

## Tang Sect 111

### Chapter 111.1: Blaze Amidst the Frost, the Heavenly Emperor's Hammer!

Breaking the Star Barrier and the Absolute Defense Barrier one after another had completely unraveled the Star Luo National Academy's battle tactics and strategy, and had subsequently changed the entire situation.

Dai Yueheng walked over to Huo Yuhao and Wang Dong and, lost in thought, bent down to support the two of them.

As that moment, a pair of hands flashed before him, and Bei Bei's face appeared in front of Dai Yueheng's eyes with a grin. "Let me do it, senior."

Dai Yueheng was momentarily stunned. He instantly recovered from his mildly dense state of mind and agreed as he took a step back.

"Give him to me." A pair of searing-hot hands reached out and snatched Huo Yuhao from Bei Bei's hands just as he was helping him up. Huo Yuhao was clamped under her armpit as they leapt off the competition stage almost immediately vanished from everyone's eyes.

The corner of Xue Sanshi's, who was standing next to Bei Bei, mouth twitched a little as he heaved a sigh and said, "I feel bad for him. However, I have to thank him as well. Xiaotao hasn't sought me out even once since he arrived."

"Shrek Academy has defeated Star Luo National Academy in the first group battle round of the Semifinals." The Heavenfiend Douluo's indifferent and chilly voice rang out as he announced the results of the battle.

On Shrek Academy's side, Dai Yueheng and Bei Bei had suffered varying degrees of injuries. As for Huo Yuhao and Wang Dong, they could be said to be used to the exhaustion from competing, as their cultivations were simply too low. Ma Xiaotao had had to endure the toxic backlash from channeling her evil fire, and had only managed to forcibly suppress the evil fire with Ling Luochen's help. However, she needed Huo Yuhao's Ultimate Ice to completely recover, which was why she'd snatched him away.

However, the Star Luo National Academy's situation wasn't that great either. Princess Jiu Jiu was injured, and Huang Heyun, their frontline assault-type soul master, had absorbed an enormous amount of soul power and had severe internal injuries. He would most likely not be able to fight again for a long time. Dugu Shangshan, another assault-type soul master, as well as the Windfire Duo, had been heavily wounded by the piercing strike that Ma Xiaotao had unleashed when she'd triggered her Evil Phoenix. If not for the Heavenfiend Douluo's timely intervention, all three of them would have perished beneath the scorching heat of her phoenix flames. The Gigant Eagle soul master was even worse for wear, as his wings, which he relied heavily on, had been torn apart. His wings being severely damaged meant that his origin as a soul master had also been hurt. It could basically be said that not a single one of the Star Luo National Academy's seven main team members would be able to continue in tomorrow's single-elimination match at their peak condition. Furthermore, they'd already lost the first round, thus they would have to defeat Shrek Academy in the single-elimination round and the 2-2-3 round if they wished to turn the tables.

“How did Yuhao and Wang Dong do that, Teacher Wang?” Dai Yueheng eagerly probed Wang Yan the moment he stepped off the competition stage.

Wang Yan glanced at him, then shook his head. “I didn’t see the situation onstage. How would I know?”

Ling Luochen thought about it, then muttered, “It was most likely a martial soul fusion skill. Their Golden Road seemed to counter Princess Jiu Jiu’s barrier. Afterwards, they used another combined soul skill. That soul skill was unique, and contained a frightening aura of raw power and majesty; I can’t even begin to describe the force behind that strike. However, I know that they were the ones who broke through the weakened light barrier. Could it be that the two of them possess a second martial soul fusion skill?”

Wang Yan eyed Ling Luochen deeply as he lowered his voice and said, “We shall not discuss this any further. Let’s head back.”

Dai Yueheng frowned and said, “Are we not going to watch the epic battle between the Imperial Profound Academy and the Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineering Academy?”

Wang Yan shook his head and replied, “Can’t you tell from today’s competition? The Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineering Academy will never use the tactics that they have specially in store for us before they’re actually facing us on stage. Watching them will simply be a waste of time—we might as well hurry back and recuperate. Even though we probably won’t receive much resistance from Star Luo National Academy in the single-elimination rounds, we can’t be too careless.”

It was true that the soul skill that Huo Yuhao and Wang Dong had used to overcome the Star Barrier was a new martial soul fusion skill that they’d been experimenting with. To be more accurate, it was their second martial soul fusion skill.

Their combined abilities would only get stronger and stronger as their cultivations increased. This was especially true regarding their compatibility while using their Haodong power. This meant that their energy consumption when using their martial soul fusion skills would be much lower than usual.

At the same time, ever since Huo Yuhao had fused with the Life Gold, his physical willpower endurance had been greatly boosted, which had been the most important part of their ability to use two martial soul fusion skills in a row.

Huo Yuhao would have never experimented with activating two martial soul fusion skills in a row on his own had Electrolux not told him that he could do so. This was because failure would mean his death.

Unleashing a martial soul fusion skill meant that two individuals martial souls and soul powers were being seamlessly fused together, and in turn releasing a different kind of soul skill. However, there was always a single person directing this how it was released.

There was no question that Huo Yuhao was the main director of the Golden Road and the second soul skill, thus it was natural that he had to endure more. When he’d obtained the Ice Jade Empress Scorpion’s bones, enduring the Golden Road no longer proved to be much of a problem. In light of his fusion with the Life Gold, and in addition to his increase in cultivation, using a second martial soul fusion skill right after the first had become he and Wang Dong’s current limit. Wang Dong had fallen

unconscious because of this, as Huo Yuhao had extracted all of Wang Dong's soul power whilst being pushed to the limits of his own soul power.

Their second martial soul fusion skill was the product of fusing their other two powerful martial souls: the Ice Jade Empress Scorpion and the Clear Sky Hammer.

The Spirit Eyes were the main director in the fusion between the Spirit Eyes and the Radiant Butterfly Goddess, which meant that it was a fusion between spiritual power and light power in addition to the Purple Demon Eyes' mighty power, with their Haodong power as the source of activation.

Comparatively, the Golden Road was a powerful martial soul fusion skill that leaned towards control rather than destructive capabilities.

What about their other two powerful martial souls, the Ice Jade Empress Scorpion and the Clear Sky Hammer?

There was no question that both entities were the pinnacle of offense and destructive capabilities. One was an Ultimate martial soul, and was known as one of the Extreme North's Three Heavenly Kings. The other held the reputation for being the most frightening assault-type martial soul in existence. Their fusion could only mean one thing: devastation.

Huo Yuhao and Wang Dong's second martial soul fusion skill had a corresponding name to the Golden Road.

Blaze Amidst the Frost, the Heavenly Emperor's Hammer!

The Ice Empress, as an Ultimate Ice martial soul, became the main controlling power as the Ultimate Ice's elemental destructiveness fused impeccably with the Clear Sky Hammer's pure cataclysmic power. The result was an illusion of Huo Yuhao's mature figure as it ripped through space with a terrifying strike. The devastating power produced in that single instance was already far greater than their combined might using their Haodong power.

Perhaps it was because their martial souls' compatibility rates were so high, but their level of success during their experiments with martial soul fusion skills in the past few days had been so high that even they hadn't been able to believe it.

In theory, two soul masters with twin martial souls should be able to unleash four mighty martial soul fusion skills. In fact, they'd already achieved electrifying success with the other three besides the Golden Road. This was the most important reason that Wang Yan had been willing to send the two of them out in the semifinals group battle round. If he hadn't, their combined strength wouldn't have been able to compare to He Caitou and Jiang Nannan's strength without any special abilities.

The outcome proved that Wang Yan's decision was right: Huo Yuhao and Wang Dong's two powerful martial soul fusion skills had been the key part in Shrek Academy forcibly turning the tide. Even though Huo Yuhao's Spiritual Detection Sharing's power had been greatly weakened, he'd become Shrek Academy's spark once again in this battle.

However, Huo Yuhao was currently in trouble, as Ma Xiaotao was dragging him back to the Grand Imperial Star Hotel.

Ma Xiaotao rushed into her room like a gust of wind, then slammed the door shut with a bang and locked it.

Her body was like a pile of burning coal at this point, while her skin was covered in a seductive pink layer due to the evil fire's adverse effects within her body. The dull red color in her eyes had grown a shade darker, and her flowing red hair was so bright that it appeared to be dripping with blood.

She shook Huo Yuhao with all her might and exclaimed in a hoarse and trembling voice, "Get up, you can't sleep now!"

Huo Yuhao had expended too much soul power, and his body had endured too great a hit from his martial soul fusion skill. He'd been unconscious since the match. Therefore, simply shaking him a few times wouldn't wake him up, but Ma Xiaotao's situation was extremely dire at this point.

She'd forcefully suppressed the evil fire within her body with the help of Huo Yuhao's Ultimate Ice the last time around, and this had changed her attitude towards battle, as she felt as if she could just let herself go. She'd begun to develop a change in mindset, as if she'd forgotten the pain once the scars were healed. This was even more due to Huo Yuhao being by her side. In fact, she'd begun to be a lot less watchful about controlling that evil fire within her body.

Recently, she'd felt the evil fire within her body beginning to stir again, but she hadn't hurried to ask for Huo Yuhao's help in suppressing it. She intended to ask for his help after they'd completed the rest of the competition.

She'd triggered the evil fire within her body of her own volition in today's competition. This had caused her phoenix flames to reach a petrifying level that she was no longer able to control, even if she wanted to suppress it in certain situations. Even though Ling Luo Chen's ice element was powerful, the gap in their cultivations was too great. Her normal ice element couldn't even compare to Ma Xiaotao's evil phoenix flames. This in turn led to her not being able to control the evil fire within her body when she returned to the hotel.

Fortunately for her, Huo Yuhao's body was ice cold, and his body also contained the Ice Empress' bones. Ma Xiaotao was still able to retain a trace of her rationality by hugging him ever so tightly. However, she couldn't even tell that the peaks on her chest were currently being pressed out of shape as she squeezed their bodies tightly together.

"What now? What should I do? This fellow just won't wake up."

Ma Xiaotao grasped Huo Yuhao's body impatiently as the evil fire surged periodically within her body. She could acutely feel that she was about to lose control completely. This hotel was inside a bustling district, and she was afraid of the lives that would be lost the moment she went berserk.

### **Chapter 111.2: Blaze Amidst the Frost, the Heavenly Emperor's Hammer!**

As Ma Xiaotao held onto Huo Yuhao as tightly as she could, she darted into the bathroom. She immediately turned on the shower, then plunged both Huo Yuhao and herself underneath the cold water.

Even though the water was cold, it began to sizzle like burning charcoal that had been doused with water once it encountered her boiling-hot body. Thick, dense steam instantly permeated the entire bathroom, covering it in a layer of blurriness.

Ma Xiaotao felt a wave of comfort course through her body once she'd soaked herself inside of the cold water. She heaved a faint sigh of relief, then grit her teeth and started to gradually inject her soul power into Huo Yuhao's body.

She didn't know what else to do. Her half-dazed, unstable state of mind had made her irrational, and caused her to completely forget about Huo Yuhao's current situation. Even though she was trying her best to suppress it, the hysterically simmering evil fire found its way into Huo Yuhao's body and immediately began to wreak havoc.

If this was Huo Yuhao before he'd absorbed the Life Gold, just this alone would've been enough to cause him grave injury.

However, his passageways were able to endure much more than before. Although his entire body began to tremble violently under this riling stimulation, his passageways still managed to force down the small stream of evil fire that was flowing into his body.

Huo Yuhao finally came to from his unconscious state because of this. Two arms tightly wrapped around his body were the first things he felt—alongside the two extremely soft and springy peaks that were pressed against his chest.

*What's happening?* Huo Yuhao was stunned momentarily, then felt the wave of uncontrollable evil fire surging throughout his own body.

Even though he didn't know the results of the competition after he passed out, he was familiar with evil fire; it had once caused him unimaginably agonizing pain. He figured out what was going on almost immediately. Regardless of how the battle had ended, the Ma Xiaotao's evil fire had relapsed and was out of her control.

Dense steam obscured his vision, but he could clearly hear Ma Xiaotao's violent breathing. In addition to the fact that both of them were so intimately close, Huo Yuhao's young body also began to feel somewhat strange despite the pain he felt from the evil fire's torture.

"Xiaotao... let me grab... that milk bottle..." Huo Yuhao struggled to say.

Huo Yuhao didn't have much soul power left in his body when Ma Xiaotao began to inject evil fire inside. However, the Ice Empress' soul bone was still there, and reacted immediately by releasing an Ultimate Ice aura to resist the evil fire.

The extreme cold instantly made Ma Xiaotao feel like she'd just experienced rain after several long years of draught. As she heaved a long sigh of relief, she heard Huo Yuhao's voice.

Considering their circumstances and her current unstable state of mind she immediately misunderstood his intentions.

"You little bastard. You still want to take advantage of me at a time like this?" Ma Xiaotao was furious, and immediately attempted to push Huo Yuhao aside. However, the moment her body stopped

touching Huo Yuhao's, the evil fire in her body began to rampage once more. She moaned, then hugged Huo Yuhao as tightly as she could once again.

Huo Yuhao yet again experienced the process of two lumps of soft flesh departing from his body and then being forcefully thrust back onto it. The encounter felt magical, but the agonizing sensation of evil fire flowing into his body made him grunt in pain. He subconsciously reached out to push Ma Xiaotao away.

Huo Yuhao wasn't that short anymore, but he was still a tad shorter than Ma Xiaotao was. He was stuck in Ma Xiaotao's iron grip, with even his arms trapped within hers, which meant that he was unable to raise them at all. When he reached out with his hands, he naturally pressed them against Ma Xiaotao's waist. Due to the force of Ma Xiaotao's forward momentum, Huo Yuhao felt his feet slip beneath him, and he immediately stumbled backwards – his hands slipped down as a result, and he ended up grabbing Ma Xiaotao's firm and perky butt cheeks.

Huo Yuhao's first felt something round in his hands, then intense heat, and finally that what he was holding was spongy...

"You..." The evil fire in Ma Xiaotao's body had seeped into her veins, thus she was ten times more sensitive than normal even though her body was scorching hot. She was at risk of losing control in her current situation, yet she was also at her most powerful. Her heightened senses were used against her opponents in normal times, so it was easy to imagine how she felt now that she was using them on herself. No matter how hardy and resilient she was, she was ultimately still an unmarried woman. Even though Huo Yuhao was still young, he definitely didn't look like he was only twelve years old. Ma Xiaotao grunted from his grab, and subconsciously hugged him even tighter, the evil fire she'd initially been trying to control instantly pouring into Huo Yuhao with more ferocity.

Heat waves akin to a volcano's eruption assaulted his body from all over before he could enjoy the exhilaration of what he'd grabbed.

This sudden flow of heat made Huo Yuhao feel like his entire body was melting. As his body was still weak, he was sent into a daze. His hands naturally didn't let go when this happened—instead, they squeezed even tighter, and his fingers sank into the spongy flesh of her buttocks. The two of them then maintained this dubious position.

Cold water continuously sprayed downwards, but it was quickly reduced to steam. The entire bathroom now resembled a giant steamer. Huo Yuhao's clothes had become soaking wet in an instant, and he felt like he was about to be cooked alive.

His Ultimate Ice's power would gradually reveal itself at times like this, and Ultimate Ice naturally countered the pressure that Huo Yuhao was withstanding from fire-type energy. The Ice Jade Empress Scorpion also retaliated as Huo Yuhao faced this shockwave from all over his body. Of course, even if he hadn't had a powerful entity like the Ice Empress, Huo Yuhao still wouldn't have just melted from this.

Chilly air quickly spread from the Ice Empress' bones and protected his internal organs. The evil fire was powerful, but there was nothing it could do except be dispelled, as its adversary was Ultimate Ice.

Huo Yuhao's spiritual sea had been developed greatly ever since he'd ingested the Life Gold. Not only had his spiritual power been boosted, but his control over his own body had also become a lot better

than before. Neither the Ice Empress, the Skydream Iceworm, or Electrolux could easily take over his body anymore.

However, the Ice Empress could still control the power that she had sealed within Huo Yuhao's body.

If the searing evil fire that invaded Huo Yuhao's body reached his heart, Huo Yuhao would be done for; how could the Ice Empress sit by and watch this unfold? The moment she felt that something wasn't right, she'd lifted a corner of her seal, causing the Ice Jade Scorpion tattoo on Huo Yuhao's back to glimmer into view. An icy aura instantly flowed through his body and forcefully dissipated Ma Xiaotao's dense, blisteringly hot phoenix flames.

The Ice Empress wouldn't have dared to attempt something like this last time, as Huo Yuhao's passageways had not only just suffered being baked beneath the waves of Ma Xiaotao's evil fire, but now had to sustain another rush of extremely cold air. It was possible that Huo Yuhao's body would directly crumble on the spot. However, it was different now, as Electrolux was no longer just a trace of divine sense now that Yuhao had absorbed Life Gold.

The Pearl of Life hidden within his spiritual sea began to glow with dense volumes of life energy at the same time as when the Ice Empress made her move, and was released alongside the energy that the Ice Empress had unleashed. This way, Huo Yuhao's passageways would possess a large amount of life energy and sustenance, in turn making it much harder them to break apart. His body was being refined by the clash of ice and fire yet again.

The entire process was actually quite quick, but Huo Yuhao had already gone through an extreme case of a twin tribulation of ice and fire. His body shivered from head to toe due to the cold, and he felt as if he'd been transformed into a water crystal once the heat receded and his entire body was frozen. His whole body felt as if it had become transparent.

Ma Xiaotao's felt something completely different; she felt that she'd discovered an avenue to vent the evil fire stuck inside her body, and immediately funneled her evil fire towards it with lightning speed. This process made her feel extremely relaxed and comfortable. However, right at that moment, Huo Yuhao's hands—which were still grasping her buttocks—turned cold, and two streaks of extremely chilly energy flowed through her hips and into her body.

This sensation was extremely peculiar. She didn't have a vast amount of life energy protecting her passageways like Huo Yuhao did, but her cultivation was enough that her passageways were resilient enough to resist the intense cold. The evil fire from before had flicked at her heartstrings continuously, and she'd had an instant and obvious reaction when Huo Yuhao had grabbed onto her butt cheeks. Her hips had also been burning up a moment ago, but when they turned ice-cold the next, the combination of heat and cold caused an inexplicable sensation to course throughout Ma Xiaotao's entire body.

"Mmmm..." Ma Xiaotao began to quiver vigorously. Even though she'd already found an avenue to release the evil fire within her body, she didn't let go of Huo Yuhao's body, instead hugging him tighter instead. The gasping sounds she'd been making became more intense as she struggled to break free from Huo Yuhao's hands by shaking her buttocks. However, at that very moment, a ferocious individual such as her suddenly felt like she didn't have a single ounce of strength in her body. Her hips began to contort while the continuous conflict between the chilly sensation and the intense heat inside of her body caused her to enter an unceasing state of convulsions.

“Why am I dealing with my evil fire like this?” Ma Xiaotao thought to herself in between her convulsions. Immediately afterwards, she bit Huo Yuhao’s shoulder as her body’s convulsions grew even more intense. Her face flushed red as the clash of ice and fire within her body that resembled nirvana finally caused her to let go of all her safeguards; she could no longer control her own emotions.

Fortunately, Huo Yuhao was still in a daze, and the tribulation of ice and fire that he’d just experienced had affected his entire body from top to bottom. His organs and passageways were changing as a defensive mechanism, and his soul power had been swiftly replenished after the Ice Empress lifted her seal. It felt as if his entire body had entered a special state of meditation.

The two of them maintained their strange hugging position while they stood inside the bathroom, both their minds slowly becoming even blurrier.

The thick steamy mist inside the bathroom gradually dissipated, and eventually diffused outwards as layers of icy mist and plain traces of frost began to appear around them. The bathroom was extremely tranquil, with the only thing disturbing the peace being the faint light radiating from the Ice Jade Empress Scorpion tattoo on Huo Yuhao’s back.

Neither of them knew how much time had passed. Ma Xiaotao was the first to slowly come to from her state of deep sleep. When she regained her senses, the first thing she felt was icy coldness. It was something that she’d never felt before, and she shivered uncontrollably.

This tiny movement of hers was small, but infinite tiny cracking sounds rang out. She exclaimed in surprise when she saw piece after piece of thin ice break off of her body and fall down to the ground.

### **Chapter 111.3: Blaze Amidst the Frost, the Heavenly Emperor's Hammer!**

The ice wasn’t the only thing that shattered into pieces. Her clothes, which had been roasted and frozen in turn and thus become extremely fragile, separated at the seams as well. Ma Xiaotao didn’t have a single thread on her body by the time all the ice had fallen to the ground.

“Ah —” Ma Xiaotao gasped softly, but realized she couldn’t move at all. She felt as if all the blood vessels in her body had been frozen solid, and her blood circulation was unbearably slow. She couldn’t even sense a single trace of her phoenix flames, let alone the evil fire. It felt as if her entire body had gone into stasis, and she was just a statue made of ice.

Ma Xiaotao’s movement shocked Huo Yuhao awake. A person waking up would naturally and subconsciously move his or her body, and the thin layer of ice over Huo Yuhao’s body broke and drifted to the ground as well. He was in the same situation as Ma Xiaotao – besides the Twenty Four Moonlit Bridges around his waist, every other piece of fabric on his body broke apart and fell to the ground.

“Ah —” Huo Yuhao exclaimed in similar fashion before he immediately found that he could only see a patch of white before him.

“What are you shrieking about?! And you shouted even louder than I did, as if you just suffered a loss.” Ma Xiaotao was furious.

Huo Yuhao finally saw the person before him clearly. How would one describe the scene before his eyes? Extreme perkiness, buxom, tender and delicate bright-red peaches, and... and... “Close your eyes!” Ma Xiaotao said indignantly.



Huo Yuhao recovered at once, and hurriedly covered his vital parts with his hands as he closed his eyes at once. However, what he just saw had been imprinted in the deep recesses of his mind. In fact, he felt as if he could see with more clarity with his eyes closed.

Ma Xiaotao was still panting faintly. She began to feel a touch of warmth as her blood flow started to smooth out. Her physical strength was far superior to normal people, after all.

She recited her mental cultivation technique in her mind and the phoenix flames within her body were gradually awoken. Ma Xiaotao realized, to her intense shock, that the suppression of evil fire in her body was far more complete than the last time. There seemed to be a black pearl within her soul power that was located in the center of her pubic region. Furthermore, her own soul power also became a lot clearer and brighter, and there wasn't a single vestige of evil fire to be found.

Ultimate Ice was so powerful! Ma Xiaotao finally comprehended how inappropriate it was for her to seek Huo Yuhao's help to suppress the evil fire, as Huo Yuhao's body was clearly exhausted, and he had overdrafted his energy back then.

"Hey, are you okay?" Ma Xiaotao asked softly.

"I'm fine." Huo Yuhao had a feeling as if he wanted to cry, but there were no tears in his eyes. A young virgin boy like him was simply just full of vitality and liveliness. He had some natural reactions subconsciously after seeing something he shouldn't have, and he felt like his hands were unable to cover him up any longer. All he could do was bend his body and point his buttocks upwards to avoid exposing his buffoonery as much as possible.

Ma Xiaotao heaved a soft sigh of relief and didn't ask any more questions. Strangely, the bathroom just maintained this tranquil state.

The stiffness in Ma Xiaotao's body gradually vanished following the phoenix flames' circulation in her body, and an unprecedented relief and comfort coursed through her entire body, giving her indescribable satisfaction.

Ma Xiaotao really wanted to moan out loud to express her pleasure, and would have if Huo Yuhao hadn't been there.

Could it be because the evil fire had been entirely suppressed? Ma Xiaotao knew that the answer wasn't so simple. When her body wasn't so stiff anymore, she immediately felt something sticky between her legs that made her extremely awkward and uncomfortable. What disturbed her even more was the fact that her long and powerful thighs felt a little weak.

She cursed under her breath, and color returned to her pretty face. She glanced at Huo Yuhao and she had an epiphany as she watched his strange behavior.

She immediately raised her leg, kicked him in the chest and sent him tumbling out of the bathroom.

"Put your clothes on and wait for me outside. I'm not going to let you leave. You're not allowed to leave."

Ma Xiaotao's kick seemed heavy and hard, but it was a force that was meant to push him out, and not injure him. Huo Yuhao rolled once inside the bathroom, got on his feet and barreled outside as if he had just received divine forgiveness.

He hurriedly shut the door behind him once he was out of the bathroom and immediately started to pant in deep breaths.

Torture, this was torture. Besides feeling as if he was being tortured, all he felt was bewilderment. How many distracting thoughts could he have in his mind at such a young age? However, males and females were different, after all, and there was bound to be curiosity about the opposite gender. Still, seeing something that one shouldn't have seen would undoubtedly produce a certain measure of fear. Huo Yuhao swiftly put on some clothes he had stored inside the Twenty-Four Moonlit Bridges, and then he was stood just inside Ma Xiaotao's room feeling extremely unsettled. He really wanted to dart back to his own room, but what if Ma Xiaotao wouldn't forgive him for running off just like that?

Furthermore, what made him even more anxious and exasperated was the fact that he just recalled the incident where he grabbed onto Xiaotao's buttocks. He didn't just see them – he had touched them! What was that?

Ma Xiaotao wasn't nervous and stressed like Huo Yuhao was. She used her phoenix flames to melt the ice freezing up the water pipes and immediately switched on the shower tap. Flowing water rinsed over her smooth and impeccable skin, and this refreshing sensation instantly increased the invigorating feeling within her body.

She was already nineteen years of age, and she was far more mature than Huo Yuhao in terms of both mind and body. Even though she was still embarrassed about what had just transpired, her current thoughts and feelings were very different from his.

Ma Xiaotao reached up and touched her hot cheeks as she reminisced over her repeated experiences of the tribulations of ice and fire, and the feeling of her arrival at the pinnacle of bliss.

"What a little bastard. Could this be an attempt at revenge?" She immediately recalled Huo Yuhao's dilemma and predicament inside the Sea God's Lake – except, it was her this time.

"Whatever the case, I still have to thank him." Ma Xiaotao gasped once more as she checked the evil fire within her pubic regions. She thought about Huo Yuhao's panic and bewilderment and she slowly withdrew the smile on her face as she tapped herself on the forehead. What was that? A single episode could be called an accident, but this was the second time. "He's just a kid. I can't corrupt him like that."

Her thoughts stopped there as Ma Xiaotao quickly washed her body, dried herself and found a change of clean clothes before she stepped out of the bathroom.

Huo Yuhao was sitting on the sofa with his head lowered and both hands on his knees. His back was as straight as an arrow, and his appearance was just like a kid who knew he had done something wrong – even his face was flushed red.

Ma Xiaotao found his behavior extremely cute and amusing, and couldn't help but giggle at the sight.

Huo Yuhao hurriedly stood up as if he had just been shocked. He didn't even dare to look up at Ma Xiaotao. His head was still lowered as he said, "Xiaotao, I... I made a mistake. It really wasn't on purpose. I... I messed up."

"That's enough. What's all this talk about messing up? The person saying sorry should be me." Ma Xiaotao tried to keep her tone as composed as possible as she stepped over to Huo Yuhao and touched his head. "Sit down."

Huo Yuhao was caught off guard by this amicable behavior. He had thought that she was going to rage at him, considering her typical short temper and fiery personality.

Ma Xiaotao pulled on Huo Yuhao to sit him down before she took a seat on the sofa opposite him.

"I'm sorry, Yuhao. The evil fire was already attacking my heart, and I dragged you back here in my dazed state and directly forced the evil fire into your body. Fortunately, I didn't cause any damage to you. You didn't do anything wrong – I was the one who made a mistake. I wasn't thinking straight through all my anger, and triggered my evil fire to attack them, except I forgot you were already exhausted and couldn't immediately help me suppress the evil hidden within my phoenix flames. Thankfully, you're okay. Otherwise I'd really regret this till the day I died."

Ma Xiaotao's tone was extremely serious and solemn, and her pretty face was full of sincerity.

Huo Yuhao stared blankly at her, but the anxiety and butterflies in his stomach had mostly receded.

Ma Xiaotao continued, "Luckily, nothing happened to you. I don't think you'll be able to explain what happened, and it's the same for me. The evil fire was affecting my mind and my rationality. As for what happened afterwards..." Her face turned red as she said this, and she hurriedly held back her emotions before she continued, "It was just an accident. Everything came about by accident, and I hope this won't disturb you or cause you any trauma. You're still young, and you're not at the age where you should pine after women, so don't think too much. What you should be doing is focus on cultivating – do you understand?"

"Yes, yes, I understand..." Huo Yuhao acknowledged repeatedly. He never expected Ma Xiaotao to give a speech like that. While he relaxed his emotions, he developed a certain level of reverence and admiration for this girl before him.

Ma Xiaotao watched his behavior and felt he was getting cuter by the second. She couldn't help himself, and giggled once more as she said, "Alright, that's enough. You don't have to be so prim and proper. Even though I almost messed up big time and I almost hurt you, you didn't lose out, did you? You're the first one to touch my body besides my family members – and it's not even the first time."

"I..." Huo Yuhao wanted to explain himself, but had no idea what to say as he blushed again.

Ma Xiaotao laughed and said, "It's okay. You're still young, and I don't mean anything else by it. You've touched my body, and that's it. You're still a kid, so I'm not about to bicker with you about this. You're almost eight years younger than me, and you can call me sister if you're willing to. This way, you can be considered my family, and my reputation and integrity won't be tarnished. The next time I need your help to suppress evil will therefore be right and proper. Of course, being my little brother is a good thing – I will take revenge on whoever dares to bully you by roasting him into a suckling pig. How's that?"

“Sister...” A sour sensation rushed into Huo Yuhao’s nose, and tears poured out of his eyes instantly.

Tears were products of grief, but they were also products of when one was deeply moved. Ma Xiaotao’s words probably didn’t mean much to normal people, but it wasn’t the same for him.

Huo Yuhao had been interdependent with his mother ever since he was a kid, and he had long been used to the hypocritical indifference in the Duke’s Mansion. He had had no other kin besides his mother, who had always swallowed her anger.

He had met Bei Bei and Tang Ya when he first joined Shrek Academy, and that was when his icy heart began to gradually change, and the cold sensations in his heart slowly turned into warmth.

Even Wang Dong didn’t know that Huo Yuhao’s thoughts had been extreme and radical when he had first moved into the dorm with him, just that Huo Yuhao channeled this extremity into silent determination in cultivation and tried his best to improve himself. Huo Yuhao’s hatred towards the Duke’s Mansion was still very strong at that time, to the point where he wanted to end the White Tiger Duke’s lineage and bloodline once and for all.

Huo Yuhao was still young, however, and as time passed he became more and more normal under his companions’ influence. However, he still felt very lonely. After all, companions and friends weren’t family! He had no more relatives left in this world. He cultivated tirelessly to avoid the loneliness and dead silence in his dreams at night.

