

Tang Sect 381

Chapter 381.1: Starting to Move

Ma Xiaotao furrowed her brow and said, "It's difficult to rescue people. Although I don't know how you breached the water prison that day, you should have seen that the hostages in the prison were all poisoned. They aren't able to gather their soul power, and there are many evil soul masters from the Holy Ghost Church deployed there. There are even soul engineer legions inside and outside of Sunrise City. I'm afraid it will be impossible to save these few hundred people, even if the entire Academy was sent here for this rescue mission. Sunrise City is very close to Radiant City, and reinforcements from Radiant City will arrive quickly if anything happens here."

Huo Yuhao smiled and said, "Elder sister, don't be anxious. We are almost done with our set-up. When the time comes, we'll have a few ways to deal with the problems outside the city. At the very least, we'll keep them occupied. We'll also use diversion tactics inside the city, and draw some of the evil soul masters watching the hostages away. If my guess is right, the border of the Sun Moon Empire shouldn't be peaceful right now. Some strong individuals must have been dispatched to the border from Radiant City. However, they'll still need people to guard their capital. Even if they realize something abnormal is happening here, they won't be able to send too many reinforcements over."

Ma Xiaotao nodded and said, "I believe that you can succeed. However, how are you going to leave with a few hundred old and sick people? They've all been poisoned by Soul Eradicating Powder. I don't have any antidote for that poison, either. I'm afraid that only the leader of the Holy Ghost Church knows how to neutralize that poison." Ma Xiaotao's expression turned cold when she mentioned the leader of the Holy Ghost Church. She unwittingly clenched her fists tight.

Huo Yuhao said, "I've already concocted an antidote."

"What?" Ma Xiaotao was stunned as she looked at him. "You've concocted an antidote?"

Huo Yuhao nodded and said, "Did you forget that I mentioned that I obtained Ancestor Tang San's Poison Scripture? In terms of using poison, the Tang Sect has been extremely notable on the continent for tens of thousands of years. The Holy Ghost Church's poison is nothing. However, it's indeed going to be a huge problem to leave with the weak hostages. That day, I heard the Third and Fourth Elders from the Holy Ghost Church instructing the Zhong brothers to feed the hostages more. However, it seemed like the Zhong Li brothers were only pretending to obey orders. Elder sister, can you ask them to give the hostages more food? In my opinion, the hostages will be able to recover at least half of their abilities if the poison of the Soul Eradicating Powder is neutralized and if they are given more food.

"Among these hostages, there are elite soul masters and engineers from the younger generation, teachers of various academies, and elders from different sects. If they are able to recover their abilities, they'll be a force to be reckoned with. It won't be impossible to escape then if we coordinate with our outside forces."

Ma Xiaotao revealed a thoughtful look in her eyes. When she looked at Huo Yuhao, she seemed to see him in a different light. "I haven't interacted with you in five years, but you've really grown up. No wonder the Academy is confident enough to send you out alone to rescue the hostages. Your plan

seems to be fine for the moment. When you use your diversion tactics, I can help bring Third Elder and Fourth Elder away. They aren't normally in the water prison, anyway.

"The Zhong brothers are the ones who are mainly in charge of the water prison. The three of them are direct descendants of the Holy Ghost Church's leader, Zhong Liwu, and they are also his lackeys. They are extremely loyal to him, and only listen to his orders. You'll need to deal with the three of them, as well as the evil soul masters who are guarding the prison. Those evil soul masters mainly have cultivations between four and six rings. They are considered ordinary disciples of the Holy Ghost Church, and there are about thirty of them. Of course, there are also some military troops guarding the prison. However, they won't be much of an obstacle."

After hearing the details that Ma Xiaotao provided, the plan in Huo Yuhao's head became clearer. "Sister Xiaotao, did you notice a lady called Nan Shuishui? She's the leader of the Earthdragon Sect, and her martial soul is a Ruby Dragon. She's also a Soul Douluo, but her abilities are at the standard of a Titled Douluo." Huo Yuhao had asked Nan Qiuqiu about Nan Shuishui's abilities.

"Nan Shuishui? I've heard of this name before. If I'm remembering it right, she was taken away by Third Elder. Her martial soul has special attributes of annihilation. If we can understand them well and fuse them into soul tools, we can achieve groundbreaking results."

"Yes, it's her." Huo Yuhao was delighted and asked, "Is she still alive? Was she...?"

Ma Xiaotao answered, "I don't know the details. However, Third Elder's interest is completely in soul tools. He's a Class 9 soul engineer, and he's not too bothered about women. I hope that this person you're talking about is still alive. Why? Are you planning to save her?"

Huo Yuhao shook his head without any hesitation and replied, "Nan Shuishui is the mother of my friend. However, we can't save her first. Otherwise, we'll alert our enemies. Oh yes, we killed a spiritual-type evil soul master not long ago. Did anyone find out about it?"

"Spiritual-type evil soul master? Are you talking about Wu Yun? She's been killed?" Ma Xiaotao was more shocked when she heard that Wu Yun had been killed than when she heard Huo Yuhao had an antidote to neutralize the poison of the Soul Eradicating Powder.

Huo Yuhao nodded and said, "Yes, I killed her. Will there be any trouble?"

Ma Xiaotao shook her head and said, "Wu Yun is an elder in the Holy Ghost Church. She's actually the head of the Holy Ghost Church's branch in Sunrise City. After I came here, I temporarily replaced her. The one who was originally in charge of watching over the hostages was the vice-leader of the church, Feng Ling. After that, Feng Ling left for some unknown reason. I think it must have something to do with the situation at the border. I don't normally interact with Wu Yun, but her martial soul was very strong. Even if I fought her, I wouldn't be entirely confident of beating her. But you managed to kill her? Unbelievable."

"Hehe." Huo Yuhao laughed. He wasn't going to explain how he had killed Wu Yun, and quickly changed the topic, "Elder sister, we'll set it like this, then. If possible, please try to preserve Nan Shuishui's life. I'll rescue her after I rescue most of the hostages. Shall I brief you about our arrangements in detail?"

Ma Xiaotao nodded and said, "Alright, let's not delay since this is the case. You don't have to tell me about your arrangements. When you make your move, I'll distract Third and Fourth Elder. However, I'll have to leave all of you to deal with the Zhong brothers. Don't leave any clues when you breach the water prison again. If not for the fact that I was there that day, you wouldn't have been able to escape easily. Take care, and remember safety is your priority."

"Yes." Huo Yuhao nodded.

Ma Xiaotao caressed his head and gently said, "You are already taller than me. In five years, you'll become a Soul Emperor. Fantastic!"

After she finished speaking, she smiled at Huo Yuhao before drifting away.

As he watched Ma Xiaotao leave, Huo Yuhao also touched his own head. For some reason, he felt that there was something wrong with Ma Xiaotao. He had already felt there was something wrong with her when he woke up yesterday, but it became clearer and clearer to him right now.

However, Huo Yuhao was certain about one thing; Ma Xiaotao's mind was clear. He was too sensitive to spiritual undulations. The pampering look in her eyes when she looked at him couldn't have been faked.

The leader and vice-leader of the Holy Ghost Church are actually called Zhong Liwu and Feng Ling. This was important information to him. At the same time, Huo Yuhao could also roughly guess that Zhong Liwu had to have something to do with the woman that Elder Mu and Long Xiaoyao fell in love with. That was because he recalled that the evil soul master that woman followed seemed to have the surname 'Zhong'. He just didn't know if that woman was still alive, and what the connection between Zhong Liwu and Long Xiaoyao was.

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On the second morning, Xu Sanshi brought him the concocted antidotes. Huo Yuhao also started to make his move. He used his Spiritual Avatar to silently breach the water prison and mixed the antidote with the poisoned water in the water prison.

As the dosage he needed was too high, it took him a full day to move all of the antidote into the water prison.

The Third and Fourth Elders didn't appear in the water prison again. Even the Zhong brothers only came to patrol occasionally.

Ma Xiaotao's orders worked on the Zhong brothers. The hostages were finally given sufficient food. Although they weren't fed luxuriously, it was enough to fill their stomachs. Along with the antidote that Huo Yuhao mixed into the water they were immersed in, the hostages were feeling much better after a day, even though not all the poison from their bodies had been neutralized. Especially for a few of the stronger soul masters, Huo Yuhao's Spiritual Avatar could tell that they had sensed the change in their soul power from their expressions.

It was time for him to communicate with them.

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On the second night, he went to visit Ma Xiaotao again. After suppressing the power of darkness in her body, he released his Spiritual Avatar into the water prison once again.

To coordinate with him, Ma Xiaotao sent the Zhong brothers away on a pretext of important matters to attend to. This was a benefit of being the highest-ranked commander of the Holy Ghost Church in Sunrise City.

Without the Zhong brothers, Huo Yuhao was more brazen. It was impossible for those six-ringed evil soul masters to discover his Spiritual Avatar.

After entering the water prison, he drifted into mid-air and released his spiritual power. Very soon, his spiritual power engulfed the entire water prison.

It was not long ago that Huo Yuhao could only communicate with a few people using his spiritual power. However, he could now communicate with everyone within a specific region.

“If you can hear my voice, please don’t move. I’m here to save all of you.” This gentle thought was transmitted to every cell. It was so light that everyone could sense it, but still felt that it was an illusion.

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The quality of these hostages was indeed very high. After sensing the thought that Huo Yuhao transmitted to them, many of their bodies turned a bit rigid, but they soon regained their composure. They exchanged strange glances with one another.

“If you can hear my voice, please don’t move. I’m here to save all of you.” Huo Yuhao repeated his words once again.

This time, his communication was much clearer than before. Everyone could confirm that they weren’t hallucinating.

Indeed, some of the younger hostages started to get excited. They had long since had enough after being held captive for a few months in complete darkness. They had even started to believe that they would never be free again, but this sudden voice soothed the pain in their hearts.

Of course, not everyone was excited. Those who were slightly older, and were either team leaders or teachers continued to remain alert. After all, how could they be sure that this wasn’t a ploy? Evil soul masters were capable of anything.

“Calm down. I need everyone to calm down. If you want to escape, you need to keep calm. Otherwise, I won’t be able to help you. I’ll need everyone’s cooperation so that we can leave this place.” Huo Yuhao transmitted another thought to them. This time, his thought was completely clear in their minds.

The elders started to be moved. Who wouldn’t wish to escape this hell they were in?

The rest of the hostages started to calm down after their elders looked at them.

Huo Yuhao secretly heaved a sigh of relief. He was afraid that his interaction with them would be discovered by the evil soul masters. If that happened, they would be alerted, and that would make things much more difficult for them later.

“Everyone, you should have found out that the poison in your bodies is slowly being dispelled. That’s because I added an antidote to the water that all of you are immersed in. I believe the poison in your bodies will be completely removed by tomorrow. From now on, I hope all of you can do your best to recover your soul power and physical condition. We’ll take action the night after tomorrow. When that time comes, I’ll need all of you to cooperate with me so that we can charge out of this place in one go. Tomorrow, I’ll add more tonics to this water to help all of you recover. You must stay strong. We’ll only have one opportunity to leave this place and regain our freedom.”

Huo Yuhao explained his plan, and provided words of encouragement to the hostages. He had been watching the hostages through his Spiritual Detection earlier. If there were any spies among them, he would have detected some kind of emotional fluctuation, but the truth was that no one was willing to be stuck in this water prison, and thus there were naturally no spies.

“Alright, continue to rest well. When you recover your soul power, you must not let the guards find out. Otherwise, everything will be futile. Elders, please take care of the younger ones and remember to help cover for them. I’m going to leave. We’ve already set up everything on the outside. I’ll give each of you a Heartcalming Pill. I’m from Shrek Academy.”

The Tang Sect’s reputation wasn’t as notable as Shrek Academy’s. This was why Huo Yuhao mentioned that he was from Shrek Academy to better reassure these hostages.

The gloomy atmosphere in the water prison started to change after Huo Yuhao told them his plan. The lifeless-looking eyes started to look brighter, and the elders who had already started to sense the recovery of their soul power started to circulate it. The water they were in that had brought them so much torment was now their best cover.

Huo Yuhao retracted his Spiritual Detection, but he didn’t leave. Instead, he unleashed his Spiritual Interference and engulfed the entire water prison with it.

With his current spiritual power, the Zhong brothers and the two Titled Douluo elders would definitely discover his Spiritual Interference if they were here. However, these lower-ranked evil soul masters wouldn’t be able to discover anything unless they paid close attention.

Huo Yuhao was taking precautions. If there were spies that he had missed, or any soul master lost control of his emotions, he could still salvage the situation with his Spiritual Interference.

However, his worries were unfounded. These soul masters and soul engineers from the various academies and sects were all strong enough. After a momentary shock, they soon regained their composure with the help of their elders. With the polluted water in the water prison as their cover, they could still control their emotions even though they were angry.

After observing them for an hour, Huo Yuhao calmed down and silently left the prison.

This was the start of a huge rescue operation. The Tang Sect’s operation was about to be unveiled.

Huo Yuhao soon mixed more tonics into the polluted water. According to the information Ma Xiaotao had provided him, the toxicity of the Soul Eradicating Powder was very strong. It was only added in every half month. The next time it was going to be added into the water was in five days, and thus there was a vacuum now. Huo Yuhao’s rescue plan would be carried out during this vacuum period.

Everyone from the Tang Sect was prepared to save the hostages. When the second night arrived, there was another guest in Sunrise City.

This person was completely masked with a black veil and hat. Under this cover, it was impossible to tell his gender or age.

He entered the city in a much more convenient method than ordinary people. He walked to the city gate and revealed a token. After this, he was allowed to enter the city without any checks.

He walked in a weird manner. He seemed to be gently drifting, as if he were exerting no strength at all. He wasn't walking very quickly. However, he was very adept at avoiding detection – if one tried to watch him, he would soon discover that this person would disappear from his view.

Very soon, he came to a building with a pointed tip.

If Huo Yuhao were here right now, he would know that this building was the building that he had tailed Feng Ling to, and where he had discovered Wu Yun.

After he drifted into this building, he came to the place where Wu Yun had once hanged and hit Feng Ling. A sinister aura that was filled with grievance started to spread. He sat cross-legged on the ground and started to recite something before a red glow started to subtly surface behind his back. It seemed as if a weird human projection were drifting behind him.

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"It's done?" He Caitou asked Huo Yuhao.

Huo Yuhao nodded and jumped down from the base of the egg-shaped soul tool. At this point, this wide room was filled with all types of soul tools. It was like an arsenal.

He Caitou chortled and said, "Alright, leave this place to me. I'll teach them a good lesson later."

Huo Yuhao hurriedly instructed, "Second senior, don't be tempted to fight. After you launch these soul tools, you must immediately meet everyone in the south."

"Okay, don't worry. I know my limits."

Huo Yuhao took a look at the sky outside, which was getting darker and darker. "It's about time. Third senior and the rest should be in position. I need to go over to prepare too. Second senior, be careful. If necessary, you must give up everything for your own safety."

He Caitou patted his shoulder and gave him a thumbs-up.

Huo Yuhao gave him a confident smile before saying, "Once this is over, all of you proceed south, and get on the boat when you reach it. Don't wait for us. There are only a few of us, which will make it much more convenient for us to move around. We'll meet back at the Academy."

"Yuhao..." He Caitou stopped Huo Yuhao and sounded a little hesitant.

Huo Yuhao smiled and said, "Second senior, I know what you want to say. However, there are things a man should and should not do. Since you've promised me, you should do your best. We'll all be careful."

“Alright. Come back soon. We’ll celebrate in the Tang Sect.” He Caitou wasn’t a pushy guy either. After giving Huo Yuhao a thumbs-up again, he watched as Huo Yuhao left.

After leaving the hotel, Huo Yuhao quickly proceeded towards the southern city gate. He didn’t proceed to prepare immediately, but returned to their room in the hotel on the southern side.

Xu Sanshi and Ye Guyi were already gone. The two of them had left the city with Jing Ziyang and Ji Juechen. Only Nan Qiuqiu and Feng Ling were left here.

After a few days of recovery, Feng Ling seemed to be in a better state. However, he was still a little lost, possibly because of the deep trauma he had suffered. It was as if he was unwilling to wake up from his dreams.

Everyone from the Tang Sect could understand the predicament he was in. Feng Ling had completely lost his ability to enjoy pleasure after suffering such critical injuries to his body. His desire to live was already very commendable.

However, Huo Yuhao left him in the city because of his special condition, and to prevent any complications. If he was snuck out of the city, he might expose more things. Nan Qiuqiu was in charge of watching him now.

Huo Yuhao was well-aware that Sunrise City’s martial law would be completely meaningless once they managed to rescue the hostages. They could think of a way to leave with Feng Ling after rescuing Nan Shuishui.

He had also briefed Nan Qiuqiu about Nan Shuishui’s condition. After rescuing most of the hostages it would be the best opportunity for them to rescue Nan Shuishui. Nan Qiuqiu didn’t pose any objections to this. After Huo Yuhao decided to remain with her to rescue her mother, her attitude towards him changed greatly. She acted less proud in front of him.

“Is it about time?” Nan Qiuqiu couldn’t help but ask Huo Yuhao when she saw him.

Huo Yuhao nodded slightly and said, “Let’s move out together. How’s Feng Ling?”

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Nan Qiuqiu evidently didn’t like Feng Ling, and twisted her lips as she said, “He only sleeps after he eats.”

Huo Yuhao said, “Let him sleep then. This region is very dark, thus this hotel is safer than the one in the north. Later, just proceed to the location that we’ve decided on. Once I finish things over here, I’ll go over to find you immediately. Don’t act blindly. There’ll be at least a Class 6 or 7 soul engineer over there, as well as several evil soul masters standing guard. If you expose yourself, you can forget about saving your mother.”

Nan Qiuqiu replied without any hesitation, “Okay, I’ll listen to you. I won’t barge in blindly. I’ll wait for you to come. If you don’t come after a day, I’ll...”

Huo Yuhao’s expression turned serious at this moment. “If I still don’t arrive in a day, you must think of a way to leave this place. Don’t think about rescuing anyone anymore. Otherwise, the bloodline of the Earthdragon Sect will never be passed down. Do you think that will be what your mother wants to see?”

Nan Qiuqiu's was moved, and she suddenly hugged Huo Yuhao tightly. "We'll succeed, won't we?"

Huo Yuhao couldn't bear to push her away as he felt her body tremble. He gently patted her back, "Yes, we'll succeed. All of this will be over, and everything will be fine again."

"Thanks. If you can save my mother and the disciples of the Earthdragon Sect, we'll do anything for the Tang Sect in the future."

Huo Yuhao smiled and said, "Silly girl. You are a part of the Tang Sect. How can you speak on behalf of the Earthdragon Sect?"

Nan Qiuqiu relaxed her hug and took two steps back. After this, she wore a displeased expression on her face. "You aren't even as old as me yet. Don't always think that you can act like an elder. You're not even twenty, but you act like you're forty."

An upset look flashed across Huo Yuhao's eyes. Yes! His mental age was far older than most others of the same age, which was a result of the unfortunate events he had experienced when he was younger, as well as everything that had occurred afterward. It was also because of this that he could play a leading role in the Tang Sect, became the youngest member of the Sea God's Pavilion in Shrek Academy, and was the first to complete the Ultimate Soldier Plan.

Huo Yuhao took in a deep breath and checked everything he had on him before he said resolutely to Nan Qiuqiu, "Let's go."

"Yes!" Nan Qiuqiu nodded.

The two of them quickly left the hotel before they proceeded in two different directions.

Huo Yuhao's destination was very close, so he stopped after only walking for a short while. As he made a turn, he silently entered a narrow, dark alley. Even though there were high-altitude surveillance soul tools above him, he couldn't possibly be detected without the use of thermal detectors.

At the north of the city, He Caitou was standing at a window and watching the sky. It was getting closer and closer to the agreed-upon time.

The four who had snuck out through the southern city gate were now waiting quietly twenty-five kilometers from this same city gate.

There were simply too many surveillance soul tools in Sunrise City. There were even soul tools stationed outside the city, which prevented them from getting close. They were also waiting for their opportunity to come.

It was getting darker and darker. The darker it was, the worse the effect of the surveillance soul tools. Of course, such a situation wasn't going to last for long. Once high-altitude surveillance soul tools were able to be combined with thermal detectors, there would be significant improvements in the aspect of high-altitude surveillance.

Everything was in place, and it was about time too.

"Begin!" An instruction suddenly sounded in He Caitou's mind.

A passionate look suddenly flashed across He Caitou's eyes. He rubbed his right hand across his bald head and turned around immediately. He faced all the soul tools that he had installed in the room.

A huge ring on his right hand shone, and a dark-red barrel around a meter long with a ten-centimeter caliber appeared in his grasp.

He took one step forward and was behind the Class 8 egg-shaped soul tool. He pointed the dark-red barrel upward.

The structure of this hotel was very simple – there were only several two-storey buildings. They were in a room which was on the second floor of one of the buildings.

Red lights rose silently at this point. A huge hole was vaporized in the roof of this room when the red light from the barrel was fired at it. No dust fell from the roof.

He Caitou became more and more excited. He swept his barrel quickly, and many sections of the roof were disintegrated in a matter of seconds. Very soon, the roof ceased to exist entirely. At this point, the 'starfishes' that had helped to conceal the soul power undulations from this room earlier were no longer in effect.

He Caitou quickly retracted the barrel in his hand, and it turned into a disc-like item. At the same time, he stepped on a semi-circular piece of metal that wasn't very eye-catching below the base of the egg-shaped soul tool. One end of that soul tool immediately cracked open, and a pitch-black barrel slowly extended out. Blinding red light started to shine within this barrel, and the twenty-four Milk Bottles inside the base started to release soul power. The soul power undulations that were generated as a result immediately triggered alarms in the city.

He Caitou wore a calm expression on his face, but there was a wild look in his eyes. He moved his right hand rapidly on the disc and kept on pressing it. A soul cannon that was pointed towards the sky started to light up. Following this, fierce gusts of wind started to rage.

The impact caused by the tremendous soul power undulations didn't just cause the roof to be torn apart. The surrounding walls also collapsed, and close to a hundred streaks of flowing light were targeted and shot towards the sky instantly.

Apart from that egg-shaped soul tool in this room, there were also ten Zhuge Divine Crossbow Cannons. Each cannon was completely filled with stationary soul cannon shells. In the first wave of attack, one hundred and eighty Class 4 shells were fired.

In monetary terms, the cost of all the shells in these ten cannons was enough to cover half a year of Sunrise City's revenue.

Sunrise City was indeed tightly guarded. When more than a hundred streaks of lights were fired, countless soul rays and soul cannon lights started shining near the closest north wall before they were fired to intercept the streaks of incoming light.

Outside the city, the northern legion of soul engineers also started to gather a lot of firepower to intercept the incoming attack. They formed a huge interception net in the air and tried to stop all of the incoming shells.

Things started to get messy inside Sunrise City too. No matter how fast they reacted, the troops in the city would only be able to arrive after fifteen minutes.

He Caitou didn't seem to have seen the changes in the sky. Right now, he had already focused his energy on the egg-shaped soul tool. The scarlet-red light was gradually turning golden-red at the front of this soul tool. The terrifying soul power undulations even caused He Caitou to feel a little breathless.

He was pressing the other side of this egg-shaped soul tool right now, specifically on a red button with a skull on it.

Rings of demonic patterned lights quickly surged upward from the base of the soul tool. When this entire soul tool turned golden-red, He Caitou pressed this button with force.

Suddenly, the surrounding air distorted tremendously, and the high-altitude surveillance soul tools within this region lost their effect. They could only detect distorted waves.

Following this, a ball of cone-shaped, golden-red light was fired from that barrel, and quickly rose into the sky. In the blink of an eye, it crossed the city wall and was northbound.

There were people in charge of the high-altitude surveillance soul tools over where the northern legion of soul engineers was. In the entire continent, the Sun Moon Empire's soul engineer legions had the greatest fighting experience with soul tools.

Once they discovered that something was wrong, this area started to sound with deafening alarms. Following this, halos were quickly released. In the blink of an eye, they formed three layers of barriers that protected this area.

Soul engineer legions were terrifying because they contained many soul engineers. When there were sufficient soul tools and soul engineers, the strength of a soul engineer legion could far surpass a single soul engineer.

As they erected their defense, this legion of soul engineers focused their firepower towards the sky. They targeted the ball of golden-red light that He Caitou fired into the sky.

Whether it was in terms of their reaction time or their methods, the Sun Moon Empire's soul engineering legions were on point. They were dealing with an attack that came from a Class 8 soul tool.

He Caitou revealed a cold smile on his face. He didn't even verify whether the shots he fired were successful before he immediately retracted his egg-shaped soul tool.

A ball-shaped soul tool drifted above his hand and the egg-shaped soul tool. A layer of icy fog was released, and helped to dissipate the heat from his egg-shaped soul tool while he quickly took out the Milk Bottles inside the base of his egg-shaped soul tool and put them away.

If those soul engineers knew that twenty-four Class 6 Sealed Milk Bottles had been completely drained in an instant, they might not be very confident in how they were reacting.

A middle-aged man in a purple warrior robe charged furiously out from his tent in the area where the northern legion of soul engineers was quartered, and he immediately raged, "What's going on?"

“Vice-commander, there are sudden, intense soul power undulations coming from inside the city. We aren’t sure what’s going on either.”

Just as they were speaking, a series of tremendous booms had already sounded in the sky. Terrifying soul power undulations caused a dazzling scene of fireworks to appear in the sky.

More than ninety-five percent of the stationary shells fired from the ten Zhuge Divine Crossbow Cannons were successfully intercepted, and blew apart in the sky.

?Chapter 382.1: All Sides Exploding Out!

“Clown, go send people over to check the situation out, now.” The vice-captain had a strong look of contempt as he saw the exploding lights in the sky. Does this intruder have a problem with his brain? He’s playing with soul tools with our Sun Moon Empire.

At this moment, an extremely sharp alarm suddenly rang out. This caused the vice-leader’s expression to immediately change. “Not good, our aerial soul tools have temporarily been rendered ineffective, so we can’t use them for targeting. Our enemies still have another move, so we need to activate all defenses. I’ll go to the main control area of the military front.”

Right. There was no one who could beat the Sun Moon Empire in terms of proficiency in soul tools, as well their use in military warfare. Even Shrek Academy wasn’t an exception to this. However, Huo Yuhao was the only person who’d successfully completed the Ultimate Soldier Plan, while He Caitou was an outstanding soul engineer who was bound to be a star of Shrek Academy. They were naturally not too worried about the Sun Moon Empire when it came to the overall strength of their soul tools. If they were to launch a carefully planned surprise attack that used all of the Tang Sect’s resources, how could they not have a chance of succeeding?

Another hundred and eighty beams of light surged into the firework-filled sky. Every single beam was extremely accurate, as if their paths had been measured with a ruler. They left brilliant trails of fire in the sky as they flew, and their blazing glows instantly carved out another dazzling wave of light in the sky.

The time taken between the first and second waves of the Zhuge Divine Crossbow Cannons was very short, astonishing all onlookers. This was one of the benefits of using stationary soul cannons—there was no need to charge up soul power for each shot. As long as there was enough ammo, much more firepower could be used at the same time.

Although the Zhuge Divine Crossbow Cannon had already been sold to the three empires of the original Douluo Continent, they’d never truly appeared on a battlefield before. All of the defenses set up by the Sun Moon Empire had been geared towards soul master and soul tools.

After using Huo Yuhao’s Spiritual Detection to lock onto their targets, they used the first wave of shots to act as a guide, while using the second wave to act as the true killer. At the same time, they used a Class 8 stationary soul cannon to control the northern city front. This was a plan that was completely directed at the aerial soul tools, and could be said to be flawless. *nOVE-Lb)1n*

Furthermore, all of the aerial soul detectors in the air crumbled to dust due to the blazing-hot explosives amidst the firework-filled sky. The godly might of the Zhuge Divine Crossbow Cannon once again revealed itself, and a third wave was once again fired in a short period of time.

They didn't target the northern city this time around. Instead, it was fired at the eastern and western city walls. After He Caitou fired the Class 8 stationary soul cannon, he'd completed a simple tuning of the Crossbow Cannons.

The soul engineer legions stationed in the western and eastern parts of the city simply had no way of stopping these stationary soul cannons. This was because they'd fired at a much lower trajectory than before. Combined with the lack of their lack of aerial surveillance soul tools, they'd turned into blind men. How could they blindly fire their soul tools towards the city?

Just as the third wave of cannons were fired, that brilliant beam of golden light collided with the northern city's protective barrier.

"Boom..." The earth shook, and mountains quaked.

A terrifying explosion shook the heavens and the earth, and even Radiant City could faintly hear the loud explosions from this place.

The protective barrier over at the Soul Engineer Legion front was on the verge of collapse, but they were able to take this barrage of attacks.

The commander, who'd already rushed to the core of the front, suddenly had a change in expression, and finally let out a long sigh.

"It's still good. This is only the strength of a Class 7 stationary soul cannon. Otherwise, our protective barrier wouldn't be standing. Pass down my commands. Everyone, use all of your soul power and increase the reserves of soul power in our defensive soul tools. Fire all of our backup aerial surveillance soul tools towards the sky."

Although the aerial surveillance soul tools in the air were already a large part of their reserves, they were still reserves. However, though there weren't a lot of reserves, something was better than nothing! Since they were already used to aerial surveillance soul tools guiding them in battle, they didn't dare to act rashly at all with the lack of their little toys.

The vice-captain, who was the acting commander at the military front, had an expression so ugly that he wanted to die. He fiercely said to himself, "Don't these good-for-nothings in the city know how many stationary soul tools they've set up? You'd need at least three hundred Class 4 or stronger stationary soul cannons to generate this amount of force. You'd need at least three thousand square meters to set something like that up. Why didn't these incompetent bastards notice that many soul tools in the city? They're truly thorough bastards. Hmm? Why do I feel the earth shaking a bit? Quick, where are our land surveillance soul tools? Go check on them. Don't tell me that a Dragon has woken up?"

Just as the vice-captain was muttering to himself, his expression suddenly changed enormously. The ground beneath him had already transformed into a patch of gold, and the area that this patch covered had already far exceeded the area that their Soul Engineer Legion front had stationed themselves in.

Class 7? No, that's a Class 8. Also, it's a Class 8 like the one the Illustrious Virtue Hall meticulously crafted, one that's specifically geared towards taking down defensive fronts like this one.

As the violent explosions rang out, nobody was able to see an even more piercing golden light vigorously tunnel itself into the ground. After that, it quietly travelled several hundred meters beneath the ground to arrive at the core of their military front. Then...

"Boom, boooooom, booooooom...."

A terrifying golden light instantly transformed the entirety of the northern city into a golden sea. An enormous ball of golden light that resembled the early stages of sunrise revealed itself from the ground. Not even ten people were able to activate their personal soul barriers and Invincible Barriers in time to block and escape from this terrifyingly huge explosion that was like punishment from the heavens.

At this exact same time, the walls of the western and eastern cities each received a baptism from ninety stationary soul cannons. These were stationary soul cannons! Just how large were these cities? They were only mock-ups of ordinary cities.

