

Tang Sect 561

Chapter 561.1: Frantically Cultivating

In the Imperial Palace within Radiant City, the Sun Moon Empire.

A secret letter was lying on Xu Tianran's desk. There was an adorable orange mandarin (Ju Zi) logo at the opening of the envelope.

After receiving this letter, Xu Tianran couldn't help but reveal a gentle smile. It seems like Ju Zi's letter is finally here. I wonder how she'll handle the current situation.

A thorough search had been conducted for the past few days, but they were still unable to locate their enemies. It seemed as though they had disappeared without leaving a trace after sneaking an attack on Radiant City. This was completely unbelievable.

Xu Tianran was starting to worry that the enemies really possessed some sort of spatial technology like Elder Kong had suggested. If his foes really possessed such technologies, their next attack could take place within Radiant City!

After opening the envelope, Xu Tianran took out the letter. This envelope had been sealed with a certain kind of soul tool that was able to destroy the letter if the person did not know how to properly unseal the envelope.

Ju Zi's beautiful handwriting decorated the entire letter. Her words seemed to convey the respect she had for Xu Tianran.

Xu Tianran already felt happier just from looking at her words. He started to wonder if he had gone overboard when Ju Zi asked him about whether she could bring the Prince to the battlefield with her. He felt that perhaps his reply should have been more positive. However, he believed that he had already repaid her loyalty with the trust he had shown her by giving her control over the army.

As he thought about this, Xu Tianran began to read the contents of the letter. While he was reading, the changes in his facial expression were extremely drastic. While he revealed a startled expression at times, he was more often than not admiring what Ju Zi had done. He was full of praise for her.

I can't believe she thought of such a good way to tackle the cumbersome situation. She really is the War God Empress of the Sun Moon Empire! Ju Zi is really the person I trust the most.

The main theme of Ju Zi's letter only contained these three words.

Do not attack!

They would surround Shrek City, but would not attack it. She planned to draw all the forces that shared a relationship with Shrek City to the place where their current camp was set up. They would set up their defensive lines outside their camp and reinforce these lines with their linked defensive soul tools. They would not initiate an attack, as they gave Shrek City a relatively long deadline to turn Huo Yuhao in. Once the Star Luo Empire and Dou Ling Empire's troops gathered at Shrek City, they would have achieved their objective. They could then be a lot more flexible with who their real target was.

And if the enemy force that attacked Radiant City were to be in contact with the Shrek Academy, they would definitely retreat unconditionally to help defend Shrek City. The two soul engineer legions would definitely be useful for the battle at Shrek City. This meant that regardless of what capabilities this team possessed, they could only use them to fight the Sun Moon Empire directly on the battlefield. And when it came to such head-on battles, the Sun Moon Empire was almost invincible.

“Good, good, good!” Xu Tianran exclaimed in delight. His injuries seemed to have gotten better by a little bit. He immediately penned a reply, and ordered his subordinates to rush his letter to the front line.

He told Ju Zi to decide the next course of action by herself, and not to worry about the situation back at Radiant City. He informed her that the Imperial Soul Engineer Legion had returned to Radiant City to protect the palace, and was waiting for favorable news from the front line.

Once again, Ju Zi had used her wisdom to gain more trust from Xu Tianran. He seemed to believe that the Star Luo Empire and Dou Ling Empire had already fallen into his hands. He felt that Shrek City was but another city after all. It should not be impossible to destroy it.

To be honest, Xu Tianran did not want to destroy Shrek City. Instead, he wanted to see Shrek City bow to him, because that would give him the strongest sense of accomplishment.

When Xu Tianran was younger, he had once fantasized about the Shrek Academy—the number one academy on the entire continent. Xu Tianran would only be happier if Shrek City would willingly join and be a part of the Sun Moon Empire. If that were to happen, every secret about soul masters that the academy would uncover would belong to the Sun Moon Empire. They might be able to draw some insights from martial souls and find a way to heal limbs—especially that limb which only males had...

Xu Tianran immediately became uncontrollably excited the moment this idea entered his head. A powerful desire enveloped his mind as he thought about Ju Zi. How could he not love his beautiful and capable War God Empress? She was his Empress, after all! However, he was somehow unable to conquer her body physically, and such miseries were deadly for any man. Even Xu Tianran—the Emperor of the Sun Moon Empire—was no exception.

In the Sun Moon Empire’s Commander’s Tent outside of Shrek City!

Ju Zi was sitting in the Commander’s seat as she read the reconnaissance reports which had been submitted to her. A faint smile was forming on her face.

Shrek City? Why would I attack Shrek City? This Academy holds great significance to that man. Regardless of what happens, I will never destroy Shrek City and the Academy recklessly. However, this will not affect my plans to attack the other empires—especially the Star Luo Empire!

Even though the hatred within Ju Zi’s heart had slowly faded away, that did not necessarily mean she had forgotten about it. Conversely, she now felt as if everything was under her control, and looked forward to that day’s arrival.

If the Star Luo Empire had not destroyed my homeland and turned me into a helpless orphan, I would not have met Xu Tianran.

Hence, she knew she must destroy the Star Luo Empire in the future in order to relieve herself from the deep hatred which lay in her heart.

However, her current target was not the Star Luo Empire.

“Empress!” A dark figure suddenly appeared in the Commander’s Tent without any warning.

Ju Zi had long been accustomed to the way this person arrived. She stood up slowly and flashed a smile. “Imperial Tutor, you’re here.”

“Yes.” Zhongli Wu nodded as he strolled closer to Ju Zi before stopping. “Empress, have you decided when we will attack Shrek City?”

Ju Zi replied, “There are still eight more days before the deadline arrives. You need to be patient.”

“Empress, do you really plan to be honest with Shrek City?” Zhongli Wu replied coldly, “I believe the academy had already started to ask for help from all over the entire continent. Before long, reinforcements from Star Luo Empire and the Dou Ling Empire will arrive. When that happens, we will need to sustain huge costs in order to destroy them. You must think about the injuries and deaths we will have to sustain when that happens. With our current strength, we can flatten Shrek City anytime as we will.”

Ju Zi shook her head gently and said, “I believe Imperial Tutor must be extremely familiar with Shrek Academy. Since that’s the case, what do you think will be the cost for our victory if we are to force an attack on them right now?”

Zhongli Wu was a little startled as he replied, “Shrek Academy has taken in the remaining bastards from the Heavenly Soul Empire. Even if we were to factor in their own city defense army, their numbers would still pale in comparison to ours. After all, we have an eight hundred thousand strong army, with eight soul engineer legions. We should be able to destroy their defensive lines just with our soul engineer legions.”