At this point, tears fell from his eyes because of what Ma Xiaotao had said. “I will take revenge on whoever dares to bully you by roasting him into a suckling pig.”

Elder sister, if only he had an elder sister. She could openly ask him for help to suppress the evil fire, protect him and take care of him. The phrase ‘elder sister’ was a very unfamiliar term to him.

“Why are you crying?” Ma Xiaotao was stunned as she saw Huo Yuhao crying. Huo Yuhao leapt up from the sofa towards her and gave her a tight hug. He wailed as he hugged her.

He was bawling hysterically to vent his emotions. He didn’t even realize that he had buried his head in Ma Xiaotao’s chest as he wept.

Ma Xiaotao was in a daze. A wave of distress surged within her heart after that. Although she was unsure why Huo Yuhao was crying so pitifully, she could clearly sense the change in his emotions. He developed a reliance on her as he bawled.

All females possess maternal instincts. It was just a matter of how strong they were. Ma Xiaotao might seem very sturdy in front of others, but she was actually very delicate. Those who usually seemed tough were actually the ones who were the most vulnerable internally. Huo Yuhao’s wailing sparked the kind, maternal instincts that resided within her.

She patted his back lightly and did not mutter any words of comfort. She felt that letting him cry his heart out like this was the best for him.

Huo Yuhao was crying very sadly. The venting of his emotions caused his tears to fall uncontrollably.

He recalled his predicament when he was at the Duke’s Mansion at a very young age. He was afraid of winter. Every winter, he would shiver in the cold with his mother at night. In the day, he still had to help

his mother perform chores outside. His mother's hands were already frozen, but she did laundry for the higher-class servants in the Duke's Mansion in exchange for some low-quality grease for him to rub on his hands so that he wouldn't freeze up.

The look in his mother's eyes was so kind and amiable. But it also carried a tinge of sorrow that could never be wiped away.

He deeply recalled that his mother was crying very sorrowfully once. That's because he asked her, "Mom, when can we ever be full?"

"Mom, when can we ever be full?" Huo Yuhao talked in his sleep.

This simple sentence caused Ma Xiaotao's body to tremble. She teared up as she thought of how much bitterness Huo Yuhao had experienced when he was young.

"Mom, mom..." Huo Yuhao muttered under his breath as he wailed. His tears had already drenched Ma Xiaotao's shirt. However, he was unaware, and gradually fell into a deep sleep in Ma Xiaotao's arms.

He cried for 15 minutes until he fell asleep without drying his tears. Ma Xiaotao hugged him lightly.

Perhaps he missed the feeling of being in his mother's arms when he was young, but Huo Yuhao placed one of his hands on Ma Xiaotao's chest very naturally. But Ma Xiaotao was not angry with him for doing so. She only felt that he was very pitiful.

Everyone would miss their mother. But from the way he cried, how could it be that he only simply missed his mother? Ma Xiaotao could sense the sorrow that was deeply ingrained in his bones. She also heard some of his childhood stories when he talked in his sleep.

She did not place Huo Yuhao on the bed directly. Ma Xiaotao hugged him as she leaned on the bedside. She allowed him to snuggle in her arms and continued to pat his back softly.

It was early still in the morning when their match had ended. But right now, the Grand Imperial Star Hotel lit up with bright lights as night approached.

Huo Yuhao slept very soundly and sweetly. In his dream, his mother had come back to life. He felt his mother's warmth as he laid in her arms. Little Yuhao had never felt so peaceful before.

Mom, mom...

He murmured continuously as he stuck close to his mother in her arms. There were no more tears, but warmth and longing affection.

By wailing bitterly, he had unleashed the sorrow and hatred that he had suppressed for so long. The warm hug left him completely relaxed. Maybe the knot in his heart had not been completely untied, but at least it was no longer a dead knot anymore.

A man's growth would never be far away from a woman. A mother, sister, girlfriend, wife or daughter could not be missing from a man's life. In Ma Xiaotao's sister-like or mother-like arms, Huo Yuhao's body and mind were both maturing subconsciously.

When the first ray of sunlight passed through the window to the bedside at dawn, it landed on Huo Yuhao's face.

The golden ray caused the sleeping youth to slowly wake up.

His entire body was warm, and he was feeling extremely comfortable. His soul power coursed freely in his body, and his heart felt an indescribable carefreeness. It was as if all his accumulated negative emotions had been vented.

"So comfortable..." He turned his head around unwillingly to avoid the beaming sunlight. But the abnormally soft pillow caused Huo Yuhao's consciousness to become a little clearer.

As he moved his finger, an elastic force was exerted on his fingertip. Huo Yuhao was truly awake now. He opened his eyes and saw a lazy but serious-looking face watching him weirdly, whereas his hands were placed on the upper chest of this person, and he was even grabbing this person's chest.

"Sister Xiaotao, this... this is a misunderstanding." Huo Yuhao relaxed his grip quickly and crawled up awkwardly. His face blushed.

"What did you call me?" Ma Xiaotao straightened her face, "Did I hug you one night for you to call me this?"

Huo Yuhao only regained his awareness now. He lowered his head as he said, "Elder sister."

Ma Xiaotao sat up straight and stretched her arms and aching body before rubbing Huo Yuhao's head and saying, "Go back to your room and wash up."

Ma Xiaotao's indulgent action relieved the embarrassment and nervousness that Huo Yuhao felt. He lifted his head to look at her, "Elder sister."

Ma Xiaotao smiled and replied satisfactorily, "Oh, that's better." As she said that, she dragged Huo Yuhao down from the bed and tidied up his shirt. "Go wash up and eat something. It's not early anymore. We still have to compete later."

"Alright." Huo Yuhao replied. Although his face was still blushing, his eyes were filled with affability as he looked at Ma Xiaotao.

He walked towards the door to her room as he spoke. When he was about to open the door, Ma Xiaotao said suddenly, "Yuhao, I would like to hear your story when you are willing to tell me."

Huo Yuhao turned and smiled brightly at Ma Xiaotao, "I will." Ma Xiaotao sensed the intimacy she had with Huo Yuhao as their gazes met.

Huo Yuhao breathed out heavily after he closed the door behind him. He felt extremely energized, which was something he had never felt before. Even the soul power in his body had been enhanced. He almost screamed because of the carefreeness he felt. He wanted to announce to the world that he had an elder sister!

After returning to his room and opening his room door, Huo Yuhao saw Wang Dong sprawled on his bed in an unglamorous sleeping posture. A greater sense of warmth filled Huo Yuhao's eyes as he saw Wang

Dong. Without a doubt, Wang Dong must have had been waiting for him to return. The both of them were just exhausted yesterday, and sufficient rest was enough for them to recover.

As he tiptoed to the bedside, Huo Yuhao lifted his hand and slapped Wang Dong's butt. "Time to wake up."

"Aiyo." Wang Dong whined in pain and jumped up.

For some reason, Huo Yuhao compared this slap he gave to Wang Dong to the hug he had given Ma Xiaotao last night...

Wang Dong's butt was much smaller, but was equally perky. His butt was very springy even though he was wearing pants.

Wang Dong was dazed for awhile after seeing that it was Huo Yuhao. He then scanned him for a few moments. Following that, he seemed alerted, "You weren't wearing this yesterday!"

Huo Yuhao replied very naturally, "Yes! I helped my elder sister suppress her evil fire yesterday. My shirt was burnt, and many parts of it were torn."

"Elder sister?" Wang Dong's tone of voice became higher.

Huo Yuhao nodded seriously and said, "Elder sister said that she's unwilling to accept favors from anyone. If I'm willing to become her kin, she will love and protect me in the future. Wang Dong, do you know that I'm very happy? Ever since mom passed away, I became an orphan. I finally have kin now."

Wang Dong felt heartbroken as he looked at the flashing radiance in Huo Yuhao's eyes. He said almost instinctively, "You still have me!"

When he sensed the weird expression in Huo Yuhao's eyes, he supplemented his words hurriedly, "We are brothers. Don't tell me that you don't treat me as your brother?"

Huo Yuhao chuckled, "It's different."

"What's the difference?" Wang Dong asked stubbornly.

Huo Yuhao replied, "She gives me the feeling my mother did. Since we are brothers, your gender is totally different!"

"Err..." Wang Dong wanted to say something, but curbed his impulse. He snorted and said, "While you were enjoying your time with your elder sister, I was waiting for you here. If they didn't let me find you, I'd have rushed in already!"

Huo Yuhao laughed and said, "You call this waiting? You didn't even know that I came in. You were sleeping like a pig."

"You're the pig." Wang Dong leapt towards him. Huo Yuhao turned around to escape and said hurriedly, "Stop playing already. Go and wash up before we have breakfast. We still have to compete."

"There's not going to be an individual competition anymore. After the team competition yesterday, the Star Luo National Academy has already conceded defeat. Their main team members are all injured. Who

can they send to fight us? We don't have to go today. We will also rest tomorrow. It's the final the day after tomorrow!"

After learning that he didn't need to compete today, Huo Yuhao relaxed. "It's better not to compete. What happened in the other semifinal match?"

Wang Dong replied, "I was also in a daze, and didn't see what happened. From what eldest senior said, the Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineering Academy gained an overwhelming advantage over the Imperial Profound Academy. But today's individual competition will still continue."

"Overwhelming advantage?" Huo Yuhao suddenly felt petrified. The Imperial Profound Academy had 1 soul emperor and 6 soul kings. Without considering strategies, their abilities were above the Star Luo National Academy's. After recalling how Princess Jiu Jiu used a few powerful soul tools to turn the tide against his side, Huo Yuhao felt his head getting heavier.

Wang Dong nodded and said, "I heard that they used less time than us in the team round. From the start to the end, the Imperial Profound Academy was completely suppressed and had no chance. I also heard that the Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineering Academy's team leader has been promoted to a Class 6 soul engineer. He's very powerful."

"Yuhao, I had an idea after I woke up yesterday." Wang Dong started to become excited.

"What idea?" Huo Yuhao asked curiously.

Wang Dong said in a low voice, "Do you think that we are considered 1 person or 2 people when we unleash our martial soul fusion skill?"

Huo Yuhao shook his head at a loss and replied, "It's not easy to tell. Even if it's only 1 person, the difference from an ordinary soul master is still very great."

Wang Dong blinked his large, beautiful eyes and said, "If Senior Xu can use the Mysterious Underworld Displacement to shift us into the middle of our opponents, we can use....."

The two of them had great chemistry. Huo Yuhao understood Wang Dong immediately, "Are you saying... I understand now. But is this really possible?"

Wang Dong said, "We won't know if we don't try. Let's ask Senior Xu later."

"Alright." Huo Yuhao replied immediately.

After they washed up and had their breakfast, they went to find Xu Sanshi and relayed their idea to him.

After listening seriously to their description, Xu Sanshi shook his head and said, "I fear that it'll be very difficult. I might succeed if I can remain in the awakened form of the Xuanwu turtle. The thing is that my Mysterious Underworld Displacement can't just shift anyone. The prerequisite is that the person I'm trying to shift doesn't possess any defense-type soul skills that cover a wide area, which will prevent any displacement. It's just like how I failed when Princess Jiu Jiu used the Starcrown soul skill. When a soul master uses his soul skill, my soul power will be depleted twice as fast if I want to displace him. The stronger the soul skill, the faster the depletion of energy. This continues until the soul skill can't be used anymore. Let's not even consider the question of whether you're 1 or 2 people when the both of you use your martial soul fusion skill. Purely based on the fact that your martial soul fusion skill is immensely



strong, I may not be able to displace the both of you successfully. I may succeed if I am in the awakened form, which will make me close to the rank of a soul king and supplemented by the Mysterious Underworld Force.”

### [Chapter 112: Familial Love](#)

Huo Yuhao was still young, however, and as time passed he became more and more normal under his companions’ influence. However, he still felt very lonely. After all, companions and friends weren’t family! He had no more relatives left in this world. He cultivated tirelessly to avoid the loneliness and dead silence in his dreams at night.

At this point, tears fell from his eyes because of what Ma Xiaotao had said. “I will take revenge on whoever dares to bully you by roasting him into a suckling pig.”

Elder sister, if only he had an elder sister. She could openly ask him for help to suppress the evil fire, protect him and take care of him. The phrase ‘elder sister’ was a very unfamiliar term to him.

“Why are you crying?” Ma Xiaotao was stunned as she saw Huo Yuhao crying. Huo Yuhao leapt up from the sofa towards her and gave her a tight hug. He wailed as he hugged her.

He was bawling hysterically to vent his emotions. He didn’t even realize that he had buried his head in Ma Xiaotao’s chest as he wept.

Ma Xiaotao was in a daze. A wave of distress surged within her heart after that. Although she was unsure why Huo Yuhao was crying so pitifully, she could clearly sense the change in his emotions. He developed a reliance on her as he bawled.

All females possess maternal instincts. It was just a matter of how strong they were. Ma Xiaotao might seem very sturdy in front of others, but she was actually very delicate. Those who usually seemed tough were actually the ones who were the most vulnerable internally. Huo Yuhao’s wailing sparked the kind, maternal instincts that resided within her.

She patted his back lightly and did not mutter any words of comfort. She felt that letting him cry his heart out like this was the best for him.

Huo Yuhao was crying very sadly. The venting of his emotions caused his tears to fall uncontrollably.

He recalled his predicament when he was at the Duke’s Mansion at a very young age. He was afraid of winter. Every winter, he would shiver in the cold with his mother at night. In the day, he still had to help his mother perform chores outside. His mother’s hands were already frozen, but she did laundry for the higher-class servants in the Duke’s Mansion in exchange for some low-quality grease for him to rub on his hands so that he wouldn’t freeze up.

The look in his mother’s eyes was so kind and amiable. But it also carried a tinge of sorrow that could never be wiped away.

He deeply recalled that his mother was crying very sorrowfully once. That’s because he asked her, “Mom, when can we ever be full?”

“Mom, when can we ever be full?” Huo Yuhao talked in his sleep.

This simple sentence caused Ma Xiaotao's body to tremble. She teared up as she thought of how much bitterness Huo Yuhao had experienced when he was young.

"Mom, mom..." Huo Yuhao muttered under his breath as he wailed. His tears had already drenched Ma Xiaotao's shirt. However, he was unaware, and gradually fell into a deep sleep in Ma Xiaotao's arms.

He cried for 15 minutes until he fell asleep without drying his tears. Ma Xiaotao hugged him lightly.

Perhaps he missed the feeling of being in his mother's arms when he was young, but Huo Yuhao placed one of his hands on Ma Xiaotao's chest very naturally. But Ma Xiaotao was not angry with him for doing so. She only felt that he was very pitiful.

Everyone would miss their mother. But from the way he cried, how could it be that he only simply missed his mother? Ma Xiaotao could sense the sorrow that was deeply ingrained in his bones. She also heard some of his childhood stories when he talked in his sleep.

She did not place Huo Yuhao on the bed directly. Ma Xiaotao hugged him as she leaned on the bedside. She allowed him to snuggle in her arms and continued to pat his back softly.

It was early still in the morning when their match had ended. But right now, the Grand Imperial Star Hotel lit up with bright lights as night approached.

Huo Yuhao slept very soundly and sweetly. In his dream, his mother had come back to life. He felt his mother's warmth as he laid in her arms. Little Yuhao had never felt so peaceful before.

Mom, mom...

He murmured continuously as he stuck close to his mother in her arms. There were no more tears, but warmth and longing affection.

By wailing bitterly, he had unleashed the sorrow and hatred that he had suppressed for so long. The warm hug left him completely relaxed. Maybe the knot in his heart had not been completely untied, but at least it was no longer a dead knot anymore.

A man's growth would never be far away from a woman. A mother, sister, girlfriend, wife or daughter could not be missing from a man's life. In Ma Xiaotao's sister-like or mother-like arms, Huo Yuhao's body and mind were both maturing subconsciously.

When the first ray of sunlight passed through the window to the bedside at dawn, it landed on Huo Yuhao's face.

The golden ray caused the sleeping youth to slowly wake up.

His entire body was warm, and he was feeling extremely comfortable. His soul power coursed freely in his body, and his heart felt an indescribable carefreeness. It was as if all his accumulated negative emotions had been vented.

"So comfortable..." He turned his head around unwillingly to avoid the beaming sunlight. But the abnormally soft pillow caused Huo Yuhao's consciousness to become a little clearer.

As he moved his finger, an elastic force was exerted on his fingertip. Huo Yuhao was truly awake now. He opened his eyes and saw a lazy but serious-looking face watching him weirdly, whereas his hands were placed on the upper chest of this person, and he was even grabbing this person's chest.

"Sister Xiaotao, this... this is a misunderstanding." Huo Yuhao relaxed his grip quickly and crawled up awkwardly. His face blushed.

"What did you call me?" Ma Xiaotao straightened her face, "Did I hug you one night for you to call me this?"

Huo Yuhao only regained his awareness now. He lowered his head as he said, "Elder sister."

Ma Xiaotao sat up straight and stretched her arms and aching body before rubbing Huo Yuhao's head and saying, "Go back to your room and wash up."

Ma Xiaotao's indulgent action relieved the embarrassment and nervousness that Huo Yuhao felt. He lifted his head to look at her, "Elder sister."

Ma Xiaotao smiled and replied satisfactorily, "Oh, that's better." As she said that, she dragged Huo Yuhao down from the bed and tidied up his shirt. "Go wash up and eat something. It's not early anymore. We still have to compete later."

"Alright." Huo Yuhao replied. Although his face was still blushing, his eyes were filled with affability as he looked at Ma Xiaotao.

He walked towards the door to her room as he spoke. When he was about to open the door, Ma Xiaotao said suddenly, "Yuhao, I would like to hear your story when you are willing to tell me."

Huo Yuhao turned and smiled brightly at Ma Xiaotao, "I will." Ma Xiaotao sensed the intimacy she had with Huo Yuhao as their gazes met.

Huo Yuhao breathed out heavily after he closed the door behind him. He felt extremely energized, which was something he had never felt before. Even the soul power in his body had been enhanced. He almost screamed because of the carefreeness he felt. He wanted to announce to the world that he had an elder sister!

After returning to his room and opening his room door, Huo Yuhao saw Wang Dong sprawled on his bed in an unglamorous sleeping posture. A greater sense of warmth filled Huo Yuhao's eyes as he saw Wang Dong. Without a doubt, Wang Dong must have had been waiting for him to return. The both of them were just exhausted yesterday, and sufficient rest was enough for them to recover.

As he tiptoed to the bedside, Huo Yuhao lifted his hand and slapped Wang Dong's butt. "Time to wake up."

"Aiyo." Wang Dong whined in pain and jumped up.

For some reason, Huo Yuhao compared this slap he gave to Wang Dong to the hug he had given Ma Xiaotao last night...

Wang Dong's butt was much smaller, but was equally perky. His butt was very springy even though he was wearing pants.

Wang Dong was dazed for awhile after seeing that it was Huo Yuhao. He then scanned him for a few moments. Following that, he seemed alerted, "You weren't wearing this yesterday!"

Huo Yuhao replied very naturally, "Yes! I helped my elder sister suppress her evil fire yesterday. My shirt was burnt, and many parts of it were torn."

"Elder sister?" Wang Dong's tone of voice became higher.

Huo Yuhao nodded seriously and said, "Elder sister said that she's unwilling to accept favors from anyone. If I'm willing to become her kin, she will love and protect me in the future. Wang Dong, do you know that I'm very happy? Ever since mom passed away, I became an orphan. I finally have kin now."

Wang Dong felt heartbroken as he looked at the flashing radiance in Huo Yuhao's eyes. He said almost instinctively, "You still have me!"

When he sensed the weird expression in Huo Yuhao's eyes, he supplemented his words hurriedly, "We are brothers. Don't tell me that you don't treat me as your brother?"

Huo Yuhao chuckled, "It's different."

"What's the difference?" Wang Dong asked stubbornly.

Huo Yuhao replied, "She gives me the feeling my mother did. Since we are brothers, your gender is totally different!"

"Err..." Wang Dong wanted to say something, but curbed his impulse. He snorted and said, "While you were enjoying your time with your elder sister, I was waiting for you here. If they didn't let me find you, I'd have rushed in already!"

Huo Yuhao laughed and said, "You call this waiting? You didn't even know that I came in. You were sleeping like a pig."

"You're the pig." Wang Dong leapt towards him. Huo Yuhao turned around to escape and said hurriedly, "Stop playing already. Go and wash up before we have breakfast. We still have to compete."

"There's not going to be an individual competition anymore. After the team competition yesterday, the Star Luo National Academy has already conceded defeat. Their main team members are all injured. Who can they send to fight us? We don't have to go today. We will also rest tomorrow. It's the final the day after tomorrow!"

After learning that he didn't need to compete today, Huo Yuhao relaxed. "It's better not to compete. What happened in the other semifinal match?"

Wang Dong replied, "I was also in a daze, and didn't see what happened. From what eldest senior said, the Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineering Academy gained an overwhelming advantage over the Imperial Profound Academy. But today's individual competition will still continue."

"Overwhelming advantage?" Huo Yuhao suddenly felt petrified. The Imperial Profound Academy had 1 soul emperor and 6 soul kings. Without considering strategies, their abilities were above the Star Luo National Academy's. After recalling how Princess Jiu Jiu used a few powerful soul tools to turn the tide against his side, Huo Yuhao felt his head getting heavier.

Wang Dong nodded and said, "I heard that they used less time than us in the team round. From the start to the end, the Imperial Profound Academy was completely suppressed and had no chance. I also heard that the Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineering Academy's team leader has been promoted to a Class 6 soul engineer. He's very powerful."

"Yuhao, I had an idea after I woke up yesterday." Wang Dong started to become excited.

"What idea?" Huo Yuhao asked curiously.

Wang Dong said in a low voice, "Do you think that we are considered 1 person or 2 people when we unleash our martial soul fusion skill?"

Huo Yuhao shook his head at a loss and replied, "It's not easy to tell. Even if it's only 1 person, the difference from an ordinary soul master is still very great."

Wang Dong blinked his large, beautiful eyes and said, "If Senior Xu can use the Mysterious Underworld Displacement to shift us into the middle of our opponents, we can use....."

The two of them had great chemistry. Huo Yuhao understood Wang Dong immediately, "Are you saying... I understand now. But is this really possible?"

Wang Dong said, "We won't know if we don't try. Let's ask Senior Xu later."

"Alright." Huo Yuhao replied immediately.

After they washed up and had their breakfast, they went to find Xu Sanshi and relayed their idea to him.

After listening seriously to their description, Xu Sanshi shook his head and said, "I fear that it'll be very difficult. I might succeed if I can remain in the awakened form of the Xuanwu turtle. The thing is that my Mysterious Underworld Displacement can't just shift anyone. The prerequisite is that the person I'm trying to shift doesn't possess any defense-type soul skills that cover a wide area, which will prevent any displacement. It's just like how I failed when Princess Jiu Jiu used the Starcrown soul skill. When a soul master uses his soul skill, my soul power will be depleted twice as fast if I want to displace him. The stronger the soul skill, the faster the depletion of energy. This continues until the soul skill can't be used anymore. Let's not even consider the question of whether you're 1 or 2 people when the both of you use your martial soul fusion skill. Purely based on the fact that your martial soul fusion skill is immensely strong, I may not be able to displace the both of you successfully. I may succeed if I am in the awakened form, which will make me close to the rank of a soul king and supplemented by the Mysterious Underworld Force."

### [Chapter 113: Heavenquake Axe](#)

Huo Yuhao and Wang Dong were both disappointed as they heard Xu Sanshi's words. If the Mysterious Underworld Displacement could be used when they unleashed their martial soul fusion skill, it would be a great strategy in a team battle.

"Alright, don't be like this anymore. At such a young age, the both of you managed to turn the tide in a critical situation. What more do you want? Teacher Wang won't even allow me to ask you what your martial fusion skill is. However, I saw it that day. Powerful! I would like to try it if there's an opportunity."

Wang Dong laughed, "Brother Xu, do you want to try 1 or 2?"

Xu Sanshi snapped, "Nonsense, obviously 1. Do you want me to die?" As he spoke till this point, he revealed a dash of craftiness on his face and continued, "Do the two of you want to see what's going on in the individual round? But you must both fully recover first."

Huo Yuhao and Wang Dong turned to look at each other, and they could see that they were both starting to become excited.

The Star Luo National Academy had conceded defeat, and would not be participating in the individual round. That's why today's match was between the Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineering Academy and the Imperial Profound Academy. Although Wang Yan did describe how the Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineering Academy had competed, they had not seen it for themselves. Furthermore, the individual round wouldn't take up too much of their time.

Huo Yuhao said, "Xu Sanshi, it's just the three of us?"

Xu Sanshi chortled. "Three of us is enough. Why do we need so many people? Bei Bei and Senior Dai are both still recuperating from their injuries. Yuhao, did Senior Ma do anything to you yesterday?"

Huo Yuhao shook his head and replied, "Elder sister treated me very well."

Xu Sanshi revealed the same look as Wang Dong earlier, "Elder sister? You're good! Your progress is quick."

Huo Yuhao rolled his eyes and said, "Brother Xu, we've only acknowledged each other as siblings. She said that if anyone dares to bully me... hehe, you know."

Xu Sanshi shivered. "You've benefited. Does it matter whether it's your elder sister or younger sister? Let's rush, we don't have much time left."

"Let's go!" Huo Yuhao, Wang Dong and Xu Sanshi crept out of the hotel as they were driven by their curiosity. As members of Shrek Academy and finalists of the tournament, they managed to enter the competition venue through the corridor for team members.

At this point, the Imperial Profound Academy and Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineering Academy had both entered the competition venue too. While they were in the resting area, the attention of the members of both academies were drawn towards the three of them as they approached. The resting area for Shrek Academy was not empty either. Wang Yan was sitting there. His brows furrowed as he saw the three of them walking over.

"Teacher Wang." Xu Sanshi brought Huo Yuhao and Wang Dong to the Shrek Academy's resting area before greeting Wang Yan.

Wang Yan said, "Aren't all of you supposed to be resting? Why are all of you here? Yuhao, are you fine?"

Huo Yuhao shook his head and replied, "Teacher Wang, don't worry. I have suppressed Senior's evil fire." He did not call her elder sister anymore because he did not want to be interrogated anymore. It was best if he said it to everyone once they were gathered.

Wang Yan said, "Alright then. Since this is the case, let's all watch together."

The three of them sat beside him, and Xu Sanshi asked curiously, "Teacher Wang, what happened yesterday? I only heard that it was an overwhelming victory. How did the Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineering manage to do it?"

Wang Yan revealed a bitter smile on his face and replied, "Do you know why I didn't allow all of you to watch them compete?"

The look in Xu Sanshi's eyes changed a little. "Were you afraid of shaking our confidence?"

Wang Yan was stunned as he replied, "You are smart. However, this is only one of the reasons. Another reason is that there's no point in watching them compete."

His tone became more serious as he continued, "The Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineering Academy is obviously very prepared for this tournament. Let me clarify this point. Since they are our biggest rival, I have been monitoring them ever since the tournament started, and watched almost every round that they have competed in. But do you know what I discovered? They have never used the same strategy in each round of the competition, especially during the team matches. Tell me what's the point of watching them then? It'll only shake your confidence."

"Their team leader, Ma Rulong, competed yesterday. He was impeccable. He used 2 Class 7 soul tools to suppress the entire Imperial Profound Academy. The other 6 simply used Soul Tool Fortresses. Think about what kind of scene you will see when 6 Soul Tool Fortresses are fired at the same time. The entire competition stage was raging with attacks. The Imperial Profound Academy was forced off the competition stage by the frightening firepower before they could even display their true abilities. Their soul emperor was struck the moment he stepped forward and was knocked out of the competition stage. The competition ended after that."

After hearing Wang Yan's description, Huo Yuhao's and the other two's expressions changed. Although they had expected them to dominate, they didn't expect them to be so dominant! If this was the case, how would they fight?

Wang Yan continued, "After seeing yesterday's team match, I think that it doesn't matter anymore. We'll just do our best in the final."

Xu Sanshi asked in a low voice, "Teacher Wang, do you think our main team members would have a chance if they came to participate in this tournament?"

Wang Yan replied after pondering for a while, "It'd be difficult for them."

Xu Sanshi heaved a sigh of relief and said, "Since this is the case, don't think too much about it anymore. Didn't you mention before that we've already completed our mission by making it to this stage? Whether we win or lose in the future, we've earned it. Since we only have one round left, so what if we lose, as long as we give our all? Moreover, it's not our first time creating a miracle. We are Shrek!"

Wang Yan smiled and said, "You are quite open-minded. I will be relieved if all of you carry such a mentality when you compete. Regardless of whether it's the academy or me, we won't bother too much about the result. But if we lose, the public's opinion will bear on all of you. As all of you are still young, I'm afraid that you won't be able to bounce back from the setback. If that happens, I will be a sinner in Shrek's eyes."

Xu Sanshi laughed. "No way! Teacher Wang, you are thinking too much. The academy gave us this chance because we are all determined and resilient. Furthermore, we can just return to the academy immediately if we lose. Don't tell me that there will be people in the academy who will spout gibberish?"

As they spoke, the referee had already arrived on the stage. The Star Luo Emperor was also here to observe the competition on top of the city wall. Princess Jiu Jiu, who lost to them yesterday, was also standing beside the Star Luo Emperor.

Huo Yuhao could sense someone observing him, and he lifted his head subconsciously. He saw Princess Jiu Jiu glancing at him. Her ravishing face seemed to be filled with frustration, but this could only be noticed by Huo Yuhao because of his Spirit Eyes. The others beside him didn't notice this.

On top of the city wall.

"Brother, I'm indignant. We were supposed to be able to win." Princess Jiu Jiu protested.

The Star Luo Emperor smiled and said, "What's there to be indignant about? It's a fact that you lost."

Princess Jiu Jiu was unconvinced as she said, "But I didn't get to use my strongest skill."

The Star Luo Emperor said, "But it's not that you didn't want to use it. Furthermore, it might not have changed the result even if you had. Even if Huo Yuhao and Wang Dong didn't unleash the soul skill that suppressed the Starcrown, do you think that all of you could have defeated that Phoenix together? Ma Xiaotao's martial soul is the Evil Fire Phoenix, and she's the descendant of Ma Hongjun, who belonged to the first generation of Shrek's Seven Monsters. She's a Rank 67 soul emperor, and her cultivation is the best among everyone in this tournament. You saw what happened yesterday too. Even when 3 soul kings teamed up together, they couldn't challenge her. Would all of you have won if you were tired? And that would be even worse in the individual round. All of you had no chance with Ma Xiaotao and Dai Yueheng around. It's still about the difference in power. While Shrek Academy did not send its strongest lineup this time, no one can underestimate their foundation. I am excited to see how things will pan out when that young fellow grows up 5 years later."

Princess Jiu Jiu snorted and said, "I don't know how it'll be like 5 years later, but they'll likely leave this tournament in the humiliation of failure. The Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineering Academy is too powerful. They have also prepared very sufficiently for this edition of the tournament. Shrek Academy has also appeared with problems. Even if their entire official team competes, they may not have a chance at all."