A large number of soul detectors and defensive soul tools stationed on the two city walls blossomed with resplendent light.

Due to the limited area of the city walls, the soul tools stationed there were mostly soul detectors aimed outside and inside the city. Who would've thought that they'd actually be attacked, given that there were two Soul Engineer Legions stationed outside the city walls? Furthermore, this had been done from the inside. Because of that, the defensive power of the city walls weren't strong enough. This was also the correct decision made by Huo Yuhao after carrying out a thorough investigation.

Because of that, the various expensive soul detectors on the city walls shattered after their defensive soul tools couldn't withstand the continuous bombardment of Huo Yuhao's stationary soul cannons. In the next instant, over a third of the city walls collapsed.

He Caitou was not happy at all. He put the perfect Class 8 stationary soul cannon he'd just fired away, then quickly put the Zhuge Divine Crossbow Cannons away as well. However, from the racket he could hear outside, he knew that he didn't have much time left.

Why was he not happy? Moreover, why did he look like he was attending a funeral? This was because he couldn't bear to do it! He felt pained!

Those were three hundred and sixty stationary soul cannon shells! An overwhelming majority of them had been taken from Radiant City, and these three hundred and sixty stationary soul cannons shells were around a third of the total Class 4 stationary soul cannons they'd taken back. The total value of these soul tools couldn't even be measured with money.

However, Bei Bei had let them bring all of this to ensure they would be able to safely overwhelm their opponents during the course of this mission. Within a short minute, they had squandered all of this.

The Zhuge Divine Crossbow Cannon was truly powerful. It was absolutely much more powerful than any other soul tool of its class.

However, the firing of this terrifying array of cannon shells was backed by countless amounts of gold. It would've been slightly better if they'd used soul power instead. For example, in a situation like this, where they'd used stationary soul cannons. It was true that stationary soul cannons were powerful, and their effects were superb. However, they'd also caused so much heartache that it would render one unable to breathe!

"Damn it. These brats are coming really quickly. I have to go. Babies, I can't bear to part with you guys!" He Caitou, who'd only managed to keep two Zhuge Divine Crossbow Cannons, took out a miniature floating soul detector from midair. He looked at the bright red light on it, then looked at the other eight Crossbow Cannons with a look of unwillingness. Then, he clenched his teeth and jumped off the roof.

The instant he jumped out, a pitch-black soul cannon appeared on his shoulder. Without any booms or whatnot, a dark figure shot towards the direction of the northern city and vanished into the night. Without any aerial surveillance soul tools around, nobody had noticed his movement.

Just as He Caitou quietly snuck away, everyone within Sunrise City started to move about as though they'd been awakened.

The cold-faced Ma Xiaotao had already flown towards the northern city along with the Third and Fourth Elders. The instant they rose into the air, what they saw was an astonishing, enormously large explosion of gold.

The defense of the water prison was paramount. Thus, even Ma Xiaotao couldn't drag Zhong Li and his brothers away at this point in time. She could only warn them to carefully guard the water prison before leaving.

While Sunrise City was in a state of chaos, nobody noticed that a person had borrowed the cover of darkness to quietly lie down beside the southern moat. This person quietly dipped into the moat.

Huo Yuhao had borrowed the opportunity granted to him by the destruction of the aerial surveillance soul tools to slip away stealthily from the city walls. This time around, he used the same old trick—he'd used his spiritual power to seal his soul power, then used his Ultimate Ice to lower his body temperature.

Chapter 382.2: All Sides Exploding Out!

By using his Ultimate Ice to lower his body temperature, all the remaining soul tools would be rendered ineffective for a short period of time. Naturally, Huo Yuhao would be at his weakest during this period of time as well.

He relied completely on the physical strength of a Soul Emperor to cross the city walls. Combined with his Spiritual Interference, he was able to leave the city without alerting anyone. He was now lying by the moat to slowly recover his soul power.

By the time the terrifying explosion caused by the Class 8 stationary soul cannon occurred, he'd nearly removed the seal placed on his soul power. Only then did he quietly submerge himself into the water and dig his way into the water prison.

This time around, what he used was his physical body and not his spiritual avatar. Once he entered the water prison, it wouldn't be easy for him to leave.

Huo Yuhao performed a cursory observation of the water prison with his spiritual power. Very quickly, he discovered the lively soul power contained within the various soul masters and soul engineers it held. Even if they weren't fully recovered, they had enough strength to fight one battle, at least.

Huo Yuhao held on to the metal railings of the water prison with a single hand and used the other to push against the water in the moat. A jade-green light rose from his body, and the little Snow Lady quietly appeared by his side.

The current Snow Lady was already a big kid who looked around eight or nine. A noble and cold look had already replaced her originally cute face, making her seem much like the original Snow Lady.

An extremely chilly intent instantly spread outwards, freezing the moat outside at a speed that the naked eye could see.

The little Snow Lady nodded softly towards Huo Yuhao, then gently twisted about in the water to reach the depths of the moat. Unexpectedly, one could see snowflakes fluttering around her, even underwater.

The moat, which was originally flowing vigorously, had been blocked by a wall of ice after a short period of time. The area of this wall of ice then covered both sides of the moat at an astonishing speed.

With the Snow Lady here, Huo Yuhao simply didn't need to do anything. With a wave of his right hand, the Darkgolden Terrorclaws shot out and noiselessly tore the metal railings apart.

His use of Ultimate Ice was perfect. Just like how the water in the water prison wouldn't flow outwards, the extreme cold within it wouldn't diffuse out either. Otherwise, a large problem could occur if they were to freeze everyone within the water prison.

After quietly submerging and swimming around in the water, Huo Yuhao began to spread his spiritual power out to cover the entirety of the water prison.

At this moment, the evil soul masters within the water prison were somewhat nervous. The Zhong brothers were huddled together on another side of the water prison, which was also its true entrance.

Never in their wildest dreams would they have imagined that somebody would enter the water prison via the moat under the surveillance of so many soul detectors on the southern city walls. From what they were aware of, the moat water still contained the extremely toxic Soul Exterminating Powder. If a soul master was to swim within the water, their soul power would quickly be dispersed. What threat would they be able to pose then?

Huo Yuhao's spiritual power deliberately avoided the area where the Zhong brothers were and even the hostages who were by their side. For the sake of preventing any accidents, it was sufficient to inform a large number of people, but not all, of what was going to happen.

"Everyone, make your preparations." Huo Yuhao's thoughts were quickly transmitted into the minds of the hostages by way of his Spiritual Detection.

The hostages, who'd been acting as though they were weak all this while, immediately felt their spirits rise.

In reality, they were already doing their best to hold themselves back after recovering their soul power. Although there were quite a few evil soul masters here, they were insignificant compared to the number of hostages held here. They were still somewhat fearful of the two evil Titled Douluo from before, but the number of evil soul masters left here was clearly much less than before!

Were it not for the elders restraining them, some of the younger hostages would've been unable to stop themselves from trying to escape. After being held captive here for a few months, the gloominess pent up in their hearts could be imagined.

Huo Yuhao didn't tell them what the signal to move was, because there was simply no need for that.

The southern city walls.

All of the patrolling soldiers were staring at the northern city. The brilliant golden light that had risen into the air had finally started to disperse, though there were still sparks faintly flying about along the walls of the eastern and western city. The sounds of the violent explosions from those areas made the atmosphere in the Southern City extraordinarily tense.

Many of the soldiers stationed there felt inwardly happy. Fortunately, nothing had happened to them.

"What are you looking at? Get to your places, what are you doing?!" A strict voice suddenly rang out. As he started shouting, the various soldiers rushed back to their positions.

"Commander, take a look at this. This, what is this?" A soldier in charge of a soul detector cried out in surprise.

"Hmm?" The originally angry commander quickly ran over.

"What's the situation?"

"Commander, there are undulations of soul power. However, we can't see anyone at all!" The soldier pointed at the simple soul screen in front of him.

Large, greenish ripples were floating about on the screen in front of him. This signified that there was an extremely strong and wide undulation of soul power in the city below him.

"This is..." The commander was at a loss as well. He immediately took a look at the other soul detectors around him and discovered that they were all inactive. Nor did he discover any life signs of any living creatures. Only the soul detector in front of him had produced this result.

"Commander, you'd better come over here!" Another soldier at a different area cried out.

"What now?" The commander quickly rushed over.

The soldier pointed at the screen in front of him, dumbstruck, "My thermal soul tool seems to have malfunctioned! It's showing that the temperature underground is dropping madly! How, how can this be?!"

"The temperature of the ground beneath us is dropping?" The commander quickly stretched his head to look down the wall, and the soldier next to him turned on a soul lamp to light up the area.

The city walls around Sunrise City weren't too tall. When the light from the soul lamp illuminated the moat, the commander finally discovered what the problem was.

He suddenly let out an ear-piercing screech, "Enemy attack!"

Why would the moat suddenly freeze for no reason? He himself was a soul master, and he could guess the reason for this. Only a soul master could cause an astonishing phenomenon like this!

Unfortunately, he'd made his discovery too late.

The water prison. When the little Snow Lady quietly returned to Huo Yuhao's body, his eyes lit up.

It was time!

His body shook slightly, and the soul thrusters on his back caused Huo Yuhao to shoot out from the water with a whoosh.

The moment he appeared, he immediately attracted the attention of every single hostage and evil soul master. Even the Zhong brothers, who were discussing the situation outside, were not an exception to this.

Five soul rings rose from Huo Yuhao's feet one after another. For the sake of attracting even more of his opponent's attention, he made all five of these soul rings glow with a blood-red light.

His third soul ring lit up, and a white layer of light instantly spread out from Huo Yuhao's body.

Mass Enfeeblement!

Huo Yuhao didn't hold anything back at a time like this. The instant he released his Mass Enfeeblement, Huo Yuhao clenched his fist in midair.

The violent sound of an explosion instantly rang out.

The reason why Ice Explosion was known as a godly skill was because of its terrifying effect whenever there was sufficient ice.

Although Ice Explosion couldn't be used within the moat due to a lack of soul power that could be used to trigger it, it had transformed into Huo Yuhao's best source of gunpowder after it was frozen.

The large moat had been frozen solid, causing the violent explosion from Huo Yuhao's skill to spread all the way to the outside.

This was also the exact instant that the commander yelled out.

After receiving so many new hostages, the overall defenses of Sunrise City had increased by a few levels. However, the only thing that didn't change was the thickness of its city walls.

After all, this was just a small city. They'd only set this whole shebang up to draw in people from the Douluo Continent's three empires, who would attempt to rescue the hostages. There was no way that they'd specifically reinforce the city walls for this.

Because of that, the foundations of the southern walls were thoroughly shaken by the explosion of the moat.

It seemed as though the entire earth was trembling within the water prison. The violent rumbling, as well as Huo Yuhao rushing out of the water was already the best signal he could give the hostages.

Rays of light began to glow within the prison. The hostages who'd gone through countless hardships during their imprisonment finally went all-out.

The prison could keep them in while their soul power was limited, but how could it withstand the might of several experts who'd recovered their soul power?

The entire prison was destroyed in an instant. The instant the prisoners rushed out, they launched a wave of long-range soul skills towards the evil soul masters guarding the prison. Everything was shaking at this moment, and the wall had already begun to collapse. The other entrance of the water prison, which was where Huo Yuhao had entered, had already been blown apart.

Everything had perfectly gone according to Huo Yuhao's plan.

Although the Zhong brothers reacted instantly, they were facing several hundred soul masters.

This group of soul masters didn't just consist of the students who were representing their various academies and sects. There were also a few teachers, leaders and experts as well! There was no lack of seven-ringed and eight-ringed existences within this group!

During their imprisonment, they'd suffered at the hands of these evil soul masters. They'd lived in suffering and neared the border between life and death every day. When this pent-up anger instantly exploded, even evil soul masters would be afraid of them going all-out with no regard for their lives!

A few of the several dozen evil soul masters were instantly destroyed by the first wave of attacks.

Although the Zhong brothers didn't really understand why the hostages had regained their combat strength, they could only run away at top speed. Otherwise, they would definitely be torn to shreds by these people!

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At the same time, several kilometers away from the south side of the city...

Xu Sanshi stood on a small hill, looking toward Sunrise City.

The sounds of explosions from Sunrise City signified that the plan had fully started. They were now waiting, waiting for the signal for the next part of the plan.

Chapter 382.3: All Sides Exploding Out!

"It's time to move. The troops stationed in the East and West have already moved towards the North. Caitou should've succeeded." Jing Ziyang fiddled with a little device in her hand.

Xu Sanshi nodded.

Ji Juechen stood beside Jing Ziyang. He now had his usual stern face on, as he tightly gripped the Judgement Sword in his right hand.

Jing Ziyang turned to Xu Sanshi and said, "The troops outside the South City haven't made a move yet. It seems like they've received an order to remain there no matter what. Are we going to start the plan or not?"

Xu Sanshi shook his head. "Let's just wait for a bit longer. Once Yuhao makes his move, the Soul Engineer Legion outside the city will definitely not be able to stay silent anymore. They should send a few soldiers away to the front. That's when we'll make our move."

"Okay." Jing Ziyang nodded.

Xu Sanshi closed his eyes, as though he had entered a meditative state standing up. Streams of dull, black air started to move about near him, and the other three moved away from him. Standing near him made them feel as if they'd sunken into quicksand.

Huo Yuhao didn't make them wait for long. After a few minutes, the large explosion coming from the southern moat occurred. The terrifying explosive power it released made the city walls tremble, and even caused cracks to appear in many places.

Sure enough, the army stationed outside the city made a move the instant something came up. Via her soul detector, Jing Ziyang was able to tell that the troops stationed there were a mess. It seemed like they were gathering together.

"Prepare to move out. Go to your designated positions!" Xu Sanshi let out a low shout.

Ye Guyi, Ji Juechen, and Jing Ziyang quickly ran towards a circle drawn not far away from Xu Sanshi. n--
Ove**bl**n

Two yellow, two purple, and two black soul rings rose from Xu Sanshi's feet. An enormous Black Tortoise image also appeared behind him.

A pitch-black Xuanwu Shield appeared noiselessly in his palm. As Xu Sanshi turned towards the sky, Jing Ziyang took out another soul tool and pressed a button on it.

When all of the aerial surveillance soul tools above Sunrise City were destroyed by the Zhuge Divine Crossbow Cannons, Jing Ziyang quietly fired two soul tools into the sky. One was an aerial surveillance soul tool similar to that used by the Sun Moon Empire, specifically used to monitor the situation of the Soul Engineer Legion outside the city.

The sudden appearance of an enemy, moreover in three different areas, was especially devastating. The southern city's most important duty was to protect the water prison, but they were instantly turned into blind men following the destruction of all of their aerial surveillance soul tools. Although they were prepared to launch replacements, they still needed a bit more time. Naturally, they couldn't be faster than someone like Jing Ziyang, who was already prepared.

Other than the aerial surveillance soul tool, the other thing Jing Ziyang had fired was much stranger. Even she didn't know what it was.

That thing was very large, around five meters long and shaped like a huge umbrella. This was the largest soul tool they'd brought along with them.

The instant Xu Sanshi announced the start of the mission, Jing Ziyang pressed the button that activated this umbrella-shaped soul tool.

Immediately, a point in the sky lit up, and the huge umbrella opened up!

The enormous umbrella had a diameter of nearly ten meters and released a bright silver light. A weak beam of light and had no offensive capabilities instantly landed outside the city by the barracks, about ten kilometers away from Xu Sanshi.

The appearance of this beam of light was precisely when the barracks was in a state of chaos, the instant they'd sent out reinforcements to Sunrise City! Due to the lack of aerial surveillance soul tools, only a few people noticed the glow of this beam of light that accompanied the opening of the huge umbrella and felt that something wasn't right.

At this exact moment, a brilliant light shot out from Xu Sanshi's eyes. With his Xuanwu Shield held high, his fourth soul ring lit up.

The umbrella-shaped soul tool shot out another beam of light. This time around, it shone on the circle Ye Guyi and the others were standing in.

Xu Sanshi leapt forward, jumping into this ray of light. Right after that, the dark light on his Xuanwu Shield lit up brightly. With a flash, he vanished into thin air. However, a flabbergasted soul engineer from the Sun Moon Empire's Soul Engineer Legion appeared in his place and directly fell to the ground.

Ji Juechen made an overly simple movement with his Judgement Sword, causing the struggling soul engineer to vanish.

Right after that, another light flashed. Ji Juechen vanished into thin air, but Xu Sanshi returned.

The enormous umbrella-shaped soul tool in the sky was something Xuan Ziwen had created especially for Xu Sanshi, called a soul mirror. This was a soul tool that could utilize the mirror within the huge umbrella to magnify an image of places far away for Xu Sanshi to look at.

If Xu Sanshi still had his Mysterious Underworld Shield, this soul tool would've been of no use to him at all. However, certain impossible things had become possible following his martial soul's evolution into the Xuanwu Shield. For example, he could now use his Mysterious Underworld Displacement on anything within his line of sight! It would now be more appropriate to call it the Xuanwu Displacement!

Xu Sanshi had used this soul tool to transport himself over to the Soul Engineer Legion, then sent Ji Juechen over afterwards.

At this moment, there were still not many people within the southern Soul Engineer Legion who had discovered what had just occurred.

Ji Juechen appeared out of thin air, then gently landed. Immediately afterwards, he charged out from the circle of light that the soul mirror had created.

The surrounding soul engineers felt something was off. Immediately, someone came up to question him.

Ji Juechen possessed a certain level of strength. He shot forward like a bolt of lightning and grabbed at a soul engineer who was questioning him. He threw him into the circle of light with a flip of his hand.

And so, Xu Sanshi returned. After three consecutive displacements, Xu Sanshi, Jing Ziyan, and Ye Guyi used the same method to forcefully charge into the southern Soul Engineer Legion several dozen kilometers away from them!

Even a Titled Douluo who was skilled in spatial abilities wouldn't be able to use an Instant Teleportation that could cross a distance that far! However, Xu Sanshi had done it, albeit with the aid of a soul tool.

Naturally, he was drained of a large amount of soul power following this displacement. He held a Milk Bottle in each of his hands and began recovering his soul power immediately after he re-appeared.

Only at this moment did the men in the barracks realize that something was wrong. However, the soul mirror in the sky had already been put away by Jing Ziyan.

This little thing was still useful to them. There was even a possibility that they would need this to save Huo Yuhao and the rest later.

A large number of soul engineers started to surround them, blocking them off.

The first person to make a move, however, was still the Sword Fanatic.

Even if he had love in his heart, his fighting style would never change! With his Judgement Sword pointed towards the sky, he took a step forward with his left foot. Then, he made a half-turn and swept his longsword horizontally.

An intense, chilly light spread out in a fan-shaped sweep. The soul engineers who were activating their soul tools in order to attack felt a chill pervade their bodies, then lost consciousness in the next moment.

Ye Guyi was standing behind Ji Juechen and thus was able to see him most clearly. Ji Juechen's horizontal sweep contained a biting cold sword light that reached out a full hundred meters, and no living beings remained wherever his sword passed. At least thirty Class 3 and 4 soul engineers were cut down with a single stroke of his sword.

This fellow is really scary! Ye Guyi felt a chill go up her spine. She clearly remembered how she and Nan Qiuqiu had constantly challenged him to fight. She could now tell from the imposing aura coming off Ji Juechen's sword that he had been going easy on them all this while.

Ji Juechen didn't stop moving. With his sword in his hand, he shot through areas with the most number of people like a bolt of lightning. The Judgement Sword in his hand seemed to look disdainfully upon its enemies, and corpses littered the ground wherever it swept past.

It would be very hard to determine who was the strongest person in the Tang Sect. However, if one were to talk about the most destructive, and the person whose ability to kill was greatest, the answers to these questions would be He Caitou and Ji Juechen.

If one were to take out the use of soul tools, then only Ji Juechen would remain.

Many soul engineers already had their soul tools pointed at Ji Juechen. However, the troops stationed here were not the best troops that the Sun Moon Empire had. Their greatest strength lay in defending the military front, as well as the soul tool formations they'd set up in advance.

Just as a soul engineer's worst nightmare was fighting against a soul master in close-combat, the way this army fought was also susceptible to close-combat.

The area inside the front itself was the weakest point of the Soul Engineer Legion!

Ji Juechen was already a Soul Sage, but his destructive power wasn't something that ordinary Soul Sages could compare to. Those Class 3 and 4 soul tools were completely destroyed by his chilly sword intent before they even reached him.

The only person who made him pause slightly was a Class 6 soul engineer. However, the sad thing was that this soul engineer was skilled at close-combat.

Thus, Ji Juechen gripped his sword with both hands. After standing still for a brief moment, the area between him and the Class 6 soul engineer turned into a patch of grey.

This was the Sword Fanatic's Domain, the Solitary Domain!

Afterwards... there was no afterwards! The Sword Fanatic would never show mercy to an opponent. This was especially true after he'd gotten a new lover. His lover was standing on this battlefield, and one less opponent meant one greater chance that his lover would remain safe. This had also caused the fighting intent in this cold man to reach an unprecedented level.

Naturally, in Ji Juechen's own opinion, he stubbornly believed that the reason his will to fight had grown stronger was because he had found the right path. Yes, this was the power of love!

While Ji Juechen was killing his way through the battlefield, the others didn't just laze around. As if she had sprinkled beans on the ground to create soldiers, Jing Ziyang released an all-terrain self-driving soul fort and hid herself within it.

As a member of the Tang Sect, although she didn't know how to create soul tools, she was relatively proficient at using them. One couldn't forget that she had originally come from the Sun Moon Soul Engineering Academy. After seriously practicing their use a few times, she was naturally skilled at using this all-terrain self-driving soul fort!

Chapter 383.1: Breaking Out From the Siege

The all-terrain self-driving fort she drove had been enhanced. The moment it entered its control mode, over a hundred cannons started to fire furiously. It was as if it did not require any soul power at all as it shot the soul cannons placed by the soul engineer legions to smithereens.

It actually did not require any soul power. Specifically, it did not require any of Jing Ziyang's soul power!

This all-terrain self-driving fort was equipped with more than thirty Class 5 Milk Bottles. It could fight for hours without recharging, and Jing Ziyang now used it to its maximum potential.

Instantly, the soul engineers whose positions were under fire were sent running in all directions.

All of the soul engineer legions of the Sun Moon Empire had a subordinate army. After all, soul engineers were more important and costlier. Someone had to do the dirty and tiring work, such as raising the outer defenses.

That was work for the subordinate army.

To the south of the city, there were more soul engineers in position, numbering around three hundred. There was a Class 8 soul engineer, two Class 7 soul engineers, and five Class 6 soul engineers. Coupled with the many other soul engineers who had taken up position there, their defenses were very tight.

However, at this moment, the Class 8 soul engineer had brought the two Class 7 soul engineers to reinforce the south of the city. There were no strong soul engineers left over there.

The subordinate army, realizing that something was wrong, charged over. However, the many less powerful soul engineers fell into despair under the heavy bombardment from the all-terrain self-driving fort and the sharp sword qi of the Sword Fanatic.

The inky-black light only started to dissipate at this very moment. Xu Sanshi did not even need to maximize the power of his Xuanwu Domain. All he had to do was to ensure that its area of effect was maximized.

Everything within a two hundred and fifty meter radius appeared to have turned into a swamp. Everyone, both soul engineers and the subordinate army, who rushed into this area immediately felt as if they had dived into a deep pool of mud. There was no way they could even see the location of the Sword Fanatic and the all-terrain self-driving fort.

This was the strength of the Tang Sect and Shrek Academy! While soul engineers continually threatened the position of soul masters, truly powerful soul masters were highly intimidating.

Even Xu Tianran, who had a high opinion of himself, had no choice but to collaborate with the Holy Ghost Church because of his fear of powerful soul masters! Shrek Academy was one such power he feared greatly!

Xu Sanshi and the other three could not sustain this onslaught for long. Once the soul engineer legions reacted properly, they would gather even more soul tools to take care of them. They would be in trouble then. However, by launching this sudden attack, what they wanted to do now was not to destroy the positions of the soul engineers, but to create as much chaos as possible. This would create enough opportunities for Huo Yuhao and the others to break out with the hostages.

Inside the water prison, the many hostages rushed out like a group of starving tigers had just been released. They had suffered greatly over the past few months, and they hated the evil soul masters with all their guts. The moment they could, they covered the entire area with long-range attacks launched at full power, killing more than half of the weaker evil soul masters.

The Zhong brothers realized that the situation was turning bad for them, and they made their way to the exit while defending themselves. Their attackers were a few hundred soul masters! Even the weakest ones had at least four rings! Even if there were no powerful Titled Douluo, there were still many powerful Soul Sages and Soul Douluo, most of whom were teachers or powerful members of the various sects. Their numbers rivaled that of a soul engineer legion. In terms of individual fighting abilities, they surpassed the soul engineer legions! How could the brothers possibly beat them?

Huo Yuhao did not try to stop the Zhong brothers from leaving. The three of them were extremely powerful, and they specialized in controlling the souls of soul beasts to fight. They were all eight-ringed evil soul masters, and the moment they got over their shock, they would wreak horrific destruction. Ma Xiaotao could not delay the two evil Titled Douluo for long, either. After such a huge commotion, they would surely return shortly. Hence, the most important thing for them to do was rush out. They had to break through the seal of the soul engineers outside and reach somewhere spacious. Even a Titled Douluo would not dare to fight against more than a hundred soul masters at once!

Hence, the most important thing right now was to break out as far as they could. Huo Yuhao knew what to do afterward.

He activated his Spiritual Detection Sharing fully, and in the minds of every emotionally-charged person, the same voice resonated, "Calm yourselves. Follow me and break out."

As he said that, Huo Yuhao turned around and looked toward the south of the city, which had been completely flattened. His body started to shine with an eye-catching jade-green light.

In the next instant, a thick jade-green pillar of light pierced through the sky and bombarded the area over there. An intense explosion sounded, and flakes of ice flew in all directions. A huge hole had appeared in the wall. Huo Yuhao's soul thruster shone with light once more as he quickly arrived in front of the hole. As the hostages watched, dark-golden claws almost ten meters long appeared suddenly and silently. The broken hole became five times larger.

Someone, either a powerful member of a random sect or a teacher, gasped and said, "The Darkgolden Terrorclaw?"

"Go, now!" Huo Yuhao cried out. This time, his voice was filled with spiritual undulations.

While many of these hostages' soul power had recovered, and they had also been soaked in a reinvigorating medicine, they had also been imprisoned in the water prison for a few months. Their strength was far from optimal. Hence, they could not wait until their bodies showed signs of fatigue. There could be no delay in their breakout.

As for the Zhong brothers, Huo Yuhao believed that they would not dare re-enter for the moment. There were a few hundred soul masters here! No matter who was guarding them, surely their first response right now was to get help.

Huo Yuhao, who was at the front, rushed out first.

The moat outside was now riddled with explosions. Right now, the water from the moat was flowing outwards.

Huo Yuhao's soul thruster fired down to ensure that he could remain suspended in mid-air. As his hands touched the water, one could clearly see that they were enveloped in diamond-like ice crystals. This was his Ice Empress' Pincer.

A cold gas started to spread and turned into two rays of emerald-green light. First, they struck the surging water, which slowed, and then stopped. Then, under the terrifying chill of his Ultimate Ice, Huo Yuhao froze the moat solid.

As he pulled his hands apart, he cast his gaze afar.

The soul engineers had been thrown into complete disarray. At this moment, a team of around fifty soul engineers was rushing toward them. When they saw Huo Yuhao, a ball of blinding red light flew toward him like a shooting star in the night sky.

A smile crept across Huo Yuhao's face. He had expected this. The fifty soul engineers stationed outside the southern gate were caught between a rock and a hard place. They had realized that something was amiss at their flank, but they had no choice but to push forward.

As he watched the high-explosive bomb hurtling toward him, Huo Yuhao did not try to dodge.

A layer of golden light shone from his body and his eyes turned completely golden. In his eyes, he was analyzing the path of this high-explosive bomb. With his terrifying spiritual power, his ability to analyze any single object was intimidating.

He raised his right hand, and diamond-like ice crystals shone brightly on his hand. Then, he reached out to grab the incoming high-explosive bomb.

Poof! A curious scene appeared. The moment Huo Yuhao's right hand grabbed the high-explosive bomb, the explosion the soul engineers were expecting did not materialize. Instead, the red light surrounding the high-explosive bomb faded. Its impact, however, made Huo Yuhao waver slightly in mid-air. Following that, the high-explosive bomb was completely destroyed in Huo Yuhao's hand.

A high-explosive bomb's power came from an intense compression of fire-type soul power. With the formation array of a Class 6 soul tool, its soul power was further destabilized before it was fired. Once it hit its target or met any resistance, it would disrupt and cause a massive explosion.

What Huo Yuhao did was use his spiritual power to find the location of its unstable core and then, with his Ultimate Ice, freeze it!

While it sounded simple, it was extremely difficult to locate the highly-unstable core of a powerful high-explosive bomb in such a short time! However, he did it almost perfectly.

"It's my turn!" Huo Yuhao muttered to himself. Then, the air around him started to twist and turn as he activated his Spiritual Interference.

In the eyes of the fifty soul engineers facing him, the person who was floating in mid-air disappeared. The originally-destroyed city walls regained their original state, as did the moat. It was as if nothing had happened, and everything had been a dream.

"This..." For the fifty soul engineers, who were all armed to the teeth and wielding their favorite soul tools, this scene left them speechless. They had no qualms about attacking their enemies, but right now, the city walls and the moat in front of them were completely intact. Where were their targets? How could they fire with no target?

"No, this is an illusion. I order-" The soul engineer legion commander was a Class 8 soul engineer. He had seen many things in his life, and after a momentary pause, he realized that something was amiss. However, he did not manage to issue his order.

An odd golden whirlpool suddenly appeared above his head. He felt everything in front of him go blurry, and forcibly swallowed his words. His thoughts were scattered.

This was Huo Yuhao's fourth soul skill, Spiritual Confusion!

While Huo Yuhao was at Rank 60, he only had five soul rings. However, with the terrifying strength of his spiritual power, while he lacked the fighting abilities of a six-ringed soul master, he had no need to conserve soul power like other soul masters as he used the many soul skills of his Spirit Eyes.

Chapter 383.2: Breaking Out From the Siege

He used his spiritual power to replace the functions of his soul power. From when he had first entered the water prison until now, he had used his soul skills one after the other without stopping, yet remained in his prime state.

One versus fifty? Huo Yuhao was not that dumb or that powerful. His opponents included Class 7 and Class 8 soul engineers. Right now, his role was not one of an assault-type soul master, but instead one of a control-type soul master. His objective was to control the entire battlefield.

After a momentary pause, dozens of figures rushed out of the illusion from the river, which still appeared intact.

The greatest advantage of Huo Yuhao's Spiritual Detection was fully exemplified at this very moment. After he broke out from the water prison, he used his Spiritual Detection to accurately determine the distance of the fifty soul engineers from the southern part of the city. They were less than a hundred meters away from the river. This distance, to soul engineers, was not safe at all.