Ju Zi said, “No, it won’t be that simple. Based on the data we have collected, it seems like Shrek Academy already possesses the ability to manufacture Class 9 stationary soul cannon shells. As for the exact number of shells which they have produced, we have yet to obtain any reliable data. In addition, the academy has countless powerful soul masters. Almost every single elder within the Sea God’s Pavilion possesses abilities which rivalled that of a Transcendent Douluo. If we were to force their hand, I am unsure what this powerful academy with over ten thousand years of history is capable of. Right now, the best strategy for us is to surround them, but not attack them. As for the reinforcements you were mentioning earlier, they are the people I want to see the most. It would best if they were to turn up here.”

Zhongli Wu squinted after listening to Ju Zi’s words. He was not a fool, as he seemed to have sensed something after hearing what she said. “Empress, does this mean you don’t plan to attack Shrek City?”

Ju Zi said, “It is not the right time yet. The Imperial Dragon Soul Engineer Legion and the Evileye Tyrant Soul Engineer Legion have just set off the night before last. Our army camp looks the same, but we already have fifty thousand troops leaving the camp and cooperating with the two soul engineer legions.

We just need to attract Shrek Academy's attention here at the front line. Even though it is not the right time to attack, we can still launch feint attacks once in a while."

Zhongli Wu's breathing started to become uneven as he said authoritatively, "With the current power we have, we can definitely take them down if we were to put in our best effort. Even if they try to retaliate, we definitely possess the ability to suppress them. Once Shrek City falls, the psychological support that the Star Luo Empire and Dou Ling Empire depend on will disappear. This means the entire continent will definitely be ours sooner or later. I don't understand why you want to delay the entire plan!"

Ju Zi replied plainly, "Imperial Tutor, I want to remind you of your appointment. You are the military supervisor—not the commander. When it pertains to tactical and strategic matters, I will be the one calling the shots. If you are unsatisfied with any of my plans, feel free to take it up with His Majesty. If His Majesty does not agree with my plans, I am definitely willing to change them."

Zhongli Wu's breathing started to become rapid. For inexplicable reasons, he seemed to fear Ju Zi a little. But of course, he did not fear her for her fighting power. He could definitely destroy Ju Zi easily in a fight with the ability that she possessed. However, she was truly frightening when it came to leading troops and strategizing warfare. It was almost as though she was assisted by God himself.

Even though Zhongli Wu was not a young man anymore, he was still unable to fully appreciate and understand her military arrangements. Nonetheless, her inspiring tactics were always able to decide victory, even when he did not understand them.

Hence, he really did not dare to offend Ju Zi. Furthermore, she had the support of multiple Class 9 soul engineers around her. Even though he had brought several powerful cultivators from the Holy Ghost Church along with him, soul engineers were not as frightened of evil soul masters as regular soul masters were.

"Hmph! Take care then, Empress." Zhongli Wu waved the sleeve of his robe as he turned and left.

Ju Zi looked at the back of his figure and flashed a faint smile. "In that case, I will not be sending you off."

Chapter 561.2: Frantically Cultivating

It was common for the commander and the military supervisor from any country and any point in time in history to share conflicting opinions. After all, there was a reason why military supervisors existed.

Zhongli Wu was naturally not the military supervisor who Xu Tianran wanted to send over. However, the Holy Ghost Church was simply too powerful, so he had no choice but to do so. The Holy Ghost Church had long been trying to create a bigger presence within the Sun Moon Empire's army.

However, the effects of their participation had never gone particularly well. After all, evil soul masters were often ostracized by most people—regardless of whether they were soul masters or soul engineers.

After watching Zhongli Wu leave the tent, Ju Zi squinted as she crossed her arms in front of her chest.

These annoying evil soul masters... With them around, it will be very difficult for me to execute my plan perfectly. If there's a chance...

Their use for the Holy Ghost Church had been diminishing for a while. After the Body Sect had been completely destroyed, the only use for the Holy Ghost Church was to fight against the powerful cultivators from Shrek Academy. If not for the existence of two Ultimate Douluo within the Holy Ghost Church, Xu Tianran would have long since employed a method to force them to surrender to him.

When it came to dealing with the Holy Ghost Church, both Ju Zi and Xu Tianran had the same ideas. This sect which was full of evil soul masters was bound to create trouble for them in the future. Once the Sun Moon Empire conquered the entire continent, the Holy Ghost Church would definitely think of a way to wrest the throne for themselves. With regards to how exactly they would do it, both Xu Tianran and Ju Zi were certain that those mysterious evil soul masters must have their own ways to achieve that.

Knowing how her son would become the future ruler of the entire continent, Ju Zi was determined to not let the Holy Ghost Church succeed in their scheme.

However, the thought of her son made Ju Zi's body tremble as the harsh look in her eyes became gentler.

Before she left Radiant City, she had gotten the help of an extremely powerful individual within the Sun Moon Empire to protect her son. She was not afraid that an external enemy would target her son. On the contrary, she was worried about the Holy Ghost Church! Now, she was most afraid that the Holy Ghost Church would take action against her son, Xu Yunhan. That would truly be horrifying.

The actual battle on the battlefield must end as soon as possible. It was only after the war had ended that she could finally return to Radiant City and make her next move.

A faint cold look appeared in Ju Zi's pupils. The task which she was about to embark on was not just about conquering the entire continent. Besides, there was no need to rush the process.

Within the Tang Sect in Shrek City.

"Hummmm!" Huo Yuhao's spiritual soul core vibrated intensely as it continued to radiate powerful spiritual fluctuations from within his body.

His Eye of Destiny had somehow opened itself without him even knowing about it. The light from the spiritual soul core sparkled within the dark room. However, it never stopped vibrating and trembling in an unstable manner.

Huo Yuhao looked more determined than ever.

The fluid-like spiritual power that Elder Mu had left for him to control the spiritual soul core had already disappeared. After absorbing that spiritual power, his spiritual soul core had become a lot stronger. At the same time, it had also bought precious time for Huo Yuhao.

Now, the Ultimate Ice soul core at his chest area had become a lot stronger and larger as well. The speed at which it was rotating was no longer observable by the human eye.

Huo Yuhao didn't know exactly how much longer he persevered with Elder Mu's help, but he had witnessed the Ultimate Ice soul core at his chest area grow more than three times its original size in this amount of time.

Even though the Ultimate Ice soul core had yet to take on a shape, it was no longer as fragile and feeble as before. It had become a lot stronger, and seemed to be as solid as an ice crystal. The effects of its rotation speed on his spiritual soul core were also becoming greater.

The mutual collision between the two soul cores caused Huo Yuhao to tremble uncontrollably.

Once again, the Snow Empress and Ice Empress showcased their abilities. In fact, they had been going about their tasks in an extremely stable manner.

