

## Tang Sect 481

### Chapter 481.1: The Darkness Dragon Emperor

Shadows dashed out continuously from the structures inside the royal palace. There were soul masters and soul engineers, but they couldn't do anything even if they were outside. How were they to face such a sinister change in the weather?

Several intelligent soul engineers immediately realized that the problem was probably in the sky. Everyone flew separately into the air to investigate.

However, they quickly ran into trouble once they actually went up into the sky. The further they went, the stronger the blizzard was, and fierce gales blew as their flying-type soul tools couldn't support them any further. Many soul engineers were directly blown back down, and they fell to their certain and miserable deaths.

Three elderly men appeared on a relatively tall roof inside the royal palace at the same time. One of them was the evil Titled Douluo that he had seen before. The two other elderly men seemed a lot more normal, and nine soul rings flickered on each of their bodies.

These were three Titled Douluo!

Huo Yuhao was still hidden within a dark and shadowy corner, but he could observe everything that was happening around him with Spiritual Detection.

There was no doubt that this blizzard came from the Ice Bear King, and his execution was very similar to how it was back in the Extreme North.

The Ice Bear King quietly left Heaven Dou City before he followed Huo Yuhao's instructions as he took to the skies from a place where the surveillance soul tools above Heaven Dou City couldn't reach. He went more than four thousand meters above into the sky, far higher than the aerial surveillance soul tools could reach, before he flew above the royal palace and threw this blizzard towards the ground.

This was the strength of top-tier individuals. The Ice Bear King wasn't yet like an Ultimate Douluo, but his strength was comparable to that of a Rank 96 or Rank 97 Transcendent Douluo. Furthermore, even though his control over ice and snow wasn't at the level of the Ice Empress and the Snow Empress, who could control Ultimate Ice, it was sufficient for his blizzard to reach one hundred degrees below zero.

That was a very frightening number. The blizzard's strength became a lot weaker as it came down from the sky, but it could still reach thirty to forty degrees below zero. That was an enormous threat to normal people.

"What's going on, Hallmaster Jing?" An evil soul master lowered his voice and asked.

The person standing in the middle of the three elderly men was, surprisingly, someone who Huo Yuhao was very familiar with – Jing Hongchen, the Illustrious Virtue Hall's hallmaster.

Yes – Jing Hongchen wasn't in the Illustrious Virtue Hall during the tremendous explosion in Radiant City. He wasn't the only one that wasn't there – his two grandchildren weren't there either. They were heavily injured during the grand competition, so they were receiving treatment from the royal palace's

imperial physician. Jing Hongchen was protecting them by their side, and he was looking over his grandchildren. It was because of that that they managed to avoid the disaster.

Still, the great explosion had dealt a heavy blow to Jing Hongchen. The Illustrious Virtue Hall was completely ruined, and his entire life's worth of blood and sweat was buried beneath rubble just like that. In addition to his grandchildren being heavily injured, he fell extremely sick because of these blows, and even his cultivation took a hit. Following Xiao Hongchen's gradual recovery, and in addition to the fact that Xu Tianran still relied heavily on him after ascending to the throne, his emotions were slowly able to recover.

Jing Hongchen remained here as leader of Heaven Dou City after they conquered the Heavenly Soul Empire's capital.

Heaven Dou City was considered one of the most popular large cities in the Douluo Continent. Furthermore, it was positioned in the Heavenly Soul Empire's central and northern region that was lying towards the west. They could use this place as a stronghold, and this was thus a very important transition stop for storing food and transporting soldiers. This place held very important strategic importance for the Sun Moon Empire's invasion against the continent.

Xu Tianran personally gave the order for Jing Hongchen to hold down the fort here, which also displayed that Xu Tianran had sufficient trust in him.

The war was started a little hastily. That was the reason why the Sun Moon Empire's Illustrious Virtue Hall was still being reconstructed. The Sun Moon Empire had to bear a great burden by starting this war, and even though they had gained the upper hand under Ju Zi's appropriate battle strategies, their supply lines had been stretched longer and longer with the passage of time. They needed soldiers to stand guard over the territories that they had conquered from the Heavenly Soul Empire, while they had to fight back against the Heavenly Soul Empire's scattered attacks in their conquered territories, as well as against the reclusive sects, who were hidden away in the dark. They expended a lot of resources and men every day, and that was the reason why the Sun Moon Empire had channeled and mobilized as much resources and power they could into this war. Jing Honchen was a Class 9 soul engineer who was loyal to Xu Tianran, and he was naturally given an important responsibility.

However, the Holy Ghost Church was starting to become increasingly outrageous within the Sun Moon Empire. Their Supreme Leader had requested that a soul master from the Holy Ghost Church to take a position of vice-city leader in any large city that the Sun Moon Empire had conquered.

The Sun Moon Empire's senior commanders expressed their strict opposition to that request at first. However, the Holy Ghost Church was just too powerful, especially because they had two Ultimate Douluo. They were very useful for the Sun Moon Empire's invasion, so Xu Tianran had no choice but to accommodate their demands. He knew that the Holy Ghost Church was a little too large for efficient organization, but he had no choice, because he wanted to expand his territory.

The strategy that Xu Tianran had in his heart was actually very simple – he wanted to continue using the Holy Ghost Church to expand the Sun Moon Empire's territory, and with the passage of war, the Holy Ghost Church's strength would undoubtedly be expended continuously. nDVE.Lb(1n

The Holy Ghost Church was an organization of evil soul masters. Evil soul masters were indeed powerful, but at the same time, powerful evil soul masters had their own problems – the problem of replenishing their numbers.

The Holy Ghost Church only attained the scale that they were at today after accumulating their strength for thousands of years in the darkness. This wasn't done within one or two days. Once they had sustained too many deaths and losses, their overall strength would be continuously weakened.

As the Sun Moon Empire dominated more territory, their national strength only became stronger, while the Sun Moon Empire's royal family would have more soul masters and soul engineers to command. When the time came, the Sun Moon Empire would become increasingly stronger, while the Holy Ghost Church would become continuously weaker, and Xu Tianran wouldn't be afraid that the Holy Ghost Church would turn against them. Furthermore, the two Ultimate Douluo were powerful, but they were already more than two hundred years old. They were very near the human limits, and who knew when these two would just pass away from old age. What Xu Tianran was truly afraid of were these two Ultimate Douluo.

The result of Xu Tianran accommodating the Holy Ghost Church in Heaven Dou City was another Titled Douluo from the Holy Ghost Church here together with Jing Hongchen. This Elder's title was Nightmare, and he was rare soul master who was adept with illusions. His martial soul was the Nightmare Demon, a soul beast that had very poor fighting skills, but extremely powerful illusory powers. That was the reason why his martial soul was very rare.

The Nightmare Douluo hadn't unleashed his true powers when Huo Yuhao faced him that day. Both soul masters and normal citizens would enter a dream-like state when struck by his illusory attacks. If that happened, then the Nightmare Douluo could kill that individual, and he could even control them in battle. The final result was that the person who was put into a nightmare would die regardless, while all that resentment and fear after death was most beneficial for the Nightmare Douluo's cultivation.

The Nightmare Douluo once sent an entire village into a nightmare due to some private benefit a long time ago, and he became a public enemy. He was chased down by many soul masters, but his illusions were far too powerful, and he finally broke out while killing many of the soul masters who were chasing him. He all but disappeared in the end, and vanished off the grid. He was then recruited by the Holy Ghost Church.

The Nightmare Douluo wasn't much of a threat to top-tier soul masters. Illusions were hardly effective against Transcendent Douluo, but if his nightmares were used against normal citizens or soldiers, then the destruction that he could cause could even surpass that of a Class 9 stationary soul cannon shell. Therefore, his status in the Holy Ghost Church was relatively high, and he was one of the few who were consecrated by the Holy Ghost. His status was even above an Elder. Back when the Sun Moon Empire was attacking Heaven Dou City, the Nightmare Douluo had used his formidable illusions to confuse many soldiers on the city wall. He made them attack and murder each other, which created an incredible opportunity for the Sun Moon Empire, and he had remained after the city was broken.

The Nightmare Douluo today didn't kill as much as he did back then. At his level, normal citizens and even low-tier soul masters and their resentment inside a nightmare were no longer enough to aid his cultivation. He needed soul masters at a certain standard so that he could improve. More accurately put,

the more powerful a soul master's spiritual power, the stronger the resentment after dying under his nightmares. That kind of resentment was the most beneficial for him.

"Speak, Hallmaster Jing!" The Nightmare Douluo's face darkened as he pushed Jing Hongchen to speak.

Jing Hongchen frowned and said, "I can only conclude that this isn't something created by soul tools. This should be a soul master's ability, and this person has to be a Transcendent Douluo to bring such an enormous blizzard down upon us. I'll take a look up in the sky. I'll leave this place to the two of you."

"Wait," the Nightmare Douluo hurriedly stopped Jing Hongchen, "Hallmaster Jing, if you discover that Titled Douluo with formidable spiritual power, you have to notify me. We will try our best to capture him, and as long as we capture him, I'll do anything for you if you need me in the future."

Jing Hongchen glanced at him and nodded. "Alright." With that, he flew high into the sky. The powerful winds in the blizzard weren't enough to block him, as he was a Class 9 soul engineer, and they could only reduce his speed.

The Nightmare Douluo was furious after Huo Yuhao had escaped the other day, but he couldn't find any traces of him at all. However, he had felt very excited after that day – Huo Yuhao was a spiritual-type soul master, and if he perished under his nightmares, then that soul master's resentment would be extremely beneficial for him. From his perspective, Huo Yuhao should be a spiritual-type Titled Douluo. He was very clear that his nightmares and illusory abilities were insufficient to directly kill a spiritual-type Titled Douluo. However, he would have a much higher chance of success after severely injuring that person, while the resentment produced after killing them would be the same. This person's death could even help his soul power, which had been stagnant for a long time, improve once more.

## **Chapter 481.2: The Darkness Dragon Emperor**

The Nightmare Douluo was at Rank 91, and evil soul masters had a very difficult time improving after reaching the later stages of cultivation.

The Holy Ghost Church had been accumulating strength for so many years, and they had accumulated quite a few Titled Douluo. However, Transcendent Douluo were few and far between, and there were just several of them. It wasn't hard to see how difficult it was to become an evil Transcendent Douluo.

Therefore, the Nightmare Douluo was extremely interested in capturing Huo Yuhao, and that was why he didn't hold back in asking Jing Hongchen for help. Aerial battle wasn't his forte, and in terms of direct fighting strength, the Class 9 soul engineer Jing Hongchen was much stronger than he was.

Huo Yuhao had been observing Jing Hongchen and the other two through Spiritual Detection. He wasn't worried at all as Jing Hongchen rose into the sky, as the Ice Bear King's strength wasn't something that Jing Hongchen could easily fight against. Battles that occurred five thousand meters up in the sky were based on absolute strength, as many soul tools would be weakened. Of course, Jing Hongchen had many ways of preserving his own life, and Little Bai wouldn't be able to do anything to him even though Jing Hongchen couldn't defeat him. Furthermore, Little Bai had already accomplished the first step of his task. He should already be retreating, and he probably wouldn't clash with Jing Hongchen.

The royal palace was still in a state of disarray at this moment. The blizzard's viciousness wasn't what caused the chaos, as this was the Heavenly Soul Empire's royal palace after all. The structures inside

were tough, far stronger than the Sun Moon Empire's tents back in the Extreme North. The blizzard couldn't cause much harm if they stayed inside their rooms. Of course, that was also because this blizzard came from five thousand meters high in the sky. The blizzard's strength would be very different if the Ice Bear King had unleashed it from the ground.

The thing that was causing such disarray in the royal palace was the increasingly dropping temperature. Soul masters would also be affected once the temperature reached thirty degrees below zero, and these effects weren't minor. Normal soldiers couldn't even move around at all.

More and more soul masters and soul engineers appeared outside. It was very difficult to pass down orders in such a tremendous blizzard, and they could only fight against it passively as they resisted the biting cold.

The soul power undulations and spiritual undulations within the royal palace were very messy under such circumstances. Huo Yuhao activated Spiritual Detection once more, and he avoided the two Titled Douluo on the roof as he stretched his Spiritual Detection toward those areas with a lot of people. He had to find a single target so that he could make a move.

An evil soul master's soul power undulations were vastly different from those of normal soul masters, and their auras were different as well. It wasn't difficult to find an evil soul master. Huo Yuhao wanted to find an evil Soul Sage. Such an individual would be considered relatively powerful and higher up in the hierarchy, so he had to know quite a few secrets.

Indeed, Huo Yuhao quickly found his target after his spiritual power webbed out. There were several evil soul masters clustered together amid the chaos, gathered in a room about four hundred meters away from him.

There was one person who was clearly the leader of the group, and the others all had relatively weaker cultivations.

This individual was a Soul Sage, and he emanated bluish-gray soul power undulations that circled around his body. The other evil soul masters all had four or five soul rings, and there were five of them altogether.

That's him,?Huo Yuhao's eyes squinted as he immediately made his move.

He snuck towards that location in a flash, and quickly came close behind that evil soul master. His eyes flickered as he closed in on the room, and he sent a single strike of Spiritual Shock against one of the four-ringed evil soul masters.

The four-ringed Soul Ancestor made a stifled grunt as he gradually crumbled to the ground. Blood flowed from his eyes, nose, ears, and mouth as he didn't seem like he could live through this.

"Who goes there?" The Soul Sage roared as he dashed out of the room in a flash and immediately caught sight of Huo Yuhao, who had just turned to run away.

An enemy! Evil soul masters were typically quite conceited, even though one of their own had perished. Huo Yuhao deliberately created an image that presented himself in this evil soul master's eyes as a seven-ringed Soul Sage with two yellow, two purple, and three black soul rings.

Evil soul masters always believed that they were invincible against others of the same rank. The evil soul master saw that his enemy was just a Soul Sage, and he accelerated in pursuit of Huo Yuhao without figuring out his actual strength.

The two Titled Douluo immediately noticed the disturbance from the rooftop far away, but they didn't move at all. The reason was simple; it was because of the number of soul rings that Huo Yuhao displayed.

Soul rings were an absolute representation of one's strength for most soul masters. Their enemy was just a Soul Sage, and there was already an evil Soul Sage in pursuit, so these two Titled Douluo didn't have to interfere at all. They still had to pay attention to the big picture to prevent any top-tier individuals appearing among their enemies' ranks.

Huo Yuhao escaped very quickly. All the surveillance soul tools were severely affected by the blizzard in the sky, and they couldn't lock down on his position, and so Huo Yuhao wasn't attacked by soul tools because they didn't have a lock on his location.

The Nightmare Douluo would never have expected that the vicious blizzard in the sky was meant to create space for Huo Yuhao to escape in this moment. Furthermore, he would never have expected that a blizzard of such an enormous scale was just so that Huo Yuhao could capture an evil soul master, rather than for an ambush.

