

Swordsman 621

Chapter 621: Killing with abandon

When the first round of the genius battle began, rampant killing immediately broke out. Numerous people were gathered outside the battlefield.

These people each had a Jade Slip and were quickly taking notes.

In front of them, there was a huge screen which displayed thousands of small images. These images showed what the Skyscraping Realm experts in the Ancient World were doing on the battlefield.

This screen was called the Mirror Image. It was a unique technique that could be used to record any scene in any place.

That meant that all the fighting taking place could be shown clearly in the Mirror Image.

“Number 69 image, the bald man with a Battle Axe.”

The voice was emotionless.

Everyone turned their attention to the image. With his battle axe, a bald man cleaved two Skyscraping Realm who were attacking him. The two men died instantaneously. The axe did not lose its momentum as it continued its progress towards a Majestic Mountain and split it into two parts.

“He has comprehended the Earth Dao and created a higher level of advanced Secret Skill. Great comprehension. He passes the first round!”

“Mark it immediately!”

“Number 177 image, the burly middle-aged man in a thick armor.”

In the Number 177 image, the man raised his sword-shaped eyebrows and stared at the 20 people in front of him.

“My name is Feng! ”

In a cold voice, the man hacked with his saber.

The saber produced a blade light that went unerringly to its target like a rolling river.

The blade light suffused the battlefield and immediately killed four Skyscraping Realm experts. The burly middle-aged man then flew through the battlefield and killed the remaining two people within two breaths.

“Genius Feng has already comprehended the Destruction Dao. It also seems that he has totally figured out the first Occult and created the higher level of the advanced Secret Skill. He is qualified to enter the second round. Mark it!”

“Number 19 image, the black-robed youth with a longsword.”

Instantly, all people focused on the Number 19 image and saw Jian Wushuang.

Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh! Swoosh!

With terrifying killing intent, the sword light rushed forward and killed 13 Skyscraping Realm experts in a couple minutes.

“Good comprehension of the Slaughter Dao and his swordsmanship is extremely strong. So far we don’t know which level of the Secret Skill he has created, so he will be confirmed later!”

The cold voice spoke without pause and his pronouncements were all continuously recorded in the Jade Slip.

Thousands of fights were occurring simultaneously on the vast battlefield, all of which could be observed using the Mirror Image. When any expert displayed an amazing strength, the action would be immediately recorded and he would be judged for second round qualification.

The fights in the battlefield for geniuses in the Eternal World were recorded too.

As long as the warriors displayed impressive strength on the battlefield, they wouldn’t be ignored.

...

Swoosh!

A figure rushed through the crowd with a sword light suffused with terrifying killing intent.

This sword light with tremendous power easily outclassed three Skyscraping Realm experts. It killed them instantly and sent them out of the battlefield.

“So strong!”

There were still four people nearby and they all looked at the black-robed youth in terror.

The black-robed youth was Jian Wushuang.

After three years of earnest cultivation, Jian Wushuang had significantly improved his strength. His comprehension of Dao and Secret Skill were both much better than an ordinary Skyscraping Realm. Even Dark Emperor and Wu Xin would be easily killed by him. He would only need to use Slaughter Body to defeat these Skyscraping Realm who hadn’t created any Secret Skills.

Few people would catch Jian Wushuang’s attention and he would dispatch the rest with ease.

It was very difficult for him to meet an expert whose strength was comparable to his. That was why he could easily kill all his opponents here.

“Go to hell!”

Once again, Jian Wushuang started the attack and immediately sent another four people out of the battlefield.

“Continue the killing!”

Jian Wushuang looked grave as he continued to fight.

On the battlefield, the killing continued at increasing levels of aggression.

Everyone knew that passing the first round depended on their strength. Since they all had tokens to protect themselves, no one was worried about dying and went all out to kill their opponents.

Soon, three days had passed.

During this time, most of the Skyscraping Realm had been weeded out. Only a few people remained on the battlefield.

There was no doubt that survivors after the three days were the real experts!

All of them possessed a good comprehension of Dao and almost everyone had created their own Secret Skill. They were really much stronger than the ordinary Skyscraping Realm experts.

On the plain, Jian Wushuang slowly walked forward and glanced around him.

Occasionally, he would see an opponent and kill him immediately.

In these three days, strong experts had emerged and were now recognized by others on the battlefield.

Jian Wushuang's battle strength was at the top so it was reasonable to rank him in the top 30. Many people would know of his reputation and chose to run when they saw him.

"Already three days, when on earth will the first round will be over?" Jian Wushuang thought to himself.

The first round had no rules, so they had to keep killing their opponents, but he didn't know when it would be over.

Jian Wushuang suddenly stopped and raised his head. A red-robed woman had flown from the hill in front of him and was slowly walking towards him.

She held a scarlet scythe and was filled with Killing Intent. She looked at him with a hint of excitement.

Chapter 622: Xue Feng

"You are Sword Emperor?" The red-robed woman standing in front of Jian Wushuang asked in a voice tinged with excitement.

"Lady Red, the scarlet scythe, you are Xue Feng?" Jian Wushuang stared back at the red-robed woman.

After three days of frenzied killing, strong experts had risen to fame.

Everyone now knew Jian Wushuang as Sword Emperor. His strength was acknowledged on this battlefield and he was ranked in the top 30.

Xue Feng had also become an expert during the three days. She had comprehended the Raging Fire Dao and her strength was extremely terrifying. She had killed at least hundreds of Skyscraping Realm and was ranked in the top 30.

"These three days, I've killed more than 300 Skyscraping Realm, but their strength was mediocre, so I could beat them easily. But now, meeting you, finally..." Xue Feng licked her lips and said, "Hope you are good enough to challenge me!"

"I feel the same," Jian Wushuang smiled slightly, his eyes reflecting his strong battle intent.