Under the effects of the Dragon Pill, Huo Yuhao's body had become a lot stronger. He was at the very least able to persevere till now.

Even though the Star Anise was not making any moves, Little Bai had been supporting Huo Yuhao by using his power to fortify his passageways and internal organs.

Li Ya had taken a break after Elder Mu's spiritual power had fused into Huo Yuhao's body. Now, she was getting ready to lend a hand when necessary.

Right now, the Yin Yang Complement technique was at a stage where it was already too late to back out. Huo Yuhao was clear that if he were to fail now, he would not only be sustaining injuries. This was because the Ultimate Ice ball of energy at his chest area had already become considerably strong. It had already absorbed close to thirty percent of his soul power.

Even though this amount of soul power was still insufficient to form a soul core, the compressed extreme energy was still able to blow his dragon blood enhanced body to pieces if it were to explode.

He stabilized his focus and continued his current state. After all the tribulations he had gone through, Huo Yuhao was able to keep himself calm and focused during times like this.

If he were to still fail even with the help of his six Spirits and Elder Mu, there was little chance that he could succeed in the future.

Hence, he had to persevere and push on no matter what. He only had one shot at this.

Right now, his spiritual soul core was rotating in a furious manner. It was apparent that the spiritual power that Elder Mu had injected into his head was only able to temporarily delay it. At the same time, it had nourished the spiritual soul core and made it a lot stronger. The energy that the spiritual soul core was radiating now was becoming a lot stronger. It was attacking Huo Yuhao's determination like waves hitting the shore.

The spiritual power that was released by the spiritual soul core under Huo Yuhao's control would immediately be torn up by the Ultimate Ice soul core whenever it got close to it. The spiritual soul core would then have no choice but to gather the torn bits and reabsorb them. Hence, the spiritual soul core was becoming increasingly enraged. How could it sit and wait as someone attempted to snatch its territory?

The temperature in the laboratory started to dip as the Star Anise Mysterious Ice Grass crept out of Huo Yuhao's body silently. Its icy blue leaves radiated a gentle glow, which seemed to be dissipating its energy.

Star Anise Icy Coagulation!

The Star Anise Mysterious Ice Grass was rapidly absorbing the Ultimate Ice aura in the air before it transferred it back into Huo Yuhao's body. The energy was then passed over to the Snow Empress for her to replenish her expended energy.

Huo Yuhao was unable to sense all of this because all of his attention had already been invested in his spiritual soul core.

After an unknown amount of time had passed, the intense pain which came from the spiritual soul core's mindless ravaging pushed Huo Yuhao to his limits once again. His body—which had been nourished and enhanced by the Dragon Pill—was showing signs of tearing up again.

Even though Li Ya had already jumped in to help him, she was no longer able to restrain the spiritual soul core, which was practically going insane by now. She could only help to slightly stabilize the energy within it.

Suddenly, an icy blue current moved upwards.

The Snow Empress' ice crystal had finally moved once again. It was heading upwards again. The Snow Empress' spiritual aura was as cold and tough as Huo Yuhao's Sigh of the Snow Goddess. It instantly pierced Huo Yuhao's spiritual soul core without any difficulty. It was as if the soul core had a bucket of ice water poured on it, and it paused momentarily.

Following which, the ice crystal which was formed by the Snow Empress suddenly exploded to form streaks of energy which gushed towards the rapidly rotating ball of Ultimate Ice soul power.

Snow Empress!

Even though Huo Yuhao was in an unbelievable amount of pain, he could still sense what the Snow Empress had done for him.

Although he did not know what kind of harm the Snow Empress had inflicted upon herself, he was still able to sense her determination to help him at all costs.

Snow Empress!

"Hummmm!" The ball of Ultimate Ice energy which was at his chest started to vibrate with an unprecedented intensity before huge amounts of energy spurted out of it like a geyser.

Huo Yuhao felt his chest contract rapidly as the spiritual power which was swarming towards his chest disintegrated instantly. The pain he had been withstanding also disappeared temporarily.

The Ultimate Ice energy that was released from the ice crystal's explosion was very pure. It was like ice belts, which latched themselves onto the ball of Ultimate Ice energy.

Instead of slowing down, the ball of Ultimate Ice energy was somehow able to rotate faster after the ice belts attached themselves to it. During its rapid rotation, the ball of Ultimate Ice energy was constantly emitting a loud humming sound. The Ultimate Ice energy within the ball was being heavily compressed at an insane speed as a powerful sensation was released from Huo Yuhao's chest to his surroundings.

The ball of Ultimate Ice energy was actually able to expand itself to ten times its original size in a couple of seconds. Just when it was about to take up Huo Yuhao's entire chest cavity, it suddenly contracted to its original size, as though it was compressed by a mysterious force.

The color of the soul core had also changed along with the series of strange transformations. It had become dark blue. One could also notice a patch of darkness surrounding the crystal clear dark blue ball of energy.

Soul core? Is this how it's supposed to look like? At the very least, it looks like a soul core that has begun to take shape.

Huo Yuhao was startled by the sight before him. Based on his estimations, he should have required thrice as much as time as it had taken, and an enormous amount of Ultimate Ice energy, to reach the current state of his soul core! However, the Snow Empress' sudden intervention seemed to have allowed the soul core to directly take shape. The rapid transformation was no longer just awe-inspiring—it was simply miraculous!

Snow Empress, what exactly did you do?

The spiritual soul core launched an attack once again after being temporarily stunned by the Snow Empress' spiritual shock. This time around, Huo Yuhao was not able to completely block the unparalleled spiritual power that was going straight for the Ultimate Ice soul core, which had just taken shape in Huo Yuhao's chest. The intense spiritual power fluctuations seemed to illustrate the murderous intent that his spiritual soul core had towards his Ultimate Ice soul core.

However, Huo Yuhao did not sense any pain at this instant. Instead, he felt a mysterious cooling sensation in his chest.

Just when the crazy spiritual power was about to collide with the Ultimate Ice soul core, a powerful intent infused with Ultimate Ice energy suddenly surged out and froze the spiritual power instantly.

Yes, it had just frozen the spiritual power.

Spiritual power can actually be frozen??Huo Yuhao was utterly shocked by what he had just witnessed.

Chapter 561.3: Frantically Cultivating

Streaks of Ultimate Ice energy ascended like sashes as they streamed towards the spiritual soul core. It seemed like they were planning to retaliate against the spiritual soul core.

What Huo Yuhao could not see was how the Star Anise Mysterious Ice Grass was already trembling intensely as it tried to release its Star Anise Icy Coagulation with the maximum possible power. Its every single leaf had become transparent as it tried to devour every single bit of ice-type elemental energy within the room. During this process, strong gusts of icy wind started to blow within the room.