The evil soul master who was chasing Huo Yuhao was also very quick. Three skeletal heads that were emanating dark green flames encircled his body, and spurted from behind him. Those flames continuously boosted his speed, and he was slowly bearing down on Huo Yuhao.

The Heavenly Soul Empire's royal place wasn't small, but it wouldn't take a Soul Sage very long to leave its premises at full strength.

It would appear that Huo Yuhao using the Ice Bear King's Blizzard to trick a Soul Sage was a little bit overkill. But in reality, Huo Yuhao would have wasted a lot more time and energy looking for an opportunity if that didn't happen, and his current plan was much quicker and more straightforward.

The royal palace was a mess in this moment. That was Blizzard's most fearsome characteristic in group battles. Huo Yuhao lamented in his heart as he ran, as he thought about how fantastic it would have been if his Snowy Dance of Ultimate Ice could reach such an enormous size. Even if his domain attack didn't possess such destructiveness, simply creating such disarray while complementing his Imitation would greatly increase his undercover abilities.

The royal palace's wall was in front of him, and the Soul Sage who was chasing him was about thirty meters behind him, in range for most offensive soul skills.

There were two rows and a total of eight small soul thrusters on Huo Yuhao's back, and they activated at the same time as they immediately propelled his body forward. Huo Yuhao was like a cannonball as he arrived at the palace wall in the blink of an eye.

The evil soul master behind him almost vomited blood. He felt like he was getting in range to attack his enemy, and he was just about to unleash a soul skill to attack Huo Yuhao when he accelerated and escaped his grasp. That feeling was just too hard to bear.

Can he really be that lucky??The evil Soul Sage was furious as he hurriedly accelerated in pursuit.

How could he know that everything was under Huo Yuhao's control with Spiritual Detection, and that it had nothing do with luck? The truth was that, with Huo Yuhao's abilities, he could use many different ways to shake his opponent off in terms of speed. The reason why he used soul thrusters was because he wanted to conceal his powers as much as possible.

Huo Yuhao leapt into the sky as he tapped his foot gently against the palace wall, and bolted out. He didn't go up into the sky, as there were many aerial surveillance soul tools above him. Even though the blizzard had destroyed some, there were still some left.

Huo Yuhao found the Ice Bear King with Spiritual Detection. He asked the Ice Bear King to leave the city first and wait for him outside.

That was because Huo Yuhao had already sensed that Jing Hongchen was searching for the Ice Bear King's traces high in the sky, so calling to the Ice Bear King for aid would be counterproductive.

The evil soul master behind him was close in pursuit. The three large skeletal heads around him radiated green light, and he seemed to be using his full strength as he charged at Huo Yuhao at breakneck speed.

A faint and cold smile surfaced beneath Huo Yuhao's eyes.?It's about time. There's a lot less surveillance and monitoring outside the royal palace, while the blizzard has covered the royal palace. I have to take him down as quickly as possible.

Huo Yuhao turned around and raced along the palace wall. The evil Soul Sage was about to attack when Huo Yuhao used his soul thrusters to shake him off once more. They would arrive in a relatively spacious area if they continued forward, as the streets close to the royal palace were extremely wide and spacious. They were in the dark of night, so there wasn't anybody outside the royal palace.

The evil soul master became even more furious.?This fellow is too slippery. Does he really think that he can shake me off within Heaven Dou City??Even though he didn't really know how to use soul tools, he was very clear about what the Sun Moon Empire's aerial surveillance soul tools could do. He believed that soul engineers would chase Huo Yuhao down very quickly to help him capture this guy. But for a person like him, who was so arrogant and perhaps even twisted, he didn't wish for others to interfere.

However, he suddenly realized that the Soul Sage who was running away in front of him slowed, and the distance between them was closed in an instant.

Is he tired? He can no longer explosively unleash soul power?

The evil Soul Sage was overjoyed. He pointed his right hand at Huo Yuhao, and a sharp howl could be heard as one of the three skeletal heads orbiting around him flew out and blasted straight at Huo Yuhao.

This evil Soul Sage's martial soul was very extraordinary. His mother had passed away when he was born from a difficult birth, and they were inside the wilderness. He remained in the wilderness for several days before someone rescued him, and the toxins from his mother's corpse flowed into his body, which caused his martial soul to have such intense mutations.

His martial soul became a Skeletal Head after mutating. Furthermore, he was different from normal soul masters. Normal soul masters' martial souls themselves would evolve and improve as they became

stronger, and as soul masters obtained higher cultivation ranks. But his martial soul was extremely peculiar, as he would gain another Skeletal Head with each extra soul ring. He had only released three Skeletal Heads so far, and that was just part of his full strength.

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A skeletal head flew towards Huo Yuhao at this moment, and it released a yellow circle from its surface. It was coming right at Huo Yuhao as the skull suddenly opened its mouth, and the skeletal head rapidly swelled as it chomped down on Huo Yuhao. The skull itself shone with intense green light.

Huo Yuhao could feel a tremendous force pulling on him. This force wasn't targeted at his body, but was targeted at his spirit instead. This terrifying pulling force seemed like it was going to consume his entire spirit.

He lives up to his name as an evil soul master! He's going straight for the spirit.

Huo Yuhao was a lot slower than before. Otherwise, the evil soul master wouldn't have caught up with him. He didn't rely on his soul thrusters to widen the gap like before, but tapped the tip of his foot gently on the ground as he spun around.

What the evil soul master saw were Huo Yuhao's glowing eyes. Those eyes had boundless clarity, and two rose-gold beams of light fired from those eyes in the next moment.

The evil Soul Sage felt like a giant mallet hammered on his spiritual sea in that instant as torrential waves stirred up inside his spiritual sea. He howled agonizingly as green light shone from his body while he plummeted from the sky. The giant skull which had its mouth open against Huo Yuhao froze in midair at the same time.

Huo Yuhao vanished into thin air with a flash. He reappeared right in front of the evil Soul Sage as he used his left leg soul bone's skill, Instant Teleportation.

One versus one, and soul master against soul master was what Huo Yuhao was best at. Back when he was still on exchange at the Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineering Academy, he had once relied on his own strength to defeat every single one of their members without taking a single loss.

His formidable individual fighting strength was displayed once more. Huo Yuhao used Spiritual Shock, and even though his opponent was a Soul Sage and Huo Yuhao didn't use his Eye of Destiny, the evil Soul Sage bled from his mouth and nose as his spirit was severely damaged.

The evil Soul Sage fought with his life to recover, so that he could regain control of his body. However, Spiritual Shock wasn't something that was easy to deal with.

The evil Soul Sage stared into Huo Yuhao's eyes that were right in front of him. He felt a chill run down his spine, and only then did he realize that his opponent was probably much less simple than he had imagined. In this moment, this was the first time that he wished soul engineers would come and rescue him.

But how would that be possible? Huo Yuhao's Spiritual Detection was in control of everything, and how could Huo Yuhao make his move if he didn't find the most suitable opportunity? Since he had made his move, how could he still give his opponent a chance to retaliate?



Huo Yuhao's seven soul rings immediately disappeared, as those were conjured with Imitation. How could he display his soul rings' true colors for evil soul masters to see? There were still aerial surveillance soul tools monitoring them from above as well.

The air around them contorted vigorously as the evil Soul Sage groaned once more.

Spiritual Blast.

This was a Spiritual Blast unleashed right at his head. The evil Soul Sage was still affected by what had happened before, and he couldn't resist Huo Yuhao's Spiritual Blast at all as the torturous pain made him cry out painfully once more.

Light shaped like a whirlpool appeared above his head. Spiritual Confusion, another of Huo Yuhao's powerful single-target control skills. Huo Yuhao would take control until the end, since he started it. Huo Yuhao had always been training in both offense and control. He mostly played the role of an assault-type soul master, but his control-type abilities were more powerful.

Even a Soul Douluo would have trouble tiding through three formidable spiritual-type soul skills used one after another. So what if his opponent was an evil soul master? Evil soul masters' spirits were stronger than typical soul masters, but that was useless against Huo Yuhao.

Huo Yuhao's entire being turned bluish-green. An enormous bluish-green pillar of light blasted from his skeleton. That was the Ice Jade Empress Scorpion's Ice Empress' Wrath, one of the two great soul skills bestowed upon him by her skeleton.

The evil Soul Sage no longer had any soul power to resist, and his spiritual sea was a complete mess, as he had been severely injured. This evil Soul Sage, who had always been so arrogant, immediately became a frozen statue.

Huo Yuhao raised his hand and slapped the frozen statue before he disappeared into the air with it. He activated Imitation once more as he stored the frozen statue in his storage-type soul tool.

Storage-type soul tools couldn't store living beings because there was no air inside. Any kind of living being inside would die, or they would have to break out with their own strength.

But this evil Soul Sage was special. He wouldn't die for a while after being frozen by Huo Yuhao's Ultimate Ice. At least, he wouldn't need air. Huo Yuhao wanted to leave this place first before dealing with him.

Huo Yuhao had accomplished his goal, and he turned as he was about to leave when everything seemed to change around him.

The Heavenly Soul Empire's royal palace, which was in disarray because of the blizzard, suddenly quieted down to the point where the silence was terrifying. Even the streets became completely silent, and that silence was the kind as if all sound had disappeared.

Huo Yuhao was just about to leave, but he seemed like he was immobilized as he stood there, motionless. His entire body appeared listless.

Huo Yuhao wasn't afraid when he was facing an army of a few thousand soldiers, but beads of sweat started to appear on his face within a few short breaths. He tried his best to calm himself down, but his

emotions were making him quiver uncontrollably. This pressure came entirely from his spirit, and this was the first time Huo Yuhao had experienced something as sinister as this since he began plying his craft.

Of course, the royal palace didn't actually have no sounds, and the chaos couldn't settle down instantly. Everything suddenly grew quiet around him because he couldn't hear; he couldn't hear a single person.

Suddenly, footsteps could be heard. Just footsteps, one person's footsteps. This was the only thing Huo Yuhao could hear with his current sense of hearing.

A silhouette appeared at the end of the street and slowly walked towards him. There seemed to be a dense fog around him, and even a person as powerful as Huo Yuhao couldn't see everything about him. Huo Yuhao felt like all he could see was a patch of darkness, like this person was a darkness that consumed everything around him.

This person had never appeared in Huo Yuhao's Spiritual Detection, and this danger had come so suddenly. Everything was so sudden that Huo Yuhao didn't know how to defend himself.

That silhouette wasn't walking too quickly or too slowly. Huo Yuhao was using Imitation to conceal his tracks, but that had no effect against that person. They finally came closer, and he was about ten meters away from Huo Yuhao before he stopped.

The fog cleared, and Huo Yuhao was stunned.

He knew this man.

If Huo Yuhao had a ranking of the most powerful individuals on the Continent, this person before him would be ranked among the top three of those who were currently alive. At least, he would be ranked as such among those powerful individuals that Huo Yuhao had seen before.

"I'm surprised that it's you. If Xishui hadn't told me about your existence, it would have been hard to believe that you'd grown to such a standard after a few short years."

The voice sounded old, and there were tinges of benevolence and warmth, as if he were talking to a friend.

Huo Yuhao said plainly, "I am also surprised that I'm able to see you here. Greetings, senior Long."

Yes, this person who seemed like he controlled everything around them, the person who had appeared before Huo Yuhao, and who seemed to have merged into the darkness, was one of the two Ultimate Douluo that he knew of, the Darkness Holy Dragon, the Dragon Emperor Douluo, Long Xiaoyao. He was a man who had once shared a reputation with the Dragon God Douluo, Mu En, and they belonged to the same generation.

Huo Yuhao's heart sunk right down when he saw Long Xiaoyao. He was very clear that a person like Long Xiaoyao wasn't someone that he could fight against. Long Xiaoyao was powerful to the point that Huo Yuhao couldn't even properly imagine it.

Huo Yuhao's mindset would probably have been better if this had happened before he had formed his soul core, and that was because he only understood after forming his soul core how much more

powerful Ultimate Douluo were compared to Transcendent Douluo. Ultimate Douluo were humans who could fight against the Beast God, Di Tian, whose soul power was entirely presented as soul cores.

Long Xiaoyao was clad in black, and his hair was all white. He wasn't much different from when Huo Yuhao had first seen him.

The reason why Huo Yuhao didn't expect to see him here was because Long Xiaoyao had never appeared on the Heavenly Soul Empire's battlefields amongst all the intelligence that Huo Yuhao knew about. In this moment, Long Xiaoyao's appearance undoubtedly severed every single one of Huo Yuhao's escape routes.

"Youngster, I still vividly remember the wager we had. You gave me a pleasant surprise back then, but you have given me so many more pleasant surprises in this moment. You are a Soul Sage, and judging from your soul power undulations, you're not far from becoming a Soul Douluo. Brother Mu has taken in an excellent disciple!" Long Xiaoyao seemed to lament a little as he spoke. He placed his hands behind his back and gazed into the sky. Who knew what he was thinking about?

"Don't mention my teacher. If teacher were still alive, he would be ashamed to stand with you." Huo Yuhao answered coldly.

His strength couldn't even begin to compare to Long Xiaoyao's strength. However, Huo Yuhao was not afraid, as strength and authority couldn't bend his will. The Darkness Holy Dragon, Long Xiaoyao was following the Holy Ghost Church, and that was something that Huo Yuhao held in contempt.

Long Xiaoyao frowned and said, "You youngsters don't understand matters of the older generations."

Huo Yuhao laughed coldly and said, "No, I do not understand. All I know is that you have chosen to take the side of the evildoers, and who knows how many people you've helped the Holy Ghost Church massacre? Many of the things that the Holy Ghost Church has done are a result of your existence. I really don't understand. At your level, why do you allow yourself to be used by evil soul masters, and why do you help them destroy lives and create calamities? Do you know that if this is allowed to continue, and if the Sun Moon Empire conquers the continent, the Holy Ghost Church's next target will be to take over? When that happens, all of humanity will probably become the Holy Ghost Church's slaves, and they will give their lives and everything they have for evil soul masters to cultivate. Is hell on earth something you want to see?"

### **Chapter 482.1: Eight Skills Fired Consecutively**

Long Xiaoyao's expression changed slightly as he said hoarsely, "It's not as serious as you make it out to be. Do you think evil soul masters are born evil? You and a great many other soul masters are wrong on this matter. The truth is, almost every evil soul master deserves pity, and that's because the world shuns them due to their martial souls' characteristics. They have had to go through much pain and bitterness in their earlier days, and that's the reason why their personalities are a little extreme. I believe that if the Sun Moon Empire conquers the continent in the end and corrects the reputation of evil soul masters, everything will be different. They will control themselves, and as for who rules over the continent, that's not something that I'm concerned about."

Huo Yuhao laughed, and his laughter was very disdainful. "Yes, perhaps what you said does make some sense. There are many evil soul masters who deserved pity when they were younger. However, they

start killing people because they have received unfair treatment, and they use all kinds of evil methods to strengthen themselves. How can that be the right thing to do? I may not know about others, but let's talk about the Death God Douluo, Ye Xishui. I am willing to call her my senior because of my teacher, but it seems like she's the demon king among humanity."

