chen also used all his strength. His palms slammed forward, one after the other, and his blood-colored gloves radiated an iridescent luster at this moment. He attacks caused even the air to tremble.

Every one of his attacks was frightening.

Each blow contained the combined essences of Raging Fire and Waterdrop.

Water and Fire Essence!

Obviously, Baili Chen had combined two Essences as well.

Baili Chen's Water and Fire Essence was not weaker than Jian Wushuang's Fiery Wind Essence.

Also, Baili Chen's Palm skill was extremely terrifying, frightening, and appalling.

One blow after another, the puppets never even had an opportunity to touch him before being knocked back.

“Extremely awesome! ”

“Is that the strength of the second rank on the Earthly Dragon List?”

“Extremely awesome. Baili Chen is too strong. His every move seems to be able to destroy the heaven and earth. Although I’m an expert on the Earthly Dragon List, I don’t think I could withstand his attacks.”

“Jian Wushuang is so strong as well. His comprehension of Fiery Wind Sword Essence is extremely high, together with his violent, fierce, and rapid assaults. Luckily, those puppets are made of special materials that are unbreakable. Otherwise, they would have already been chopped into pieces!”

“Both of them are very strong. What Baili Chen said is true. When Jian Wushuang competed with Luo Ang just now, he did not try his best. He did not even use his Fiery Wind Sword Essence.”

A large number of disciples were talking about that, and each of them was very shocked.

However, despite the strength possessed by both Jian Wushuang and Baili Chen, the farther they went into the corridor, the stronger those puppets were, and the more they were hindered by them.

Soon, both of them began slowing down.

It was starting to get quite difficult for them to move forward.

Finally...

Bang!

A puppet approached Jian Wushuang with a fierce saber attack, but Jian Wushuang used his sword to withstand it. The terrifying sword shadow instantly pierced the Void, colliding with the incoming saber, immediately launching the puppet backwards.

However, the power of this puppet’s saber was not weak. Although it couldn’t hurt Jian Wushuang, it was still enough to make him stop for an instant.

That pause meant that this trial was over, so the puppets surrounding him immediately stopped.

At almost the same time when Jian Wushuang stopped, Baili Chen was also forced to stop by a puppet.

In a single instant, both of them had stopped, and their trials had ended at nearly the same time.

At this moment, the distance between them was less than ten meters. One was in front and the other was slightly behind.

In the outside world, a ten-meter distance was like a single step. But in the Heavenly Palace, it was much more complicated.

“It...”

Seeing this scene, the disciples at the edge of the corridor also stood up in amazement and stared at Jian Wushuang.

Palace Masters Black and White, as well as the Temple Masters, also watched this scene speechlessly.

“Only ten meters?”

“Only ten meters, that can be made up for with a single step.”

“Jian Wushuang is not lucky enough.”

Yes, the figure that was ten meters behind was Jian Wushuang.

If as usual, getting behind was a fact. But now there seemed to have coincidence as far as the merely ten-meter distance.

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Chapter 152: The Peak of Profound Gold Core Realm

“I lost. I did my best, but I still lost,” Jian Wushuang said helplessly.

He indeed did his best. Even after using Fiery Wind Sword Essence with his full power, he was still ten meters behind.

Whoosh! Whoosh!

Jian Wushuang returned to the edge of the corridor with Baili Chen.

A large number of disciples were staring at them excitedly.

“You two did an excellent job,” said the Palace Master White. “Baili Chen, your strength has improved a lot compared to three years ago.”

“You exaggerate Palace Master. I was lucky to be ten meters ahead this time. After all, this was the first time Jian Wushuang went through the Heavenly Palace. He is not quite familiar with it yet. If he tried again, I might not be his match. His strength is greater than mine,” Baili Chen said.

Hearing this, the surrounding disciples were stunned.

They did not expect that Baili Chen would admit that Jian Wushuang’s strength was greater than his.

Everybody knew that Baili Chen ranked 2nd on the Earthly Dragon List, while Jian Wushuang... How old was he?

“I lost, and this is the truth. Even if we fought one more time, I would still lose,” Jian Wushuang smiled and said.

“Alright, you two are done fighting, so now it’s time for the competition. There will be seven winners selected during the competition. Let’s go.” Hearing what Palace Master White said, the disciples returned to Martial Arts Practice Field again, and threw themselves into the competition.

The combat over the remaining seven recommendations would be much crueler.

It was a competition where everyone had to depend on their own strength. Only the seven strongest people would be allowed to attend the selection battle.

Yang Zaixuan walked directly towards Luo Ang with a cold face.

"You are Luo Ang, right? Your recommendation chance will be mine," Yang Zaixuan said coldly.

"How ridiculous," being immediately enraged, Luo Ang threw himself into the fight with Yang Zaixuan.

Only a few minutes later, this fierce battle ended.

The result amazed nearly all the disciples of Dragon Palace.

Luo Ang lost, again. First, Jian Wushuang beat him, now Yang Zaixuan was the second one who defeated him.

Although Yang Zaixuan was not able to defeat Luo Ang within three moves like Jian Wushuang, he had overpowered Luo Ang throughout the whole match, without any suspense. It was obvious that Yang Zaixuan's battle strength was much greater than Luo Ang's.

"The top 10...Yang Zaixuan's strength is strong enough to rank in the top 10 of the Earthly Dragon List!"

"We have one more powerful person!"

"Ha-ha, how unfortunate for Luo Ang. After all, he is ranking 14th on the Earthly Dragon List, but he was defeated by two people in the same today, being 'overpowered' by both of them."

Hearing the disciples discussions, Palace Master White and the others were happy and surprised.

Yang Zaixuan was strong enough to be in the top ten of the Earthly Dragon List, which meant that they might get one more spot in the Easternmost Hunt this time. So of course, they were happy.

Other than Yang Zaixuan, there was one more excellent newcomer who caught their attention.

This person was Su Rou!

"This lady..."

"Her swordsmanship is so odd!"

"She has defeated three seniors in a row. One of them even ranked 29th on the Earthly Dragon List."

While the disciples were discussing this, Su Rou defeated the fourth senior. So she had a very good chance of receiving a recommendation.

Among the four newcomers who attended the competition this time...

Jian Wushuang, Yang Zaixuan, Su Rou, and Su Lie. Other than Su Lie, the other three would receive a recommendation. On behalf of Dragon Palace, they could attend the selection battle held in Tianzong Dynasty next month.

"Ha-ha, you three are really excellent, you are definitely my siblings," Wang Yuan smiled and said proudly, "especially Wushuang, you were so formidable when you competed with Baili Chen. Everybody knows he is ranked 2nd on the Earthly Dragon List!"

"But I was still defeated," said Jian Wushuang, shaking his head. He was not proud or happy at all.

He thought after two years of earnest cultivation in the Sword Tomb that his strength would be enough to look down on the Earthly Dragon List. But obviously, he was wrong.

Even Baili Chen, who was ranked 2nd, was so hard to defeat. Not to mention Xue Yun who was ranked 1st. Since he was slightly weaker than Baili Chen, how much stronger was Xue Yun?

"The selection battle next month will gather experts from everywhere. Xue Yun is a peerless genius that Blood Feather Tower elaborately cultivated. He will definitely attend it as well, which means he will probably fight with me." Jian Wushuang was worried and thought.

Three years ago, Baili Chen and Qing Cang teamed up to fight against Xue Yun, but they were only able to reach a draw.

However, Xue Yun was just in the Profound Gold Core Realm at that time.

Now, three years had passed. What level was Xue Yun's strength at?

Jian Wushuang squinted his eyes slightly.

If he fought with Xue Yun right now and didn't use the Soul-taking Secret Skill, he had no confidence that he could win.

"There is only one month left before the battle!"