After the dozens of soul masters rushed over from the frozen riverbed of the river, they would be less than a hundred meters away from the confused soul engineers.

Under Huo Yuhao's Spiritual Detection, the hostages were split into three forces. Among them, those with six rings and above were split into two groups. One group would rush forward first as the vanguard. The other group would remain at the back to keep the rear safe. The other soul masters, who had fewer than six soul rings, would remain in the center.

This meant that the first wave of those who rushed out all had at least six rings. They were all at least Soul Emperors!

The moment they rushed out of the river, they maximized their speed as they rushed toward the soul engineers like frenzied tigers.

The soul engineers finally reacted. Rays of light shot out from their soul tools.

If the two sides were in formation, and if there was enough distance between them, the hostages would not have an advantage no matter how powerful they were. This was because the soul engineer legions of the Sun Moon Empire had trained together for a very long time. Various soul tools could work in tandem with one another, helping each other out, and hence, they would be able to project much more power than what their numbers might suggest.

However, the fifty soul engineers were currently faced with an impossible scenario. They had lost their center of command, and they could not put enough distance between themselves and their enemies.

When they finally reacted, they were naturally unable to unleash their most powerful attacks. The soul masters they faced right now were the best from some of the most powerful sects and schools in the world. They were the elites among the elites!

Furthermore, these elites had a commander. Their commander's Spiritual Detection covered the entire battlefield, and was able to accurately convey distance, speed, angle, strength, and other types of information on every soul ray and soul cannon shell to them. Their commander was none other than the control-type Soul King, the Eyes of Asura, Huo Yuhao.

Huo Yuhao was able to gain the respect of the number one Academy in the world, Shrek Academy, enter the Sea God's Pavilion before the age of twenty, and become one of its members. This was due to his strength and unlimited potential.

With each life-and-death experience, adventure, and obstacle, he was able to grow at a speed that even Elder Mu did not anticipate.

After he recovered his ability to move again and completed his closed-door training, Huo Yuhao was like a caterpillar that had finally become a butterfly. He had reached a completely new level. Among Shrek's Seven Monsters, he was ranked first in terms of strength. His overall strength surpassed that of a Soul Sage.

Spiritual Detection, Spiritual Sharing. In the eyes of the soul engineers and soul masters who were fighting, these were godly skills.

Four eight-ringed Soul Douluo, twelve seven-ringed Soul Sages, and around twenty Soul Emperors charged out in advance of the hostages.

They were the elites of the elites. Under the instructions of Huo Yuhao's Spiritual Detection, coupled with the furious fighting spirit that rose non-stop in their hearts, how could they show any mercy to their foes?

When the commander of the soul engineer legion, the Class 8 soul engineer, finally snapped out of the confusion Huo Yuhao had induced in him with his Spiritual Confusion, he saw dozens of furious soul masters who were only a hair's breadth away.

The soul masters were able to rush up to the soul engineers without incurring any casualties. One could imagine what happened next.

Huo Yuhao did not participate personally in the fight. He flew above the heads of the soul engineers and unleashed his Spiritual Interference to its fullest extent, enveloping the battlefield completely. Near the core where most of the fighting took place, nothing other than sound could spread to the outside world.

Since Huo Yuhao's Spiritual Interference reached its domain stage, this was the first time he had used it over such a huge area.

As the fifty soul engineers were destroyed, all of the hostages rushed out of the water prison. At this moment, in the sky above Sunrise City, one could see colorful fireworks exploding.

This was probably a distress signal the three Zhong brothers had released.

Huo Yuhao did not even look at it. Right now, he was in a race against time.

The three Zhong brothers were not scary. Even the two evil Titled Douluo were not scary. What was scary was the huge amount of troops that could come from Radiant City. Once they arrived, they would be in serious trouble.

After all, the five most powerful soul engineer legions of the Sun Moon Empire were all equipped with flying-type soul tools. If they used their flying-type soul tools, they would be able to reach Sunrise City from Radiant City pretty quickly.

Charge! Without giving the hostages any time to rest, Huo Yuhao immediately gave the order to charge. Xu Sanshi and the rest still held on, but how much longer could they hold on? They could only escape if they broke through the positions the soul engineers had taken up to the south of the city!

The taste of freedom was a huge motivation for these hostages. Every single one of them was in an almost frenzied state as they charged south.

At this moment, a thunderous explosion sounded. This made Huo Yuhao, who was in mid-air, turn his head. His face turned dark.

How can this be possible? How can it be so fast?

Where did the thunderous explosion come from? It came from the northern city walls of Sunrise City, which was the only part that had not yet been hit. However, Huo Yuhao had instructed Jing Ziyao to plant a large number of soul bombs there.

The one who could detonate these bombs was He Caitou.

Before He Caitou left, he had planted an aerial surveillance tool there to monitor the situation.

This was because any soldiers from Radiant City who were rushing over to assist their compatriots had to reach the northern walls first. By placing the bombs, they hoped to injure and kill many of them before they could arrive, as well as attract their attention. The timing of the explosion was completely controlled by He Caitou.

But the bombs actually went off so quickly. What did this mean? This meant that the soldiers from Radiant City were here already!

Only a few minutes had passed since the start of the mission.

According to Huo Yuhao's calculations, the soldiers from Radiant City, upon realizing that something was amiss, would need at least an hour to organize themselves, set off, and arrive. This would be more than enough time for him and the hostages to evacuate.

However, the arrival of the soldiers from Radiant City was much faster than he had expected. This completely turned the situation around.

He quickly informed the hostages to charge toward the positions of the soul engineers with all their might. After they defeated their opponents, they had to regroup with the four of them, who would then give them instructions to escape safely.

After he conveyed this message, Huo Yuhao turned around and flew back toward Sunrise City. Not only did he have to pick up He Caitou, but he also had to find Nan Qiuqiu. If he could not save Nan Shuishui soon, it would be immensely difficult later, as Sunrise City would have turned into a tiger's den.

Of course, for most people, Sunrise City had already turned into a tiger's den.

Huo Yuhao was no longer able to control whether the hostages could escape. However, according to his calculations, the series of explosions at the northern city walls would create a huge problem for the soldiers who were rushing to render assistance. Even if they flew, they would surely descend to ascertain the situation upon seeing the explosion. After all, they could not possibly know what was happening in Sunrise City.

The soul engineer legion stationed to the south of Sunrise City had only two hundred and fifty men after fifty of them left the main group. After being harassed by Xu Sanshi and the others, they were unable to hold their ground in face of the attacks by powerful soul masters. Hence, the hostages still had a good chance of escaping. Huo Yuhao's important task right now was to get everyone from the Tang Sect out and save Nan Shuishui.

Despite having been trained under the Ultimate Soldier Plan, Huo Yuhao knew that emotions played a huge part in his decision-making. The ideal plan now would be to abandon He Caitou and Nan Qiuqiu and help the hostages escape. He should not be turning back.

However, could he really do that? Of course not! He was not a machine whose only purpose was to complete missions or kill people, but a human with flesh and blood. How could he abandon He Caitou and escape all by himself? As for Nan Qiuqiu, while his ties with her were not as deep as his with He Caitou, she was still out to save her mother! For Huo Yuhao, nothing touched him more than maternal love.

This was why he had told Nan Qiuqiu that if Nan Shuishui was not in the water prison, he would stay behind to help her save her mother. He knew the pain of losing one's mother very clearly.

This time, Huo Yuhao did not fly back to Sunrise City via the city walls. Instead, he released his Butterfly Wings and ascended vertically. Covered by his Imitation, he flew straight into the sky.

The advantage of doing this was so that he could observe the soldiers who were coming to assist those in Sunrise City. At the same time, he could bypass the Zhong brothers!

Chapter 384.1: Rescuing Nan Shuishui

Sunrise City was surrounded by fields. Although it would be difficult, they would still have a chance. Before even leaving, the Sea God's Pavilion had talked about this exact matter during a meeting. However, the most troublesome matter would be escaping after being surrounded. How would running from an area which was filled with plains as far as the eye could see be easy? This was especially so at this moment, considering that the hostages were all somewhat injured. It wouldn't take a genius to deduce that they would be assaulted from afar.

And thus, Shrek Academy had decided to make a bold and costly decision.

There was only one way to escape from enemy sightlines in an area filled with plains—with speed!

The only way they could escape from enemy attacks within a short amount of time was to rely on an astonishing amount of speed. How could they increase the speed of the hostages they were rescuing? By using flying-type soul tools!

Huo Yuhao's team had brought a total of eight hundred flying-type soul tools with them. Although they were all of the lowest class, and were even somewhat crude, the Tang Sect and Shrek Academy, as well as the Star Luo and Heavenly Soul Empires, had done all they could.

These eight hundred flying-type soul tools had been placed in the wilderness by Xu Sanshi and the rest in advance. Once the hostages were able to escape, they would immediately equip these flying-type soul tools.

Although many modern soul masters were still against the use of soul tools, a large majority of them had come into contact with them. After all, who wouldn't want to experience the thrill of flying at four rings? Because of that, flying-type soul tools were the soul tools that most soul masters had used. It wasn't as though every single soul master had used them, but the number of soul masters who hadn't was very small. Moreover, soul masters could adapt to the use of flying-type soul tools relatively quickly. Even if they hadn't used them before, they would be able to after experimenting for a few minutes.

Every single flying-type soul tool was equipped with a map. After that, everyone from the Tang Sect offered a prayer and split up.

Every single hostage, including those who came from the various sects and academies, flew off in different directions. However, they only had a single objective—to get to the harbor city where Huo Yuhao had rented a boat. The only way they could escape from the enclosure of the Sun Moon Empire was by the sea.

This was Huo Yuhao's rescue plan!

The speed at which the hostages broke free from the enclosure could only be described as 'astonishing'. In reality, even Xu Sanshi and the rest didn't think that they would be that destructive. Without any of the experts from the Soul Engineer Legion obstructing them, a close-combat clash between them and ordinary soul engineers was like smashing an egg against a rock. This was the main reason why the hostages were able to instantly crush the military line held by the Soul Engineer Legion.

The battle between the subordinate army and the soul engineers was a unilateral slaughter. It didn't even take five minutes before the entire front was completely destroyed. Moreover, the splitting of Sunrise City's troops due to the need to rescue their soldiers and to scout out the situation in the northern part of the city meant that they couldn't stop the hostages at all.

Huo Yuhao's plan could be said to be nearly perfect. At the very least, the hostages were already flying through the air and disappearing into the boundless night sky.

Throughout this entire process, he had controlled a few key points very well. First, he was able to judge the strengths of the northern, eastern, and western parts of the city very well, and find an accurate time to misdirect them.

Although their enemies might have guessed that they were trying to misdirect them, the secret location of the water prison gave the people from the Holy Ghost Church somewhat of a backing to rely on. Even

the two soul engineer legions and the city defense troops stationed by the city didn't know that there were that many soul masters being kept in the water prison.

With Ma Xiaotao cooperating with them, they were able to pull off a misdirection very effectively.

The second key point was destroying the moat with his Ice Explosion. The amount of time he had to do this was very short.

If they had forcefully charged out while similarly destroying the water prison when the moat was still there, it would definitely have cost the hostages a lot of time, as well used a longer route. However, Huo Yuhao was able to save a lot of time by blowing open a path and freezing the moat.

After that, both Huo Yuhao and Xu Sanshi had used their respective soul skills to save a lot of time as well. Because of that, it had only taken around fifteen minutes for the entire plan to be carried out.

"Holy Lady, what should we do?" Zhong Tian turned to Ma Xiaotao.

Ma Xiaotao flew into a rage. "What should we do? You go give an explanation to the leader!" With that, she turned around and flew back towards the city.

The Third and Fourth Elders looked at each other and sighed simultaneously. Their opponents had already fled into the distance, and although it wasn't easy to escape from a plain, could they really go and chase after them with the current number of people they had? With only the six of them, what if they were to fall into a trap while chasing after the hostages? They didn't know who had come to rescue the hostages! They could discern how strong the hostages were, but they didn't know how strong the rescuers were!

At this moment, several blue figures had appeared in the sky. Several hundred rays of blue light rushed over from the southern city, forming a river of stars in the sky.

"All of you are not to move, or else we'll kill you," a vigorous and forceful voice spread out through the sky above the southern city.

Even Ma Xiaotao, who was about to fly back towards the city, had no choice but to stop.

Those figures had arrived very quickly. Within the blink of an eye, they had surrounded all of the evil soul masters.

Rays of blue light instantly formed a wide net within the air, trapping Ma Xiaotao, the Third and Fourth Elders, and the three Zhong brothers within it.

"Don't attack, we're with you." Zhong Tian said hurriedly. At the same time, he took out a medallion from his chest.

They had noticed that every single one of these people who were clad in bluish light had a flying-type soul tool on their backs. They were dressed in black warrior robes, and had the pattern of an enormous blue eye on their chests. This group of people wasn't dressed in a simple manner, considering that their outfits were seemingly made of metal. The reason why they saw the blue lights was due to the light from the eyes on their robes.

Those blue eyes had pupils as deep as the abyss, and although they were only patterns on a robe, it still seemed as though they could devour everything around them. There were even countless dark blue patterns around the sides of these pupils that resembled veins.

This was the Evil Tyrant Soul Engineer Legion!

Ma Xiaotao was inwardly astonished. This was one of the Sun Moon Empire's four great Beast Lord-ranked soul engineer legions. With the Evileye Tyrant as its symbol, this soul engineer legion was famed for its speed and surprise attacks. Clearly, they were the most suitable troops to assist Radiant City.

An elderly man whose robe glittered with a bright blue eye walked over to the evil soul masters.

"The only people who are with you are those who follow you. You can talk after being tied up." This elderly man had a tall figure, an aquiline nose, and large eyes that shone with an ominous glint. His cruel and untamed aura gave off the impression that he didn't like strangers.

"Who are you trying to tie up?" Ma Xiaotao's cold voice rang out. As there was quite a distance between her and the other evil soul masters, she quickly turned around.

"No moving!" the Evil Tyrant Legion immediately shouted out angrily.

"Scram!" There was no need to even mention Ma Xiaotao's identity as an evil soul master. Even at Shrek Academy, she had always been famed for her temper. Moreover, she had been looking forward to causing a mess.

Blazing phoenix flames instantly rose from her body as two yellow, two purple, three black, and one red soul ring appeared, along with the resounding cry of a phoenix.

The somewhat chilly air in the sky instantly heated up. What was even more terrifying, however, was that ripples had appeared in the air ten meters around Ma Xiaotao. All of the lock-on effects of the soul tools targeting her were instantly rendered useless.

Why did the Zhong brothers respect Ma Xiaotao so much? Other than her position in the Holy Ghost Church, it was because of her undeniable strength. The Holy Ghost Church had spared no costs to help her obtain her eighth soul ring, which was a hundred-thousand year one. The leader of the Holy Ghost Church, Zhongli Wu, had even said that she was the first in line to be his successor. *novε-Lb-1n*

The moment Ma Xiaotao released her martial soul, a smidge of dark-red was immediately added to the pitch-black night sky. She comfortably unfurled the blazing, dark-red wings of her Dark Phoenix, and the soul engineers closest to her were astonished to find that their soul tools had become extremely hot. Not only were they unable to fire them, but they even started to melt.

"Halt!" A sharp voice rang out. This voice came loftily and abruptly, yet was abnormally sharp. Even with Ma Xiaotao's cultivation, she trembled, and the phoenix flames she released withdrew slightly.

A pitch-black figure shot out from the rear of the Evil Tyrant Legion, then sharply shouted at the leader of the legion, "Commander Wang, are you trying to start a civil war? These are men from our national religion, and this is our Holy Lady. If you don't quickly capture those hostages, who's going to take responsibility for this?"

The face of the elderly man who had an aquiline nose twitched slightly. Only then did he raise his hand to order all of the soul engineers to lower their weapons. At the same time, he sighed inwardly. Although he was confident in taking on Ma Xiaotao in a fight, he was scared of the losses he would receive.

However, Ma Xiaotao was cursing inwardly. Although she couldn't beat all of these people, Huo Yuhao's escape would be helped if she could stall them. That was why she had provoked them. If they started a fight here, it would naturally give Huo Yuhao's team a great advantage. She was simply not afraid of what this Evil Tyrant Legion could do to her.

From the expression of their leader, she could tell that they detested evil soul masters. Even though this was the case, however, they wouldn't dare to openly go against the national religion and the Holy Ghost Church had already been declared the Sun Moon Empire's national religion!

"Chase them. They can't have run too far. Head to the south. Also, use our long-range communication soul tool to tell the City Guard to release all of the aerial surveillance soul tools they have. Pass on this message: a hundred of you are to stay here and guard Sunrise City. The rest of you are to follow me!"

As he spoke, the aquiline-nosed elderly man was already rising into the air. The enormous wings of a flying-type soul tool unfurled behind his back, and twelve lights simultaneously shot out, transforming him into a stream of light shooting into the distance.

Chapter 384.2: Rescuing Nan Shuishui

"We'll take a look as well. Elders, you two can stay behind. The Zhong brothers will follow me." Ma Xiaotao immediately made a quick decision after twitching her eyes slightly. She didn't know where Huo Yuhao was. He hadn't told her that he would stay in Sunrise City. Instead, he'd instructed her to flee from the evil soul masters and regroup in Shrek Academy after their plan was carried out. With Ma Xiaotao's current condition, the evil energy in her body wouldn't act up for a week at least. If she didn't get into a fight, this period of time could be extended further.

Seeing that the Evil Tyrant Legion was this powerful, she naturally couldn't just let them go after Huo Yuhao and the rest. In the event that they were able to catch up to him, what good would come of that? On the other hand, she could use the name of the Holy Ghost Church to snatch them when the time came. The reason why she didn't want the two elders to follow her was because she couldn't control two Titled Douluo. Moreover, the Zhong brothers could only listen to her orders now, since they had committed a grave mistake earlier.

Ma Xiaotao's plan wasn't bad, but she never would've thought that her little brother, who she worried the most about, was actually in Sunrise City, and not far away from her.

The few evil soul masters around her didn't have any objections at all. In the first place, they were the ones who'd let the hostages escape. As a result, Ma Xiaotao's preference to chase after them by herself was naturally within reason. Moreover, she'd even left the two elders behind.

Two hundred rays of blue light, in addition to Ma Xiaotao and the Zhong brothers, flew into the distance like a bolt of lightning. Within the blink of an eye, they had disappeared without leaving any traces behind.

—

The Third and Fourth Elders looked at each other with ugly expressions on their faces. How could they not see how Ma Xiaotao was trying to exclude them? However, she was a person who would wield enormous power in the Holy Ghost Church in the future.

The Fourth Elder whispered, "We'll need to find the vice-leader when we get back."

"Yes," the Third Elder replied. Then, he turned towards the person fully clad in black and said, "Are you Wu Yun or Wu Yu?"

The black-clothed person suddenly raised her head, letting her cloak slide back to reveal an extremely pale, yet abnormally beautiful face.

If Huo Yuhao were here, he definitely would have been stunned to see that this woman was completely identical to the evil soul master that he had killed a few days ago.

"How were you people even watching over Sunrise City? My sister is dead. Did you people not know that? Were it not for the spiritual connection that we had, I would've been left in the dark." The black-clothed woman's sharp voice was filled with rancor, and her blood-red eyes looked as though they wanted to spit out fresh blood.

"You're Wu Yu? Are you saying that Wu Yun is dead? How can this be?" the Third Elder said, astonished.

Regardless of whether it was him or the Fourth Elder, they both understood Wu Yun's strength very well. Although she was only an eight-ringed Soul Douluo, even a Titled Douluo would find her a nuisance in a fight due to her powerful Spirit of Vengeance. The Third Elder knew that he wouldn't be a match for her if they were to fight within a distance of a hundred meters.

However, it was because of the peculiarity of their martial souls that Wu Yun and Wu Yu were considered extremely abnormal people, even within the Holy Ghost Church. No one was willing to interact with them, and so they were stationed in an unremarkable city to govern it.

When Sunrise City was chosen to hold the hostages, the Holy Ghost Church didn't feel reassured with Wu Yun alone. Thus, they specially sent Ma Xiaotao over to directly take over Wu Yun's position.

However, the two elders didn't think that Wu Yun, who they saw as evil and powerful, would actually perish.

Wu Yu's blood-red eyes trembled slightly after seeing the astonishment in the eyes of the two elders, "It seems like you weren't the ones who did it. The astonishment on your faces can't be faked. The person who harmed my sister is still in the city. Follow me." As she spoke, Wu Yu turned around and flew towards the city.

The hundred members of the Evil Tyrant Legion who were left behind all unfurled their flying-type soul tools and followed her.

The Third and Fourth Elders also hurriedly followed her. They were both flabbergasted at this moment, as they didn't know what this Wu Yu was trying to do.

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Sunrise City was currently a mess, but there were very few people on the streets.

To the citizens living in Sunrise City, the violent booms and shaking earth were signs that something huge was coming. What else could the ordinary folk do but hide in their houses, trembling? The soldiers didn't travel via the streets, leaving a deathly silence looming in the city. The sky was already very dark, but, possibly due to the excessively bright lights from the huge explosion earlier, Sunrise City was still somewhat lit up.

A light and twisting figure quietly appeared at the corner of the street, then leapt like a fish over a wall to arrive at a different street. His footsteps were extremely quick, and he switched roads every few moments. Finally, he stopped at a rather large courtyard.

"Qiuqiu," Huo Yuhao whispered. After splitting up with He Caitou, he had immediately rushed over to group up with Nan Qiuqiu.

Hidden beneath the shadow of the door to a nearby house was Nan Qiuqiu, who leapt up as lightly as a cat. Within a few moments, she arrived by Huo Yuhao's side and was covered by his Imitation, which allowed her to blend into their surroundings.

"You're finally here. I was almost worried to death." For the first time ever, Nan Qiuqiu finally thought that Huo Yuhao was rather cute. At the very least, he had been able to make it on time at a crucial moment like this.

Huo Yuhao asked, "Are there any movements inside?"

Nan Qiuqiu shook her head. She said with an impatient look on her face, "I'm worried precisely because I haven't heard anything going on inside! What about your side? Were you able to save everyone?"

Huo Yuhao nodded, "I've saved them, but I can't say for sure how many of them will be able to escape. Hopefully, most of them will make it out." As the hostages had split up in different directions, a large majority of them would definitely be able to escape. He could guarantee that this would happen. However, Huo Yuhao knew that their plan wasn't a hundred percent perfect. If one person were captured, it would be hard to say whether their meeting point could remain a secret. Yet, they simply couldn't make any careful arrangements, nor relay them to the several hundred hostages due to the time constraints they were put under. As such, they could only resign themselves to fate. In any case, Huo Yuhao had already told Xu Sanshi and the rest that a ship had been prepared for them once they reached the harbor. Moreover, Shrek Academy's support should've already arrived by then, as well.

It didn't matter whether the soldiers chasing after them could find their meeting point. What did matter, however, was whether the hostages could reach the meeting point in the first place. They would be safe if they could make it there.

Other than the people from Shrek Academy who were in charge of rescuing them, there were also experts from the Body Sect, as well as the various sects and academies whose disciples and students had been kidnapped. This was a force that contained over ten Titled Douluo, as well as countless Soul Douluo and Soul Sages. A large majority of these people were under the surveillance of the Sun Moon Empire, and as such couldn't leave their home empires easily, but after using substitutes and various different methods to escape from the Sun Moon Empire's spying, they had traveled over to the harbor

using the greatest possible speed they could muster. This was because Huo Yuhao had only given out the correct meeting point two days before the plan had been carried out.

Even if the Sun Moon Empire were to discover that these people were missing, it wouldn't be easy for them to relay this news back home that quickly. Moreover, the rescue team and hostages would already have started returning to the Douluo Continent by that time. Considering how boundless the world was, how could they even attempt to recapture them at that time? There was no need to even talk about a Beast-Lord Soul Engineer Legion. Even two or three Legions would have no choice but to flee after encountering so many experts. Even if the main army arrived, they would have to fight over the ocean, where soul engineers couldn't fight for long, as they would have to rely on flying-type soul tools. Once their soul power was fully exhausted, they would only be food for the sea-type soul beasts living in the ocean.

At this point, Huo Yuhao's plan could be considered to have been successful.

Roughly five minutes after splitting up with He Caitou, he received the latter's last message via his long-range transmission soul tool. The objective had been achieved, and all of the flying-type soul tools they had prepared had been activated, and they were no longer in the area they had been left in. In other words, the hostages had already flown away using the flying-type soul tools.

Those flying-type soul tools were equipped with Class 4 Sealed Milk Bottles. Even if they didn't have any physical strength at all, these Sealed Milk Bottles would allow them to fly for two hours. If several hundred people all flew in different directions for two hours, even a few hundred soul engineers wouldn't be able to catch up to them. Even if the Evil Tyrant Legion was more conceited than they already were, they wouldn't dare to split up and chase after so many elite soul masters.

"Let's go in." Huo Yuhao was feeling quite happy now. What he needed to do now was rescue Nan Shuishui, then hide the mother and daughter duo for a while before returning to the academy once this whole mess was over. Since there would only be three of them and combined with how things were going already, they simply had no need to travel via water. Huo Yuhao had his own ways to conceal them as they returned to Shrek Academy by a different route. *novel-Lb-1n*

This courtyard was where the Third Elder had imprisoned Nan Shuishui. Huo Yuhao released his Spiritual Detection and sent it out like a net that covered the entire courtyard.

There was no way the Third Elder could be here. Sunrise City was a big mess, and Sister Xiaotao was by his side.

Huo Yuhao gestured at Nan Qiuqiu, then gently leapt up. He used his right hand to vault the top of the courtyard's walls, then floated into the courtyard.

Nan Qiuqiu quickly followed him, and she too entered the courtyard.

Huo Yuhao gestured at her again, then used his Spiritual Sharing to send her a mental message, "I'll handle the two in the room, and you handle the two in the courtyard. Your mother is fine. I can sense her breathing. She's just a bit weak, so don't worry." The evil soul masters who were in the room were a bit stronger, and as such he felt more reassured taking them on.

“Okay.” Nan Qiuqiu was overjoyed. Bending down, she quietly hid in a dark spot near the courtyard. On the other hand, Huo Yuhao used his Imitation to quietly reach a side room on the left side of the courtyard.

“Pa!” Nan Qiuqiu flicked her fingers, and a small rock fell into the courtyard without making much noise.

Almost noiselessly, a shadowy figure instantly appeared at the spot the rock fell. This shadowy figure was followed by a rotten smell, and green smoke started spreading through that narrow area.

Nan Qiuqiu squinted her eyes. What a fierce evil soul master!

Chapter 384.3: Rescuing Nan Shuishui

Once the greenish mist appeared, two figures stepped out from the veranda underneath the corridor.

“Xiao Hong, you’re too sensitive. It could just be a cat or mouse. Why’re you so suspicious of such a little noise? This courtyard’s going to turn toxic from your Corrosive Poison Ball.” The person speaking was a relatively short evil master who had an ash-grey face and a set of wide nostrils.

“Humph!” Xiao Hong made a gesture with his fingers, and his triangular eyes darted around. As he snorted disdainfully, he even revealed two buck teeth.

“It’s just called being prepared. Didn’t the Third Elder praise me for how agile I was last time? Killing someone innocent is fine, but we can’t let a guilty person off. Who cares if it’s a mouse or cat? Mao Mao, you can’t be this casual, either. If the Third Elder knew about this, you’d be whipped again.”

Nan Qiuqiu felt goosebumps rise as she heard these childish voices.

She didn’t make a move, as she was waiting for Huo Yuhao’s signal. The evil soul masters in the room could threaten her mother’s life, but the two outside were only four-ringed Soul Ancestors, which wasn’t something that could threaten her.

Huo Yuhao had already entered the room when the two evil Soul Ancestors had rushed out from the veranda. He simply didn’t have any fear of being discovered due to his Imitation.

Nan Shuishui was imprisoned in the basement, and only two evil soul masters were stationed in the room above the basement. He couldn’t give them the opportunity to kill her, and thus not only did he have to be careful, but he had to move like lightning once he made a move.

After noiselessly arriving outside the room the two evil soul masters were in, the air around Huo Yuhao’s body twisted slightly as he released a gem-white soul ring. He had activated his Spiritual Interference Domain.

The two evil soul masters in the room were currently drinking wine. Although there were only two of them, a large array of dishes were placed on the table in front of them, and they were drinking merrily.

“Eeh, I say brother, why do you have two heads?”

“Two, what do you mean two? You’ve drunk too much, you. Why are you so weak today? Use your soul power to flush out the alcohol.”

“Bullshit! What’s the point of drinking if I do that? I’ll have a nice sleep later after getting a bit dizzy. Recently, I’ve reached a bottleneck in my soul power, and I can’t increase it anymore. It seems like I’ll have to kill a few more people and eat their hearts to increase my blood qi.”

“How disgusting. What’s nice about a human heart? Human brains are the best. That soft and sticky taste, tsk tsk tsk...”

Peng!

The evil soul master who was indulging fully in his daydreams was suddenly flabbergasted. That was because the person sitting in front of him suddenly had his head blown off. The soft and sticky brains splattered everywhere, and the brain juices that landed on him actually had that ever-familiar flavor he remembered.

He used his finger to touch some of the brain juice that had landed on his face, then tasted it. “It seems like I’ve drunk too much. Why does the brain juice in my dream taste so real? Haha, it’s really delicious! I’m dreaming about eating a brain while drinking alcohol. Not bad, not bad. Eeh, why is it so cold?”

A hand that held a diamond-shaped crystal of ice landed on his neck. Right after that, this Soul King-ranked evil soul master followed his companion into death with a gentle crack.

Due to Huo Yuhao’s Spiritual Interference Domain, they had not felt any undulations of soul power throughout the entire process. It was also why this brain-eating person thought that it was only a dream when the person sitting in front of him had his head blown apart.

However, that had been real. Death was the only result for an evil Soul King who didn’t specialize in spiritual force when facing the Eye of Destiny-enhanced Spiritual Shock.

As for this other person, he was even drunk while Huo Yuhao’s Domain of Perpetual Ice was taking effect! His neck was directly crushed by the Ice Empress’ Pincer.

While Huo Yuhao was making a move, he gestured mentally at Nan Qiuqiu, who then used the power of Annihilation to devastate everything in front of her. Within a few breaths, she had already charged right into the room.

“Yuhao, what about my mom?” Nan Qiuqiu quickly walked over to Huo Yuhao, not even bothering to spare a glance at the corpses of the two evil soul masters.

Huo Yuhao didn’t utter a word. He walked over to the table they had been drinking at on, then tapped the ground with his right leg. With a crunch, a slab broke apart, revealing a pitch-black hole that had faint air currents flowing out.

“Your mom’s down there. Go rescue her. You’ll have to be quick though. I’ll be waiting for you outside.” With that, he turned around and went outside.

Nan Qiuqiu couldn’t be bothered to care about Huo Yuhao’s somewhat strange expression. Without hesitation, she jumped into the basement.