"You are not allowed to talk about Ye Xishui." Long Xiaoyao's eyes suddenly grew focused, and Huo Yuhao felt as if his body was held in place by some tremendous power. This frightening strength was pressing against his body, like he was about to be ground into dust.

However, he gritted his teeth and held on as he said with difficulty, "Am I wrong? She's the Death God Douluo, and she controls the Death God Pagoda. The reason why the Death God Pagoda is so powerful is because it incinerates people's spirits when it fires at full strength, while thousands of spirits are burned through every time it fires. I saw it with my own eyes, and from what it looked like, there were at least tens of thousands of spirits inside. That means tens of thousands of lives! How many evil soul masters are there? Every single one of them is a life, but does this mean those people that they so mercilessly slaughtered are not considered lives? Ye Xishui hasn't just been killing people. She has imprisoned their spirits, and she will ultimately incinerate their spirits for an attack, and eventually obliterate them. Are such brutal and cruel methods things you wish to see?"

Long Xiaoyao fell silent after Huo Yuhao's string of accusations. Of course, he knew that every single one of Huo Yuhao's words was true.

Long Xiaoyao heaved a faint sigh and shook his head. "I cannot turn back anymore. I am willing to do anything for Xishui, and the only thing I can do now is to restrain myself so that I don't kill people. I'm not clear as to what the Holy Ghost Church has done, but I do know something. Xishui has told that after the continent is united, there will be a new order, and true peace will only happen when that time comes."

Huo Yuhao said nothing more. He knew that he could no longer move the Dragon Emperor Douluo. He stared coldly at him, but he was full of lament in his heart. But he still had some hope.

He couldn't fight against the Dragon Emperor Douluo by himself. However, he still had the Beast God's reverse scale on his body.

Huo Yuhao had managed to escape with his life from the Death God Douluo's clutches with the reverse scale's protection. The Beast God would naturally appear if Long Xiaoyao attacked him, and he felt absolutely threatened. Furthermore, Huo Yuhao now had his soul core, and the amount of energy his body could sustain was greatly boosted after he absorbed the Manifold Mysterious Ice Essence. Killing him wouldn't be that easy.

Long Xiaoyao said plainly, "You're hoping for the Beast God's strength to protect you, eh."

Huo Yuhao's eyes grew focused, but he said nothing.

Long Xiaoyao smiled faintly when he saw Huo Yuhao's silent consent. "Youngster, I am actually very interested in you. You're so young, yet you can reach such a cultivation rank. That is considered extremely prodigious. Xishui has long told me about your situation, and I definitely won't make the same mistake. In front of an Ultimate Douluo, you can't defend yourself just because you have some protective abilities. Furthermore..."

Long Xiaoyao suddenly paused, and turned around towards a rooftop by the side of the street. He grabbed with his right hand through the air and said, "You've been watching for a while now. Come out, lady."

The quiet and dark world suddenly seemed to return to normal, and the sounds that Huo Yuhao couldn't hear reappeared once more.

"Ah!" A crisp exclamation rang out as a shadow was pulled from the sky by a formless strength, and this shadow fell not far behind Huo Yuhao.

Huo Yuhao felt a little relieved as the pressure Long Xiaoyao had unleashed against him vanished completely. He glanced backwards subconsciously, and this time, he was truly astonished.

Just as he couldn't sense Long Xiaoyao's presence, he also didn't sense this person's presence with Spiritual Detection.

Huo Yuhao's Spiritual Detection was powerful, but it still had a focus. For instance, Huo Yuhao would only pay first attention to strong soul power undulations when he was using Spiritual Detection over a large area. He naturally wouldn't pay much attention normal citizens who didn't have any soul power undulations, since these people didn't threaten him much anyway. If somebody deliberately suppressed their soul power in a group of people with the right method, Huo Yuhao would have a hard time finding them. But if his opponent wanted to attack him, his opponent would have to channel soul power and come closer to him.

There was only one reason why he didn't discover this person, and that was because this person was sufficiently familiar with him. This person knew about his Spiritual Detection, and this person had been hiding in the street beside the royal palace while concealing her soul power. She didn't make any moves at all.

"You... why are you here?" Huo Yuhao's voice was actually trembling, in contrast to his calmness before.

He wasn't afraid at all if he faced against the Dragon Emperor Douluo by himself. The worst that could happen was death, and he had been at the borders of death countless times.

But he could no longer keep his cool as he stared at this person in front of him, and that was because she looked identical to Dong'er. She was Tang Wutong!

Tang Wutong didn't land on the ground stably, but she wasn't wretched enough to fall face-first into the ground. The Darkness Holy Dragon was still merciful against girls.

She stood up and stared calmly at Huo Yuhao. "Why can't I be here?"

The corner of Huo Yuhao's mouth curved into a forced smile. There was nothing more to be said. They were facing the Darkness Holy Dragon; how could they just run away even if they wanted to? There was no more meaning to pursuing the reason behind why Tang Wutong was here.

Long Xiaoyao smiled and said, "What a pretty little girl. She has been hiding by the side for a while, and she has considered attacking me more than once after I showed up, but she just couldn't find an opportunity. With her around, I trust your Beast God's powers won't be that effective. Let's find another place. This place is too noisy."

Long Xiaoyao waved his hand as he spoke, and everything descended into silence and darkness once more. Huo Yuhao and Tang Wutong immediately felt a terrifying soul power undulation rise up in the next moment. This wave of soul power poured out in all directions, with them at the center.

That formidable soul power was filled with darkness, but it was impossible to fight against. The soul power swept them up as the space around them began to contort. Huo Yuhao wanted to use Spiritual Detection to investigate what was going on, but his spiritual power couldn't leave his body at all.

Is this an Ultimate Douluo's power?

Huo Yuhao's cultivation was far from sufficient. However, he had encountered many top-tier individuals before, and his senses were extremely powerful. Huo Yuhao could faintly feel that the Darkness Holy Dragon's cultivation was probably higher than Ye Xishui's. They were both Ultimate Douluo, but the Darkness Holy Dragon's pure fighting strength was probably stronger. He wondered if his teacher was stronger than the Darkness Holy Dragon when he was in his prime.

Tang Wutong subconsciously arrived beside Huo Yuhao, and she grabbed his arm nervously. Huo Yuhao turned back towards her as he channeled his soul power to protect them.

Tang Wutong looked at him and asked, "Do you really want to know why I'm here?"

Huo Yuhao forced a laugh and said, "Do you really think that holds any meaning anymore? Why didn't you run when you saw the Darkness Holy Dragon?"

"Why should I run? Tang Wutong said plainly, "Furthermore, do you really think I can escape? His senses are different from your Spiritual Detection. You detect things as a whole, but his senses are very fine and delicate. When he appeared and discovered you while you were using Imitation, he naturally discovered me as well. I couldn't escape even if I wanted to."

Huo Yuhao heaved a sigh and said, "Then why did you come?"

Tang Wutong said, "Eldest senior brother was worried about you, and after Qiuqiu returned, he asked someone to go and bring you to go back as quickly as possible. He didn't want you to continue searching for Tang Ya, and I am the messenger. I heard Nan Qiuqiu's report about your travels, and I figured that you'd be looking for intel inside Heaven Dou City, so here I am. I just heard about that tremendous explosion inside the royal palace, so I began to search for your tracks. See, I've only managed to find you now."

Huo Yuhao didn't know what to say. Could he say that Tang Wutong was unlucky? But for some reason, he felt very safe and secure when he saw her.

The Darkness Holy Dragon seems like he has some way to block the Beast God's strength. Am I going to die with Tang Wutong here today? That's not so bad. At least, even though she isn't Dong'er, she looks exactly like her.

Tang Wutong glanced at him and said, "What are you thinking about? Are you trying to escape?"

Huo Yuhao shook his head and said, "It's too difficult for us to run away in front of an Ultimate Douluo. I can feel that the Darkness Holy Dragon is probably stronger than the Death God Douluo, whom we've encountered before. Why do you look like you're not worried at all?"

Tang Wutong smiled, and her smile was just so beautiful. Her smile was just like Dong'er's smile, except she didn't have Dong'er's tenderness when she was looking at him. Instead, there was an extra tinge of courage.

"Why should I be worried? Will worrying ensure my safety? Since that's not going to happen, then there's no point in worrying. If we have to die, then we will die fighting. This isn't the first time that we've fought side by side."

### **Chapter 482.2: Eight Skills Fired Consecutively**

Huo Yuhao also laughed. "Yes! Even if we die, we will die fighting. I'm very honored to experience this battle with you. At the very least, we are the rare few in the continent who have battled Ultimate Douluo one after another."

Tang Wutong released his arm and patted him gently on his shoulder. "Don't worry, I'll protect you."

Huo Yuhao rolled his eyes and said, "You, protect me? More like I'll protect you."

Just as they were talking, the dark air around them suddenly stabilized as their surroundings became clear once more, and sound returned, along with sight. However, Huo Yuhao and Tang Wutong were both momentarily stunned.

They were no longer outside the Heavenly Soul Empire's royal palace. There wasn't a single trace of urbanization; they were clearly somewhere in the wilderness.

What did that mean? It meant that the Darkness Holy Dragon had used his own strength to bring them both out of Heaven Dou City into the wilderness. That was just unbelievable. This was an Ultimate Douluo's power! Perhaps he didn't yet have the Beast God's ability to pierce through spacetime, but even then, to be able to bring them both to this place unwittingly within such a short period of time was far beyond Huo Yuhao's understanding.

The Dragon Emperor Douluo smiled as he watched their stern expressions. "What's wrong? Are you afraid?"

Tang Wutong grunted contemptuously. "Afraid? What's there to be afraid of? You've just been alive for a few more years than we have. If we had lived in the same generation, you might be afraid of us."

"Yes!" Long Xiaoyao laughed, "You're right. If we were in the same generation, I may not have been able to defeat you. You are prodigies of your generation, but I was also a prodigy back then. Now that I think about it, I feel like two hundred years is right before my eyes!"

A tinge of lament appeared in his eyes as he spoke. He nodded gently in Tang Wutong and Huo Yuhao's direction and said, "Come, the two of you can team up. Let me see what kind of fighting strength you prodigious youngsters can achieve. Don't think of escaping, because that's absolutely impossible. Fight with your full strength. Warriors who die on the battlefield die an honorable death."

Huo Yuhao and Tang Wutong glanced at each other, and they each saw the other's determination.

Huo Yuhao took a slow step forward, and his Eye of Destiny gradually opened on his forehead.

Tang Wutong didn't fight with him for point position. Instead, she took a step back and stood behind him.

Their martial souls were unleashed at almost the same time, and seven soul rings swiftly rose into the air.

Huo Yuhao unleashed his Spirit Eyes. Seven soul rings that were completely out of the ordinary swiftly appeared, and the most eye-catching one was his blood-red soul ring, which appeared at the end.

His Spirit Eyes' sixth soul ring came from Wang Qiu'er. The soul ring that she had given him was very special, and it was rose-gold in color. It didn't share the same color as normal soul rings, but it shared a color with his Eye of Destiny instead. His seventh soul ring came from a hundred thousand year Evil Eye Tyrant, and it was also red. These two soul rings were the most glaring amongst his seven soul rings.

Huo Yuhao began to release his formidable soul power, and his entire being seemed to faintly contort. He didn't move immediately, but was just standing there quietly as he stared at Long Xiaoyao. His seven soul rings glowed one after another.

Long Xiaoyao seemed surprised when he saw Huo Yuhao's seven soul rings. This was the first time that he had seen such a combination. However, the soul rings that he was looking at didn't include the hundred thousand year soul ring at the end.

Even though it was a hundred thousand year soul ring, this arrangement was very normal. One of the two soul rings that attracted his attention was Huo Yuhao's rose-gold ring, his sixth one, which was filled with the power of destiny. The other one was his white soul ring, his first one, which looked like it was no different from a ten year soul ring.

How powerful was the Darkness Holy Dragon, the Dragon Emperor Douluo? This white ring looked like a ten year soul ring in normal people's eyes, but that wasn't the case to him.

He was very clear on what ten year soul rings were like. They were white, but they radiated a drastically different aura. Even though the soul power in Huo Yuhao's ten year soul ring was completely contained, along with its aura, Huo Yuhao's white soul ring had a smoothness that ten year soul rings didn't have. Faint golden patterns could be seen on its surface, and that was absolutely something that ten year soul rings couldn't achieve.

There's something wrong with this kid's soul rings! Long Xiaoyao thought to himself.

Huo Yuhao wasn't hasty to make his move at all. He was just standing there like a statue.

Very smart! Long Xiaoyao praised Huo Yuhao in his mind. This kid knows that I, with my status, will never take the initiative to attack him without him making a move first. He wants to raise his aura and his abilities to their highest possible level before attacking me. But would that really be effective?

Huo Yuhao's Eye of Destiny gradually opened on his forehead. Rose-gold sun patterns of the stretched in all directions with his Eye of Destiny in the middle. His eyes slowly closed, like he was using his Eye of Destiny to view the world.

The light in his Eye of Destiny was crystal clear. Even Long Xiaoyao felt like his Eye of Destiny possessed a strange gravitational force when he took but one look, as if this eye was going to consume his soul.



Rose-gold patterns glowed as dense spiritual undulations strengthened at an incredible speed. Long Xiaoyao wasn't particularly concerned in the beginning, but an astonished expression quickly began to show on his elderly face.

Such formidable spiritual power. Furthermore, his spiritual power is so pure and condensed. Even the Holy Ghost Church's evil soul masters, who use special methods to cultivate their spiritual power, can only reach such a level of spiritual power when they become Soul Douluo. How is this young man doing this?

Huo Yuhao's spiritual power continued to strengthen amid Long Xiaoyao's surprise. His spiritual power wasn't just changing quantitatively; it was also changing qualitatively.

Long Xiaoyao wasn't the only one who was astonished. Tang Wutong, who was standing behind him, was equally surprised.

She had known Huo Yuhao for quite some time, and they had fought side by side before. Back in the Ming Dou Mountain Range, the two of them went deep into enemy lines together. But because of the Death God Douluo's appearance, she didn't see Huo Yuhao's battle with Ye Xishui.

Tang Wutong knew that Huo Yuhao was very strong, but she had always believed that her overall strength wasn't inferior to his. However, she was now starting to doubt that opinion. Huo Yuhao's continuously rising spiritual undulations were far stronger than what his cultivation rank could normally achieve.

Condensed soul power gradually transformed into circles of rose-gold light. This light was very viscous, while Huo Yuhao's body became a little blurry amid all those contorting lights.

Huo Yuhao's body gradually floated into the sky as his seventh blood-red soul ring flickered. Rose-gold patterns appeared behind his back, forming an image of the Three-Eyed Golden Lion. Everything within several hundred meters of him, which included the light around Long Xiaoyao, was tainted with the same colors.

Long Xiaoyao sighed in amazement. Is his spiritual power close to that of a Titled Douluo's level? No, that's not right. His spiritual power is similar in strength to a Titled Douluo, but it is more condensed, and is on another level.