"I must find a way to enhance my strength in this remaining month!"

A light flashed in Jian Wushuang's eyes.

After the ten recommendations were confirmed, Jian Wushuang left the Martial Arts Practice Field and went directly to Secret Pavilion. Once there, he exchanged for plenty of First-class Heavenly Spirit Pills.

Afterwards, he devoted himself to earnest cultivation for one month.

During that whole month, he had locked himself in the room, without even stepping outside of the door.

Yang Zaixuan and Su Rou were also in earnest cultivation.

They all knew that there was only one month left before the match. Any improvements during this month would increase their chance of winning in the selection battle.

Wang Yuan suffered the whole month, because everyone was cultivating in isolation at the same time. So he could not find anyone to drink with.

In a flash, one month had passed.

On the bed in his room, Jian Wushuang's eyes, which were originally half-closed, suddenly opened. At the same time, a foul air was exhaled from his mouth.

"I have swallowed 30 First-class Heavenly Spirit Pills this month, one each day. It's such a luxury. Although a great deal of the Heavenly Spirit Pill's efficiency was wasted, it helped my cultivation reach

the peak of the Profound Gold Core Realm!"Clenching his hands tightly, he could feel that his power was much stronger than one month ago. Jian Wushuang smiled.

Earlier, in the Sword Tomb, his cultivation had already reached the Profound Gold Core realm, only a small distance from the peak of the profound level.

Plus, he had been cultivating tirelessly this month, while swallowing a large number of First-class Heavenly Spirit Pills. It would be unreasonable if he did not reach the peak of the Profound Gold Core Realm.

"In addition, I finally grasped the Eighth Move of the Formless Sword Art," Jian Wushuang smiled and muttered.

The seventh move of the Formless Sword Art could only be displayed by someone with a good comprehension of the Gale and Raging Fire Sword Essences. Combining them was unnecessary.

While the Eighth Move required those two essences to be combined before it could be used. This move could really help Jian Wushuang raise his strength to a new level.

"It's a pity that I was still unable to combine three sword essences, even after this month of cultivation. Otherwise, I would be even more prepared," Jian Wushuang muttered in a dissatisfied tone.

Chapter 153: The Selection Battle Begins

When the sword essences were combined, his fighting strength greatly improved.

With the Fiery Wind Sword Essence, formed via the combination of Gale and Raging Fire, Jian Wushuang's fighting strength had improved immensely.

The increase in strength would be even greater if he could combine three sword essences.

As a conservative estimate, once Jian Wushuang combined three sword essences, his overall strength could be increased by at least three times!

However, it's pity, during the two years of meditation in the Sword Tomb, even though his comprehension of those four sword essences was at a high level, he was unable to combine three sword essences... Neither Sword Essences of Earth nor Waterdrop were combined with Fiery Wind Sword Essence successfully.

Successfully combining them depended on more than just comprehension. What he needed was a moment of insight.

If he was lucky, he could combine three sword essences in the next instant.

"However, even without combining three sword essences, I have absolute confidence I could defeat Baili Chen now. My strength has improved a lot compared to one month ago," Jian Wushuang muttered confidently.

He was different from other warriors; what he practiced was Inverse Cultivation.

Other warriors could only gain limited improvements within one month, while he could greatly improve.

After all, his current cultivation was only in the Profound Gold Core Realm, while Baili Chen and the other top experts were all at the Peak of the Gold Core Realm.

Just looking at his cultivation level, there was plenty of room for improvement.

"The one-month deadline is near, which means the selection battle is about to start." Jian Wushuang thought. His hands were clenched tightly, and a light shined in his eyes.

Ten Griffins had long been prepared outside of the Dragon Palace.

Jian Wushuang, Yang Zaixuan, and Su Rou walked side by side, towards Baili Chen.

Baili Chen randomly picked a Griffin and sat down, looking over at them as he said, "You three finally arrived. We were all waiting for you."

"Why is it just you guys here, where are Palace Master White and the others?" Jian Wushuang said questioningly.

"They have already gone to the selection battlefield. They don't have time to deal with us," Baili Chen said jokingly. "Alright, pick a Griffin and let's go. Not sure why, but the selection battlefield this time is, unexpectedly, one hundred miles away from the imperial palace."

"Outside the imperial palace?" Jian Wushuang grew suspicious.

Soon after, the ten Gold Core Realm experts, who were attending the battle on behalf of Dragon Palace, left on the Griffins.

...

A hundred miles away from the imperial palace, was a huge blank field.

At this moment, that blank field was already very crowded and busy.

Through the internal selection battle in Tianzong Dynasty, the strongest fifteen geniuses would be picked to attend the Easternmost Hunt. The selection battle was held every decade. Needless to say, everyone took this quite seriously.

An innumerable amount of warriors was gathered in the field. Although it was not yet noon, the number must have reached over 100,000!

With more than 100,000 people gathered in a blank field, what would it look like?

They looked like a swarm of wasps.

Fortunately, Tianzong Dynasty had a Royal Guard. With the Royal Guard in place, the battlefield was kept in good order.

After all, every sergeant was at the Exceptional Gold Core Realm. The Royal Guard had an incredible battle strength. And, the sergeants worked well together, so nobody could cause trouble in front of them. If someone tried, it would only take a few sergeants to suppress them.

The crowd included a large number of experts with tyrannical auras, most of which were much stronger than the Exceptional Gold Core Realm.

They were experts from the Earthly Dragon List!

Normally they would rarely appear, but during this event, experts from the Earthly Dragon List could be seen everywhere. At a glance, it was easy to spot more than fifty experts from the Earthly Dragon List.

However, the warriors present were not really excited to see the normal experts of the Earthly Dragon List, they saw too many in this event. what attracted their sight was those top experts.

“That is Ouyang Haotian, right?”

“Yes, it’s him, ranked 3rd on the Earthly Dragon List. The man next to him is his little brother, Ouyang Haoyue.”

“Hum, I heard that he can easily kill the experts in the Yin-Yang Void Realm. He will definitely be one of the strongest who claims one of the fifteen places in this selection battle.”

“Is that Mu Yingying from the Mu clan?”

“She attended as well.”

“She was originally ranked 3rd on the Earthly Dragon List, but is now ranked 4th. Even though she moved back one rank, her strength still should not be underestimated.”

Quite a lot of people were discussing in secret.

“Brother, look at how many people are watching you.” Standing next to his eldest brother, Ouyang Haoyue felt proud.

“Well, ignore them,” Ouyang Haotian said casually, “I am pretty confident that I can get a spot in the selection battle. As for you, I will try my best to get a spot for you too, if there is a chance.”

“Thanks, brother,” Ouyang Haoyue said excitedly. But suddenly, his face turned cold and he said, “brother, I have a request. It’s about Jian Wushuang.”

“Yes, I know,” Ouyang Haotian nodded and said, “Don’t worry, I will handle it for you. Jian Wushuang is not qualified to be my opponent. Forget Jian Wushuang, even Baili Chen will be defeated by me this time!”

“Nowadays, only one person is qualified to be my opponent on the entire Earthly Dragon List.”

“Who?” Ouyang Haoyue could not help but ask.

“Xue Yun,” Ouyang Haotian said, with his eyes suddenly shrank, “he is coming.”

A black shadow swept through the air at an amazing speed. In no time it appeared, hovering over the area. This shadow turned out to be a giant black Condor, carrying a robed figure. It began to float down slowly, finally landing on the platform which was temporarily built in the center of the blank field.

The platform was quiet. Even though there were plenty of Warriors around, nobody dared to step on it. At this moment, the figure suddenly appeared on the platform, overlooking everyone in the field with a wicked look.

In an instant, the entire field was in a tumult.

“He is Xue Yun!”