Little Bai's protection over Huo Yuhao's body had also suddenly stopped. Countless tiny balls of white energy were surging towards Huo Yuhao's Ultimate Ice soul core and fusing with it under its control.

The Ice Jade Empress Scorpion's torso bone was also releasing jade green fluid towards the Ultimate Ice soul core under the Ice Empress' control.

“In my name, Spirit of the Icesky Snow Lady, Fuse!”

“Booommm!”

Huo Yuhao’s entire body started to tremble. He felt as if his chest and entire body had exploded at this instant, rendering him incapable of thinking. His entire intent and consciousness seemed to be ravaged by a mysterious force. Along with his spiritual soul core, his mind went completely blank.

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In the Slaughtering Grounds within the Core Region of the Great Star Dou Forest.

The Lake of Life was so still that it resembled a gigantic emerald gem. It was surrounded by plants that were full of vitality. One could sense the life energy that the Lake of Life was emitting by simply breathing the air around it.

Unfortunately, this was forbidden ground for all living things which possessed power.

“Boooooom” An intense explosion interrupted mother nature’s peace and serenity. A black figure rose from the center of the Lake of Life, sending water splashing everywhere.

The lake water was immediately transformed into mist, which encircled the black figure before being absorbed by him. Following which, the black figure continued to float in mid-air.

His long hair drooped down by the sides of his face, while his pitch black pupils radiated a golden glow. However, the depths of his pupils revealed how he was currently shocked beyond belief.

“What’s going on? Why can’t I sense his existence anymore?” The handsome man muttered to himself.

As the world’s strongest individual and the champion amongst the Ten Great Savage Beasts, Di Tian had always been extremely confident in his abilities.

No matter how strong humans were able to become, no one could ever move him from his title as the world’s strongest individual.

Di Tian floated towards the side of the lake as he began to think about the different possibilities.

He moved his right hand in the air in a mysterious parabolic manner as a black rune instantly appeared in mid-air.

A black fog permeated the air as the golden glow in Di Tian’s eyes flickered. However, a worried expression suddenly formed on his face in the next instant.

Yes, I can’t seem to sense him anymore. I wonder why...

Something extremely important must have happened in order to rouse him from his sleep. And this matter must concern the future of the entire Great Star Dou Forest.

His aura has disappeared.

He was clearly able to sense Huo Yuhao’s aura just a while ago. However, Huo Yuhao—who possessed his reverse scale—had seemed to suddenly vanish without a trace.

In his eyes, the only possible explanation for this was death!

However, he knew that his reverse scale was not only able to monitor Huo Yuhao, but also protect him at the same time. The moment he was in any danger, his reverse scale would immediately inform him. And as the Beast God, he would definitely be able to rescue Huo Yuhao at that instant.

Even though Di Tian admired Huo Yuhao for creating the Spirit Pagoda and temporarily alleviating the conflict between humans and soul beasts, Huo Yuhao was ultimately a human who had the potential to be used in his eyes.

He could not afford to allow him to die, because Huo Yuhao's body contained the power of destiny, which had belonged to the Three-Eyed Golden Lion. As long as he was alive, the power of destiny would continue to keep watch over the Great Star Dou Forest. Even though it would not be as strong as when the Three-Eyed Golden Lion was still around, it was still of great use.

At the same time, he could not allow Huo Yuhao to become too strong. He was a human who was incredibly gifted. If he were to become a God one day, the Great Star Dou Forest would also lose the protection of the power of destiny.

Hence, Di Tian had been keeping a close eye on Huo Yuhao's transformations and growth. Once Huo Yuhao was capable of attracting the attention of the God Realm, he would seal off his power without any hesitation to stop him from communicating with the God Realm. He would not even care about what Huo Yuhao's opinions were.

There is a limit to how strong a human can become. I am already at the limits of mortality in this world. This is no way a human can defeat me.

However, it was under these circumstances that Huo Yuhao's aura had suddenly vanished. Di Tian had no answer to this phenomenon.

Di Tian was extremely confident in his reverse scale. After all, it was not just any normal scale. It could essentially act as a clone. With the help of his reverse scale, he could accurately pinpoint where Huo Yuhao was, and use his mastery of spatial laws to transport portions of his energy to that location.

However, he was not only unable to sense Huo Yuhao's presence, but also the aura of his own reverse scale. How could he not be surprised?

If he were unable to sense the existence of his own reverse scale, he would naturally be unable to transfer his powers and check on Huo Yuhao's situation.

Something is wrong. There must be a problem somewhere. Di Tian squinted. He must not allow the power of destiny to escape from his grasp.

There must be something going on at Huo Yuhao's side. He must have used some ability to temporarily cut off the connection between me and my reverse scale. This ability must be the reason why I can't sense him. There must be a reason why he's trying to cut off this connection.

I must find out what's going on. There's no way I can let this continue without knowing what's happening. His last known location was Shrek City.

Worst comes to worst, I will break his arms and legs and keep him with me in the Great Star Dou Forest forever. I will then figure out a way to extend his life. Even though the power of destiny might experience some problems, that's still better than losing it entirely.

As Di Tian took a step forward, he suddenly vanished into thin air. When he reappeared again, he was already a thousand meters in the air. His figure flickered once again as the sky tore open to reveal a gaping hole. He stepped into the hole before the hole sealed up. Once again, the powerful Beast God had disappeared.

Shrek City was already very close to the Great Star Dou Forest after its expansion.

After a minute had passed, Di Tian's black figure reappeared in mid-air as he triggered Shrek City's deafening alarm system.

The soul tools from Tang Sect and the Shrek Academy's Soul Tool Hall had been developing rapidly. They now possessed aerial surveillance soul tools both on the ground and in the air. However, compared to the Sun Moon Empire, they were still lacking quite a bit in both the quantity and quality of their soul tools.

The surveillance soul tools within Shrek City were immediately able to pick up the presence of an individual in the sky. Multiple soul tools from the ground and the city walls instantly locked their weapons onto the black colored figure

Seeing how there was only one intruder, ten soul engineers from the city defense army leapt into the sky as they tried to chase the black figure down.

"Hmph!" A cold grunt echoed in the air as the entire sky appeared to tremble at that instant. The ten figures which had just started to ascend into the sky immediately felt a frightening force pressing onto them from the sky. They were actually forced back to the ground by this mysterious force. Because they were falling from a relatively high altitude, quite a few of them were injured by the fall.

"Get Huo Yuhao to come out. I have a few questions for him." Di Tian put his hands behind his back as he floated in mid-air. He did not seem to show any care or concern for Shrek City's defense system.