All of a sudden, blinding rose-gold patterns radiated all around Huo Yuhao, and his body seemed to vanish entirely within them.

A vertical eye that seemed material suddenly appeared in midair, and the intense spiritual power undulations rose to their highest possible level.

"Materialization of spiritual power!" Long Xiaoyao's eyes grew focused.

The Huo Yuhao who was still sitting in a restaurant outside the royal palace suddenly dissipated as it disappeared into countless rose-gold light patterns that swiftly flew out of the city.

Huo Yuhao had left that spiritual avatar as his contingency plan, so that he could substitute it for his original body as he was running away to draw the soldiers chasing him away. However, this spiritual avatar lost its meaning when the Dragon Emperor Douluo appeared. As Huo Yuhao unleashed his

spiritual power with his full strength, that thread of his spiritual power was immediately recalled by the Eye of the Asura.

Radiant golden light transformed into an enormous pillar of light as it surged into the sky. The rose-gold vertical eye was just hovering there, and a strange whirlpool spun rapidly within the coldness of the vertical eye's pupil. All of the space that was covered by its rose-gold light began to contort in this moment.

For the first time, a truly astonished look appeared on the Dragon Emperor Douluo's face. He had originally believed that he was already holding Huo Yuhao in high regard, but it seemed like his judgment was far from sufficient. The spiritual power that this youth displayed far surpassed that of normal Titled Douluo, and with Long Xiaoyao's two hundred years of experience, he could be entirely sure that even Transcendent Douluo would have a hard time reaching Huo Yuhao's level of spiritual power.

Materializing spiritual power wasn't something that happened with improving one's soul power or cultivation rank. This was an attribute that formidable spiritual-type soul masters could achieve. Furthermore, Long Xiaoyao could feel a soul core within his materialized martial soul true body! This was the core of why he was so astonished.

Huo Yuhao was a young Soul Sage, and yet he already possessed a soul core. It was also a soul core for a spiritual-type martial soul.

Brother Mu, oh Brother Mu. What kind of disciple have you taken in?

"The judgement of destiny!" Huo Yuhao's ice-cold voice echoed through the twisting space, and a golden skull appeared soundlessly above Long Xiaoyao's head. The skull was shattered in the next moment as it transformed into countless motes of flowing light that flowed into Long Xiaoyao's body.

Even an Ultimate Douluo like Long Xiaoyao couldn't resist the power of destiny. The darkness around him rippled vigorously, but couldn't dispel the golden light, and he could only allow them into his body.

Yes, this was the Eye of Destiny's ability to unleash the judgement of destiny. It couldn't decide the outcome of a battle, but it could change one's destiny.

Long Xiaoyao chuckled as he muttered under his breath, "I haven't been this surprised in a long time. Interesting, very interesting."

Two beams of light blasted from the enormous vertical eye, one black and the other white, as they circled around each other and went straight for Long Xiaoyao.

### **Volume 34, Chapter 482.3: Eight Skills Fired Consecutively**

"Eh, what's this?" Long Xiaoyao was still standing there, motionless, and he grinned as he allowed those two beams of light to land on his body.

There weren't any soul power undulations, nor were there spiritual undulations. The black and white beams didn't seem to do anything at all. However, Long Xiaoyao's expression changed a little when they actually landed on him, and an inexplicable sense of danger immediately appeared in his mind.

I can feel danger?

“Spiritual, Shock!” A voice with a strange tone rang out, and every syllable uttered made the enormous vertical eye a little brighter. One could see that all the rose-gold light that the vertical eye was radiating had turned blood-red in this moment.

A pillar of light that was the same size as the vertical eye blasted out in the next moment and went right for Long Xiaoyao.

Long Xiaoyao snorted as his body, which was originally submerged within all the rose-gold colors, suddenly turned black as a dragon roar that seemed to come from ancient ages could be heard. An enormous black dragon head appeared in front of him as it howled deeply at all the rose-gold light around him.

Spiritual power against spiritual power – this was the arrogance that belonged to an Ultimate Douluo!

Even though Long Xiaoyao wasn't a spiritual-type soul master, his mastery of spiritual power had already reached the limits of terrifying because he was an Ultimate Douluo.

However, something that astonished the Dragon Emperor Douluo once more happened.

The rose-gold pillar of light that seemed unstoppable as it zipped through the air suddenly paused – yes, it paused – and a shadow suddenly appeared in front of it. It was Huo Yuhao, who was back in human form.

A rose-gold wheel of light glowed behind his head. There were patterns of a Three-Eyed Golden Lion within this wheel.

Huo Yuhao's body slammed almost directly into the giant black dragon head, and he was immediately consumed by the darkness.

Everything happened too suddenly, and Long Xiaoyao was momentarily stunned. Afterwards, he looked on in surprise as the black dragon head that he had conjured with his spiritual power dissipated just like that. The figure was still hovering in midair, and the rose-gold pillar that was reactivated enveloped that shadow before it wrapped around him and slammed brutally into Long Xiaoyao's body.

The rose-gold pillar's origin, the vertical eye, disappeared in that moment, and a large black door filled with eerie and sinister auras took its place.

Huo Yuhao's face was very pale as he stood at the gate's entrance. He was holding Tang Wutong with one of his hands, and her Radiant Dragon Butterfly's wings were outstretched.

“Let's go!” Huo Yuhao dashed into the door as he pulled Tang Wutong along.

There would only be one outcome battling an Ultimate Douluo, and that was death and defeat!

Therefore, Huo Yuhao had never considered fighting against the Dragon Emperor Douluo from the beginning. What he needed was an opportunity.

Destiny's Judgment from the Eye of the Asura was the first step to creating this chance. Bad luck appearing on his opponent was equivalent to good luck standing on his side.

Black and white lights crossed. Those were the Three-Eyed Golden Lion's two powerful soul skills conferred by his sixth soul ring, Spiritual Dispossession and Destiny's Demise. They instantly lowered his opponent's defense against both material and spiritual attacks.

Even Huo Yuhao didn't know what kind of effect these two powerful soul skills could achieve against an Ultimate Douluo.

What came next was his most powerful spiritual attack, the Eye of the Asura's Spiritual Shock! The rose-gold colors almost became blood-red when he was using his full strength.

Huo Yuhao could only get closer to an Ultimate Douluo with spiritual attacks. He had actually paid an enormous price for that momentary pause in the middle, and cracks even appeared in his spiritual sea in that moment because of it.

But it was that momentary pause that allowed him to dispel the Eye of the Asura, and use Instant Teleportation to appear in front of his own Spiritual Shock. What he leveraged was the Dragon Emperor Douluo's arrogance, and he was betting that the Dragon Emperor Douluo would use spiritual power to fight against his own Spiritual Shock.

He was successful in his wager. He used his body to take a hit from the Dragon Emperor Douluo's attack, and he used his soul skill that came from the Three-Eyed Golden Lion's skull, Destiny's Adjudication. That soul skill allowed him to become immune to spiritual attacks thrice a day.

Huo Yuhao managed to escape from the Evil Eye Tyrant King's assault back then because of this soul skill.

His chances were boosted once more!

The black door appeared because Huo Yuhao was already making his incantations when he became the Eye of the Asura. He relied on his spiritual soul core to do two things at the same time, and his body sustained an enormous burden as he completed the summoning of his spectral demiplane.

What Huo Yuhao needed was the last step in creating this opportunity. He made another bet, that his strongest form of Spiritual Shock could cause the Dragon Emperor Douluo to be momentarily stunned after taking a hit from Spiritual Dispossession.

If every chance came through in the end, then he had a chance to take Tang Wutong into the spectral demiplane and escape from this place.

The Eye of the Asura, Destiny's Judgment, Spiritual Dispossession, Destiny's Demise, Spiritual Shock, Instant Teleportation, Destiny's Adjudication, and the opening of his spectral demiplane.

Huo Yuhao used eight soul skills one after another within such a short period of time, and he did all that so he could create a chance for him and Tang Wutong to run away.

Did he succeed?

Darkness was starting to descend upon them as Huo Yuhao and Tang Wutong's bodies were about to disappear into that large door which connected them to the spectral demiplane.

Everything in this world seemed to freeze amid the darkness.

An elderly voice suddenly resonated through the air, which was already frozen and swallowed by darkness.

“Almost. You really almost succeeded.”

A gigantic black dragon claw flickered with dark purple light as it slashed out across this dark space, right at the black door that Huo Yuhao and Tang Wutong had just escaped into.

The large black door immediately broke apart as two bodies that were about to disappear suddenly became clear once more. They were forcibly pulled from the darkness surrounding them.

The silent darkness vanished as Huo Yuhao and Tang Wutong collapsed onto the ground almost at the same time.

Tang Wutong’s eyes were full of fear as she helped Huo Yuhao back on his feet, who was faltering and about to fall back to the ground. Her expression became increasingly solemn.

The Darkness Holy Dragon, the Dragon Emperor Douluo reappeared within their vision amid the darkness, but he was no longer smiling.

His eyes were concentrated on Huo Yuhao’s body, and there were unexplainable emotions rippling through his eyes.

“Now, I must admit that you are much more talented and accomplished than I was when I was younger,” Long Xiaoyao spoke sincerely, “With your current spiritual power, and the fact that you already possess a soul core for your spiritual-type martial soul before your eighth soul ring, you will have a chance to challenge me when you become a Transcendent Douluo in the future. If, one day, you can become an Ultimate Douluo, then you will be on the same level as the Beast God and the Evil Emperor. If not for my Silent Darkness Domain, you would have successfully escaped, and this episode would have probably become the greatest joke of my later days.”

Huo Yuhao struggled from Tang Wutong’s support. He wiped away the blood that was coming from his nose as he said coldly, “We weren’t able to escape in the end, were we?” His nose was bleeding not because the Darkness Holy Dragon had hurt him. Instead, that was because he had paid a huge price to unleash eight powerful soul skills with his full strength one after another. Every single soul skill was unleashed at its greatest possible level, and even his spiritual sea began to crack. His head was exploding with pain, and it was impossible for him to use spiritual attacks like he did before.

“But we haven’t lost. We will never lose in any moment before we die.” Tang Wutong took a step forward from behind Huo Yuhao and stood in front of him.

Huo Yuhao was momentarily stunned. Tang Wutong snapped her head around and glanced at him. “Why aren’t you willing to trust me? If we had combined our abilities back then, we might have succeeded. You have too much machismo.”

Huo Yuhao felt a little dazed in that instant as he saw her displeased expression. A thought suddenly surfaced in his mind. If only she had been Dong’er. If I had teamed up with Dong’er, our plan would have succeeded!

“Now, it’s my turn!” Tang Wutong grunted coldly as she raced forward like a gust of wind. She was pretty, and she was aloof, and she seemed like the Goddess of Light that lit up the darkness around them in this moment. She had the determination of a moth pouncing towards fire, and an unwavering resolution.

Her pinkish-blue hair swayed in the air like waves as she continued charging forward. Crisp dragon roars could be heard as brilliant golden flames blazed behind her.

A smile appeared on Long Xiaoyao’s face once more as he stared at the determination and arrogance on Tang Wutong’s face. He gradually raised his right hand.

Right in this moment, Tang Wutong’s body suddenly paused in midair as all seven of her soul rings shone.

Her soul rings were also different from normal soul masters. Black, black, black, black, black, black, red! She had six black rings and one red ring, six ten thousand year soul rings and a single hundred thousand year soul ring. This meant she had potential and talent that wasn’t inferior to Huo Yuhao at all.

One reason why Bei Bei went to look for Tang Wutong and asked her to ask Huo Yuhao to return, besides the fact that she looked just like Dong’er, was because Bei Bei hoped that she could let Huo Yuhao slowly walk out from his thoughts and memories of Dong’er. But there was yet another more important reason, and that was because she was sufficiently powerful. She had seven powerful soul rings that made her much more powerful than a typical Soul Sage.

Her seven soul rings flickered as the radiance from her body flourished. The light pattern of a trident appeared on her forehead, and a tinge of blue immediately covered her otherwise golden frame.

Tang Wutong raised her head a little amid the bluish-gold colors. She allowed her flowing long hair to drift and sway in the wind, and a bright dragon roar rang out from her mouth. This dragon roar was crisp and bright, and along with the intense bluish-golden light, an enormous dragon-shaped shadow gradually appeared with her body in the middle.

That was a colossal dragon which was flickering with the colors of the rainbow. The dragon seemed very illusory, but there was a dignity and majesty within the illusion that seemed like it could dominate the ages.

### **Chapter 483: The Dragon God’s Descent**

When it first appeared, the Dragon Emperor Douluo felt it the most acutely.

If Huo Yuhao’s spiritual power had left him astonished earlier, he was horrified to see the seven-colored dragon projection that shone from Tang Wutong’s body.

If it was just the color or aura of this projection, the Dragon Emperor Douluo wouldn’t have felt it so strongly. More importantly, it was the dominance of the projection that made him felt so overwhelmed. It was a dominance that originated from her lineage.

“Dragon God?” Long Xiaoyao shouted, and subconsciously staggered back.

In the past, he and Mu En were called the Twin Holy Dragons of Black and White. Mu En’s title was the Dragon God, while he was the Dragon Emperor. However, such titles were only compliments to their

immense abilities. Their martial souls were the Radiant Holy Dragon and Darkness Holy Dragon respectively, which were both branches of the dragon species. The reason why they were so strong was because they were one of the authentic dragons.

The Radiant Holy Dragon and Darkness Holy Dragon were both very respected, and were considered one of the more superior dragons. Long Xiaoyao's martial soul was in fact of the same lineage as Di Tian. However, the difference between his martial soul and Di Tian's was that Di Tian was the clan master of the Black Dragons, since he was the Golden-Eyed Black Dragon King. If the Darkness Holy Dragon actually existed, it would at most be regarded as an honorary elder of the Black Dragons.

The aura that Tang Wutong exuded from her body right now clearly belonged to that of dragons. However, it was much superior to the aura of the Radiant and Darkness Holy Dragons. Furthermore, that terrifying dominance from her aura only belonged to the original Dragon God!

Even though the aura that came from Tang Wutong's body was slightly weaker, it was still different from that of the Darkness Holy Dragon.

Her abilities weren't enough to threaten Long Xiaoyao, but her streak of dragon aura completely suppressed Long Xiaoyao and his Darkness Holy Dragon, causing him to become fearful.

Tang Wutong used the fourth soul skill of her Radiant Butterfly Goddess, Dragon God's Possession.

The seven-colored dragon projection turned into a layer of thin seven-colored dragon scales on Tang Wutong's body. Her dragon scales extended all the way until her lower jaw. Only her head wasn't covered. After she was engulfed by a thin layer of dragon scales, her aura became more and more dominant.

Behind her, a pair of wings that were also dyed in the same seven colors rose up. Her second soul ring also started to shine, causing a seven-colored glow to burn brightly. It was her second soul skill, Dragon God's Fury.