“Yes, he is Xue Yun!”

“He is the one who is ranking 1st on the Earthly Dragon List, and the well-deserved strongest beneath the Yin-Yang Void Realm!”

“He will definitely acquire one of the fifteen spots without a doubt.”

Seeing him, plenty Warriors around were very excited.

Xue Yun could be called a myth, and a legend!

He was a goal that almost all Warriors of Tianzong Dynasty were striving for.

But now, this myth appeared in front of everybody, overlooking the crowd crossly with his wicked and evil eyes, with everybody was in his sight.

Everybody who was in his sight could not help lowering their heads, including the experts of the Earthly Dragon List.

No one dared to look Xue Yun in the eye.

They knew the disparity between their power was quite big!

The disparity was so big that they could not catch up with purely by cultivating.

“Brother, is he Xue Yun?”

There were several figures with Long Swords on their backs in the crowd. They were from Tianyuan Sword Sect. Among them was Jian Meng’er and her Great Master, Shui Hanxin, whom Jian Wushuang had seen before

Chapter 154: Greeting

“It’s him, the strongest person on the Earthly Dragon List, a real monster!”

Next to Jian Meng’er, stood a handsome man with a somewhat ethereal atmosphere. The elegant man was Ling Feng, the top genius of the Tianyuan Sword Sect. At the moment, Ling Feng looked dignified, staring at the demonic youth on the platform in front of him.

“A monster? Is he more powerful than you, Senior Brother?” Jian Meng’er could not help asking.

“Junior Sister, you overestimate me. I know my own ability. Although I’m ranked 41st on the Earthly Dragon List, I’m nothing compare to Xue Yun. I don’t even know if I could take one move from him,” Ling Feng said seriously.

“Ling Feng, don’t be too humble. Xue Yun is strong, but your strength is not bad. Even a few of the Upper Elders in the Tianyuan Sword Sect admire your strength. But, if you really don’t want to face Xue Yun, you can bypass him when the selection battle starts. Just avoid head-on collisions with him,” Shui Hanxin said, standing beside him.

“Ah, I know.” Ling Feng nodded slightly.

As one of the five biggest sword sects in Tianyan Province, Tianyuan Sword Sect could be seen as first class in the Tianzong Dynasty in terms of strength. It also received a recommendation for the selection battle. And the recommendation was naturally given to Ling Feng.

Suddenly, many warriors standing in the area looked into the air not far away, where they saw some dark spots appear.

There were ten dark spots.

“It is Dragon Palace!”

“The disciples of Dragon Palace are coming.”

“It’s the Dragon Palace that is said to be filled with exceptional geniuses.”

Many Warriors on the field were excited again. Those ten dark spots gradually became larger under the stares of the Warriors, and then they appeared in the air above the open space.

“So many people,” Jian Wushuang said secretly when seeing the dense crowd beneath.

“There are many people every time the selection battle starts,” said Baili Chen, smiling on the side. It was not his first time coming to the selection battlefield. It was just that he was only in the audience last time, like the large number of Warriors below.

“Let’s go down.”

As soon as Baili Chen finished his words, those ten figures immediately jumped from the Griffin at the same time.

The ten figures appeared on the ground of the open space almost at the same time. The Warriors, however, who were originally around them, retreated back and made way for them.

Jian Wushuang and the others slowly walked forward along the path in the crowd.

All eyes were concentrated on them.

Disciples of Dragon Palace were so eye-catching.

After all, Dragon Palace was the Holy Place for cultivators in Tianzong Dynasty.

After all, among the 100 people on the Earthly Dragon List, disciples of Dragon Palace occupied a total of 17 (including Jian Wushuang).

Besides, for the 15 spots in each selection battle, Dragon Palace usually won four or five.

With such glorious results, it was difficult for Dragon Palace to go unnoticed.

“That is Baili Chen! The second place on the Earthly Dragon List!”

“Qing Cang, Barbarian King Qing Cang! The Barbarian King.”

“Is the young man with a sword on his back Jian Wushuang?”

“Did Jian Wushuang come too?”

“He is tenth place on the Earthly Dragon List. But his ranking was not earned.”

“Haha, really. I guess there are quite a few experts on the Earthly Dragon List who are not convinced by his ranking. Watch, after the selection battle starts later, there will be lots of people eyeing him.”

“Isn’t he unfortunate?”

“I couldn’t agree more.”

Many warriors were whispering, and what most of them talked about was Jian Wushuang.

That’s the way it goes. Experts on the Earthly Dragon List were ranked using convincing battle results. But Jian Wushuang’s battle results were questioned by many people. They thought he was not qualified to be ranked in the top ten.

Therefore, he was naturally more noticeable.

Nobody noticed that on the raised platform in the center of the open space, the long-haired wicked young man, Xue Yun, also glanced at the people from Dragon Palace, with his eyes finally remaining fixed on Jian Wushuang.

“Jian Wushuang, the target of the Scarlet Kill Command...”

“He made our Blood Feather Tower fail two times in assassinations. And it was because of him our Blood Feather Tower suffered a huge loss.”

“He does not look that strong.”

Xue Yun murmured, but suddenly he slightly tilted his mouth, revealed a touch of a strange smile.

“Master has personally instructed me to kill him in this selection battle without fail. Since we will meet sooner or later, I will say hello to him in advance.”

Thinking of this, Xue Yun immediately turned into a cloud of fog and drifted straight over.

“Jian Wushuang, those people around you are talking about you. They all said you do not deserve to be ranked tenth on the Earthly Dragon List,” Baili Chen sneered.

Hearing this, Jian Wushuang also smirked and couldn’t help touching his nose.

But at that moment, a sudden streak of light flashed in Jian Wushuang’s eyes. He instantly raised his head, watching as a shadow drifted towards him silently.

A blast of amazing killing intent had firmly locked onto him.

Many people had wanted to kill Jian Wushuang during his life, but this was his first time being locked onto by such a large and astonishing killing intent.

“Blood Feather Tower?” Jian Wushuang slightly tilted his mouth, and quickly stepped out.

The Triple-kill Sword was instantly unsheathed.

Chuu!

An unbridled Sword Shadow directly cut through the air with irresistible force and swept forward.

Using his Supreme Gold Core, at the peak of the Profound Gold Core Realm, a power which had already reached the peak of the Gold Core Realm instantly rushed forward.

And the drifting dark shadow also directly released a black light at that moment.

The sword shadow immediately collided with the black light.

Suddenly... bang!

The earth and the sky changed color. A terrible roar instantly exploded in the area, like a lightning bolt out of nowhere.

As a large number of warriors around had not yet responded, they watched the space where the sword shadow collided with the black light directly. Two terrible forces formed a violent wind, which was like a destructive storm. It immediately swept out with an overwhelming strength.

Rumble~~~

The entire area trembled frantically. The place where Jian Wushuang and Xue Yun collided was the first to experience the blast, with dust and gravel flying out as the Destructive Storm expanded.

Instantly, the power of the Destructive Storm increased.

However, when the Destructive Storm expanded... a disaster occurred.

“Do you think that Jian Wushuang can get a spot this time?” The two warriors in the Gold Core Realm were standing at the side and talking casually. They were the closest to the point of collision.

Suddenly, there was a huge roar, followed by a blast from the Destructive Storm.

“What?”

The two warriors in the Gold Core Realm were directly knocked away before they could even react. At the same time, flying gravel hit them, causing them to immediately spit blood.

As for the other warriors, they also changed their facial expressions at that moment.

“Oh, no!”

“My God!”

“Run, run quickly!”

“What the hell is this?”

Chapter 155: Battle!

"Run!"

A large number of Warriors were crazily escaping in all directions at this moment, chased by the horrible Destructive Storm that was mercilessly rushing towards them.