Although there were air currents coming from the basement, Nan Qiuqiu was astonished to discover once she landed that not only was the ventilation in this room pretty good, but it was abnormally clear and fresh, yet not too cold.

“Mom——” In the next moment, she saw her mother. However, her eyes instantly widened, and she opened her mouth, astonished.

The environment in the basement was far better than Nan Qiuqiu had thought before. From her point of view, her mother must’ve suffered a great crime while being held captive by the evil soul masters. However, what about reality? Not only was this basement extremely clean and fresh, but there was even a complete set of clean furniture. There were various types of fruits laid on the table. The ground even had a thick carpet covering it. Other than the heavy atmosphere present, it was practically a luxurious bedroom!

Naturally, the reason why Nan Qiuqiu was astonished before wasn’t because of the conditions of the room. Instead, it was because of her mother.

Although Nan Shuishui looked somewhat pale, she was quite healthy. She was currently seated by the table eating fruit, and her eyes turned somewhat dull as she saw Nan Qiuqiu arrive. The only abnormal thing about her was that she was completely naked. There was a thin, silver chain on her right leg.

“Mom...” Nan Qiuqiu’s voice was clearly trembling.

The fruit in Nan Shuishui’s hand dropped to the table with a thud. Her face instantly paled, and she answered in a trembling voice, “Qiuqiu!”

Nan Qiuqiu’s eyes instantly became clear. With a sudden stride forward, she walked over to Nan Shuishui. Right after that, she bent down and unleashed the pinkish-red power of Annihilation on the chain attached to her mother’s feet.

However, although this silver chain looked very thin, it was extremely sturdy. Even her power of Annihilation wasn’t able to damage it in any way.

Nan Shuishui seemed to have sobered up somewhat as she quickly called out, “Qiuqiu, Qiuqiu, why have you come? Quickly, go! It’ll be troublesome if that person comes back!...”

Nan Qiuqiu didn’t look at her mother. Instead, her eyes were fixed on the chain in her hand, “Mom, I’m here to rescue you. I can definitely break this chain.” As she spoke, she raised her soul power to the maximum, causing the chain in her hands to glow pinkish-red.

However, the chain didn’t move at all, and showed no signs of breaking. Nan Qiuqiu’s hands were already starting to bleed. Her tears also began to fall down her cheeks in large drops.

“Wa...” As her tears wildly surged forth, Nan Qiuqiu pounced into her mother’s embrace and cried, “Mom, mom, you’ve suffered! Mom, I’ve come late! Mom...”

All sorts of feelings welled up in Nan Shuishui’s heart as she hugged her daughter. She sighed, “Silly girl, it’s not what you’ve thought. Your mother is fine. Although that fellow destroyed my clothes, he didn’t sully me. You’ve thought too deeply into it.”

“Ah?” Nan Qiuqiu raised her head, and she said with misty eyes, “What happened, then?”

Nan Shuishui had a helpless look on her face as she said, “I knew that fella many years ago. He was one of your father’s love rivals when I was young. When I later married your father, he became an evil soul master in a moment of rage. However, he lost his manhood because of it. I haven’t been sullied by him

or anything during these few days. He's just destroyed my clothes. He comes to see me everyday, and he does his best to take care of my everyday life. To be honest, I don't hate him. I even feel somewhat guilty. If it wasn't for me, he wouldn't have walked the path of an evil soul master."

Nan Qiuqiu stared blankly at her mother. She'd never thought that something like this would've occurred to her mother in the past.

"Then what about these chains?" Nan Qiuqiu asked with a depressed look on her face.

Nan Shuishui laughed bitterly, "I tried breaking them before he fed me that Soul Eradicating Powder. I couldn't even break it with my cultivation, so there's no need to talk about whether you can do it. You should go quickly. In any case, he definitely won't kill me. You should just leave this place safely before considering anything else. Oh, right. Give me a spare change of clothes. If he destroys them again, I'll just smack my head against a wall and die."

Only then did Nan Qiuqiu come to her senses. She hurriedly took a set of spare clothes from her storage-type soul tool and helped dress her mother. The silver chain bound to her leg proved somewhat of a hindrance, however.

"Quickly, go." Nan Shuishui's expression immediately became much better after she was fully dressed.

Nan Qiuqiu shook her head strongly and hugged her mother tightly. "No, I'm not going. I was only able to find you after much difficulty, so how can I just leave like this? I'll definitely rescue you. Oh, right. Even if I can't do it, that fellow might be able to. Yuhao, Yuhao, quickly come down now. The lock on my mother's leg won't open."

After hearing Nan Qiuqiu's cry, Huo Yuhao re-entered the room and leapt down into the basement.

Nan Shuishui nodded softly after seeing him. However, a smidge of red instantly appeared on Nan Qiuqiu's charming face as she stared at him.

At this moment, she finally understood why Huo Yuhao didn't follow her down earlier. He must've known beforehand that her mother was naked via his Spiritual Detection. This fellow...

Huo Yuhao said respectfully, "Hello, Senior Nan."

Nan Shuishui sighed softly. "How can you risk your lives like this? Sunrise City is filled with people from the Sun Moon Empire, and there are even people from the Holy Ghost Church! It's too dangerous. Quickly, go! You two won't be able to break this chain on my leg!"

Huo Yuhao took the chain from Nan Qiuqiu and looked it over for a few moments. After that, he wiped his forehead with his right hand, and a jade-green light appeared in his palm.

With a flash of jade-green light, the link instantly snapped clean off. Before Nan Shuishui could even finish speaking, her eyes widened.

Huo Yuhao tugged the chain, and quickly walked over to the ring on the wall it was connected to. The jade light in his hand flashed once again, cutting the ring apart. He immediately put the chain away in his storage-type soul tool. n-(Ove**l**BIn

"This..." Nan Shuishui was completely stunned. She had personally tried breaking this chain using her cultivation as an eight-ringed Soul Douluo, along with the power of Annihilation, and had failed to do so. However, Huo Yuhao was able to break it with no difficulty at all. This was simply inconceivable!

Chapter 385: Empyrean Net

"Senior, your soul power was limited by the Soul Eradicating Powder, right? Eat this first," Huo Yuhao said as he passed the antidote he had prepared to Nan Shuishui. Nan Qiuqiu hurriedly took it for her mother and placed it in her mouth.

Only then was Nan Shuishui able to react. Without even asking Huo Yuhao how he did it, she said in a low voice, "Let's go."

Leaving this place was the best thing that could happen to them. However, she did not expect it to be easy.

Nan Qiuqiu hunched forward slightly to carry her mother. With one leap, she jumped out of the basement. The antidote needed time to take effect. The Soul Eradicating Powder was powerful, and it was impossible for Nan Shuishui to regain her powers in such a short period of time.

Huo Yuhao followed them out of the cellar. The secret behind why he was able to break the silver chains was naturally his Life Guardian Blade. Life Gold was able to devour the life energy of every solid object. It had even been able to gradually destroy the large door of the underground storage room in Radiant City. While the chain was strong, there was nothing it could do when faced with its greatest opponent!

After they rescued Nan Shuishui, Huo Yuhao felt an immense sense of relief. Now was not the best time to leave the city, as it was surely completely controlled by soldiers from the Sun Moon Empire. There was also a Beast Lord-ranked soul engineer legion around, too. Aerial surveillance soul tools no doubt covered the skies above Sunrise City once again.

After so many battles, both Huo Yuhao's soul power and spiritual power were greatly depleted. The best course of action now was to hide. Then, when the chance presented itself, they could sneak out of the city. With Nan Shuishui, a Soul Douluo around, they had a good chance of breaking out.

"Where do we go now?" Nan Qiuqiu asked Huo Yuhao in a low voice. Since he was using his Imitation, they had no fear of being detected by aerial surveillance soul tools.

Huo Yuhao said, "We'll go back to the hotel first. Feng Ling is still there. While it's close to the southern part of the city, we have yet to be exposed. We'll go back to rest first. After aunty has regained her strength, we'll find another way to leave."

"Alright, I'll listen to you." Huo Yuhao had fulfilled his promise and helped her save her mother. Any unhappiness Nan Qiuqiu had had with Huo Yuhao before this was completely wiped clean. All that remained was respect and shame. She suddenly realized that he was able to provide her with a strong sense of security. She gradually understood how Ye Guyi's curiosity eventually left her infatuated with Huo Yuhao. He's really exceptional, and he's mature beyond his age.

Nan Shuishui, lying on her daughter's back, said nothing. The antidote started to kick in, and she started to gather her soul power once more. Right now, Sunrise City was danger-ridden. Nothing was more important than regaining her soul power.

—

Indeed, there were soldiers everywhere in the city. Every single street was being monitored very closely. The soldiers used sound-amplifying soul tools to issue orders, instructing all civilians not to leave their homes. They then used various types of surveillance soul tools to search each and every building.

In the sky, one could see blue dots of light flashing by frequently. This indicated the presence of the Evileye Tyrant Soul Engineer Legion.

Huo Yuhao stood in front. He unleashed his Imitation, and was able to walk right by the waves of soldiers as he quickly walked in the direction of the hotel.

As he walked, he whispered to Nan Qiuqiu, "Don't rush to return later. We should observe our surroundings. If the hotel is being searched, they will have found Feng Ling. I don't know what they will make of him. I just hope that they have not yet searched that place."

Nan Qiuqiu nodded and said, "That guy is so dumb. What if he is discovered?"

Huo Yuhao frowned and said, "Let's see the situation first. If we can save him, we should save him. He's a poor sod."

Nan Qiuqiu's mouth twitched as she said, "I heard Third Senior Brother say that he's a gangster. He probably did many bad things before. This is his comeuppance..."

Huo Yuhao turned to look at her and said, "Stop being so harsh. He's already in such a sorry state."

Nan Qiuqiu stuck out her tongue and said, "Fine, fine, I'll listen to you."

Huo Yuhao smiled slightly and quickened his pace. After they saved Nan Shuishui, Nan Qiuqiu acted much more mature.

After they navigated their way through many alleys and backstreets, avoiding many patrolling soldiers in the process, they finally saw their hotel.

There were no soldiers patrolling the front of the hotel. The alleys all seemed very quiet.

Huo Yuhao suddenly felt his forehead turning hot. His Eye of Destiny seemed to have shivered.

Eh?

His mind shook, and he deployed his Spiritual Detection like a fisherman casting his net, enveloping everything within a 500-meter radius.

To Huo Yuhao, his Spiritual Detection was more useful than his eyes. It had helped him turn the tides of countless battles.

When his Eye of Destiny trembled, it seemed to be warning him. However, after he used his Spiritual Detection, he discovered nothing. Everything seemed normal.

When Nan Qiuqiu saw him stop, she nudged him and asked, "What's wrong? Is everything alright?"

Huo Yuhao shook his head and said, "Let's go. We'll return to the hotel to see if Feng Ling is still there."

As he said that, he and Nan Qiuqiu flipped over a wall to enter the hotel. For safety, he continued to use his Imitation to conceal himself as he slipped into the hotel.

Quickly, he walked to the room where Feng Ling had been. With his Spiritual Detection, Huo Yuhao could sense that Feng Ling was still in his room, alive.

He slowly pushed the door open, and just as expected, Feng Ling lay on the bed like before. He was curled up, and seemed to be mumbling something.

Nan Qiuqiu sighed in relief as she said, "It appears that they have yet to search this place. Our luck isn't bad. Yuhao, why don't we hide him? Let's bring him out of the hotel first. What if the soldiers find him here?"

Huo Yuhao appeared to not have heard Nan Qiuqiu's words. He stood there and he looked straight ahead. He touched his forehead with his right hand.

Between his brows, his Eye of Destiny was shaking rapidly. This was the first time he had encountered something like this. The pressure he felt made him deeply uncomfortable.

"No, let's go," Huo Yuhao said as he suddenly pulled Nan Qiuqiu. He did not even let her put Nan Shuishui down as he ran out of the room with her.

The moment he ran out the door, a huge rumble could be heard.

This terrifying shockwave was accompanied by a terrifying rain of carnage. Despite Huo Yuhao's quick reflexes, the huge energy still hit him from behind.

His heart ran cold. He knew that he was being ambushed.

Nan Qiuqiu asked confusedly, "What's going on?"

The more dangerous the situation, the calmer Huo Yuhao was. He grabbed Nan Qiuqiu with his right hand as he said in a low voice, "Flying-type soul tool." At the same time, he maximized his spiritual power. He unleashed his Spiritual Interference and Imitation.

Nan Qiuqiu was still carrying Nan Shuishui. While she wanted to deploy her flying-type soul tool, her hands could only fumble at it clumsily. At this moment, Huo Yuhao had already released his flying-type soul tool.

At this moment, he did not care about whether his actions were 'appropriate' anymore. He grabbed her by the waist as his flying-type soul tool propelled him upward. He punched the ceiling with his hands.

"Boom! Boom!" Two explosions rang out. Two holes appeared in the ceiling.

Instantly, one could see that a huge swathe of light had covered the sky outside. The very air trembled.

No matter how dumb Nan Qiuqiu was, she now understood the severity of the situation. She did not struggle, but instead used her soul power to try and make her mother and herself lighter.

Huo Yuhao's embrace was warm and brimmed with masculinity. The light outside flashed. A layer of golden light started to shine from Huo Yuhao's body as he used his Invincible Barrier.

With his Spiritual Interference Domain, Imitation, and Invincible Barrier, Huo Yuhao was completely protected and concealed. His Butterfly Wings spewed out light as he flew out of one of the two holes as fast as he could.

Huo Yuhao was clear that this was his only chance. They were definitely surrounded. As to why, he had an inkling. It definitely had something to do with Feng Ling, who had been blown apart.

“Go back,” a raspy old voice said in mid-air. With that, Huo Yuhao felt like a moth who had flown into a huge net as something forcibly blocked his ascent.

He could not go back. No way!

Huo Yuhao was clear that if his next attack was blocked, there would be no chance of escape!

He lashed out with his right fist, and his eyes brimmed with sadness and longing. It was the Fist of Remembrance, a fist which contained a surging feeling of remembrance.

Boom! A layer of white light appeared after being struck by this punch. A shadow materialized outside the screen of light.

When he saw this person, the look of longing in Huo Yuhao’s eyes faded. Nan Shuishui, who was on Nan Qiuqiu’s back, recoiled forcefully.

This was because the person who was now looking down on them from outside the barrier was none other than the Third Elder from the Holy Ghost Church. He was also Nan Shuishui’s former lover, who had imprisoned her!

Not only that, but blue figures also appeared outside the light barrier, surrounding Huo Yuhao and the three of them.

Then the Fourth Elder appeared, and a group of people clad in black appeared behind the Third Elder.

Trapped!

After his body rebounded from the light barrier, Huo Yuhao did not use his Three Ultimate Haodong Skills anymore. Those were last-resort moves. Once he used them all, he could no longer control his emotions. If that happened, how could he leave with Nan Qiuqiu and Nan Shuishui?

He stopped using his Imitation, revealing the three of them.

The soul engineers from the Evileye Tyrant Soul Engineer Legion all wielded a soul tool each. They aimed their soul tools at Huo Yuhao and his companions. With just one order, they would open fire at them.

On the ground, a bunch of carefully-positioned soul tools started to become visible. Powerful soul power fluctuations were everywhere.

This was a truly well-planned trap!

The Third Elder looked at Nan Shuishui before he turned his gaze to Huo Yuhao. He clapped his hands lightly and said, “You’re skillful indeed, and full of tricks and schemes. With just a few of you, you actually dared to mount a rescue mission, which succeeded. I can’t help but admire you. At your age, I

was still a clueless youth. If I had half of your powers, no one would have been able to steal my lover from me.” When he said that last bit, he could not help but look at Nan Shuishui.

Nan Shuishui wore a heavy expression on her face. She sighed and said, “They’re still kids. Let them go. I’ll return with you. I’ll do whatever you want me to.”

“You’ll do whatever I ask you to? What can you do for me? Hahahaha...” the Third Elder laughed shrilly. “Had this been twenty-five years ago, how happy I would have been to hear you say that! However, it’s too late now. This should be your daughter, right? Look, she resembles you so much! Do you think you have a chance of leaving me anymore? I can’t do anything to you, but I won’t let you leave me. Don’t worry, I won’t kill you or your daughter. If I kill her, you’ll be sad. I’ll let her accompany you. As for this bastard here, I can’t decide his fate. Wu Yu, do you have anything you want to say?”

They are the butchers, and I’m the meat. ?thought Huo Yuhao. He could not help but despair. Despite his many calculations, he had still slipped up. He knew that he had been exposed because of Feng Ling, who had died from the explosion. He did not hate Feng Ling, because he was controlled by the evil soul masters. No matter how resolute he was, however, Huo Yuhao could not help but lose hope in this situation.

He was facing two evil Titled Douluo, with one of them being a Class 9 soul engineer. Furthermore, there was a Beast Lord-ranked soul engineer legion with hundreds of men nearby, as well as the soul tools which had long been placed in position underneath him. There was no escape!

Wu Yu, who was clad in a huge cloak, floated up next to the Third Elder and asked Huo Yuhao sharply, “You killed my sister?”

“Your sister?” Huo Yuhao looked at her suspiciously.

Wu Yu freed her head from the cloak. When Huo Yuhao saw the pale, familiar face with its blood-red eyes, he felt his heart tremble. His questions were finally answered.

They had the same vengeance-filled faces and blood-red eyes. Here was another one who possessed the Spirit of Vengeance.

“You are twin sisters, right?” Huo Yuhao asked bitterly.

“That’s right. Did you kill my sister? Why? Why? You’re so weak, how could you have killed my sister?” Wu Yu shrieked hysterically.

Huo Yuhao sighed and said, “Your sister died peacefully. That’s right, I killed her. However, to her, death was the best release. Both of you possess a Spirit of Vengeance, which is immensely strong. However, your lives are both cursed. Is this feeling good? Your sister died because she sensed my love for my lover. My emotions destroyed her Spirit of Vengeance, and hence, she died. Actually, to her, death was a form of purification and elevation.”

Chapter 386.1: That Brilliant Smudge of Golden Light

As he spoke, Huo Yuhao’s eyes shone brightly, and an image appeared in front of Wu Yu.

There were too many things he could do with his Imitation.

The Haodong Palm, the palm that would last eternally was clearly revealed in that image. At this moment, the weather changed, and even the Third Elder was moved.

Wu Yun wore a final smile on her face after being struck by Huo Yuhao's Haodong Palm. Her bloodshot eyes turned clear again, and she died a glad woman. Wu Yu was stunned when she saw this scene.

"Thank you.

"Remembrance is a magical thing. I miss my mommy and daddy. Why did you have to die so early? Why didn't you protect me? Why did you let that fatso abuse me and leave me humiliated in front of countless people in that cold basement? They destroyed my body under the instigation of that fatso, ravaging my heart and staining my spirit. I was only fifteen!

"Hatred kept me alive and enhanced my spirit to another level. My Spirit of Vengeance was awakened as a result. I hate those greedy and lecherous men, and I hate that fatso who tore me to pieces. I want to slaughter them, but I'm in so much pain.

"Am I finally being released? You let me see the light, sense what remembrance is, and witness a love that's yet to appear in my spirit. It seems like not everything in this world is dirty. There are still pure and clean things. Thank you, thank you for letting me sense the intense love you have for that unknown person. You cleansed my heart and let me know what release is. Thank you, I'm very happy, I'm very happy..."

While there were many people around, Wu Yun's voice still sounded very clear on this abnormally quiet night.

To the soul engineers of the Evileye Tyrant Soul Engineer Legion, this mournful voice only moved them. However, the Third and Fourth Elders, as well as Wu Yu, were all astonished by Wu Yun's words.

Wu Yu was even trembling uncontrollably, and she muttered to herself, "Elder sister, elder sister, how could you bear to leave me alone...?"

"Trying to escape?" The Third Elder shouted as he witnessed this scene. He smacked his right hand down, and a bluish-black lightning dragon instantly surfaced from his arm. Huo Yuhao, Nan Qiuqiu and Nan Shuishui all turned into bubbles and disappeared, while this lightning dragon charged downwards immediately. It unleashed a lightning net that engulfed a huge plot of space.

The entire air seemed to be suffused with a smell that resembled ultraviolet rays coming from sunlight on a bright day.

Amidst this lightning net, three sorry figures appeared slightly more than a hundred meters away from where Huo Yuhao and the other two had disappeared earlier.

Huo Yuhao released intense azure lights from his body, which resisted the strong lightning that was coming towards him. However, he still felt his body turning numb.

This was the strength of a Class 9 soul engineer! He had managed to make the three of them reappear easily.

As the only successful person to have completed the Ultimate Soldier Plan, Huo Yuhao had no intention of giving up, even though he was in a precarious situation right now.

He had almost succeeded in using his Imitation to confuse his opponents, which included two Titled Douluo, and escape.

The sky was completely sealed, so their only chance of escape was through the ground. They only stood a chance if they entered the city and exploited the complex geography and messy situation to their advantage. At the same time, Huo Yuhao had to rely on his Spiritual Interference Domain and Imitation.

However, the Third Elder had reacted too quickly, and killed off their hope.

Huo Yuhao couldn't tell what soul tool the Third Elder was using. However, the tremendous suppression he was under caused him to become completely immobilized as he unleashed his Domain of Perpetual Ice. The difference in their abilities was simply too huge. Even though his soul power was already at Rank 60, he was still technically a Soul King because of the number of soul rings he had. The gap between a Soul King and Titled Douluo, and a Class 6 and Class 9 soul engineer, was undoubtedly too big for him to make up the difference.

He could sense that his opponent didn't intend to kill the three of them, he wanted to capture them alive. That was likely because of Nan Shuishui and Nan Qiuqiu, the Third Elder couldn't bear to kill them. Could Huo Yuhao only find an opportunity to escape after being captured?

Huo Yuhao still had a few trump cards that he hadn't used yet. However, these trump cards seemed a little too useless against a Class 9 soul engineer. What should he do? While he was normally very adaptable, he couldn't think of a way to free himself.

The image that he had formed using his Imitation had disappeared, and Wu Yu was staring at him with completely red eyes. She said to the Third Elder coldly, "I want him alive. I want to make him my human puppet and whip him every day. I want to torture him until it feels worse than death, so as to avenge my elder sister."

Wu Yu's voice was very sharp. Huo Yuhao could hear her words clearly, and his heart sank when he heard them.

He wasn't afraid of death. However, his life was going to be a living hell if he landed in the same state as Feng Ling!

Originally, he didn't want to take any chances, and wanted to conserve his abilities before trying to escape later on. However, he became more determined to escape after hearing Wu Yu's words. No matter what, he couldn't land in their hands. He would rather die than be captured. $n/-\sigma)/v.(e/.l--\mathcal{B}-/l)/n$

He turned to the northeast and looked into the sky. A trace of blue appeared in the pitch-black sky far away, and he seemed to see Wang Dong'er's sleeping figure.

Dong'er, I'm sorry. I might not be able to wait until you wake up.

Do you know how much I miss you now?

Forget it, just let me die. Even if I die, I'll bring my yearning for you along.

As he thought until here, Huo Yuhao's eyes brightened. His eyes turned clearer, and a sense of yearning spread from him. His willpower soared, and golden light emanated from his body, illuminating his pitch-black surroundings.

The Third and Fourth Elders, as well as Wu Yu, were all some of the strongest individuals around. They immediately reacted when they saw the changes Huo Yuhao was experiencing.

The Third Elder waved his hand, "Everyone, retreat."

The soul engineers from the Evileye Tyrant Soul Engineer Legion weren't up to such a high-level fight, unless they were willing to sacrifice their lives to destroy Huo Yuhao. He looks like he's only slightly past twenty, but why is his willpower so strong? How did he manage to reach such a cultivation? Even Wu Yun died at his hands!

Even with the Third and Fourth Elder's cultivations, they were still very serious when they sensed the strength of Huo Yuhao's spiritual cultivation. It wasn't difficult for them to kill him, but it would be tedious for them to capture him alive. They were very curious about him, too. Whether it was his soul skills, like Imitation and Spiritual Interference, his cultivation, or his abnormal spiritual power, he was the kind of research subject that the Holy Ghost Church liked. If they tried to destroy him, Nan Shuishui and Nan Qiuqiu were unlikely to escape the repercussions. While the Third Elder sounded very unfeeling, he would have simply attacked them if he no longer had feelings for Nan Shuishui. Why would he have waited until now?

At this point, another streak of golden light that resonated with Huo Yuhao's strong willpower shone far away in the east. Furthermore, this streak of golden light seemed even brighter. It was like the sun rising in the east. There was a dominant aura about it as it rose into the sky.

Even Huo Yuhao was stunned when he saw this. This was...

The Holy Ghost Church didn't know, but he was clearly aware of the fact that he had no reinforcements. They were the only remaining ones on this rescue mission. Could it be Sister Xiaotao? However, it isn't possible for her to release a streak of golden light.

That streak of golden light came very suddenly and forcefully, and soon filled the entire sky. Deafening dragon roars also reverberated across the sky, and the sky turned bright gold.

"Oh?" Huo Yuhao and the other two were already under the control of the lightning net. In the Third Elder's opinion, Huo Yuhao couldn't possibly escape given his cultivation. That was why both him and the Fourth Elder turned their attention to the sudden change occurring far away. After all, they didn't know how many people had come with Huo Yuhao, and how many strong individuals there were. Although Wu Yu had obtained some information from Feng Ling, Feng Ling was in an unstable mental state. It was difficult to tell how credible he was. It was just like how she didn't know what time the Tang Sect was supposed to make their move.

The soul engineers from the Evileye Tyrant Soul Engineer Legion were indeed well-trained. Even though their commander wasn't around, they still came up with a targeted response immediately.

Glaring beams of lights were fired from the area where all the soul tools were deployed, forming a blue net of death that reached towards the streak of golden light coming from afar. The hundred soul

engineers in the air also adopted a new formation to target the incoming streak of golden light. Thirty of them split into groups of five, and each group was in charge of helming a huge soul tool. These soul tools seemed like pentagrams, and there were metal poles extending from its corners. Every pole was lifted on a soul engineer's shoulder, while the center contained a ball-like entity that resembled an eye. Dark-blue light shone above this ball-like entity, and intense soul power undulations poured from it.

The incoming streak of golden light clashed with this blue net. However, the shocking thing was that no explosion rang out. The streak of golden light was quickly dissipated by the net, and converted into spots of golden light that scattered in mid-air.

"What?" Everyone from the Sun Moon Empire was stunned when they heard how loud the thunder was, but saw how little rain there was.

Chapter 386.2: That Brilliant Smudge of Golden Light

At this moment, a tremendous boom sounded beneath their feet.

A streak of golden light that looked like a moving dragon appeared within the area where all the soul tools were deployed. The streak of golden light was simply too quick. Wherever it passed, soul tools were instantly destroyed, and pathetic screams started to ring out.

The Third Elder shouted, "What are the aerial surveillance soul tools doing!? Lock onto them!" As he spoke, he shot a look at the Fourth Elder.

He had to hold the fort here and control Huo Yuhao and the other two. It was more suitable for the Fourth Elder to deal with that streak of golden light.

The Fourth Elder nodded slightly. Soul rings started to rise from beneath his feet as he lifted his right hand. There were nine soul rings: two yellow, three purple and four black. They showed off his immense Titled Douluo abilities. A thick black fog was also released from his body, engulfing him completely. No part of his body could be seen.

This black fog started to descend. As it shifted, it revealed a sharp aura, even though it looked very gentle. In a flash, it reached the ground.

Ding!

A crisp sound of striking metal echoed out, and the Fourth Elder's black fog stopped moving, along with that streak of golden light.

The figure that was flashing within the golden light materialized and appeared in front of everyone.

When she appeared, she immediately caught everyone's attention. Even the evil soul masters were drawn to her, because she was simply too beautiful.

Her powdery-blue wavy hair flowed behind her head, and there was a layer of frost covering her ravishing face. An illusory golden dragon subtly appeared around her body. She was also holding a long spear with two pointed sides, pointed diagonally towards the sky. Even though she was standing in place, she seemed like the greatest creation ever. At this moment, she was looking at Huo Yuhao trapped within the Third Elder's lightning net with her big, powdery-blue eyes.

Huo Yuhao appeared to be in a daze. Following this, this dazed look turned into a touched and guilty look.

Yes, this person with such ravishing looks, wavy hair, and beautiful eyes was the Golden Dragon Girl, Wang Qiu'er!

Huo Yuhao didn't understand why Wang Qiu'er was here at such a time. However, he had mixed feelings right now. Qiu'er, you were really silly! It's not worth it for me.

Huo Yuhao slowly shut his eyes as he took in a deep breath and gradually retracted his Domain of Perpetual Ice. However, the layer of golden light on his body became stronger. His Eye of Destiny was completely open at this point, and there seemed to be countless streaks of golden light shining in this vertical eye. It appeared to be boundless.

At the same time, a thin golden line also appeared on Wang Qiu'er's forehead. In the next instant, it split open, revealing another golden vertical eye. It was also shining with countless streaks of golden light, and it seemed identical to Huo Yuhao's Eye of Destiny.

Everything around them seemed to solidify when these two Eyes of Destiny opened. Time and space were completely locked at this instant. Even the Third and Fourth Elders were drawn to the golden lights from their eyes.

In the next moment, Huo Yuhao and Wang Qiu'er lifted their heads together and faced their Eyes of Destiny towards the sky. Two beams of golden lights shot into the sky at the same time.

These two beams of golden light illuminated everything, and the sky turned bright gold at this final moment before dawn arrived.

These two beams of lights intersected and instantly burst to a higher position. The pre-dawn darkness was torn apart, and a huge golden vertical eye appeared in the air.

Streaks of golden lights scattered everywhere and engulfed everyone.

Huo Yuhao and Wang Qiu'er were the first two to be affected by these streaks of golden light. An illusory projection of a golden vertical eye appeared behind their backs, turning them slightly illusory. As for the rest, including Nan Shuishui and Nan Qiuqiu, they felt that there was something in their bodies controlling them as these streaks of golden light engulfed their bodies. An indescribable sense of crisis and suppression quickly spread in their hearts.

Destiny Gaze!

This was the true, complete version of Destiny Gaze.

Apart from Huo Yuhao and Wang Qiu'er, a small vertical eye also appeared above everyone's heads. However, the vertical eyes above Nan Shuishui and Nan Qiuqiu were a dim gold. The vertical eyes above the rest were icy-white.

"Take action! Quick, kill them!" a sharp scream sounded out. The first to react weren't the two Titled Douluo, but the eight-ringed Soul Douluo, Wu Yu.

She had a spiritual-type martial soul, and so she was the least astonished by everything that was happening. However, she was also the most sensitive to danger. The feeling of having her destiny controlled by someone else filled her Spirit of Vengeance with fear. Along with the deep impression that the scene in Huo Yuhao's Imitation had given her, she only had one thought in her mind right now – escape! The only way for her to escape was to kill Huo Yuhao, Wang Qiu'er, and the rest! After she killed them, everything would return to normal.

Her screams were filled with spiritual undulations. The soul engineers who were in a daze were immediately jolted awake.