A high-pitched dragon roar reverberated through the air, forming a huge seven-colored light blade that chopped towards Long Xiaoyao's head. It was Tang Wutong's third soul skill, Radiant Dragon God's Slash.

At this moment, even Long Xiaoyao couldn't confirm what Tang Wutong's martial soul was. However, there was one thing he was clear about; the blood lineage and aura of the Dragon God were present in her martial soul.

Earlier, he had thought that Huo Yuhao was the most special, far surpassing any generational talent. But right now, he immediately sensed that Tang Wutong was on the same tier as him when she unleashed her full strength! Even though he had been alive for more than two hundred years, he had never even heard of an inherited martial soul of the Dragon God before.

He lifted his right hand and gently smacked it. The night sky behind him instantly turned pitch-black.

The Radiant Dragon God's Slash was slowly dissipated by that darkness. However, Long Xiaoyao's body actually shone with streaks of seven-colored light. Although they soon vanished, Tang Wutong's attack was still able to hit him. This showed the effect of the Dragon God's blood lineage in her attack.

Tang Wutong's attacks didn't cease just like that. She continued to charge forward, but her body transformed.

The seven-colored dragon projection appeared once again. However, it was no longer illusory this time. It was well and truly real.

It was a small and delicate seven-colored dragon. A pair of butterfly-shaped dragon wings opened behind her back. Seven-colored scales reflected bright lights. This small seven-colored dragon was only seven meters long. It was very small and weak compared to a real dragon. Even most of the mature earthdragons were bigger than it.

However, as it appeared, Long Xiaoyao took another step back.

By unleashing the Dragon's God Possession through her Radiant Butterfly Goddess, it would naturally evolve into the Dragon God's Descent. Of course it wasn't the true Dragon God, but that streak of strength from the Dragon God's lineage was still unleashed to its greatest potential.

The reason why Long Xiaoyao stepped back was because her Dragon God's aura had become stronger. If it were Ye Xishui, things might even still be better. But Long Xiaoyao's Darkness Holy Dragon naturally developed some fear in front of the Dragon God's aura. It was not something that could be made up for using his cultivation.

Tang Wutong's wings slashed down instantly. It was her Dragon Wings Guillotine!

Long Xiaoyao lifted his right hand. Tang Wutong felt as if she had hit some kind of viscous fluid, which hindered her. It even felt as if she was stuck to something.

"Roar——" Another sonorous dragon roar sounded. The seven-colored dragon roared furiously at Long Xiaoyao, and Tang Wutong's fifth soul ring shone brightly. It was her fifth soul skill, Dragon God's Roar.

A huge seven-colored dragon head appeared behind Tang Wutong. Following this roar, an intense seven-colored glow, which was around as large as Tang Wutong, was released in Long Xiaoyao's direction.

The black current around Long Xiaoyao's body was greatly dissipated by this seven-colored glow.

Tang Wutong unleashed her full strength, but why would Long Xiaoyao let her achieve what she wanted? He snorted coldly before the viscous black moved up to the seven-colored dragon wings. The incredible difference in their cultivations couldn't be made up for just from the strength of Tang Wutong's lineage. Tang Wutong only felt a wave of invisible, dark aura suppressing her spiritual power. This kept her Dragon God's aura from spreading any further.

At this moment, the surrounding temperature suddenly fell significantly. A snow-white figure appeared beside Tang Wutong and pressed her palm towards Long Xiaoyao's head.

The temperature didn't actually fall. The chill came from within. Yes, it came from within Long Xiaoyao's body.

"What?" Long Xiaoyao was stunned. He immediately flipped his left palm to receive the incoming palm.

Empress' Sword, Empress' Palm, Empress' Chill! It was the Snow Empress and the Snowless Glacier.



“Grr——” The Snow Empress snorted gently, and her snowy-white figure became illusory. A jade-green figure replaced her, and a sinister white light swept past.

Long Xiaoyao pointed with his finger, and a ring rang out. The jade-green figure instantly turned illusory before it backed off.

Long Xiaoyao’s left arm was quickly frozen from the consecutive strikes. A layer of frost engulfed his entire arm. His arm turned completely numb. Even with his cultivation, he couldn’t instantly neutralize it.

Destiny’s Demise had taken effect, and his material defense had been lowered. Otherwise, how could Long Xiaoyao be frozen, given that the Snow Empress and Ice Empress weren’t in their original form?

It was at this moment that a figure that exuded strong rose-gold light appeared. A palm also appeared with this figure.

Weird emotional undulations spread in the air. Sorrow, yearning, love, pain and all kinds of other emotions gathered in this palm.

It was the Haodong Palm, a palm which lasted eternally.

Long Xiaoyao’s right palm was controlling Tang Wutong, and his left palm was frozen. However, at this moment, he seemed very calm. He wasn’t as stunned as before.

He retracted his right palm and blocked Huo Yuhao’s palm.

When their palms collided, Huo Yuhao was flung back. Long Xiaoyao’s body also jerked slightly, and he revealed a confused look in his eyes. At this instant, he seemed to have returned to two hundred years ago, when he was first making a name with Mu En and met Ye Xishui.

White and jade-green combined. Two hands were holding onto each other. The light projection reformed.

It was as if they had instantly arrived in another world. Everything around them instantly turned into a land of ice and snow.

The Ice Empress and Snow Empress disappeared. A rebuke that seemed to come from the ice plains of the Extreme North descended from the sky.

Two giant beams of white and jade-green light instantly descended. The boundless darkness was crushed by that miraculous white and green, turning into powder.

Long Xiaoyao’s body shook. In the next moment, he had already turned into an ice statue.

Tang Wutong struggled and managed to break free from her restraints. She flew back into the air.

“Bang——” The ice statue exploded, scattering ice everywhere.

It was the Ice Explosion Technique. The ice formed from Ultimate Ice was immediately blown apart as the Pride of the Ice and Snow Empresses was unleashed.

Huo Yuhao crashed to the ground and grabbed his left hand.

Is it over?

It wasn't just his Spirit Eyes that could unleash the strength of a Titled Douluo. When he used his full strength, he could do it with his Ultimate Ice martial soul too.

After the Snow Empress recovered, the Pride of the Ice and Snow Empresses had already regained its full strength. The fusion of the Ice and Snow Empresses caused the temperature of Ultimate Ice to fall below negative two hundred and forty degrees Celsius. This terrifyingly low temperature instantly drained Huo Yuhao's soul power. However, he still managed to complete this strike because both the Ice and Snow Empresses had absorbed the Manifold Mysterious Ice Essence, giving him a stable foundation.

This could already compare to the all-out attack of a Titled Douluo. The Dragon Emperor Douluo was complacent. Along with Destiny's Demise and Spiritual Dispossession, as well as the judgment of destiny, he was struck with the greatest misfortune.

The Dragon Emperor Douluo disappeared. It was as if he had died from the Ice Explosion Technique.

Tang Wutong had already retreated to Huo Yuhao's side, and pulled him up. The two of them looked at each other, revealing puzzled looks in their eyes. "Win? Did we win?"

The answer was...

No!

Darkness, boundless, irresistible and terrifying darkness descended once again.

Everything seemed to have stopped. Time, movement and Huo Yuhao and Tang Wutong's blood and soul power slowed. At this moment, the two of them became statues. They stood there quietly, and only saw the dejected look in each other's eyes.

Long Xiaoyao slowly walked out from the darkness just like he did when he first walked out from the Heavenly Soul Empire's Imperial Palace.

His white hair looked a little messy now. His clothes were also a little messy. However, this was the worst it got for him.

How could an Ultimate Douluo be killed so easily?

"The two of you have indeed given me a lot of surprises. I didn't expect young people to be so good nowadays. The new generation of youngsters has surpassed the older generations!"

Long Xiaoyao didn't feel down just because he was in a slightly pathetic state right now. On the contrary, he seemed to be very happy.

He gestured towards Huo Yuhao and Tang Wutong. Huo Yuhao didn't move, but Tang Wutong directly flew towards and landed in front of him.

From the start until the end, Tang Wutong wasn't able to move no matter how much she tried to circulate her soul power. She could only watch as she was sucked over by Long Xiaoyao.

"What a beautiful young lady! If I were two hundred years younger, I might even chase you." Long Xiaoyao's expression turned cold.

“The game is over.”

The darkness was removed, and Long Xiaoyao’s hand was on Tang Wutong’s shoulder. It was just a frail and elderly hand, but Tang Wutong felt as if everything in her body had been sealed. She couldn’t even muster her strength, and only stood there just like that.

Huo Yuhao fell to the ground. All the fighting earlier had completely drained him.

Long Xiaoyao said, “Huo Yuhao, do you know why I haven’t killed you yet? Given my abilities, I just need one strike to kill you.”

Huo Yuhao laughed coldly. “I don’t think it’ll be so easy. You’re afraid that the Beast God will descend, aren’t you?”

Long Xiaoyao laughed, “I said that I have many methods of making you unable to use Di Tian’s strength. Since you don’t really believe me, we can give it a go right now.”

As he spoke, he waved his hand at Huo Yuhao.

A streak of black light flashed and landed in front of Huo Yuhao. When Huo Yuhao lowered his head to look at it, he found out that it was a pitch-black dagger that had landed by the side of his foot.

Long Xiaoyao pressed his hand on Tang Wutong’s shoulder, while his other hand held a dagger that was identical to the one beside Huo Yuhao.

“You can choose between stabbing yourself or letting me stab her. You have nine tries, and each stab has to be on your backbone. You can choose the exact position. You’ll stab once for every number I count. If you hesitate, she’ll take the stabs for you. After nine stabs, both of you can leave.”

Huo Yuhao was stunned. He didn’t expect Long Xiaoyao to use such a method to threaten him.

An Ultimate Douluo actually used a young lady to threaten him.

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Long Xiaoyao laughed lightly and said, “Alright, let me also tell you that the poisonous darkness element in this dagger can’t even be resisted by your Ultimate Ice. Of course, let’s not even talk about her. Her body is light-type. I’m afraid she’ll lose half her life the moment she’s stabbed. I’ll give you one minute to consider. After that, our game will begin.”

“Huo Yuhao, don’t!” Tang Wutong shouted. She also realized at this moment that she had recovered her speaking ability.

Huo Yuhao ignored her and slowly bent his waist. He picked up the dagger from the ground.

The dagger was seamless. The hilt and the blade seemed to have been carved from the same piece of metal. When held, the dagger felt icy-cold, and the darkness element in it wasn’t something that Huo Yuhao fancied.

“Dragon Emperor Douluo, will you do everything that you promised?” Huo Yuhao straightened his back. Even though he was very pale, blood was coming from his nose and mouth, and he looked a little dogged right now, his back was still very straight. He was like a javelin as he stood where he was. As he

faced Long Xiaoyao, he didn't even bother to refer to him as an elder. In his heart, Long Xiaoyao wasn't fit at all.

Long Xiaoyao smiled and replied, "Given my identity, do you think I need to scam a fellow like you?"

Huo Yuhao laughed coldly, "Given your identity? You can even use a girl to threaten me. What else can you not do? It's a humiliation to my teacher that he once had the same status as you."

Long Xiaoyao's expression changed slightly. "What a razor-sharp tongue you have. You have no choice. Our game is about to begin."

As he spoke, he slowly lifted the arm that held the dagger. He pointed the blade of the knife at Tang Wutong.

After Tang Wutong shouted, she no longer made a sound. She only watched Huo Yuhao silently. At this moment, both of them had no choice. She only wanted to see how Huo Yuhao was going to deal with such a game of death. She knew that she was now a tool in their game. No matter what she said, she wouldn't be able to affect the proceedings.

Long Xiaoyao's expression changed, and he shouted, "One!"

Huo Yuhao moved. He didn't hesitate at all. The short blade in front of him turned into a streak of black light and instantly stabbed into his belly.

"Ah—" Tang Wutong couldn't help but scream.

However, Huo Yuhao's expression was very calm. It was as if the dagger didn't stab into him at all. As the icy-cold dagger penetrated his flesh, he only felt a chill in his belly. It was as if a weird force was furiously sucking away his life energy. But the pain wasn't so strong. There was only a stronger and more uncomfortable numbing sensation. It was as if his tendon had been snapped. Even so, his expression didn't change. It was as if he was doing something very normal.

"Oh, I forgot. I need to add another rule." Long Xiaoyao was still smiling. There was a weird look on his face right now. The dagger was still in the air.

"Are you reneging on your promise?" Huo Yuhao asked coldly.

"Of course not." Long Xiaoyao smiled as he said. "I only want to tell you that every stab needs to have two holes."

Huo Yuhao's face turned cold. Tang Wutong tried to struggle. However, how could she break free from the hands of an Ultimate Douluo?

Huo Yuhao stared at Long Xiaoyao, "Is there anything else you want to add?"

Long Xiaoyao shook his head and answered, "That's all."

"Alright." Huo Yuhao pressed against the dagger that was in his belly. Suddenly, the dagger went deeper into his body. His facial expression also changed slightly. The sharp end of the dagger poked out from his back. However, no blood seeped out from either wound.

“Alright!” Long Xiaoyao shouted too. “No wonder you’re the disciple of Mu En. You’re tough, but are you tough enough?”

Huo Yuhao looked at him coldly as he gripped the hilt of the dagger.

“Two!” Long Xiaoyao roared.

Huo Yuhao used his right hand to pluck the dagger from his body before quickly stabbing it into the other side of his belly. When the dagger penetrated his flesh, Huo Yuhao didn’t make too much noise. However, he shook tremendously when he plucked the dagger from his body. Two streams of dark blood spurted from his earlier wounds, before his blood started to flow from his body.

“Yuhao!” Tang Wutong shouted. At this moment, she had also turned pale. She only felt that things had turned blurry in front of her. However, the image of Huo Yuhao was deeply imprinted in her mind.

Two stabs. He had stabbed himself twice without any hesitation. He didn’t have the time to consider at all. Two stabs meant that there were four wounds on his body right now.

Long Xiaoyao laughed, “How does it feel? Light can bring life, but darkness can devour life. Isn’t it great to personally feel life energy seeping out from your body? Don’t worry, the darkness element in my dagger isn’t very strong yet. With your abilities and spiritual power, you can handle a few more stabs if you’re tough enough. Of course, she can also help you.”

“Yuhao, give the next stab to me!” Tang Wutong suddenly shouted. Tears flowed uncontrollably from her cheeks.

Huo Yuhao smiled and muttered, “Wutong, I have something to ask of you. Can I?”

“Three!” Long Xiaoyao interrupted him.

Black lights flashed and blood spurted. It was the third stab, and there were six wounds now!

“No——” Tang Wutong shouted. Tears flowed from her face. She only felt that she was about to suffer a mental breakdown. Her heart ached, and this heart-ache left her breathless. She started to shake uncontrollably.

“Wutong, when I first entered Shrek Academy, I was only eleven years old. Then, I was a young man filled with hatred. I knew nothing. With the guidance of eldest senior and Teacher Xiao Ya, I earned the right to enter Shrek Academy. From then on, Shrek Academy became my family.”