Shaking heaven and earth!

They did not notice the two figures that were fiercely fighting in the center of the platform until the Destructive Storm calmed.

"It's them!"

"One is Xue Yun; the other one is... Jian Wushuang."

"It's them!"

"The storm was created by them!"

At that moment, nearly 100,000 Warriors were gathered in the field, looking towards the center in terror.

The sword shadow and the black light were still in contact, and a terrifying Spiritual Power was constantly being released, spurting sparks occasionally.

"Not bad," Xue Yun said, revealing an evil smile and retreating in an instant.

"You want to escape? Not that easy!" Jian Wushuang said coldly. The moment when Xue Yun retreated, Jian Wushuang thrust toward him with his Triple-kill Sword.

Instantly releasing Fiery Wind Sword Essence.

The Eighth Move of the Formless Sword Art!

With the help of Gale, the sword light glided through the air like a fiery dragon, appearing in front of Xue Yun in a flash.

With a calm look, Xue Yun used his blood-red blade to ward off the attack, instantly covering the area in darkness.

Clang!

With another fierce strike, the area began twisting due to failure to bear the strength. A strong gale rushed out, blowing away all the debris in the area. There was a horrid sound of thunder and the ground trembled.

The constant gale and the horrible roar released by the terrifying blast shocked most of the Warriors in the area.

At that moment...

Whoosh! Whoosh!

Two figures appeared next to Xue Yun at the same time, one left and one right.

They were Yang Zaixuan and Su Rou. They joined the fight with no hesitation.

A saber split through the air, and glided directly towards Xue Yun.

At the same time, Su Rou waved her long sword. A vast Sword Essence of Waterdrop was released, and the spiritual power rushed towards Xue Yun's head.

"Huh?" Xue Yun's face turned dark. Swaying his body, he suddenly disappeared from the area.

When he reappeared, he was in the center of the platform.

However, as soon as he appeared there...

"Hum!"

A cold hum sound blew into Xue Yun's ear. Following the sound, a sword shadow which was cold and formidably powerful was fiercely moving towards him.

With his pupils contracting, Xue Yun had to retreat again.

Crack!

The cold sword shadow glided directly over the several meters tall platform. In an instant, the platform was split into two pieces.

Shock!

The entire crowd was shocked.

Seeing the two halves of the platform, many warriors could not help taking a deep breath.

"You guys, what are you doing?" with a roar, a bunch of Golden-armored Sergeants approached Jian and Xue.

Needless to say, these Golden-armored Sergeant were the Royal Guards who were in charge of the maintaining order here. They appeared in the center and stopped Jian Wushuang and Xue Yun.

Although the Royal Guards appeared, they actually felt quite helpless.

Normally, they would instantly suppress any battles when people messed around and made so much trouble, regardless of whether they were ordinary warriors or experts on Earthly Dragon List. However, this time they were...

My god, are they really only in the Gold Core Realm?

Judging by the horrendous noise just now, they would not be weaker than some top experts in the Yin-Yang Void Realm.

They were not people who could be easily suppressed by the Royal Guards, who were only in the Exceptional Gold Core Realm.

A random blade flash or sword essence from either of them was powerful enough to kill a whole group of them.

"Both of them are ranked in the top ten on the Earthly Dragon List. One is obviously not just ranked 10th according to his true strength, and the other one is the indisputable 1st on the Earthly Dragon List. What are they fighting for?" the sergeants were roaring in their hearts.

At the same time, a large number of the surrounding warriors were scared as well.

"Powerful!"

"They are too powerful. We are also experts on the Earthly Dragon List, but the strength disparity between them and us is too great!"

"Too powerful, too terrifying!"

"It's not a big deal for Xue Yun. After all, he is recognized as the strongest on the Earthly Dragon List, so his strength was never doubted. But why is Jian Wushuang's strength so powerful as well?"

Those warriors all felt it was inconceivable.

Especially since many of them were still questioning why Jian Wushuang was ranked 10th just minutes ago.

They believed that he was not qualified to hold that rank.

But now?

Even though the fight with Xue Yun ended quickly, the strength Jian Wushuang released was powerful enough to shock the experts who ranked in top ten on the Earthly Dragon List.

"Jian Wushuang"?

"His strength is really powerful."

A beautiful and smart girl was staring at Jian Wushuang with a stiffened face at that moment as well.

She was Mu Yingying, who ranked 4th on the Earthly Dragon List. After watching this short fight, she could not look down on Jian Wushuang's strength at all.

"Xue Yun is a monster. I don't even have the courage to fight with him. However, Jian Wushuang actually fought with him to that extent. Even though Xue Yun did not display his utmost strength, Jian Wushuang was already very powerful."

A cold-faced man carrying a saber on his waist stood in the crowd, with his eyes sparkling slightly. He was the top genius of the Gladiator Arena, Feng Yutian, who was ranked 5th on the Earthly Dragon List.

"Big Brother," Ouyang Haoyue said, looking toward his brother.

Frowning slightly, Ouyang Haotian said, "Jian Wushuang's strength is indeed very good. I might only be a little bit stronger than him. But if we fight formally, I have confidence in defeating him."

Other than the experts in the top ten ranks, Even those who ranked lower were discussing this as well.

“Too powerful, they are too strong!” Ling Feng’s body was shaking with his hand clenched.

The short fight between Jian Wushuang and Xue Yun completely scared him.

However, he did not notice that Shui Hanxin and Jian Meng’er who stood beside him were completely baffled as well.

“Him, it’s him?” Shui Hanxin was looking at Jian Wushuang incredulously, the same as everyone else who was present at this moment.

She had met him before!

One of her disciples was defeated by him three years ago. She was very shocked and pissed at that time. She even threatened him, saying that she would cultivate her disciple vigorously in the next three years, and they would get revenge three years later.

However, three years had passed, she did not expect this...

“Jian Wushuang, he is Jian Wushuang!”

Jian Menger’s body was shaking as well. She looked at Jian Wushuang in shock and panic.

“Even Senior Brother Ling Feng is not Xue Yun’s match, how could Jian Wushuang fight with him so equally and not appear weaker than him?” Jian Meng’er could not say a word at that moment.

Meanwhile, Shui Hanxin looked towards her.

After staring at each other for a few minutes, the expressions on their faces became slightly self-deprecating.

Chapter 156: Diamond Cuts Diamond

The surrounding warriors were currently in discussion.

Jian Wushuang, in a black robe, with the Triple-kill Sword in hand. Suddenly a sword essence was released through the air!

The sword essence with a billowing battle intent radiated from Jian Wushuang!

The billowing battle intent caused the whole area calm down.

Everyone was looking forward to what might happen next.

Whoosh! Whoosh!

Two figures appeared next to Jian Wushuang. They were Yang Zaixuan and Su Rou. Their faces were cold, and both were staring at the demonic youth, Xue Yun, who was not far away from them.

“He-he, I just wanted to say hello, no need to take it so seriously!” Xue Yun smiled with an evil look.

“Say hello? The way you guys from Blood Feather Tower saying hello is really special,” Jian Wushuang sneered.

Xue Yun raised his eyebrows and said, "Jian Wushuang, I had never even heard of you one month ago. But now, you are quite well-known in Blood Feather Tower."

"More than one month ago, you raided the Clearwater Stronghold in Qingshui on your own, killing more than one hundred assassins there. Even two purple-masked assassins were defeated, with one dying and the other one escaping. Aren't you quite efficient?"

Xue Yun spoke casually. While listening to what he said, many warriors in the area were shocked.

"He attacked the Clearwater Stronghold alone?"

"He eliminated more than one hundred assassins, and even the purple-masked assassins were defeated, with one dying?and the other one escaping?"