He had also killed numerous Skyscraping Realm in the last three days but no one had caught his attention.

Now, he had finally met a decent opponent. Deep down, Jian Wushuang was full of anticipation for the fight.

"Let's start!"

Xue Feng blinked and transformed into a Blood Shadow which flew through the Void. Her speed was so fast that ordinary Skyscraping Realm experts would only see a shadow.

The Blood Shadow suddenly popped up in front of Jian Wushuang and the scarlet scythe hacked towards him.

The scarlet scythe looked like a beautiful scarlet moon as it split the Void and rushed towards Jian Wushuang.

The tremendous power compressed the air and produced successive explosions.

"So powerful," Jian Wushuang raised his eyebrows.

Although he hadn't fought against the scarlet scythe, he could sense its great power based on this attack. Fortunately, they were in the Eternal World. If this had happened in the Ancient World, the scarlet scythe would have split the Void into two parts.

Jian Wushuang proceeded with caution. His killing intent surged and his Heart-killing Sword was shaken because it sensed a strong opponent nearby. Jian Wushuang started his first attack.

His sword impaled the Void, boom~ ~ an immaterial wave spread out.

The first level of the advanced Secret Skill, Heaven-breaking Technique!

Jian Wushuang's World Body had been cultivated in the World Prison with the support of Emperor Xiao for three years.

At the same time, with the guidance of Di Jing, his Slaughter Body had fought with thousands of 'Crazy Demons' in the Slaughter Zone. During those fights, his comprehension of Slaughter Dao had improved significantly and he had created his own Secret Skill.

The Heaven-breaking Technique which was created by his Slaughter Body had already reached the first advanced level.

Peng!

A loud bang made the battlefield tremble.

Whoosh! Whoosh!

Jian Wushuang and Xue Feng were forced to retreat because of the explosion.

None of them had an advantage in this round.

“The Sword Principle manual is great. Obviously your comprehension of the Slaughter Dao is not as good as mine, but the power of the Secret Skill that you have created is stronger than mine,” Xue Feng stared at Jian Wushuang with a hint of respect, “Sword Emperor, you are the only Skyscraping Realm expert who has managed to withstand my previous attack in these three days. Now, I will try my best to fight.”

Hearing this, Jian Wushuang sneered, but deep down he thought, *“Xue Feng is indeed strong, but her strength is still not good enough to let my World Body join the fight. I can beat her with my Slaughter Body!”*

Jian Wushuang’s two Original Bodies.

The Slaughter Body was weaker than the World Body.

Since the start of the first round, he had only fought with his Slaughter Body. Even for this encounter with Xue Feng, he didn’t plan to use his World Body.

“Let’s fight!”

Jian Wushuang and Xue Feng resumed their fierce fight.

Swish! Swish! Swish! Swish!

The two figures both transformed into shadows. They flew through the Void with ease at extreme speeds.

Then they exchanged blows.

Xue Feng’s scarlet scythe transformed to three Blood Shadows and hacked towards Jian Wushuang.

Jian Wushuang easily dodged the attack and then swept his sword light outwards with powerful killing intent.

As they fought, hundreds of huge holes appeared in the ground.

The loud noises from the fight also drew the attention of experts nearby, but they did not dare to approach closer to watch.

“Sword Emperor and Xue Feng?”

“The two of them are fighting now?”

“Both of their battle strengths are ranked in the top 30, so they can easily pass the first round. It’s not necessary for them to fight now.”

“Maybe they have been unbeatable in the Ancient World for a long time, so they are eager to have a fierce fight when they meet a worthy opponent.”

Many experts were discussing among themselves.

At this moment, in front of the numerous Mirror Images outside the battlefield.

“Number 315 image, Sword Emperor and Xue Feng are fighting!”

“Both of them can enter the second round. They are definitely the top Ancient World warriors this time. Since they are fighting now... record the Mirror Image carefully, don’t miss any details.”

The cold voice issued the command and the fight was completely recorded by the Mirror Image.

On the battlefield, the two experts were still fighting to death and both were evenly matched.

“I’ve exploited the Dao comprehension well, but I still can’t defeat him or even take any advantage!”
Xue Feng frowned.

Jian Wushuang had a cold expression on his face as he thought, *“Xue Feng is much stronger than all the other Skyscraping Realm experts I have met. If I want to defeat her with my Slaughter Body, I should either use the Spiritual Power or Physical Power which are much stronger than the average level, or... I need to use that trick!”*

Jian Wushuang pondered over his options.

He had cultivated the Heavenly Creation Skill, so he had a perfect foundation which made his Spiritual Power and Physical Power much stronger than the ordinary Skyscraping Realm. This was his biggest advantage. However, Emperor Xiao had cautioned him against showing his perfect foundation, so he couldn’t really use it.

Chapter 623: I’m Feng

“Since I can’t expose my flawless foundation to them, I’ll have to use something else.”?Jian Wushuang made up his mind.

However, before he could make that move, a deep voice interrupted his plan.

“The both of you, not bad!”

A man’s voice echoed throughout the area with a suppressing force, which drew the attention of the two people who were fighting as well as the Skyscraping Realm experts hidden in the surroundings.

Looking towards the voice, they saw a man clothed in a heavy armor walking towards them with a saber in his hand. The man was strong-built and in his middle years.

As he drew near, the experts could feel the suppressing force that surrounded them become stronger.

When the man finally stopped walking, he looked toward Jian Wushuang and Xue Feng with battle intent in his eyes while loudly saying, “I’m Feng.”

“Feng?”

The name caused the hidden experts to change their looks.

Xue Feng also showed a grave expression upon hearing this name.

As for Jian Wushuang, he only looked slightly serious at that moment.

During the last three days on the battlefield, they had heard many famous names, most of which were of the top 30 experts, but none had frightened them so much as Feng had.