“At the start, life was very bitter. I cultivated every day. I knew that I was less talented than the rest. This was why I need to put in more effort than everyone else.”

“I had a roommate then who was a clean freak, but who was very lazy too. He never cleaned the room. I was the one who cleaned the room. He was very gifted, almost one of the best in our generation. In addition, he was very handsome, and his abilities were great. When he first entered the academy, he became the center of attention. His name was Wang Dong.”

Hearing Huo Yuhao’s story, Tang Wutong seemed a little dazed, and there was a blurry look in her eyes.

“Four!”

“No——” She was immediately jolted awake from her blurred state of mind.

Black lights flashed, and the fourth stab landed. There were eight wounds now.

The third stab was in the middle of his belly. The fourth stab was to the left of his intestines.

Huo Yuhao’s voice sounded a little weak. His shirt was already dyed black from his blood. However, he was still staring at Tang Wutong.

She wasn’t Wang Dong’er, but she looked identical to Wang Dong’er. Huo Yuhao couldn’t even feel pain at all. He even felt that he was blissful. Even if he died, he could still watch his favorite girl live. It seemed like it wasn’t that sad after all.

“When Wang Dong and I first started, we had some kind of confrontation. But we became friends after we attended the academy together. I was trying to catch up to him. Suddenly, one day, we unwittingly found out that our martial souls were highly compatible. Hence, we went to the wilderness to test things out. We didn’t expect our martial souls to fuse together, and we were able to unleash a fusion skill. It’s just that we were still very weak then. After unleashing one fusion skill, our soul power would be drained. When we passed out from the fatigue, we would usually be late for school the next day, and we were punished together.”

As he spoke, Huo Yuhao’s expression turned gentler. Everything in the past replayed in his mind.

“After that, we were selected to compete in our first Continental Advanced Soul Master Academy Soul Dueling Tournament because of our impressive performance. We were reserve members. It’s just that we didn’t expect a few of our seniors to be hurt by evil soul masters, and they had to pull out. We replaced them as competitive squad members.”

“It was really tough then. However, we were ambitious. We worked hard, and faced our opponents with our greatest abilities. We performed miracle after miracle, turning the impossible into reality. Finally, we defended Shrek’s glory. We won the tournament for Shrek! We were then given the title of ‘Shrek’s Seven Monsters’. That was one of the greatest glories of my life.”

“Five!”

Black light flashed, and the dagger stabbed again. It was the other side of Huo Yuhao’s intestines. The tenth wound had been inflicted.

This time, Tang Wutong didn’t shout. She seemed to have been completely immersed in Huo Yuhao’s story, and forgotten what situation they were in.

“After that, we got together again and experienced many things together. One day, the academy held a matchmaking session for the disciples of the inner courtyard. Only those from the inner courtyard could participate, so that the male and female students could have a chance to express their liking for someone. Everyone was normally so busy with their cultivation, and they’re also very shy. The Sea God’s Blind Date was our best opportunity. I also joined under peer pressure.”

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“Who knew that I would meet her during the blind date? She had long, pinkish-blue hair, and was absolutely ravishing. She looked identical to Wang Dong. I still thought that she was Wang Dong’s sister.

However, I never expected Wang Dong to actually be Wang Dong'er. She had always been by my side, but I foolishly didn't know it."

"She called me a fool. Wasn't she right? However, I'm willing to be her fool for life. Naturally, we got together. I really liked her. Everything that happened in the past replayed in my mind. Even in my dreams, I didn't expect to get together with my goddess. Yes, she's my goddess."

"Wutong, you aren't the first person to look like her. There was another girl who looked exactly like her. That girl was called Wang Qiu'er. I met her before and after the blind date. Then, I even thought that they were the same person. It was only afterward that I realized that they were different."

"I liked Dong'er, but Qiu'er gradually walked into my world. She helped me and saved me. More weirdly, she was even able to form a fusion skill with me. However, I only have Dong'er in my heart."

"Six!" Long Xiaoyao's voice softened a little, but he continued to shout.

Huo Yuhao lifted his hand and stabbed himself.

Black light flashed once again. It was the sixth stab, and there were twelve wounds now.

His body shook as this stab landed. He also staggered back two steps. The ground was covered in black blood. His face had also turned from pale-white to dim-gold. His entire aura seemed to be there yet not be there at the same time. Even his pupils started to turn grey.

"Yuhao, stop. Please, I beg you. Please stop. Leave the last three stabs for me, alright?" Tang Wutong was already sobbing uncontrollably.

Huo Yuhao shook his head gently and said, "I'm a man. Even if you don't look like her, I'll still do it for you. I'll protect my partner and my friend. We are friends, aren't we? Finish listening to my story first."

"I've always been very troubled. I was certain that I liked Dong'er, but I didn't want to harm Qiu'er either. Qiu'er started to like me from some unknown period of time. I was sandwiched between her and Dong'er. I didn't know what to do. As a result, all sorts of problems piled up."

"Once, we entered a place called the Yin Yang Love Querying Valley. There, we went through many ordeals. Eventually, Dong'er saved me by committing suicide. Then, Qiu'er admitted defeat. However, Dong'er didn't manage to wake from the coma that she sustained in the process of committing suicide. I personally sent her back to her home, but that was the last time I saw her. When I returned again, she had already left. Her family told me that she had already awoken from her coma."

"The Douluo Continent is so vast. How could I find her? Not long before that incident, Qiu'er had also died while saving me on a mission. I asked myself. Do I really not have Qiu'er in my heart at all? No, I could feel that she left a deep impression in my heart. It's just that I can't split my heart into two. I've already given it to Dong'er. This is why Qiu'er is the person I've let down the most in my life."

"Seven!"

His hand lifted, and the dagger stabbed. This time, the black light evidently slowed down slightly. It wasn't because Huo Yuhao's determination had fallen. It was because his body was a little overwhelmed because he was in such a weak state. This stab was closely connected to the sixth stab. They were both further to the sides of his intestines.

He finally collapsed after this stab. He sat down on the ground, in the puddle of his blood on the ground. His body was trembling slightly, and he needed his other hand to support himself to keep himself from fully collapsing to the ground.

“Do you still remember? Wutong, I tried to pour my soul power into you that day. In fact, I took you as her, just without the memories. I really hoped that our martial souls would fuse to prove that you were her. But I failed. Our soul power can’t fuse. It doesn’t seem that our martial souls are compatible. Then, I realized that you aren’t her. You are Tang Wutong. She is Wang Dong’er. The greater the hope, the greater the disappointment. At that moment, I felt very tormented. I felt extremely tormented. I really wish that you were her! If that were the case, there would be light in my world once again.”

Huo Yuhao’s eyes had already turned completely grey by now. His pupils seemed to have dilated. He finally couldn’t see Tang Wutong clearly anymore. There was only a blurry, pinkish-blue figure in front of him.

“I had two wishes in my life originally. My first wish was to avenge my mother. However, that has slowly faded away as time passed. That’s because I’ve slowly realized that my hatred is diminishing. My mom wouldn’t want me to avenge her. Furthermore, I can’t do it. I really can’t.”

“My other wish is to get together with Dong’er. To live together with her. To wed her and have a few kids. To accompany my kids every day. That’s all I want.” As he spoke until here, Huo Yuhao’s tears were already flowing from his eyes.

He seemed to see himself and Wang Dong’er together, and their kids running not far away from them.

Tang Wutong was in a daze as she looked at him. It was as if she had been completely immersed in his tragic story.

“Eight!” Long Xiaoyao’s voice suddenly turned cold and stiff.

Huo Yuhao plucked out the black dagger again. But when he stabbed himself once more, he had evidently lost his strength. He stabbed at his right chest, but the dagger swept across his rib. He had to exert force twice before it stabbed through his body.

Right now, Tang Wutong’s eyes had already turned hollow. She didn’t even bother trying to stop him anymore.

Huo Yuhao’s voice was becoming weaker and weaker. It was trembling, and he was stuttering, “Wutong, if you see someone that looks identical to you in the future, she might just be my Dong’er. Please take care of her, but don’t tell her of everything between us. In fact, it’s good if she forgets me. I’m too much of a burden. Perhaps she’ll be happier without me. I’m happy as long as she’s happy. Elder Long, I hope you stay true to your word. Don’t make it difficult for her. Let her leave... nine!”

Huo Yuhao shouted out the last number on his own. His eyes suddenly brightened, and there was even a weird trace of light shining from his body. He plucked out the black dagger and stabbed it towards his heart.

He remembered everything that had happened between him and Dong’er. Wasn’t it sort of a relief for him? Right now, he only wanted to be free. Now, no one could stop him. Even Di Tian couldn’t do so. This was because there was no sense of danger in his heart. Everything was done willingly.



He really didn't want to live anymore. He felt very, very tired. There was a bitter look on his face right now. I'm sorry, my partners. I can only shirk my responsibilities this way. I'm not afraid of death. Death, to me, is like home. Dong'er has forgotten me, Qiu'er has died because of me, and I don't want revenge anymore. The Snow Empress, Ice Empress and Star Anise all have the origins of the Manifold Mysterious Ice Essence. They can help someone else to improve and become a god.

Everything seems to be perfect. I can finally leave this world. I want to find my mother.

Due to his terminal lucidity, Huo Yuhao's last stab was stronger than the earlier eight stabs. No matter how strong he was, he would never be able to survive once this dagger stabbed into his heart.

Tang Wutong collapsed completely when he stabbed himself again. She lost consciousness.

"Sqwelp!" The sharp dagger stabbed into his flesh and penetrated it. He had eighteen wounds on his body right now.

Huo Yuhao's consciousness blurred. He couldn't control his body as it fell back. However, there was a smile on his face. It was a smile of freedom and relief. In this world, there was nothing he longed for anymore. It was as if it was time for him to go because his time was up.

Long Xiaoyao placed the unconscious Tang Wutong on the ground. He revealed a heavy look on his cold and elderly-looking face.

"What a passionate young man!" He sighed slightly and took a step out before coming to Huo Yuhao's side. He slowly squatted down and grabbed the black dagger in his chest before pulling it out.

Huo Yuhao lay there without moving. His life energy seemed to have disappeared.

Long Xiaoyao's eyes suddenly brightened. Their surroundings became dark and silent once again. Even the blood in Huo Yuhao's body stopped following.

In this silent and dark world, he was the only one who could move. He slowly lifted his right hand and pressed it on Huo Yuhao's chest. He could clearly see streaks of black current fading from the eighteen wounds on Huo Yuhao's body. In a matter of seconds, the wounds were already covered in red.

Light flashed in Long Xiaoyao's hands, and a white bead appeared in his palm. He pressed his other hand on Huo Yuhao's chest, as if he were sensing something.

After a brief moment, there was a satisfied look on his face. After this, he placed the bead in Huo Yuhao's mouth.

After completing all these, he bent over and carried Huo Yuhao up to a cleaner place. He helped to strip his bloodstained shirt from his body.

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Huo Yuhao stopped losing blood under the coagulation effect of the silent and dark domain. However, when his body was completely naked, his wounds were bared for the Dragon Emperor Douluo to see.

A smile surfaced across Long Xiaoyao's face, "If not for the fact that this dragon pill requires you to have no resistance, and that you must be in your absolute weakest state, why would I make you go through

so much pain? Haih, to be honest, I was moved by you earlier, and almost couldn't lay my hands on you. It's just that Mu En made me do this. In fact, you wouldn't need this dragon pill if you weren't improving so quickly. However, the time seems to be right now. This is because I can't stop Xishui. I shall leave the responsibility of resisting the Holy Ghost Church to you. Young fellow, you must do your best!"

As he spoke, Long Xiaoyao moved his hands and turned Huo Yuhao's body continuously. His wounds were quickly stitched up. However, he was still very pale from losing so much blood.

However, it was at this moment that a layer of dim golden light was exuded from the dragon pill in his mouth. The golden halo spread down to his entire body.

Long Xiaoyao also carried Tang Wutong over and placed her beside him. The smile on his face intensified. "What a touching scene! If such a young lady doesn't fall for him, it'll be really weird. This young man is so dumb. Unless there are twins, how can you find two people who look so alike in this world? Surely there isn't a second Three-Eyed Golden Lion, right?"

If Huo Yuhao were still alive, he would almost surely be shocked by Long Xiaoyao's words. Evidently, the Dragon Emperor Douluo was very aware of his matters.

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Sun Moon Empire. Radiant City. Imperial Palace.

Xu Tianran quietly sat in a chair that was decorated with all types of treasures and rubies. Not far in front of him, Ju Zi was kneeling with one knee on the ground and her head was lowered. From the side, it was clear that she looked a little pale.

"Get up. It isn't fully your fault." Xu Tianran waved at her.

Ju Zi lowered her head and said, "Your Majesty, it's my mistake. If I were more alert, we wouldn't have suffered such heavy losses. We've lost soldiers and resources this time. Please punish me, Your Majesty."

Xu Tianran stood up and walked in front of Ju Zi, lifting her up. He gently patted her shoulder and said, "Alright, it happened too abruptly. Who would have expected the soul beasts in the Extreme North to suddenly turn violent? According to what you mentioned, there were at least two savage beasts attacking you. They're likely to be two of the Three Heavenly Kings of the Extreme North. It already wasn't easy for you to escape. The conditions in the Extreme North are rigorous, unlike any other place. It's simply too harsh. It's a place that favors those ice-type soul beasts. It seems like we made a wrong strategic move this time, and ignored such an important aspect."

Ju Zi continued to lower her head and said, "I am guilty."

Xu Tianran pulled her hand and walked all the way until the side, sitting down with her. "What's the crime? Over the past year, you've given your all for me and the empire. You've become much thinner. You've contributed so much to the empire and have risen quickly in the military. You are known as the female warrior of our military. What's a single mistake worth? No one is always victorious. When we fully occupy the Heavenly Soul and Dou Ling Empires, I'll let you command the entire military to destroy those soul beasts in the Extreme North. Then, all the rare metals will still belong to us. With all those

soul beasts around, I don't believe the Dou Ling Empire will be able to obtain anything either. You don't have to think so much."

Ju Zi lifted her head at this moment and was moved as she said, "Your Majesty, thanks for sparing me."

Xu Tianran smiled as he looked at her. After this, he sighed and said, "The situation at the frontline is very stable now. We have taken over most parts of the Heavenly Soul Empire. However, our forces are a little overwhelmed because of the Star Luo Empire. This was especially so during the earlier stages of the war, when a lot of our resources were drained, and we weren't able to supply enough reinforcements to the frontline. Right now, we'll maintain the status quo and not rush into attacking further. Otherwise, we'll give the three empires opportunities if our fighting lines are overstretched."

Ju Zi's confidence was restored when they began talking about the frontline. She furrowed her brow slightly and commented, "Although our fighting lines are a little overstretched now, the regions of the Heavenly Soul Empire that we've occupied are still considered quite stable. You are right. We must further stabilize the situation at the frontline. We must quickly get rid of the problems that the Star Luo Empire is bringing us from the back to resolve the dilemma. I suggest that we ask the Death God Douluo to attack the Ming Dou Mountain Range once again after we've accumulated further resources. We'll be able to threaten the Star Luo Empire then. It's only when we strengthen our defense at the Ming Dou Mountain Range that we can continue to attack without any worries."