Suddenly, countless streaks of blue light wove in the air and started to reach towards Huo Yuhao and the rest. Most of the firepower was targeted towards Huo Yuhao and Wang Qiu'er.

However, something strange happened at this moment. These soul rays and cannon shells that shot towards the four of them struck nothing.

It seemed as if they had covered every angle, and that Huo Yuhao and Wang Qiu'er couldn't possibly escape, but nothing they fired hit them. The soul rays and cannon shells simply brushed past their bodies.

It was as if some mysterious, special force was protecting them from harm. Even Nan Shuishui and Nan Qiuqiu were spared from harm, as many soul rays simply brushed past their bodies.

"Idiot, who told you to attack? Seal our surroundings and don't let them escape!" The Third Elder shouted furiously and tightened his lightning net, which helped to block off the attacks coming from the Evil Eye Tyrant Soul Engineer Legion for Huo Yuhao and the rest. While Huo Yuhao was just a good research subject, he couldn't let Nan Shuishui and Nan Qiuqiu come to harm!

Just as he shouted, Huo Yuhao and Wang Qiu'er moved at the same time, as though they were telepathically linked.

Huo Yuhao sank down, and it seemed as if he was trying to collide against the lightning net below him. Wang Qiu'er twisted and charged upward towards Huo Yuhao.

The Fourth Elder naturally wouldn't let her go to Huo Yuhao's aid. He snorted, and black fog spread from his body. A sinister beam of cold light instantly surfaced, and slashed towards Wang Qiu'er's head.

The Fourth Elder's martial soul was a Netherworld Sword. His Netherworld Sword was extremely special. It could create another alternate plane of space that was illusory, mysterious and unpredictable when it was used. Every time this alternate plane of space was created, he needed to ignite someone's spirit as the price. As his cultivation increased and he became a Titled Douluo, he could only seal the souls of nine dead people. After using them, he had to replace them. Even with all this, he was still considered one of the evil soul masters that had committed the fewest sins.

This attack of his was called Netherworld Slash, the Fourth Elder's first soul skill. It was sharp and quick. With the abilities of a Titled Douluo, even a small hill could be slashed in half with this soul skill.

The Third Elder revealed a disdainful look on his face when he saw how Huo Yuhao charged downward. He mimicked a clenching action, and his lightning net shrank once again.

He was confident in his soul tool. No protective barrier was effective against his lightning net. An Invincible Barrier could only protect one's body, but it couldn't help one breach his lightning net.

Huo Yuhao had unleashed an Invincible Barrier earlier. After some time, it had slowly faded away. Right now, the Third Elder thought he was courting death by clashing directly with his lightning net. His lightning net was called Lightning God's Binding, a Class 8 soul tool. Although it was mainly control-type, it was still classified as a Class 8 soul tool in terms of its strength.

Huo Yuhao dove downward while Wang Qiu'er charged upwards, and they were both facing the interception of a Titled Douluo. However, they weren't looking at their opponents at this moment. Rather, they were looking at each other.

Wang Qiu'er saw an apologetic and doubtful look in Huo Yuhao's eyes, but Huo Yuhao could only see Wang Qiu'er's determination.

The two of them were getting closer and closer, but the two Titled Douluo also intercepted them at this moment.

They were less than fifty meters from each other, but these fifty meters were like a huge divide that was separating them right now.

They didn't have any verbal interaction, and Huo Yuhao didn't even unleash his Spiritual Detection. However, another change occurred at this moment!

Their left legs shone at the same time. A strange yet blurry light flashed.

In the next instant, the Third Elder's retracted lightning net swept through nothing but air, and the Fourth Elder's Netherworld Slash hit nothing. Huo Yuhao and Wang Qiu'er had both disappeared at this instant.

Even though they disappeared for only an instant, they managed to avoid the interception of these two Titled Douluo. When they appeared again, they were already next to each other.

Six eyes were looking at each other. Apart from the normal two pairs of eyes, there was also the pair of Eyes of Destiny.

"Why do you have to do this?" Huo Yuhao asked gently.

Wang Qiu'er looked at him coldly, and something flashed across her eyes. "Because I'm willing to."

Chapter 386.3: That Brilliant Smudge of Golden Light

Huo Yuhao sensed how warm Wang Qiu'er's palm was when he held her hand. Their soul powers were instantly, completely connected.

Their Eyes of Destiny shone brightly on their foreheads, and they also released golden lights from their bodies at the same time.

Their auras experienced transformations at this moment. The golden dragon that initially revolved around Wang Qiu'er now suddenly revolved around both of them. The azure lights that came from Huo Yuhao's body were also released with their bodies as the center.

Yes, it was a martial soul fusion. When they held hands, they completed their martial fusion.

Huo Yuhao had never thought of giving the fusion between him and Wang Qiu'er a name. However, he was willing to call it the Haoqiu Power now.

He didn't know why Wang Qiu'er had appeared at this moment. However, Wang Qiu'er's arrival gave him hope in this life-and-death moment. After months of closed-door cultivation, he also became clearer over many things. The debt he owed Wang Qiu'er became much deeper right now. He had only once ever asked himself whether Wang Qiu'er really didn't belong in his heart. The answer was negative.

When he learned that Wang Qiu'er plucked another vine of Yearning Heartbroken Grass to save him at the Icefire Yin-Yang Well, a slit opened in his heart for her.

When that golden dragon rose into the sky, its roars reverberated, and Wang Qiu'er's powdery-blue wavy hair appeared in front of him. Apart from feeling guilty, he was also excited. The fighting intent in his heart was instantly ignited and started to burn unprecedentedly strongly.

No matter what, he had to charge out. It was for himself, for Wang Dong'er and for Wang Qiu'er.

While Huo Yuhao was burning with passion and feelings, Wang Qiu'er felt very cool. There was a cool aura coming from Huo Yuhao's palm. This cool was extremely comfortable, especially when her hand was being held by his strong yet stable hand. She only felt that her heart had collided with something. The resilience that she had mustered up before coming seemed to be crushed once again.

Nemesis! He's my nemesis!

Wang Qiu'er pursed her lips tightly. However, she also blushed slightly, which made her look even more captivating. If she was with him, so what if she was against thousands of enemies?

Only the two of them knew their own psychological changes. Even though they hadn't faced many enemies together in the past, they seemed to already have great telepathy with each other, and it wasn't inferior to that between Huo Yuhao and Wang Dong'er.

Their Instant Teleportation Left Leg Bones brought them close to each other. When their martial souls fused, they both surpassed their original cultivations and reached another realm.

At this point, Huo Yuhao was holding onto Wang Qiu'er with his right hand. His left hand was empty. When he pulled Wang Qiu'er, he lifted his left hand, and the little Snow Lady silently separated from his back. A white glow started to ripple behind Huo Yuhao's back, too.

Another miraculous scene was also playing out behind Huo Yuhao and Wang Qiu'er. After they unleashed their Destiny Gaze earlier, a projection of a vertical eye had appeared behind each of their backs. These vertical eyes now also turned orange-gold.

The Third Elder's Thunder God's Binding lost its effect in the sky, and he had no choice but to stop, as he was shocked. Nan Shuishui and Nan Qiuqiu were still stuck within his binding, and he had to deal with them first. He lifted his right hand and pulled them to his side.

However, Wu Yu was impatient, and she unleashed her pitch-black Spirit of Vengeance immediately. She screamed and charged towards Huo Yuhao and Wang Qiu'er in fear.

A streak of deep blue light swept past the sky, carrying a sinister chill and the Snow Empress' pride. It didn't even bother with the Fourth Elder's Netherworld Sword and went directly for his head.

His Netherworld Sword only swept past Huo Yuhao and Wang Qiu'er. They didn't even intend to dodge this attack. Did the Fourth Elder make a mistake?

However, Huo Yuhao's Empresses' Sword, the Snowless Glacier, landed directly on the black fog.

The black fog where the Fourth Elder was, instantly took form and converted into the sword tip of his Netherworld Sword before it shot upward, blocking Huo Yuhao's Snowless Glacier.

However, something weird occurred. As the two swords were about to clash, Huo Yuhao's Empress' Sword seemed to be guided by an unknown force. Even the Fourth Elder's lock-on abilities lost their effect at this moment, and Huo Yuhao's Empress' Sword brushed past his Netherworld Sword before slashing at his black fog.

"What?" The Fourth Elder groaned. As he retracted his black fog, he re-appeared in mid-air and turned into an ice sculpture.

Even though this ice encasement was crushed in the next moment, the Fourth Elder was still struck by Huo Yuhao's Empress' Sword, and he staggered back.

The entire process happened very quickly, but it was still unbelievable. How was the Fourth Elder so easily hit in this direct clash against his opponent, even though he was a Titled Douluo? In addition, Huo Yuhao's abilities were miles below him!

Huo Yuhao revealed a slight smile on his face. He turned and lifted his head. His Eye of Destiny was flashing purplish-gold right now. It was his Spiritual Shock!

Wu Yu suddenly stopped in mid-air. Following this, she screamed pathetically and was even flung backward.

While she was supposed to have great immunity against Huo Yuhao's abilities given that she was also a spiritual-type soul master, she was completely suppressed, as her spiritual cultivation was inferior to Huo Yuhao's spiritual cultivation.

Huo Yuhao's pure spiritual cultivation was already superior to hers. In addition, his soul power had fused with Wang Qiu'er's soul power, and thus his overall soul power had increased. In terms of cultivation, this combination of Huo Yuhao and Wang Qiu'er wasn't any weaker than Wu Yu.

While Huo Yuhao attacked, Wang Qiu'er didn't stay idle. When Huo Yuhao unleashed his Empress' Palm, she was clearly aware of what he was trying to do. She raised her Golden Dragon Spear, and golden light emanated from her body. These golden lights, which seemed to shine in thick layers, instantly gathered toward her right hand.

Huo Yuhao's Empress' Palm slashed the ice sculpture. In the next instant, Wang Qiu'er's spear turned into a streak of golden light that shot straight towards the Fourth Elder's chest.

Wang Qiu'er was extremely adept in direct confrontations. Her terrifying strength made her publicly recognized as the top dragon warrior in the Continental Elite Youth Soul Master Tournament.

Right now, she wasn't just unleashing her own strength. She also had Huo Yuhao's soul power to supplement her. Considering that their soul powers were completely compatible, the fusion of their soul powers didn't just spark a linear increase.

That streak of golden light carried both Wang Qiu'er's strength and Huo Yuhao's spiritual intent, and it reached the Fourth Elder instantly.

The Fourth Elder groaned, and a dark-green light shone from his Netherworld Sword. A tragic scream sounded, and a human-shaped figure could dimly be seen getting crushed. The light that came from the Fourth Elder's Netherworld Sword turned weird.

The dark-green sword light was refracted and caused everything to look as if it came from two different worlds. Another purplish Netherworld Sword silently appeared and maintained a parallel position to the dark-green Netherworld Sword.

Wang Qiu'er's Golden Dragon Spear rapidly shot forward and stabbed just in between the Fourth Elder's two Netherworld Swords. However, they combined together at this moment, and a strong layer of silver light was released from between these two swords.

There was a clang of metal, and Wang Qiu'er's spear shook tremendously. It had already stabbed halfway between the two swords, but it didn't manage to stab completely past them. It thus failed to reach the Fourth Elder's chest.

Wang Qiu'er's expression changed slightly. In the next instant, her spear had already turned into a streak of flowing light and sprang into the air.

The Fourth Elder's nine soul rings started to flash once each, but in a random order.

Yes, this was his Netherworld Sword's ability to utilize the power of space.

The Fourth Elder coldly stared at them, "You wasted a netherworld soul of mine. In that case, I'll use your souls to replace it!" His dark-green Netherworld Sword shot forward, while his purplish sword disappeared. However, his second and third soul rings lit up at the same time.

He was about to unleash his Netherworld Force and Myriad Netherworld Blades.

Green lights shone extremely brightly, and the Fourth Elder's Netherworld Sword instantly grew larger. It changed into countless sharp swords that shot towards Huo Yuhao and Wang Qiu'er. Suddenly, the entire sky turned green, and space itself seemed as if it were about to be destroyed.

This was what a Titled Douluo was capable of. Even though the Fourth Elder's cultivation couldn't compare to Elder Xuan, he was still a Titled Douluo, and his fighting strength was still extremely terrifying.

Huo Yuhao and Wang Qiu'er turned extremely serious. However, they had no intention of backing down.

The two of them stared at each other. Wang Qiu'er quickly moved in front of Huo Yuhao, and he let go of her hand. Instead, he tightened his hands around the sides of her waist.

Wang Qiu'er's waist was very slender. Huo Yuhao's hands covered two-thirds the circumference of her waist just like that. However, her slender waist was filled with explosive strength.

"Chi!" Wang Qiu'er shouted, and seven soul rings rose from beneath her feet.

Yes, seven soul rings. Wang Qiu'er had managed to advance from six rings to seven rings in just a few months. Apart from the soul power increase she got from the Yin-Yang Love Querying Valley, her own cultivation had also improved significantly through the tournament earlier.

She was now a Soul Sage, and had improved significantly from before!

A gigantic golden dragon head silently appeared in front of her body. She faced her palms together before wrapping them against each other. At this moment, her first, second and third soul rings lit up.

Her first, second and third soul skills – Golden Dragon Body, Dragon's Strength, and Golden Dragon's Fist respectively – were unleashed at this moment.

Netherworld Swords kept on flashing past in the air, but they struck at nothing instead of Huo Yuhao and Wang Qiu'er because of the power of destiny.

Chapter 387.1: Ignite! Spiritual Sea!

However, the Fourth Elder was using a domain attack! After sensing that it wasn't having any effect, he quickly made adjustments. A few Netherworld Swords still came towards the two of them.

Wang Qiu'er suddenly pushed the palms that were facing each other out.

A sonorous dragon roar reverberated out, and a ball of golden light blew apart within the patch of green lights. A wild and immense strength was unleashed among the green lights, as if it were an explosive bomb that had just gone off.

Boom, boom, boom!...?A tremendous explosion tore through the air, and streaks of sword light were deflected away and crushed. Huo Yuhao and Wang Qiu'er's aura didn't seem to be weaker than the Titled Douluo opposite them, even though they were staggering backward.

Inside the lightning net, Nan Shuishui and Nan Qiuqiu had already been pulled to the Third Elder's side. He used two chains to trap them, soul tools that could restrain soul power. Those who were Soul Emperors and below couldn't possibly use their abilities under the restraint of such soul tools. To the Third Elder, Nan Shuishui was under the influence of the Soul Eradicating Powder, while Nan Qiuqiu was only a Soul King. He just needed these two soul tools to restrain them.

Nan Shuishui didn't resist. She was very focused on the fight that was going on, in awe.

The Third and Fourth Elders might not know who Huo Yuhao and Wang Qiu'er were. However, how could Nan Shuishui not know who the two of them were?

One of them was the team leader of Shrek, while the other was the linchpin of the Tang Sect. Since they could compete in the Continental Youth Soul Master Tournament, that meant that they weren't twenty years old yet. They were around the same age as her daughter, but they had already demonstrated how brilliant they were.

Nan Shuishui had always thought that her daughter was already very outstanding. However, Nan Qiuqiu was simply too inferior to Huo Yuhao and Wang Qiu'er.

The two of them were actually able to survive several confrontations against a Titled Douluo, and they didn't seem to be on the back foot either. If word of this spread, how proud would they feel?

Of course, the two of them wouldn't become too excited because of this. The Fourth Elder was simply putting too much pressure on them.

He was a nine-ringed Titled Douluo!

Huo Yuhao had always known that Titled Douluo were extremely strong. In Shrek Academy, he knew many Titled Douluo and Transcendent Douluo.

However, it was two different things to know a Titled Douluo and to fight a Titled Douluo!

He felt like the Fourth Elder's Netherworld Sword could tear them apart at anytime.

Huo Yuhao and Wang Qiu'er's fused soul power was quickly declining after they blocked this blow of his. If this continued, they wouldn't be able to resist his attacks for long.

"Qiu'er!" Huo Yuhao called to Wang Qiu'er through his spiritual power.

"What?" Wang Qiu'er seemed to reply him less coldly.

"I have an idea to get their attention. When I draw their attention later, leave. It's impossible to charge out from here, given our abilities. We only have one opportunity, and I'll help you create it. At most, they'll capture me. When you return to the Academy, just think of a way to rescue me."

Huo Yuhao's voice was very calm, and was filled with confidence.

Wang Qiu'er was silent, and didn't utter a sound.

"Qiu'er, did you hear me?" Huo Yuhao quickly probed. There wasn't much time left.

Wang Qiu'er sighed before she replied, "Alright!"

They were already suffering against one Titled Douluo, and there was still another one for them to face.

Huo Yuhao took in a deep breath, then dragged Wang Qiu'er with both his hands to his side. She spun around, and they changed positions. She was now behind Huo Yuhao.

However, she didn't just place her hands around his waist like he did to her earlier. When she came behind him, she wrapped her arms around his waist. She stuck close to his body and hugged him without any gaps.

Wang Qiu'er's body was warm and cushiony. She wrapped her arms around his waist strongly, but didn't make him feel restrained. He felt indescribably relieved. Wang Qiu'er's surging soul power poured into his body, while she seemed to forget that she was on a battlefield right now. She twisted her head to one side and gently rested it on the back of Huo Yuhao's shoulder, staying close to him.

A delicate fragrance spread, and Huo Yuhao was still distracted by Wang Qiu'er, even though he was fighting a life-and-death battle.

Qiu'er...

Huo Yuhao silently called in his heart. I'm sorry. If I didn't meet Dong'er, perhaps...

However, I've given my life to Dong'er. Just let me use this last moment to completely sever this yearning in your heart. You must live well in the future, and find someone who dotes on and loves you. Forget me.

An unequivocal look flashed across Huo Yuhao's eyes. At this moment, his arms drooped beside his body, and his hair didn't move. His eyes started to fill with silver light, and a look of remembrance slowly spread across them.

Dong'er... n.-0.-v/)e)-l/-b-/1./n

Huo Yuhao smiled, and his spiritual intent seemed to rise to another level. Waves started to rage in his spiritual sea.

Teacher Electrolux, I'm afraid I'll have to disappoint you. I can't pass down your legacy anymore.

Ice Empress, Brother Skydream, Snow Lady, I'm sorry. I can't continue to charge towards the path of Gods with all of you in the future. When I leave, I'll pass all of you to Qiu'er. Qiu'er isn't less gifted than me. She has the same power of destiny in her body, and she even has the pure bloodline of a Dragon God. In the future, it'll be easier for her to reach the level of a God. I'll pass your strengths to her at the last moment. Follow her, and continue to charge towards it.

Thank you for all these years. It's because of all of you that I was able to turn from an ordinary boy into what I am today.

Huo Yuhao's eyes were filled with guilt. However, he was extremely determined.

The Ice Empress turned frantic in his spiritual sea. She tried to muster her origin power to stop him.

The Skydream Iceworm was also frantic, and he furiously shouted, "Stupid!" His golden tears also flowed.

The little Snow Lady, who was originally on Huo Yuhao's back, was forced back into Huo Yuhao's body with a strong power and entered his spiritual sea too. The Snow Empress, who looked like a teenager right now, looked slightly sorrowful, and now seemed to be a little more quick-witted too.

However, they couldn't do anything right now. Huo Yuhao dominated his own spiritual sea. The Skydream Iceworm was even the one who had personally conferred this authority onto him. Right now, that became their biggest restriction.

At this moment, they realized what Huo Yuhao was trying to do. However, they couldn't do anything to stop him.

Huo Yuhao's three eyes were extremely bright. Far into the east, the sky gradually turned marble-white. However, it couldn't compare to the bright light that shone from his eyes.

Streaks of sword lights slashed towards Huo Yuhao. However, they were only able to brush past his body, no matter how strong and concentrated they were. There seemed to be an unprecedentedly strong force on his body that was protecting him and preventing any interruption.

A dim projection appeared behind Huo Yuhao before it turned illusory. This projection was himself.

It was a dim golden projection of Huo Yuhao. Right now, he seemed very peaceful and quiet. He shut his eyes and sat cross-legged. As he stretched his hands in front of him, his index fingers and thumbs formed a heart shape.

A strange golden fog started to rise from this projection. No, it wasn't a fog. It was a flame instead. It was a flame that was burning!

Everything around him turned bright, as if dawn had arrived in advance. Every soul engineer from the Evileye Tyrant Soul Engineer Legion was moved without any reason. They were even unable to hold their soul tools anymore, and lowered them. They were all in a daze as they looked at the projection of the burning man.

Huo Yuhao seemed very huge and tall right now. There was a proud look in his eyes, as if he were watching all life. His smile was very gentle, but it also seemed to be a scornful smile, directed at his enemies.

He was burning. He had ignited his spiritual sea. Was he crazy? Could he actually do something like this?

Whether it was the Third Elder, the Fourth Elder or Wu Yu, who had just recovered from the blow she had sustained from Huo Yuhao's Spiritual Shock, they were all astonished as they looked at Huo Yuhao.

Soul masters might choose to ignite their own soul power in the face of a crisis to generate extremely strong offensive strength. However, it was very difficult to stop such an ignition after it had started.

Even if it was stopped, the soul master's cultivation would still be greatly affected, and he might sustain a permanent injury. If it couldn't be stopped, his soul power would burn until there was nothing left, and he would die.

As a result, soul masters rarely chose to ignite their soul power, even in the face of a crisis.

As for igniting one's spiritual power and spiritual sea, however, it was something that was unknown and unheard-of.

Spiritual power and spirits were magical existences no matter whether it was in the world of soul masters or soul engineers. No one could clearly explain what they were. Even for a spiritual-type soul master, his understanding of spiritual power was very limited if his cultivation wasn't high enough.

Chapter 387.2: Ignite! Spiritual Sea!

While the ignition of one's soul power couldn't usually be controlled, a person's spirit would still remain even if he was dead. However, igniting one's spiritual power was definitely uncontrollable, and both the body and spirit of a person would be completely destroyed.

Is this guy crazy? Did we even say we were going to kill him?

Wu Yu didn't know that Huo Yuhao had made such an unhesitant and determined decision mainly for two reasons. First, he felt that he owed Wang Qiu'er too much. She was here to rescue him in this time of crisis, and he felt that he was obligated to ensure that she was safe. In order to send Wang Qiu'er away safely, he needed sufficient strength. Secondly, he felt that Wu Yu was too threatening. Huo Yuhao was reminded of how Feng Ling was turned into a madam, and he was afraid to end up like him. He would rather his body and spirit be destroyed than to become a second Feng Ling. That was also the more important reason why he was willing to die.

He stepped out with his left leg, and his bright eyes turned gentler. A golden projection silently appeared behind him. Compared to Wang Qiu'er, this projection seemed a little more slender, and had straight hair. Wasn't this Wang Dong'er? She quietly flew forward and adopted a hugging posture before she stuck close and fused with Huo Yuhao's body.

During this process, she also flew past Wang Qiu'er's body. Wang Qiu'er shuddered, and a look of sadness flashed across her beautiful eyes. Even at this life-and-death moment, he still only has her in his heart!

This projection of Wang Dong'er fused with Huo Yuhao, and his gaze turned even gentler. At this moment, to him, his enemies didn't seem to exist anymore. There was only a look of remembrance in his eyes.

Remembrance was a magical thing. Huo Yuhao unleashed his Fist of Remembrance, which contained a surging feeling of remembrance!

A fist with an indescribable color, but which yet seemed to shine with a special glow, was formed. Huo Yuhao didn't seem to have a target, and he just unleashed his fist into the air.

However, all three of the evil soul masters, which comprised two Titled Douluo and one Soul Douluo, felt as if Huo Yuhao's fist was unleashed towards them. An indescribable emotion instantly spread in their hearts.

The Fourth Elder was the first to bear the brunt of Huo Yuhao's attack, as he was standing directly opposite Huo Yuhao.

He straightened his Netherworld Sword, and his seventh soul ring shone. His body instantly turned into a streak of black light, and he fused with his sword. Following this, another tragic scream sounded. Among the nine netherworld souls in the Fourth Elder's Netherworld Sword, the second soul was crushed, and the earlier purplish sword projection surfaced again.

Space shook like the strings of a violin, and the Fourth Elder's Martial Soul True Body, which was this purplish Netherworld Sword, surged up. However, it was forced back into the original form of the Fourth Elder's sword and disappeared. In addition, the soul engineers from the Evileye Tyrant Soul Engineer Legion in the air who had already retreated quite some distance also seemed to be infected by something. They started to tear up, and they couldn't control their emotions. They even couldn't control themselves in the air, and their soul tools started to fall from their hands. At this point, metal was raining down inside the city.

At this moment, all of these soul engineers were all remembering their loved ones, and they lost their fighting spirit.

This was the highest level of profundity of the Fist of Remembrance. There wasn't any outright force, but it influenced, controlled and even destroyed one's emotions!

The stronger one's spiritual power was, the greater the influence on their emotions. This was especially applicable for those who shared a similar type of remembrance with Huo Yuhao.

The Third Elder had already raised his right arm, and was prepared to use a strong soul tool to destroy Huo Yuhao. However, it stopped in the air. He turned his gaze towards Nan Shuishui, who was right beside him. Remembrance was a magical thing. Right now, the person he yearned for the most was beside him. A blissful smile unwittingly appeared on his face. At this moment, he had already completely forgotten what he was doing here, and that he was supposed to attack Huo Yuhao.

Wu Yu was dealt a larger blow than the Third Elder. She and Wu Yun were twin sisters, and they suffered from similar circumstances. When Wu Yun's emotions changed, she would experience similar emotional changes, too. After she saw what Huo Yuhao presented to her through his Imitation, her emotions were fluctuating even worse than her elder sister. Right now, all types of complex emotions erupted in her head.

Wu Yun had been able to instinctively counter-attack and defend herself. However, Wu Yu was completely motionless in the air, and in a daze as she stared at Huo Yuhao. All sorts of emotions were surging and changing continuously in her eyes.

Compared to her, the Fourth Elder was under less influence. However, he was directly in front of Huo Yuhao's Fist of Remembrance.

This fist was a perfect combination of spiritual and soul power, and it was infused with the feeling of remembrance. When it was unleashed, it was completely imprinted onto the Fourth Elder's Martial Soul True Body.

The sword intent of his purple sword was suppressed, and his sword was flung back amidst a piercing buzzing sound. He flew back several hundred meters before he managed to stabilize himself.

Huo Yuhao didn't stop. When he unleashed his Fist of Remembrance, he had already forgotten everything about the outside world.

The identical projection above him started to burn more brightly. It was the origin power in his spiritual sea that was burning! Otherwise, how could he possibly unleash such strong emotions and infect the two Titled Douluo until they weren't able to hold their ground anymore?

Huo Yuhao exerted force with his left foot and he was lifted higher again. He lifted his right hand and pointed his index and middle fingers upward. A lustrous, bright glow instantly shot into the sky. A huge beam of sword light around a hundred meters long and several dozen meters wide shot into the sky.

This bright sword light seemed to pierce the sky. Wherever it passed, space distorted and would gently shake.

Huo Yuhao's expression also started to change. The gentle look in his eyes turned into pain, and he pursed his lips tightly. His eyes had already turned wet, and his emotions seemed to completely enter another world.

Remembrance... it started from thinking before it escalated to missing. Wang Dong'er's face flashed in Huo Yuhao's eyes. He suddenly felt that he was very blissful. Even if he had to die, he was able to die during his remembrance of Wang Dong'er. He was satisfied. This was probably the best result, considering the situation he was in.

The majestic sword light descended from the sky. One's swordplay could only reach the peak if he handled his relationships well. This was Huo Yuhao's Sword of Longing, a sword which would never be forgotten!

There was a target for this sword... Wu Yu.

If not for the fact that Wu Yu had controlled Feng Ling, Huo Yuhao's almost perfect plan wouldn't have experienced such a huge problem. More importantly, Wu Yu's emotions were completely controlled by his Fist of Remembrance right now. This was his best breakthrough point.

She was affected worse than the rest because she was a spiritual-type soul master. Her Spirit of Vengeance relied on boundless hatred. However, she was forced to experience the feeling of remembrance by Huo Yuhao at this moment.

How could she avoid his Sword of Longing now, after being affected by his Fist of Remembrance earlier?

Her Spirit of Vengeance sensed a huge crisis, and unleashed itself from her body to protect her. Wu Yu seemed to be getting a slow grip on her emotions, but it was all too late.

Huo Yuhao's fusion with Wang Qiu'er and his ignition of his spiritual sea had raised his strength to a standard above Wu Yu. The Three Ultimate Haodong Skills had finally revealed the terrifying strength that they were meant to possess.

Why didn't Huo Yuhao use the abilities that the Snow Empress, the Ice Empress and the Skydream Iceworm had conferred on him? It was because he had to continue to be connected to them if he used their abilities. If that happened, they wouldn't be able to separate from him after his death and fuse with Wang Qiu'er.

This was why Huo Yuhao could only use the three skills that he had invented, the Three Ultimate Haodong Skills!

Huo Yuhao's Sword of Longing immediately tore her avenging spirit to pieces. Wherever this sword light passed, spots of bright light were left behind in the air. It was as if tears of remembrance had been scattered in the air.

This shiny sword light flashed past Wu Yu's body before disappearing, and her body stiffened in the air. She drifted several meters back before stopping. The bloodshot look in her eyes faded away, and her gaze started to become similar to Huo Yuhao's.

She was ultimately not as strong as her sister. Against Huo Yuhao's complete version of the Three Ultimate Haodong Skills, she didn't manage to survive until his last skill. She was already sucked into the whirlpool of remembrance by the Sword of Longing.

In the next instant, her body disintegrated, and was crushed before she turned into a pile of dust. She was reunited with her elder sister in another world.

That majestic sword seemed to have slashed the sky apart. At this instant, Ma Xiaotao looked at the sky in the direction of Sunrise City, as if she had a premonition.

“That’s not good. There’s a fight in Sunrise City. It could be a fight involving Titled Douluo, considering how strong the spiritual undulations are. Quick, let’s return!” Ma Xiaotao was frantic. After giving out her order, she immediately leapt up, and her wings fluttered forcefully as she quickly proceeded back toward Sunrise City.

Earlier, she kept on having bouts of uneasiness, as if she felt that something was going to happen. However, she kept on telling herself that it was probably because Huo Yuhao was about to be caught. She had also been thinking of a plan of action if Huo Yuhao was caught. Without the Third and Fourth Elders, it was possible for Huo Yuhao and the others to kill the Zhong brothers if they coordinated well. It was just that the Evileye Tyrant Soul Engineer Legion was nearby, and their leader, who was a Class 9 soul engineer, was very difficult to deal with.

However, Ma Xiaotao suddenly felt that something wasn’t right when the Sword of Longing swept across the sky. The reason why she was feeling uneasy wasn’t because it originated from a distance, but because it came from behind her! “Don’t tell me that little brother didn’t leave Sunrise City, and he’s still inside?”

Chapter 387.3: Ignite! Spiritual Sea!

How could Ma Xiaotao control her emotions with this thought lingering in her head? She quickly rushed away back to Sunrise City.