It was all because many Skyscraping Realm experts had died in this person's hand, including some people as powerful as Xue Feng. Even more terrifying, those poor guys had been killed in a single strike before they could even struggle.

In light of this, Feng was considered as one of the top three experts among everyone who was still on the battlefield.

"Two days ago, when I first heard this name, I thought I would meet him in the second round, but it looks like he came sooner than I expected."?Jian Wushuang smiled faintly at Feng, not frightened at all.

He was not as famous as Feng, but that did not mean that he was weaker.

After all, he had not used his full power yet.

"Sword Emperor, Xue Feng."

Feng called their names while looking at them. "You two are powerful, so you qualify to be my opponents.

"Now, accept my blow."

After saying this, Feng swung his saber at Jian Wushuang and Xue Feng.

Looking at this move, Jian Wushuang could tell the man had reached an extremely high level in the Destruction Dao and had comprehended all the key points at his current level.

Besides the move, Feng also displayed a powerful secret skill. His saber surged toward its target like a rolling river.

However, the target was only Xue Feng.

Xue Feng had a grave expression while facing this blow. Without hesitation, she met the saber with her scarlet scythe and all her Dao power.

When the two weapons collided together, the saber overpowered the scythe and cut through Xue Feng's body in an instant, while she stared ahead in amazement.

Weng! A dazzling light flashed out of the Drill Ground.

It was Xue Feng being sent out of the battlefield.

"How is this possible?"

"He defeated me with a single strike!"

"Am I really so powerless when compared with him?"?She stood there quietly, her eyes filled with disbelief.

She had been confident in her power before this, so it never occurred to her that she would lose to someone at the same level as her in one strike.

The only reason had to be that Feng was just too strong.

"His power lives up to his fame. He should be ranked number one among us." She sighed, staring at the wormhole in front of her.

"Since he's not any stronger than me, Sword Emperor will be defeated by Feng with one strike as well."

With this thought, She waited for Jian Wushuang to exit the battlefield and appear here as well.

The hidden Skyscraping Realm experts were still in shock after seeing Xue Feng's failure.

Even Jian Wushuang couldn't help narrowing his eyes.

"It's your turn." Feng turned towards Jian Wushuang and launched a ruthless attack.

It was a blow as powerful as the previous one.

The hidden experts started to take pity on Jian Wushuang because they thought that he could not survive it. They believed that Jian Wushuang was at the same level as Xue Feng.

When he saw the move coming towards him, Jian Wushuang took action as well.

He decided to continue relying solely on his Slaughter Body. The Heart-killing Sword quivered along with his surging killing intent.

"Cataclysm Skill!"

As Jian Wushuang growled, killing intent began to radiate from him.

"Buzz!"

The moment he displayed this skill, the whole area became dark.

Only his sword shone brightly in the darkness.

"Boom!"

With a fierce sound of metal on metal, a Blast Wave surged out towards the surroundings.

Jian Wushuang was thrown back hundreds of meters like a cannon ball.

Meanwhile, Feng was only forced to take one step backwards.

However, it still surprised him.

The scene rocked all the hidden experts, so they started talking about it. "Jian Wushuang is alive?"

"He didn't get killed and he even forced Feng to retreat a step."

"It was a brilliant move!"

The experts who were responsible for recording the battle results witnessed the fight through the Mirror Image.

"Superior Secret Skill of the first level!"

“The skill Jian Wushuang displayed is of the first level!”

“Write it down now. Jian Wushuang has survived Feng’s attack with his Superior Secret Skill. He even forced Feng to take a step backwards. Therefore, he is qualified for the second round and even the third round of the following battle.”

Chapter 624: Round One, Over!

Jian Wushuang and Feng stood in the air, hundreds of feet apart.

When Feng sensed Jian Wushuang’s aura and realized it was as powerful as before, he frowned and said, “You’re the first person who managed to take my blow on this battlefield. You’re much more powerful than any of my previous opponents.”

“How flattering. You’re quite powerful as well.” Jian Wushuang praised him from the bottom of his heart.

He was not sure if he could beat Feng, even with his World Body.

“With your current power, you can make it to the end of this round. I expect to meet you in round two,” Feng added.

Jian Wushuang raised his eyebrows when he heard those words. *“He doesn’t want to fight me now.”*

After all, it was just the first round of genius battle in the Ancient World.

Therefore, they did not have to battle each other at that moment.

“I expect to see you in the following rounds as well.” Jian Wushuang’s eyes sparkled with battle intent.

Feng shot him a serious glance and nodded at him before leaving.

After Feng left, the hidden experts were in a sudden uproar.

This battle would bring Jian Wushuang’s name to every corner of the battlefield as a person who had been able to push Feng back.

In the next few days, the battle continued in a less fierce way since there were fewer people still fighting on the battlefield.

After the battles with Xue Feng and Feng, Jian Wushuang encountered another expert ranked within the top 30. This opponent was even stronger than Xue Feng, but Jian Wushuang still killed him with his Superior Secret Skill—Cataclysm Skill.

As time went by, the fifth day finally arrived, signaling the end of the first round of the genius battle.

Boom! A mighty power swept over the whole battlefield and caused everyone there to cease what they were doing. The very next moment, they saw their token explode in a flash of light and they were brought back to the Drill Ground.

All the warriors from the Ancient World had been gathered there again.

The whole area was clamorous as the experts looked towards the people who had performed well during the battle.

“Look, he is Feng!”

“He is a frightening guy. I heard that he killed countless opponents during the last five days, including some of the people in the top 30, with only a single strike. Very few managed to take his blow.”

“This guy is terrifying!”

“The man there is Huo Ying and he’s as famous as Feng. It’s impossible to tell who is more powerful between the two unless they battle each other.”

“That guy is Xuan Ying. He has battled Huo Ying.”