Xu Tianran smiled and said, "My Ju Zi is a brilliant strategist now. All those elders from the military are impressed by you. You'll arrange these strategies. I'll tell them to the rest every time we have a mission."

"Yes, Your Majesty. Your Majesty, please allow me to move off tomorrow and lead the Phoenix Soul Engineer Legion to kill the Star Luo Empire's soul masters. I'll clean them out in the fastest possible time and give the Death God Douluo the opportunity to attack the Ming Dou Mountain Range."

Xu Tianran stood up. Along with the advancements of soul tool technology, the prosthetic legs that he had allowed him to become mobile.

He shook his head gently and said, "Ju Zi, while it's important, we can't finish it quickly. Leave it to someone else. I've already requested help from Zhong Liwu from the Holy Ghost Church. The Death God Douluo is holding the fort at the border. She's the anchor. The Star Luo Empire is only making trouble for us. It's fine. They can't accomplish anything."

Ju Zi was moved and asked, "Your Majesty, do you have something else for me to do?"

Xu Tianran nodded slightly and said, "That's right, there's something important I need you to do. You're the only who can do it."

Ju Zi quickly got up and knelt down beside Xu Tianran before saying, "Your Majesty, please instruct me. As long as I can do it, I'll do anything."

Xu Tianran revealed a displeased look on his face and bent over to lift her up. "Silly girl, I've told you many times that we're married now. You don't have to be so ceremonial in front of me. Why don't you listen to me?"

Ju Zi lowered her head and softly said, "In my heart, you'll always be my master. I'm only your servant. My life belongs to you. As long as you need it, I'll even die for you without any hesitation."

Even though Xu Tianran was an anti-hero, he was still a person. In his earlier years, his biological younger brother had tried to assassinate him, and he had almost died. Ju Zi had helped him escaped even though she was hurt. All these years, he had many powerful people around him. However, he only trusted Ju Zi.

Xu Tianran embraced her. "I told you that you're my wife, not my servant. It's like that now, and it'll remain like this in the future. In the future, you'll command the masses."

Ju Zi gently leaned on his shoulders and revealed a satisfied smile on her face. However, she was actually sighing in her heart. "Your Majesty, do you really think I don't know your personality? If I don't appear obedient in front of you, you'll start to become skeptical. I understand you very well. This is why I must do this to earn your trust!

"Your Majesty, what do you want me to do?"

Xu Tianran turned serious and said, "When you left this time, the officials submitted a petition for something."

Ju Zi asked, "What has left you so troubled? Who's the one who put you in a spot? I'll go and..." As she spoke until here, a cold look flashed across her eyes.

Xu Tianran shook his head and said, "If it were anything else, who would dare to threaten me? However, this matter can't shut everyone's mouth. They want me to bear the Crown Prince while I'm at the peak of my reign."

After hearing the words 'Crown Prince', Ju Zi couldn't help but tremble. She subconsciously lifted her head to look at Xu Tianran.

Xu Tianran revealed a bitter smile on his face. "You're the only one who knows my secret. How can I bear a Crown Prince? Ever since I took over the throne, you have been my only Empress. Apart from you, I don't have any other concubines. In the eyes of others, I appear to be very loyal to you. However, you know the true reason."

Ju Zi naturally knew that Xu Tianran was infertile because of the injury he had sustained. He didn't need concubines at all. On the other hand, having concubines might make things worse. This concerned his dignity as an emperor and as a man.

Ju Zi didn't say anything. She didn't know what to say. This concerned Xu Tianran's face.

Xu Tianran pondered and said, "Right now, I need to have a kid. It has to be a male to shut everyone's mouth. Even if it's not, I don't think they'll say anything much, as long as there's a kid. This is why you must remain in the palace for some time. You're still the commander of the three armies, but don't personally enter the battlefield temporarily. Bear me a child first."

"This..." Ju Zi was a little dazed as she looked at Xu Tianran. After she was stunned for a moment, she lowered her voice and asked, "Your Majesty, do you want us to adopt one?"

Xu Tianran shook his head and snorted coldly, "Those old fellows are watching me. How can I adopt and keep things from them? They have people in the infirmary. We can't mess this up. This is why we must make it real. Do you still remember? I mentioned that we can't artificially inseminate you. Even though I can't speak to anyone of this, I can still request a relative to find a 'seedling' for you. This kid will be my heir."

### **Chapter 485.1: I'm Not Dead?**

Ju Zi was horrified. She turned around and kneeled once again. "No, Your Majesty. No, I can't do that. How can I bear someone else's child? I'm your Ju Zi, and will only be your Ju Zi. No, I don't agree."

Xu Tianran was a little stunned, and was also a little touched as he looked at Ju Zi. This was the first time she had dared to resist his orders ever since he had saved her. However, this resistance stroked his ego.

"If possible, no one will want his wife to have someone else's kid. However, I have no choice. I can only do this to shut everyone up. I've even selected the candidate. He's an authentic bearer of the royal blood lineage, and he's a distant cousin of mine. Due to a mutation of his martial soul, he's not even a soul master now, and he holds a very lowly position in the royal family. Apart from you, no one else must know about this. I'll ask someone to teach you how to carry it out. After that, you'll retrieve the 'seedling' from his body and implant it into your own body. After that, he'll be killed. No one will know this secret then. Don't worry, I am infertile. The child you bear will be ours. I'll treat him like our biological son. When I turn a hundred years, he'll inherit the throne. Perhaps we might rule the entire Douluo Continent by then."

Ju Zi lifted her head and looked at Xu Tianran pitifully, "Your Majesty, is there no other way? I am really unwilling to do this."

Xu Tianran's expression turned cold and he said, "Alright, that's final. Do you really think I want to do this? I feel heartache doing it too. Alright, with that sort of plan, you'll be touched by another guy. Go and prepare first. I'll get someone to teach you how to do it, and I'll get the Imperial Physician to take a look at your body. These few days are the best time for you to be impregnated."

"Yes." Ju Zi shuddered a little and eventually agreed to his words. She kowtowed to him respectfully.

Xu Tianran's expression turned gentler. He lifted her up for the third time and patted her back. "Silly girl, don't think too much. I already told you that I'll treat the child you bear as our own. Only I have the right to be his father. You can go now."

"Yes, Your Majesty." Ju Zi indignantly made her way out after bowing to Xu Tianran.

After exiting, a heavy look gradually appeared on Ju Zi's face. However, there was a cold intent that flashed across her eyes.

Xu Tianran, why didn't I realize that I'll only be your pawn? Even the closest pawn is still a pawn.

.....

When Huo Yuhao regained consciousness, he was stunned to discover that he was in a clean room. The room also looked very familiar to him. Everything around him was familiar, including the aura.

Where am I? He was a little puzzled.

Everything that had happened earlier replayed itself in his memories.

Didn't I meet the Darkness Holy Dragon and Dragon Emperor Douluo, Long Xiaoyao? Wasn't I stabbed nine times because of his threat? But why don't I feel any pain?

He subconsciously touched his body, and was astonished to discover that there weren't any wounds at all. He then circulated his soul power. His body drifted up above his bed, and there were suddenly strong soul power undulations in the room.

This...

Huo Yuhao was shocked as he sensed everything. He discovered that this soul power was like a strong wave. Just by circulating it slightly, it was actually surging. What's going on? Where exactly am I?

"Bang!" The door opened. A figure rushed in. Wasn't she Nan Qiuqiu?

When she saw Huo Yuhao sitting up, Nan Qiuqiu was delighted. "Ah, Yuhao, you're awake. You're finally awake. What happened exactly!? You were unconscious for seven days."

Huo Yuhao looked at her and was shocked as he asked, "Am, am I really alive?"

Nan Qiuqiu took a few steps forward and pinched his arm with force.

"Aiyo, what are you doing?" Huo Yuhao screamed in pain.

"If you know that it's painful, it obviously means that you aren't in a dream. Of course you aren't dead." Nan Qiuqiu snapped.

Huo Yuhao laughed bitterly. "It's already not easy for me to come back alive, but you still pinched me so hard. Are you still human?"

Nan Qiuqiu furrowed her brow and placed her hands on her waist. She was furious, "How dare you mention it? You didn't even bring me on your adventure to Heaven Dou City. How did Tang Wutong find you the moment she was there? Didn't you say that she isn't Dong'er?"

After hearing her mention Tang Wutong, Huo Yuhao was stunned, and asked, "Did she send me back? Is she fine?"

"How would I know?" Nan Qiuqiu said coldly, "She dumped you here before leaving. She didn't say anything at all, as if she were dumb."

Huo Yuhao furrowed his brow and sighed in his heart. Tang Wutong isn't Dong'er after all! Although I don't know why I'm alive, it seems like the Dragon Emperor Douluo still let her off in the end. It's just that I was critically hurt then, and my life energy was about to fully disappear. Now that I think of it, it seemed like the last stab was blocked by something before it reached my body. That prevented my heart from being struck. Don't tell me the Dragon Emperor Douluo did it intentionally? He's the only one who could do that at that point in time.

However, how did I survive? My injuries were so critical. Furthermore, I don't even feel any pain now. On the other hand, my soul power even seems to have improved. I feel as if I have touched a bottleneck. What exactly is going on?

Huo Yuhao was filled with doubts as he climbed up from the bed. He moved his body. Indeed, it was filled with strength! Everything felt unbelievably good.

It was good to be alive. Furthermore, Huo Yuhao felt that a lot of the pressure on him had been relieved after he went through that near-death experience. The look in his eyes was much more vibrant compared to before. He couldn't help but think of what Wang Dong'er had said to him. Relieving stress from time to time was good for cultivation. "Yes, I've really been under a lot of pressure. I didn't expect this to relieve so much pressure, although the way it was done wasn't very nice."

"Hey, what are you thinking of?" Nan Qiuqiu was displeased as she questioned Huo Yuhao, seeing that he had gone quiet all of a sudden.

Huo Yuhao shook his head and said, "Nothing. Alright, Qiuqiu, how was I when I returned?"

Nan Qiuqiu answered, "Pretty good! You were just in a coma. There was nothing else really. Tang Wutong didn't say anything else. She just seemed very confused. Eldest senior didn't probe further upon seeing that you were fine."

I was fine when I returned? My wounds disappeared? It seems like I can only ask Tang Wutong to know what's going on.

"Qiuqiu, I'll go and see eldest senior first." As he spoke, he walked out.

Nan Qiuqiu chased after him and said, "Don't forget what you promised me. Teacher Xuan seems to be very excited after seeing the metal that you brought back."

"Oh right, don't worry. You won't be excluded." Huo Yuhao smiled.

When Huo Yuhao saw Bei Bei, Bei Bei was dealing with a lot of things. Seeing him entering, Bei Bei was delighted before his expression sank.

"Little junior, you are really incorrigible! I won't let you leave the sect easily no matter what. Every time you leave, you have to get into some trouble. Tell me, what happened this time? Why were you in a coma, and Wutong had to bring you back? She didn't want to say anything. Surely you can tell me what's going on, right?"

Huo Yuhao laughed as he said, "Eldest senior, don't be angry! Nothing happened really. I went to Heaven Dou City to capture an evil soul master, as well as to find out where Teacher Xiao Ya and Sister Xiaotao are at. I searched the city. They aren't there. After that, I met a strong opponent when capturing an evil soul master, which drained me. I might have fallen into a coma because of that. Oh yes, I almost forgot!"

When he mentioned the evil soul master, Huo Yuhao immediately thought of two important questions. He wondered if the evil soul master he had sealed in his storage-type soul tool was alive after so many days. In addition, the Ice Bear King could still be in Heaven Dou City!

"What's wrong?" Bei Bei jumped in shock when he heard Huo Yuhao shout.

Huo Yuhao didn't say anything, but hurriedly poured in his soul power into his storage-type soul tool. A light flashed before an ice statue appeared in front of him.

Huo Yuhao's Ultimate Ice had improved compared to before. He had frozen the evil soul master for at least seven to eight days, but there weren't any signs that it was going to melt. It wasn't even damaged in the slightest. The evil soul master that was frozen was still astonished, and even terrified.

Bei Bei was stunned as he asked, "This is? An evil soul master you caught?"

Huo Yuhao nodded and replied, "Yes! It took me quite a lot of effort to capture this fellow." When he faced the Darkness Holy Dragon, he wasn't fearful at all. However, now that he thought of it, he was actually pretty terrified then. When it came to Long Xiaoyao's cultivation, it was not something that he could surveil using his Spiritual Detection. This was because Long Xiaoyao was spiritually much stronger than him. It was very easy for him to unleash a spiritual barrier that kept out Huo Yuhao's spiritual power. Huo Yuhao had no way of dealing with Long Xiaoyao directly.

Of course, Long Xiaoyao's spiritual power was stronger than his in terms of absolute volume rather than the level of it. Huo Yuhao's spiritual power had reached the concrete-material realm. Even the Dragon Emperor Douluo wasn't at that realm yet. This was the advantage of a spiritual-type soul master. Just like Long Xiaoyao had said, if Huo Yuhao purely cultivated his Spirit Eyes to the standard of a Transcendent Douluo, he might actually be able to fight him. In fact, Huo Yuhao had the confidence of challenging Long Xiaoyao when he considered his Ultimate Ice.

#### **Chapter 485.2: I'm Not Dead?**

Bei Bei came to Huo Yuhao's side. When he saw the ice-sealed evil soul master, he couldn't bother with blaming Huo Yuhao anymore. After all, it was possible to obtain information about Tang Ya from this evil soul master! Even though he was normally very composed, his breathing got heavier now.

Bei Bei lowered his voice and asked, "Can he still recover after being frozen?"

Huo Yuhao said, "He'll be fine if it's within the short-term. However, he has been frozen for quite a while. I didn't expect to be unconscious for so long. Now I'm not confident anymore. However, logically speaking, I still have a chance. After all, this evil soul master is a Soul Sage. Even if he's frozen, his soul power can still protect his body. Let me give it a try."

As he spoke, Huo Yuhao lifted his right hand and pressed against the ice statue.

Gentle ice elements were sucked out under his meticulous control, fusing into his body. This was his second time circulating his soul power after waking up from his coma. Right now, he was much more aware than he had been when he had just woken up. Suddenly, he felt how consolidated his soul power was. It wasn't just his soul power. His spiritual power had increased too. His soul core had become more and more abstruse, as if it were one with the boundless sky around it. This soul core could devour all like a black hole.

What did Long Xiaoyao do to me? Why do I feel such an obvious improvement in my powers? No, when I'm free, I'll need to take a look in the academy, and see how strong my soul power has become.

The ice statue slowly melted under Huo Yuhao's immaculate control. However, no water dripped out. Under Huo Yuhao's control, the ice elements vaporized into the air as soon as the ice melted. This was why the room seemed a little moister than usual.