The Star Luo Emperor laughed and said, "Younger sister, you are too concerned about the result of this tournament. The Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineering Academy is like you, taking this tournament too seriously. At the same time, both you and the Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineering Academy are taking fame and fortune too seriously. That's why you reckon that the Shrek Academy has made a wrong move. In reality, I think they are doing what they are doing because of a deeper meaning."

Princess Jiu Jiu was puzzled as she asked, "Deeper meaning?"

The Star Luo Emperor asked in a low voice, "Jiu Jiu, what do you think about our Xu Family's powers?"



Princess Jiu Jiu, who was also called Xu Jiu Jiu, replied without any hesitation, "We are very powerful. We were only able to lead the empire's troops to force our enemies out and disintegrate the Duke's Mansion bloodline to become the leader of this empire because of our family's power. It's very rare to see huge clans like our Xu Family in the continent now. Even when the Martial Soul Hall behaved atrociously then, they couldn't do anything to us."

The Star Luo Emperor nodded and said, "You're right. Our Xu Family is very powerful. But why did we only making our move when the empire was in trouble? It's not just because a wise man looks after his own hide. We did it more for the accumulation of strength. However, our Xu Family has been getting smaller over the past few thousand years. In our generation, it's only you and I that have inherited the Starcrown. Now, think about Shrek Academy's foundation. Shrek Academy has been growing over the past 10,000 years, and they have also secretly done a lot of for the continent. Many huge empires are afraid of them too. However, who do you think is truly aware of Shrek Academy's depth? And would such an established academy make such a stupid error? Furthermore, Shrek Academy can send another group of official team members if they wanted to. Shrek Academy is never devoid of talents."

Princess Jiu Jiu asked doubtfully, "Brother, are you saying that Shrek Academy does not value the tournament?"

The Star Luo Emperor, Xu Jiawei, shook his head and replied, "No. Shrek Academy might not care about the tournament, but I'm sure that they value this batch of young students a lot. Many people miss out on a few things because of their low cultivations, but those who are keen-eyed can tell their talents. Shrek Academy might have forsaken the chance to become the tournament champion in order to train them up. Losing the tournament isn't scary. The scary thing is if there are no successors. I have watched Shrek Academy competing in every round. I can fairly say that every one of their students has their own special trait. If they can progress rapidly, given 5 to 10 years, Shrek Academy will have a bright future, and that'll be even more frightening."

When he reached this point, Xu Jiawei stopped and turned his attention to the distance, "Younger sister, you must remember this. With the strength of their academy, they once led the 3 empires on the continent to retaliate against the invading Sun Moon Empire. They even resisted the wave of beasts from Star Dou Forest. Without them as a stabilizing force at the border between our empire and the Heavenly Soul Empire, the Sun Moon Empire would have made their move already. Alright, let's watch the competition."

At this point, the competition had already started.

One might wonder whether the Imperial Profound Academy had become angry from embarrassment. The first member to compete was their team leader, who was a soul emperor. He was also the one who drawn the lots for them yesterday.

The Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineering Academy sent a tall and thin youth up.

Inside the resting area, Wang Yan introduced the both of them to Huo Yuhao and the others with great familiarity.

"Imperial Profound Academy team leader. His name is Jiang Peng, and he's a soul emperor. His soul power is between Rank 61 and Rank 62, and he is the first in the Imperial Profound Academy history to

become a soul emperor before reaching twenty. Because of this, he's also very arrogant. His martial soul is a Heavenquake Axe, which is very powerful. Amongst all the assault-type martial souls, I only know Wang Dong's Clear Sky Hammer that can suppress his martial soul."

"The Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineering Academy has sent one of their official team members up. His name is Michael, and he is a Class 5 soul engineer. He has many strategies, and I have no way of appraising him. In the previous rounds, he would fight almost every time. He is a very stable person, and has never once made a mistake when competing."

Wang Yan's claim that he had never made any mistakes so far was already a positive appraisal on its own. As he was introducing them, the battle had already commenced on stage.

Michael had already let out a series of metallic clangs just as the referee shouted to signal the start of the competition.

A bright blue slab of metal rapidly appeared from his back and covered his entire body. It was as if he was wearing a suit of armor over his body. Slabs of metal also appeared from his waist and legs.

After all the bright blue slabs of metal covered his entire body, Jiang Peng had already rushed beyond the halfway line.

Michael was wearing a suit of heavy armor. After donning the armor, his body seemed to have expanded by about 3 circles. The bright blue metal flashed, and a ball of white light shone from both his chest and belly. It was very obvious that these were the core formations of this soul tool of his.

A soul tool that covered his entire body?

Huo Yuhao opened his eyes wide and observed seriously. He had never seen this soul tool before. But Fan Yu had once mentioned that the highest class close-combat soul tool was the most primitive armor in the Sun Moon Empire. However, this type of soul tool couldn't be appraised using simple armors. Its presence greatly increased the user's offensive and defensive abilities. It could even amplify the user's cultivation.

Soul engineers' martial souls were usually defective. But a soul engineer could unleash the powers of assault-type soul masters with this type of full body armor. Thus, it was a pity that the Shrek Academy's Soul Engineering Department had experienced some issues with their current research. They had no experience in producing this kind of full body armor. They didn't expect to see it in this tournament.

Blue light flashed in Michael's hands, and a huge sword that was the same color as the armor on his body appeared in his palm. The sword's radiance was even brighter than that of his armor, and the core formation at the edge of the sword released halos of blue light.

As Michael completed all this, his opponent was already in front of him.

Jiang Peng deserved to be called the most outstanding student in the Imperial Profound Academy's history. He did not unleash his martial soul when he burst towards his opponent. That was because his martial soul would cause his speed to decrease. It was only when he reached his opponent that he unleashed his martial soul.

6 soul rings – 2 yellow, 2 purple and 2 black – rose from beneath his feet instantaneously. A reverberating boom that sounded like lightning resonated in the sky. Following Jiang Peng's leaping movement, a streak of huge, ferocious radiance had already descended from the sky.

It was a huge axe. The axe was roughly 5 feet in length. But the scary thing was that the axe blade was over 5 feet in width as well. The axe blade was pitch-black, and exuded a cold aura. Its immense destructive strength could be sensed just by looking at it.

Grabbing the axe with both his hands, Jiang Peng slashed it without using any soul skills. The Heavenquake Axe reverberated with a menacing roar. It was slashed towards Michael's head, aided by its falling momentum.

Michael did not panic, and he slid his feet slightly so that he moved back by a meter. At the same time, his full body armor flashed with an intense blue radiance, which connected with the sword in his hand. As he held the sword's hilt with both hands, he made an upwards slashing motion.

It was clear that he had practiced this action countless times. There was no fanciness involved. It was simple, direct and accurate. He was not targeting the axe blade, but instead used his sword's 7 foot length to sweep towards his opponent's axe handle.

Jiang Peng snorted, and his downwards slashing motion stopped in mid-air. He instead swept his axe across horizontally, causing it to collide strongly against the sword.

Michael staggered backwards as a booming roar sounded. Jiang Peng's momentum was stopped also stopped, and his body even shone with a series of electrical lights.

Huo Yuhao immediately understood that Michael's armor and sword should carry the effect of lightning.

It was not rare for close-combat soul tools to carry elemental effects. He was, however, shocked by Michael's powers. This was evidently due to the enhancement by the soul tool. With the soul tool enhancing his powers, he was not much inferior to a strength-type soul emperor as a soul king. This showed the great enhancement effect of this soul tool on him.

Wang Yan's description also left Huo Yuhao even more shocked. Wang Yan said, "In the earlier rounds, Michael also displayed his long-range offensive abilities. This is his first time using a close-combat soul tool."

Wang Yan's explanation caused Huo Yuhao to be stunned. The Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineering Academy's abilities had reached such a tremendous standard?

However, Michael also did not feel good after being struck by the axe. He did not manage to chase after Jiang Peng, who was suffering from numbness all over his body. Both of them stopped on the competition stage for a while. Following that, Michael did not continue to fight forcefully. The bright blue radiance behind him shone even brighter, and his body picked up speed. He burst out a few meters before his toes touched the ground. Then, he switched directions at a 90 degree angle, but his speed did not decline. He burst towards the center of the competition stage.

Jiang Peng's arrogance had dipped a little by now. He naturally knew the importance of this round to the Imperial Profound Academy. He did not compete first because he was reckless. He had pondered his decision carefully before making it. Only if he managed to get rid of a few opponents could they have a

chance of winning today's individual competition. This was also why he did not use his soul skill when he came up. He needed to conserve his soul power and abilities so that he could last longer!

However, Michael was much stronger than he had expected. He was a soul king, and it was obvious that his cultivation wasn't increased solely through his own training. His foundation was not as deep as an orthodox soul master's. But it was precisely this soul king that was not at a disadvantage after he met his strike as he wore the armor.

Total body numbness was not a good feeling. Jiang Peng knew that he could no longer hold back anymore. Otherwise, he would be at a disadvantage the longer his opponent remained standing.

As he thought till this point, his 3rd soul ring lit up as he turned. The purple thousand year soul ring emitted an elegant glow while the Heavenquake Axe had already moved amidst a series of booming air blasts.

This Heavenquake Axe was deservedly termed a powerful attack-type soul tool by Wang Yan. After it struck, the huge axe revolved in the air like a huge light disc that emitted a cold radiance.

A dark, full moon descended from the sky. It managed to catch up to Michael's sprinting figure in the blink of an eye.

Huo Yuhao saw it clearly this time. Both his armor and sword released an intense blue lightning current as he drew his sword. The current did not disperse, but quickly gathered towards the tip of the sword before being unleashed brutally once again.

Lightning was very unstable. For this soul tool to seal the powers of lightning and unleash it with such precise control, Huo Yuhao was a little uncertain of how to describe this soul tool anymore. He believed that it was not only a Class 5 soul tool, and might not have been produced by Michael himself. This was especially so because the sword released a lightning radiance that almost seemed solid. When it was used, it even felt as if there was a flow or wave.

However, Michael had miscalculated this time.

Jiang Peng waved both his hands in the distance, and the originally fierce Heavenquake Axe changed suddenly directions in the air. It drew a weird-looking arc and swung behind Michael instantly. The axe blade slashed down heavily.

Michael's reaction was not slow. He leapt forward immediately when he realized that things were amiss. The soul thruster behind his armor was unleashed at full power. But it was no longer just a driving force now. Rather, it shot out a powerful light towards the back that attempted to resist the strike of the Heavenquake Axe.

But a soul emperor was a soul emperor. This soul tool on Michael's body was very strong, but Jiang Peng was no easy opponent either. After all, he was the top talent in the Imperial Mystical Academy's history. Upon closer examination, it was possible to discover that Jiang Peng's yellow first soul ring was flashing with a subtle radiance. This radiance was very special, and wasn't just like the kind of radiance emitted by soul masters' martial souls. It was delicate, and flashed with a frequency that resembled the rate of a heartbeat.

Jiang Peng had never used his first soul skill before in previous rounds.

Generally speaking, soul masters' soul skills were usually more powerful the later they were obtained. That was because the added limit would be greater. But Jiang Peng was special in a certain aspect. His first soul skill was not used for any direct attack or offense. It was a control-type soul skill that was used to control his martial soul.

The Heavenquake Axe was an extremely tough assault-type martial soul, and it also carried a powerful destructive capability. It could be compared with Wang Dong's Clear Sky Hammer. Its destructive strength was still very frightening without even using a soul skill. When Jiang Peng had fused with his first soul ring, he had accidentally chosen the wrong soul beast. This had led to his possession of this control-type soul skill. But with his intelligence and solid foundation, he managed to progress in another way under the guidance of the Imperial Mystical Academy's teachers. He invented a special offense, which he called the Eighteen Dragonslaying Slashes.

The strength of this Eighteen Dragonslaying Slashes was that it wasn't a soul skill. It was better than a soul skill, and could be combined with other soul skills. With the control of the first soul ring, he could enable the Heavenquake Axe to strike consecutively for a maximum of 18 times. This was the first time this killer move had been demonstrated in the individual matches.

"Bang—" In front of the Heavenquake Axe, the light shot out by the soul thruster was instantly split, and the axe struck Michael's back heavily.

In the next moment after the Heavenquake Axe struck, a dull explosion sound rang out. The impact caused Michael to be pushed forward.

Concussive explosion. This was the destructive ability that the Heavenquake Axe carried. Along with its immense weight, this strike was very heavy.

It was clear that the armor behind Michael had been struck till it bent inwards. The piercing axe continued to advance, and Michael spat out fresh blood. He staggered as he fell forward.

It was not that Jiang Peng was extremely strong. It was just that the changes to his strikes were too special. It was different from what the Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineering Academy knew about Jiang Peng. Michael was at a great disadvantage now.

The Heavenquake Axe, however, did not care. The fury that Jiang Peng had restrained in the team competition yesterday was unleashed right now. The Heavenquake Axe slashed toward the same area it had previously struck with an ear-piercing boom. Michael's armor should be proud of itself for being able to resist the Heavenquake Axe's first blow. But the concussive explosion it had brought with it couldn't be shaken off so easily. If it was unleashed once more, he would be heavily injured, if not killed.

The referee intervened in time and blocked the Heavenquake Axe in the air. He also announced the end of the competition.

Jiang Peng recalled his martial soul. Turning around, he hooked his finger towards the Sun Moon Academy team in the waiting area with a cold and arrogant look on his face.

Xiao Hongchen made a swishing sound as he stood up. He was about to ascend to the stage, but was stopped by Ma Rulong. Xiao Hongchen glared at him, but Ma Rulong shook his head and shot him a look. After that, he walked up to the stage himself.

During the team round, using a soul tool as a team would achieve an appreciable effect. But in the individual rounds, it was difficult to use a soul tool to make up for the gap between a soul king and soul emperor. It's important to know that Jiang Peng was not just an ordinary soul emperor, but a talent nurtured by the Imperial Mystical Academy. They had gathered all their resources to nurture him, and he was no longer conserving his power at this critical moment.

Michael was sent to compete first, but not with the hope of defeating Jiang Peng. His purpose was to deplete some of his soul power. However, it seemed like the Sun Moon Imperial Engineering Academy would be the one at a disadvantage if this continued.

Wang Yan's eyes shifted a little as he saw Michael being defeated. He thought of something in his heart. Although the Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineering Academy's soul tools were very powerful, the powers of a soul engineer could be said to rely entirely on soul tools. Against an elite soul master in a restricted competition stage, they would not confer him much of an advantage.

Jiang Peng had forced Ma Rulong to compete. To the observers, this was a good thing. To a certain extent, the abilities and methods of this the Sun Moon Academy team leader would be the key to victory in the finals.

Jiang Peng was slightly petrified as he saw that Ma Rulong was the next to compete. He squinted his eyes as he held the Heavenquake Axe. If he could defeat Ma Rulong, the Imperial Mystical Academy might really have a chance of turning the tide. This battle would be extremely crucial.

"I will defeat you." Jiang Peng pointed his Heavenquake Axe at Ma Rulong. He was trying to provoke him.

Ma Rulong laughed gently, "Do you think this will provoke me?"

The two of them retreated to the edges of the competition stage as they spoke.

Jiang Peng snorted, "Ma Rulong, I will let you realize that soul engineers like you who exploit external powers will never be comparable to soul masters like myself that work hard to fulfil our potential. You will be defeated under my axe just like the one just now."

Ma Rulong shook his head and said, "Michael didn't unleash his full abilities. It doesn't mean that a soul master is better than a soul engineer just because you defeated him. Michael didn't use any soul tools that he developed himself. His abilities were not truly unleashed to fight you. One understands himself best, thus a soul engineer is only at his peak state when he uses his own soul tools. I created every soul tool I use. I will show you what a true soul engineer is."

Jiang Peng snorted. "I'd be a fool if I believed you. Did you make the Class 7 soul tool that you used too?"

"I have no need to lie to you." Ma Rulong said indifferently.

At this point, they had already reached the edges of the competition stage. As the referee shouted, "Match, start!" a huge battle ensued.

Jiang Peng burst forward towards Ma Rulong like before.

Ma Rulong lifted his right hand, and it was clear to see that there was a silver ring on each of his fingers. The first ring flashed, and a metal barrel that was around 1.5 meters long and 10 centimeters wide appeared in his palm. He then lifted it to his shoulder, and unleashed his martial soul.

The release of Ma Rulong's martial soul caused his body to experience weird changes, and his head suddenly ballooned. It was obvious that it was no longer aligned with his body. Even his hair seemed to become sparse. He looked ugly amidst this bizarreness.

His martial soul was called the Bigheaded Spirit Ape, an auxiliary-type martial soul. He was doing this to unleash greater power and last longer like most soul engineers did. Ma Rulong's soul skill was also used to aid the increase of his soul power or to enhance the outburst of his soul power. This was also an important reason why he could create a Class 7 soul tool that was beyond his level.

Ma Rulong was an absolute genius in the production of soul tools in Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineering Academy. If not for his lacking cultivation, he would already qualify to be a Class 7 soul engineer.

6 soul rings – 2 yellow, 2 purple and 2 black – appeared at the same time. The silver barrel also emitted an intense radiance in the next instant.

A silvery ball of light shot toward Jiang Peng, who was rushing over. The light ball was flying at an immense speed and had nearly reached Jiang Peng when it flashed with radiance

Jiang Peng's attention was entirely focused on Ma Rulong's body, and he was naturally wary. He dodged immediately as he saw Ma Rulong attacking. 3 figures formed as the radiance from his second soul ring flashed.

The 2 figures at the side lurched forward quickly, while the center figure that faced the silver light ball jumped up and tried to dodge the attack.

However, Ma Rulong seemed to have expected that. Jiang Peng's adaptation seemed to be for naught. After the silver light ball suddenly stopped, a violent explosion sounded in the next moment.

Intense silver light filled the entire competition stage. All the spectators in Star Luo Plaza instantly shut their eyes because of the intense light.

Although Jiang Peng had divided into 3 figures, he still bore the brunt of the attack, and screamed in pain under the intense silver light. As he shut his eyes rapidly, everything had already turned white in front of him.

#### [Chapter 114: The Body Sect](#)

Flashlight. Who would've expected Ma Rulong to use the Class 4 Flashlight as his first move against a strong opponent? He used his actions to prove to everyone that the most appropriate weapon was the best weapon.

Jiang Peng lost his sight, and his burst of forward momentum was halted. Using his left hand to cover his eyes, he quickly retreated using soul power. At the same time, the Heavenquake Axe revealed an axe projection that protected his body.

Compared to him, Ma Rulong seemed a little more relaxed. As the Flashlight disappeared from his hand, he remained standing where he was. No one managed to see how he did it, but suddenly, more than 10 tiny light bullets rapidly flew out from his back.

These light bullets did not fly directly towards his opponent. Instead, they sprayed out in all directions simultaneously. Following that, a loud explosion echoed from different directions on the competition stage.

The light bullets may have looked small, but the explosive sounds that they generated were ear-piercing. Amidst the series of explosive blasts, Jiang Peng lost his composure. He frantically waved the Heavenquake Axe about him, and even used his fourth soul skill to unleash more than 10 huge axe projections.

Huo Yuhao was watching very seriously below the stage; he wanted to know how the Sun Moon Empire's soul engineers fought their battles. As a soul master, he wanted to learn how soul engineers dealt with soul masters in battle.

He had gained a lot of inspiration from the conversation between Jiang Peng and Ma Rulong. He was especially struck by Ma Rulong's words that only he could understand himself, and that he created his own soul tools.

As the battle started, Ma Rulong quickly took the initiative. Huo Yuhao did not think this was coincidental. Ma Rulong was strong, not in terms of his soul tool, but his accurate judgment of the situation. The first skill he used restricted his opponent's vision and hearing. This method was simply unheard-of, so it was no wonder that Jiang Peng was tricked. Of course, the effect wouldn't be the same if this same method was used again.

At this point, the soul tool on Ma Rulong's body showed another transformation. A golden cannon that was around a meter long and with a 3 centimeter caliber appeared on his shoulder. In the next instant, a streak of thin, blood-red light beam shot out.

He maintained a natural and smooth impression as he controlled the soul tool. He did not stop from the start till the end. Almost instantly after the light balls were fired, this golden cannon had already appeared on his shoulder. The very next instant after Jiang Peng's fourth soul skill was completed, explosive bangs sounded all around, and that streak of blood-red light had already appeared before him.

At the Soul Emperor-level, one would develop astute senses. Jiang Peng was aware of the imminent crisis even though his sight and hearing were both greatly affected when the streak of blood-red light shot out. He subconsciously swung the Heavenquake Axe horizontally in front of him and blocked the streak of blood-red light.

There was no booming sound. A small red hole appeared on the Heavenquake Axe after the blood-red light made contact with it. Although Jiang Peng had already shifted his body to dodge, the blood-red light still penetrated his left shoulder. A small, black hole was formed.

Huo Yuhao had never even heard of this type of soul tool before, much less seen it. What was more frightening was that after the red light penetrated through the Heavenquake Axe and Jiang Peng's body, the defensive barrier created by 108 soul masters together was also penetrated.



The air reeked of a burning smell wherever the red light passed.

Jiang Peng groaned in pain, and his body shook tremendously. However, he had no intention of retreating even though his left shoulder had been pierced. He roared and flung the Heavenquake Axe out again. This time, his most powerful sixth soul ring flashed with a bright radiance.

Without a doubt, this wasn't a good opportunity to use his sixth soul ring. But Jiang Peng could not delay any further.

His eyes were badly burnt by the Flashlight. He was fully aware that his eyes wouldn't recover before this competition ended. His opponent also wouldn't give him a chance to regain his hearing. Even a small explosive sound was now enough to cause a severe disruption to his hearing.

However, Jiang Peng did not just stand there passively. As he was struck, he also perceived where Ma Rulong was, and he flung the Heavenquake Axe in that direction.

Ear-piercing booming sounds rang out continuously as the huge axe spun rapidly in the air. Thick black light surged out maniacally from the Heavenquake Axe and caused its size to rapidly expand. The thick black light was like a black hole that swallowed all the light around it. Even the spectators were petrified as they watched from afar.

Ma Rulong also turned serious. He did not attempt to dodge. A strong suction force was being unleashed from the Heavenquake Axe. Although this suction force was not enough to drag him over, it prevented him from moving from his current position.

An indescribable, frightening power suddenly burst forth. Fissures appeared on the ground beneath Ma Rulong, and a strange, black circular symbol took form under his feet. Thick, black flames shot out from the ground. At this point, the pitch-black Heavenquake Axe that had enlarged to twice its size descended from the sky as it carried a dazzling, black flare.

The Heavenquake Axe's sixth soul skill was the Darkdemon Heavenquake, which was a single-target attack that drew the Yin Fires of Hell to unleash the fury of Heaven. Its demonic attributes allowed it to lock onto its opponents and destroy everything that was in its path.

This was Jiang Peng's strongest strike. Although he had unleashed it with his sight and hearing impaired, as well as heavy injuries, he still managed to use this strike to lock onto his opponent. In terms of both his timing and judgment of the situation, both were definitely fitting of a Soul Emperor.

At that moment, a layer of blinding golden light surged out from Ma Rulong and covered his body.

No matter how powerful the Yin Fires of Hell were, they couldn't penetrate a single inch through that glow. The Heavenquake Axe released a deafening growl, and the entire competition stage seemed to be on the verge of collapse. Thin cracks began to appear all across the golden barrier.

This was an Invincible Barrier that could defend against an eight-ringed Soul Douluo for 3 seconds! It was a soul tool that could only be used once. However, this was on the verge of breaking against the Darkdemon Heavenquake's single-target attack.

Ma Rulong revealed a look of respect. The 3 seconds that the Invincible Barrier could be sustained were very short, but it was enough for it to withstand a blow of that caliber.

The soul tool on his body changed again. More than 50 metal cannons of different sizes suddenly appeared on his body. Once again, no one could tell how he used the soul tools. It was as if they grew from his body.

Jiang Peng did not give up either. As he had unleashed his strongest strike, he had immediately burst forwards towards Ma Rulong. With his connection to the Heavenquake Axe, he could locate Ma Rulong's position. However, his left arm dangled limply beside him as he rushed forward. It was obvious that it had lost its use. The strange thing was that the hole in his left shoulder was not dripping with even a single drop of blood.

After the 3 seconds were over, the Heavenquake Axe returned to Jiang Peng's hands again. He was less than 10 meters away from Ma Rulong now. As he stepped forward, he lifted the Heavenquake Axe, and several of his soul rings lit up. Jiang Peng believed that if he got close to Ma Rulong, he could control the result of this competition.

Jiang Peng could not see for himself, but the spectators could. Just as both parties were about to come into contact, the metal cannons on Ma Rulong's body all shone with a splendid radiance.

Unexpectedly, these metal cannons were each unleashed in a certain sequence. The first was a red cannon on his chest that was as big as a bowl. A red light ball silently shot towards Jiang Peng's leaping body.

However, everyone was stunned to see that Jiang Peng did not sense the red light ball coming towards him. It was as if his senses were being deceived.

Following that, the red light ball gently stuck onto his chest. Jiang Peng did not seem to realize even at this point. But suddenly, his body seemed to solidify in that instant, and he froze in the air. Then, what greeted him were countless streaks of light that were assembled before being shot out.

Besides a select few of higher cultivations who were aware of what had happened, the only other person who could see what had happened was Huo Yuhao.

Huo Yuhao had watched the entire process through his sharp observation skills. He didn't know what that red light ball was, but he guessed that it was a special soul cannon that could hoodwink one's senses. It was not a simple soul cannon that concentrated soul power used by lower-skilled soul engineers. The effect of that special soul cannon should have been its ability to temporarily make a person lose all mobility. The instant Jiang Peng was hit, the Heavenquake Axe disappeared from his hands.

Streaks of soul light rays assembled before shooting out, and Jiang Peng's body was sent flying. Although his internal soul power protected his body, his body only stopped flying when he struck the defensive barrier on the other side of the arena.

After struggling a little, he slid down from the barrier and fell onto the competition stage.

The match had ended. Ma Rulong had obtained an overwhelming victory. The only thing he had sacrificed was the Invincible Barrier, but with his capabilities, he should be able to procure another one. Higher-level soul engineers were usually wealthy, not to mention that he was even from the Illustrious Virtue Hall.

After he finished watching the match, Huo Yuho let out a long breath. He didn't think that Ma Rulong was very scary. Rather, he was filled with excitement.

This was a battle between a soul engineer and a soul master! The feeling that Ma Rulong gave off when he fought was a very natural and smooth one.

Yes, it was a natural and smooth feeling. From the very start, Ma Rulong took the initiative. Following that, he relentlessly chained his attacks while reacting accurately to Jiang Peng's changes, using the most suitable soul tool to respond.

He seemed to have achieved victory very leisurely. However, the truth was that he would have had to face the continuous attacks of his opponent if he messed up even a single chain attack. Jiang Peng's Darkdemon Heavenuake allowed one to see how frightening a Soul Emperor's explosiveness was.

The entire place was struck with awe as Jiang Peng was defeated. Over on the Imperial Profound Academy's side, the faces of Jiang Peng's team members were filled with dismay. If even Jiang Peng couldn't defeat Ma Rulong, who else could?

What was even more frightening was Ma Rulong's composure. His chest started to shine with a white halo immediately after he struck Jiang Peng. Without a doubt, it must have been the effect of some soul tool that was similar to the Milk Bottle. It was replenishing Ma Rulong's depleted soul power.

The Imperial Profound Academy was stunned for a while before hesitantly sending a new team member up to the competition stage. However, what chance did they have left?

Ma Rulong didn't display his strength any further. He only used the few soul tools that he had used before. Even so, no one could resist him with his precise control.

According to Huo Yuhao's observations, the only soul tool that could possibly be a Class 7 soul tool was the golden cannon. The cannon shot out rays that were of extremely high temperature. These rays were so hot that even Ma Xiaotao's phoenix flames would be penetrated if they met. The referees even had to intervene in the following rounds of the competition to save the Imperial Profound Academy's team members.

Ma Rulong eventually ended the remaining matches with his soul tools, and the Imperial Profound Academy dropped out of the tournament. The Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineering Academy reached the finals without a hitch.

A lot had happened in this year's Continental Advanced Soul Master Academy Soul Dueling Tournament, but it eventually was still the pair of old rivals that would meet in the finals – Shrek Academy and the Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineering Academy.

Huo Yuhao watched the entire competition carefully. On the way back to the Grand Imperial Star Hotel, he constantly pondered over something. Wang Yan was also doing the same.

Huo Yuhao was greatly moved by Ma Rulong's strategy and the entire competition process. Firstly, Huo Yuhao learned that a soul tool created by oneself was the most appropriate soul tool to use. Ma Rulong had also showed Huo Yuhao the strategy of a soul engineer. The key to Ma Rulong's successive victories lay in his control of the battle.

They were stopped by 2 people when they were about to go up to their rooms after reaching the lobby of the Grand Imperial Star Hotel.

“Oh?” Wang Yan was walking in front, but he was blocked. He was stunned, and lifted his head to look at the two people blocking his way.

They were two men who looked very ordinary in terms of appearance, but their figures were very peculiar. One of them had an abnormally large right arm, whereas the other one was very thin, but his head was huge, as if he were a big-headed doll.

Wang Yan felt a chill in his heart and said in a deep voice, “Excuse me.”

The guy with the huge right arm said, “All of you can go, but this little fellow must stay. We need to talk to him.” This guy was growling. Although he was trying to restrain himself, he still released a terrifying, authoritative aura. He was pointing towards Huo Yuhao.

Huo Yuhao was also stunned. “I don’t know either of you.”

The big-headed guy looked at Huo Yuhao and smiled slightly. He said, “Don’t you know us now?” The look in his eyes was very strange. It was weirdly gentle. When Wang Yan and Xu Sanshi peered into his eyes, they went into a trance. Huo Yuhao suddenly tensed up and golden light shone from his Spirit Eyes. Wang Dong was in a momentary daze, and a streak of odd radiance flashed in the depth of his eyes. He also wasn’t confused by the big-headed guy’s gaze.

“We don’t mean any harm. We just want to talk to you. If you don’t want those around you to be hurt, follow us.” The big-headed guy saw the shocked look in Huo Yuhao’s eyes and led the other guy to the resting area at one corner of the hall. There were a few sofas there for guests to rest.

Wang Yan and Xu Sanshi woke up from their trance too. The two of them were astounded that the big-headed guy could force them into that trance. His cultivation must be above theirs! Wang Yan’s abilities were nothing spectacular in Shrek Academy, but he was still a soul king. To be suppressed by someone else so easily, the gap in their abilities shouldn’t be small.

However, Wang Yan calmed himself down after a period of momentary shock. He nodded at Huo Yuhao and said, “Go and hear what they have to say. I will follow you. Wang Dong, Xu Sanshi, the two of you can return to your rooms first.”