The sound of the alarm system suddenly changed from its previous piercing sound into a rapid wailing sound. This was a sign that a powerful enemy had intruded into the Academy's compound.

A couple of figures ascended into the sky from above Shrek Academy. The one who was leading them was none other than Yan Shaozhe, the Dean of the Martial Soul Department within Shrek Academy!

Yan Shaozhe was accompanied by Xian Lin'er, Qian Duoduo, Cai Mei'er, and Zhang Lexuan.

When they saw the Beast God floating in mid-air, a worried look appeared on all their faces.

This was not an entity they could afford to offend! Previously, Elder Xuan and Elder Mu were only able to seal him for a short period of time after linking their powers. He only left after being persuaded by Huo Yuhao. If not, Shrek City could have been in serious danger back then.

"Beast God, it has been a while since we last met. How have you been doing? May I know why you have visited Shrek Academy?" Yan Shaozhe used his hands to make a splitting motion as white intense flames appeared before transforming into two gigantic wings, which tore apart the pressure that was pervading

the air. Following which, he brought the group of people with him up into the air until they reached the same altitude as Di Tian.

Di Tian's eyes widened in disbelief as he exclaimed, "Yan Shaozhe, you have improved very quickly!"

The current Dean of the Martial Soul Department's cultivation was already close to Elder Xuan's before he had become an Ultimate Douluo. Even though he had not officially reached Rank 98, he was on the brink of doing so.

Di Tian had not expected a Transcendent Douluo to improve his cultivation so rapidly.

Yan Shaozhe's own martial soul was a top-tier martial soul. Coupled with the assistance of the Qiankun Fortune Pills, Yan Shaozhe was able to improve his cultivation very rapidly. In a few months' time, he would be able to reach Rank 98. As for whether he could eventually reach Rank 99, it would depend on his luck and his ability to understand and draw insights from the universe.

Even so, his current ability had already surpassed Elder Song. He had become the number one soul master within Shrek Academy other than Elder Xuan. Even though Elder Xuan had already cultivated at Rank 98 for an extended period of time, he was ultimately an agility-type soul master. There would still be a gap between him and Yan Shaozhe when it came to the power of their martial souls.

"I am embarrassed by your lavish praises, Beast God. Compared to you, I am really nothing. There must be a reason for you to grace our Academy in such a domineering manner. Unless you are here to help us defend against our enemies?" As he spoke, Yan Shaozhe pointed outside of the city.

Di Tian was actually stumped by his proposition. He could not help but turn his head to take a look at what was happening outside the city. Even though the Sun Moon Empire's army was more than fifty kilometers away, Di Tian was naturally able to see them clearly with the eyesight that he had. His pupils rapidly contracted as he sensed danger from among the troops. This meant that someone in the camp possessed a power which could threaten him.

"I am not here to help you. All of you will have to resolve your human problems by yourselves. I am here to look for Huo Yuhao. Let him out. I have questions for him" Di Tian answered coldly. He would not be duped that easily. In fact, he did not have a favorable impression of any human.

Chapter 562.1: The Power of the Beast God

Yan Shaozhe seemed a little stunned. "Yuhao? He's back? I didn't know that! He left the academy not too long ago to go to the Sun Moon Empire for a mission, and I haven't seen him since."

Xian Lin'er was standing behind him, and she rolled her eyes. "This guy can just spout bullshit so naturally. To think that he's already at Rank 97."

"Bullshit. I clearly felt his aura inside Shrek City," Di Tian's eyes flickered coldly, "Don't try to smoke me, Yan Shaozhe. You have sixty seconds to hand him over. Otherwise, don't blame me for not being polite."

"And how are you going to be impolite, Beast God?" An elderly voice rang out as a beam of yellow light surged into the sky. This formidable aura crushed the pressure that the Di Tian had laid out in the sky. This yellow beam of light arrived in front of Di Tian in the blink of an eye.

“Eh?” Di Tian stared at Elder Xuan, who had just appeared in front of him, and he was astonished yet again. He was already surprised at how Yan Shaozhe had improved, but he wasn’t concerned about someone who was only at Rank 97. But Elder Xuan was different, and he could clearly feel Elder Xuan’s second soul core.

That wasn’t something that just any living being could have. It was a true second soul core, one that reflected an Ultimate Douluo’s strength!

There were many transcendent soul beasts who had several hundred thousand years of cultivation, who had the strength to rival a human Ultimate Douluo, and their total soul power volume could definitely match up. But their chances of victory in an actual battle against an Ultimate Douluo were comparatively low, and the reason was because an Ultimate Douluo possessed a second soul core. It was incredibly hard for soul beasts to form their second soul core, since they could only achieve that through the Yin Yang Complement method.

The only two among the Ten Great Savage Beasts who had truly completed their second soul cores were the Beast God and the Evileye Tyrant King. That was the reason why the Evileye Tyrant King had dared to challenge him back then.

Of course, savage beasts would become incredibly powerful after forming their second soul core. Di Tian even believed that all the Ultimate Douluo in the world would be no match for him, even if they gathered together.

However, Di Tian deeply understood how formidable Ultimate Douluos were, even though he had such an opinion. He was strong enough to defeat an Ultimate Douluo, but he would also have to pay a price if he wanted to kill that Ultimate Douluo. Therefore, he was greatly surprised when he felt that Elder Xuan had become an Ultimate Douluo. He was clear that Elder Xuan had been stuck at Rank 98 for many years, and with a human’s natural physique, it was almost impossible for him to continue moving forward. And yet, he had done it.

Di Tian muttered coldly, “Xuan Zi, do you really think that you can fight me just because you’ve become an Ultimate Douluo?”

Elder Xuan stared back coldly. “There is only one way to find out. Shrek and the Great Star Dou Forest have been at peace over the past few years, and we have tried to promote the Spirit Pagoda as much as possible. We have greatly reduced the hunting and killing of soul beasts inside your Great Star Dou Forest throughout the process. I don’t know what it is that you want today, but do you really think that you can get away with provoking Shrek like this? Di Tian, if you don’t give me an explanation today, we will not let you go in peace.”

Elder Xuan dominated reason, and the first thing he did when he arrived was to seize the initiative.

Di Tian’s eyes flickered faintly. The truth was that the Great Star Dou Forest and Shrek were actually in a honeymoon period over the past few years. Both sides cooperated well, and there were much fewer deaths inside the Great Star Dou Forest. That was especially so after Huo Yuhao, Bei Bei, Xu Sanshi, Jiang Nannan, and the others swore inside that Spirit Pagoda that they would never hurt another soul beast. That made Bi Ji, the Emerald Swan, extremely touched. That also pulled their relationship even closer.