Slowly, the ice disappeared. The original form of the evil soul master was also revealed. His complexion became softer, but his bodily functions were still not working.

Very soon, the ice melted completely. Huo Yuhao's eyes turned dim-grey, and he muttered a few incantations. After this, he smacked the evil soul master's left chest.

It was his third martial soul, his Necromancer martial soul.

Huo Yuhao couldn't use his Ultimate Ice or Spirit Eyes' spiritual power to summon this evil soul master. Otherwise, the other party would develop a great resistance against it due to the massive difference in the elemental types, and it would harm him. At such a moment, the powers of his Necromancer martial soul would be useful. To some extent, a part of Huo Yuhao's powers belonged to the same origins as evil soul masters when he used his Necromancer martial soul.

A dark and sinister power surged into the evil soul master's body, stimulating his heart. The pressure exerted on his heart caused his blood to flow once again. Under Huo Yuhao's control, his blood started to flow with some rhythm once again. After this, Huo Yuhao started to summon his brain.

Everything around him became distorted. Huo Yuhao was using his Imitation right now.

His Imitation combined with his Spiritual Interference Domain, causing the lights in Bei Bei's office to dim. In addition, the entire room was filled with a sinister aura.

Huo Yuhao shot a look at Bei Bei. Bei Bei nodded and called Nan Qiuqiu to a dark corner of the room. Although she didn't know what Huo Yuhao was going to do, she knew that he must have some plan to deal with the evil soul master.

Just like what Huo Yuhao had mentioned, the life energy of an evil soul master who was a Soul Sage was very strong. This evil soul master's heartbeat was slowly returning to normal. It was enough to send blood to all parts of his body. He was also slowly regaining his awareness.

Huo Yuhao was delighted. It seemed like this evil soul master hadn't suffered any real harm. In this way, he was more confident in waking this evil soul master from his sleep. His vital signs were all fine. He wasn't too heavily hurt from Huo Yuhao's Ultimate Ice.

Huo Yuhao retrieved a huge black veil from his storage-type soul tool before he put it on. He felt even more sinister and mysterious right now. Dim-greyish air currents revolved around him. As he lifted his left hand, he used his Imitation to form a magic staff with a skull-shaped gem at the top of it. He stood there silently and waited.

Finally, that evil soul master slowly regained consciousness. When he opened his eyes, he suddenly felt that he was in a comfortable environment. Furthermore, there were even rings of air revolving around him, supporting his body so that he didn't fall.

"Where is this place?" He was evidently a little confused, as he had just awoken.

Huo Yuhao's voice became low-pitched and hoarse. He coldly said, "Are you asking where you are?" As he spoke, he snorted, and his immense spiritual power gently touched the evil soul master's head.

The evil soul master was shocked, and immediately regained even further awareness. When he saw Huo Yuhao and the greyish current around him, he was shocked. Huo Yuhao was exuding a very strong

spectral aura. Right now, the undulations that Huo Yuhao had managed to imitate were actually those of a Titled Douluo.

He was the most adept at this. He was imitating his own teacher, Electrolux, right now. Even though he didn't have the same divine sense as Electrolux, he could still imitate his aura.

This evil soul master wasn't fully conscious, and his soul power was still in the process of recovery. His senses weren't very acute. It was like the break of dawn, when someone just woke up from their sleep. He only felt as if Huo Yuhao were extremely strong, but his aura was the same. It was the aura of evil soul masters.

The evil soul master was unsure as he asked, "You, you are..."

"You don't need to know who I am." Huo Yuhao said coldly, "You just need to tell me what happened. Why did you faint by the side of the palace? Who knocked you out?"

The evil Soul Sage subconsciously answered, "A Soul Sage invaded the palace and killed one of my subordinates. After I discovered him, I immediately chased him. I gained the upper hand at first, but that person suddenly turned around. I fell into a trance before my entire body felt very cold. After that, I don't know what happened."

"Are you telling the truth? Did you miss anything?" Huo Yuhao said coldly. At the same time, he was also silently unleashing his spiritual power to influence the evil Soul Sage's mind.

"Of course I am. Who exactly are you?" The evil Soul Sage seemed to clear his mind at this moment. He also looked a little skeptical as he looked at Huo Yuhao.

"You don't have to care who I am." Huo Yuhao answered, "I already said that knowing more won't help you. You just need to know that Sect Leader Zhong Li sent me over to supervise all of you."

"You, you're from the Imperial Shrine?" The evil Soul Sage seemed to have heard something terrifying, and his voice started trembling.

Imperial Shrine??Huo Yuhao was moved. He seemed to remember people calling the Holy Ghost Church that before.?Then Long Xiaoyao seems to be a member of the Imperial Shrine. He must hold a high position too.

"It's good that you know. Tell me, what else have you missed? Also, what does the person who knocked you out look like?"

The evil Soul Sage laughed bitterly. "I really don't remember, Sir."

"Since you can't remember, I'll help you do so. Don't resist, otherwise you'll bear the ramifications." As he spoke, Huo Yuhao started reciting incantations. His voice became low-pitched and hoarse, but there seemed to be some special magical power about it.

The evil Soul Sage looked at him dumbfoundedly and let him recite his incantations. Bei Bei also started to break out in a sweat.?This guy is too brazen. Although I don't know what he's doing, trouble might brew if that evil Soul Sage fights back and attacks him.

However, Huo Yuhao was very good at this. In addition, his Necromancer abilities were too similar to those of evil soul masters, such that the evil Soul Sage threw away his doubts after sensing Huo Yuhao's strong necromantic aura. Huo Yuhao's aura was simply too strong. He couldn't resist at all. Moreover, the Imperial Shrine was very respected in the Holy Ghost Church. The evil Soul Sage wasn't in any position to put up any resistance.

A layer of pale white light drifted up from Huo Yuhao's body as he started reciting incantations. Slowly, this pale white light formed flames, which started burning between him and the evil Soul Sage.

The evil Soul Sage felt his spirit being sucked away just by taking a look. Slowly, he began to appear very dazed and lost. He seemed to enter a very weird state, as if he had lost his spirit.

This was the Fire of Spiritual Control. It was a strong spell that Electrolux had once used to control some powerful individuals before. However, this spell caused a great backlash too. Unless the other party's cultivation was far weaker, even Electrolux wouldn't use it easily.

Although the evil Soul Sage had around the same soul power cultivation as Huo Yuhao, their spiritual powers were vastly different. Moreover, the evil Soul Sage was still very weak after he was unfrozen. How could he possibly resist the Fire of Spiritual Control?

"What is your name?" Huo Yuhao asked coldly.

"I'm called Chu Yanwei." The evil soul master replied dazedly.

"What is your mission in the Heavenly Soul Empire?" Huo Yuhao asked.

"My mission is to aid the Nightmare Douluo and supervise the Sun Moon Empire's control over the Heavenly Soul Empire. At the same time, I'm here to gather more resources. I am to listen to the Nightmare Douluo's instructions."

"Where are the two Holy Ladies?" After preparing for so long, Huo Yuhao finally asked the question he was most concerned about.

In the corner, Bei Bei also clenched his fists and stared at Chu Yanwei.

### **Chapter 485.3: I'm Not Dead?**

Chu Yanwei was still a little dazed as he replied, "Out of the two Holy Ladies, one of them is at the frontline. The other one seems to be in trouble. I heard she was locked away and imprisoned at headquarters."

Frontline and headquarters!

Huo Yuhao was delighted, and continued probing, "Where is the headquarters?"

"Headquarters? It's..." Just as he spoke until here, his pupils dilated. Following this, he started to shake tremendously, and his body began to balloon at an incredible speed.

"Shit!" Huo Yuhao shouted. He turned around and leaped towards Nan Qiuqiu and Bei Bei. At the same time, he quickly switched his martial soul to his Ice Jade Empress Scorpion. He smacked Chu Yanwei's body, causing it to expand at a slower speed.

Three figures rushed out of the room simultaneously. After this, a loud explosion sound was heard.

There were even sizzling sounds along with the explosion. Bei Bei's office was blown apart. The huge explosive force went all the way into the sky, forming a greyish mushroom cloud. It was about to spread.

Huo Yuhao didn't dare to delay any further. He mimicked a lifting action, and a strong tornado was unleashed from his hands. His Ultimate Ice soul power shot into the sky, turning into countless snowflakes. These snowflakes engulfed the greyish fog in the air before sending it further up into the sky.

Huo Yuhao charged up following this, controlling his snowflakes. He froze them before turning them into a giant, greyish ice ball. After that, he put this ball away in his storage-type soul tool. This prevented the lethal poison from spreading.

This explosion alarmed the entire Tang Sect. Very soon, many senior figures from the Tang Sect gathered.

"Little junior, are you hurt?" Bei Bei flew to Huo Yuhao's side.

Huo Yuhao shook his head before landing.

"I'm fine. I just didn't expect that some kind of curse was actually placed on Chu Yanwei's body by some senior evil soul master. This soul master's method is really weird."

Bei Bei was also given a shock. He could still clearly remember that the explosion of an evil soul master's corpse that hurt many of his seniors during the Continental Advanced Soul Master Academy Soul Dueling Tournament when he was still a reserve squad member of Shrek Academy. That was also the reason why they were chosen to compete for the academy.

It was a Soul Sage who had blown up earlier. Fortunately, the body of that Soul Sage was very weak, which was why the strength of the explosion wasn't too great. Otherwise, the three of them might not have been able to escape in time.

Bei Bei asked, "Little junior, what's this curse you're talking about?"

Huo Yuhao replied, "If I'm not wrong, it must have been placed by a Titled Douluo. This Titled Douluo must have grown some kind of weird soul power in Chu Yanwei's body. There's even a spiritual aura to this soul power which is tightly connected to Chu Yanwei's own soul and spiritual origins. When he's about to reveal some secret, he would initiate an explosion using his own soul and spiritual power, just like what we saw earlier. Evidently, anything on the Holy Ghost Church's headquarters is top secret."

Bei Bei nodded.

Huo Yuhao smiled and said, "However, we've already achieved our goal. Teacher Xiao Ya is at the frontlines of the Heavenly Soul Empire. This is valuable information. Sister Xiaotao is at the headquarters. It seems like she's unable to repress the evil fire in her. We must think of a way to quickly find her so that I can help her. Otherwise, she'll do a lot of things she doesn't want to once she loses her rationality."

Although Huo Yuhao didn't explicitly say anything, Bei Bei understood what he meant. Right now, everyone else had already surrounded them.

Xu Sanshi, Jiang Nannan, Xiao Xiao and even He Caitou were here. Seeing that Huo Yuhao had awoken, they were all delighted. They only knew what had happened after asking him.

Xu Sanshi looked at Bei Bei. "How? No matter where, I'll follow you. When are we setting off?"

There was a complex look in Bei Bei's eyes. He unwittingly clenched his fist, and his breathing had evidently become heavier.

This was their first time receiving accurate information on Tang Ya ever since their second tournament. It would be a lie to say that he wasn't anxious at all. However, the Sun Moon Empire had deployed a few soul engineer legions at the frontline. There were evil soul masters from the Holy Ghost Church there too. It would be extremely difficult for them to save Xiao Ya. Furthermore, the Tang Sect was in a very important developmental stage right now. If everyone was brought along on this mission, failure would affect the future development of the sect.

"For my own selfish reasons, I can't..." Bei Bei said achingly.

"Eldest senior, don't put it that way. If not for Teacher Xiao Ya, there wouldn't be a Tang Sect. Third senior is right. No matter what, we'll follow you on this trip. We must save Teacher Xiao Ya." Huo Yuhao said with determination.

Jiang Nannan, Xiao Xiao, He Caitou, Ji Juechen and Jing Ziyang all nodded their heads. They all looked very determined.

"Thanks, thanks everyone." Bei Bei peered into the sky. Normally, he was very composed. However, he was clenching his lips tightly right now. He was well-aware that they would face many problems if they all went on this trip. Although they were from the Tang Sect, everyone knew that the Tang Sect and Shrek Academy were almost the same. Once they embroiled themselves in the war, it undoubtedly meant that Shrek Academy would be joining the war. This would affect the entire academy!

"Bei Bei, make your choice." Xu Sanshi said.

Bei Bei looked at everyone and said heavily, "This matter is of vital importance. I can't decide alone. It's not even something that the Tang Sect can decide. Go get busy first. I'll ask Elder Xuan and see what he thinks."

Everyone nodded. If they wanted to save Tang Ya, they would need to consult the academy first. In addition, they would be more likely to succeed if they had the academy's support.

"Little junior, follow me." Bei Bei looked at Huo Yuhao.

"Alright."

Huo Yuhao returned to his room to wash up and change his clothes. As he changed his clothes, he couldn't help but think about where his bloodstained clothes had disappeared to. "Did Tang Wutong change my clothes for me? I really have to ask her what happened when I go to the academy this time."

Bei Bei and Huo Yuhao left the Tang Sect and rushed to the academy. On the way, Bei Bei told him about the sect's development during this period of time.

According to the academy's plan, the three soul engineer legions were in the process of being established. A huge amount of resources had been gathered, and the Tang Sect and the Soul Tool Department of the academy were doing their best to establish these three soul engineer legions.

The threat posed by the Sun Moon Empire was simply too great, such that the Dou Ling Empire and the Star Luo Empire had great support for their efforts.

In terms of soul tool technology, these two empires were lagging slightly behind. At least they weren't on the same level as Shrek Academy. The academy agreed to supply soul tools to them at cost price when they had manufactured sufficient soul tools. These soul tools could be used to resist the Sun Moon Empire.

According to their current progress, the soul engineer legions would be fully equipped in less than a year's time. The three soul engineer legions were already being trained under Xian Lin'er and Qian Duoduo's tutelage. All the inner courtyard students were involved in the training. They were going to be the main force in the future, and they were also going to be the elite force. In terms of soul masters, Shrek Academy never had to fear anyone else.

The Tang Sect was basically on the right track now. There were more and more disciples in the sect too. Many of them came from the academy, especially from the Soul Tool Hall. Basically, the sect was the same entity as Shrek's Soul Tool Department. The students nurtured by the academy had to be tested in the Soul Tool Hall first. This was a win-win situation for both the Tang Sect and Shrek Academy. Furthermore, the students had many rare metals to experiment with. This was especially beneficial to their cultivation, which was met with great approval from the vast majority of teachers and students.

It wasn't far to travel from the sect to the academy. In just a while, the two of them were already at the east gate of the academy.

Ever since the new Shrek City was built, the academy was fully encompassed within the city. It was no longer at the edge of the city anymore. Huo Yuhao also asked about the situation at the Spirit Pagoda. The overall development of the Spirit Pagoda was stalled by the war. However, the academy had experienced great development. Following the increase in the number of successful Spirits, more old and dying soul beasts were willing to offer themselves. Furthermore, the establishment of the Spirit Pagoda also reduced the number of humans entering the Great Star Dou Forest to hunt for soul beasts. This fulfilled Huo Yuhao's wish when he had first established the Spirit Pagoda. Indeed, there were a few good things going on.