Wu Yu was dead. She died just like that. She died without unleashing any of the fighting strength that she should possess.

However, her death also jolted the Third Elder awake. The Fourth Elder was also flying back from afar. His eighth and ninth soul rings could be seen flashing.

Huo Yuhao had gone into closed-door cultivation for several months, and fused all of his abilities. He had perfectly combined his spiritual and soul power through the connection of his emotions to form his three great skills, which were the strongest expression of his emotions. No matter how strong his opponents were, they would be infected by him if they weren’t able to resist the invasion of his spiritual power.

These three great skills were mainly supported by Huo Yuhao’s spiritual power because his spiritual cultivation had surpassed the rank of his soul power. When he completed his soul power fusion with Wang Qiu’er and unleashed his three great skills, he had already established himself in the league of the strongest individuals in this world.

After unleashing his sword, Huo Yuhao was already crying. He retracted his palm to his waist before flipping it over. He formed the shape of a heart in the air, and all the lights were retracted at this instant. There was an additional heart at the center of his palm. It was a golden heart. Even the most dazzling gem in this world couldn’t compare to the glow from this golden heart.

This golden heart represented a sincere heart. It was filled with eternal love and remembrance.

Huo Yuhao shut his eyes. At this moment, there was only one figure in his mind. There weren't any other people or things that could affect his state of mind. He was already deeply immersed in his thoughts of Wang Dong'er.

Dong'er, Dong'er, Dong'er!

He was gently calling in his heart. He seemed to see Wang Dong'er and how she had sacrificed her life for him without any hesitation. Dong'er, Dong'er...

As he called, that shining, golden heart slowly moved forward as he pushed his palm forward.

In the sky, the clouds experienced changes, and thunder rumbled. After pitch-darkness filled the sky, it suddenly lit up. The lights came from an unknown origin, but they formed a heart shape.

The signals from all the aerial surveillance soul tools that the Evileye Tyrant Soul Engineer Legion had released again were all jumbled up. In the next moment, their internal formation arrays blew apart, and they were all destroyed.

That huge and seemingly boundless heart resonated with the golden heart on Huo Yuhao's palm.

Behind the heart in the sky, there seemed to be a beautiful face watching everything that was happening on the ground with a gentle gaze.

"Dong'er, I'll forever miss and bless you. Even if I go to another world, as long as there's still a trace of my spirit left, I'll always love you, Dong'er!"

As Huo Yuhao pushed his palm out, and the two hearts resonated with each other, it seemed as if countless flowing lights shone behind Huo Yuhao's back. There were only memories of him and Wang Dong'er within those flowing lights.

Huo Yuhao's Haodong Palm, a palm which would last eternally!

This was the last strike of Huo Yuhao's three great skills. The qi of heaven and earth was overwhelming, and the feeling of remembrance was pure.

The heart on Huo Yuhao's palm enlarged severalfold, and completely engulfed him and Wang Qiu'er.

The two hearts between heaven and earth got closer and closer, and then merged together. At this moment, the Third and Fourth Elders had to retreat rapidly, even with their cultivations. They could clearly sense that they would be critically hurt if they were touched by this heart-shaped light.

The hearts combined in the sky, and formed a heart shape that was even brighter than the sun. It was perfectly flawless.

The heart-shaped light suddenly retracted, and the huge heart that was originally a few hundred meters in diameter suddenly shrank to a diameter of only around fifty meters. In the next instant, this huge heart suddenly raised up a dazzling plume that shot into the distance.

In the blink of an eye, both Huo Yuhao and Wang Qiu'er vanished without a trace.

They weren't the only ones who disappeared. Nan Shuishui and Nan Qiuqiu, who were both restrained by the Third Elder's Lightning God's Binding earlier, had also disappeared. It was like the Third Elder's Lightning God's Binding was a joke in front of the Haodong Palm.

The Third and Fourth Elders were both in a daze.

Everything that had happened earlier was like a dream to them.

It just wasn't believable anymore.

Huo Yuhao and Wang Qiu'er were a Soul King and Soul Sage. Among ordinary people, and even soul masters, they possessed rather extraordinary fighting strength.

However, how many opponents did the two of them face? They had fought more than a hundred elite soul engineers, a Class 9 soul engineer, a Titled Douluo, and a Soul Douluo who was a strong, spiritual-type evil soul master.

What was the eventual result? The Soul Douluo was killed, the elite soul engineers fell from the sky, and were in critical condition, and the two Titled Douluo could only watch helplessly as they escaped. They couldn't even stop them.

No one would believe this. All of this was too weird and shocking.

The Fourth Elder flew over in front of the Third Elder and said with lingering fear, "What ability did he just reveal? It was frightening. I have a feeling that I would've been killed if he used all three moves on me earlier."

The Third Elder patted the Fourth Elder's shoulder and said, "Forget it, he's doomed no matter what abilities he has since he's ignited his spiritual sea. Let's go, too. We don't know how the Holy Lady and the others are."

Yes, Huo Yuhao was doomed!

Huo Yuhao's gaze was filled with gentleness. Nan Qiuqiu, Nan Shuishui and Wang Qiu'er could clearly see Huo Yuhao's face as they were protected by the heart-shaped light, but they couldn't sense any resistance from the outside world.

Above Huo Yuhao, that identical figure was still burning. However, it looked a little illusory now compared to before.

The three ladies knew that Huo Yuhao would be completely destroyed if it finished burning.

"Are you doing this just to tell me that only she exists in your heart?" Wang Qiu'er was still resting on Huo Yuhao's back and hugging him tightly. For some reason, she had become extremely fragile now. She was like a glass vase that could be smashed into pieces any time. She no longer seemed strong, or possessed any fighting spirit.

Huo Yuhao shook his head gently and said, "No, Qiu'er. It's not only her in my heart. You also exist in my heart. It's just that I didn't dare to admit it."

Wang Qiu'er's body shook tremendously, and she suddenly lifted her head from Huo Yuhao's back. She had always been a resilient person, but her voice was trembling now. "I... exist in your heart?"

Huo Yuhao nodded gently and pulled Wang Qiu'er in front of him. He gently embraced her and let her lean on his body.

"Yes, I have both you and Dong'er in my heart. I just didn't dare to admit it all this while. Perhaps I'm the reason why Dong'er is asleep, and why you are in such pain. If I had faced myself earlier, things might have been different. Humans are emotional creatures. I could tell that you were fond of me. When I found out that you plucked another Yearning Heartbroken Grass for me, my heart eventually still opened up for you. I tried to hide it and not face it, and keep all my love for Dong'er. However, I can't deny its existence.

"I'm sorry, Qiu'er. I'm a bad person. I've hurt both you and Dong'er. If heaven gives me one more chance, I'll only have two choices. Either I'll choose to forsake the both of you, or I'll think of a way to keep both of you by my side. I won't let any of you go."

"Qiu'er, do you know? I'm actually very happy now. I really miss Dong'er. I really wish to return to see her. I've already planned everything out. After this mission is over, I'll return to the Clear Sky Sect to see her. However, I'm afraid that I can't go now. If you have the time, visit her on my behalf. If she wakes up, tell her that you are her elder sister, and that everything that happened was just a dream. Help her to forget me."

"Yuhao..." Wang Qiu'er cried. This was the first time Huo Yuhao had seen her so helpless after all this time that he had known her. However, there was a sense of bliss in her tears.

Huo Yuhao hugged her tighter and muttered, "For some reason, I feel that both you and Dong'er are the same person at times. However, you showed up at different periods of my life. It would have been better if only you or Dong'er existed! Qiu'er, I'm sorry..."

Wang Qiu'er gently shook her head. "Don't say sorry. I should be the one to apologize. I was the one who forced myself into your life. Without me, all of this might not have happened. In fact, I already knew what you thought earlier. I knew that you wanted to sacrifice yourself to save me. However, I still hated you and your heartlessness, until you told me that you have me in your heart. I can feel your sincerity. My love for you has finally been repaid."

Chapter 388.1: Offering! Emperor Beast

Wang Qiu'er stood up straight in Huo Yuhao's embrace as she spoke. She was tall in the first place, and so they were staring into each other's eyes as she grasped Huo Yuhao's shoulders with both hands.

"Have you kissed Dong'er before, Yuhao?" Wang Qiu'er smiled, her exceptionally enchanting face shining radiantly, like a hundred blooming flowers.

Huo Yuhao nodded lightly.

Wang Qiu'er gradually closed her eyes, and her lengthy and curly eyelashes touched her lower eyelids. She raised her head gently, and her red lips seemed exquisite and alluring as she whispered, "Kiss me."

Huo Yuhao chuckled. He could feel his own weakness. All the strength and might that he had possessed throughout his entire lifetime was coming to an end. They had travelled more than fifty kilometers out within such a short time; not even Titled Douluo could find them unless they executed a large-scale hunt.

An unspeakable warmth and passion instantly travelled from Qiu'er's lips. Huo Yuhao was already extremely weak, and he suddenly felt as if he were a little lost.

And it was in this moment that, as they kissed each other, Qiu'er's forehead was facing forward and pressed tightly against his. Their opened Eyes of Destiny touched.

In that instant, Huo Yuhao felt as if his entire brain was about to explode, and strange scenes flashed by in his mind one after another.

He was looking a large, dense forest, where countless ancient trees that reached high into the sky blocked off the sunlight completely. In that world where plants were everywhere, there was a small golden figure lying prostrate on the ground.

This is... This is...

"Haven't you always been curious about why Dong'er and I look identical, and why I look so similar to the Goddess of Light produced by your martial soul fusion skill with her?"

"The reason is because I presented myself before the two of you according to what the Goddess of Light looks like."

"Do you know who I am now?"

That tiny golden figure gradually raised its head, and in that moment, Huo Yuhao felt as if his brain had been struck by an enormous hammer. All that doubt, suspicion, and unsurety in his mind were suddenly cleared in this instant.

He finally understood why she looked so similar to Dong'er, and why she was closer to the Goddess of Light in his heart.

He finally understood why she could move around in the Great Star Dou Forest unhindered, and why she had such peculiar feelings for soul beasts, to the point where she would save those Darkgolden Terrorclaw Bears.

He finally understood why he would feel a sense of familiarity with her now and then, and why she possessed an Eye of Destiny like he did.

He finally understood why she would always appear by his side every time he was in danger.

He finally understood why she knew everything about him, and why she was just so familiar with him, and why she would appear beside him continuously.

That was because she wasn't a human in the first place!

That was because she was the one that had given him his Eye of Destiny!

That was because she was the one that controlled destiny, and was the envoy of destiny.

That was because she had looked into his memories a long time ago.

She was the Three-Eyed Golden Lion!

The Three-Eyed Golden Lion had left a profound impression in him in the Great Star Dou Forest, and had given him his Eye of Destiny. The lion controlled the entire Great Star Dou Forest's fate and fortunes, and was greatly beneficial and helpful to all other soul beasts within the forest.

The Ten Great Savage Beasts and other similarly powerful soul beasts protected her in the Great Star Dou Forest.

Qiu'er... Qiu'er is actually the Three-Eyed Golden Lion!

Huo Yuhao's spiritual sea was about to be incinerated completely at this very moment, but this sudden information caused his spirit to tremble from all that astonishment. He had been about to pass on the Ice Empress, the Snow Empress, and the Skydream Iceworm to Qiu'er, but now he had no choice but to stop.

"Qiu'er, you..."

"Yes, I am the Three-Eyed Golden Lion. I am that silly and foolish Three-Eyed Golden Lion who developed an interest in you, and stepped into the world of humans.

"When you forcefully imprinted my Eye of Destiny, you were destined to be the bane of my destiny. When you read my memories that time, I did the same to you – you can only see the grand and drab forest, the Great Star Dou Forest. But in your memory, I saw the countless aspects and expressions of humanity, and I saw its beauty.

"I'm different from other soul beasts. I'm not even limited by destiny, and I don't have that bottleneck at one hundred thousand years like they do. I can continue living if I am willing to, and even though I can't become as strong as Di Tian and the others, even the true dictator that's slumbering in the Great Star Dou Forest will only take good care of me. He won't let any harm come to me.

"But I experienced too much boredom in my several thousand years of life. How could I resist that curiosity after seeing the beauty of humanity?"

"Therefore, I used the only chance I had in my entire lifetime to transform into a human, and I became that Goddess of Light in your memory. After my transformation, I was destined to only be able to transform between the Three-Eyed Golden Lion and the Goddess of Light, and even my name, Wang Qiu'er, was created based on Wang Dong's name.

"I walked into your world of humans, and I used the partial Golden Dragon blood in my body, and replicated the Golden Dragon by imitation. The world of humans was so novel and interesting to me, but it was also very unfamiliar at the same time. I gradually began to feel fear after my very brief happiness and curiosity, because I didn't understand you, and everything about the world of humans, at all. Even I don't know why I went to Shrek Academy like that, and why I appeared in front of you.

"We met yet again, but I had become a human. You didn't recognize me, but I recognized you, and that feeling was so peculiar and magical at the same time. Perhaps because of the connection between our Eyes of Destiny, my fear disappeared when I was by your side, and I felt especially safe and assured.

Therefore, I entered Shrek Academy, and arrived by your side. I wanted to see how you lived your life, and what differences there were between you humans and us soul beasts.

“At that moment, I discovered that the fellow who was a good friend to you was actually a girl, and the two of you had actually become lovers. I had a sour feeling in my heart at that time, and only then did I realize that the appearance that I had transformed into was how she would look when she grew up.

“I was beginning to feel a little overwhelmed and at a loss once more. During that time, I wanted to leave and return to the Great Star Dou Forest because the origin power of my destiny came from the Great Star Dou Forest, and because I had snuck out in the first place. However, I couldn’t bear to leave this opportunity to enter the world of humans behind. I knew that if I left just like that, returning to your side would almost be impossible even if I wanted to.”

“Therefore, I remained, and followed you guys into the Great Star Dou Forest so that we could find a suitable soul ring for you. I am a soul beast, yet I was helping you hunt and kill soul beasts. Wasn’t that just comical? Even though I am typically bloodthirsty, and I like to kill, those soul beasts were my kin, my brethren, after all!

“Afterwards, I listened to you recount your story with your mother. Going through your memories and listening to you telling your story was so different, and in that moment, I suddenly realized that soul beasts and humans are just different; we are fundamentally different in our emotions and in our feelings. The emotions that humans possess are things that us soul beasts do not have, and it was in that moment that I was determined to remain. I wanted to try and see if I could be better than Dong’er in your heart.

“I quickly discovered how unrealistic this thought was. After going through life and death with you, even I didn’t know that you were becoming more and more important to me, and your impression had become stronger and stronger in my heart. Because of the mutual connection and pull between our Eyes of Destiny, you were my greatest predestined fate. I was starting to like you. I liked to see you, and I liked being by your side. However, you started to reject and ostracize me because of Dong’er. Perhaps you felt that way because the threat that Dong’er felt from me was overly intense and overwhelming. I was even a little proud at that time. So what if we looked identical? I would be stronger than she was, and so I would snatch you from her hands.”

“But I had no idea how to make you like me, how to make you fall in love with me. I was very lost at that time, till one day, when I watched you impatiently leave the Academy with a look of anxiety and worry. My curiosity was piqued, and my curiosity made me follow you into some faraway land.

“Your intelligence, your determination, and your stubbornness towards Dong’er was continuously moving me. When I watched you swallow the Blazing Sunspring’s water, which was hot enough to melt metal, into your belly so that you could spit out some of your own blood, do you know how I felt?

“That was the first time I felt heartache, and it was so, so painful. And it was then that I understood what love was... you could disregard your own life and sacrifice yourself for Dong’er, but did you ever think about how much pain I felt in my heart when I was by your side, and when I watched you become like you were? When I vomited some blood of my own and plucked another Yearning Heartbroken Grass for you, I knew that I had already fallen in love with you, and irrevocably so.

“Even I felt that I was so silly and foolish, because we are different in the first place. You’re a human, and I’m a soul beast. We should be completely dichotomous, but I am just so foolish, as if I am a moth being attracted to a fire, and flying straight into the flames.

“You hurt me so much every time, and I felt so much pain, but I couldn’t bear to leave you every time...”

Chapter 388.2: Offering! Emperor Beast

“Only in that moment when Dong’er died for you did I realize that her love for you was so much deeper than mine because I had hesitated at that moment. I contemplated that if she died, I could be with you forever. My love for you ultimately has that bit of selfishness, but hers doesn’t. Her love for you is pure. She could sacrifice her own life for you without any hesitation at all, just like you had done for her.

“I seemed to understand in that moment, that I was always just an outsider between the two of you, and I was never anything else but an outsider. Therefore, I left, and I returned to the Great Star Dou Forest. I made a promise to myself that I would never see you again, and I would bury everything that happened between us in the past, and I would let bygones forever be bygones.

“I had learned how humans love each other, but I didn’t learn how to forget. I couldn’t forget about you

“Therefore, I came once I felt that you were in danger. This time, Dong’er isn’t by your side, and we aren’t inside the Yin-Yang Love Querying Valley. This time, I will not lose to her. She is in a deep sleep, so there is no way she can compete with me.”

Wang Qiu’er presented everything through her consciousness into Huo Yuhao’s mind, and he felt like his brain was in complete disarray. Even though his spirit was already exceptionally weak, every single word that Qiu’er uttered to him in his mind stunned and astonished him at an unimaginable level. Huo Yuhao didn’t realize that his spiritual power, which was burning up continuously before this, had actually stopped burning.

Wang Qiu’er could feel saltiness flow into her mouth through the corners of her lips, and tears were already streaming down her face. However, she was still holding Huo Yuhao’s head as tightly as she could, so that his forehead was still closely pressed against hers.

“Qiu’er...”

Wang Qiu’er’s consciousness traveled into Huo Yuhao’s mind once more.

“Hehehe... actually, I like how you are now because you won’t resist, and you will just take everything in silence. How I wish I could spend eternity with you like this! Thank you, Yuhao, because you have finally told me that there is space for me in your heart. In the end, I didn’t waste my experience of that love that humans have. Perhaps I have become more like a human at this point. *novel-1b*.In

“Thank you, Yuhao. Perhaps this is the best outcome for us. No matter what, we will never be separated again.”

Illusory golden light flickered rhythmically on her body. Both Nan Qiuqiu and Nan Shuihui, who were protected beneath this golden light, realized to their surprise that their bodies had become like statues, and they couldn’t move a single inch.

They could see that the golden light emanating from Wang Qiu'er's body began to resemble flames, while heaven and earth seemed to lose all color at that moment.

Wang Qiu'er's entire body became a little blurry, and she transformed into a ball of light that resembled the shape of a human. Afterward, she melted through the spot where her forehead was tightly pressed against Huo Yuhao's forehead. She slowly melted into Huo Yuhao's body, bit by bit...

"No, Qiu'er..." Huo Yuhao couldn't shout, because his lips were still tightly locked with Wang Qiu'er's lips.

At this moment, Nan Shuishui and Nan Qiuqiu could clearly hear his shouts, those hysterical exclamations that came from his spiritual world, but they couldn't do anything to stop this process, which was almost like a divine ceremony.

Streaks of light flowed into Huo Yuhao's forehead continuously!

Wang Qiu'er seemed like liquid gold, and she gently spread to every part of Huo Yuhao's body. She tenderly integrated herself into his body, and Huo Yuhao's entire body was covered with golden hues.

Huo Yuhao's own projection hovering above his head discreetly and quietly vanished. The raging spiritual flames were extinguished by those golden colors that flowed into him.

Wang Qiu'er's body continued flowing into Huo Yuhao's body until only her virtual self remained. She still looked like she had, but she had become transparent.

An enormous vertical eye stood as a backdrop behind her, and the Three-Eyed Golden Lion's projection flickered. However, the lion was looking up at the sky at this moment, and there was only satisfaction in her three eyes.

"Don't do this, Qiu'er!" Huo Yuhao felt as if lava was flowing through his body as heat surrounded every inch of him. All his weakness was replaced by strength at this moment, and he felt as if his entire being was fusing with another.

Huo Yuhao's spiritual sea became plentiful once more as golden seawater flowed torrentially through it. Everything was brilliantly golden in color and exceptionally eye-catching.

Three projections glimmered and hovered above his spiritual sea one after another. They transformed, respectively, into a handsome youth and two ladies.

The handsome youth had long white hair, and ten golden halos circled around his body. One of the ladies wore a flowing jade-green dress, and there were tinges of unruliness and unyieldingness amid her beauty. The other lady bloomed with cold arrogance as if she were a winter sweet in harsh ice.

"Concrete-material realm... a realm that not even I was able to reach after one million years of cultivation, but this realm has been realized at this moment," the handsome youth muttered under his breath, and he went down on one knee in the next moment. He placed his right hand on his chest and closed his eyes, as if in prayer.

The other two ladies made the same motion, but they didn't close their eyes. Their enchanting eyes were full of reverence and longing.

There was no question that this handsome youth was the Skydream Iceworm, while the other two ladies were the Ice Empress and the Snow Empress.

The Ice Empress had become like she was back then, and she seemed to have recovered some of her memory. These three powerful beings weren't excited or overjoyed about their transformations at all at this moment. Instead, they were filled with some indescribable emotions.

Of course?they knew what had just happened. In that moment, not even they knew how to extinguish Huo Yuhao's burning spiritual flames with all their power and strength. However, Wang Qiu'er did it, and they were kneeling for her.

Huo Yuhao wasn't the only person that Wang Qiu'er had saved – they were saved as well, and even though they could have continued to survive within Wang Qiu'er's spiritual world, that outcome wasn't something that they had wanted.

In terms of age and cultivation, even though Wang Qiu'er was the Emperor Beast, the Three-Eyed Golden Lion, she only had several tens of thousands of years of cultivation. Naturally, she couldn't take these three powerful beings, who all had at least four hundred thousand years of cultivation each. But these three powerful beings knew that what Wang Qiu'er had done for Huo Yuhao wasn't something they could do, and so they knelt for her out of respect.

Sacrifice! Yes, only a Sacrifice could produce such tremendous changes.

Wang Qiu'er was the human form of the Three-Eyed Golden Lion, who was also the Emperor Beast, and the god-beast of Destiny. No matter how much her appearance, personality, and emotions resembled those of a human, she was still empirically a soul beast in the end.

Soul beasts always became soul rings after death, and human soul masters could absorb them once they reached their bottlenecks. Soul masters depended on soul rings to break through their bottlenecks.

However, there was a very special situation amongst soul beasts. If a soul beast was willing to sacrifice itself to become a human's soul ring, then its soul ring would fuse with the soul master at the highest possible level. However, this soul beast would lose its life in the process, and even its spirit would be completely integrated into that soul master's spirit during this fusion process. The soul beast's spirit would disappear forever.

This fusion process that required death without any reciprocation at all was known as Sacrifice.

Wang Qiu'er wanted to save Huo Yuhao, and she wanted to make sure that he wouldn't die after his spiritual sea was incinerated, so she chose the most intense, cruel, resolute, and passionate method.

The Skydream Iceworm, the Snow Empress, and the Ice Empress didn't dare to do so, but Wang Qiu'er did so for Huo Yuhao.

Just as she said, she didn't want to lose to Wang Dong'er again, and she would never lose to Wang Dong'er again in this moment.

She knew that even though that she took up some space in Huo Yuhao's heart, she could never compare to Wang Dong'er. This ceremony was the only way for her body, spirit, and everything that she was to be integrated into his body so that she would never be separated from him.

She offered herself to Huo Yuhao not just to save him. At the same time, she did so because of that burning passion in her heart. She chose the proudest method to announce her sovereignty over Huo Yuhao.

After this divine ceremony was complete, Wang Qiu'er and Huo Yuhao would never be apart. They had truly become one body.

Perhaps this was their destiny from the moment Huo Yuhao's forehead pressed against hers, from the moment he obtained his Eye of Destiny from her.

She was the god-beast of Destiny, but she couldn't escape fate and the pull of destiny in the end.

Huo Yuhao's spiritual sea and his soul power were sublimated into hers, and everything that he had was fusing with her rapidly. His burning spiritual sea regained its original shape, and it was even more voluminous than before. His spiritual sea fully stepped into the concrete-material realm, and in terms of Huo Yuhao's spiritual strength, he was now amongst the most powerful beings in the world.

A halo quietly appeared on Huo Yuhao's body, and it drew out five other circles that were respectively white, purple, black, black, and black. This most recent soul ring aligned itself at the back, but it had a peculiar golden color. It shone with faint rosy colors but retained the brilliance and dazzling elements of gold.

This was the third time that a peculiar soul ring that transcended normal soul rings had appeared on Huo Yuhao's body. His glossy white million-year soul ring, his orange-gold soul rings that represented the Snow Empress' spirit, and this newest rose-gold soul ring made Huo Yuhao seem like he was a being that came from another world as if he wasn't a soul master from the Douluo Continent.

Finally, all those golden colors integrated into his body completely, and the spheres of light that were rotating rapidly finally stopped, and gradually descended to the ground.

Everything around them was still black and white while rolling thunder boomed in the sky. Violent and hysterical winds billowed through the air as mountains shook and the earth trembled at that moment, and lightning sparkled and flashed in the heavens. Rolling thunder echoed continuously, as though heaven and earth were about to shatter into a million pieces.

A dash of blood-red light flickered far off on the horizon, and an indescribable and enormous pressure caused all the soul beasts in the Douluo Continent to raise their heads at the same time.

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Inside the Great Star Dou Forest...

Thunder continued to boom as heavy rain poured from the sky. The entire Great Star Dou Forest witnessed torrential rain that they wouldn't see more than once in a century... but strangely, there wasn't a single dark cloud in the sky. There was only a patch of blood-red color at the other end of this rainstorm, and the sky above the entire Great Star Dou Forest was stained this same blood-red.

Chapter 388.3: Offering! Emperor Beast

Shadows that carried powerful auras rose into the sky one after another and rushed through the trees from the Great Star Dou Forest's Core Region.

They were in various shapes and sizes, but every single one of them emanated unrivaled and frightening auras. Their auras became increasingly frightening the closer these shadows came to the Great Star Dou Forest's Core Region, and every single being that dared to fly out of the Great Star Dou Forest were the strongest individuals in this place, where the most powerful soul beasts in the Continent gathered and roosted.

A man in a long black robe hovered silently in the sky above the Great Star Dou Forest's Core Region. Every single aura around him was incredibly powerful, but not a single being dared to hover higher than him in the sky.

This man wore a grave, stern, and resolute look on his face. His flowing black hair draped behind him and stretched perfectly to his ankles without a single inch of discrepancy at all.

Two locks of golden hair were especially glaring amidst all his black hair, and they hung in front of him silently.

He was looking up at the colors of blood in the sky at this moment. He suddenly lifted his right hand and grabbed at something in the air.

A frightening aura that couldn't be any more terrifying suddenly burst forth from his body, and his grabbing action seemed as though he was tearing the sky apart. The entire Great Star Dou Forest trembled faintly, and the sky contorted vigorously for a moment.

A black gash that was a hundred meters long appeared in the sky just like that. This black gaping hole seemed as though it had boundless suction power, and all the other powerful beings around him hurriedly retreated for fear of being sucked into this gash.

However, after a moment, nothing happened within that tremendous black gash before it closed up once more. The blood colors in the sky didn't change, and nothing appeared from within that black gash.

At this moment, a jade-green figure soared through the sky from a distance, right towards this black-haired male.

This jade-green figure appeared before the black-haired male in the blink of an eye as if it had transcended space and time. She was a stunningly beautiful lady, and her long jade-green hair was draped behind her head. Her eyes were also jade-green, and her figure was long and slender, while her long light green dress brought out her slender figure perfectly. She had snowy white hands that resembled tender lotuses, and a pair of wings that seemed like they had been sculpted from jewels and gems extended from behind her back.

Her wings were jade-green as well, and every single feather was dazzling and eye-catching. Those brilliant and vivid green colors were filled with life energy, and all that made her seem like a moving and enchanting Goddess.

This exceptionally beautiful lady's eyes were conspicuously worried and anxious. She stopped before the black-haired man after flying rapidly towards him and asked, "What's wrong, Di Tian? What has happened, exactly?"

Yes, the handsome man who had black hair that extended all the way to his ankles was known as the strongest Savage Beast in the world today. He was the leader of the Douluo Continent's Ten Great

Savage Beasts, and he was the Great Star Dou Forest's dictator. He was the king of beast kings, the Golden-Eyed Black Dragon King, Di Tian!

Di Tian glanced coldly at the beautiful lady who was emitting life energy as he lowered his voice and said, "Something's happened to the Auspicious Beast."

"What?" The beautiful lady exclaimed in surprise. "No wonder I feel so stifled. What's happened to the Auspicious Beast?"

Di Tian lowered his voice and said, "Her life energy is flowing away at an alarming rate. I attempted to use Descent to bring her back, but it didn't have any effect at all."

The beautiful lady's expression changed drastically. The Emperor Auspicious Beast, the Three-Eyed Golden Lion's existence, was exceptionally important to the entire Great Star Dou Forest.

The Three-Eyed Golden Lion's abilities enabled normal soul beasts to grow faster, and she enabled them to become powerful beings quicker than normal. However, she was even more important to these top-tier beast kings! It was a lot safer for them to break through their bottlenecks every hundred thousand years with the Three-Eyed Golden Lion's control over destiny. Furthermore, the Three-Eyed Golden Lion also allowed their cultivation to grow faster than usual. In the past several millennia, the Great Star Dou Forest's overall strength had been greatly boosted because of the Three-Eyed Golden Lion, and they had consolidated and maintained their position as the number-one habitat on the Douluo Continent.

How could this beautiful lady not be shocked when Di Tian mentioned that something had happened to the Three-Eyed Golden Lion? She wasn't the only one who was astonished. The other beast kings around them who had heard Di Tian's words saw each other's expressions change drastically as well. Those who were relatively hot-tempered couldn't hold themselves back, and they roared and howled angrily into the sky.

Instantly, countless beasts prostrated themselves, and a stern aura gushed forth from the Great Star Dou Forest.

The beautiful lady's breathing was a little rushed, and her busty chest heaved up and down. "If only I had been by her side, I could have saved her life no matter what. Di Tian, can you use Descent to send me over?"

Di Tian shook his head and said, "No, we're too far away. There's no way I can lock onto her exact position unless she cooperates with me. However, there's no way she can cooperate with us, because she is the one who's causing her own life energy to flow away. If my feelings are right, I'm afraid the Auspicious Beast is..."

He stopped for a moment, and his final words were uttered soundlessly, and only the beautiful lady beside him could hear.

"What? How is that possible?" the beautiful lady exclaimed in shock once more, her enchanting jade-green eyes filled with incredulity.

Di Tian's eyes were grave and stern. "Humans, humans! Jade Concubine, you can't attempt to stop me this time. We are the ones who should rule this world. Humans have threatened our species' survival for the last time."

“Myriad Demon King, Bear Lord, and Scarlet King! Pass on my order...”

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Boom, boom, boom!

Blood-colored lightning descended from the sky, covering several dozen square kilometers all around. Heaven and earth seemed to have descended into a sea of blood, and that horrifying sensation felt like the end of the world.