“Can you see that black-robed youth with a sword on his back? He is Sword Emperor, one of those who managed to survive Feng’s attack. He might not be a match for Feng and Huo Ying, but he is not weak at all.”

Quite a lot of people were discussing the results with each other.

They had talked very little at the beginning when everyone had yet to show their power, but now, after the first round, they had enough information to have discussions about the powerful experts.

On the other side of the Drill Ground, the geniuses from the Eternal World were talking to each other as well.

“I really want to know whether we have made it to round two or not.”

The results were a worrisome issue to most of them except for those who had absolute confidence in themselves, such as Jian Wushuang, Feng, and Huo Ying.

Everyone waited in silence.

By the time the elders finished calculating all the results, a half hour had passed and the list of those who could get into the next round was decided.

“Here are the details on the first round of the genius battle. Send it to all the sects right now,” the leader of the elders ordered.

“Understood.” Someone went to send the files.

Not many sects currently had their men watching the battle in Firmament Territory Feast. They did not care about the results of the first round because it would not be enough to determine who the most excellent talents were.

That’s why the elders had to send the results to them.

However, when it came to the second round, the sects would be more concerned.

“The list of the winners of the first round is settled. Go announce it.”

Immediately, a white-robed man took the list to the Drill Ground and handed it to the host of the battle.

After a careful glance, the host nodded and went to the Drill Ground where the geniuses from the Eternal World were.

"We're ready to announce the names of those who make it to the second round. I'll read them to you, one by one." The host started to read the names on the list before the warriors could react.

"Gu Qing."

"Mu Zhan."

"Ouyang Xuan."

"Ling Hu."

Those whose names were called all beamed with joy while the others remained anxious.

The host read out 900 names without pausing.

"The above 900 people are eligible for the second round of the genius battle. As for the rest of you, you all failed," The host said indifferently.

Feelings of happiness and sadness encompassed the area.

Chapter 625: Unfair?

A little later, the host appeared at the Drill Ground on the other side, where the warriors from the Ancient World were gathered.

Just as before, he started reading the names on the list.

"Feng."

The first name he read out was Feng.

No one felt surprised by that because Feng had demonstrated his incredible power in the first round and was regarded as the number one expert among them.

"Huo Ying."

"Long Ying!"

"Bing Shan!"

Those names echoed loudly throughout the area.

Jian Wushuang was the 13th one to be called.

He slightly smiled among the crowd, but he was not surprised.

Even though he had not used his World Body even once during the last five days, only relying on his Slaughter Body, he could easily rank within the top 20 among all the competitors. Therefore, he was confident in his results.

“He Xuan.”

“Dongfang Lingyue.

“Xue Feng.”

The red-robed woman, Xue Feng, let out a sigh of relief after hearing her name.

She had been worried about the result because Feng had defeated her in the first half of the first round. However, it turned out that anyone who demonstrated their talent and power would get into round two.

“I can’t believe Sword Emperor made it to the end of the first round.”

She could not help glancing at Jian Wushuang with an odd look.

Back when she was locked in battle with him, Feng approached them and defeated her, throwing her out the battlefield with one strike. She had thought that Jian Wushuang would suffer the same result as her, but she was wrong. Jian Wushuang had not been sent out of the battlefield, no matter how long she stood there waiting.

*“Could it be that Jian Wushuang was hiding his power when he fought against me?”*Xue Feng thought to herself.

Up in the air, the host suddenly paused after announcing one-hundred names.

“What’s the matter?”

Why did he stop reading?

“What’s going on?”

The warriors all looked confused.

Then, they heard an icy voice say, “The above 100 people can participate in the second round. Everyone else has been eliminated.”

Those words dumbfounded the warriors.

“What?”

“Is that it?”

“Only those 100 people made it to the second round?”

“No! It’s not fair!”

Someone roared.

“How could it just be a hundred people?”

In fact, those who had made it to the next round looked surprised as well.

They could not believe that among the one hundred thousand participants, only such a small number of them managed to pass the first round, while the other side of the battlefield had 900 people out of ten thousand from the Eternal World that could enter the second round.

There was a huge difference between the two numbers.

"It's not fair. Why are there only 100 of us allowed in the second round while 900 passed? The number of our participants was ten times larger than theirs!"

"They showed more favor to those from the Eternal Worlds!"

"I don't believe I'm weaker than the talents from the Eternal World. Why are they allowed in the second round but I'm not? Just because I'm from the Ancient World? I can't accept this."

Roars kept resounding from the Drill Ground.

There were many who had confidence in their power, but they were not on the list, so they were unconvinced.

"Humph!"

The host snorted and looked down at the warriors and used his aura to suppress the whole area.

The aura was a hundred times more powerful than the one Jian Wushuang had felt from Xue Yang. Everyone became quiet while facing this pressure. Some of the rebellious ones were even forced down on their knees by the pressure.

"I told you that everyone is equal in Firmament Territory Feast. Only your talent and power can determine your fate. Those who failed in the first round failed because you lack power." The voice of the host was heard again.

"As for whether it's fair or not, the weak have no right to judge that," the host continued firmly.

He waved his hand and added, "As I said previously, the people on the list can stay. As for the others, your time in Firmament Territory Feast is over. You can choose to leave here on your own in a half hour or be killed."

Those words caused the place to be shrouded in a gloomy atmosphere.

The warriors who failed in the first round had to leave hopelessly, no matter how unwilling they were.

They dared not challenge the host nor the sects behind him.

"Sword Emperor, congratulations!"

"Jian Wushuang, among us three, only you made it to the second round. Remember to win some fame for our Ancient World."

Wu Xin and Ming Liu looked at Jian Wushuang with envy.

The two had tried their best to fight, but they were too weak and failed to earn themselves a place on the list.

"You two, please take care of yourselves." Jian Wushuang shook his head while watching their backs. He could do nothing about their results.