"Purple-masked assassins? Aren't they the supreme experts in the Yin-Yang Void Realm?"

"Jian Wushuang has such frightening battle results? Unexpected!"

...

"Compared to your Blood Feather Tower, what I did is nothing," Jian Wushuang said coldly.

Xue Yun sneered noncommittally.

"You two," a low voice sounded. The sound was from one of the Royal Guards who seemed to be the leader.

"Any hatred between you can be resolved during the coming selection battle. For now, I hope you will temporarily stop. Even if you are powerful, the Royal Guard will definitely suppress you."

The sergeants of the Royal Guard in the area all looked serious.

Having glanced at the Royal Guards who were gathering around them, Jian Wushuang lifted his head, looked toward Xue Yung, and said, "I will be coming for you in the selection battle!"

"I will be waiting for you," Xue Yun spoke proudly, with a slight smile.

Their words immediately created a disturbance around the platform.

Everybody became excited.

Everybody knew that there would be an exciting and matchless battle in the selection battle.

The fierce confrontation between Jian and Xue just now was only a warm-up.

Several figures were gathered in the air, not far away from the platform. Some were floating, and some were riding on flying beasts. At first glance, there were at least ten people. These people were all peak experts of the Yin-Yang Void Realm.

They were the top experts from the Sects.

Which included Palace Masters Black White from Dragon Palace, Grayrobe from Blood Feather Tower, and one of the Hall Masters from the Gladiator Arena.

Those experts saw what just happened on the platform, and a few of them were in discussion.

“Ha-ha, those little fellows have bad tempers.”

“One is Xue Yun from Blood Feather Tower, and the other is Jian Wushuang from Dragon Palace. So it’s not surprising that they want to fight. After all, the hatred between Jian Wushuang and Blood Feather Tower is well-known.”

“Exactly. Their fight will be a competition of diamond cutting diamond. I am looking forward to it.”

“Palace Masters, and Mr. Grayrobe, don’t you have anything to say? Both of them are disciples under your commands.”

These Yin-Yang Void Realm experts were talking and laughing.

“There is nothing to say. Jian Wushuang is the target of the Scarlet Kill Command from our Blood Feather Tower. He needs to die no matter what,” Grayrobe said coldly.

“Hum, you like to exaggerate. Be careful that you don’t bite your tongue. Seems like the lesson you received two years was not enough,” Palace Master White glanced at Grayrobe, and spoke coldly.

“Two years ago?” with his mouth spasming, Grayrobe continued, “If it wasn’t for the other two forces secretly helping you two years ago, your Dragon Palace would not have put our Blood Feather Tower in such a situation! How ridiculous.”

“Oh, you are just quarrelsome,” said the Palace Master White sneeringly.

“You are the one who is quarrelsome. Just wait, that exceptional genius will die in this selection battle,” Grayrobe said.

Hearing this, Palace Master White’s face darkened. She was a little bit worried about Jian Wushuang.

“That boy should just participate in the selection battle like normal. Why does he need to engaged himself in a fight with Xue Yun like a fool?”

Xue Yun is the recognized 1st place on the Earthly Dragon List. His strength was already frightening three years ago. In addition, during the past three years, his strength had improvements in cultivation and other aspects.

All the people in the Tianzong Dynasty knew that now Xue Yun was a hardcore monster, so nobody dared to challenge him.

However, Jian Wushuang was determined to fight with this monster.

“If he avoided Xue Yun in the selection battle, he could definitely get a place with his strength. But once he faces Xue Yun, it will be difficult for him to survive, not to mention claiming a spot.”

Having glanced at each other, Palace Masters White and Black were both worried.

But right at that moment...

“Ha-ha, it’s quite lively here.”

A gentle and amiable voice suddenly rang out, as a golden chair appeared in the very center of the crowd of experts. On the chair sat a handsome man in a golden imperial robe.

Seeing the imperial-robed man who suddenly appeared, the Yin-Yang Void Realm experts all became courteous.

“Greetings, Your Majesty!”

“Greetings, Your Majesty!”

Many experts bowed to the imperial-robed man, included Palace Master White, Palace Master Black, and Grayrobe. They stood up from their seats, and gave him a courteous bow.

In the entire Tianzong Dynasty, only one person was qualified to be called Your Majesty.

He was Di Xi, the Monarch of Tianzong Dynasty.

Di Xi was not only the present Monarch of Tianzong Dynasty, but also a peak expert ranked 1st on the Heavenly Dragon List. He was recognized as the strongest in the Yin-Yang Void Realm in Tianzong Dynasty!

Regarding Crazy Knife, who shocked the entire Tianzong Dynasty a hundred years ago and had been ranked 1st on the Heavenly Dragon List for several decades, he had been removed from the Heavenly Dragon List because of his long absence.

“No need to be so formal, please sit as you were,” as soon as Di Xi waved his hand lightly, the people present all sat back down.

“I saw the fight between those two young men. They are both very excellent, especially Xue Yun. His strength is very distinctive. He did not display his full strength,” Di Xi said casually.

“The young man called Jian Wushuang is incredible as well. After all, he is only in the Profound Gold Core Realm right now. Once he achieves the Exceptional Gold Core Realm in several years, he will definitely be Xue Yun’s match.”

“It’s a pity that these two outstanding young men enemies, engaged in a life-and-death struggle.”

Chapter 157: Rules

When it came to this, Di Xi was very helpless.

The Easternmost Hunt was extremely cruel and could even be horrifying.

As a small empire, the Tianzong Dynasty could only compete with those middle-sized or large empires when all 15 geniuses participating in the hunt worked together. If there were internal conflicts, then it was the same thing as going to their death.

Therefore, since Jian Wushuang was filled with a hatred toward Xue Yun, only one person between them could participate in the Easternmost Hunt. The other would have to stop at this selection battle.

“It’s almost time, let’s start,” Di Xi said indifferently.

Upon hearing this, a Golden-armored General standing beside him respectfully nodded and then left.

In the open space where a large number of warriors gathered, everyone was still focused on Jian Wushuang and Xue Yun.

"Jian Wushuang, you have stolen the limelight," Baili Chen walked up to Jian Wushuang and joked.

"He started it." Jian Wushuang shrugged.

"I know." Baili Chen's expression suddenly grew dignified and said, " But you must be careful with Xue Yun. That guy is rather terrifying."

"Terrifying?" Jian Wushuang glanced at Baili Chen. *"An exceptional genius ranked second on the Earthly Dragon List, actually used this word to describe a warrior at the same level."*

"He's very terrifying," Baili Chen said seriously, "Three years ago, I teamed up with Qing Cang to fight against him. It resulted in a draw. But at the time, he was only in the Profound Gold Core Realm. At the time, he had just entered the Profound Gold Core Realm, not even at the peak level. But now, his cultivation has reached the peak of the Exceptional Gold Core Realm!"

"Just going by his cultivation, his power has increased a lot. Let alone counting his talent, in the past three years, his comprehension of the Essence Realm must have improved tremendously. In short, he is now a downright monster!"

"Even if it was me, I'm afraid I would not be qualified as his opponent now."

"I feel like that too," Qing Cang, who had been silent the whole time, also commented in a low voice, "Although I haven't fought against him in the last three years, the second I saw him I felt like he has reached a level I can't even touch."

"Oh?" Jian Wushuang's pupil slightly dilated.

Baili Chen and Qing Cang were the two people who actually fought with Xue Yun, but they were both afraid of him.

Jian Wushuang was also extremely serious.

He knew that Xue Yun was exceptionally strong!

But he was also quite strong.

Two years ago, he nearly killed a purple-masked assassin from Blood Feather Tower. Two years later, his strength was much greater.

At this time...

Zoom!