Amidst those large patches of blood-colored lightning, there was only one patch of ground, less than ten square meters in size, which was untouched.

Huo Yuhao was standing in that space, and his eyes were filled with incredulity as tears dripped continuously from his eyes. However, there was nothing he could do at this moment. He couldn't even utter a single word.

Wang Qiu'er was still standing in front of him in her virtual form. Her pretty face was almost transparent, and no longer had that coldness that she typically wore. All that was left was a faint, warm smile.

“Don't be sad. You aren't that handsome in the first place, and you're even uglier when you cry. Actually, you should blame me for being selfish – Dong'er has died for you once, but her death wasn't as complete as mine! Hehe, I have completely integrated myself into you as one body this time. If you miss me, then you should take good care of yourself, and you should be kind to the abilities that I have granted you. For some reason, I don't feel a single ounce of longing and yearning for this world even though I am about to leave it. I even feel like I haven't died at all, and I have obtained a new life instead. What's happening?”

“Even though I'm not a hundred-thousand-year soul beast, I will grant you two soul skills just like normal hundred-thousand-year soul beasts. At the same time, I believe that nobody else is more suitable than I am to become your head soul bone. You will obtain the true Eye of Destiny, and you will have power over destiny.”

“I have to go, my dear. I won't be like you – I won't allow someone who loves me to forget about me right before I die. I hope that you will remember me forever, and you will always miss me.”

“Something might happen in the Great Star Dou Forest after I leave. You should go there soon to take a look. I have offered everything I have to you, and even if they find you, they won't do anything to you... because the Great Star Dou Forest's fortunes will end if you die.”

Wang Qiu'er suddenly paused as she uttered these words. Her eyes were overflowing with tears as she stared at Huo Yuhao, and she smiled mournfully. “I can't bear to leave you. Don't forget about me... I love you!”

“Hum!” The blood-colored lighting in the sky that rained down upon the earth suddenly halted at this moment, and Wang Qiu'er's illusory figure erupted with light. Intense golden light expanded to the ends of the earth as if it were about to swallow the entire world, and then it withdrew in the next moment, leaving only a golden skull that was about as large as a fist. This golden skull hovered before Huo Yuhao quietly.

Huo Yuhao's Eye of Destiny opened on his forehead, and a golden ray shot out from his Eye of Destiny, to land on that golden skull.

The golden skull immediately became transparent and resembled a golden water crystal as it gradually drifted forward. The skull became increasingly small as it did so and finally flew up in front of Huo Yuhao as it transformed into a golden ray that disappeared into his Eye of Destiny.

Huo Yuhao's body suddenly quivered, and an indescribably frightening aura burst out from his body. The blood colors in the sky became golden as an enormous golden pillar descended from the sky and slammed into Huo Yuhao's head.

Huo Yuhao's eyes went blank, and he was instantly rendered unconscious.

Nan Shuishui and Nan Qiuqiu weren't far from him, and they could clearly see that Huo Yuhao's entire body was shining with streaks of golden lightning after he was struck by that golden pillar.

Transformations began to happen on his body – his black hair was gradually covered by a golden layer, and eventually became a peculiar dark gold color. An enormous vertical eye appeared behind his back. This eye was gold, but its pupil was black and white. The black and white flickered alternately as if they were tangible and material.

Another beam of light descended from the sky and landed on his body right at this moment. This time, the beam was scarlet-red, as if it were a beam of fire.

Subsequently, orange, yellow, green, indigo, blue, and violet beams of light descended from the sky one after another, forming the colors of the rainbow along with the red light beam that came before.

Small changes would happen to Huo Yuhao's disposition after every beam of light descended on his body, and even his appearance was transforming subtly. He wasn't considered very good-looking before this, but now he was becoming more handsome.

Nan Qiuqiu was standing right beside him, and she had the strongest feelings about everything. Huo Yuhao was still the same as the person in front of her, and she could still recognize him with one look, but he had become more handsome and different from before.

A peculiar layer of light appeared on Huo Yuhao's body after the seven colors of the rainbow anointed him in succession. This light had seven colors, and it gradually carried him into the sky, where his unconscious body crossed his legs and sat down. Afterward, that vertical eye transformed into rays of flowing light that flowed continuously through the Eye of Destiny on his forehead.

Nan Qiuqiu's eyes were completely lifeless and frozen as she looked on. "Is this fellow still human? What... what's happening, exactly?" Nan Qiuqiu and Nan Shuishui couldn't hear Huo Yuhao and Wang Qiu'er's conversation, but everything that was unfurling before their very eyes was far too astonishing for them.

Chapter 389.1: Changes in All Parties

Nan Shuishui hugged her daughter and heaved a faint sigh. "Let's protect him. Even though I don't know what's happened to him, if my guess isn't wrong, his female partner must have sacrificed herself for whatever it is that's happening to him. I have no idea why such peculiar things are happening to him,

but they shouldn't be bad for him. But I feel so much pity for his female partner... and they're doing it all to save me... haih..."

Nan Shuishui knew that the Earthdragon Sect was deep in Huo Yuhao's debt this time. Huo Yuhao had saved every one of the Earthdragon Sect's members, including her, the sect leader. His partner's life had been sacrificed in the process. How was she going to repay a favor as large as this?

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"What?" Ma Xiaotao stared at the Third Elder and the Fourth Elder. Her entire body had become lackadaisical.

For her, what she had just heard from them was like bolts from the blue.

Huo Yuhao had been ambushed and surrounded, and he finally burned his spiritual sea. He employed some special abilities to break out, and was now nowhere to be found.

He burned his spiritual sea? Burned his spiritual sea!

What did this mean? Ma Xiaotao came from Shrek Academy, so how could she not know what this meant?

Yuhao! Yuhao!

Ma Xiaotao's body quivered faintly, and frightening auras erupted from her body continuously.

"Are you alright, Holy Lady?" Zhongli Tian asked softly.

Evil lights flickered in Ma Xiaotao's eyes, and she glanced coldly at the Third Elder and Fourth Elder. She didn't mince her words, and paused after every word. "Two Titled Douluo can't hold back a single Soul King. The two of you are so capable! After him! Chase him down! If he's alive, I want to see him in front of me. If he's dead, I want to see his corpse." She stretched out her phoenix wings as she spoke, and immediately transformed into a humongous fire phoenix as she flew rapidly in the direction that the Third Elder had said that Huo Yuhao had disappeared towards.

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Inside Seajoy City...

The city's port was bustling as usual, and goods and cargo were being transported here and there while boats and ships entered and left the harbor.

There was a relatively large transport ship, and the ship's crew was currently accounting for their ship's members.

There were many people lying down around the ship's spacious cabin. Those who were in a relatively better state of mind could forcibly sit up with their legs crossed. However, everyone's eyes flowed with excitement, whether they were lying down or sitting up.

They were excited because they were free!

Xu Sanshi, He Caitou, Ye Guyi, and Jing Ziyang were accounting for their ship's members. Their faces were grave and solemn at this moment, and Ji Juechen stood guard outside the ship's hold to prevent any unforeseen accidents.

Their rescue operation could be said to have been exceptionally smooth and successful... or, at least it seemed so. The operation had been carried out and completed entirely according to Huo Yuhao's plan.

They had saved almost six hundred people. In order to confuse their enemies, a little more than a dozen elders and seniors from those various sects and academies had remained to draw their enemies away. More than ninety-five percent of the hostages had been rescued, and everyone hurried to Seajoy City to rendezvous with the others.

Everyone was a little exhausted and fatigued because they had been flying at full speed, and because their bodies had been treated badly in the water prison. However, with sufficient food and water supporting them, it didn't take long for them to recover their full fighting strength.

But even so, Xu Sanshi and the others couldn't feel any joy at all, because Huo Yuhao and Nan Qiuqiu hadn't returned yet. This also meant that they couldn't rush to Seajoy City to meet up with the rest in time.

Huo Yuhao had already accounted for a situation like this. As long as the hostages were all here, they would immediately cast off and depart, while he and Nan Qiuqiu would find another way to return to the Academy.

Everything had been pre-arranged, but He Caitou's news still gave everyone a heavy heart. A single Beast Lord-ranked soul engineer legion entering the fray had changed the situation, and nobody knew what was happening with Huo Yuhao and Nan Qiuqiu because they couldn't communicate with them at all.

Naturally, they hoped that they could wait for them to return before they departed, and only then would everyone be in high spirits. Only then could their operation be considered perfect and without any blemishes at all.

"Are you guys from Shrek Academy? Thank you." An elderly man who was about sixty years of age stood up and came up to Xu Sanshi, who was still accounting for everyone, and spoke to him in a voice full of gratitude.

Xu Sanshi suppressed the anxiety and unsettledness in his heart and replied with a faint smile, "You're welcome, but you don't have to be so polite. The Sun Moon Empire is very scheming and treacherous, and they disregarded the tournament's rules that have been passed down across millenia within the Continent by forcefully imprisoning so many people. How can Shrek Academy and the Tang Sect sit by and watch?"

Cold light flickered in the elderly man's eyes. "The Sun Moon Empire... the Sun Moon Empire! Do they really think they can dominate the entire continent by relying on their soul tools? That's just wishful thinking. How can the Sun Moon Empire compare to the Douluo Continent's foundations and history?"

Xu Sanshi nodded and said, "We have to come together as one. Even if the Sun Moon Empire launches an invasion against us, we may not lose to them. You should get some rest, senior. We will be casting off shortly."

"Alright, thanks. The Lone Heaven Sect will always remember what you guys have done for us. Shrek Academy just has to call for us in the future, and we will never shy away from whatever you guys need from us."

The Tang Sect's reputation was still too small, and paled in comparison to Shrek Academy, which had been established for ten thousand years. Therefore, even though Xu Sanshi mentioned several times that the rescuers didn't just come from Shrek Academy, and that they also came from the Tang Sect, most of the hostages pinned this favor on Shrek Academy.

He Caitou walked over from the other side and checked his headcount with Xu Sanshi. There were about twelve people who hadn't arrived yet, but it was obvious that these people would probably never arrive.

"It's about time, Sanshi." He Caitou uttered these words with much difficulty.

He Caitou was before Xu Sanshi in seniority, but Xu Sanshi's status within the Tang Sect was a little higher than his.

Xu Sanshi grit his teeth as he glanced at the hostages in the ship's hold, lowered his voice and announced, "Start the ship!"

Several minutes later, an enormous iron anchor was gradually pulled up. The sailors and hands that the Tang Sect had hired worked together, and the colossal transport ship slowly departed the harbor and sailed towards the endless ocean...

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In the Sun Moon Empire's royal palace...

"What? The hostages are gone?" Xu Tianran's typically calm voice was suddenly excessively penetrating, causing the entire hall's ceiling to tremble.

Xu Tianran was wearing a long, bright yellow robe, and his face was grave and gloomy at this moment. He stared coldly at several people who were kneeling down before him, and his eyes were filled with killing intent.

The Evileye Tyrant Soul Engineer Legion's commander was kneeling before him, along with the commanders of the two soul engineer legions who had been stationed around Sunrise City.

"Speak! What happened? Tell me everything in detail," Xu Tianran said plainly, not taking long before he regained his composure. However, everyone could feel that this was just the calm before the storm, and if anything wasn't explained properly, or if errors were made throughout the process, someone's head would probably be immediately sent rolling across the ground.

Ju Zi was sitting beside Xu Tianran, her expression a little black as well. The Holy Ghost Church and two soul engineer legions were watching over those hostages, along with the Evileye Tyant Soul Engineer Legion, which was the legion most adept at speed among the Beast Lord-ranked soul engineer legions,

to assist them, and yet several hundred hostages had still managed to run away. This was extremely humiliating!

Furthermore, those hostages were extremely valuable to the empire, because they restrained the Douluo Continent's three native empires. At the same time, these hostages remaining in the Sun Moon Empire was also equivalent to greatly restricting the three empires' future top-tier soul masters' strength. Now that they were all gone, the Sun Moon Empire's plan and strategy had to be changed, and their borders were in danger of being assaulted by these three empires in revenge at any moment.

These commanders immediately began their reports, everyone responsible for one part. Their reports, when added together, explained the entire process of how their hostages managed to escape in detail.

"Someone please invite the Imperial Tutor to discuss matters." Xu Tianran passed on an order after listening to the three commanders, and a servant immediately ran frantically to fulfill his command.

Xu Tianran's eyes closed into slits, and his eyes flowed with a contemplative look. The Holy Ghost Church was in charge of the most crucial parts of watching over the hostages, and they even used drugs that can dispel a soul master's soul power. But every single hostage ran away... what were those guys doing? Two evil Titled Douluo couldn't even guard that place properly? They couldn't even buy enough time for reinforcements to arrive?

Furthermore, they had managed to surround one of the rescuers at the end, but even this person got away. Two Titled Douluo couldn't hold back a single Soul King... who would believe that?

"Have you investigated who that person is? I'm talking about that person who burned his own spiritual power to escape!" Xu Tianran asked coldly.

The Evil Eye Tyrant Soul Engineer Legion's commander, Wang Yiheng, said respectfully, "We've already investigated as much as possible. That person should have come from Shrek Academy, or the Tang Sect. Not long ago, he represented the Tang Sect and participated in the Continental Elite Youth Soul Master Tournament."

Ju Zi was expressionless at the start, but her expression changed drastically when she heard these words, as an ominous feeling rose in her heart.

"That person participated in the tournament, so some of my subordinate soul engineers recognized him. His name was Huo Yuhao, but he was in a wheelchair when he fought in the tournament. His movements were normal when he appeared last night, but we are sure that these two are the same person. The city wall was broken through by someone who controls ice-type abilities, and according to our investigation, Huo Yuhao possesses Ultimate Ice."

Ju Zi almost fainted when she heard these words, and nearly slid down from her chair. Hearing about Huo Yuhao's appearance was supposed to be good news for her, because she hadn't heard anything about him ever since he and the others had disappeared into the Yin-Yang Love Querying Valley. In the months afterwards, Ju Zi had even discreetly sent someone over to search for them, but her efforts had been futile. However, even though Huo Yuhao had appeared once more, he was in an excessively dire situation!

Yuhao... it's Yuhao! Why was he here to save those hostages? And he even burned his own spiritual power? He... how is he...?

Ju Zi couldn't maintain her composure anymore, and she felt as if she were sitting on pins and needles at this moment.

Xu Tianran was over the top with anger and rage, but he was momentarily stunned when he heard Wang Yiheng's words. He pondered for a moment, then said, "I have an impression of him. Yes, he was sitting in a wheelchair when he participated in the tournament. He was the one that led the Tang Sect to create miracles again and again, and they even managed to defeat the Holy Ghost Sect's team in the end! He disappeared without a trace, along with everyone else from Shrek Academy, afterwards!"

Chapter 389.2: Changes in All Parties

Xu Tianran's eyes closed into slits as cold light flickered in them. "He actually came back to rescue those hostages? That means he didn't die in the Western Mountain's valleys. They actually came out of that strange place alive? Commander Wang, you can get up. You were only responsible for the reinforcements. The situation was already fixed when you arrived. This matter has nothing to do with you."

"Yes, Your Majesty." Wang Yiheng got to his feet and stood off to one side.

Xu Tianran was seething with rage at this moment, and he really wanted to kill the three commanders before him to vent his anger. However, his rationality allowed him to control this impulse. No matter what, these three commanders were top-tier soul engineers, especially Wang Yiheng, who was a Class 9 soul engineer.

The Sun Moon Empire had an overwhelming number of soul engineers, but even so, Class 9 soul engineers were considered strategic existences.

Wang Yiheng commanded the Evileye Tyrant Soul Engineer Legion, and he was one of the fingers of the Hand that Protects the Nation. He was a Titled Douluo, of course, and his title was the Mad Bull.

The Mad Bull Douluo, Wang Yiheng, had quite a reputation in the world of soul engineers.

The other two commanders were both Class 8 soul engineers, and Xu Tianran couldn't bear to kill them, no matter what had happened. However, he had to let them kneel for a little while longer.

It didn't take long for the Holy Ghost Church's Leader, who was also the Sun Moon Empire's Imperial Tutor, to arrive. He was clad in black, and Ma Xiaotao had once told Huo Yuhao that his name was Zhong Wu. He was the descendant of the previous Leader of the Holy Ghost Church, the same person who had disturbed and troubled the Twin Holy Dragons of Black and White: the evil soul master, Ye Xishui.

Zhong Wu didn't come alone; the Third and Fourth Elders accompanied him.

Ma Xiaotao had quickly vanished without a trace after she ran out hysterically yesterday, and hadn't returned since then. The Elders were helpless about that, and had no choice but to return to Radiant City. They reported this to Zhong Wu as soon as was possible.

Zhong Wu knew that Xu Tianran would definitely seek him out. Therefore, he decided to bring his two Elders along while the three Zhong brothers were here.

The Holy Ghost Church's Leader, Zhong Wu, tilted his head slightly in greeting when he saw Xu Tianran.

Xu Tianran's expression warmed a little as he said, "Sit down, Imperial Tutor."

Zhong Wu sat down on the seat beneath Xu Tianran, and didn't wait for Xu Tianran to ask as he took the initiative. "Your Majesty, I already know about everything. This matter is too sudden, and there is something odd about it. I will allow my subordinates to explain things to you first." Zhong Wu waved at several of his subordinates as he spoke.

The Third Elder and the Fourth Elder were the main narrators as they began to explain the story at once. The three Zhong brothers added in from one side, and everyone detailed the entire process according to what they knew.

Xu Tianran squinted after listening to their accounts, and said, "That means someone dispelled the poison given to those hostages. However, Imperial Tutor, I remember you mentioning to me that only you possess the antidote for the Soul Eradicating Powder's intense poison. Someone actually managed to create an antidote independently? Furthermore, Sunrise City's defenses were tight and strict, so how did these people sneak into the city and discover where the water prison was located?"

"They had a meticulously detailed plan, and they even attacked Sunrise City by firing large amounts of soul tools into the city. In the end, they even destroyed the soul tools that they didn't bring away. The entire process was specifically delegated, and they carried out their rescue operation impeccably. Without discussing these people's fighting strength, how scheming they are is astonishing! Furthermore, what makes me furious is the fact that they managed to install so many soul tools within Sunrise City, including Class 8 stationary soul cannon shells, without our patrols discovering anything at all. Since that's the case, does that mean that if someone installs stationary soul cannon shells inside Radiant City, will I also possibly be blown into smithereens at any moment?"

At this point, Xu Tianran's hostility, and all the murderous air that he had suppressed before this, permeated the room once more. The two commanders kneeling beneath him could feel sweat breaking out on their foreheads.

"Calm down, your Majesty," Zhong Wu lowered his voice, continuing, "This matter has far exceeded our expectations. We are spying on and monitoring most of the powerful individuals who belong to the Douluo Continent's three native countries. They managed to sneak into our empire and execute a rescue operation such as this, and eventually brought every single hostage away. This operation can't have been completed by one or two people, so I'm certain that they must be backed by immense wealth, labor, and material resources. Where does their manpower come from? After we received the news, we sent out another two Beast-ranked soul engineer legions in pursuit. According to our leads, they should be heading towards the ocean. Once they pass proper intel back to us, I will let Xiao Feng lead some of my sect's sharpest and most elite members to cooperate with your soul engineer legions to pursue those perpetrators. We must catch them before they leave your country's borders."

Xu Tianran nodded and said, "We can only mend the fold after the sheep have been stolen. Hopefully, we can intercept them in time."

"Report! Your Majesty, urgent news from the border." A guard knelt down outside the hall and reported respectfully.

“Send it in.” Xu Tianran was in a terrible mood, and everything he was afraid of happening was happening.. Had something happened at the border again?

A sealed letter was quickly passed into his hands.

After a few moments, Xu Tianran’s face turned black as he slammed his palm into a table beside him, smashing it to pieces. “The border has reported that all of the powerful individuals from Shrek Academy have disappeared without a trace, and the other powerful individuals above the Soul Douluo rank from the Star Luo Empire, the Heavenly Soul Empire, the Dou Ling Empire that we have been monitoring vanished along with them. There is no question that these people must be going to reinforce those hostages.”

The Holy Ghost Church’s Leader was quiet as he listened to Xu Tianran’s words. This plan was too perfect. Its perpetrators didn’t give them any chances at all!

“The hostages were rescued before the news of those powerful individuals disappearing came,” Xu Tianran muttered angrily, “Who are these people who rescued the hostages? Are they inconspicuous and unassuming individuals within the world of soul masters? Imperial Tutor, it looks like the Holy Ghost Church really has to be reorganized and tidied up.”

Xu Tianran’s tone wasn’t too overboard, but even the Holy Ghost Church’s Leader, who he had always respected, was berated amidst his seething rage.

Zhong Wu was equally indignant. He got to his feet and lowered his voice as he said, “I will give you an explanation, your Majesty.” He turned to the Third Elder, the Fourth Elder, and the three Zhong brothers as he spoke.

“The big toe of your right foot.” Zhong Wu’s voice was very calm, but it was also cold and eerie at the same time.

Blood erupted into the air as all five members of the Holy Ghost Church tore off the big toes of their right feet one after another, and tossed them to the ground. Fresh blood immediately splashed all over the ground. Two of them were Titled Douluo, and three of them were Soul Douluo! Zhong Wu uttered but one sentence, and they had no choice but to harm themselves like that.

Zhong Wu walked forward and came before the two soul engineers who were kneeling on the ground. “Your defenses have failed, and you were played by the enemy however they wished. You concentrated a lot of resources on the city, but the enemy managed to sneak in anyway. The two of you are responsible.”

The two soul engineers raised their heads subconsciously as they heard his grave and chilly voice. Their eyes were filled with fear as they subconsciously glanced at Xu Tianran. One of them blurted out, “Your Majesty...”

Zhong Wu made his move before Xu Tianran could say anything. A pair of skeletal claws that were as black as ink sprang from nowhere and clawed into these two Class 8 soul engineers’ heads. Powerful auras emerged from Zhong Wu’s body, and he suppressed the two soul engineers forcefully, so that they couldn’t resist him at all.

These two soul engineers were eight-ringed Soul Douluo, but their soul tools had been seized before they came to see Xu Tianran. Furthermore, they were soul engineers, and they paled in comparison to soul masters of the same rank when they didn't have their soul tools. There was nothing else to say when they were confronted by a mighty evil soul master like Zhong Wu.

The two soul engineers didn't even make a sound as they collapsed to the ground, lifeless. Two panicky and frightened spirits were forcefully extracted from their bodies, and were compressed by black air streams coming from Zhong Wu's hands. They became two spheres flickering with faint white light, and eventually disappeared into thin air.

Zhong Wu turned around and said to Xu Tianran, "Your Majesty, the matter has already reached this stage, so we can only think of a solution as quickly as possible. We shall wait for my subordinates, who are chasing those perpetrators, to return, and will pass any news to you as soon as possible. You have to make plans at once as well; war might be inevitable at this point. Farewell." With that, he turned to leave, and the other five evil soul masters resisted the intense pain with great difficulty as they followed Zhong Wu away.

Xu Tianran's face was black, and his breathing was evidently a lot coarser and heavier than usual. His fists were clenched tightly as he stared at the two corpses on the ground.

The Mad Bull Douluo, Wang Yiheng, couldn't hold himself back anymore and shouted angrily, "Too wanton! Your Majesty, he's too outrageous and unbridled." Those two Class 8 soul engineers weren't his subordinates, but they came from the same system, after all. The Holy Ghost Church's Leader had killed them right in front of Xu Tianran, and he couldn't help but feel distressed for others of his kind.

Xu Tianran grunted coldly and said, "Go and rest, Commander Wang."

"Your Majesty..."

"Leave!" Xu Tianran's eyes widened as he yelled at Wang Yiheng, and intense hostility instantly permeated the entire hall.

"Yes." Wang Yiheng forcefully suppressed the anger and fear in his heart as he bowed respectfully, before turning and leaving.

Several servants immediately streamed in and carried the two corpses away.

Xu Tianran said plainly, "They have died in the line of duty, and will receive a generous burial. Compensate their families generously."

Ju Zi's emotions had calmed down at this point, and she hid her intense grief and anxiety deep within her heart. She had always been rational, and she was very clear that if Huo Yuhao didn't have other methods, or if luck wasn't on his side after he burned his own spiritual power, he was probably dead. She had always had a kind of blind confidence in Huo Yuhao, and she kept telling herself, "This fellow is so good at creating miracles. He can't possibly die so easily. He must be alive, he must be!"

Ju Zi got to her feet, walked behind Xu Tianran, and gently massaged his shoulders, which had become a little tense due to his rage.

Xu Tianran's black face warmed a little when he felt the strength and warmth from Ju Zi's tender, small hands. He gently patted her soft hands and said, "Only you don't talk too much; you never speak more than you have to."

Ju Zi continued to massage him as she whispered, "Take care of your body, your Majesty. Don't let anger damage your body." Yes, she was never one to speak too much in front of Xu Tianran, because she understood how intelligent he was. He knew everything, and he would understand everything without needing her to say anything at all.

Xu Tianran laughed coldly and said, "The Imperial Tutor is trying to give me a show of strength. Good, very good! One day... Hmph!"

Ju Zi still said nothing, and just continued massaging him gently.

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"Ju Zi—make a trip to the military and pass on my orders. I want all captains and above in Radiant City here for a meeting. I'm afraid war is really coming."

"Yes!" Ju Zi stopped massaging him and withdrew her hands. She walked around in front of him first and curtsied subtly before briskly walking away.

Xu Tianran stared at Ju Zi's back as she disappeared. He mumbled under his breath, "The Star Luo Empire and the Heavenly Soul Empire will not let a great chance like this slip between their fingers. They will take the initiative and launch an invasion. However, the Sun Moon Empire isn't sufficiently prepared at this point. What do I do? How should I deal with this?"

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Seven days later, in the Sun Moon Empire's northwestern regions...

Seven days. Exactly seven days had passed, and Huo Yuhao was still sitting there with his legs crossed as Nan Shuishui and Nan Qiuqiu watched over him. Seven-colored lights continued orbiting his body.

Nan Qiuqiu had personally witnessed the power of those seven-colored lights. It had been raining a few days ago, and the rain came up too suddenly, so the two of them couldn't shelter Huo Yuhao in time. However, they quickly realized, to their astonishment, that the rainwater evaporated immediately once it touched that seven-colored light, and not a single trace remained. It didn't take long before Huo Yuhao became a sphere of light completely cocooned in water vapor.

Huo Yuhao's face no longer showed any grief. He was just sitting there with his legs crossed, and he seemed solemn and dignified.

His dark golden hair had become a lot longer over these few days, and it now almost stretched to his waist behind him. What was even stranger was that his skin had become a lot fairer than before, and he had also become a lot more good-looking.

He was still Huo Yuhao, but he gave them a different feeling now.

Faint golden patterns that resembled the sun appeared around the Eye of Destiny on his forehead. The patterns swam as black and white colors flickered incessantly in his Eye of Destiny. They seemed to represent life and death.

Huo Yuhao's six soul rings, which were white, purple, black, black, black and rose gold, sparkled alternately on his body. His soul power undulations were being strengthened every day over these last seven days.

Every last trace of Wang Qiu'er had disappeared. Heaven and earth had returned to normal after the seven-colored light descended from the sky on the first day, but nobody knew how long this process would take.

"Mom, what rank do you think his soul power will be when he wakes up?" Nan Qiuqiu whispered to her mother.

Nan Shuishui shook her head and said, "I'm not sure. The seven-colored dome of light around him is too tightly sealed, and it has sealed his aura, so I can't feel anything from him at all. However, I am sure that he won't simply be Rank 60. I'm more curious about his rose-gold soul ring, because this is the first time that I've seen a soul ring of that color."

Nan Qiuqiu said, "There are too many strange things about him. His other martial soul has an orange-gold soul ring! He's a Soul Emperor! When can I become a Soul Emperor? Wang Qiu'er passed away for some unknown reason, and she bestowed some abilities to him, but why has another soul ring appeared on his body? Wang Qiu'er wasn't a soul beast!"

Nan Shuishui's eyes suddenly stared straight at her daughter, and Nan Qiuqiu felt a little uncomfortable and unsettled underneath her gaze. "Why are you looking at me like that, mum?"

Nan Shuishui's voice sounded a little strange. "My daughter, I think you may have unintentionally guessed the right answer. What if Wang Qiu'er was actually a soul beast? Wouldn't that explain everything?"

"She was a soul beast? How is that possible?" Nan Qiuqiu was in disbelief. "Soul beasts can take human form? They need to have at least a hundred thousand years of cultivation, and they also have to give up their own cultivation for that to happen, right?"

Nan Shuishui continued, "Wang Qiu'er was likely in that situation. Soul beasts can take human form if they have more than two-hundred-thousand years of cultivation after they break through their bottleneck, but otherwise, they have to choose rebirth. Out of ten hundred-thousand-year soul beasts, not even one will make it to two hundred thousand years, and choosing rebirth is very likely when they are not confident in breaking through the two-hundred-thousand-year bottleneck. But the prerequisite is that they cannot be discovered by their own kind, and they also can't be discovered by humans. Otherwise, they may die very easily. For soul masters, meeting such a hundred-thousand-year soul beast who has chosen rebirth is considered the luckiest circumstance. Soul masters can obtain a soul ring and a soul bone from killing these soul beasts, and the process will be a lot easier than otherwise."

Nan Qiuqiu was momentarily stunned. "Then Wang Qiu'er and Huo Yuhao..."

Nan Shuishui heaved a faint sigh and said, "I don't know about them. The truth is, many soul beasts don't survive after they chose rebirth, because they are too pure and naive. The world of humans is far too dirty and wretched in comparison to their past. Therefore, soul beasts are very likely to be exposed after they take human form, and you already know what will happen to them once they're exposed."

Nan Qiuqiu nodded gently and said, "Soul beasts are quite pitiful. Now I am starting to feel that Yuhao's research on those spirits is very necessary. Otherwise, at the rate that humans are increasing in number, soul beasts will go extinct sooner or later. If soul beasts go extinct, then there won't be soul masters anymore."

Nan Shuishui glanced at her daughter in surprise. "It seems you've learned quite a bit in the time that you've spent with the Tang Sect. What are spirits?"

Nan Qiuqiu put on a serious look and said righteously, "This is top-secret information that belongs to the Tang Sect and Shrek Academy. You belong to the Earthdragon Sect's inner circle, so you shouldn't be probing about this."

"Silly girl!" Nan Shuishui smiled for the first time since she had been rescued as she raised her hand and pinched her daughter's cheek.

Nan Qiuqiu dodged a few steps away, but her eyes were still fixed on Huo Yuhao. "Haih, I wonder when he'll wake up. Mum, we owe him such a huge favor for this... what should we do?"

Nan Shuishui said plainly, "His girlfriend died because of this, so you can marry him. My daughter isn't that ugly, so I'll let him take this unfair advantage."