He knew very well that, due to their weak power, no sect would offer them an olive branch, so leaving here was the best choice for them, as it would be too dangerous to adventure in the Eternal World.

Lots of warriors left while grumbling about it.

Jian Wushuang shook his head at them in secret.

"Is this really not fair?"

"Is it?"

He could not help looking toward the Drill Ground where the geniuses from Eternal World were.

Chapter 626: The Three Magnates

"Tens of thousands of people from our Ancient World participated in the battle, many more than that of the Eternal World.

"Nevertheless, our overall level of power is less than theirs.

They possess superior resources for cultivation, so they have a great advantage over us, allowing them to gain more power.

The 900 winners of the first round are the top talents among them and it's true that only a hundred of us could be their match."

Jian Wushuang sighed in private.

"The host was right, it's a fair battle."

In less than half an hour, all those who failed the first round had left.

The number of those who remained in the two Drill Grounds amounted to about a thousand.

They stood on two opposing sides, the people from the Eternal World on one side, while those from the Ancient World were on the other side. However, the next round would be different from the first round because they would encounter opponents from both sides.

"Listen."

The host spoke again. "All of you are definitely geniuses of the Firmament Territory since you have survived the first round, but the second round will take place in 10 days. Please prepare yourselves."

"In 10 days?" The geniuses were surprised.

"I'll give you the information on all the sects in the Firmament Territory so you can consider which one you want to join while you are preparing for the following battles. Of course, you should know that your performance in the upcoming battles will decide whether you can achieve your wish or not. So,

geniuses, show your power as much as you can and it may result in you receiving an invitation from the sects.”

An intense discussion immediately broke out among the geniuses when the words fell.

“Sword Emperor.”

Xue Feng walked over to Jian Wushuang.

“Xue Feng,” Jian Wushuang gave her a smile.

“I heard that you managed to survive Feng’s attack,” Xue Feng said with a strange expression.

“I was just lucky,” Jian Wushuang replied.

“I don’t think it’s luck that you created a Superior Secret Skill.” Xue Feng curled her lip and continued, “It looks like I have to watch my back if I meet you in the future rounds.”

“Well.” Jian Wushuang forced a smile.

Right then, both Jian Wushuang and Xue Feng felt several disdainful eyes fall on them.

“Those guys...”

Xue Feng gritted her teeth and looked toward the geniuses of the Eternal World. That was where she felt the stares coming from.

“They are really arrogant! How annoying!” She growled.

“Yes, they look down on us from the bottom of their hearts since they have more advantages than us.” Jian Wushuang echoed her thoughts while frowning.

“But we have to admit that they are more powerful than us. Even Feng, the strongest one among us, is probably no match for the top 10 experts among them,” Xue Feng said dejectedly.

Her conclusion made Jian Wushuang narrow his eyes.

He had learned of Feng’s incredible power, so it was really astonishing to know that Feng, who had defeated Xue Feng with one attack, could not make it into the top 10.

“*Maybe it’s true.*”?Jian Wushuang sighed in secret.

While the geniuses were chatting with each other, someone came and handed them a file containing detailed information on all the sects.

The geniuses immediately started reading through the information as soon as they received it.

After all, the 100 geniuses from the Ancient World knew very little about the Eternal World and the sects, so they read the files with their full attention.

Jian Wushuang was no exception.

“The Firmament Territory covers a large area in the Eternal World and it’s home to numerous sects and forces, both strong and weak ones.

“Among the forces, there are three magnates—Cloud Sea Asgard, the Immortal Dynasty, and the Boundless Demon Sect!

“Those three sects possess the best resources and have the most disciples in the Firmament Territory. Men of talent appear there in large numbers with every generation. In short, they are the most powerful sects in the whole territory.”

As the geniuses were reading, the descriptions about the three magnates caused their eyes to light up.

They knew that the stronger a sect was the more resources it could provide them.

All they wanted from the Firmament Territory Feast was to join a powerful sect, so it was obvious that the three magnates would be their best choices.

However, the strong sects always had a higher standard for their disciples. Normal geniuses would never enter their eyes, only the truly exceptional ones could win their favor, like the top 10 geniuses.

“It’s too hard for me to reach the standards of the three magnates. I should just give up.”

“As for what has been written in the file, only the very best will be accepted as inner disciples. Even becoming an outer disciple requires one to enter the top 50. Obviously, I’m far from their requirements.”

“Take it easy. There are other sects besides the three magnates. We may still have some hope.”

The Drill Ground was abuzz with discussion.

After carefully reading through the information of the magnates, Jian Wushuang turned to the nine other top sects.

Those sects might not be as powerful as the magnates, but they still possess a certain level of strength.

The best of them was a sect called the Ancient Sect.

Chapter 627: Skyward Pavillion

“The Ancient Sect?”

Those words caught his eye, so he continued reading.

According to the file, even though this sect was only one of the top sects, it had won as much fame as the three magnates.

“The Master of the Ancient Sect is acknowledged as the number one expert in Firmament Territory, and Xuan Yi from this sect is the best among those in the Eternal Realm. In addition to the Sect Master, there were also three Dao Masters in its long history.”

The information caused Jian Wushuang to have a strange expression on his face.

He was almost lost in those words about the brilliant achievements of the Ancient Sect, which, based on the file, seemed to be more impressive than the three magnates.

The fact that the number one expert in the Firmament Territory was not from the three supreme magnates had been totally beyond his expectation.

What had surprised him even more was that, while there was only one Dao Master in each magnate, there were three in the Ancient Sect.

Three Dao Masters in one sect!

There was no doubt that the Ancient Sect could outshine the three magnates.

"The Ancient Sect."?Jian Wushuang repeated the name in secret.

"If the author of this file is not from the Ancient Sect and has not over glorified it, the only logical reason to justify such a magnificent description is that this sect is quite unusual!"