The general wearing a golden armored suddenly appeared in the air above the platform and an oppressive aura instantly radiated from him.

For a time, the entire area was silent.

All the warriors in the area, even including the experts from the Earthly Dragon List, were shuddering under the oppression of this aura.

“The Yang Void Realm!’ Jian Wushuang also flashed a trace of fear.

The Yin-Yang Void Realm was divided into two realms, the Yin Void and the Yang Void. With the latter being stronger than the former.

Each realm was divided into four sub-levels: Initial, Profound, Exceptional, and the Peak.

The two purple-masked assassins that Jian Wushuang encountered at the Clearwater Stronghold were all at the Initial Yin Void Realm. They were the lowest among experts of the Yin-Yang Void Realm.

The top 20 experts on the Earthly Dragon List were known to be able to match warriors in the Yin-Yang Void Realm. And the top 10 even possessed the strength to kill warriors in the Yin-Yang Void Realm. However, this only refers to Yin Void level of the Yin-Yang Void Realm.

If it was the Profound Yin Void Realm, it would be a completely different story.

Like Lin Yun, the governor of Blizzard City. He was in the Profound Yin Void Realm two years ago at Quiet Moon Lake.

As for the Yang Void Realm, it was more formidable and more terrifying than the Yin Void Realm. Palace Masters White and Black, from Dragon Palace, and Grayrobe, from Blood Feather Tower, were all at the Yang Void Realm.

The Golden-armored General who appeared at this moment was a supreme expert in the Yang Void Realm.

This Golden-armored General, suspended in the air, used his aura to silence everyone below. Then he slowly began to say, “The 68 Gold Core Realm warriors, who are participating in the selection battle, should listen carefully...”

“The location of this selection battle is in the Cloud Mountains next to you!”

“The Cloud Mountains are made up of 15 giant mountains. At the moment, there are 15 spirit beasts, one on each of the 15 mountains. The goal of this selection battle is very simple. You just have to kill any of the 15 beasts and get its core.”

“The selection battle will last for seven days. After seven days, the 15 men who give me a core will pass the selection battle!”

The voice of this Golden-armored General was magnificent and echoed throughout the entire area, so all the warriors in the area heard him clearly.

“Kill the spirit beasts and bring back the core?” Jian Wushuang’s gaze focused slightly and his expression grew a little weird.

He fought with the spirit beasts numerous times, so he was not afraid of them.

What surprised him was the duration of this selection battle.

The Cloud Mountains were rather small. With a group of people searching, all 15 spirit beasts could be found and killed in half a day. In other words, all 15 cores might be claimed within a day.

But the selection battle would last seven days?

Before the seventh day, even if someone had a core, it would mean nothing. The cores for passing the selection battle could only be handed over to the Golden-armored General seven days later.

"Hum, seven days. They just want to watch us fight for seven days. 68 warriors in the Gold Core Realm are participating in this selection battle. However, there will only be 15 victors in seven days." Once Jian Wushuang understood the rules of this selection battle, he smiled slightly.

The voice of that Golden-armored General continued to echo.

"In the seven-day selection battle, nobody can leave the Cloud Mountain range unless they give up."

"In addition, you are allowed to kill in this selection battle. That is to say, if your strength is poor, dying here could be your destiny."

"Similarly, as long as you have the strength, you can kill your opponents to gain the core needed to pass the selection battle. If you are attacked by the Sect or experts associated with the person you killed here, Our Golden-dragon Palace's experts will help you. In other words, in this selection battle, you can do anything you want."

"But there is one rule. During this selection battle, it is forbidden to swallow elixirs that can increase your cultivation level in a short time. Anyone who breaks this rule will be executed. As for other means, feel free to show your full strength."

Hearing this, the 68 Gold Core Realm experts that were participating in this selection battle all grew serious, barring a few people who were confident in their own strength.

Obviously, this selection battle would be very cruel.

Chapter 158: Cloud Mountain Range

"It is currently noon. Give me the cores at this time in seven days, then you will be counted as having passed the selection battle. Only then can you participate in the Easternmost Hunt in two months. Now, everybody enters the Cloud Mountain range!" After saying that, the Golden-armored General was finished.

Several dozen figures in the field immediately glided towards the nearby mountain range without any hesitation.

Jian Wushuang, Yang Zaixuan, Su Rou, and the other seven disciples of Dragon Palace suddenly moved forward as well.

Xue Yun directly floated towards the Cloud Mountain range too. On the way, he couldn't help glancing at Jian Wushuang.

Jian Wushuang also glanced at Xue Yun.

Xue Yun opened his mouth, slowly mouthed a few words. Although he did not speak it out, Jian Wushuang could understand the words. It was, "You are a dead man!"

"Hum, who dies first is still uncertain!"

Jian Wushuang's face was cold. In just an instant, the 68 Gold Core Realm experts participating in the selection battle had already entered the Cloud Mountain range.

It was a remote mountain range and normally few people entered it. But now, a fierce and bloody fight would be held there.

...

"Jian Wushuang, good luck to you guys," said Baili Chen.

"Good luck." Jian Wushuang also nodded.

Soon after, Baili Chen and several other disciples of Dragon Palace scattered.

The number of spirit beasts was just fifteen, with the same number of cores. That was to say, only a few people could get the cores.

If the disciples of Dragon Palace Dragon stayed together, their overall strength was enough to get some cores. However, the distribution of the cores would be a big problem. So, they chose to fight separately.

"Second Brother, Fourth Sister, how about you guys?" Jian Wushuang asked.

"I can get a core on my own," Yang Zaixuan said coldly.

"I also want to use my own strength to make it through the selection battle," Su Rou said.

"Alright, then we three will separate as well. We all must be careful. Even If it's not possible to get a core, don't worry about it. Staying alive is more important," Jian Wushuang said.

"Hum, Su Rou and I only have to face the ordinary experts of the Earthly Dragon List. You, on the other hand, have to face Xue Yun. You need to be very careful. Don't put yourself in a dangerous situation." With his lip curled, Yang Zaixuan instantly left by himself.

"Wushuang, you have to be careful," Su Rou said seriously.

"Don't worry." Jian Wushuang smiled. But soon he took back the smile and asked, "Su Rou, let me ask you..."

After talking with Jian Wushuang for a moment, Su Rou left alone as well.

Jian Wushuang touched his nose. Soon after, he raised his head and looked toward the giant mountain in front of him.

"I'll just choose this one." With a smile, Jian Wushuang stepped forward and glided toward the mountain.

The mountain was very huge. It took some time to find a spirit beast even when the mountain was very quiet.

But right at that moment...

“Howl~~~”

A fierce roar sounded from another nearby mountain, followed by an extremely violent aura.

Noticing the aura, the Gold Core Realm experts in the Cloud Mountain range all became startled.

“Yin-Yang Void Realm!”

“As expected, it’s a spirit beast in the Yin-Yang Void Realm!”

“Judging from the aura, it should be an ordinary spirit beast in the Yin-Yang Void Realm.”

These Gold Core Realm experts already understood.

When they were informed by the Golden-armored General that there were fifteen spirit beasts in the Cloud Mountain range, most of them already figured out that those beasts should be in the Yin-Yang Void Realm.

After all, the participants in the selection battle were all the most talented geniuses in Tianzong Dynasty. The weakest among them was strong enough to defeat the experts in the Initial Yin Void Realm, while the strongest, in the top ten on the Earthly Dragon List, could kill experts in the Initial Yin Void Realm.

In such a high-level selection battle, it was impossible for them to just face spirit beasts in the Gold Core Realm.

So when they noticed the aura of this spirit beast, none of them were surprised.

“The first beast has already been discovered, not sure who will get it though,”?Jian Wushuang thought. But he quickly put the thought at the back of his mind. Instead, he paid full attention to this mountain, which also contained a spirit beast.