This time, he had come forward brashly to ask for Huo Yuhao because the changes he had felt in his body were quite uncalled for and unreasonable. Di Tian didn't really know what to say after Elder Xuan chided him fiercely.

Peace between both parties was very beneficial. Di Tian wanted to pluck Huo Yuhao from Shrek City, but doing so would undoubtedly affect the peaceful outlook that they had established over the past few years.

But how could he let this go if he didn't find Huo Yuhao? He desperately wanted to know what had happened to Huo Yuhao, and the reason why he couldn't even feel his reverse scale's aura.

"Xuan Zi, the reason why I'm here today is because there are some things I wish to ask Huo Yuhao. I'm not trying to provoke or antagonize Shrek. Call him out, and I'll leave after asking him a few questions." Di Tian was formidable, but he had his scruples and concerns. His largest one was his kin inside the Great Star Dou Forest, and his tone softened a little.

Elder Xuan heaved a sigh and said, "Beast God, Yuhao is heavily injured because he had to fight a formidable enemy. He's barely breathing at the moment because he has suffered some kind of powerful attack. If you are really concerned about him, then you should help us fight against this formidable enemy."

"He's been hurt by a formidable enemy?" Di Tian did believe part of what Elder Xuan had said. Certain incredibly powerful attacks such as the one he had witnessed from the Death God Douluo's Death God Pagoda could possibly temporarily disable his reverse scale. If that was what had happened, then everything could be explained.

Di Tian would never help humans resolve their own battles. However, the Great Star Dou Forest could be considered in some sense to be Shrek Academy's ally. The Great Star Dou Forest pretending they didn't know and not showing up was one thing, but Di Tian couldn't really say no if he was told in public.

Di Tian hesitated before he said, "Shrek has ten thousand years of foundations. How can Shrek have any problems dealing with such small and weak enemies? We'll talk about all that afterwards; let me take a look at him first. I will find a way to treat him if his injuries are overly severe. You have to understand that I, too, do not wish him dead. He possesses the Three-Eyed Golden Lion's power of destiny after all. Take me to him."

Elder Xuan cursed in his mind. It's hard to trick him after all because of his experience. Di Tian is such a tough nut to crack. How could he take Di Tian to see Huo Yuhao?

Elder Xuan naturally understood that the Beast God's sudden appearance had something to do with Huo Yuhao breaking through and creating his second soul core. Even though he didn't know how the Beast God could sense that, this was the only viable explanation. Di Tian's arrival at this time also proved one thing, and that was the fact that Huo Yuhao was just about to succeed. Elder Xuan couldn't let Di Tian disturb Huo Yuhao at such an important time, no matter what.

Elder Xuan heaved a faint sigh, and he shook his head exasperatedly yet resolutely. "I'm afraid I can't do that, Beast God. We have already treated Yuhao's injuries, and he's resting at the moment. Our doctors have specifically instructed that nobody is to disturb him. Why don't we do it this way: you can stay in the academy for now, and I'll take you to him once he's a little better."

“Eh?” The Beast God’s eyes flickered, as he could tell that something wasn’t right. He grunted coldly and said, “You’re trying to buy time, Xuan Zi. Get him out here or take me to him. Otherwise, don’t blame me for not being polite. I have been alive for several hundred thousand years, and I have seen too much of humanity’s trickery. You’re dreaming if you think you can lie to me.”

Elder Xuan’s expression changed as he lowered his voice and said, “Beast God, are you trying to violate our pact and antagonize us humans?”

The Beast God’s face turned black. He did just want to see Huo Yuhao’s situation, and he didn’t want to affect what both parties shared through the Spirit Pagoda. That arrangement was beneficial for the entire Great Star Dou Forest, after all.

The Beast God hesitated for a moment before he made up his mind. The power of destiny was more important, because that was an important guarantee for his breakthrough during his next bottleneck.

“Don’t make me repeat myself, Xuan Zi. My patience has its limits.”

Elder Xuan’s heart sank as he stared at the Beast God’s ice-cold eyes. He knew that he no longer had any wiggle room.

“Alright, since you have no sympathy for our situation, then come. You have to defeat me if you wish to disturb Yuhao’s recovery.”

Di Tian’s eyes sparkled. He wasn’t angry, but his majesty was evident as his flowing black hair drifted in the wind. “Are you challenging me?”

Elder Xuan laughed and answered, “I haven’t found a suitable enemy to test my abilities after becoming an Ultimate Douluo. Since the Beast God is here today, then I have a perfect opportunity to test how far I am from the Continent’s most powerful individual.”

“Very well. I won’t go overboard. I will leave if you can hold off my onslaught for one hour. On the other hand, if you can’t, I will not hurt anybody residing in Shrek City, and you’ll take me to see Huo Yuhao. We won’t affect our cooperation.”

Elder Xuan’s eyes sparkled. “We’ll talk about that after our fight.” He surged higher into the sky as he spoke.

Di Tian didn’t move at all. Black shadows flashed as he reached an even higher altitude, and waited quietly.

Yan Shaozhe, Xian Lin’er and the others didn’t follow them. Instead, they retreated further away. They weren’t powerful enough to affect a battle at an Ultimate Douluo’s level, but watching and gaining revelations from this battle would be beneficial for their future advancement.

The two silhouettes continued climbing through the air before they stopped at about five thousand meters from the ground.

Soul rings emerged from Elder Xuan’s body one after another, and his heavy and solemn aura immediately tainted the entire sky yellow.

Di Tian hovered proudly in midair and quietly observed Elder Xuan's soul power undulations. A contemptuous expression appeared from the corner of his mouth as he said, "Xuan Zi, you still only possess a human's Resonance soul core. Even though I don't know how you've managed this, you should understand that you don't have much of a chance against me."

Elder Xuan grunted coldly and said, "How would I know if I don't try? Do give me some pointers, Beast God." Elder Xuan raised his right hand as he spoke and pushed it towards Di Tian.

The heavens trembled vigorously, and intense yellow light condensed into an enormous Godly Taotie Bull more than a thousand meters tall behind Elder Xuan's back. The bull flickered continuously, and it was extremely magnificent.

?Chapter 562.2: The Power of the Beast God

At their level, any simple movement was an extremely powerful attack. They simplified everything, and soul skills weren't that important anymore.

Di Tian was still standing there, motionless. A black beam of light blasted from his chest, and Elder Xuan felt the air in front of him begin to twist and contort vigorously as he pushed out with his palm. A terrifying suction force appeared in the next moment and completely absorbed his palm's force.

"Eh?" Elder Xuan was startled. "Spatial power?"

Di Tian said plainly, "I have been at this level for several hundred thousand years longer than you have. You are still a far cry from me in terms of your understanding in this respect. Even though soul beasts cannot become Gods because we are limited by the God Realm, no human in the Douluo Continent could ever be my match."