With this assumption, Jian Wushuang continued reading about the other sects.

The rest of the nine sects were actually very normal and not up to par with the three magnates.

Following the nine sects, were many middle-sized and small sects. However, as powerful as they might be, they were no match for the top nine.

After reading through all the information, Jian Wushuang finally understood the general knowledge related to all the sects.

"If I want to gain more benefits, I will have to do my best to join a more powerful sect. The three magnates and the Ancient Sect should be my best choices. If that doesn't work out, there are the other top sects. As for the middle-sized and small sects, they would be about as helpful to me as adventuring on my own."

Jian Wushuang was determined to at least join one of the top nine sects.

Of course, he knew it would all be up to the sects.

On the Drill Ground, all one thousand geniuses were waiting in silence.

Three days later, they heard a series of booming sounds and felt a mighty power descending.

"What's happening?"

They immediately looked up only to see a towering pavilion floating in the sky above them.

The pavilion was as huge as a mountain and had two golden words that seemed to be carved at the center of it—Skyward Pavilion.

"A pavilion?"

"A floating pavilion?"

"This pavilion has such an overbearing aura."

The geniuses all studied it with astonishment and awe in their eyes.

They could feel the aura very clearly.

At the same time, they also noticed that the pavilion had four floors with several rooms on each floor. However, the top floor only had three big rooms. Judging from the awe-inspiring aura that was coming from them, they guessed that those rooms were for the three magnates.

On the third floor, there were nine rooms, representing the top nine sects.

As for the rooms on the first and second floor, they belonged to the small and middle-sized sects.

Inside the center room on the top floor, were the people from Cloud Sea Asgard.

“Your Excellency, the details of the geniuses who have survived the first round are in those two files. This one is for the 900 people from the Eternal World and that one is for the 100 people from the Ancient World.” In the room, a man dressed in white handed two files to an elder.

The elder, who was sitting in a wooden chair, looked like an immortal with black hair. His milky eyes glanced over the man before he accepted the file with the information on geniuses from the Eternal World and began to read it.

As for the other file, he did not even spare it a glance.

The elder quickly finished reading.

“The geniuses this year seem to be more outstanding than in the previous years.” The elder murmured. “We planned to accept three new disciples from them, but it looks like we will have to increase it to five.”

“Your Excellency, do you want to take a look at the information of those geniuses from Ancient World?” The man in white asked gingerly.

“From the Ancient World?”

The elder raised his eyebrows and sneered while saying, “Hell no! They are no match for those from the Eternal World.

“Because of their limited resources, they were born to be inferior to those in the Eternal World regardless of their talent or insight. In addition, their foundations are also inferior. The further they go after reaching the Skyscraping Realm, the nearer they draw to their limitations.

So, I don’t actually think they should be considered geniuses because of their disadvantages and useless cultivation.

“I reckon that less than five among them will survive the second round of the genius battle. I don’t want to waste my time on them.”

Obviously, the elder thought little of those geniuses from the Ancient World.

“On the contrary, I’d love to pay more attention to the shining stars among the geniuses from the Eternal World,” the elder added with a smile.

“Your Excellency, do you need me to send them an invitation now?”

"No, not yet." The elder continued speaking with an expression of pride, "We can't make it too easy for them. If they want to be one of our disciples, they will have to show us more of their talent."

The elder showed his pride as a member of the top sect among the three magnates.

Chapter 628: An Invitation

At the top floor of Skyward Pavilion, in the room on the left, were the people of the Immortal Dynasty.

Among them, a middle-aged man with matted hair who was sitting straight in his chair, with two files at hand. His eyebrows revealed his rebellious character.

After he glanced through one of the files, the one containing the information on the geniuses from Eternal World, he nodded and exclaimed, "Some of these youngsters are really outstanding."

"Your Excellency, should we send them an invitation in advance?" A white-robed man standing beside him asked respectfully.

"No, let's wait a little longer," the middle-aged man replied.

From the very beginning to the end, he never even cast a glance at the other file. The geniuses from the Ancient World were completely ignored.

At the same time, in the room of the Boundless Demon Sect, a girl was reading a file as well. She looked quite young, but her aura was evil and terrifying. When she finished reading the information on the geniuses from the Eternal World, she turned to the file on those from the Ancient World.

"The man named Feng has performed well, but he will, at best, only make it within the top 20." She curled her lips and put the file away casually.

It seemed that none of the three magnates had really been interested in Jian Wushuang and the others that came from the Ancient World.

What's worse, the same was true of the top sects as well.

They did not believe that there were real geniuses in the Ancient World.

However, being less competitive than the top sects, the middle-sized and small sects had decided to target those who were less favored.

"The genius Feng, despite being from the Ancient World, is really something and may even make it to the top 20 in the Firmament Territory Feast. Send him an invitation saying that we want to accept him as our disciple." An order was given out by the Luotian Sect.

"Send Feng an invitation and tell him we're willing to have an Eternal Realm expert teach him in person." Another order came out from the Ice Fire Sect.

"The man named Huo Ying is really impressive and can probably survive the second round. Tell him our Sky Shadow Temple is willing to accept him as an inner disciple."

"Bing Shan is excellent."

Those invitations from the middle-sized and small sects went to the outstanding geniuses from the Ancient World in succession.

While all the geniuses were gathered in the Drill Ground, some men dressed in white robes would arrive and give the geniuses from the Eternal World an invitation from time to time.

As for those from the Ancient World, like Jian Wushuang, they had received some invitations as well, but all of them were from the middle-sized and small sects.

“Jian Wushuang.” A man came to him and said, “Here is an invitation from our Mohuo Sect. If you accept it then you will be an inner disciple and one of our Divine Realm experts will teach you in person.”

“Understood, thanks!” Jian Wushuang simply nodded without giving a definite answer.