Wang Dong wanted to reject this proposition, but was dragged away by Xu Sanshi. Xu Sanshi shot a look at him, and Wang Dong finally understood what his intention was. It was obvious that Xu Sanshi wanted Wang Dong to follow him to get reinforcements. He only left indignantly upon realizing this. He even shot a look at Huo Yuhao before he left.

Wang Yan was a little amused as he said, “It’s fine, you don’t have to bring any reinforcements over. Since they have decided to intercept us here, they won’t do anything. This is Star Luo City, and also the place where all the competing members of the tournament are staying.”

Xu Sanshi chortled and replied, “It’s better to be wary.” As he spoke, he dragged Wang Dong up.

Huo Yuhao proceeded to the resting area with Wang Yan. There were only the two weird guys there. While there were many guest going into and out of the hotel, none of them went to the resting area.

Huo Yuhao and Wang Yan sat across from the pair of oddballs. Huo Yuhao asked, “Why are the two of you looking for me? It must be my first time seeing the both of you.”

The big-headed guy smiled and nodded. He answered, “Of course. But we’ve observed you for quite some time already. If I’m not wrong, your first martial soul, which is also your main martial soul, must be your eyes, and your first soul skill must be something related to spiritual detection, and you can even share it with your compatriots. Through some special method, you’ve also managed to cultivate some kind of shock ability with your spirit. Based on my judgment, it’s like the Purple Demon Eyes from the Tang Sect. Whereas your second soul skill from that martial soul should be something to do with bewitching others. I recall an Iceworm from the north that uses such an ability to hoodwink its opponents. Am I right?”

The big-headed guy was called Lang Ya. His simple words caused a chill to go up Huo Yuhao’s spine. The feeling of being seen through seemed to have left him completely exposed in front of the other party.

Fortunately, he was resilient. Although he was shocked, he did not say, “How did you know?”.

Upon seeing Huo Yuhao’s shock, the big-headed guy continued, “Let me introduce myself. My name is Lang Ya. This is my brother, Yu Tao. We are both from the Body Sect. I’m sure you’ve heard of the Body Sect before.”

Not only did the words ‘Body Sect’ leave Huo Yuhao horrified, but Wang Yan also opened his eyes wide, and his pupils shrank.

Although the Body Sect rarely appeared in the world of soul masters, they were still very reputable. Among the few strange existences in the world of soul masters, evil soul masters undoubtedly took the top spot. And in terms of peculiarity and power, only the Body Sect could match up to the evil soul masters.

Furthermore, the Body Sect was even more scary than evil soul masters in the eyes of most soul masters. While evil soul masters were powerful, they often appeared alone or in small groups. The Body Sect was a true sect! It was called the most mysterious sect in the world too. It was conceivable how many venerated the powers of the Body Sect.

Huo Yuhao and Wang Yan could never imagine people from the Body Sect appearing in front of them because of the rarity with which they revealed themselves. But now they had come specifically for Huo Yuhao. Wang Yan could figure out what they wanted without even asking them. But the strange thing was that he didn’t seem very nervous.

Lang Yan smiled at Huo Yuhao and said, “I shall not beat around the bush any further. We are here to bring you back to the sect.”

“Bring me back?” Huo Yuhao was stunned. He had never joined any sect before!

Lang Ya nodded and replied, “We’re bringing you back. The Body Sect is the home of all soul masters with body souls. Since your eyes are your martial soul, it means you’re part of the Body Sect. And since we’ve found you, it’s only natural that we’d bring you back.”

Although Huo Yuhao had heard of the Body Sect a few times before, they were filled with mystery and power. Without a doubt, joining the Body Sect would be very beneficial to his Spirit Eyes. But could he

trust these 2 guys who had appeared so suddenly? Even if they could be trusted, could he just leave Shrek Academy?

Without much consideration, Huo Yuhao shook his head determinedly and said, "Thanks for your offer, but I'm a student of Shrek Academy and a member of Shrek. At the very least, I won't consider joining any sect before I graduate from the academy."

Lang Ya laughed indifferently and said, "Shrek Academy, the best academy? However, they don't seem too impressive. Otherwise, they wouldn't have let someone as young as you compete. The Body Sect is the most familiar with body souls, and we're the most suited to guide you to become the best. With your talent, you will shock the entire world of soul masters within 20 years. Although the Body Sect rarely reveals itself, we will be an unstoppable force once we do so. Your martial soul hasn't experienced its second awakening, and you have yet to experience the true power of a body soul. Following us back will only be beneficial to you."

It was probably only the Body Sect that was capable of snatching personnel right under the nose of a Shrek Academy teacher. Wang Yan, however, did not say anything, and only listened in on their conversation.

Huo Yuhao continued to shake his head. "No, Shrek Academy is my home. The academy has given me family warmth. They have nurtured me. I won't join the Body Sect. Elders, I'm sorry, but we shall end things here." As he spoke, he stood up before turning away and walked towards the stairs.

"Do you think you're the one calling the shots?" Yu Tao suddenly stood up. As he stretched out his right hand, his thick right arm instantly caught hold of Huo Yuhao's shoulder. His right arm seemed able to stretch itself freely. It had stretched out almost 2 meters when Yu Tao grabbed Huo Yuhao's shoulder.

Lang Ya turned his attention to Wang Yan the moment Yu Tao made a move. He wanted to use his powerful martial soul to suppress Wang Yan and prevent him from doing anything. But he was shocked to realize that Wang Yan remained calm and had no intention of doing anything.

The instant Yu Tao's hand landed on Huo Yuhao's shoulder, Huo Yuhao shrugged his shoulder and slipped out of Yu Tao's grip.

"What a slimy kid." Yu Tao was stunned for a moment as he felt a gust of chill rising the moment he grabbed hold of Huo Yuhao's shoulder. After that, he could see that a layer of ice that resembled armor was now coating Huo Yuhao's shoulder. Although it seemed like ice, it was very tough and slippery. Otherwise, Huo Yuhao wouldn't have slipped out of his grasp.

"Using your Spiritual Detection on me won't work." Lang Ya snorted and straightened his gaze. A wave of formless undulations spread from his huge head.

Huo Yuhao only felt that his Spiritual Detection was crushed like glass. As he groaned in pain, he staggered forward. However, his spiritual sea started to ripple with intense undulations as it was invaded by the enemy. His Pearl of Life that belonged to the Life Guardian flashed brightly. Lang Ya's spiritual power surged into Huo Yuhao's head and threatened to invade his spiritual sea. But then, a green glow flashed across Huo Yuhao's forehead. Following that, Lang Ya's spiritual power was cut to pieces.

“Oh?” Lang Ya was shocked at this. Although he had held back a little for fear of hurting Huo Yuhao, he was sure that Huo Yuhao wouldn’t be able to resist him. He immediately thought that Huo Yuhao’s body soul must have already been awakened. However, how could his body soul awaken if it couldn’t awaken on its own and if he didn’t have the Body Sect’s special manual?

Just as he was about to increase the output of his spiritual power, a figure suddenly appeared in front of Yu Tao. A dirty index finger pressed against Yu Tao’s back.

Yes, it pressed against his back. When that finger rebounded, it gave off an illusory feeling. Yu Tao tried to dodge, but he realized to his horror that he was unable to dodge even though he was being guided by Lang Ya’s spiritual power.

“Pop—”

“Aiyo.”

Yu Tao’s right arm bounced up, and his entire person staggered backward two steps. A depressed finger mark was left on his thick right arm, which caused him to turn pale.

Although he did not unleash his martial soul, his right arm was his martial soul since he was a member of the Body Sect! He was forced back by a finger from his opponent under such a circumstance. His shock was greater than the pain he felt.

On the other side, Lang Ya also retracted his spiritual power. He was cautious as he watched the newcomer who had suddenly appeared behind Huo Yuhao and separated him and his brother.

Huo Yuhao had also turned his body quickly by now. After a momentary daze, he revealed an intense look of surprise. “Elder Xuan, you’re back.”

That’s right, the person who had just appeared between Huo Yuhao and the two Body Sect members was an elder of Shrek Academy’s Sea God’s Pavilion, Elder Xuan.

Elder Xuan appeared as slovenly as ever. His enormous, oily hands were holding that familiar drumstick, and he carried a look of ridicule amidst the calmness in his eyes. He spoke as he looked at the two men from the Body Sect, “We won’t tolerate your nonsense! It’s so ridiculous how people dare to climb over Shrek’s head. The 2 of you are brilliant! You dare to poach our student.”

“Who are you?” Lang Ya was obviously the one in charge among the two from the Body Sect. At the same time, his aura became more authoritative. With his head as the center, the surrounding air up to a radius of 1 meter started to distort furiously. What was even more daunting was that he exerted all this increased pressure on Elder Xuan. He was able to do all this without unleashing his martial soul. This revealed his immense control over his own abilities.

Elder Xuan snorted, “Are the two you from the second or third generation of the Body Sect? That old freak from your Body Sect wouldn’t dare to stand so close to me if he were here, yet the two of you dare to?”

The rare strands of yellow hair on Lang Ya’s head trembled a little. The distorted air around him dispersed, and his aura declined. He was shocked as he asked, “You’re from the Sea God’s Pavilion?”

“Since the two of you know about the Sea God’s Pavilion, you’d better scram,” Elder Xuan replied indifferently, “On account of that old freak, I won’t fuss over today’s matter. You’re still not up to it yet. I’m scared that old freak will accuse me of bullying the juniors.”

Yu Tao’s right arm was still in pain, and he groaned furiously, “Don’t think of bluffing us with your words. At least prove it to us.” As he spoke, his right arm extended quickly again, ballooning in size, and eight soul rings suddenly appeared.

The appalling thing was that his first 4 soul rings were purple thousand year soul rings, and from the fifth soul ring on, they were black. He had 4 purple and 4 black soul rings. Not only did his soul rings carry a tremendous oppressive power, but they even superseded the ratio of soul rings that ordinary soul masters had.

Elder Xuan acted as if he didn’t see it. When Yu Tao extended his palm toward him, no one could see his actions clearly before his hand was stopped. He was in a daze as he stood there, and his eyes were filled with fear.

A chicken drumstick had been forced into his mouth. The drumstick’s bone was at the tip of his throat, such that his throat would be pierced through if more strength were exerted. Furthermore, this drumstick had broken all of his teeth before it had entered his mouth. At this point, his lips were forced in, and all of his teeth had been crushed by a chicken drumstick.

Lang Ya couldn’t even help him in time. Elder Xuan was too quick. If Yu Tao were bolder in his actions, he might have been able to strike Elder Xuan. But the drumstick would have killed him too. That’s why he did not dare to move, and only stood there in a daze.

Lang Ya was not doubtful at all now, “You, you are Taotie from the Sea God’s Pavilion...”

Elder Xuan darted a look at him, “Scram. Tell that old freak that I can still eat, drink, shit and sleep.”

“Thank you, elder, for your mercy.” This time, Lang Ya became respectful. He slapped his hand behind Yu Tao’s back, and Yu Tao spat out his broken teeth and the drumstick. The two of them turned and left the Grand Imperial Star Hotel in an instant.

As he watched their leaving figures, Huo Yuhao respectfully said in a hurry, “Thank you, Elder Xuan.”

Elder Xuan waved his hand and said, “You are a member of Shrek. Whoever dares to harm you is going against Shrek. Return first and take the time to cultivate. Don’t waste a second. I will be watching your finals.”

“Yes.” Huo Yuhao was slightly surprised and excited. He turned and walked towards the stairs. At this point, everyone from Shrek had descended from the stairs. Ma Xiaotao led the group and she drifted over quickly.

“Where are those two fellows? I will roast whoever dares to bully my younger brother.” Ma Xiaotao’s rage and domineering aura were revealed. However, she stopped as she saw Elder Xuan.

“Elder Xuan.” Ma Xiaotao stuck her tongue out. She naturally knew Elder Xuan’s status in the academy.

Elder Xuan laughed and said, “Alright, all of you can return to rest now. I will handle this matter.”



“Okay.” Ma Xiaotao dragged Huo Yuhao away before she turned and left. Her actions made her seem like a hen protecting her chicks. The rest of the team wore weird looks in their eyes as they saw her and couldn’t help but gossip about what had happened between Ma Xiaotao and Huo Yuhao yesterday.

All the students left, but Wang Yan remained. “Elder Xuan, the Body Sect...”

“They’re troublesome.” Elder Xuan said in a deep voice. “If we’d known, we wouldn’t have sent this fellow to compete. Not only is that old freak from the Body Sect dominant in terms of his powers, but he is also a dominant person. I don’t think this can be settled so easily. But I don’t think they dare to test us anymore. I will return to Shrek Academy immediately. I should be able to rush back before the final. I hope that he acts slower. He’s also capable of doing anything, and never resorts to logic. Huo Yuhao also possesses a body soul, which will spur him to do anything. Why is he not dead even though he’s older than me by 30 years? Handle the situation over here well. There must not be any casualties, do you understand?”

“Yes.” Wang Yan acknowledged respectfully.

“What? Body Sect?” Ma Xiaotao immediately interrogated Huo Yuhao as she dragged him into the room. Huo Yuhao did not conceal the truth either. Everyone from Shrek was in the room too. After hearing the words ‘Body Sect’, Wang Dong, Xiao Xiao, Jiang Nannan and even He Caitou were only stunned. But the rest were extremely horrified, including Ma Xiaotao.

#### [Chapter 115: Start of the Final Battle](#)

“Is the Body Sect really so scary?” Wang Dong asked doubtfully.

Ma Xiaotao nodded seriously and said, “They’re very scary. There’s not many who can be mentioned in the same breath as Shrek Academy in the Douluo Continent. The Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineering Academy is one of those who can. They represent the highest abilities of the Sun Moon Empire. All of you are the academy’s core disciples now, and it shouldn’t be a problem for all of you to enter the inner courtyard in the future. I think it’s fine if I tell all of you. There’s a place called the Sea God’s Pavilion on our Shrek Academy’s Sea God Island. The elders of our academy live there, which includes Elder Xuan. It’s also the organization in our academy with the highest authority and power. Even the 4 current vice-deans hold little authority in the Sea God’s Pavilion. There’s a saying in the world of soul masters that there are 3 strong powers on the Douluo Continent. One of them is the Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineering Academy’s Illustrious Virtue Hall. Another is our Shrek Academy’s Sea God’s Pavilion. The last one is the Body Sect. Does anyone know why the Sea God’s Pavilion was established?”

“The Body Sect’s appearance once led to a huge catastrophe. Shrek Academy tried to resist them, but we lost.”

“Shrek Academy was high-flying at that point in time too. But the Body Sect was even more powerful. To resist them, the academy had no choice but to recall many of their top-ranked students, and set up the Sea God’s Pavilion. The academy gathered all its strength to defeat the Body Sect, and managed to avert a catastrophe. Ever since that incident, the Body Sect hid itself, and never made any further movements.”

Huo Yuhao was stunned as he asked, “Wouldn’t the Body Sect be just like the evil soul masters if they threaten the continent? Why didn’t the soul masters team up together to deal with them?”

Ma Xiaotao shook her head and answered, "The Body Sect and evil soul masters are different. They're neither good nor evil, and they do things to achieve what they want. They are also very domineering, and thus they are not very popular among the others on the continent. But they did contribute something positive to the continent before. However, very little people know about it. It's almost impossible to get rid of the Body Sect. It's said that where they're located is the scourge of the earth. It's easy to defend, and difficult for others to attack it. Without three times the Body Sect's abilities, it's almost impossible to penetrate their defenses. And how difficult would it be to gather a force that is both more than three times their ability and willing to sacrifice itself?"

Huo Yuhao had never expected the Body Sect to be so powerful. No wonder they were not afraid of Shrek Academy.

Ma Xiaotao continued, saying, "The secret files in the academy did record the re-appearance of the Body Sect once more. Occasionally, their members would also appear in the continent. But they didn't cause any huge uproar. Do you know what huge catastrophe the Body Sect almost brought about? All of you will realize how strong they are once I describe it."

"That time, almost 40 members of the Body Sect snuck into the Star Dou Forest and killed seven hundred thousand year soul beasts. This led to a huge uproar among the beasts in the Star Dou Forest, and they rushed out of the forest in an attempt to mount an attack on us. This almost caused a disaster. The Four Great Savage Beasts of the Star Dou Forest teamed up to attack Shrek City. The reason why we stopped fighting with the Body Sect is because they joined us to resist the attack of the beasts. It was also during that time that we discovered that the Body Sect was above us in terms of overall ability. The wave of beasts that attacked ensued for a year, until the academy started to recall students back. At least tens of villages were massacred in that time. Eventually, we reached a compromise with the Body Sect, and their leader back then swore not to enter the Star Dou Forest to hunt hundred thousand year soul beasts anymore. This ended the catastrophe. However, the soul beasts in the Star Dou Forest were angered, and soul masters encountered powerful soul beast much more frequently when they entered the Star Dou Forest for the next 500 years.

Huo Yuhao focused and listened. He was amazed that the Four Great Savage Beasts actually existed in the Star Dou Forest.

The Skydream Iceworm's voice sounded at this moment. "I know about this too. I was trapped in the forest then too. The savage beasts that she mentioned were the ones who imprisoned me. But they shouldn't be the strongest creatures in the Star Dou Forest. That's because I overheard them mentioning a frightening presence that slept beneath the Star Dou Forest. They called this thing their leader. I'm not sure about the cultivation of this thing, but they sacrificed at least half of my soul power to this leader of theirs using some special ritual. That leader must be very powerful. From my estimation, its cultivation must be the greatest among all the soul beasts on the continent. I fear that only the Hegemon in the ocean can match up to it."

The Ice Empress seemed to be very interested when they talked about this, "Yes, I heard the Snow Empress mention before that Star Dou Forest is the scariest place on the continent. She warned me never to enter it easily. Over there, there's someone who's more powerful than her."

Not just one? Huo Yuhao was horrified. From the Ice Empress and Skydream Iceworm's evaluations, it must be a Transcendent Soul Beast that had cultivated for at least five hundred thousand years! The Star Dou Forest was actually so scary. He had dared to enter the forest to hunt soul beasts even before he had a soul ring. He was indeed very naive then!

Ma Xiaotao said, "The Body Sect's ambivalence towards good and evil is indeed a headache. But it's not that we didn't want to settle them then. On account of the fact that they tried to right their wrong, it's clear to see that they are not too evil. Also, it will be a disaster if we fight the Body Sect. The Sun Moon Continent has been bound by our Douluo Continent for a thousand years, and even possesses the tendency to counter-attack against us."

That's why the conference held within the Sea God's Pavilion decided that our academy should settle our dispute with the Body Sect through a compromise."

Jiang Nannan was a little irritable as she said, "Then the commoners died for nothing?"

Ma Xiaotao glanced at her before replying, "I'm sorry, I've no idea how to answer this question of yours. I can only say that our academy did what we could. We stopped the wave of beasts from the Great Star Dou Forest and saved at least tens of thousands of commoners. We also resolved our dispute with the Body Sect to preserve our powers for the protection of the continent. I'm unsure of the detailed situation then though."

Jiang Nannan was silent, but it was clear that she disliked that compromise from the look of resentment in her eyes.

Xu Sanshi walked over to pat her shoulder, but Jiang Nannan shrugged her shoulder with force.

Ma Xiaotao said to Huo Yuhao, "I don't think the Body Sect will dare to do anything with Elder Xuan here. But you must still be careful. From now on, don't leave the hotel on your own. You must travel with the rest of us. Things will be fine when we return to the academy. Regardless of how strong the Body Sect is, they won't dare to come to Shrek Academy."

"Alright." Huo Yuhao replied hurriedly.

Ma Xiaotao looked at the slightly weird expressions of the rest and said, "Are all of you interested in our relationship? Listen carefully now. Yuhao will be my younger brother from now on. He won't be any different from my biological younger brother. That's it. Alright, all of you can return to your own rooms to cultivate now."

Everyone left except Ma Xiaotao and Wang Dong, who remained in Huo Yuhao's room.

Ma Xiaotao was puzzled as she looked at Wang Dong. She asked, "Why aren't you leaving?"

Wang Dong snorted and asked, "Why aren't you leaving?"

Ma Xiaotao said, "I have something to tell Yuhao."

Wang Dong raised his chest and said, "I want to cultivate with him. Don't you know that we are martial fusion soul skill partners? Our martial souls are almost perfectly compatible. We'll achieve success much faster if we cultivate together."

Ma Xiaotao creased her brows and said, "Okay, then you can remain here. You say that you are even better-looking than a girl as a guy. Be careful of becoming a sissy."

"You..." Wang Dong was furious. But he seemed to think of something as his eyeballs rolled, which caused his anger to dissipate. He sat down and remained silent after he snorted.

Ma Xiaotao said to Huo Yuhao in a low voice, "Younger brother, this matter regarding the Body Sect is likely to be more troublesome than you imagine. Come to think about it, the talents that you've displayed are too outstanding. Furthermore, you're still young, and it's easier to shape you. No wonder the Body Sect is tempted, and even send someone to watch the entire Continental Advanced Soul Master Academy Soul Dueling Tournament."

Huo Yuhao said, "Elder sister, don't worry. Nothing will go wrong with Elder Xuan around."

Ma Xiaotao furrowed her brows and said, "You don't understand the Body Sect. They're capable of resorting to anything to achieve their goals. Because they have the abilities to achieve their goals, it makes them scarier. I'm staying here to warn you not to resist if the Body Sect tries to abduct you. Just follow them. The Body Sect is very protective of their own members. They appreciate your talent, but I don't think they will harm you."

Huo Yuhao didn't expect Ma Xiaotao to say something like this, and he resolutely retorted, "Elder sister, I won't join the Body Sect no matter what."

Ma Xiaotao was stunned. "Younger brother, don't think like that. Although you are part of Shrek, we're an academy, not a sect. No one will really restrict you. Even if the academy has high hopes for you, your safety is the most important when it comes to the critical moment."

Huo Yuhao shook his head and said, "No, elder sister. Everything that I have right now was given to me by the academy. I'm a member of Shrek Academy, and I'm willing to fight for Shrek's glory. Shrek is my home. No matter how strong the Body Sect is, it's obvious that they are not suited for me from their behavior. I'm an orphan, and have no kith or kin. The academy is my home."

Looking at the resolute look in his eyes, Ma Xiaotao could not help but think to herself, "This kid is really cute! No wonder the elders of the Sea God's Pavilion held a conference for him." Perhaps Elder Xuan's appearance was not a coincidence after all.

Ma Xiaotao stood up and said, "Yuhao, I'm happy because of your attachment to Shrek. But you must remember that things are only possible if you're alive. You can't be too stubborn as a person. A great man needs to know when to yield and when not to."

After speaking, she glanced at Wang Dong once more before leaving Huo Yuhao's room.

Wang Dong followed her to the door and asserted his authority as he closed it.

Huo Yuhao said, "Wang Dong, go back and rest first. I'll find you later."

"Oh? Are you scared? I actually agree with her words that preserving your life is more important. If the Body Sect abducts you, don't be stubborn." Wang Dong said worriedly.

Huo Yuhao didn't know whether to laugh or cry. "What's there to be scared about? Nothing is scary with Elder Xuan around. I've never overthought the Body Sect all this while. Who can predict the future? It's

just that I gained some experience and developed some thoughts towards soul tools after seeing the Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineering Academy's performance. I need some time to think things over, but I'll find you later. Don't think so much."

"This..." Wang Dong was a little angry as he growled, "You're taking my goodwill as malicious. Go and slowly think." After he finished, he opened the door and left. He even shut the door quite hard.

Huo Yuhao touched his nose and felt as if an unexpected calamity had arrived.

The Body Sect's appearance didn't exactly stir up his feelings much. But as Ma Xiaotao said, there was at least one thing that he doesn't have to be afraid of no matter what ploy the Body Sect used in the future. The Body Sect wanted to take him in and not hurt him. What was there for him to be afraid of? He was more focused on the start of the finals.

After witnessing Ma Rulong's tremendous powers today, he was not confident that they would win! It was also his first time seeing how Ma Rulong was so frightening with his use of soul tools.

Huo Yuhao's pupils turned golden as he stood up, and 2 of his soul rings quietly appeared. The dim golden color amidst the white was the Skydream Iceworm's soul ring, while the darker purple soul ring was an imitation of his second soul skill.

The rise in his capabilities caused the burden on him to increase greatly. The Skydream Iceworm kept on releasing the powers that he had sealed to increase the strength of his soul ring, just like he had mentioned before. The strength of his second soul ring was at about five thousand years right now.

"It's a pity there're only 2 rings." Huo Yuhao's clenched his fist. What he needed the most now was the accumulation of time.

He stripped off his outer wear and sat cross-legged on the bed. He did not meditate, but recalled the performance of Ma Rulong earlier. Along with his own understanding of soul tools, he comprehended that soul tool strategy.

Star Luo City. As the Star Luo Empire's capital, it had already been overcrowded for a few days.

Overcrowding in the city meant that every street was full of people.

The semifinals of the Continental Advanced Soul Master Academy Soul Dueling Tournament had already ended. After the Semifinals ended, a queue had already formed in Star Luo Plaza. Some even queued for 2 days and 2 nights straight because they wanted to watch the finals of the tournament. This was one thing that they would probably rave about for the rest of their lives.

Moreover, the finals would be conducted in their entirety in 1 day even, though it was divided into a team round, an individual round and a 2-2-3 fight. This was indeed an exciting event, and it would be worth it to watch it, although they had to endure the suffering now.

The Star Luo Empire had also deployed 10,000 more elite troops to maintain order in the city. All the shops in the city extended their operating hours too. To accommodate the sudden rise in the city's population, various types of resources were transferred from surrounding major cities. In an instant, Star Luo City had reached a bustling state never seen before.

Without a doubt, the economic benefits to the Star Luo Empire brought about by the tournament were immeasurable. No wonder many empires competed to host the tournament, but still had to reach a compromise eventually, so that the tournament was held by a different country every time.

The 2 finalists, Shrek Academy and the Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineering Academy, represented the strongest powers on the continent. There was an enormous amount of anticipation for the finals.

However, the Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineering Academy was odds on to defeat the Shrek Academy on the black market due to Shrek Academy's weak lineup. They were given a 65% probability to emerge victorious, compared to Shrek Academy's 35% chance.

However, no one would believe that Shrek Academy would lose so easily. Even the Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineering Academy thought so too. After all, Shrek Academy's students were all filled with potential. No one knew what kind of powers they would display, or whether they had anymore tricks up their sleeves.

In the previous rounds, they had already dished out surprising performances several times. In the finals, they would definitely give their all to protect Shrek Academy's glory. It was thus difficult to predict what the result would be.

Today's weather was not very good. There were gloomy clouds, and a dim fog even covered Star Luo City. Light drizzles fell occasionally and brought about a sense of chill to this majestic city.

However, the spectators' warmth and passion didn't fall even with the sense of chill that struck the city. The finals of the Continental Elite Advanced Soul Master Academy Soul Dueling Tournament were about to start. An ultimate battle was about to begin.

Right now, both teams were on their way to Star Luo Plaza. Troops were deployed along the way to restrain the people who were shouting and screaming their names. Many of those who were unable to gain admission into Star Luo Plaza were gathered at the sides of the street to get a close look at both teams' members.

Ling Luochen was in the middle of Shrek Academy's team, and occasionally lifted her head into the sky. Her pretty face rippled with a tinge of happiness. Since she controlled the ice element, this gloomy weather that signified a possibility of rain was undoubtedly very beneficial for her! Moreover, she was also aided by Huo Yuhao.

Wang Yan had discussed their strategies yesterday and made further adjustments to account for the weather today. Everyone was overly nervous because of the upcoming finals. However, it was inevitable that they would feel like that.

Shrek Academy wasn't the only nervous one. The Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineering Academy's students were even more nervous. This was the closest that their academy had ever been to winning the tournament! They were extremely powerful, while the Shrek Academy team's lineup was comparatively weaker too. This kind of opportunity only came once in a lifetime. They were more nervous because they were so close to becoming the champions.

Even the normally arrogant Xiao Hongchen was very tense now. Occasionally, he would take a peek at the Shrek Academy members that graced the red carpet with them today. His competitive streak and hunger were piqued as he watched them.

Meng Hongchen was much better compared to Xiao Hongchen's anxiety and buzz. Meng Hongchen's gaze landed on Wang Dong.

From the side, Wang Dong's facial lines were extremely smooth. Although he was still young, his figure was already very slender. Meng Hongchen observed him in a different way from the others.

She thought to herself as she looked at Wang Dong, "Wow, his eyelashes are really long. Not only are they long, but they're also raised. They're so beautiful, and even longer than mine by a lot. His eyes are pinkish-blue, and there's an indescribable allure about him. He's 12 years old, 2 years younger than I am. His twin martial soul is also considered..."

She was already feeling a little hot in her head as she thought till this point. For some reason, she kept thinking of Wang Dong after he had struck up a conversation with her that day. Even Wang Dong was unaware that he had caused her to develop a pure and intense crush on him.

The red carpet led all the way to the resting area before looping around the arena. On top of the city walls in the distance, the Star Luo Emperor had already led the Star Luo Empire's officials up. This showed his respect for the two teams that were about to compete.

Huo Yuhao was very calm now. Wang Yan had talked to both him and Wang Dong last night for some time before he left. His competitive streak had never been so high before. While his powers were nothing in comparison to the other team members of both academies, things changed quickly in a competition. He wanted to compete, and thirsted for victory. He hoped to further Shrek Academy's glory with his own hard work.

He turned his attention to the top of the city wall unintentionally. At first glance, he could already see the Star Luo Emperor, as well as Princess Jiu Jiu on his left.

Princess Jiu Jiu also saw him, but she didn't seem too friendly.

In the next instant, Huo Yuhao's body suddenly jerked. The composure that he had maintained was suddenly overwhelmed by horror.

It was a middle-aged man that appeared to be more than 30 years old. He wore golden armor, but no helmet. This revealed his facial features. His eyes were sunken, and his pupils flashed within his blue eyes. He looked a little thin, but he gave off a tough feel. He was charming, resilient, tall and straight, but also bursting with energy as he stood beside the Star Luo Emperor.

It's, it's him...

How could Huo Yuhao remain calm upon seeing this person?

Yes, the White Tiger Duke that protected the Star Luo Empire's western border had returned for the finals. It wasn't just because this was the finals of the tournament, but also because he wanted to see his eldest son compete.

Since Huo Yuhao saw the White Tiger Duke, Dai Yueheng naturally saw him too. An excited flame lit up in his eyes as he saw his father, and he clenched his fists.

The White Tiger Duke, Dai Hao, only nodded slightly at him. He encouraged Dai Yueheng using the expression in his eyes. As Dai Yueheng had treated his father as his role model since his youth, the look that Dai Hao gave him caused his competitive streak to surge. The previous anxiety that he felt was now gone.

The Star Luo Emperor revealed a dim smile on his face as he saw the team members from both teams entering the resting area. He nodded at the White Tiger Duke beside him.