Elder Xuan grunted coldly as he placed his palms in a circle in front of his chest. The Godly Taotie Bull behind his back roared fearsomely as a dense and material sphere of dirty yellow light appeared between his palms.

This sphere appeared very peculiar. Its insides seemed material, but there were separate pieces floating on its surface. Every piece radiated with strange light, and some even seemed like there was water flowing between them.

"Eh?" It was Di Tian's turn to be surprised. "You're recreating the Continent?"

"Take this," Elder Xuan said plainly, "Heaven and Earth Resonance." He pushed his hands forward slowly, and his movement was very gradual as the yellow sphere slowly rose and flew towards Di Tian at an incredibly slow speed.

But right at this moment, a mystical event occurred. The ground beneath them, including Shrek City, the vast plains outside the city, and even the Sun Moon Empire's camp, began to radiate starry yellow light as they flew into the sky. The great earth and everything that the naked eye could see seemed to awaken in that moment, and those dots of yellow light emanated dense earth-type energy as they surged hysterically towards the sky.

The Sun Moon Empire's army was already aware when those two formidable individuals rose high into the sky.

Ju Zi arrived outside as her Class 9 soul engineers escorted her. The Holy Ghost Church's powerful individuals also appeared outside with her.

When the enormous Godly Taotie Bull that was a thousand meters long appeared behind Elder Xuan, the first person to react in shock was the Holy Ghost Church's supreme leader, Zhongli Wu.

"Ultimate Douluo? Xuan Zi of Shrek Academy's Sea God's Pavilion has become an Ultimate Douluo?" Zhongli Wu's eyes were full of shock and incredulity.

Evil soul masters did have an advantage over normal soul masters, but that advantage would cease to exist at a Transcendent Douluo's level. Zhongli Wu was more than aware of what an Ultimate Douluo's appearance meant for them. The Holy Ghost Church's two Ultimate Douluo were not with them.

Typical soul tools couldn't hurt Ultimate Douluo. Zhongli Wu felt for the first time that Ju Zi's refusal to attack seemed reasonable, because Shrek Academy's foundations were truly thick and solid. It hadn't been long since Elder Mu's death, and yet another Ultimate Douluo had already appeared.

But who was his opponent?

Di Tian was just a black shadow, and he didn't show his aura. Everyone from the Sun Moon Empire was speculating who could oppose an Ultimate Douluo. Who could that be?

Ju Zi frowned, as she didn't know what was happening either. An Ultimate Douluo had appeared in Shrek Academy, and that was big news. Furthermore, he had an opponent, and it appeared like both parties were about to fight it out. That was strange. If both Ultimate Douluo belonged to Shrek Academy, then her plan would probably run into trouble. Ultimate Douluo were symbols of eternity and invincibility, so Ju Zi's camp would probably be in trouble if an Ultimate Douluo was bent on causing destruction.

Right at this moment, as those tiny, compact yellow spots began rising from the earth, Zhongli Wu's expression changed drastically as he looked on. Zhongli Wu was a Transcendent Douluo, and he understood what this meant.

"Xuan Zi hasn't just become an Ultimate Douluo. He has also grasped his martial soul's true power. This is a cosmic phenomenon that happens when a soul master feeds his martial soul back to heaven and earth. He's using such a formidable attack from the get-go. Who exactly is his opponent?"

The sky suddenly darkened at this moment. Elder Xuan's yellow radiance had lit up the sky, but now the horizon was starting to turn dark and gloomy. A bright dragon roar could be heard as an enormous dragon head appeared from behind the black shadow.

This large dragon head was also more than a thousand meters tall like Elder Xuan's Godly Taotie Bull, but the dragon head was much more material and condensed, like an actual dragon had descended upon the world. But even a real dragon wouldn't have such a massive size!

Shadows flickered as the dragon descended upon the world, and terrifying auras rippled outward. Purplish-black rays of light dripped from the sky like raindrops, and these rays naturally broke apart after falling to a certain height into circles of dark purple light. They blocked the yellow light dots which were rising from the ground, and didn't allow a single dot to rise into the sky.

That was...

“Can Dragon Uncle be here? This is the Black Dragon. Can it be Uncle’s Darkness Holy Dragon? But...” Zhongli Wu was both surprised and confused, but he quickly realized that this wasn’t right, because he could see a pair of golden eyes.

“No, that’s not Dragon Uncle. That, that is... that’s the Beast God, Di Tian, the Golden Eyes Black Dragon King, the most powerful individual in the world, the Great Star Dou Forest’s dictator. It’s the Beast God, Di Tian!”

The Sun Moon Empire fell silent when that was spoken.

Even though they knew that the Great Star Dou Forest’s soul beasts would never get involved in a war between humans, the Beast God’s reputation was just too famous. He was already known as the most powerful individual in the world today.

Back at the Ming Dou Mountain Range, the Death God Douluo didn’t have any advantage at all against Huo Yuhao when he drew upon the Beast God’s strength through his reverse scale. It wasn’t hard to see exactly how formidable the Beast God was.

But in this moment, that black shadow in the sky was evidently not a projection of the Beast God; the Beast God was actually here. It was no wonder that Elder Xuan, who was an Ultimate Douluo, would give his full strength from the very beginning, and he had to use his strongest abilities to fight him. Who would dare to hold back against the Beast God?

Terrifying auras resonated through the heavens, and the Sun Moon Empire could feel shivers running down their spines.

There was a hysterical voice shouting in Zhongli Wu’s heart. The Beast God was acting out against Shrek City, so what did that mean? That meant their opportunity had arrived! If the Beast God could break the city, then their plan of not staging an offensive was no longer important. Shrek City would undoubtedly crumble when that happened, and nobody could resist that temptation under such circumstances.

However, no matter how intense that voice was in his head, Zhongli Wu couldn’t say a single word as he stood there, because the overbearing pressure from the sky was filling him with fear.

This was pressure from the most powerful individual in the world, pressure from the Beast God!

Powerful individuals were powerful individuals after all. When the Sun Moon Empire heard that the black shadow in the sky was the Beast God, Di Tian, their first reaction was to retreat subconsciously instead of taking this opportunity to attack Shrek City.

Ju Zi’s clear and cold voice rang out in this moment. “Pass my order: all soul tool fronts, prepare. Charge all long-range linked offensive soul tools and prepare to fire.”

Her voice was soft, but she announced her orders through a loudspeaker so that every soul engineer around could hear her.

Those soul engineers who were startled and frightened seemed to quiver before they came to. Even Zhongli Wu felt a little shameful, because not even he could match up to a little girl at a time like this.