“This is a Message Token from the Divine Realm expert Jiu Ye. Once you’ve decided to accept our invitation, you can contact him through it.”

Jian Wushuang accepted the token and put it in his Interspatial Ring without taking a careful look at it.

He was not interested in joining a powerless sect where the strongest person was a Divine Realm expert.

The invitation might not appeal to Jian Wushuang, but it did to many others who looked at Jian Wushuang with envy.

Some of them had only received an invitation from the small sects and could only be outer disciples, while some had not even been invited once.

Therefore, being an inner disciple of the Mohuo Sect and having a Divine Realm expert as a master was a very satisfying prospect to them.

“So far, I’ve received four invitations, three from small sects as an inner disciple and one from a middle-sized sect as an outer disciple.”?Jian Wushuang shook his head in secret, but he was not discouraged.

After all, he had yet to show his real power in the three rounds of this genius battle.

He was sure that he would receive many better offers after the second and third round.

Feng was the origin of his confidence in that. After demonstrating his power, Feng had received a dozen invitations from the middle-sized sects, even a top sect had offered him a place as one of their outer disciples.

As the people on the Drill Ground continued waiting, in the center room on the third floor of Skyward Pavilion, a white-robed man stood with two files in his hand

The man had been waiting there for the past seven days for the experts who were supposed to be in the room.

“It’s been seven days, but no one has come.”?The man was quite bothered and helpless.

He was waiting for the representatives of the Ancient Sect to come.

He knew very well that, just as everyone who had ever adventured in the Firmament Territory knew, even though the Ancient Sect was less powerful than the three magnates, they would be harder to deal with than those three.

Right then, whoosh! A figure suddenly appeared in the room as if it appeared out of thin air.

The waiting man was startled inside as he looked toward the newcomer.

It was a tall man, more than two meters in height, with a gentle look and purple hair. The man wore a charming smile on his face and was standing with both hands behind his back.

Towering like a mountain!

That's the impression he gave to others.

He showed a smile at the man who was waiting for him and apologized. "Sorry, I'm late."

The waiting man was so surprised that his eyes opened wide when he finished getting a clear look at the newcomer.

"Master... Xuan Yi?"

Chapter 629: The Second Round of the Genius Battle

"Master Xuan Yi has come in person!"

"And he apologized to me just now?"

Staring at the towering gentleman in front of him, the white-robed man could not believe his eyes.

At that moment, the people in the surrounding rooms noticed Xuan Yi's arrival as well.

The girl from the Boundless Demon Sect was the first one to speak to him in a humble tone. "Mr. Xuan Yi, I never thought that you would personally attend the Firmament Territory Feast."

"Xuan Yi, are all the Eternal Realm experts in your sect dead? If not, then why would you, as the number one Eternal Realm expert, come here by yourself?" The voice was from the black-haired elder from Cloud Sea Asgard. The words might not sound kind, but the others could tell that the elder was in awe of Xuan Yi.

The middle-aged man from the Immortal Dynasty also chimed in with a laugh and said, "Mr. Xuan Yi, we all feel honored by your presence."

While those people addressed Xuan Yi in a more casual way, the experts from the middle-sized and small sects did it more reverently. They called him "Master Xuan Yi".

"Well, I just came to join in the fun. Of course, it would be good if I could find some new disciples for our sect," Xuan Yi said with a casual smile.

After a while of chatting, Xuan Yi turned to the white-robed man and ordered, "Give me the files in your hand."

"Yes, your Excellency." The man immediately handed the files to him.

After taking a quick glance at the information of the geniuses from the Eternal World, Xuan Yi put it away and started reading the other file carefully and even made some comments.

"The Ancient World really has some talents this time."

His words somehow stunned the white-robed man.

"Why did his Excellency favor the participants from the Ancient World more than he favors those from the Eternal World? He is completely different from the three magnates and the top nine sects."

"Feng, Huo Ying, Bing Shan, and Jian Wushuang... They are all impressive. Let's wait and see their performance in the second round," Xuan Yi murmured to himself as he took a seat nearby.

Ten days passed quickly.

The second round of the genius battle was about to begin.

All the geniuses on the Drill Ground were itching for a fight.

Especially those who had not received a satisfying invitation from the sects. Their eager eyes betrayed their anxiety.

It was clear to all of them that the battle results of the first round could not decide their fate alone, so they were ready to show their real power in the remaining rounds.

"Ten days have passed. Now, the second round of the genius battle can finally begin!"

The host's loud voice echoed throughout the whole Drill Ground from above.

"This will be different to the first round. In this round, you will be fighting against Puppet Fighters instead of other participants!"

After saying this, the host waved his hand, at which point five tall and wide platforms, capable of supporting a fierce battle between two Skyscraping Realm experts, appeared in front of the Drill Ground. In addition to that, each of the platforms was covered with a Restriction and had a single towering figure about two-meters tall standing on it.

It was the Puppet Fighters.

The five platforms constituted five battlefields.

"Listen," the host continued, "the rules for this round are very simple. You can choose any one of the five Puppet Fighters to fight. If you are able to survive against it for 15 minutes, you win."

The words caused the geniuses to have a complex feeling.

The rules for this round were simple, but it would be harder to pass it.

"Now, I'm going to call out names in batches of five for this round," the host said while looking around.

"Long Xin!

“Xue Wuji!

“Beast!

“Beicang King!

“Zhuge Qing!

“The five of you are the first batch.”

The five men immediately walked to the host in succession.

Among them, only Beicang King was from the Ancient World, the rest of them were from the Eternal World.

The five each entered their own battlefield.

They were the first batch of challengers, which made them a little uneasy because they did not know how powerful the Puppet Fighters were.

“Begin!”

With the host’s shout, all five Puppet Fighters began to move.