Nan Qiuqiu blushed and snapped at her mother, "What advantage? Are you overly eager to sell me away? Even if you want to sell your daughter, he must be willing to have me. Qiu'er is so beautiful, but he didn't want to have her for the longest time before today. He likes Dong'er, who is still in a deep slumber, so there's no business for me there. Sister Guyi knows that this endeavor is too difficult, and she's backed away. I won't think about such impossible things. You should think of other solutions."

Nan Shuishui thought for a moment, then squinted. "Qiuqiu, what do you think about the Earthdragon Sect merging with the Tang Sect?"

"Ah?" Nan Qiuqiu was astounded. "Are you for real, mum? You're talking about our ancestors' foundations and establishments! No matter what, the Earthdragon Sect has been around for several centuries. Are you not afraid of meeting your ancestors in another world after you die, and having them beat you until your buttocks explode?"

Nan Shuishui's face twitched. "Why can't you wish me good fortune instead? You're cursing me to die for no reason! Are you even my daughter?"

Nan Qiuqiu was a little sheepish as she replied, "I'm saying all this for your own good."

Nan Shuishui grunted and said, "I'm not that stupid. What I mean by merging is not a complete integration. I think the Earthdragon Sect and the Tang Sect can join forces and work closely with one another. The Tang Sect hasn't been established for long, right? Even though they are growing rapidly and becoming stronger, their foundations aren't stable. I intend to create a branch of the Earthdragon Sect to be left in Shrek Academy, and I will send our most elite members there. You will be in charge of

this branch, and you will work together with the Tang Sect. Afterwards, we will purchase some soul tools from the Tang Sect. What do you think?"

Nan Qiuqiu thought for a moment, then said, "That's a feasible solution. However, even if that happens, I don't think our cooperation with the Tang Sect can be considered close and intimate, because we're not really helping them. You don't know this, but the Tang Sect's soul tools are very popular and in demand at the moment. Their supply can't even meet all that demand, and nobody knows when our turn will come to purchase their soul tools."

Nan Shuishui looked her daughter up and down and said, "Are you not trying to give yourself to him? You haven't given him your body, but your heart is with him, no? Are you thinking about the Earthdragon Sect from the perspective of a future heir?"

Nan Qiuqiu stretched her neck and said, "I'm just judging the matter as it stands. The Tang Sect has Shrek Academy supporting them, so why would they work closely with us unless the arrangement is sufficiently beneficial for them? Your daughter isn't worth this price, and the Tang Sect has so many more prodigious and talented individuals than we do."

Nan Shuishui's mouth twitched, and she replied "Alright, alright. Don't I know you? You are at the Tang Sect, and even your heart is at the Tang Sect – you've already forgotten where your home is. Don't worry, I'm not that stupid. Since I'm branching out over there and sending our elite youths over, we aren't just maintaining our relationship with the Tang Sect, we also need the Tang Sect and Shrek Academy to train and nurture our elite youths. This is the Earthdragon Sect's future direction for development, and only then can we obtain sufficient benefits so that the Earthdragon Sect can become stronger."

Nan Qiuqiu widened her eyes and said, "Mum, do you have a fever? We are the ones who owe him a big favor, not the other way around. Why do I feel like you're..."

Nan Shuishui cut her off and said, "Let me finish. Everything I've just mentioned has a big prerequisite, and this prerequisite is profit and benefit. We can only survive for a long time if we combine feelings and benefits. We owe the Tang Sect such a huge favor, and we definitely have to repay them for this favor. The Earthdragon Sect has always kept a deep secret, and we only have to share this secret with the Tang Sect. Everything I've said will naturally be successful when the conditions are right. With our understanding of the Tang Sect and Shrek Academy at the moment, we're not afraid of them swallowing this secret by themselves."

"Deep secret? Why don't I know about this?" Nan Qiuqiu stared at her mother with a curious look on her face.

Nan Shuishui snapped, "Nonsense. Since it's a secret, how can we let so many people know about it? Only the sect leaders of every generation are worthy of knowing this secret."

Nan Qiuqiu scampered over to Nan Shuishui's side and hugged her arm. "Mum, I'm also the future sect leader of the Earthdragon Sect, and you only have one daughter. I'm sure everything will be alright if you tell me this secret. Don't worry, I won't tell any outsiders. Tell me, quickly. You know very well that I'm a very curious person."

Chapter 390.1: Awakening, Fusion, Evildemon Forest

Nan Shuishui glanced at her and said, "You? You've never been able to keep secrets. Telling you is equivalent to telling the entire continent. Forget it. When Huo Yuhao wakes up, I'll follow all of you to the Tang Sect if he's fine. This is a top secret of our sect, and we can only share it with the sect leader of the Tang Sect."

Nan Qiuqiu twisted her lips, and seemed very displeased.

At this moment, a strong wave of soul power caught their attention, and they both turned towards Huo Yuhao at the same time.

The light from the seven-colored barrier slowly weakened, and the huge vertical eye behind Huo Yuhao that had disappeared re-surfaced again. The sunray patterns around the Eye of Destiny on his forehead became weaker, and his Eye of Destiny, which was shining with intersecting black and white lights, suddenly revealed a gentle charm

A gentle rose-gold color subtly appeared in this vertical eye. The black and white lights intersected before retracting, turning into a pupil.

Even though they only took one glance at it, Nan Shuishui and Nan Qiuqiu felt like their spirits had been pulled out of their bodies. Nan Shuishui's reaction was extremely fast. She quickly lifted her hands and covered her and her daughter's eyes.

The weakening seven-colored barrier suddenly became stronger just as it looked like it was going to disappear. Following this, it turned into a seven-colored beam that shot into the sky.

Suddenly, a pleasant voice echoed in the air. The visible sky had turned completely golden at this moment.

The earth was set off by the sky, and turned golden too. Huo Yuhao's body seemed as if it were made of pure gold, and his Eye of Destiny turned back to black and white. It was as if death and life took turns flashing in his eye.

The transformations in the sky didn't last too long. Suddenly, the golden sky seemed to turn into clouds, which rapidly spun around. The golden light retracted, and changed into a huge golden funnel. It started to gather towards Huo Yuhao's head, which formed the center.

The golden light disappeared, and Huo Yuhao's vertical eye returned to its rose-gold color, while heaven and earth turned black and white.

It was a very strange process. Even Nan Shuishui, who was a Soul Douluo and wielded the Annihilation element, felt like she was being strangled, and couldn't breathe.

During this short process, she became even more determined to work closely with the Tang Sect. She saw the Tang Sect's unlimited potential in the future through the strange occurrences that kept happening to Huo Yuhao.

Suddenly, a ball of golden light appeared above Huo Yuhao's head and charged towards the sky. A black slit was torn open in the air, and the golden light quickly entered this slit. As the slit closed up, the golden light disappeared.

Nan Shuishui and Nan Qiuqiu only roughly saw that the golden light was in a shape of a small beast.

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On a mountain peak that extended all the way to the clouds, a towering ancient castle...

In a quiet room, a ravishing beauty lay quietly and peacefully on a bed. She was beautiful and quiet. Her white dress accentuated her powdery-blue straight hair, making it seemed even more dazzling and eye-catching.

Her fingers were crossed, both her hands on her chest. No matter what angle one looked at her from, she seemed perfect.

It was a pity that she was too quiet. If not for the slight rise and fall of her chest, she would seem like the perfect sculpture.

Suddenly, everything in the room started to distort slightly. It felt as if a scorching flame had just swept past, and the air started to ripple.

A black slit appeared as ripples formed in the air. Following this, a streak of golden light drifted down and gradually landed on this young lady's chest, before slowly fusing with it.

Suddenly, there was an additional golden halo around her. Her powder-blue long hair started to light up with a glow of the same color, resonating with the streak of golden light on her chest.

That streak of golden light slowly took form and turned into a long, golden staff, or rather a long, golden handle, drifting in the air.

An image of a golden trident also surfaced on her forehead.

That golden trident started to shine brightly, and changed into a streak of golden light drifting up. This streak of golden light turned into the head of a trident and slowly linked up with the golden handle in the air.

When the handle and the head of the trident connected, the entire room turned golden.

Amid the intense golden light, a blue butterfly subtly opened up its wings. A golden dragon slowly revolved around it...

The young lady was still sleeping very soundly. The outside world didn't seem to affect her at all. However, her straight hair started to slowly curl, and formed wavy shapes.

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Heaven and earth slowly regained the color they had lost, as if a sketch was being painted with colors. Huo Yuhao's strange, yet terrifying vertical eye also slowly shut, and his forehead was smooth again.

Huo Yuhao slowly opened his eyes again. His eyes appeared shinier and more ethereal.

"Qiu'er..."

"Qiu'er..."

"Qiu'er!"

As he called three times, he also seemed to jolt himself awake. Two streams of tears flowed down from his bright eyes. Nan Shuishui and Nan Qiuqiu were astonished that his tears glowed a faint gold. They shone brightly under the illumination of the sunlight.

A spiritual intent filled with sorrow started to spread from him. Nan Qiuqiu's tears also started to flow uncontrollably after a momentary daze as she was affected by this spiritual intent of his.

Nan Shuishui's expression changed in astonishment. The intent that he reveals unwittingly can even influence people around him. Qiuqiu is almost at the level of a Soul Emperor. However, she can't even resist it. His spiritual power must be very great!

Nan Shuishui was certain that Huo Yuhao's spiritual power was greater than hers. Even if he had just obtained his sixth soul ring, he should still only be a Soul Emperor! n(-Ov**ELB**In

However, he was able to leave her so terrified, even though she was a Soul Douluo! This was something unheard of in the world of soul masters.

She didn't even see what Huo Yuhao did. He just drifted gently to the ground. When he looked over, the tears in his eyes suddenly changed into countless ice flowers that scattered away. An icy light flashed across his eyes before it disappeared.

"Holy! Ghost! Church!" He seemed to shout these three words from between his teeth. His earlier aloofness instantly turned into a terrifying chill. Even Nan Shuishui turned pale from the suppression that he produced, and took a step back.

Nan Qiuqiu was in a worse state. Her body shook, and she fell to the ground on her butt.

This...

Using purely spiritual power to judge this, Nan Shuishui was stunned to realize that none of the Titled Douluo she knew were as dominating as Huo Yuhao. She could confirm now that Huo Yuhao's abilities couldn't be judged through his soul power. His terrifying spiritual power had already enhanced him to a higher level, and it wasn't just one level. As for how strong he was, that could only be determined by facing him directly.

Huo Yuhao's expression was very cold as he looked in the direction of Radiant City. However, his eyes were still filled with torment.

"Qiu'er, Qiu'er..."

How can I repay you for everything you've done for me?

Huo Yuhao stopped crying. When sorrow reached a certain level, tears were unable to flow anymore.

After a brief moment, the chill that he released from his body gradually faded away. However, his face turned stiff, and he no longer had any expression on his face. He turned back calmly and looked at Nan Shuishui and Nan Qiuqiu. "Thank you for protecting me. I'm fine."

Nan Shuishui had already lifted her daughter up at this moment. She opened her mouth and wanted to claim that Huo Yuhao was definitely not fine! However, she didn't say it. No, she didn't dare to do so.

The icy-cold look in Huo Yuhao's eyes and his indifferent expression caused her to shudder. She was more willing to see a bawling Huo Yuhao than she was to see him in this state.

There was nothing sadder than a withered heart. Wang Dong'er was asleep, and Wang Qiu'er had sacrificed herself for him. After being dealt two heavy blows, Huo Yuhao was already strong if he had not gone. However, he was already at his limit. If he was dealt any further blows, would he collapse?

Nan Shuishui was a sect leader. Although she sighed in her heart, she wasn't as weak as her daughter. She walked in front of Huo Yuhao and didn't discuss anything related to Wang Qiu'er. She only asked, "Yuhao, where are we going next?"

Huo Yuhao seemed to have a plan in mind, and said, "Sect leader Nan, you can return with Qiuqiu first. I need to go to a place first before I return to the Tang Sect."

Nan Shuishui said, "No words can express my gratitude. I also have a few things to discuss with your sect leader. You can get busy with your stuff first. I'll send Qiuqiu back to the Tang Sect, and let's meet at the Tang Sect later."

Huo Yuhao nodded. "Alright. I'll need to trouble you to tell my eldest senior that I'm fine, and that I'll return soon. After this, tell him that Qiu'er was the Auspicious Beast in the Great Star Dou Forest, and she sacrificed herself for me. I'm afraid that the soul beasts in the forest will take revenge. The Academy must take precautions. After I complete one more task, I'll return."

Nan Shuishui wore a gentle look as she looked at him and said gently, "Kid, don't be too hard on yourself. You must always look forward. Let's go to the Tang Sect immediately. Take the words that you said back."

Huo Yuhao was in a daze as he looked at Nan Shuishui's gentle gaze. He suddenly felt that he had seen his mother's face. Instantly, he was about to tear up, and struggled to stop himself from calling out for his mother. He nodded gently and pointed his toes to the ground before turning around and leaping away. He used his Butterfly Wings as he flew into the distance rapidly.

Nan Qiuqiu walked a few steps to her mother's side. "Mom, can't I follow him? His current condition..."

Chapter 390.2: Awakening, Fusion, Evildemon Forest

Nan Shuishui sighed gently and said, "He's much tougher than you imagine. This kid is bound to achieve lots of success in the future if he can overcome this psychological barrier. He'll definitely be a leading figure that can terrorize the entire continent. Perhaps these ordeals are the best whetstones to shape him into a great character."

The rims of Nan Qiuqiu's eyes turned a bit red, and she said, "It's just that this is too cruel. The person he loves is unconscious, and the person who loves him died for him. If I were him, I would have already broken down."

Nan Shuishui hugged her daughter and said, "This is why you're not him. You'll never reach the heights that he'll reach in the future. I just hope that you'll do your best to chase after him as you remain by his side. After some time, you'll discover that you've widened the gap between you and others of the same age, even though you find yourself lagging further and further behind him. Just like I said to him, you must always look forward."

“Okay.” Nan Qiuqiu seemed to understand something, and snuggled beside her mother. However, her mind kept on returning the teary look in Huo Yuhao’s eyes before he left.

As he unleashed his soul power, Huo Yuhao’s speed was lightning-quick. A formless protective barrier that was formed using his spiritual power helped to resist the strong winds coming from the outside world. No matter whether one used their naked eyes or any type of surveillance soul tool, they wouldn’t be able to discover his presence in the air.

Right now, Wang Qiu’er’s words before she died kept on playing in Huo Yuhao’s mind.

Everything that she had left behind had already fused with his body. The sixth soul ring of Wang Qiu’er’s Eye of Destiny couldn’t be appraised using its ‘limit’, while the Skull of Destiny was an astonishing soul bone.

After he completed his perfect fusion with these strengths that Wang Qiu’er left behind, he was enhanced until he reached another level entirely.

This should be an extremely happy thing to any soul master. However, could Huo Yuhao really be happy?

Dong’er was in a deep sleep, but he had never once blamed Wang Qiu’er for it. When Wang Qiu’er sacrificed herself for him, he could clearly feel Wang Qiu’er’s apology towards Wang Dong’er.

The more it was like this, the more tormented he felt internally.

“I learned how humans love each other, but I didn’t learn how to forget. I couldn’t forget about you.”

“Therefore, I came once I felt that you were in danger. This time, Dong’er isn’t by your side, and we aren’t in the Yin-Yang Love Querying Valley. This time, I will not lose to her anymore – she is in a deep sleep, so there’s no way she can compete with me.”

“Actually, I like how you are now, because you won’t resist, and just take everything in silence. How I wish I could spend eternity with you like this! Thank you, Yuhao, because you have finally told me that there is space for me in your heart. In the end, I didn’t waste my experience of that love that humans have. Perhaps I have become more like a human at this point.”

“Thank you, Yuhao. Perhaps this is the best outcome for us – no matter what, we will never be separated again.”

Yes, we’ll never be separated again! I’ve fused with everything from you. We’ll really never be separated again.

Huo Yuhao pursed his lips tightly. His immense spiritual power gave him an extraordinary memory. This was why he could clearly recall the entire process of Wang Qiu’er’s sacrifice for him.

Wang Qiu’er used the most extreme method to finally be together with him. It could even be said that she had forced him to be together with her. The sorrow he felt in his heart would never disappear.

“Qiu’er, don’t worry. I’ll continue to live strongly for you and for Dong’er. You are already a part of my body. By continuing to live strongly, it’s the same as you being together with me. I’ll protect everything that you’ve given me.”

After he finished muttering these words, he gradually retracted the sadness in his eyes. Yes, he had to be strong! It was only by doing so that he wouldn't let down everything that Wang Qiu'er had done for him.

Huo Yuhao only wanted to do one thing right now from the depths of his heart. He wanted to go to the Clear Sky Sect to see Wang Dong'er. He had already lost Wang Qiu'er, and he really wanted to be by Wang Dong'er's side and protect her. He wanted to stay with her until she woke up!

However, he couldn't do so. At least not now.

This was because he had something more important to do.

He recalled what Wang Qiu'er had said to him at the final moments before she died. As the Emperor Beast and god beast of Destiny, Wang Qiu'er had offered herself to save Huo Yuhao. This greatly affected the entire Great Star Dou Forest. There was bound to be some kind of reaction, and it might even catalyze a disaster. He needed to rush back to the forest. It was only by inheriting Wang Qiu'er's power of destiny that he could settle the core of this issue.

The reason why Huo Yuhao didn't choose to return to Shrek City with Nan Qiuqiu and Nan Shuishui immediately was because he knew that he wasn't strong enough.

Even though his spiritual power had been greatly enhanced, he still wasn't strong enough. He wanted to become even stronger. This process wouldn't take too much time either.

He wanted to proceed towards a place which wasn't too far from where he had absorbed Wang Qiu'er's Sacrifice. It was a place in the Sun Moon Empire.

As Huo Yuhao flew, he called, "Brother Skydream."

A streak of dim gold light flashed, and a figure appeared beside him. It was a handsome man with short white hair, curly eyebrows, and golden eyes. There were even golden halos around his body.

"Yuhao." The eyes of this youth looked a little lost, but they were also filled with comfort and gentleness. Yes, this was the human form of the Skydream Iceworm. When Huo Yuhao's spiritual power transformed from the concrete-immaterial realm to the concrete-material realm, the Skydream Iceworm, Ice Empress and little Snow Lady's Spirit had all evolved.

Their spiritual bodies were in Huo Yuhao's body. As Huo Yuhao's spiritual sea evolved, their abilities, or rather the strengths that they had been suppressing for fear of overloading Huo Yuhao's spiritual sea, were all released. This was also the reason why the Skydream Iceworm could adopt a human form and use his spiritual power as a foundation to materialize his form next to Huo Yuhao. At this moment, the ring on Huo Yuhao's finger that was formed using the Skydream Iceworm's spirit had already disappeared.

Huo Yuhao said, "Brother Skydream, I'm fine. How far are we?"

The Skydream Iceworm replied, "We should be going in the correct direction. That fellow lives in a forbidden region of the Sun Moon Empire known as the Evildemon Forest. Although it isn't as huge as the Great Star Dou Forest, it's still the largest forest within the borders of the Sun Moon Empire. It's located roughly to the west of the Jing Yang Mountain Range that you've been to before. There

shouldn't be any problem as long as you continue flying in that direction. With your current speed, you'll be able to see it in at most two hours."

"Alright. Thanks, Brother Skydream." Huo Yuhao nodded.

The Skydream Iceworm sighed and said, "Do you still have to stand on ceremony with me? Yuhao, do your best. All of us believe that you are the best. You were right earlier. It's best to not let Qiu'er down by living well. To a certain extent, Qiu'er didn't die. She's only spending the rest of her life with you. You are her, and she's you."

"Yes, I understand. I'll tough it out." Huo Yuhao nodded at the Skydream Iceworm again.

The Skydream Iceworm gave him a comforting look before turning into a streak of golden light and fusing into his body.

Yes, Huo Yuhao had to go to the Evildemon Forest, where the strongest soul beast in the Sun Moon Empire resided. There was an extremely strong soul beast species in that forest – the Evileye Tyrants! Their leader was the Evileye Tyrant King, who was also known as the Evil Emperor.

He was also the only living creature over the past hundred thousand years that dared to challenge the Beast God Di Tian, who was extremely terrifying.

Before Huo Yuhao proceeded to the Sun Moon Empire, the Skydream Iceworm and Ice Jade Empress Scorpion had already advised him that he should go to the Evildemon Forest to hunt an Evileye Tyrant which was of a sufficient cultivation to obtain his sixth soul ring. Evileye Tyrants were extremely strong spiritual-type soul beasts. Huo Yuhao's spiritual power wasn't strong enough in the past, but he was qualified now, as his spiritual power had been enhanced.

Right now, Huo Yuhao had already obtained his sixth soul ring due to Wang Qiu'er's Sacrifice. However, he still needed to go to the Evildemon Forest. That was because his soul power wasn't at Rank 60, but Rank 70!

After he finished fusing with the origin energy of Ultimate Ice earlier, his soul power had already crossed Rank 60. Even he himself didn't know what rank his soul power was at. When he absorbed Wang Qiu'er's soul ring and soul bone, his Spirit Eyes fused perfectly with everything from Wang Qiu'er, as she had offered herself as a sacrifice for him. The immense power of destiny that the Emperor Beast possessed greatly enhanced his soul power. As a result, he immediately discovered that his soul power had reached another bottleneck again – the Rank 70 bottleneck.

Ever since he had reached Rank 50, his soul power had been increasing at an extremely slow pace. He could only cultivate silently as he watched his teammates break through to become Soul Emperors.

With the origin energy of Ultimate Ice that the Snow Empress' Spirit put in him, and his perfect fusion with Wang Qiu'er, things finally paid off for him. As long as he obtained his seventh soul ring, he could finally make the jump from the mid-tier to the threshold of the top tier and become a Soul Sage.

Huo Yuhao was actually very impatient right now. He wanted to return to Shrek quickly. That was because he clearly recalled that Wang Qiu'er had mentioned that the Great Star Dou Forest would react harshly to her death.

Whether he returned as a Soul Emperor or a Soul Sage wasn't just a concept. He knew that only he was capable of settling this issue. His abilities would carry an important weight in what was to come. That was why he quickly thought of what he had to do. After weighing the pros and cons, he decided to proceed towards the Evildemon Forest, which was nearby, to obtain his seventh soul ring before returning to Shrek.

Chapter 390.3: Awakening, Fusion, Evildemon Forest

Wang Qiu'er's death was bound to leave the savage beasts in the Great Star Dou Forest astonished and furious. However, they still needed time if they wanted to take action. The savage beasts in the Great Star Dou Forest couldn't just attack Shrek City, as the strength of Shrek Academy would make them think twice.

Huo Yuhao couldn't predict exactly what was going to happen. He could only try to deal with the situation through the most suitable plan.

He was in fact a very emotional person. However, after he fused with this Three-Eyed Golden Lion skull, gusts of refreshing cold would seep into his spiritual sea and force him back to his rational state every time he lost control over his emotions.

However, this wasn't a comfortable feeling, as his emotions were being suppressed by his rationality. However, Huo Yuhao couldn't resist this rationality in the current situation he was in. The crisis that Wang Qiu'er had brought about was probably more terrifying than the Sun Moon Empire capturing hundreds of hostages. And he would be the most important figure in resolving this crisis. How could he possibly be relaxed?

Just as the Skydream Iceworm had said, a huge forest appeared within his vision after he flew towards the north for less than two hours.

The Great Star Dou Forest was very close to the center of the Douluo Continent, and so it had a temperate climate, but this forest was closer to the north, and thus was coniferous.

Furthermore, this coniferous forest was filled with dark-greyish branches and leaves. It was extremely dark. Before entering it, a sense of suppression had already swept over him.

This was definitely the Evildemon Forest. Huo Yuhao slowly descended from the sky and landed on the ground.

Soul masters with common sense wouldn't attempt to fly over a forest where there were many soul beasts. That was no different from suicide.

Huo Yuhao didn't even stop to analyze the situation. He quickly entered the forest and immediately rushed toward the center of this forest based on the direction that he had determined while in the air earlier.

This was self-confidence, his self-confidence in his own abilities.

If it was five years ago, he would have been very cautious, and wouldn't have dared to venture into the forest. However, he was completely different now. He possessed immense spiritual power that

surpassed even that of Titled Douluo, and the abilities of the god beast of Destiny. He was now completely able to summon good fortune and avoid calamities.

He didn't need to deliberately unleash his soul skills. His spiritual power was already like a fine web that had been scattered, rapidly spreading into the distance.

Very soon, Huo Yuhao discovered that the concentration of soul beasts here was greater than in the Jing Yang Mountain Range. It was indeed the place in the Sun Moon Continent that had the most soul beasts.

To prevent wasting time through fighting, Huo Yuhao used a summon.

"Ice Empress." A streak of golden light flashed, and a jade-green figure appeared beside Huo Yuhao.

This was Huo Yuhao's first time seeing the Ice Empress in her human form. Her delicate looks made her seem less arrogant than the mature Snow Empress, but she was much cooler and more elegant. There were four streaks of demonic patterns on each of the sides of her captivating, silky-white face. Her long dark green hair flowed behind her back, but her snow-white skin looked as if it were transparent. Jade-green light shone beneath her skin. When she appeared, the surrounding temperature started to decline significantly.

The Ice Empress' height was similar to Huo Yuhao's. She looked very cold, and her gaze only turned gentler when she looked in Huo Yuhao's direction.

"I'll have to trouble you." Huo Yuhao nodded slightly to the Ice Empress.

"Don't worry." The Ice Empress' voice was crisp and pleasant, but there was a chill in it that seemed to originate from her bones. She didn't do anything apart from advancing with Huo Yuhao. An aura that was special to the Ice Jade Empress Scorpion was also released from her body.

She controlled the aura that she released very well. She didn't unleash it fully. With her cultivation before she fused with Huo Yuhao, she might really draw the Evil Emperor out if she unleashed her real aura. If that happened, there would be huge trouble.

She only subtly exuded slight traces of the aura of a hundred thousand year soul beast, which managed to suppress and immobilize the nearby soul beasts, who were of weaker cultivations. The soul beasts that were closer to her were even worse off.

Huo Yuhao could see through his Spiritual Detection that the soul beasts within a few thousand square meters had all retreated as he advanced. Those who were weak were even paralyzed, and collapsed to the ground.

Huo Yuhao wasn't willing to kill soul beasts because of Wang Qiu'er. This was why he used the Ice Empress' aura. Although the Ice Empress didn't become his Spirit like the Snow Empress and Skydream Iceworm, she could still materialize into a physical form through Huo Yuhao's spiritual power and remain outside of his body for long periods of time. She controlled her own bloodline and aura in Huo Yuhao's body, which helped Huo Yuhao conserve his energy.

Right now, Huo Yuhao didn't lack spiritual power.

When necessary, the Ice Empress could help him fight. However, she would have to use his soul power to do so. How much of her abilities she could use depended on how much soul power she could take

from Huo Yuhao. After all, the Ice Empress had given him his Ice Jade Empress Scorpion, and not his Spirit Eyes. As for the Skydream Iceworm, he could help Huo Yuhao fight and use his spiritual power. However, he wasn't very adept at fighting. Rather than ask him to fight, it was better for Huo Yuhao to control his own spiritual power to fight.

It was just that an extra form of intelligence and control could help Huo Yuhao do things ordinary people couldn't at special moments.

Huo Yuhao was venturing into this forest in a straight line. What he needed to do now was use the shortest time possible to find a soul beast that was suitable to be his seventh soul ring. He would hunt and absorb the soul ring before quickly returning to Shrek.

Very soon, he had already passed the outer regions of the forest, and the soul beasts around him gradually became stronger. Hundred year soul beasts were everywhere, while thousand year soul beasts were occasionally present. It was just that they avoided Huo Yuhao and the Ice Empress because of the Ice Empress' aura.

Four hours later.

"Yuhao, be careful. We've entered the core region of this forest. There will be ten thousand year soul beasts here. In addition, we might even face stronger existences. Perhaps you can find what you are looking for." The Ice Empress warned Huo Yuhao.

Huo Yuhao also understood what she was saying, and nodded. He replied, "Thanks for your help. I can take over from now."

If the Ice Empress continued to stay outside, his presence would become too obvious. There was a high possibility that he might meet a strong soul beast as he entered the core region of this forest. Traces of the aura of a hundred thousand year soul beast might not deter the soul beasts in this region. On the contrary, it might even attract stronger soul beasts. This was why Huo Yuhao decided to adopt a low-profile from here on out.

A gentle halo formed distorted light patterns around his body. Very soon, he melded with everything around him, and his own aura was also blocked by this halo. It seemed as if he had vanished into thin air.

He was still using his spiritual power to unleash his Imitation. However, he was truly concealing himself right now. Even if he had to enter Sunrise City again, he could fly into the city without fear of being discovered. Unless he was scanned by a Class 8 surveillance soul tool, or something stronger, it was almost impossible to detect him. In addition, a Class 8 soul engineer was also needed to operate a Class 8 surveillance soul tool capable of detecting him. There weren't too many soul engineers in the entire continent that were at least Class 8!

As for soul beasts, only hundred thousand year soul beasts would be able to detect him through their own innate gifts.

Huo Yuhao started to become more cautious as he ventured deeper into this forest. He didn't expand the area that his Spiritual Detection covered, but shrank it instead.

The more experienced one was, the lesser bold he would become. The Evileye Tyrants resided in the Evildemon Forest. They were rare spiritual-type soul beasts and were naturally more sensitive to spiritual undulations. As a result, Huo Yuhao didn't dare to be careless.

His soft-heartedness and carelessness led him into a crisis which eventually cost Wang Qiu'er her life. He would rather be overly cautious than slip up again.

He advanced carefully. Suddenly, there were chaotic undulations of soul power in front of him. ?There are soul beasts fighting?

Huo Yuhao thought of something, and immediately stopped in his tracks. He quickly retreated a few steps and arrived beside a large tree. Using his Imitation, he assimilated himself with his surroundings.

His spiritual power had evolved to the concrete-material realm. He was confident that only a savage beast could possibly detect him in this position. Otherwise, he couldn't be detected by weaker enemies, given his Imitation, if he didn't shift his position.

He could only consider himself unfortunate if the soul power undulations that were getting closer and closer to him came from the Evileye Tyrant King. If he was so unfortunate, he wouldn't have benefitted from the Sacrifice of an Emperor Beast. Rather, he would have suffered from the Sacrifice of a Divine Mourning Emperor.

The chaotic undulations of soul power were getting closer and closer. Very soon, the creatures who were generating such undulations appeared within the region covered by Huo Yuhao's Spiritual Detection.

There are indeed soul beasts fighting. ?Huo Yuhao squinted. It was exactly as he had predicted earlier.

The soul beast that was charging in front had thick scales covering its entire body. This soul beast's lower limbs were extremely thick, and it moved in an upright manner. Its upper limbs were short and small. It only had three fingers on each limb, but it had sharp claws that shone with cold light.

The thick scales on its body were dark blue, and there were at least three layers of them. They looked extremely thick. It was four meters in height, and seemed extremely muscular. Its head was also unusually large, and occupied one-third of its body. It dragged a thick, three meter-long tail behind it.