“Silence, the competition is about to start. Your Majesty, please.” Dai Hao shouted in a deep voice. He did not use a sound-amplifying soul tool, but his voice still echoed far away. His vigorous energy spread out from the top of the city wall just like this.

All the peacekeeping troops lifted their weapons high and shouted, “Kill, kill, kill—!” At the same time, the entire Star Luo Plaza was filled with a strong killing intent.

The peacekeeping troops were all engulfed by passion and fanaticism. In their eyes, there was only the commander standing at the top of the city wall. The White Tiger Duke’s authority in the military was even above the emperor’s to a certain extent!

The Star Luo Emperor wasn’t displeased because of this. He continued to smile, while all the spectators all kept their silence because of the strong killing intent.

The Star Luo Emperor smiled and said, “The last time the Continental Advanced Soul Master Academy Soul Dueling Tournament was held in Star Luo City was 20 years ago. Both myself and Dai Hao were only youths then. Fast forward 20 years, and I’m already the ruler of an empire, while Dai Hao is also the top commander in the empire. We’re about to witness a battle between the strongest youths on the continent. I’m feeling very excited. I hope both teams can present an exciting contest for every spectator. As per tradition, the winner of this tournament will be awarded 3 soul bones and 1 million gold soul coins. I have already picked out 10 of the most outstanding soul bones from our treasury for the winner to choose from. I wanted Dai Hao to host today’s final, but one of Shrek Academy’s team members is his eldest son. For fairness’ sake, today’s referee will still be the Heavenfiend Douluo.”

“Without further ado, let’s all watch this historical battle.”

After the Star Luo Emperor finished speaking, a streak of radiance flashed from the top of the city wall. It appeared in the center of the stage in the next moment. It was the Heavenfiend Douluo, Huang Jinxu.

However, his body jerked slightly after he landed on the stage. He turned his attention subconsciously to the resting area. His gaze landed on Shrek’s team.

A slovenly elder that carried a wine gourd had suddenly appeared behind them. As he saw the Heavenfiend Douluo looking over, he pinched his brow slightly, while Huang Jinxu became a little frantic, and quickly turned his head.

Everyone from Shrek Academy and the Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineering Academy discovered the arrival of this slovenly elder because of the referee’s gaze.



“Elder Xuan, you’re here.” Wang Yan said in surprise.

Elder Xuan too out another chicken drumstick from somewhere and took a bite. He said indistinctly, “Just give whatever instructions you have to and take it that I’m not here. No one will dare to play any tricks since I’m here.” Without a doubt, the Taotie Douluo was here to hold the fort for Shrek Academy.

Upon seeing him, the faces of the teachers from the Sun Moon Imperial Soul Academy changed. They naturally recognized Elder Xuan. According to the Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineering Academy’s research, this Taotie Douluo’s cultivation was already above Rank 97. He was the strongest in Shrek Academy. However, this was as much as they were able to discover, as the Sea God’s Pavilion was too secretive.

The Heavenfiend Douluo also knew Elder Xuan, otherwise he wouldn’t have lost his composure. However, he recovered quickly, and said in a low voice, “I am Huang Jinxu, the referee for the finals of the Continental Advanced Soul Master Academy Soul Dueling Tournament. I shall announce the competition rules.”

Although both parties were familiar with the rules, they still had to be announced as part of protocol.

“The finals will be divided into the team round, the individual round and the 2-2-3 round. A team must win at least 2 victories to be the overall winner. For the team round, each team will send 7 members out. After the team round, each team will have one chance to change their competing members. No further chances will be given. In the other 2 rounds, the 7 competing members cannot be changed. The team that wins 2 rounds will then be crowned the champion. Both teams can do what they want, and the referee will be responsible for everyone’s safety. Once the referee thinks that a particular move is fatal, he will intervene and eliminate the losing side. But because of the ever-changing conditions, the referee cannot guarantee absolute safety. I hope that both teams will know their limits. Right now, please prepare to send your team members up to the stage within 1 minute.”

As the competition rules were announced, the atmosphere in Star Luo Plaza tensed up. The spectators became extremely silent as they waited. Everyone widened their eyes. Although the competition was yet to begin, they were unwilling to miss out on anything.

Wang Yan stood up and spoke to all 10 students from Shrek Academy in a deep voice, “Follow our original strategy. Shrek will win.”

“Shrek will win.” 10 people stood up together and roared in a unified, determined voice.

Wang Yan turned his attention towards Ma Xiaotao and Dai Yueheng and nodded his head at them. The two of them also nodded back in acknowledgement.

On the other side, the Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineering Academy members also stood up and listened to their teacher’s final strategy.

One minute passed very quickly.

“Members from both teams, please enter the stage.” The Heavenfiend Douluo kept strict watch on time, and didn’t extend the time limit by even a second.

7 members instantly walked out from the Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineering Academy's side. Firstly, there was the team leader, Ma Rulong. Behind him were Xiao Hongchen and Meng Hongchen. Following them was Michael, the Class 5 soul engineer that Huo Yuhao and the others had seen in the semifinal match. The remaining 3 were all Class 5 soul engineers too. Because of their unique appearances, everyone from Shrek's team could recognize the 7 members from the Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineering Academy. The last 3 were Xiao Xiaofeng, Chen Fei and Lin Xi. Besides Meng Hongchen, everyone else was male.

Shrek's team was not surprised to see these 7. That's because this was exactly what Teacher Wang Yan had expected.

Ever since the start of the tournament, Wang Yan had been monitoring the Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineering Academy silently. Just yesterday, he related everything that he had gathered and analyzed on the Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineering Academy to everyone from Shrek. He even came up with a detailed plan. Today's victory was highly dependent on his tactics and strategies.

Since their opponent was already walking towards the competition stage, Shrek Academy also did the same. After everyone entered the waiting area, 7 walked out. However, this was a surprising scene for the spectators and Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineering Academy both.

The 7 from Shrek Academy were the team leader, Ma Xiaotao, vice-team leader Dai Yueheng, Ling Luo Chen, Bei Bei, Xu Sanshi, Jiang Nannan and He Caitou.

Huo Yuhao and Wang Dong, who had both contributed greatly in the semifinals, were not in the team lineup. They sat in the waiting area.

All the spectators who were originally silent started to become noisy.

Although Huo Yuhao and Wang Dong did not have powerful cultivations, they had left a deep impression in everyone's minds in the previous rounds of the tournament.

Ever since Huo Yuhao imitated a soul emperor in the first few rounds and unleashed 6 hundred thousand year soul rings, he managed to capture every spectator's attention with that shocking method.

In the following rounds, he was very effective as long as he appeared. The most obvious examples of this were the time they were against Justsky Academy, and in the semifinal against Star Luo Academy. This pairing of Huo Yuhao and Wang Dong managed to turn the tide on several occasions.

Even till now, no one was clear on how powerful they were. For those who understood soul masters, they knew that both of them had twin martial souls even though they only had two and three rings respectively. They even possessed a martial soul fusion skill. Although their cultivations were not high, they were still very young, and they had great potential. They could aid their team greatly during a battle, and this was especially obvious during the team round.

No one could understand the reason why Shrek's team hadn't sent the both of them out for the team round, including the Sun Moon Soul Academy team. Because of this, everyone wore stunned looks on their faces as they watched Huo Yuhao and Wang Dong in the waiting area.

Was this some new way of winning? What was Shrek Academy doing?

Wang Yan was expressionless as he sat down in the waiting area. No one knew how he was feeling.

Wang Yan was exhilarated beneath his calm exterior. When he had first led Shrek's team to Star Luo City, he had had no confidence. This tournament was a huge 洗礼 for not only the team members, but him too. The further the competition proceeded, the more self-confidence he gained, and the more ideas on tactics and strategies he developed.

However, Wang Yan had not made too many detailed arrangements in the previous rounds of the tournament. This was even the case in the semifinals.

What was his reason? It was because he was trying to hide, puzzle and conceal his abilities from their opponent.

### [Chapter 116: A Wild Team Fight](#)

Wang Yan only had one goal in mind after Shrek Academy defeated Justsky Academy. He wanted Shrek Academy to be the eventual champions and carry on Shrek's streak as the tournament champions. There was only one true obstacle to Shrek Academy in their pursuit for glory.

That's why Wang Yan hadn't given too many instructions even though he had a brilliant set-up in place. His purpose was to confuse their strongest opponent and trick them into believing that Shrek Academy only fought based on abilities, and not strategies.

He was successful. Even Shrek Academy's own students were kept in the dark before yesterday.

As the finals approached, there was no need for anymore concealment. Wang Yan was about to show his talent in today's final through the Shrek team's competing members.

Wang Yan could not help but recall his conversation with Huo Yuhao and Wang Dong as he looked at them. The both of them sat to one side and appeared to be calm, but they were gripping their fists tightly.

.....

"The two of you will not compete in the team round tomorrow. He Caitou and Jiang Nannan will replace you."

"What? Why? Teacher Wang, we can help the team."

"I've already decided. This is a strategy that I'm using. At the same time, I'm protecting you. If you want to help your team in the team round, unleashing your martial soul fusion skill cannot be excluded. Furthermore, more than one of your martial soul fusion skills have to be unleashed. But I don't want to expose so much too early on. Don't forget that both of you will be the driving forces in the Continental Advanced Soul Master Academy Soul Dueling Tournament 5 years from now in the Sun Moon Empire. Moreover, it's my responsibility to protect the both of you as your teacher. My strategy also requires you to conserve your powers in the team round."

"But..."

"Listen to me first before any buts. Maybe you will continue to turn the tables..."

.....

The Star Luo Emperor said to the White Tiger Duke beside him softly on the top of the city wall, "Brother, what do you think of Shrek's arrangement?"

The White Tiger Duke said after pondering for a while, "They must have adjusted their tactics and strategies. Although I've never seen them compete, we can't underestimate the importance of these 2 fellows to their team. They're probably not being sent out now because they're preparing for the later segments."

The Star Luo Emperor smiled and said, "What're your predictions then?"

The White Tiger Duke shook his head and replied, "I'm not familiar with either team, thus I can't make any predictions. What about you, Your Majesty? You seem very confident. I'm sure you have made your judgment."

The Star Luo Emperor lowered his head and said something softly.

The White Tiger Duke was stunned as he looked at him and replied, "How could this be?"

The Star Luo Emperor smiled and said, "Let's wait and see. Although that teacher from Shrek is no longer young, it's easy to tell that he's not simple from his lineup selection. I believe we'll see a surprise in this final."

As they spoke, both teams had already ascended to the stage. They formed two rows and stood to the left and right of Huang Jinxu.

"I've announce the rules earlier on, and will not repeat them again. Both teams, please step back and prepare to start fighting. This match will end once one team can no longer continue."

Ma Xiaotao squinted her small eyes, and her gaze shone as she stared at Ma Rulong. Her eyes seemed to surge with flames too.

Ma Rulong looked very serious. He had not had too much trouble against Jiang Peng, but the look Ma Xiaotao's eyes made him feel suppressed.

This was a result of Shrek Academy's reputation. Ma Rulong kept on telling himself this, but that suppressive feeling remained as he faced Ma Xiaotao.

Both teams slowly retreated. The emotion in Xiao Hongchen's eyes turned from anxiety to excitement. He was meant to compete. The more nervous he was, the stronger he became. He and his sister, Meng Hongchen, greatly displayed their prowess by being able to compete in this tournament as preparatory team members. This was also their first appearance in this tournament. As secret weapons, what kind of capabilities did they possess?

Both team members had already reached the edges of the stage. Ma Xiaotao and Dai Yueheng still led the line over on Shrek Academy's side. Ling Luochen stood behind the both of them, followed by Xu Sanshi and Bei Bei. Jiang Nannan and He Caitou stood the furthest back.

This combination wasn't very good. There were 3 assault-type soul masters, 1 defense-type soul master, 1 agility-type soul master, 1 control-type soul master and 1 soul engineer. There were no auxiliary-type soul masters among them. Of course, no one knew that He Caitou was a food-type soul master.

They already held cigars in their mouths, except for Ma Xiaotao and Jiang Nannan. Shrek Academy's formation was lackluster, and there was nothing special about it. It even seemed a little redundant as 4 rows were formed.

The Sun Moon Soul Academy's formation also didn't seem impressive. It was shaped like a cone, with Ma Rulong at the tip and the rest forming a triangle behind him.

Both teams were extremely focused. At the moment when they reached the edges of the stage, the Heavenfiend Douluo Huang Jinxu announced, "Match, start!" The finals of the Continental Advanced Soul Master Academy Soul Dueling Tournament had finally begun.

In the next moment after Huang Jinxu announced the start of the match, both teams' formations changed, and a shocking scene appeared.

It seemed as if Shrek's team and the Sun Moon Soul Academy's team had agreed on this beforehand. Both teams' members gathered towards the center of the stage and formed one row.

It was no longer Ma Xiaotao at the front for Shrek Academy, but Xu Sanshi.

After the Sun Moon Soul Academy's team formed their row, Lin Xi switched to the front of their formation.

As the formations changed, both teams unleashed their martial souls. The Sun Moon Soul Academy's team also used their soul tools.

Everyone from Shrek stood in one straight line. Xu Sanshi lifted his Shield of the Xuanming Turtle and burst forward in gigantic steps. The rest also followed him as they unleashed their martial souls.

The Sun Moon Soul Academy's team did not move on the other side. To soul engineers, sufficient distance was required for them to unleash their powers.

Lin Xi immediately whipped out a soul tool, which was also a shield, though it only looked as big as the most ordinary tray. The golden shield flashed with radiance on its surface, and a yellow halo spread out from it. It turned into a light shield that reached almost 2 meters in diameter. Not only did it protect him, but it also protected the rest of the Sun Moon Soul Academy's team behind him.

Those who were sharp could tell what the Sun Moon Soul Academy's team was doing. The reasoning behind their actions was very simple – they were guarding against Xu Sanshi's Mysterious Underworld Displacement.

The Mysterious Underworld Displacement had been very useful against Shrek's opponents on many occasions. Once Xu Sanshi completed the displacement, his repeated displacements would cause Shrek's strategies to become extremely strange. It wouldn't be a good thing for the Sun Moon Soul Academy team if he substituted someone over or sent someone away.

Only Lin Xi could be seen as the Sun Moon Soul Academy team stood in a straight line. Lin Xi was huge, and blocked everyone behind him. Now that he had unleashed this shield, he could block the effect of Xu Sanshi's Mysterious Underworld Displacement. He was already prepared to be switched over.

Everyone from the Sun Moon Soul Academy team was pleased when they saw Xu Sanshi rushing to the front of Shrek's team. To them, their plan was already pretty flawless. At the very least, Xu Sanshi was unable to use his Mysterious Underworld Displacement.

This was only the formation changes of both teams. An even more intense battle was about to ensue following this.

Countless balls of light condensed from soul power and unleashed using soul tools were released from the bodies of the Sun Moon Soul Academy's team members behind Lin Xi in an instant. These balls of light rapidly spread to both sides and into the air before engulfing Shrek Academy's team at an alarming speed along with a fizzing, ear-piercing sound.

The balls of light were still gathering at an increased speed as they flew into the air. From their trajectory, they were headed towards all 7 of the Shrek's team members without any wastage.

The Sun Moon Soul Academy's soul engineers were all at least Class 5. Although their soul powers were enhanced using different medicines and secret methods, and were incomparable to soul masters, their soul powers were indeed still very strong. Through a soul tool commanded by a soul king, its powers were even superior to the soul skills used directly by a soul king. How much more powerful would a skill that was unleashed by so many Class 5 soul engineers together be?

Against the Imperial Profound Academy, the Sun Moon Soul Academy's team had used such an all-rounded soul tool to suppress their opponent. They had also forced the Imperial Profound Academy's members down from the competition stage through an incessant and relentless attack.

They used a similar strategy against Shrek. They didn't hope to harm their opponent, but wanted to suppress them so that they couldn't get close to them.

However, a beam of white light also shot into the sky from the midst of the seven Shrek members just as their balls of light spread.

This beam of light revealed a white crescent. Following that, it turned into countless streaks of white light that poured down on the Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineering Academy's 7 members.

While the concentration of the white lights might seem weaker than the light balls unleashed by the Sun Moon Soul Academy, and their powers might also be inferior, they were unleashed at the perfect time. Just as the light balls were released by the soul tool and gathered towards the center, these white lights were unleashed. The two offenses collided right in the center of the competition stage.

Dai Yueheng's fourth soul ring shone brightly as he unleashed his White Tiger Meteor Shower, a domain-type soul skill.

Since it was a soul emperor's fourth soul skill, it was bound to be more powerful than a Class 5 soul tool used by a soul master. Furthermore, it was only being used to intercept. When both offenses collided in the center of the competition stage, the initial collision turned into a full-on collision that led into an explosion.

From the first wave of attacks, Shrek appeared to be doing better than the Imperial Profound Academy had.

Xu Sanshi did not stop because of the explosion. The Shield of the Xuanming Turtle in his hand shone with a black light, and both the Mysterious Underworld Force and Mysterious Underworld Shield were unleashed together.

Who knew that he was at the front not to defend against the opponent's attack, but to take advantage of the shockwave produced as both teams' soul powers collided?

Xu Sanshi was the best among all the soul ancestors in terms of defense. The Mysterious Underworld Shield removed all the shockwaves under the effect of the Mysterious Underworld Force, and his advancing footsteps weren't affected at all. He seemed to enter the core of the explosion, and the distance between both parties was decreased to less than 70 meters.

the Sun Moon Soul Academy's attack did not stop. They had great chemistry together as Class 5 and above soul engineers. As the first ball of light flew out, the second wave of long-range soul tools was also initiated. Radiances, light balls and cannon shells that many from Shrek had never seen before started to flood towards them.

But Shrek Academy also unleashed its second strike at this point.

Amidst a bright, fiery whistle, a dazzling phoenix flame shot into the sky. After the White Tiger Meteor Shower, Ma Xiaotao's strongest soul skill, the Phoenix Meteor Shower, was also unleashed.

Dai Yueheng's White Tiger Meteor Shower was only a thousand year soul skill. But Ma Xiaotao's Phoenix Meteor Shower was her sixth soul skill, and was also a ten thousand year soul skill. It must mean that she had already prepared to attack at the instant the formation was set up, for it to tightly follow the White Tiger Meteor Shower after it was unleashed.

The burning flames caused the area within the competition stage to heat up tremendously. A Phoenix Meteor Shower that was at least 5 times bigger than the White Tiger Meteor Shower descended from the sky. Not only were the meteors very concentrated, but they were also extremely powerful. The air seemed to distort completely, and the 108 soul masters had to unleash all their soul power to prevent the barrier from collapsing.

A reverberating explosion sounded at the center of the two teams. Ma Xiaotao once again proved how strong she was.

Her Phoenix Meteor Shower suppressed all the soul tools from the Sun Moon Soul Academy, and even attacked their formation.

The Phoenix Meteor Shower superseded the White Tiger Meteor Shower in terms of power and duration. Shrek Academy's two soul emperors decided to attack their opponents at long-range. No matter how strong the Sun Moon Soul Academy's soul tools were, they had to land to have any effect. Since this was the case, Shrek could just prevent their attacks from landing. Soul tools did not unleash real soul skills. Their attacks couldn't be controlled the moment they were released. Under Ma Xiaotao and Dai Yueheng's exquisite control, their opponents' long-range attacks were all stopped. Even if there

were any flaws, Xu Sanshi's Mysterious Underworld Shield would prevent those behind him from being hurt with his all-rounded defense.

However, the explosive force was already beyond Xu Sanshi's defense capability, as the second shockwave was too powerful. He had no choice but to stop in his tracks 50 meters away from his opponents.

The Sun Moon Soul Academy also whipped out 3 layers of barriers to resist the Phoenix Meteor Shower. All 7 of them were protected within the barriers.

A figure from Shrek shot out quickly at this point. Burning phoenix flames turned into wings that flapped in the air. As she rose, a tough fist punched her foot and sent her flying up like a cannon shell. Her speed reached an extremely frightening level. After she flew up 10 meters, two gusts of flames also spurted out from her feet. This caused her speed to soar once again. In the blink of an eye, she had already arrived in front of her opponents.

Without a doubt, this person was Ma Xiaotao. It was only her and Dai Yueheng who dared to fight their way into their opponents' formation. And distance was always the most important in a fight between a soul master and soul engineer.

Everyone was a little dumbfounded as they saw this. From the odds, the Sun Moon Soul Academy should be beating Shrek Academy easily! But the current situation showed that Shrek held the upper hand. Ma Xiaotao had already arrived in front of Lin Xi in just the blink of an eye, while the other 6 also upped their speed as they rushed closer to the Sun Moon Soul Academy team.

Ma Xiaotao was so strong that her fourth soul ring had already lit up as she flew quickly. The phoenix flames turned dark red, and the Evil Phoenix Fire appeared once again. Once her Phoenix Skywhistle restrained the Sun Moon Soul Academy's members, the result of this round would be decided.

Under the stage, Huo Yuhao, Wang Dong and Xiao Xiao had already clenched their fists. Although Wang Yan's strategy had only just been executed, they hoped that Ma Xiaotao could use this strike to ensure victory for Shrek.

However, the truth proved that it was reasonable to tip the Sun Moon Soul Academy as the favorite to be the champion.

Against Ma Xiaotao's attack, Lin Xi made a leaping motion. Following that, at least 3 soul tools on his body released an intense radiance.

Firstly, a white halo was unleashed from his chest. This white halo seemed as faint as fog. When it appeared, Ma Xiaotao's body also showed a white light. Ma Xiaotao changed her direction slightly because of Lin Xi's leaping motion.

After that, a layer of golden light that everyone from Shrek Academy was familiar with lit up on Lin Xi's body. No, it wasn't just one layer. It was two layers. The first layer was an ordinary Invincible Barrier that blocked Ma Xiaotao's Phoenix Skywhistle. Following that, there was a bigger layer of golden light that spread from his body. From the outside, it engulfed both his and Ma Xiaotao's body within it. Ma Xiaotao's Evil Phoenix Flames were prevented from being unleashed.



An explosive boom sounded from within the two layers of barriers. Within the barriers, intense phoenix flames rose. But Ma Xiaotao's determined strike was blocked off by Lin Xi.

However, Lin Xi did not have it well either as he blocked Ma Xiaotao's attack. While the Invincible Barrier was defensively sound, it still had to absorb a huge amount of the user's soul power before its defensive capabilities could be displayed. His soul power had been depleted tremendously after using 3 Class 5 soul tools, and his face had turned pale.

The Sun Moon Soul Academy coordinated among themselves very well. Michael also unleashed a shield when Lin Xi leaped up. This caused Xu Sanshi's Mysterious Underworld Displacement to fail.

At this point, a streak of golden-red radiance shot out from Michael's shoulder. Xu Sanshi had seen this golden-red radiance before. It was a frightening attack by a Class 7 soul tool! It was also an offense that was focused on one point. The barrier erected by the 108 soulmasters couldn't handle this frightening presence either.

This streak of golden-red radiance came at the perfect time. Lin Xi had leapt up to block Ma Xiaotao, and Xu Sanshi's Mysterious Underworld Displacement was unleashed. A black line was blocked by Michael's shield, and the golden-red radiance also appeared at this instant. Its target was Xu Sanshi. He had no choice but to resist it forcefully, as he had just used his soul skill.

Not only did this golden-red radiance appear, but countless streaks of radiance also shot out from Michael's back. These lights were purplish-blue in color, and were abnormally dazzling. After these lights shot in the sky, they turned into parabolas and flew towards Shrek's team.

An unexpected situation occurred at this point. A sly look drifted across Xu Sanshi's eyes, although he had appeared frantic earlier. Following that, his body disappeared, and he was replaced by someone else.

The person who was switched over was none other than the preparatory team leader of the Sun Moon Soul Academy's team, Xiao Hongchen.

The Mysterious Underworld Displacement succeeded just like that.

If one were to look carefully, they would see that the black line unleashed by Xu Sanshi's Mysterious Underworld Displacement had made a strange turn as it was blocked by Michael's shield. It had turned in front of Michael and struck Xiao Hongchen.

This change was too rapid. No one expected that Xu Sanshi's Mysterious Underworld Displacement could be used like that.

In the waiting area, Huo Yuhao lowered his head, and his eyes repeatedly shone with golden light. They regained their normal look very quickly.

There was no way it could be controlled so precisely if it were only by Xu Sanshi's Mysterious Underworld Displacement. However, his Mysterious Underworld Displacement became different with the guidance of Huo Yuhao's Spiritual Detection.

All of this was within Wang Yan's plan. Ma Xiaotao's Phoenix Meteor Shower had struck the barriers around the competition stage, meaning that a portion of her soul power was wasted. However, was it really wasted?

Just as the barrier shook, Huo Yuhao's spiritual power was condensed into a wave using his precise control, and this wave penetrated the barrier. He used his Spiritual Detection Sharing on Xu Sanshi alone.

Huo Yuhao might have fused with the Life Gold, but even still, his spiritual power would be depleted after he managed to penetrate the barrier. Furthermore, the burden on his spiritual power would be very great. However, his spiritual sea had undergone a transformation now, and his spiritual power had increased greatly. His control of his spiritual power had also been enhanced. Although he could not sustain this Spiritual Detection for his compatriots for very long, he could still manage for a short while.

Wang Yan had expected their opponents to guard against Xu Sanshi's Mysterious Underworld Displacement. However, soul shields were not one-way. This meant that if a soul shield became a barrier, it would affect the Sun Moon Soul Academy's offense because of its large size. This was not what they wanted. That was why Wang Yan believed that it was unlikely that they would be able to block the Mysterious Underworld Displacement. Xu Sanshi's Mysterious Underworld Displacement was very critical in this team round. Since they were inferior overall, they had to grab hold of every opportunity. Although Huo Yuhao was not present, his aid offstage was even more important than the direct help he could give onstage.

There was no room for Xiao Hongchen to dodge. As he was switched over, the golden-red radiance had already reached him. It came at the speed of light, and thus he was unable to unleash his soul tools even if he wanted to. Neither him nor Meng Hongchen had made a move in the Sun Moon Soul Academy's previous attack. He was plain unlucky now!

Before he could even turn gloomy, the frightening radiance had already struck his chest. But at this instant, a layer of even more intense golden light was suddenly emitted from Xiao Hongchen's body.

This layer of golden light had to be activated. The golden-red radiance's penetrative ability was very strong, but it was stopped by this golden light. Xiao Hongchen groaned and stepped back. He looked pale. The golden light from his body had protected his entire body just like the Invincible Barrier. However, it was brighter than what Shrek's team had ever seen before. It was much more eye-blinding.

At this point, the purplish-blue radiance from the sky had already descended. On Shrek's side, a huge shield of ice had appeared mid-air. Not only that, but countless streaks of light were shining towards the purplish-blue radiance. A series of dazzling fireworks seemed to have been released. Ling Luochen and He Caitou made their moves now.

However, that purplish-blue radiance was much more difficult to deal with than they had expected. After being struck by He Caitou's rays, the purplish-blue radiance stopped in mid-air. Following that, streaks and streaks of light spread rapidly and became like a cage that moved downwards.

Since Xiao Hongchen was switched over there, Xu Sanshi was also switched to the other side. Immediately after he was switched over, he unleashed the Mysterious Underworld Quake that was enhanced by the Mysterious Underworld Force without any hesitation.

A black halo engulfed the other 5 from the Sun Moon Soul Academy and delayed the martial souls that they had unleashed.

Xu Sanshi did it flawlessly. After he used the Mysterious Underworld Quake, he did not stop. He straightened his body and dashed out again. The Mysterious Underworld Displacement shone again, and Dai Yueheng had also made a dash forward. If the Mysterious Underworld Displacement succeeded once again, this second soul emperor from Shrek Academy would be brought over as well.

Lin Xi and Ma Xiaotao had both landed on the ground. The last second of the Invincible Barrier's 3 seconds remained.

It was not a good thing to be in close contact with Shrek Academy's two soul emperors. At least it wasn't what the Sun Moon Soul Academy hoped to see. This would only lead to their defeat.

However, the black line from the Mysterious Underworld Displacement was destroyed at the next moment. Xu Sanshi and Dai Yueheng didn't manage to switch positions. It was the purplish-blue radiance that had stopped the Mysterious Underworld Displacement.

That was a huge purplish-blue barrier that had trapped Shrek Academy's remaining five members within. When the black line from the Mysterious Underworld Displacement reached it, the purplish-blue radiance surrounded and destroyed it.

Xu Sanshi was a little dumbfounded now, and cursed to himself. He lifted his shield and struck towards Ma Rulong, who was not far away.

That purplish-blue radiance was unleashed by Ma Rulong. It was another Class 7 soul tool that he had developed himself.

Xu Sanshi's choice of offense was quite on point. Ma Rulong had unleashed 2 Class 7 soul tools consecutively, and also needed some time to regenerate his soul power. Xu Sanshi's sudden appearance and surprise attack with the Mysterious Underworld Quake had caused Ma Rulong to be struck from the side.

But the instant the Shield of the Xuanming Turtle struck Ma Rulong, a layer of intense white light shone from his body. A white bracelet on Ma Rulong's right hand was crushed, and that white light also caused Xu Sanshi to be violently jerked away.

It was the Repelling Bracelet, a single-use Class 5 soul tool.

At this point, everything was a mess. The spectators were also unable to tell which side held the advantage.

Ma Rulong shouted, "Second plan, fight the enemy separately." As he spoke, his head lit up with an intense black light. A huge helmet appeared on his head. After unleashing his martial soul, his head was much bigger than before. This was the effect of the Bigheaded Spirit Ape.

The Bigheaded Spirit Ape enhanced Ma Rulong's souls tools with its power. It also had the advantage of doubling Ma Rulong's spiritual power compared to soul masters with the same cultivation. Although he was not a spiritual-type soul master like Huo Yuhao, it was a great help to his control and usage of soul tools.

In the center of this black helmet was a circular ruby. At this point, the ruby shone with a weird radiance. Following that, a dark red light projection burst out of it. It went straight in the direction of Lin Xi's Invincible Barrier.

Ma Rulong's reaction was not slow, but he still couldn't save Lin Xi. That was because Ma Xiaotao was too powerful.

After Huo Yuhao suppressed her Evil Phoenix Fire, Ma Xiaotao's cultivation managed a breakthrough once again. She reached Rank 68, which was something even she herself had not expected. She didn't expect to achieve such rapid progress. She was only 2 ranks away from a seven-ringed Soul Sage.

What was the concept behind Rank 68 soul power? Her soul power was much greater than Dai Yueheng's or Ma Rulong's, who were also soul emperors. The higher a soul master's cultivation, the greater the gap in soul power between the ranks. In terms of soul power, Ma Rulong and Dai Yueheng were still inferior to her even if they combined their power.

The Invincible Barrier did block Ma Xiaotao's Phoenix Skywhistle. But that strike was also unleashed by Ma Xiaotao with her full power. The temperature within the 2 Invincible Barriers reached a frightening level in an instant.