They all charged at their targets at the same time, each one with a long spear in hand.

They drew near to the challengers at an amazing speed and started attacking.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

Five blows pierced towards their targets.

“They’re quite powerful!”

The geniuses showed a horrified look as they watched this scene. They could see each of the blows very clearly.

“Those five Puppet Fighters are really strong.”

Jian Wushuang narrowed his eyes. He could tell that the Puppet Fighters were a level more powerful than normal Skyscraping Realm experts, no matter in power or speed. Most importantly, they all had a profound comprehension of the Dao.

“All of them have been cultivating the Destruction Dao and have mastered its first level. Even the skills they are displaying are Superior Rank One Secret Skills!”?Jian Wushuang could not help being astonished.

As far as he knew, only about 20 people in the Firmament Territory Feast had mastered the first level of a Dao, and the ones who had managed to create a Superior Rank One Secret Skill might be even fewer.

Therefore, there was no doubt that those Puppet Fighters could be ranked within the top 20 among them with their achievements in the Dao, skills, strength, and speed.

Which to say, the puppets were equal to the more powerful challengers, like Feng.

The thought of holding on for 15 minutes under such formidable attacks really scared some of the geniuses.

Some of them even became pale-faced.

Chapter 630: Qianqiu Wuhen!

Bang! Bang! Bang!

On each of the platforms, a fierce battle was taking place as the sounds of intense combat continuously echoed throughout the area.

Among the five battles, two of them were settled in a short moment. Beicang King and Zhuge Qing, from the Ancient World and the Eternal World, were kicked out the battlefield by the Puppet Fighters.

As for the other three battles, they lasted a little longer than the first two, but they still ended with the three challengers failing in less than 15 minutes.

In short, the first batch of challengers all failed!

The geniuses all forced a bitter smile after seeing the results.

"The Puppet Fighters are so incredible, I don't think I can hold on for even three breaths against their attacks."

"There's no way I can survive the second round."

"Even though we can't make it to the next round, we should try our best to prolong the battle and draw attention from the sects."

Most of the participants knew that their failure in this round was certain, but they still wanted to do their best.

"The second batch of challengers..." The host read out five more names.

The moment their names were called, those people immediately went onto the platforms to fight.

As time went by, batch after batch, the geniuses went forward faced the challenge, but most of them lost the battle while only some really powerful ones made it to the next round, and all of them were from the Eternal World.

So far, one-third of the participants from the Ancient World had tried their luck on the platforms, but none of them had won.

Xue Feng, who had previously been defeated by Feng with one strike, had managed to hold on for a moment when fighting against a Puppet Fighter as powerful as Feng, but she failed in the end without a doubt.

"Now, it's time for the 41st batch!

Feng.

Kang Yuan!

Xue Hou!

Xuanyuan Wudao!

Yi Jie!”

At this time, another five geniuses walked onto the platforms.

The geniuses from the Ancient World all looked up towards one of the platforms, only for the reason that their number one expert, Feng, was on it.

In no time, Feng was locked in a fierce battle with the Puppet Fighter.

Just like the five Puppet Fighters, Feng had comprehended the first level of the Destruction Dao. He had even made some progress in the second level which resulted in him having a better comprehension of the Dao than the puppets.

Not only that, the saber technique he displayed was so forceful and domineering that it overpowered the puppet’s spear technique. With all this combined, he was able to gain the upper hand in the battle and suppress his opponent completely.

The battle lasted over 15 minutes like this, which really astonished many geniuses from the Eternal World.

Sure enough, Feng survived this round.

The experts in the Skyward Pavilion had also witnessed Feng’s performance.

“Even though Feng is from the Ancient World, he is highly gifted in the Destruction Dao. Go find him and tell him that we’d love to accept him as an outer disciple.” The voice came from the room of the Thousand Star Sect.

“Tell him there is a spot for him as an outer disciple.”

Many top sects hurriedly sent their invitations to Feng, but all of them only offered the position of outer disciple.

As for the three magnates, Feng was still beneath their notice.

Meanwhile, on the Drill Ground, the battles continued.

From the Eternal World’s group, a red-robed man with red hair caught some eyes. As he walked forward slowly, even his eyes had a red shine to them.

The moment he stepped out from his group, he attracted everyone’s attention, including the three magnates and the experts in the Skyward Pavilion.

“It’s him!”

“Good lord!”

“He is Qianqiu Wuhen, a peerless genius who has the ability to be in the top five among all the challengers in the Firmament Territory Feast.”

Some of the geniuses from the Eternal World frowned at this red-robed man with a hint of fear in their eyes. After all, this man was the most outstanding one among the super geniuses that had drawn the crowd’s attention in the first round.

Of course, Feng, Huo Ying, Bing Shan, and Jian Wushuang could be called super geniuses as well, but only within their own group.

In the first round, Qianqiu Wuhen demonstrated his power by defeating his opponents like a storm of lightning.

No one knew exactly how powerful he was, but they knew that he was terrifying.

“With his level of power, he can directly beat the Puppet Fighter down.”

“Yes, he can, but I wonder how long it will take him to do that.”

“I bet he can do it within 10 breaths.”

Geniuses from the Eternal World were discussing the matter with interest.

In the rooms on the top floor of the Skyward Pavilion, the three magnates kept a close eye on Qianqiu Wuhen.

They were all looking forward to seeing his brilliant performance.

Under all those eyes, Qianqiu Wuhen moved onto a platform.

“Start!”

As soon as the words were heard, the Puppet Fighters all made their moves.

Qianqiu Wuhen acted at almost the same moment.

He stretched out his hand and punched toward his opponent in a gentle and casual way.

“Boom!”

The puppet moved back rapidly as the sound rang out.

A moment later, another palm carrying a formidable power landed on the puppet.

“Boom!”

The powerful Puppet Fighter was smashed into pieces under the force.