Fifteen mountains, each with a spirit beast.

Boom!

A blazing energy suddenly roared from the top of the mountain. After immediately raising his head, Jian Wushuang saw a fierce Spiritual Power fluctuation. At the same time, he sensed a very violent aura.

“Ha-ha, the spirit beast is over there!” With his eyes glistening, Jian Wushuang glided towards the top of the mountain.

At the same time, there were three other Gold Core Realm experts who noticed. They also eyed this mountain.

In just a few moments, Jian Wushuang and the other three appeared on the mountain top. Together, with the Gold Core Realm warrior who was already fighting that spirit beast, there were five people on this mountain.

When Jian Wushuang appeared, the other four simultaneously looked towards him.

It's understandable. Before the selection battle, Jian Wushuang had a fierce fight with Xue Yun and the fight ended in a draw. His strength was already recognized by everyone. He was certainly one of the most terrifying experts in this selection battle. So naturally, he would draw attention.

"Huh?" Jian Wushuang looked at the spirit beast in the center instead of the four experts.

It was a leopard spirit beast with a purple pattern all over its body, like a purple cloud. The spirit beast was not big, but an astonishing and violent aura radiated from it.

"Demonic Cloud Leopard!"

Jian Wushuang smiled because he had already identified it. Soon after, he looked at the four and muttered, "It should be easy for them to kill the Demonic Cloud Leopard with their strength. However, they are waiting around. Apparently they are worried about something."

Jian Wushuang was right. All of them were worried about a few things, and he was their biggest worry.

"Jian Wushuang, we four found this Demonic Cloud Leopard before you. It should be a contest among us four. You go somewhere else," a red-robed woman among the four said.

This red-robed woman was the strongest among the four, she was also ranked 8th on the Earthly Dragon List.

Demon Girl Ling Xue'er, ranked 8th on Earthly Dragon List.

As per the ranking, Ling Xue'er was higher than him. But having experienced the fierce fight between Jian Wushuang and Xue Yun before the selection battle, Ling Xue'er felt some apprehension upon seeing him.

"Hum, this is a selection battle. Even if you guys get the core, I can still take it from you. Not to mention that you have not killed the Demonic Cloud Leopard yet. You don't have the power to make me leave," Jian Wushuang said and smiled coldly. While withdrawing the Triple-kill Sword from its sheath, a fierce sword essence suddenly rushed out.

"If you are not willing to leave, then I will have to drive you out," Ling Xue'er said coldly, with an aquamarine Long Whip in her hand.

Chapter 159: Three Strips

"A whip?" Jian Wushuang queerly smiled.

Whoosh! The demonic and seductive figure of Ling Xue'er instantly moved.

Like a glamorous viper, Ling Xue'er appeared in front of Jian Wushuang, flicking out the aquamarine long whip. At that time, many streaks of the waves were rolling without cessation. Jian Wushuang felt that he was sucked down by the whirlpool and the boundless seawater was squeezed toward him.

"With this level of strength, you are qualified to be ranked 8th on the Earthly Dragon List."

Jian Wushuang smiled slightly and then struck out with the Triple-kill Sword. Fiery Wind Sword Essence suddenly rushed forward, forming a fiery wind dragon which seemed to burn and tear up everything.

In an instant, that endless wave was frantically scattered around with overwhelming strength.

“What?” Ling Xue’er was shocked.

Previously, when she witnessed Jian Wushuang fighting with Xue Yun on the platform, she could tell that Jian Wushuang was strong, but she didn’t know how strong. After all, she did not personally experience the power of Jian Wushuang’s sword.

But now, she was experiencing it.

“It’s too strong. If I fight with him in close combat, I will instantly be defeated.” Although Ling Xue’er was shocked, she looked calm.

When Jian Wushuang was stabbing towards her with his long sword, her figure began to retreat, with a streak of cold light flashing in her eyes.

“Go to hell!”

Ling Xue’er roared, then three streaks of flowing light pierced the air and appeared in front of Jian Wushuang at an astonishing speed.

“Concealed weapons?” the corners of Jian Wushuang’s mouth were quirked up, *“Too easy.”*

A burst of Sword Essence of Earth rushed out from Jian Wushuang’s sword, easily parrying the three streaks of flowing light. While the streaks were falling down, Jian Wushuang recognized that they were three tiny willow leaf knives covered with a greenish-black liquid.

Obviously, that was poison!

“You are vicious, it’s indeed correct to call you Demon Girl.” Jian Wushuang and his sword shadow suddenly rushed forward.

Ling Xue’er could only try her best to brandish her long whip and parry it. However, Jian Wushuang’s sword strikes were too fast and powerful.

Six moves were displayed in succession, and all of them were extremely powerful.

After the six moves, Ling Xue’er’s hands were trembling and numb. Her face was pale and her figure was quickly retreating.

“Ling Xue’er, if you get in my way?again, I guarantee that you will not see the sun tomorrow.” Jian Wushuang looked at Ling Xue’er with cold eyes.

Ling Xue’er was ranked eighth on the Earthly Dragon List. Killing her would take a little time.

Ling Xue’er’s expression became gloomy. Although she was furious, now was not the time to show it.

But at that moment...

“Ah!”

Suddenly, there was a loud scream.

Jian Wushuang and Ling Xue'er immediately looked in the direction of the scream. Both of their expressions immediately changed.

They saw the Demonic Cloud Leopard standing on the ground with a corpse lying in front of it. The head, separated from the body, was in the mouth of the Demonic Cloud Leopard. With a fierce chomp, the head was instantly crushed.

"What?"

"What happened?"

Both Jian Wushuang and Ling Xue'er were shocked.

When they were fighting, the remaining three people began attacking the Demonic Cloud Leopard. They were all experts on the Earthly Dragon List, ranging from the 30th to the 40th rank on the list. Logically speaking, any one of them could defeat a beast in the Yin-Yang Void Realm. It was more than enough to kill a Demonic Cloud Leopard if they worked together.

But instead, it was the Demonic Cloud Leopard that killed someone.

"This Demonic Cloud Leopard?" Jian Wushuang looked at the Demonic Cloud Leopard again, this time in astonishment. He was surprised to see that there were three purple cloud stripes on its abdomen.

"Three stripes?" Jian Wushuang was shocked.

"A three-striped Demonic Cloud Leopard?" Ling Xue'er was also shocked.

Demonic Cloud Leopards, a kind of senior spirit beast, were rare in Tianzong Dynasty, and most of them were in the Gold Core Realm. As for the Demonic Cloud Leopards in the Yin-Yang Void Realm, it was estimated that only one or two existed in the whole Tianzong Dynasty.

Demonic Cloud Leopards had three levels.

The levels were based on the number of purple cloud stripes on their abdomen.

The most normal Demonic Cloud Leopard had only one purple cloud stripe.

A Demonic Cloud Leopard with two purple cloud stripes was very rare.

As for three purple cloud stripes, it might not be possible to find one in a hundred Demonic Cloud Leopards.

There was a huge discrepancy in the strength of Demonic Cloud Leopards at each level.

For a Demonic Cloud Leopard in the Yin-Yang Void Realm, if it had one stripe, it was comparable to the most common experts in the Initial Yin Void Realm. A Three-striped Demonic Cloud Leopard could absolutely be compared to an expert at the peak of the Initial Yin Void Realm. Maybe even an expert in the Profound Yin Void Realm.

When they arrived, they assumed the Demonic Cloud Leopard was only a normal Demonic Cloud Leopard with one stripe. No one had paid attention. Now, they realized it was a big mistake.