Lin Xi was originally a little elated. He thought that he had stopped the strongest team member from Shrek and earned enough time for his compatriots. His action could be considered noble. He was also no longer needed against Ma Xiaotao next. Furthermore, he had other methods to use.

The Invincible Barrier blocked out the attack and temperature. However, the frightening heat was unleashed between the 2 layers of barriers as the Invincible Barrier disappeared.

The Sun Moon Soul Academy's greatest mistake was to underestimate the Evil Phoenix Fire's temperature and explosiveness. If there were only a single Invincible Barrier that blocked Ma Xiaotao, Ma Xiaotao could still continue to attack, and wouldn't be trapped for long. The might of the Phoenix Skywhistle also spread to the others. But it was still just spreading. At this moment, even Ma Xiaotao couldn't control the heat contained within the strike that shot out.

"Chi—"

The smile that was previously on Lin Xi's face disappeared in the next instant. It had disappeared completely. Even the air seemed to be left with some of the smug smile he had had earlier.

Ma Xiaotao was also in a daze. At the moment when the Invincible Barrier disappeared, she felt a wave of heat that suddenly spread. Lin Xi disappeared after that. At this point, the dark red light projection that Ma Rulong had unleashed was forced back as it collided with the wave of heat and revealed its form.

It was an ape that was not more than 1.5 meters tall. Its arms were very long as they reached the ground. Its dark-red fur gave off a smooth and clear feeling, but its eyes were golden, and flashed with a weird golden radiance. After being forced back by the wave of heat, it jumped rapidly on the spot. It was groaning in pain, as if it had been burnt.

"Lin Xi—!"

The Sun Moon team only reacted at this point, and they screamed in horror. They hadn't expected one of them to be killed within such a short time. His life disappeared just like that. Even the Heavenfiend Douluo was unable to save him in time. It had happened too quickly, and no one had expected Ma Xiaotao to generate such a frightening amount of heat with this ultimate blow of hers. Not only did it melt the soul tool that protected Lin Xi, but it also turned his body into air.

Ma Xiaotao's brows rose after a momentary daze. After all, this was just a competition, and killing someone wasn't her intention. She was also helpless against such a situation that was either a calamity or an accident.

"Bastard." A figure dashed out from the Sun Moon team. It was Chen Fei, an agility-type soul master. His martial soul was the Lightning Bird.

### **Chapter 117.1: Xiao Hongchen's Three-Legged Golden Toad**

Chen Fei moved with lightning speed as a ball of bright golden light blasted towards Ma Xiaotao with undeniable accuracy. His movements were blindingly quick, and he even left an afterimage in his wake.

Ma Xiaotao grunted coldly. She wasn't the kind that liked to kill people, but wouldn't hesitate if it was required. Red light flashed in her eyes, and a Phoenix Fireline poured out and clashed with the sphere of golden light rocketing through the air.

What was strange was that there wasn't any violent explosion or anything like that. The light circle expanded instantly after being triggered, and transformed into an enormous golden net that bore down on Ma Xiaotao.

She had already suffered a loss under trap-type soul tools such as this, and she had been on guard this whole time. She watched the various red-eyed members of the Sun Moon Empire's camp as she tapped on the floor with the tips of her feet and immediately flew backwards. Two streaks of red light spurted out from beneath her as she surged into the distance. However, she wasn't retreating without a plan in mind, and she flew towards the position where Xu Sanshi had just been sent flying.

Their battle continued to rage. On the other side, Xiao Hongchen faced the Shrek team's siege as well.

Xiao Hongchen had relied on his auto-activated advanced invincible barrier to block Ma Rulong's strike within the lightning cage, but the protective barrier that flickered with golden light had been greatly weakened.

The protective layer of golden light on his body was called the Impregnable Wall, and it was a Class 6 soul tool. This soul tool had to be activated by a soul master's own soul power, or maintained through a continual injection of soul power.

The reasons why invincible barriers were so precious was because their defensive capabilities were sufficiently powerful, and also because they could be activated with a fixed amount of soul power. Afterwards, the special jewel contained within the soul tool would provide enough energy to maintain the protective barrier for three seconds, and it would have the defensive power of an eight-ringed soul douluo. The only problem was that it was a disposable item, and thus was a little wasteful and extravagant by nature.

However, the Impregnable Wall on Xiao Hongchen's body was far more advanced. Its defensive powers were slightly inferior to invincible barriers, but it was just enough to fend off attacks from Class 7 soul tools. Furthermore, it wasn't a disposable item. This soul tool had two salient features: it could be used repeatedly, and it could automatically activate itself. That meant that if Xiao Hongchen came under attack and wasn't able to react, the Impregnable Wall would deploy its mechanisms automatically, which made it a lot more useful than the Invincible Barrier.

Of course, there were pros and cons to everything – the problem was that the Impregnable Wall absorbed Xiao Hongchen's soul power automatically after activating itself in order to provide protection.

Ma Rulong's golden Class 7 soul tool was only a single attack, but it possessed formidable destructive powers. The Impregnable Wall did block the strike, but, as he was a Soul King, Xiao Hongchen's soul power was immediately consumed by more than fifty percent, which caused his expression to change to one of immense fear.

Furthermore, as long as that cage called the Net of Lightning was around, the members of Shrek's team were not the only ones caught inside – he was trapped within as well.

This proud young man displayed a battle prowess worthy of his high and respected status within the Sun Moon Empire's team at this critical moment.

The Impregnable Wall's appearance was too similar to the Invincible Barrier, thus Shrek's team didn't continue their assault at the first possible moment. Instead, they waited for the "Invincible Barrier's" time to naturally run out.

Xiao Hongchen took advantage of this grace period and unleashed his own martial soul.

A flash of golden light flickered, and a leg grew out from his buttocks behind him. This leg was completely golden, and a layer of blinding gold blanketed his entire body.

The three-legged Xiao Hongchen crouched a little, and three of his two yellow, two purple and one black soul rings radiated. He arched his back faintly, and little humps protruded from his clothes, each one exuding a bright golden hue. His first and third soul rings lit up at the same time before he waved both of his hands and hurled out several hundred metal balls.

These metal balls instantly hovered in midair and encircled his entire body.

A strange scene then occurred; row after row of metal cannon barrels grew out just like that, with the metal balls as the core.

It wasn't wrong to describe them as things that simply just grew out. Those metal cannons just came into existence, and Xiao Hongchen wasn't the one that released them. His whole body became like a giant porcupine in just a moment.

"Oh... Shit..." Bei Bei was never one to curse and swear, but he couldn't help but speak what was on the Shrek team's minds.

He Caitou was most familiar with soul tools. He thought to himself, "Can he rely on his own soul power to fire so many metal cannons?"

It wasn't just the number of soul cannons that were out there. The most important thing was that his personal mastery must be able to handle that number of soul cannons. Otherwise, they wouldn't be functional, and would be for display.

Xiao Hongchen showed everyone whether his soul cannons were simply decorative or not.

His second and fourth soul rings replaced his first and third soul rings. One could see with clarity that uncountable numbers of golden specks of light appeared in the sky and surged towards Xiao Hongchen with unstoppable force. Every light speck released a circle of pale-golden light as they came close to his body, as if they were burning up, and the poignant smell of metal immediately permeated the whole area.

The rows of metal cannons began to burst with blinding brilliance as the specks of golden light fused into them, and this fearsome aura cast a haze of terror over the Shrek team.

There were a total of one hundred and twenty-eight soul cannons that appeared on Xiao Hongchen's body, and every single one was a Class 5 soul tool. The sonorous soul cannons actually turned towards their targets automatically, and every single one was pointed at the Shrek team members. Even the soul cannons behind Xiao Hongchen's back curved forward, and this wasn't something that could be explained with the handling of soul tools.

The next moment, a terrifying hurricane of soul power exploded the moment the Impregnable Wall was withdrawn.

The Shrek team members naturally didn't just stand around to watch. Dai Yueheng stood in front of everyone the moment Xiao Hongchen erupted and used the White Tiger's Shield, the White Tiger's Vajra Transformation and the White Tiger's Devilgod Transformation at the same time. All three were powerful amplifying soul skills, and boosted his defensive powers to the highest possible level. He was the vice-captain, and also a Soul Emperor – and he was under the audience's watchful eye and his own father's scrutiny. There was no way he was going to back off.

A searing ball of white light suddenly flew out from beside Dai Yueheng. He Caitou had started channeling power inside the super energy-gathering soul cannon from the start of the battle, and released his own attack at this moment.

However, he was also a soul engineer, and he was being suppressed far too much. His super energy-gathering soul cannon possessed power greater than normal Class 5 soul tools, but faced with Xiao Hongchen's one hundred and twenty-eight soul cannons' unified assault, his super energy-gathering soul cannon was instantly dispelled by that frightening blanket of light. He only managed to obstruct it momentarily as the petrifying layer of light bore down upon them once more.

Ling Luo Chen did all she could as well. She used her Icy Staff to release wall after wall of ice and launched an Icebrilliant Halo at Xiao Hongchen at the same time.

However, those ice walls were simply unable to resist the coordinated assault from Xiao Hongchen's Class 5 soul tools, and every single layer was shattered in an instant.

Dai Yueheng's face grew solemn and serious. His buddies were right behind him, and he couldn't dodge this attack no matter how much he wanted to. He took a deep breath, and vigorous streaks of white

light flickered while he raised his Soul Emperor-level soul power to the highest possible level; he needed to withstand this strike no matter what.

Before Xiao Hongchen was swapped over with the Mysterious Netherworld Displacement, who would have thought that this Soul King was actually this powerful? He was able to activate so many Class 5 soul tools at the same time, and this was clearly beyond a Soul King's limits. Even Class 6 soul masters would have probably failed at this endeavor! Ma Rulong had never controlled so many soul cannons at the same time.

A smile broke out across Xiao Hongchen's face. This was the first time he had put his maximum power on full display, even though this strike was a powerful as it could get. However, he had absolute confidence that Dai Yueheng wouldn't be able to withstand his attack, and he would be severely injured even if he did. His own soul power would be almost completely exhausted after this strike, but he would be satisfied if he could eliminate a Soul Emperor from his opponents' camp, and better still if he could even wound the others – furthermore, he still had the strength to retreat safely.

He was the reserve team leader. Not only was he adept with soul tools, but his martial soul wasn't weak like other normal soul engineers. He was only fourteen years old, but had managed to become a Soul King via various methods and without using too many sequela. The reason for that was because his martial soul was powerful enough. More importantly, his martial soul could be said to be the one most suitable for soul engineers in the entire world, yet was sufficiently powerful by itself.

This was Xiao Hongchen's martial soul: the Three-legged Golden Toad. This rare beast soul possessed a special ability: it could manipulate metal.

He could control any type of metal. He could even absorb the energy from certain exotic metals to support and enhance his personal cultivation. Otherwise, how could he become a Soul King at such a young age? If the Sun Moon Empire lacked anything, it wouldn't be metal.

Before this, out of the four soul skills that he had just used, the first and third soul skill that he had released at the same time were called Metal Manipulation and Golden Coagulation. The metal balls that he had thrown out were the soul cannons' formation arrays, while the cannon barrels were formed entirely from his ability to control metal on the spot. He always carried voluminous amounts of metal powder on his body, and the metal powder could solidify into any form under his manipulation.

The second and fourth soul skills after that were called Golden Surge and Golden Sacrifice.

Golden Surge was used to greatly boost his Three-Legged Golden Toad's metal soul power activity, and exponentially increase his ability to control metal for a short period of time, while absorbing the metal elements contained in the air in vast amounts for his own use at the same time.

### **Chapter 117.2: Xiao Hongchen's Three-Legged Golden Toad**

The Golden Sacrifice filled the metal elements that had come together with fire to produce formidable power. Using these two soul skills at the same time gave him the energy to fire so many soul cannons at the same time. The toll on his soul power was only present on the soul skill, and the energy used to support the soul cannons all came from the metal elements.



He was known as the Sun Moon Empire's number-one prodigy since the beginning of its history for his impressive ability to control metal. His overall battle prowess wasn't inferior to Ma Rulong by much. If his level of mastery caught up with Ma Rulong, his abilities would irrevocably overtake his team leader's.

However, a person that nobody expected suddenly stepped in front of Dai Yueheng just as Xiao Hongchen thought he had it.

Her figure was tall and slim, but appeared young and immature. Yet, there was a tinge of unwavering determination on her pretty face. Thick and vigorous golden light rose from her body and formed a light barrier that protected her inside.

Who was she? When Xiao Hongchen clearly saw the young girl that was far more good-looking than his younger sister, Meng Hongchen, his actions became a little sluggish, as he couldn't bear to hurt her.

However, his assault had already been fully unleashed; withdrawing it now was impossible even if he wanted to.

Who was she? She was the number-one beauty in Shrek Academy's outer courtyard, and could be said to be the one with the least salient features in this competition from Shrek Academy's team—Jiang Nannan.

Just as that terrifying strike was about to land, Jiang Nannan went beyond everyone's expectations and stepped in front of Dai Yueheng. In the next moment, her figure was swallowed by the soul cannons that loomed over everyone.

"No, Nannan..." Xu Sanshi looked on from far away. His pupils widened in an instant as the blood in his face receded, and a petrifying aura was immediately unleashed from within his body. His Strength of the Xuanwu was finally triggered once more in the moment Jiang Nannan placed herself in danger.

Ma Xiaotao was standing beside him. At this very moment, she raised her hand without warning and chopped down on his neck.

Xu Sanshi's Strength of the Xuanwu had yet to erupt when he was knocked unconscious. Ma Xiaotao raised her leg and kicked him off the competition stage.

Wang Yan stood up abruptly below the stage when he saw Ma Xiaotao's actions, and his eyes sparkled as he muttered under his breath, "She's finally a qualified team leader."

Just as Ma Xiaotao kicked Xu Sanshi off the stage, Ma Rulong's dark red monkey had arrived before her. The monkey cooed in front of her, and its originally scrawny and tiny frame suddenly exploded in size – it had become an enormous ape that was over four meters long in the blink of an eye. It raised its giant fists and hammered them down on Ma Xiaotao's head as the dark red fur all over its body stood on end, resembling a layer of iron needles.

This wasn't a skill. It was a real soul beast, and its cultivation was definitely over ten thousand years judging by its aura. Who would have thought that Ma Rulong could release a soul beast to fight for him during the competition?

The monkey wasn't the only one on the offensive. Thirty-six lightning balls had already caught up to Ma Xiaotao when she retreated before this, and it came from the Sun Moon Empire's Michael.

All the lightning balls transformed into a large net that didn't have a single loophole as it bore down on her.

Chen Fei, the Lightning Bird Soul King, pounced forward beside the enormous dark red demonic ape as he repeatedly fired spheres of golden light from his hands much like before. These spheres of golden light followed closely behind the lightning balls and sealed off every possible spot that Ma Xiaotao could dodge towards.

Yet, this wasn't the greatest threat that Ma Xiaotao faced. The greatest and most conspicuous threat she was facing right now was still Ma Rulong, the Sun Moon Empire's team leader.

The golden cannon was on his shoulder once more. Ma Rulong's emotions appeared entirely unaffected by the death of his comrade, and his hands were still as stable as ever as he gazed at Ma Xiaotao with cold and sparkling eyes. Even if he was only locked on to her, it would consume at least half of Ma Xiaotao's concentration.

The only person that didn't make a move from the Sun Moon Empire's camp was Meng Hongchen. She stood behind Ma Rulong as if she didn't exist at all. Xiao Xiaofeng rushed to Ma Rulong's side and stuffed a ball of something round, white and soft into Ma Rulong's mouth while the latter began chewing without hesitation.

A steamed bun... Xiao Xiaofeng was actually a food-type soul master. There was no question that the steamed bun he had stuffed into Ma Rulong's mouth served to amplify his soul power.

He rooted himself to the ground the moment he finished shoving the steamed bun into Ma Rulong's mouth. There was a steamed bun in his mouth as well, while a cacophony of metal clanging sounds rang out from his body. Eighty-one cannon barrels appeared one after another, and a circular pedestal swivelled beneath him as he turned towards Ma Xiaotao and locked onto his target. This was the Soul Tool Fortress battle tactic.

Soul power was already starting to condense in the black cannons' openings. Xiao Xiaofeng was a food-type soul master, and he was able to maintain the Soul Tool Fortress battle tactic for a longer period of time than normal soul masters because of that.

Ma Xiaotao had already been in a corner when she had moved to a spot beside Xu Sanshi. At this moment, she was under pressure from four people and a soul beast, and she had no hope of evading this onslaught. Her opponents' strategy was obvious – they wanted to negate Shrek Academy's team leader's strength at once before they targeted anyone else.

Just as Ma Xiaotao was entering a perilous situation, the circumstances on the other side also began to change drastically.

Xiao Hongchen's face was full of proud smiles when all his soul cannons hit their targets. Xu Sanshi had swapped him over with the Mysterious Netherworld Displacement, but had given him a shot at fame and glory instead of helping his team. He even had the thought that he'd become his own academy's hero if he could wipe out Shrek Academy's remaining five members with his epic strike; he would even become a national hero! It was just too bad for that little beauty.

However, the smile on his face was quickly replaced with a haze of terror. The reason was because a sphere of golden light burst forth as if it were riding the waves after it blocked his one hundred and twenty-eight soul cannons, and arrived right before his eyes. Subsequently, he felt as if the soul cannons on his body had grown ten times heavier, as if they were going to drag his entire body into hell. He was afraid that this terrifying weight would tear open his own physical body.

Even though he had the ability to control metal, his body was ultimately the one holding everything up, and that was flesh! He almost instantaneously severed his connections with his soul cannons, and let the dozens and dozens of soul cannons fall to the ground. The golden shadow dashed next to him in a flash and kicked him in the chest.

The golden luster receded. Xiao Hongchen could clearly see the person that had just kicked him in the chest. Wasn't it the charmer with unrivaled beauty that he'd just felt bad for hurting?

*What, what's this?* Xiao Hongchen's eyes widened as he couldn't believe that such a tender-looking young girl with only four soul rings could forcibly stop his one hundred and twenty-eight soul cannons. He wanted to exclaim, *Is this reality?*

Jiang Nannan's kick was quite heavy, and knocked him over as he stumbled backwards. Xiao Hongchen's soul power had been heavily expended at this point, and his body weight had seemingly increased exponentially, which meant he didn't even have the means to dodge this attack.

Jiang Nannan leapt up the moment her kick landed on her target before she trapped his neck in between her legs. Before Xiao Hongchen could struggle or retaliate, he felt his body weight decrease by multiple times from the previous density, and a force traveled from his neck as he was tossed away as if he were being thrown into the clouds.

Subsequently, he saw a sharp edge flickering with golden light – it belonged to Dai Yueheng, the White Tiger Soul Emperor. The sharp edge was his shimmering golden tiger claw.

Xiao Hongchen wanted to curse and swear. He wanted to curse at Shrek Academy's members. Why were they so perverted? Were they still people? What he didn't see was that Jiang Nannan vomited blood and collapsed the moment she tossed him away.

Jiang Nannan didn't have many flash points during this season's competition. However, did that mean she wasn't powerful? No, she was only low-profile by nature.

She was chosen by Elder Xuan to become one of the reserve team members, and shared the same status with Xu Sanshi. Could it be because she was pretty? One should take a look at her four soul skills.

Jiang Nannan's four soul skills were: Waist Bow, Gravity Control, Instant Teleportation, and Invincible Golden Body.

The Waist Bow was a relatively normal soul skill, but the other three remaining soul skills rivaled even the Mysterious Netherworld Displacement, and could achieve miraculous effects when used appropriately.

What was the Invincible Golden Body about? Xiao Wu from the first generation of Shrek's Seven Monsters had used this soul skill before. Jiang Nannan's martial soul was similar to hers, and even some of her soul skills were no different either.

The Invincible Barriers used by soul engineers were created after they drew inspiration from this rare and powerful soul skill, the Invincible Golden Body. The Invincible Golden Body's defensive capability was the ultimate form of absolute protection. Nobody would be able to break through the Invincible Golden Body during its execution unless they possessed divine power.

Jiang Nannan had used her Invincible Golden Body to block Xiao Hongchen's strongest attack. She had then used Instant Teleportation and Gravity Control to unleash multiple-pronged pressure on Xiao Hongchen and finally used the Waist Bow to toss him out.

Xiao Hongchen's disbelief and bewilderment came from the concordant combination of these four soul skills. Jiang Nannan vomited blood and crashed to the ground as she gave her all to maintain the Invincible Golden Body for just a moment longer, which took a heavy toll on her body.

She didn't have Bei Bei or Xu Sanshi's incredible potential. However, she had her own repertoire of sufficiently powerful soul skills. She was the number-one short range combatant in Shrek Academy's team under particular circumstances, and it was her that gave Dai Yueheng an opportunity.

### **Chapter 117.3: Xiao Hongchen's Three-Legged Golden Toad**

The dazzling blade radiated frightening hues as the White Tiger Soul King's sixth soul skill, the White Tiger's Extermination, appeared in the blink of an eye.

The referee of the competition, the Heavenfiend Douluo, appeared next to the two of them in a flash, but hesitated momentarily, as he wasn't sure whether he should interfere. This was ultimately the finals of the competition, and his interference would very likely affect how the competition would unfold. However, someone had already perished, and if someone else were to meet his or her unfortunate demise, there would be a lot of pressure on him as the judge. The respective team members from the Sun Moon Empire and Shrek could all be described as extraordinary prodigies, after all.

Dai Yueheng's strike crashed downwards within that moment of hesitation.

How could Dai Yueheng not be despondent? There had already been two important rounds in the competition. It was Huo Yuhao and Wang Dong's sudden explosion that had broke the impasse and forcibly turned the tides. It was Jiang Nannan who had appeared in front of him in a split second in this round and blocked his opponent's fatal strike. Furthermore, both his father and the emperor were watching from the top of the city wall, and this was the finals. He was a Soul Emperor, and he let a Soul Ancestor step in in front of him, and this intense stifling sensation that he felt was better off not mentioned. Yet, he also understood that he would have been severely injured if not for Jiang Nannan.

He swallowed all of this, and this was the reason why his White Tiger's Extermination could be said to be his best effort. The judge was there anyway, and he never even considered whether he might end up murdering his opponent.

Xiao Hongchen's fifth soul ring sparkled as the terrifying soul skill was about to hit him. At this point, He no longer dared to use his Impregnable Wall, which was much more practical than the Invincible Barrier, as he could clearly feel from the petrifying aura looming over him that he wouldn't be able to maintain the Impregnable Wall to fend off his opponent's assault even if he emptied the rest of his soul power.

Therefore, even as a soul engineer, he still resorted to soul skills at this crucial moment.

The White Tiger's claws flashed by, while Xiao Hongchen's body seemed to instantly melt; he simply transformed into a sphere of dark golden liquid, then slid down to the ground.

The White Tiger's Extermination also instantly landed on this sphere of liquid.

Dai Yueheng's strike was formidable, and his maniacal and devastating aura reached the highest possible level in an instant, and the liquid that Xiao Hongchen had transformed into was slashed apart into pieces as it exploded in all directions like fine powder.

However, just as the liquid touched the ground, it spread out in all directions with bedazzling speed, and the dark golden liquid merely looked a little singed when it came out of the Prison of Lightning.

"Brother—!"

Meng Hongchen screamed in shock, and she finally made her move after holding herself back since the start as she rushed towards the dark golden liquid that was flowing out.

The liquid began to solidify and when Xiao Hongchen reappeared in front of everyone's eyes, his entire body was full of wounds, and there were dozens of gashes all over. He coughed out mouthful after mouthful of blood, and collapsed into Meng Hongchen's arms. However, he was still conscious, and muttered a single sentence. "Such bad luck... I've been severely wounded."

The soul skill that Xiao Hongchen displayed during the most crucial moment was called Golden Yearning. This was an extremely powerful ten thousand-year soul skill, and the Illustrious Virtue Hall had to send three Class 8 soul engineers to complete the task of killing the ten thousand year soul beast for this skill. They had then used special medicines to amplify Xiao Hongchen's body so that the absorption would be successful, and so that he could have this thirty thousand year soul beast's impressive soul skill.

Xiao Hongchen was able to instantly liquefy himself, and convert his entire body into liquid metal using the Golden Yearning. It gave him the ability to negate about eighty percent of material attacks. However, his cultivation was still low, and his control of this soul skill was not completely smooth. Otherwise, he would become much more frightening if he paired it with his Golden Coagulation. He used the Golden Yearning to escape impending demise.

However, the White Tiger's Extermination was simply too brutal. Metal conducted electricity, and this property brought insufferable pain to his entire body as he escaped from the Prison of Lightning, and he had lost his ability to continue in this group battle. He had never expected to end up like this in his first appearance, and even his hair had been charred a charcoal black color. This wasn't anything comfortable at all.

While Xiao Hongchen was seriously wounded, Ma Xiaotao made an unexpected decision on the other side. Shrek Academy's team leader chose to go on the offensive instead of defending herself under her opponents' barrage of attacks.

She flew backwards like a bolt of lightning as she raised her right arm, and a searing ball of dark red flame congregated and transformed into a black phoenix before it shot out. At the same time, she leapt down from the competition stage in the nick of time in the face of her opponents' attacks.

The black phoenix's target of choice wasn't the enormous ape, and neither was it the strongest of them all, Ma Rulong. The black phoenix's speed wasn't fast at all, but Michael's lightning pearls strangely

disappeared the moment the black phoenix collided with them. When the black phoenix clashed against Chen Fei's metal balls, they dissipated into nothingness as well, and these soul tools weren't able to unleash their full potential before they were vaporized entirely.

The fiery black phoenix's aura was just too frightening, and its first target was Chen Fei. Chen Fei just launched his attack and was standing next to the Bloodthirsty Demon Ape, and he never thought that Ma Xiaotao would go after him. His body flickered as he attempted to dodge the assault from the black phoenix.

The flaming black phoenix's surface area wasn't big, and neither was it fast from his perspective. His Lightning Bird's speed wasn't something that could be threatened by the black phoenix.

It was a pity that his judgement was erroneous.

The black phoenix wasn't that large, and it wasn't that fast either. However, just as it Chen Fei was in the midst of evading it, the scorching black flames suddenly exploded outwards.

This speed of expansion was simply too fast, and too quick to be registered by the naked eye. Chen Fei's body was swiftly swallowed inside this abrupt expansion.

Not all members from the Sun Moon Academy had the status to use automated soul tools like the Impregnable Wall. The resources required to make that particular soul tool were simply too great.

Chen Fei did have the Invincible Barrier in his possession, but the Invincible Barrier was a single-instance soul tool, and it was far too valuable. He was confident that he could avoid the attack, and wanted to save it for future use, thus he naturally hadn't unleashed its power. However, by the time he realized something was wrong, it was too late.

Ma Rulong exclaimed, "Judge!"

If the Heavenfiend Douluo had been paying attention to their side, he could have reached out in time, but it was a pity that the Heavenfiend Douluo was occupied with Dai Yueheng's strike against Xiao Hongchen. When he heard Ma Rulong's voice and wanted to make a move, it was too late.

The crisp and shrill cooing sounds from the phoenix rang out as Chen Fei's fast-moving body was barely scraped by the expanding black flames before the black flames sped up and surged towards Michael the next moment.

Chen Fei's body was still surging forward into the sky, but half his body had disappeared, and his corpse crashed down onto the stage.

Michael didn't dare to hold back as he witnessed Chen Fei's tragedy. He threw out the Invincible Barrier in the first possible moment and attempted to block the black phoenix's strike. What he didn't expect was that the black phoenix swerved, and finally lunged towards Ma Rulong.

Ma Rulong's eyes were flushed red from his fury and hatred, but he had no choice but to use his own Invincible Barrier. Even though he was also a Soul Emperor, he knew that there was no other soul tool in his arsenal besides the Invincible Barrier that could defend him against Ma Xiaotao's attack.

"Boom –" The blistering red flames detonated in the sky, and a dark red mushroom-shaped cloud burst into the air from the collision.

Michael initially felt as if using his Invincible Barrier was wasted when the black phoenix turned away, but he knew he was fortunate as even the aftershocks of the black phoenix's detonation turned the stage's surface into molten lava.

The Sun Moon Empire's team had already placed Ma Xiaotao in high regard by arranging four people to besiege her at the same time. However, Ma Xiaotao's explosive power was still almost too much for them to take.

Lin Xi and Chen Fei perished in battle, while Ma Rulong and Michael's Invincible Barriers were no longer operational. Even though they were students from the Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineering Academy, they had all been equipped with only one Invincible Barrier, as this item's value was simply too lofty. Ma Xiaotao jumped down from the stage, and this meant that she was no longer able to participate in the battle, but this also meant that she managed to reserve her strength and wasn't injured.

Ma Xiaotao didn't glance back at the stage to see the consequences as she leapt off. She grabbed Xu Sanshi and swiftly returned to the waiting area.

Huo Yuhao jumped up from his seat and gave it to her at once. Her seat was immediately vaporized the moment Ma Xiaotao sat down, and Wang Yan hurriedly shifted to the side fearfully. It appeared as if anybody who touched this Phoenix Soul Emperor would be done for.

If a term could be used to describe this battle, then "cataclysmic" would be perfect.

Only in the initial elimination rounds had people died in this season's Continental Advanced Soul Master Academy Soul Dueling Tournament. There were individuals who were grievously injured in the subsequent rounds, but there had been no other casualties under the judges' watchful eyes – yet, there had been two participants from the Sun Moon Empire's team who perished in battle during today's battle even though it was refereed by a titled Douluo. Lin Xi's situation could still be counted as an accident, but the Heavenfiend Douluo truly couldn't save Chen Fei in time. The vigor and intensity of this battle only went to show how ferocious both parties could be in their attacks.

Ma Xiaotao tossed Xu Sanshi aside, and Wang Yan supported him as he shifted him to the side without attempting to wake him up.

Huo Yuhao quickly placed both of his hands onto Ma Xiaotao's back. He activated the Ice Empress' Pincer and his Mysterious Jade Hands to amplify his powers as he pressed his hands onto her back, and two streams of steam erupted as they crackled loudly. Ma Xiaotao's clothes instantly vaporized in the shape of two palm prints where Huo Yuhao came into contact with them.

### [Chapter 118: Shrek Lost?](#)

Huo Yuhao only felt two waves of heat coming from the points of contact between his palms and Ma Xiaotao. They flooded his body and surged maniacally inside him.

However, today was different from the situation before. He was in his peak state now. His soul power was surging rapidly, and the aura that turned into Ultimate Ice assimilated this wave of surging fire. At the same time, Ma Xiaotao felt a wave of coldness in response.

Wang Dong also arrived beside Huo Yuhao now. He placed his palms behind his back and relieved Huo Yuhao's burden with an increase in Haodong Power.

That black fire phoenix that was no more than a meter long possessed a frightening strength. How could it be so easily unleashed?

It seemed like Ma Xiaotao had only lifted her right arm. But that strike of hers included the will of her Evil Phoenix and the frightening strength of 3 skills, the Phoenix Baptism, Phoenix Skypierce, and Phoenix Rupture contained within her right arm soul bone.

Ma Xiaotao's right sleeve had disappeared by now, revealing her charcoal-burned arm.

This was a secret method of Shrek Academy – compressing 3 soul skills before unleashing them. And it was only suitable for Ma Xiaotao, who was a strength-type soul master. Even Dai Yueheng couldn't do it. Who from Shrek Academy was simple? This was Ma Xiaotao's true power.

For some reason, Huo Yuhao experienced a weird feeling when he placed his palms on Ma Xiaotao's back. After he experienced the change in ice and fire soul power with Ma Xiaotao earlier, they seemed to develop some sort of compatibility. It was as if the burning soul power in Ma Xiaotao's body was calling him.

Surely not? Huo Yuhao was in a daze. That's because he had felt something similar before between him and Wang Dong. That was when both of them used their martial soul fusion skill! The me in you and you in me feeling then was very similar to how it was like now. However, Ma Xiaotao was a Phoenix, while he was an Ice Empress and Spirit Eyes. How could they have developed compatibility if she contained the fire element and he contained the ice element? This was too weird.

Ma Xiaotao also sensed what Huo Yuhao sensed. She even felt it more intensely. She managed to quickly repress the evil fire that was engulfing her using the Ultimate Ice. She clearly felt the affection when the cool ice circulated through her body.

Why was it like this? Was it a problem because she had initiated the evil fire repeatedly? Ma Xiaotao was also very puzzled.

Compared to the last two times, where Huo Yuhao had suppressed the evil fire passively for her, he did so actively this time. He was also in peak condition. Ma Xiaotao had also initiated her evil fire without any hesitation because he was around. Along the way, minor changes started to occur between their ice and fire.

While these weird changes occurred between them, the group match ended on the competition stage.

Meng Hongchen saved Xiao Hongchen and retreated quickly. On the other side, the surviving Team Sun Moon members were going crazy after another of their members was killed. Ma Rulong led the rest as they unleashed their strongest soul tools. They mounted a relentless attack on Shrek's team, who were caught in a Net of Lightning.

Xu Sanshi and Ma Xiaotao had left the stage, while Jiang Nannan had lost the strength to compete further because of her critical injuries. Only Dai Yueheng, Ling Luochen, Bei Bei and He Caitou were left.

Bei Bei shouted suddenly as the opponent unleashed all their soul tools, "Referee, we concede defeat."

The Heavenfiend Douluo did not feel well at this point. As the referee, he was very concerned about his own reputation even though he didn't care about the two Sun Moon members who had died! That was



why he was very focused. Bei Bei's shout caused him to descend to the center of the competition stage. A ball of bright light shone from the Heavenfiend Douluo at this point.

9 soul rings – 2 yellow, 2 purple and 5 black – shone brightly. He used his right hand to guide a wave of proud and noble aura as it was unleashed. A white star appeared in front of him, and starlight instantly spread. It turned into a huge barrier that segregated the competition stage and blocked off the Sun Moon team's attack.

It was impossible for a Class 5, 6 or 7 soul tools to hurt a Titled Douluo. Furthermore, the Heavenfiend Douluo had powers that were very close to a Transcendent Douluo.

Dai Yueheng turned and stared at Bei Bei furiously, "Why did you shout so randomly? We hadn't lost. We could have still continued competing."

Bei Bei creased his brows and said, "Senior, this is Teacher Wang's strategy. We're to follow his strategy."

"But victory is right in front of our eyes!" Dai Yueheng roared back.

Bei Bei sighed, "Do you really think that we can beat the 4 of them with just the 4 of us alone? I couldn't have resisted that blow earlier. Do you think that anyone of us could have?"

"I..." Dai Yueheng really wanted to impress his father. He knew what Bei Bei was saying was true. After all, he was the White Tiger Duke's eldest son. He calmed down after a temporary outburst of emotion and nodded at Bei Bei, "Sorry, I was too impulsive. It's because I'm feeling bad that Jiang Nannan took that blow for me."

Bei Bei smiled and revealed a set of white teeth. "It's fine. You'll have a chance to shine later."

The soul tool attacks had already ended, and all of the Sun Moon team members' eyes started to turn red. Tournament, this was just a tournament! But 2 of their team members had died. Those who could represent the Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineering Academy to compete in this tournament were elite talents! Those who perished in battle were their compatriots and brothers. They felt extremely sorrowful that they had just died like that. If the Heavenfiend Douluo hadn't intervened, they would have gamble with their lives against Team Shrek.

"Both teams, please calm down," Huang Jinxu said coldly, "Victory has already been decided. If anyone acts recklessly, don't blame me for being unkind."

The teacher in charge of the Sun Moon team had also turned pale, but remained calm. He scolded his team members, which stopped Ma Rulong and the rest from acting recklessly.

Huang Jinxu turned to the direction of the city wall and said in low voice, "The Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineering Academy has won the team round. Both teams, you have 1 minute to readjust. After 1 minute, the 1v1 round will begin. At the same time, please choose your 7 members for the individual round. Once decided, no further changes can be made."

Shrek Academy had lost?

The entire Star Luo Plaza descended into silence. In the next moment, there was an uproar again.

Although many knew that Shrek's team was inferior to the Sun Moon Soul Academy's team in this tournament, everyone was still feeling incredulous that they had lost this team round. They were all awaiting a miracle from Shrek. But no miracle happened. In the end, Shrek had actually lost. They didn't even hold on to the end. Some of the agitated spectators started to curse furiously, and the entire Star Luo Plaza was now in chaos.

"Silence!" A mighty and sonorous voice rang across the entire venue at this point.

The commotion in the huge plaza was restrained by this furious roar.

It was the White Tiger Duke. He held a sound-amplifying soul tool in his hand, and said in a deep voice, "Both teams have already done their best. Victory and failure are very common. Those who hurl insults at the competing members will be found and severely punished."

As the commander of the military for many years, Dai Hao's simple words were filled with a mighty aura. He controlled the situation just like that. His mighty aura even pressed Huo Yuhao, who was helping Ma Xiaotao suppress her evil fire, to look up to the city wall.

His mood and the expression in his eyes were very complex.

As a guy, who would not hope that their father was a hero and their pride? But he had never enjoyed paternal love before. He only had hatred for this father who he had not even seen before he left the Duke's Mansion.

Yes, he ruined his mother's chastity. His mother's victimization was because of him. But he was so valiant and powerful. No wonder Huo Yuhao's mother didn't regret giving birth to him because of Dai Hao.

Huo Yuhao's psychological mindset was not as twisted as it was when he had left the Duke's Mansion after learning and cultivating in Shrek Academy for the past year or so. But his hatred for the White Tiger Duke and those in the Duke's Mansion who victimized his mother had never waned.

"Mom, this is who you loved before. He is outstanding, but it's precisely because of this that he hurt you so badly. Mom, don't worry. One day, I will stand before him and exact revenge for you. He's my father and gave me life, thus I won't kill him. But I will make him repent as he kneels in front of your grave."

"Mom, I will find you after the tournament is over. Bless me, so that I can grow up quickly. Mom, I miss you so much."

His eyes welled up unwittingly, and he didn't even realize Ma Xiaotao looking at him.

"Younger brother, what's wrong?" Ma Xiaotao asked softly.

"What?" Huo Yuhao only regained awareness now, and he shook his head slightly, "Elder sister, I'm fine."

Ma Xiaotao smiled and said, "That's great then. I'm fine already. Quickly regain your soul power. You may be needed later."

Everyone had descended from the stage right now. Bei Bei carried the unconscious Jiang Nannan as he returned to the waiting area.

Wang Yan rushed forward. There were already healing-type soul masters from the Star Luo Empire coming forward to administer treatment. As men were different from ladies, and the individual round was about to begin, Wang Yan let Xiao Xiao tend to Jiang Nannan temporarily. After that, he reported the seven names he wanted to send out for the individual round.

These seven were Ma Xiaotao, Dai Yueheng, Bei Bei, Xu Sanshi, Ling Luo Chen, Huo Yuhao and Wang Dong.

Yes, both Huo Yuhao and Wang Dong were being sent out for the individual round. Xu Sanshi was woken up by Ling Luo Chen using the ice element.

“Nannan, Nannan!” Xu Sanshi couldn’t help but scream as he regained consciousness. His soul power surged out ferociously.

“Calm down.” Bei Bei slapped him, and Xu Sanshi only calmed down because of that.

Xu Sanshi very soon found Jiang Nannan, who was in Xiao Xiao’s arms. His body was even trembling because he was too agitated.

Xu Sanshi was more than a little frantic as he asked, “How is she? How is she?”

Wang Yan came to his side, patted his shoulder and said in a deep voice, “Her injury is very serious, but her life won’t be in any danger. Sanshi, do you want to avenge her?”

Xu Sanshi turned around suddenly, “Of course.” His voice sounded different because he replied with great enthusiasm.

Wang Yan nodded and said, “I shall give you a chance. You’ll be the first in the individual round.”

“Good. I will go up and destroy them.” As he spoke, Xu Sanshi received a Milk Bottle from Wang Yan. He shut his eyes quickly, and regained the soul power that he had depleted earlier.

For today’s final, Wang Yan had specially bought a few more Milk Bottles in the two days of preparation. Everyone had one of them now, and used them to regain their soul power quickly. The individual round was about to start.

Wang Yan was very calm. Although he seemed lethargic, he had a resolute look in his eyes.

Yes, the loss in the team round was part of his plan.

Shrek was inferior in terms of overall abilities. The Sun Moon team was made up of powerful soul engineers, and they had the most advanced soul tools among those of the same rank. They were undoubtedly the strongest as a team. This meant that they would be most powerful in the team round.

If they clashed head-on, Shrek’s chances of success wouldn’t be greater than 30%, and so Wang Yan had decisively chosen to give up victory in the team round without knowledge of Xiao Hongchen and Meng Hongchen’s abilities.

His strategy was very simple. In the team round, all his team members were supposed to conserve. Only Jiang Nannan and He Caitou would unleash their all, because they wouldn’t be in the individual round. They only had one target in the team round – hurt as many of their opponents as possible. It’s important

to note that today's finals would be completed in one go. While the Sun Moon team was very powerful, they had a limited number of soul kings too. Wang Yan also didn't expect Xiao Hongchen and Meng Hongchen to be soul kings, but even still, the Sun Moon team only had 9 soul kings. If one was taken down, only 8 would be left.

Reality proved that Wang Yan's strategy had succeeded.

Lin Xi and Chen Fei's deaths were not part of his plan, but a Ma Xiaotao who gave her all was too scary. She couldn't be merciful at all in this final. Along with a little accident, she actually killed 2 Class 5 soul kings. At the same time, she depleted several Invincible Barriers. More importantly, Xiao Hongchen was severely injured. He was unlikely to participate in the rest of the matches. Out of the 9 soul kings, 2 were killed and 1 was heavily injured. Team Sun Moon was very restricted in who they could send out. This would be very disadvantageous for the later segments of the final.

However, the blow that Jiang Nannan took for Dai Yueheng wasn't within Wang Yan's plan. But he could understand Jiang Nannan's painstaking intention.

Although Jiang Nannan was never a phony in front of Xu Sanshi, she was clear that she might bring Xu Sanshi down. That's why she took the blow for him without any hesitation. It's important to know that her life might have been lost if her Invincible Golden Body couldn't hold on long enough! But she still dashed forward and managed to achieve the best result. Xu Sanshi was agitated, and his internal strength was half-awakened. It was also her efforts that caused Xiao Hongchen to be critically injured. It was even fair to say that Shrek's team had executed Wang Yan's plan better than expected.

Ma Xiaotao made the greatest contribution in this team round. Without her, this result would not have been achieved. Even so, Wang Yan did not think that Jiang Nannan made the second greatest contribution. He thought that it was Bei Bei who did so, after he shouted that Shrek conceded defeat at the last moment.

What's being able to see the bigger picture? It's the ability to make the correct choice after judging the situation at the most critical moment.

Bei Bei had shouted at the right time. The remaining 4 from the Sun Moon team were still very powerful, and they were also very far away from them. Their soul tools could still be preserved in their best states. Even though Dai Yueheng got closer eventually, the Bloodthirsty Demon Ape that Ma Rulong had summoned wouldn't be easy to deal with. Or at least, it couldn't be dealt with in a short period of time. Shrek wouldn't have been able to achieve victory in that situation. Since this was the case, they should conserve their powers and use them in the individual round.

Dai Yueheng was the one who was supposed to concede defeat, but it was obvious that he had lost control of his emotions. Wang Yan was more impressed with Bei Bei, as he was able to do what Dai Yueheng couldn't.

Both teams had to decide their sequence before the individual round started and relay them to the referee. This was to ensure fairness.

Wang Yan had already prepared his list earlier on, and passed it to Huang Jinxu. As two members had been killed and one member was severely injured, the teacher in charge of the Sun Moon team had to make changes. This left him extremely frantic.

“No, I have to compete. I must compete. If I don’t, I won’t be present for the 2-2-3 fight either. Damn it, I’m too cowardly.”

Xiao Hongchen was still squawking even though he was heavily injured. He wasn’t very bothered by the 2 official team members’ deaths. He was not very good at interpersonal relationships, and those 2 official team members didn’t like him either. But he was feeling indignant!

Xiao Hongchen had been recognized as the top talent in the Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineering Academy’s entire history. His talent didn’t just make him a soul engineer, but also an outstanding soul master. He could even perfectly combine these 2 together.

Both he and Meng Hongchen weren’t sent to compete earlier because they were kept to deal with Shrek Academy later on. But who knew that he would embarrass himself the first time he revealed himself.

His all-out offense was blocked by a ravishing lady. What was even more unfortunate for him was that he was wrenched into the air by that same lady using her feet. Eventually, he was heavily injured by Dai Yueheng. He was totally embarrassed even before he did anything. How could he not feel depressed?

Xiao Hongchen’s identity on the Sun Moon team was very sensitive. Their teacher didn’t dare to let him take a risk! After he was critically injured and two of the other students were killed, he quickly withdrew Xiao Hongchen’s participation from the tournament and replaced him with another preparatory team member. What could Xiao Hongchen do?

Xiao Hongchen still wanted to turn the tide and reveal himself in front of everyone. If he left it just like that, it would be an absolute farce for him!

That was why he was unwilling to be substituted just like that. As he was treated by the healing-type soul masters, he debated with his teacher. He was unwilling to disqualify himself.

The teacher said in a deep voice, “Xiao Hongchen, calm down. Don’t forget what you mean to our academy. If something happens to you, how can I account to the hallmaster?”

Xiao Hongchen raged, “I don’t need you to account to anyone. Isn’t my sister here? If I really die in battle, she’ll explain it to my grandfather. I don’t care, I have to compete. Don’t blame me for complaining to my grandfather if you don’t let me compete.”

Meng Hongchen was a little annoyed as she said, “Teacher, just let him compete if you have no choice. At most, we’ll not let him fight in the individual round. I think 6 of us is enough. If we can’t and lose, my brother and I can unleash our full strength together for the 2-2-3 fight. He can also use the time for the individual round to recover a little. Although I hate to admit it, it’s partly accidental that two seniors were killed just now.”

The teacher creased his brows. These two fellows were very troublesome! Only after the Heavenfiend Douluo urged him for a lineup did he say helplessly, “Very well then. Even if we lose in the individual round, you can’t compete. At most, you can pair with Meng Hongchen in the 2-2-3 fight.”

“Okay.” Xiao Hongchen agreed forthrightly. He also knew his own condition. He couldn’t recover so fast from the White Tiger’s Extermination attacks that were unleashed onto him. With some time from the individual round, he believed that he could regain a part of his true powers. With his sister around, he

was sure he could achieve something in this final. It was definitely better than watching from below the stage.

The Sun Moon team's competing members and their sequence for the individual round were decided just like that.

Ma Rulong had expended a lot of his powers earlier, and couldn't be the first to compete. The first to be sent up was an official team member that had been substituted by Meng Hongchen and Xiao Hongchen earlier on. After that, it was another official team member that had been substituted. Following these two, it was Michael, Meng Hongchen, and Ma Rulong followed by Xiao Hongchen. There was a reason why Meng Hongchen was among the first few to be sent up.

Since Wang Yan had already arranged everything, there were no changes on Shrek's side.

Xu Sanshi was the first to enter the fray. He would be followed by Bei Bei, Ling Luochen, Dai Yueheng, Ma Xiaotao, Wang Dong and Huo Yuhao.

Without a doubt, the first 5 were the main forces for this individual round, while Huo Yuhao and Wang Dong were the icing on the cake. One of them had 3 rings while the other had 2 rings. Wang Yan included them in the lineup with eyes on the 2-2-3 fight. If the 2 of them were paired along a soul emperor, it would be a great choice. Their martial soul fusion skill couldn't be underestimated, even though they weren't that powerful individually.

Wang Yan didn't send them out in the team round because of his arrangement for Shrek to lose the team round, and also because he wanted to conceal their true abilities. Wang Yan might not have even sent them to compete for today's final if not for Huo Yuhao and Wang Dong's incessant pleas. He wanted to protect them.

In 5 years, they would be the core of Shrek Seven Monsters. The more they revealed themselves now, the better their opponents would understand them. Furthermore, the Body Sect had already laid their eyes on Huo Yuhao. Wang Yan didn't want them to reveal even more about themselves.

But how could Huo Yuhao and Wang Dong not want to compete because of that? Furthermore, there were only 3 possible permutations for Shrek's lineup. After the team battle, they were definitely needed! That's why such an arrangement cropped up.

"The individual round begins. The first competing member of each team, please enter the stage. From Shrek Academy, we have Xu Sanshi. From the Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineering Academy, we have Li Yan."

Xu Sanshi did not even use the stairs. He jumped onto the stage from Shrek's waiting area.

Even everyone from Shrek felt an unfamiliar sense as they looked at him right now.

Xu Sanshi often laughed and joked normally. He either pestered Jiang Nannan or bickered with Bei Bei. The occasional promise that he showed wouldn't hold up either. But now, his entire person seemed to have change at this point.

He was silent, cold, and even had an indescribable manner to him. This manner could be described as dignified, or could be referred to that of a leader. He was no longer like a youth now. He was more like an adult, one that was very aloof and competitive.

Through closer observation, one could notice a subtle undulation of black gas flowing around him even though he had not unleashed his martial soul. There was even a dense, gentle ripple that moved with a slight rhythm around his body. He wore a deep gaze that was also cold. His entire person seemed to have become a deep valley that sucked people in.

This was Xu Sanshi in his complete state. He was no longer a soul master who controlled the Shield of the Xuanming Turtle, but the wielder of the Xuanwu Shield. He had the strongest defense-type martial soul on the continent.

Coincidentally, Xu Sanshi's opponent was a fire-type soul master.

Li Yan was originally one of Team Sun Moon's official team members. But his ranking among the 7 official team members should be quite low considering how he could be replaced by Meng Hongchen and Xiao Hongchen. His martial soul wasn't a pure Fire element; it possessed many impure sources of deviant fires and impurities. He wouldn't have been powerful enough if he only cultivated as a soul master. That's why he chose to become a soul engineer. He couldn't use his martial soul to provide himself with more soul power to last in battle, but he could use his own deviant fire to supplement all his soul tools with a fire aura through different soul skills. Of course, his fire was much weaker than Ma Xiaotao's phoenix flames. But he was still extraordinary to have become a Class 5 soul engineer before he was 20 years old.

Both of their gazes crossed as if they were arch-enemies. The Sun Moon team had lost two of their members! Normally, they were partners that trained and improved together. Li Yan was filled with hatred now that they had passed on.

But Xu Sanshi felt even more hatred in his heart compared to them. When he saw the unconscious Jiang Nannan, he was rubbed the wrong way, and he now only had one thought on his mind. He had to take revenge for Jiang Nannan and defeat his opponent.

The Heavenfiend Douluo didn't say anything much. Instead, he gestured for both of them to step back with an ugly look on his face. But the most chaotic team round was already over. He believed that he had enough focus and energy to monitor every exchange of moves between both teams in future battles.

"Match, start!"

Both parties made their move as Huang Jinxi shouted.

Li Yan waved his right arm upwards, and a thick soul tool cannon landed on his shoulder. Without even looking, he fired the cannon towards Xu Sanshi.

A huge fireball was suddenly shot towards Xu Sanshi. The fireball carried a series of explosive sounds in the air, distorting the air wherever it passed.

His deviant fire wasn't very strong, but it was still very powerful as his soul tool compressed and condensed it. After he injected his soul power into the soul tool, it was almost as if he had created this soul tool himself.

Under normal conditions, one's first reaction to this cannon shot would be to dodge it. After Li Yan's soul power was compressed, this cannon shot was rather devastating offensively. The best choice was to dodge it.

But Xu Sanshi did not dodge. He opened his feet wide and suddenly dashed towards his opponent. His martial soul was also unleashed at the same time.

Xu Sanshi's martial soul had the Xuanwu aura as it was unleashed. This was expected by Wang Yan and everyone from Shrek after Xu Sanshi was agitated because of Jiang Nannan.

Another dark-green snake appeared on the fine and heavy turtle shield. The snake's eyes were fresh red. A turtle and snake combined – this was the original appearance of a Xuanwu.

A black halo spread out from the shield. Xu Sanshi seemed to turn entirely black at this point. Against the ball of fire, he performed an extremely domineering action. He swept the Xuanwu Shield and used the shield's surface to strike the ball of fire.

Under normal conditions, any power released by a soul tool would cause an impact once it collided with something else. This was even more so for a fire-type attack like this

However, what happened next was contrary to everything that everyone knew. When Xu Sanshi's Xuanwu Shield struck the ball of fire, the snake eyes flashed with a red light. At the same time, a gentle ripple strangely covered the ball of fire. The ball of fire did blow apart, but it was delayed by a second because of this ripple. But this second was enough to decide many things.

The ball of fire was hit more than 10 meters away before it blew apart. The shockwave it produced couldn't reach Xu Sanshi. Xu Sanshi continued to dash forward in big steps. As his martial soul became the Xuanwu Shield, his cultivation had also increased greatly, which meant that he had also become faster.

Li Yan did not panic even though his strike achieved nothing. The stage was 100 meters wide. Xu Sanshi couldn't dash to the front instantly even if he wanted to.

Metal barrels started to appear on his body, and streaks of intense light lit up continuously. Not only this, but the soul tool on his shoulder changed into a huge fire cannon. This fire cannon was not fired towards Xu Sanshi directly, but above him.

A huge fiery web descended from the sky and engulfed the area in front of Xu Sanshi from above.

Li Yan had calculated this strike beforehand. If Xu Sanshi continued to burst forward, he would be covered by this fire web. If he stopped, it would buy more time for Li Yan to unleash more soul tools against him. Li Yan was waiting for Xu Sanshi to delay himself. He could not last, but his explosiveness was great. But that explosiveness of his had to be unleashed at the correct timing too.



Just when everyone thought that Xu Sanshi would stop in his tracks or go around the web, Xu Sanshi made a decision that no one had expected. He did not stop, and continued to sprint forward. The fire web covered him.

A cold grin appeared on Li Yan's lips. He was sure that Xu Sanshi was unaware that this fire web was a soul tool that he had invented. This fire web would restrict the opponent like a cage. However, all of his fire-type attacks could penetrate the fire web, and he could thus continue to attack his opponent. This meant that Xu Sanshi would be in deep trouble if he landed inside the fire web. At least this was what Li Yan thought.

As the fire web was about to descend and engulf Xu Sanshi, Xu Sanshi's Xuanwu Shield was still blocking the attacks of Li Yan's various soul tools, and he couldn't defend against what was above him.

At this moment, Xu Sanshi stopped in his tracks. He did not even glance at the fire web that descended from the sky as he placed the shield in front of his chest.

In the next instant, Li Yan saw two spots of red light shining on the Xuanwu Shield. After that, he felt that space had distorted.

Everything around him seemed to turn illusory. Li Yan couldn't describe this feeling either. He was a little dizzy because of this, and his soul tool attacks also seemed to become very messy and chaotic.

This distortion only lasted for a moment before normalcy was restored. In the next instant, Li Yan was appalled. That was because he discovered to his great horror that he was in front of Xu Sanshi and the Xuanwu Shield. That fire web had only just landed.

A dense, black soul power spurted from Xu Sanshi's body. His third and fourth soul rings started to light up.

His third soul skill was the Mysterious Underworld Force, while his fourth soul skill was the Mysterious Underworld Displacement. However, everything was different when the Shield of Xuanming Turtle turned into the Xuanwu Shield.

### [Chapter 119: Xu Sanshi Goes All-Out](#)

With the Strength of the Xuanwu supporting him, the soul power unleashed caused the fire web to descend at a much slower speed. His fourth soul skill, the Mysterious Underworld Displacement, did not switch his position with his opponent. Rather, it caused his opponent to be translocated in front of him.

Xu Sanshi was calmer in such important battles. That decisive charge of his confused his opponent and caused him to slip up.

After the Shield of the Xuanming Turtle became the Xuanwu Shield, all his soul skills changed too. The Mysterious Underworld Displacement changed from its pure displacement effect to a soul skill that could both displace and translocate opponents.

The Mysterious Underworld Displacement now allowed translocation of all life within 100 meters to just right in front of him. The translocated person would also be momentarily stunned. Although it was only for one second, it was already sufficient for a defense-type soul master to do many things. If a friendly

force was translocated over, the user could stop the person being translocated from being momentarily stunned.

He had arrived so close to Xu Sanshi in an instant that Li Yan did not even have time to react before he saw Xu Sanshi's cold and scary black pupils. Following that, the Xuanwu Shield slammed into him.

Li Yan was a soul king, while Xu Sanshi was only a soul ancestor. But the Xuanwu Shield caused an unimaginable impact at this moment.

Li Yan still managed to react through his panic. He wanted to unleash his Invincible Barrier, seeing that things were not right. Everyone had prepared an Invincible Barrier before they came for the final. Although it was very costly, it could turn a situation around if used well. Furthermore, the Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineering Academy never had a lack of money.

But Li Yan miscalculated this time. Before the Xuanwu Shield even slammed against him, he already felt a gentle water ripple engulfing his body. He was a fire-type soul master, whereas the Xuanwu was a water and earth-type. Water was the main element, while earth was the secondary element. As his martial soul was suppressed, his soul powers retracted, and he couldn't use the Invincible Barrier. After all, the Invincible Barrier was neither auto-activating or omnipotent.

The Xuanwu Shield slammed into him in the next moment.

Li Yan's entire body turned black after he was struck, and there was a feeling of water being splashed. Countless metal shards flew out from his body in all directions. Not only this, but he seemed to have been sucked into a whirlpool. His body wasn't thrown away, and a string of booms resonated from the Xuanwu Shield's surface. Xu Sanshi's first soul ring also started to flash.

Mysterious Underworld Quake. The violent Mysterious Underworld Quake. The ever-changing Mysterious Underworld Quake! Or rather, the improved version of the Mysterious Underworld Quake!

Li Yan's body seemed to be struck thousands of times in that instant. His soul tool was knocked away from him, and his soul powers were dissipated. His life was also in danger...

The Heavenfiend Douluo reacted in time. When he noticed something amiss, he had already appeared beside Li Yan instantly. He used one hand to chop the central position where both of them had collided with each other.

The black light from the Xuanwu Shield jerked a little, and Xu Sanshi staggered backwards half a step, whereas Li Yan collapsed to the ground. At least 7 or 8 of his ribs were probably broken, and his internal organs were greatly injured too. If he hadn't been wearing his soul tool armor, his injuries would have been even worse.

Even the Heavenfiend Douluo's palm shook a little as he stopped Xu Sanshi. This showed how powerful the Mysterious Underworld Quake was. Xu Sanshi was no longer simply just a defense-type soul master.

A gentle, immense force dragged Li Yan's body down from the competition stage. Healing-type soul masters immediately tended to him.

The Heavenfiend Douluo said in a deep voice after he glanced at Xu Sanshi, "The Sun Moon team's second competing member for the individual round, Chen An, shall enter the fray. You, step back."

His last few words were for Xu Sanshi.

Xu Sanshi didn't retract his Xuanwu Shield, but stepped back a few steps. Another Milk Bottle appeared in his hand too. As he stepped back, he used the Milk Bottle without retracting the shield. Milky white ripples could be seen spreading outwards from his body before they were retracted back in.

"Sanshi!" Bei Bei couldn't help himself, and screamed from below the stage. He was the clearest about Xu Sanshi's ability. He had fulfilled his potential by using the Xuanwu Shield, which also expended all his soul power. To recover his soul power to its peak state in a short period of time, he was using the Milk Bottle while his martial soul was still out. Although the impact on his body by his soul power was minimized by his strong Xuanwu aura, the feedback on him would be too great if he left this explosive Xuanwu state right now.

Jiang Nannan had also slowly regained consciousness in Xiao Xiao's arms with the aid of the healing-type soul masters.

Jiang Nannan was a little dazed as she saw the huge and tall figure that was retreating step by step with his back facing her, and was using the Milk Bottle to regain his soul power.

"He's, he's doing this for me? He treats me... but..."

Complex emotions surged in this young lady's heart, and her pain didn't seem obvious anymore. Her intense distaste for a certain someone was slowly disappearing.

"He's indeed awakened the powers of the Xuanwu. I've succeeded. But why do I feel frantic even though I succeeded? Is he really true to me? But I... but he..."

Jiang Nannan's mind drifted with the scene when she saw Xu Sanshi for the first time. Her tender face was also starting to flush. She lowered her head, as if she didn't dare to look at him on the stage. But she lifted her head very soon, and the look in her eyes changed tremendously in just a blink. There was an extra tinge of concern, or perhaps that was worry.

Chen An was an official team member of the Sun Moon team. His martial soul was the Lightning Bird. He was also Chen Fei's biological younger brother, and they were only a year apart in terms of age.

Compared to his brother, Chen An was only 18 this year. It was obvious that he was more talented than his brother, as he could represent the Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineering Academy as an official team member even though he was only 18 years old. But he only had this one biological brother, who had always been his goal.

Chen Fei was dead. He had died under Ma Xiaotao's phoenix flames. Chen An's eyes turned blood-red from that point on.

Li Yan had lost. He had already jumped onto the stage the moment the Heavenfiend Douluo opened his mouth. His entire person seemed to be on fire, and a layer of formless radiance was shining from him.

He fought differently from other soul engineers. When the Heavenfiend Douluo signaled the start of the competition, he leapt towards Xu Sanshi like a bolt of lightning.

He was too quick. In terms of speed, he was even faster than his elder brother. Huo Yuhao could only tell that Chen An was wielding a pair of short swords as his weapons even though he had his Spirit Eyes.

The 100 meters between them seemed to be covered so easily. That bolt of lightning surged straight towards Xu Sanshi, and even the Heavenfiend Douluo had to be absolutely focused in preparation to end this round.