"I thought the 15 spirit beasts in the Cloud Mountain range were common spirit beasts in the Yin-Yang Void Realm. Apparently, I was wrong. Among the 15 beasts, there are some powerful and terrifying spirit beasts, such as the three-striped Demonic Cloud Leopard," Jian Wushuang said in a low voice.

After they discovered the Three-striped Demonic Cloud Leopard, a large number of experts in the Yin-Yang Void Realm gathered in the air above the Cloud mountain range, overlooking everything below.

They could see everything that happened in the Cloud mountain range from their position.

"Haha, these fellows really thought those 15 spirit beasts would be easily defeated?"

"They underestimated the cruelty of this selection battle!"

"It seems like all 15 spirit beasts are only in the normal Yin-Yang Void Realm, but three of them are unique spirit beasts with strength that is close to the Profound Yin Void Realm. They are hard to deal with. This Three-striped Demonic Cloud Leopard is only the first one."

"There are two other spirit beasts that are close to the Profound Yin Void Realm, and they will soon come across these little fellows."

"How unfortunate for these little fellows."

The experts of the Yin-Yang Void Realm were casually talking.

on the mountaintop, Jian Wushuang's expression had become cold. However, the gazes of Ling Xue'er and other two Earthly Dragon List experts were filled with fear after seeing this Three-striped Demonic Cloud Leopard.

"The Three-striped Demonic Cloud Leopard is in the Yin-Yang Void Realm. Even if I could fight it with my full strength, I'm afraid that I could not kill it."?Squinting her eyes, Ling Xue'er immediately made a decision and looked at Jian Wushuang.

"Jian Wushuang, you wanted me to get out of the way right? So, I'll leave. This Demonic Cloud Leopard is yours. I hope you will cherish it and take good care of it..."

After that, Ling Xue'er turned around without hesitation and left.

Chapter 160: Fierce Fight

After Ling Xue'er left, the other two experts looked at each other and then left as well.

None of them had the confidence to face this Three-striped Demonic Cloud Leopard in the Yin-Yang Void Realm.

On the entire mountain top, Jian Wushuang was the only one who stayed to fight with this Demonic Cloud Leopard.

"During two years of earnest cultivation in the Sword Tomb, my strength improved a lot. However, I have not used my full strength in a fight since I left the Sword Tomb. But this Three-striped Demonic Cloud Leopard..."?Glancing at the animal in front of him, Jian Wushuang's eyes shined with battle intent.

Indeed, since he left the Sword Tomb, he fought several times, but none of them were fierce battles. The opponents were too weak to be his match.

The slaughter in Clearwater Stronghold was a good example. While facing two purple-masked assassins, he easily killed one of them.

When he challenged the Heavenly Palace, he did his utmost, but the opponents were just puppets. Their strength was only enough to hold him back, not enough to be considered a life and death battle.

Up til now, he had not experienced a truly fierce fight!

Only a truly fierce battle would help him fully digest the progress he made in the Sword Tomb over the past two years.

This Three-striped Demonic Cloud Leopard, which possessed battle strength close to the Profound Yin Void Realm, was completely capable of challenging him.

“Come on.” With a monstrous battle intent, Jian Wushuang’s body flashed like a flowing light and rushed forward like a sharp sword.

“Human!” Demonic Cloud Leopard’s eyes were blood-red and surging with potent killing intent.

Being a spirit beast in the Yin-Yang Void Realm, its intelligence was the same as a human. When the human expert captured it, it was told that it could live as long as it survived for seven days.

As a spirit beast, it’s survival instinct was very strong.

“Go to hell!”

With a roar, the Demonic Cloud Leopard suddenly rushed forward with a speed that was even a bit faster than Jian Wushuang. It instantly appeared in front of Jian Wushuang, waving its sharp claws towards him.

These claws seemed as if they could tear apart the world.

Jian Wushuang simultaneously released the Fiery Wind Sword Essence. The Triple-kill Sword suddenly rushed forward like a vast fire dragon.

The Eighth Move of the Formless Sword Art!

Jian Wushuang used this move with his full power.

Bang!

Soon after a deep collision was heard and the Demonic Cloud Leopard immediately retreated.

“In terms of pure power, I am stronger!” Jian Wushuang smiled and muttered.

He possessed a Supreme Gold Core, so even in the Profound Gold Core Realm, his power was able to reach a whole new level. But the key reason was his Sword Art. Using the Fiery Wind Sword Essence with the Formless Sword Art greatly enhanced his power. His strength was even greater than the Demonic Cloud Leopard.

Whoosh!

Jian Wushuang displayed his second move, slashing out with the Triple-kill Sword again. He used the Eighth Move of the Formless Sword Art once more.

But Demonic Cloud Leopard wasn't stupid. It knew it could not win based on strength, so it aimed to win with its speed. With a dash, the beast evaded Jian Wushuang's attack. All four legs kicked against the ground as it opened its mouth and revealed its cold teeth, directly pouncing towards Jian Wushuang's head.

This was exactly how the previous Earthly Dragon List expert died while fighting with the Demonic Cloud Leopard.

Jian Wushuang did not panic at all. He immediately turned the Fiery Wind Sword Essence into Earth Sword Essence. Demonstrating the Reincarnation Sword Skill, his Long Sword directly blocked the Demonic Cloud Leopard as it closed in and prepared to pounce.

Bang!

With this collision, both Jian Wushuang and the Demonic Cloud Leopard retreated backwards.

"This Demonic Cloud Leopard moves pretty fast, and it's very flexible," Jian Wushuang muttered.

"This human..." Obviously, the Demonic Cloud Leopard noticed that Jian Wushuang was much stronger than the person he just killed.

After a short pause, they fiercely attacked again.

As this was happening, it was all being watched by the experts gathered in the air above the Cloud mountain range.

"What is that young man, Jian Wushuang, doing? Is he really fighting with the Demonic Cloud Leopard?"

"Stupid, really stupid. It's not easy to kill a three-striped Demonic Cloud Leopard! He should leave that mountain and fight the other spirit beasts rather than wasting time fighting with this Demonic Cloud Leopard. The other beasts are much easier."

"Exactly. It's stupid to fight with the Demonic Cloud Leopard. Ling Xue'er was smart. She chose to leave and immediately went to another mountain. She understood it's not easy to deal with this Demonic Cloud Leopard. The spirit beasts in the mountain she went to have ordinary strength. Plus, she is the strongest expert there, so she has a very good chance of getting a core."

"Ha-ha, he is not even scared of Xue Yun, not to mention this Demonic Cloud Leopard!"

"A silly boy!"

"What an impetuous person!"

The peak experts were wantonly talking and laughing. The two Palace Masters of Dragon Palace, who were among them, wore sullen faces after hearing what they said.

“What is he doing? Why not just leave and go kill other spirit beasts?” Palace Master White said and frowned.

Among the peak experts, only one person understood Jian Wushuang’s purpose.

He was Di Xi.

“Is this little guy training himself? Using this three-striped Demonic Cloud Leopard to train?”

Training!

Yes, he was training!

It’s been more than two years since Jian Wushuang took part in a fierce battle.

The reason he fought with the three-striped Demonic Cloud Leopard was not because he was silly or impulsive.

He had his own purpose, which was to experience a fierce battle!

He was eager for an intense fight!

At the same time, during this fast-paced battle, he was gradually digesting the great progress he made over the last two years.

Jian Wushuang and the Demonic Cloud Leopard had been fighting for a long time on the mountaintop.

“Good! This feels so good!”

Sweat ran from Jian Wushuang’s forehead, but he was getting excited.

“I have not been this satisfied for a long time. The opponent is just a spirit beast, but my whole body feels comfortable. But this is enough.”?Jian Wushuang raised his head and looked at the Demonic Cloud Leopard.

The Demonic Cloud Leopard had erupted with its full strength in this fight just now.