The radiance from Xu Sanshi's Milk Bottle had disappeared when his opponent dashed out. He lifted the heavy Xuanwu Shield and performed an action that didn't seem related to the competition.

He moved half a step to the right, and tilted the Xuanwu Shield at an angle. He also shut his eyes at this point and sealed his vision.

"Dang—" A streak of advancing golden light grazed past the Xuanwu Shield and amidst a stream of sparks. After that, a series of explosions echoed from the Xuanwu Shield. The frightening explosive force was too much for Xu Sanshi, even though he had the Xuanwu Shield. He retreated a few steps rapidly, and only managed to stabilize after staggering a little.

Yes, Chen An and Chen Fei were different. Chen Fei used his speed, as he was a speed-type long-range attacker, whereas Chen An was a close-combat soul engineer. He specialized in close-combat and attacked rapidly. A powerful assault-type close-combat soul tool, along with his extreme speed, made him stronger than an agility-type soul king.

The pair of short swords in his hand had been molded by him 7 times. The short swords would become more powerful every time they were molded. He had made them Class 6 soul tools through all his effort. One sword had a flash effect, and was extremely quick, while the other sword could invoke a thunderstorm. Once struck by this sword, a thunderstorm would rage and strike the opponent. It would also create an opportunity for the other sword.

It took Chen An less than a third of a second to slow his assault. In the next instant, he had already attacked Xu Sanshi like a bolt of lightning.

Xu Sanshi started to shift his feet, and his small steps changed repeatedly. It appeared that his actions were out of tune with the oncoming bolt of lightning, but he was able to dodge behind the Xuanwu Shield.

A close-combat soul engineer was offensively stronger than a long-distance soul engineer. While the soul tool rays and soul tool cannons looked very dazzling, only a close-combat soul tool could unleash the effects of a soul tool to its fullest.

Xu Sanshi's defense had reached a soul king's standard with the Xuanwu Shield supporting him. However, he was still forced back by Chen An's relentless attacks. He couldn't even stand properly. A streak of flashing light left streaks and streaks of shrilling sparks. Bolts and bolts of lightning brought booming, reverberating sounds with them.

Xu Sanshi was in great jeopardy now. He was at risk of perishing under the pulsating bolts of lightning.

He was getting closer to the edge of the stage. If this continued, Xu Sanshi would certainly be forced off the stage even if he could resist Chen An's attacks.

However, Chen An changed the direction of his attacks at this point. Xu Sanshi had to retreat laterally because of this.

“Rascal, what’re you doing?” The Sun Moon team’s teacher could not help but scold furiously. Chen An was on the verge of victory earlier!

“He wants to take revenge for Chen Fei. This fellow...” Ma Rulong was a little annoyed as he shut his eyes. What else could he say? If it were him, what would he do?

Chen An didn’t force Xu Sanshi off the stage, as he wanted more time to attack. He wanted to find a loophole and kill him.

Xu Sanshi was forced to retreat laterally. He was staggering now, and could be killed at anytime.

The Heavenfiend Douluo was experienced, and could tell Chen An’s motive.

“Boom—”

An explosion rang from the Xuanwu Shield. Xu Sanshi’s hands also trembled a little, and he staggered backwards quickly. He wanted to use his soul skill to make up for his shortfall, but Chen An’s speed increased to its peak at this instant. Chen An’s flashing sword stabbed towards Xu Sanshi rapidly.

The Heavenfiend Douluo hesitated for a while. He could tell that Xu Sanshi was unable to dodge this blow, but he saw Xu Sanshi’s Xuanwu Shield lighting up too.

He could end this round if he made his move, but he couldn’t determine the victor. That was why he hesitated. He didn’t strike with the hand he lifted, as he didn’t want to influence the result.

“Psht—” The flashing sword stabbed into Xu Sanshi’s chest. Intense lightning flashed across his chest, and his entire person seemed to be coated with a layer of lightning.

“No—!” Below the stage, the critically injured Jiang Nannan sat up. She let out a sorrowful groan, then spat out a mouthful of fresh blood.

How could Xu Sanshi not hear that? His eyes were filled with resolve initially, but a shred of comfort appeared when he heard that sorrowful groan.

The lightning that spread across his body was the effect caused by the flashing sword. As the sword stabbed into his body, the flashing lightning surged in his entire body and could even tear it apart.

Chen An was delighted when he managed to stab Xu Sanshi successfully. He muttered to himself, “Elder brother, I’ve avenged you.”

However, his smile stiffened up at this point.

Xu Sanshi’s body was covered on flashing lightning, but there were too many bolts of lightning on his body. Just as Chen An was stunned in place, a gentle ripple undulated, and Xu Sanshi’s tough Xuanwu Shield softened. It turned into rippling water that engulfed his body internally.

Xu Sanshi had been waiting for this moment for too long. Against a close-combat soul engineer, his Mysterious Underworld Displacement was useless. Bringing his opponent close to him would only enable his opponent to increase his frequency of attacks. The Mysterious Underworld Quake couldn’t even quake at a speed that matched up to the opponent’s rate of attack. That was why he could only wait for an opportunity to arrive.

Did Xu Sanshi slip up just now? No, of course not. He had intentionally revealed a crack in his defenses. That was because he could clearly sense that he was unable to hold on, as his soul power was depleting quickly and his opponent was attacking him relentlessly. He had no chance to wait any further, thus he needed to take a risk.

The Xuanwu Shield turned into a ball of black watery light that engulfed Chen An precisely. In the next instant, a huge illusory Xuanwu Shield appeared behind Xu Sanshi

### [Chapter 120: The Tang Sects Secret Techniques](#)

The shield had turned into a liquid? The changes came too suddenly, but it changed the outcome of the fight.

Even Bei Bei, who was the most familiar with Xu Sanshi, didn't know that this good friend of his had such a capability. No one would also have expected that this soul skill would become Xu Sanshi's trademark. It had a frightening strength that was almost irresistible. Its name was Descent of the Xuanwu.

This was an additional power that the Xuanwu Shield possessed. However, Xu Sanshi could only attack within close range, as he could not fully control the shield yet. Furthermore, the area that he could cover was very small, and he had only one chance. Once his opponent dodged this attack, he would no longer possess any chance of winning.

That's why he waited. When his opponent's flashing sword stabbed into his right chest that he intentionally exposed, he knew that the opportunity had arrived.

Chen An lowered his guard for an instant after he got what he wanted and slowed down by a beat. This gave Xu Sanshi an opportunity to unleash an all-out strike towards him.

The flashing lightning from the sword didn't cause any harm to Xu Sanshi. Only the sword blade that stabbed right through him left him in intense pain.

Water conducts electricity. Moreover, Xu Sanshi had the Xuanwu Shield. He could suppress his opponent completely using his martial soul. That's why the lightning from the sword was conducted out from his body by his water-type soul power. It wasn't that easy to harm a defense-type soul master.

Chen An's first reaction to being engulfed by the water ripple was to burst out of it. He wanted to retract his sword, but he couldn't do it anymore. Xu Sanshi tightened his muscles and both his hands grabbed the sword blade very tightly.

Chen An had no choice but to let go of his sword since strength was not his forte. He subdued with his speed, thus it was imperative for him not to get caught.

Bolts of lightning shone on his other sword, and an intense boom reverberated from it.

Impure water conducts electricity, and the radiance from the Xuanwu Shield contained traces of water.

The viscous fluid prevented Chen An, a Class 5 soul engineer and soul king, from escaping.

Fresh blood flowed down Xu Sanshi's chest and palms as he pulled the flashing sword from his chest and glared coldly at the entrapped Chen An, who was surrounded by the black radiance converted from the Xuanwu Shield.

“Goodbye.”

The illusory Xuanwu figure behind Xu Sanshi turned into another Xuanwu Shield as the black radiance flashed. The snake’s eyes on the shield then shot out a red light, causing the black radiance trapping Chen An to turn red in an instant.

“Stop.” The Heavenfiend Douluo stepped forward and attempted to stop Xu Sanshi’s attack.

However, the Xuanwu Shield’s innate offensive method was too weird . The Heavenfiend Douluo erected a layer of light to segregate the both of them and extended his hand to pull Chen An out. However, he quickly retracted his hand when he extended it into the red fluid, as if he was shocked.

The Heavenfiend Douluo’s expression had changed because of the terrifying feeling he’d experienced.

His spirit shook from the Xuanwu’s aura of desolation. After that, he watched as Chen An disappeared within the red fluid. Or rather, he melted in the fluid.

This strike was no longer just inflicted with Xu Sanshi’s strength. He’d become the intermediary between the Xuanwu that controlled the water and earth elements.

There were only three ways of preventing this blow from landing. The first was to avoid being struck by the ball of black light converted from the Xuanwu Shield. The radius of that ball of black light was only 3 meters, and it could only be used once every 3 days, just like Wang Dong and Huo Yuhao’s martial soul fusion skill. Furthermore, it had to be unleashed in the awakened Xuanwu form.

The second way was to take Xu Sanshi down before the Descent of the Xuanwu was fully unleashed. This was the only way to end his ritual of summoning the Descent of the Xuanwu.

The last way was to suppress the Xuanwu with one’s martial soul. However, this was very difficult.

This was Xu Sanshi’s first time using this innate skill, or rather this bloodline skill. Chen An was also the first sacrificial offering towards the Descent of Xuanwu.

“Ahhh—” Sorrowful moans rang from below the stage. Everyone from the Sun Moon team was about to go crazy. Their teacher was even about to rush up the competition stage.

This was the third one! This was the third member from their team that had perished in the tournament! How could this be? Their teacher was absolutely flustered now. There was no way he could account to the dean after three of the academy’s outstanding talents had been killed!

Xu Sanshi didn’t see all this. Once Chen An was assimilated by the red radiance, he collapsed himself and passed out. The burden on him was even greater this time; he wasn’t acting anymore.

He’d managed to beat two soul kings as a soul ancestor. He’d already contributed a lot to Shrek’s glory. Furthermore, he was only a defense-type soul master!

The defensive barriers on the competition stage were projected inwards. This was to prevent any outflow of powers from the stage, and the barriers only exerted a unidirectional force. That was why it was very easy for everyone from the Sun Moon team to barge up the stage towards Xu Sanshi.

“Stop!” The Heavenfiend Douluo shouted. Even though he felt gloomy, he still had to restrain the Sun Moon team, as he was the referee.

The Sun Moon team could no longer hold back as they were too emotional. Countless soul tool rays shot towards Xu Sanshi, who’d collapsed to the ground.

However, a brazen figure appeared at the center of the stage at this point, and all of the rays of light were instantaneously dispersed.

A layer of formless yellow seemed to spread in the air. Everyone on the stage, including the Heavenfiend Douluo, seemed to have been frozen in place, and all of their actions stopped.

The figure on the stage held onto his wine gourd and calmly downed a mouthful of wine. He peacefully looked at everyone from the Sun Moon team peacefully.

“Trying to revolt?”

These simple words of his seemed to heavily strike the minds of everyone from the Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineering Academy. None of them could speak at this moment.

Without a doubt, the person that had appeared onstage and caused everyone to be petrified was the Taotie Douluo, Elder Xuan.

Elder Xuan said indifferently, “The history of the Continental Advanced Soul Master Academy Soul Dueling Tournament can be traced back more than 10,000 years. Even when the Martial Soul Hall controlled all the soul masters on the continent, the tournament has never been disrupted before. Please find the referee if someone has been killed and you want to get even. According to the rules, all competing members have to give their all in order to display their true abilities. Who can hold back after they’ve given their all? Furthermore, the referee is in charge of monitoring the competition. If someone dies, the referee is the one at fault. What has that got to do with our team member? If anyone intends to break this ten thousand year-old rule, they can come find me.”

He turned around and walked towards Xu Sanshi as he spoke, then bent down and lifted Xu Sanshi up. A gentle yellow radiance was injected into Xu Sanshi’s body, which immediately sorted him out. It also sealed the veins where his wounds were located.

The Heavenfiend Douluo Huang Jinxu was extremely depressed after hearing this. Subtle streaks of black seemed to droop from his forehead.

Why was this old fellow still alive? However, he didn’t say anything in response.

Elder Xuan turned around once again as he reached the edge of the stage, “The tournament must continue, unless you want to be the butt of all jokes. Oh yes, I don’t care if the others die, but if these little fellows die, I can’t guarantee that I won’t go crazy. I don’t think there’s anyone here who can stop me if I go crazy.”

This was an obvious threat! However, no one dared to open their mouth.

Only after Elder Xuan had carried Xu Sanshi off the stage did everyone from the Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineering Academy manage to move again.



The students still wanted to protest, but their teacher reached out his hand and stopped them.

“Teacher, we’re just going to leave things like this? We...” Ma Rulong protested indignantly.

“Shut up!” Their teacher bellowed, “Do you know who that is? He’s the strongest in Shrek Academy, and he’s also one of the top 5 on the continent. His title is Taotie, and he’s a Rank 98 Transcendent Douluo. He has frightening power close to that of an Ultimate Douluo. If he goes crazy, he could lay waste to this city. Even the Hallmaster wouldn’t dare to challenge him if he were here. No one expected him to appear in today’s finals.”

After he spoke, it was as if everyone from the Sun Moon team had been splashed with a basin of ice water. They all felt a chill in their hearts.

As soul engineers, they believed that soul engineers would surpass soul masters in the future. But Rank 98 was too high of a figure for them; it was beyond their knowledge. In the Sun Moon Empire, there wasn’t a single Transcendent Douluo! Rank 98 was even more ridiculous.

“Are we really going to leave it just like that?” Xiao Hongchen asked indignantly.

Their teacher was pale as he said, “Taotie may be very strong, but he cares about his own face. So long as we don’t annoy him, he won’t do anything to us. He won’t disrupt the tournament as long as things go according to the rules either. Let’s all leave the stage. He’s also right in that that it’s largely the referee’s fault that our team members were killed. The academy will seek redress for this matter.”

It had been proven that a Transcendent Douluo was enough to suppress everyone. Even the Star Luo Emperor and White Tiger Duke didn’t comment, instead only watching from afar. The Star Luo Emperor, Xu Jiawei, revealed a pensive look, whereas the White Tiger Duke furrowed his brows and seemed to be thinking of something.

The Heavenfiend Douluo was very proud and withdrawn. If it were someone else, he would have retaliated even though it was in front of 100,000 spectators. However, he didn’t dare do so in front of Elder Xuan. That was because he had sparred with Elder Xuan 20 years ago, and hadn’t fared much better than a certain Protector Douluo from the Star Luo Empire’s royal family...

Huang Jinxi took a deep breath, and tried his best to calm himself down. There was nothing embarrassing about being humiliated by Elder Xuan. Although Elder Xuan had shifted the blame to him, he didn’t argue back and bore the humiliation.

“Both teams, please send your next competing members up to the stage. From Shrek Academy, we have Bei Bei. From the Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineering Academy, we have Michael. Both members, please ascend the stage.”

Shrek Academy held the advantage now that the individual round had reached this stage. They’d even laid a solid foundation for the upcoming 2-2-3 fight.

Shrek Academy had only sent out a soul ancestor, Xu Sanshi, yet he’d been able to overcome 2 Class 5 soul engineers. His contributions were immense. Furthermore, one of his opponent had died, while the other had been gravely injured. They couldn’t compete in the 2-2-3 fight. This meant that Shrek Academy had already won 1 round out of the 3 rounds in the 2-2-3 fight. And they just had to win 2 rounds out of 3 in the 2-2-3 fight!

Even though Shrek Academy had lost Xu Sanshi, their 2 soul emperors had yet to compete. Their advantage in the individual round was obvious.

Team Sun Moon's teacher squinted his eyes, and his expression turned ghastly. However, he also knew that he couldn't panic at this point. If they made a false move, they could lose the entire tournament. It wasn't as if Shrek's advantage would last forever, even though they had the upper hand right now. After all, the individual round had only just begun.

He summoned Meng Hongchen over.

"Little Meng, everything will depend on you later. You'll be up next. For the academy's glory, give it your all." The teacher said in a deep voice.

A weird radiance flashed across Meng Hongchen's eyes as she nodded her head slightly. "Don't worry, Teacher. I might not be able to determine the outcome, but I can definitely change the situation. I won't let Shrek Academy have it easy."

"Yes, we're counting on you." The teacher bowed slightly towards Meng Hongchen.

Xiao Hongchen pursed his lips from the other side. He was dejected, as he believed that he should be the one to turn the tables around. While his sister's capabilities were special, and could lead to unprecedented effects, she was likely to be greatly restricted under certain conditions. Her abilities weren't as balanced as his! However, he really was seriously injured. Even though he might be able to participate in the 2-2-3 fight, he would be useless in the individual round. Besides feeling dejected, there was nothing he could do.

Bei Bei and Michael retreated to the edges of the competition stage. The Heavenfiend Douluo didn't reveal any expression on his face as gestured and shouted, "Match, start!"

Michael was an official team member, thus his powers were superior to the other 2 members before him. His abilities weren't as simple as they'd seemed when he'd faced Jiang Peng from the Imperial Profound Academy.

He immediately displayed his true capabilities the moment the competition began. A series of metallic clanking sounds rang out as several soul tools attached themselves to his body.

However, he was different from his other team members. There weren't many barrels on his body, but they were all located around his legs and back.

A pair of blue, metal boots had appeared around his feet and legs. At the same time, 2 metal barrels had appeared behind his back. These 2 metal barrels were only 3 inches long, but they were more than 6 inches in diameter. The backs of these barrels were shaped like balls, which allowed them to change directions easily.

Huo Yuhao would find it difficult to control such an advanced soul tool, as his soul power was insufficient, but Michael could easily control this soul tool, as he was a Class 5 soul engineer.

Other than these 2 soul tools, 4 metal wings extended from Michael's ribs. But they were not flying-type soul tools. Rather, they were there to help him adjust his aim and maintain his balance.

In addition, Michael there was a thick barrel on each of his arms, as well as another huge, circular, ball-like object that seemed similar to a concentrated soul tool on his chest.

Bei Bei fought in a similar style to most soul masters: As soon as the start of the competition was announced, he burst forward towards his opponent as fast as possible.

Closing the gap between them was the best way that one could resist a long-distance soul engineer.

Michael also made his move, the long boots on his leg flashing with light, causing him to immediately move a few meters laterally at a frightening speed. While he wasn't comparable to Chen An, he was not that much slower either. The soul thruster behind his back also shot out a little light as he moved laterally, although their radiance wasn't intense. However, it still managed to increase his speed significantly, while the wings on his back automatically adjusted to maintain his balance as he moved. Huo Yuhao and He Caitou were both awed when they saw these soul tools in action. Michael truly lived up to his name as a disciple that came from the best soul engineering academy on the continent! Michael's immaculate control of these soul tools had left them extremely amazed.

He couldn't just dodge throughout the entire fight though. He lifted his hand while he was moving, and the barrel on his right hand fired towards Bei Bei. An scarlet, oval-shaped ball of light quickly shot out into the air and flew without any rhythm. Despite its erraticness, Bei Bei remained its target. What was strange was that it didn't let out any sound as it appeared.

Bei Bei expression became serious and he stopped in his tracks. He waved his right hand and unleashed his Blue Lightning Tyrant Dragon, his first soul ring shining brightly. He then used his Thunderous Dragon Claw to grab the ball of light.

It was imperative for Bei Bei to understand what the offensive capabilities of his opponent were, based off of the 2 soul cannons on his opponent's arms.

He managed to precisely grab the orange-red light ball, but a strange scene appeared.

The lightning from the Thunderous Dragon Claw was extinguished as soon as it made contact with the orange-red light ball. The ball of light stopped in mid-air, then began to shine even more brightly than before.

He Caitou had already stood up below the stage. He said in horror, "That's an automatic soul cannon! To think they actually had something like this..."

Huo Yuhao had once heard Fan Yu's description of such a soul tool. It was a powerful soul tool that Shrek Academy didn't possess.

Once an automatic soul cannon was fired, the cannon shell would absorb all surrounding energy, then become explosive once it struck its opponent or was blocked. The scariest thing was that it could be also be detonated at any time.

This meant that Michael could make it so that the cannon shell only detonated a few seconds after it was touched. Generally speaking, it would explode between one and five seconds after contact. After all, a cannon shell was a high-energy entity compressed from soul power; it couldn't be controlled for too long.

But many things could still be decided within this period of time!

This was the case now. When he saw the sudden increase in the intensity of the light, Bei Bei had no choice but to stop and leap to the side.

The scarlet ball of light exploded after a second, its frighteningly explosive force creating a burning, scarlet circle of light with a diameter of more than one and a half meters, and an even greater explosive strength, to appear. The light caused the air within a 3 meter radius to distort wherever it passed.

Bei Bei turned pale and wanted to curse. This soul tool was too powerful. He was likely to be critically injured if he was struck head-on even once!

Fortunately, the automatic soul cannon fired at a rather slow speed due to its great power, as a huge amount of soul power had to be gathered before the cannon could be fired.

By the time the first cannon shell exploded, Michael's second cannon shell had only just been fired from the barrel on his other hand.

This type of soul tool was very useful, but the heat that it generated could easily cause the barrel to crack, and couldn't be fired repeatedly. As such, Michael chose to fire with the other barrel. Ma Rulong had mentioned before that close-combat wasn't his forte. These automatic soul cannons that had appeared in this tournament for the first time were his true trump cards. Of course, there was also the scarlet ball that started to light up in front of his chest; it was bound to be something powerful too!

Michael's body moved rapidly as he attacked in a constant attempt to maintain the furthest distance he could from Bei Bei.

This second cannon shell crossed in front of the path that Bei Bei would have to follow if he wanted to get to him.

A cold radiance flashed in Bei Bei's eyes. This time he actively moved to collide with the cannon shell, rather than use a soul skill to intercept it.

A cold smile was revealed on Michael's face. He thought to himself, "Are you trying to dodge my attack? My cannon shell has locked onto you; you can't escape it. Once you're hit by it, you'll be stuck, and I'll be able to exact revenge for my brothers."

When the cannon shell reached in front of Bei Bei, he lifted his left hand and grabbed it.

Why did he grab hold of the cannon shell? This was what every spectator wondered. In the Sun Moon team's eyes, his arm was bound to be crippled, even if he didn't die.

Bei Bei's movements were sequential. The moment he grabbed the cannon shell, his footsteps became slightly faster. As he slid towards the cannon shell, his body became slightly illusory. He let go of the cannon shell, but the cannon shell came sticking back towards him as it tracked him.

But Bei Bei also wrenched his left hand downwards at this point. The cannon shell, which was a less than a foot away, seemed to be guided by his palm, and was slammed into the ground. It was completely smashed by the impact.

Bei Bei then burst forward with increased speed as he propelled himself off the ground with the tips of his toes, increasing the gap between the cannon shell and him to over 3 meters.

A boom resonated from behind him; it was as if the sun seemed was shining brightly at his back.

“I have to return your favor. Since you’ve given me two eggs, I’ll give one to you in return.” Bei Bei’s right wrist jerked as he flung a pitch-black, ball-like entity towards Michael.

This ball-like entity was oval-shaped, and its trajectory was as unrhythmic as the automatic soul cannon shell. It drew an arc in the air as it flew towards Michael.

Michael had just fired his third cannon at this point, and was shocked by how his second cannon shell was smashed onto the ground by Bei Bei. However, he immediately adjusted his third cannon so that its cannon shell would blow apart instantaneously. If Bei Bei dared to use the same method again, the cannon shell would explode the instant he made contact with it. However, it was a pity that he couldn’t absorb any further energy from Bei Bei’s soul skills, as it was unlikely that Bei Bei would use them again.

The 2 ball-like objects seemed to interlace as the scarlet ball of light reached Bei Bei almost instantly. Bei Bei performed an unexpected limbo-like action as he burst forward. He continued to advance, but his upper body was bent backwards. He flung both of his hands backwards too, causing the scarlet ball of light to be pushed backwards by a special force. Despite this, it remained locked onto Bei Bei, and continued chasing him after flying 3 meters away.

A loaded arrow concealed in Bei Bei’s sleeve suddenly flew out and struck the ball of light at this moment.

Once Michael’s automatic soul cannon shell was struck, it would blow up. In other words, it wouldn’t continue to chase its target anymore. It wasn’t so intelligent after all!

A deafening explosion that generated immense heat reverberated from behind Bei Bei, but Bei Bei wasn’t struck by the shockwave as he continued to advance forwards.

“Well done!” Even Elder Xuan couldn’t help but say when he saw this scene. He was immensely amazed. Bei Bei had dealt with his opponent’s soul tools extremely brilliantly.

Huo Yuhao and Wang Dong looked at each other and saw the amazement in each other’s eyes.

Bei Bei hadn’t resisted the automatic soul cannon with his Blue Lightning Tyrant Dragon, but with a secret weapon from the Tang Sect! As the Tang Sect’s eldest disciple, he’d finally revealed the true ability that he’d concealed for so long in the tournament. He’d used the Tang Sect’s secret techniques!

While Bei Bei handled the third automatic soul cannon, the metal ball that he thrown reached Michael.

Michael wasn’t careless, but he was still extremely scornful subconsciously. As an outstanding student from the Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineering Academy, he was acquainted with the history of soul tools. Thrown soul tools had existed for a long time, but he couldn’t think of any powerful ones amongst those this size.

It wasn’t just arrogance for Bei Bei to fling a thrown soul tool towards a Class 5 soul engineer like him—it was much worse than arrogance.

However, he didn't react to it carelessly despite having such an opinion. He lifted his right hand and the Thunderous Soul Sword that he'd once used against Jiang Peng appeared.

A bolt of lightning shot out and turned into a lightning whip that he swung towards the metal ball.

Lightning was naturally attracted to metal. He wouldn't let the metal ball get close to him. A simple explosion wouldn't affect him with the distance he maintained from the metal ball. Furthermore, he was rapidly retreating backwards as he wielded the sword, while also preparing to fire his fourth cannon. Bei Bei might be very agile at dodging, but Michael wasn't scared of Bei Bei getting close to him. In addition to this, he could tell that Bei Bei had exhausted all of his power dodging his previous 3 cannon shells. He fired this fourth cannon towards the ground in front of Bei Bei; delaying his opponent was imperative.

A sequence of strategies formed in Michael's mind. The only thing that didn't cross his mind was the potential problem that the metal ball could pose to him.

"Boom—" The metal ball blew apart the moment it was struck by the lightning.

Compared to Michael's cannon shells, this explosion seemed very mild; it was as if a watermelon had been smashed. It didn't even catch many people's attention.

However, a gust of fog rose the moment it exploded. This fog carried a sweet scent that diffused in the air. As lightning flashed through it, the gust of fog surged slightly.

Poison?

This was Michael's first thought. He was called an elite talent from the Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineering Academy for a reason, as a barrier immediately shone around his body.

As he was a Class 5 soul engineer, this barrier was naturally a Class 5 barrier as well. Although this barrier couldn't withstand Ma Xiaotao's attacks or Xu Sanshi's Descent of Xuanwu, it was still resistant against most soul king-level attacks.

He believed that his defense was already very stable. While Bei Bei was quite intelligent to use poisonous gas, he was only delaying Michael's attack by a bit. Poisonous gas wasn't of much use against him.

But was it really just poisonous gas?

A soft crackling sound rang out. There was insufficient sunlight bearing down amidst the gloomy weather, thus Michael only briefly saw a black figure flash through the air. The crackling sound had originated from the barrier on his body.

Afterwards, he felt his body turning numb. It was as if he had been stabbed, and his body became stiff. The most tragic thing was that the cannon shell he'd just fired had stopped in front of him.

How could this have happened? Was it a dud?

Two thoughts popped up in Michael's mind at the same time. He hadn't expect to face something like this. Furthermore, he didn't know what trick Bei Bei had employed.

However, a beam of light descended from the sky engulfed his body at this point. This beam of light shielded him when the cannon shell blew up.

Everything had turned scarlet in front of Michael, and his gaze stiffened. His hair stood on end, and cold sweat ran down his back. If the beam of light had come even a second later, he wouldn't have been able to react in time. If he'd been engulfed entirely by that scarlet radiance, he would've followed in the footsteps of his compatriots. There truly was a thin line between life and death.

The Heavenfiend Douluo had been the one to save him.

The things that had happened before had left this Titled Douluo on his toes. He'd already readied his only defense-type skill in his palm. Once he realized that something was amiss, he'd immediately protected Michael.

Bei Bei seemed regretful as he muttered, "It seems like I'm better. He used so many eggs, but they were all inferior to mine!"

As the scarlet radiance slowly faded away, the muffled sound thunder could be heard from the sky. The weather became even more gloomy.

But this gloominess couldn't compare to the Sun Moon team's mood.

Since the Heavenfiend Douluo had intervened, it meant that Michael had lost. What they couldn't comprehend was how Michael had lost.

What was that metal ball that Bei Bei had thrown? Even most of those from Shrek Academy were confused.

Secret weapon; it was definitely a secret weapon from the Tang Sect. Huo Yuhao clenched his fist and watched the lofty Bei Bei in awe.

The Tang's Sect secret technique had finally appeared after many years of disappearance. However, how many still knew about the Tang's Sect secret techniques now?

It was a powerful secret weapon from the Tang Sect known as the Clustered Soulchasing Balls. The black figure that had appeared was the metal ball. After the Clustered Soulchasing Balls blew apart, countless Oxhair Needles had flown out. While these needles were poisonous, the poisonous fog had appeared in order to mask their presence.

The Clustered Soulchasing Balls were among the top 10 secret weapons in the Tang Sect, and specialized in breaking down all sorts of defensive barriers. Even a Class 5 defense barrier could only slow these needles down. In the end, the barrier was eventually penetrated by the needles, and the automatic soul cannon shell was detonated. Bei Bei hadn't intend to do the last part, however; that was just a coincidence.

Michael collapsed just like that at the center of the stage. The Heavenfiend Douluo's facial muscles twitched, and he burst towards Michael to prop him up. He quickly examined Michael's body.

"Poison?" The Heavenfiend Douluo was shocked and turned to look at Bei Bei.

Bei Bei shrugged and said, “Don’t worry, it’s not lethal. I’ll give him the antidote once today’s competition ends. It’s not like I can give it to him now, right?”

The 2-2-3 fight had yet to begin. Giving his opponent the antidote now would mean that he’d have another opponent to deal with in the 2-2-3 fight.

What else could Huang Jinxu say? He could only personally escort Michael down from the stage.

Shrek Academy had won yet again.

Up until now, only 1 out of the 7 Shrek Academy members had been eliminated, whereas the Sun Moon team had already lost a total of 3 members. The conclusion seemed forgone in this individual round.

The healing-type soul masters were also helpless against the poison; they were only able to treat injuries. Furthermore, it wasn’t easy to remove poison from the Tang Sect.

As the team leader of the preparatory squad, Bei Bei’s move was very intelligent. Now that one of them had been poisoned, the Sun Moon team would be more cautious in the later stages. If they went all-out, who would be able to provide them with the antidote after the competition ended?