But he quickly explained this away to himself, because the unknowing wasn't guilty. She definitely didn't know how powerful the Beast God was.

The heavens and the earth transformed into a beautiful and spectacular sight. Purplish-black and yellow colors that were filled with dots of energy intertwined and fought against each other, while Elder Xuan's sphere came closer and closer to Di Tian.

Di Tian stared at Elder Xuan coldly. "Do you really wish to fight to the death, Xuan Zi? You should know that Shrek Academy can't possibly defend themselves against those enemy forces outside without you."

Di Tian wouldn't participate in a war between humans, but that didn't mean he didn't know what was happening.

Elder Xuan said plainly, "I'm not the one who wishes to fight to my last breath. You are provoking us, and I am Shrek Academy's guardian. How can I sit by and watch? You don't have to be rejoicing at our predicament. How is Shrek Academy's destruction any good for the Great Star Dou Forest? The Sun Moon Empire is very powerful. Let me ask you, if the Sun Moon Empire truly conquers the entire Continent some day, will they ignore and overlook the Great Star Dou Forest's soul beasts? When that happens, the great forest will simply be the Sun Moon Empire's backyard. They will take whatever soul rings they wish. When that happens, not even you will be able to do anything about it."

"You've got some balls!" Di Tian exclaimed furiously as he punched out with his fist.

The Golden Eyes Black Dragon King's shadow roared fearsomely as he punched out.

Elder Xuan didn't show any weakness at all. His eyes turned crystal yellow, and the Godly Taotie Bull behind his back charged forward and clashed with the Black Dragon King.

Elder Xuan had triggered the Godly Taotie Bull's Taotie bloodline with Elder Mu's help when he last battled the Beast God. He managed to swallow Di Tian with his Taotie, so that he couldn't participate in the beast wave, and that bought Shrek Academy sufficient time. But now, Elder Xuan had become an Ultimate Douluo. It was a pity that he couldn't use his own strength to trigger his Taotie's true power.

The collision between them and their enormous martial souls happened at almost the same time.

Chapter 562.3: The Power of the Beast God

The sky suddenly darkened before light exploded through the air. Frightening soul power undulations rippled high in the sky as all the clouds and mist within several hundred square kilometers in the sky dissipated. However, not a single ray of sunlight peeked through the sky; all that could be seen were yellow and purplish-black colors resisting each other.

That terrifying yet magnificent aura shocked everyone watching.

Shrek City and the Sun Moon Empire's great army were all watching this earth-shaking sight, but there were very few who truly understood what all that meant. However, everyone was aware that this battle was very important for Shrek Academy.

Zhongli Wu arrived quietly next to Ju Zi and whispered, "When do we attack, commander?"

Ju Zi shook her head gently and said, "Now is not the time. We'll wait until the battle is decided. We have to wait and see. Imperial Tutor, I wish to ask you something."

"Eh? Ask." Zhongli Wu turned towards Ju Zi confusedly. The War God Empress would seldom ask questions humbly, from what he remembered.

Ju Zi lowered her voice and said, "From your perspective, how large a threat do you think the Beast God is to us?"

"He's a very large threat." Zhongli Wu replied almost without hesitation. "The Beast God is known as the most powerful in the individual in the world. The Great Star Dou Forest has a cornerstone with him around, and no matter who wishes to hunt soul beasts inside the Great Star Dou Forest, they will have to be very careful. That includes my mother."

Ju Zi smiled faintly and said, "Unfortunately, you already have your ninth soul ring. Otherwise, perhaps this would be a good opportunity to hunt and kill him. If somebody can obtain the Beast God as his soul ring, perhaps that person will take over as the strongest in the world."

Zhongli Wu had never expected Ju Zi to say something like this, and he was momentarily taken aback. Taking the Beast God as my soul ring? Not even he had considered something like this. In other words, unless soul masters were insane, nobody would ever consider that possibility.

But that was the Beast God, Di Tian!

Human desire was endless, and humans were greedy. Zhongli Wu hadn't thought about that before Ju Zi brought it up. But when she spoke of that possibility, his heart immediately burned with passion.

"A soul ring won't be possible. But if I turn part of the Beast God's spirit and part of his original body into a puppet..." Avarice and greed chewed at Zhongli Wu's heart like a million little maggots.

"Commander, I don't need Di Tian as a soul ring. I would rather give it to the Emperor if that's possible. The Holy Ghost Church's secret methods, in combination with our soul engineers' most advanced soul tools, can likely preserve the Beast God's soul ring for a long time. The Emperor has already become a Titled Douluo, but the crown prince hasn't! Furthermore, the Beast God won't just produce a soul ring. He will definitely produce a soul bone. If we leave his soul ring and his soul bone for the crown prince, the crown prince shall become the most powerful individual in the world in the future."

Ju Zi felt a tingle in her heart as she listened to his words. But she quickly recovered as she laughed coldly inside. She was trying to bait him, but he turned her words around and tried to bait her instead. The Beast God's soul ring? Hmph, his soul ring may not even be suitable for my son.

Only Ju Zi was clear that her son couldn't possibly have a dragon-type martial soul like Xu Tianran did. Furthermore, Di Tian's element was darkness, while his soul ring would undoubtedly be incredibly powerful. There was a very low chance that his soul ring would be suitable for her son.

However, her face revealed eagerness and passion even as those thoughts ran through her head. "I'm afraid that's not ideal, Imperial Tutor. The most valuable parts of the Beast God are his soul ring and his soul bone. How can we give them to the royal family? If we wish to kill the Beast God, we need your support, Imperial Tutor!"

Zhongli Wu smiled faintly and said, "You don't have to be polite, commander. We'll just take what we both need. I just want the Beast God's corpse, and the royal family has no use for it anyway. His corpse will be much more useful if you are to give it to us."

Ju Zi answered without hesitation, "If we can really kill the Beast God, we will have accomplished a great feat, and we will all benefit. We'll do everything according to your will, Imperial Tutor."

Zhongli Wu clenched his fists subconsciously. He knew very well what would happen if he could obtain the Beast God's corpse. He only had to preserve part of the Beast God's spirit, and he could craft a puppet out of the Golden Eyes Black Dragon King. He would become the most powerful individual in the world with the Beast God's physical strength! He could even rely on this puppet to directly break through to become an Ultimate Douluo.

But Zhongli Wu was also very shrewd and calculative. He was extremely excited in his heart, but his expression didn't reveal anything as he said, "We cannot be hasty if we wish to fight the Beast God. We have to wait for the best opportunity to strike, and hope that Elder Xuan can severely injure him. The best outcome is if Elder Xuan himself dies at the Beast God's hands. We can kill two birds with one stone if that happens. Don't worry, commander. The Holy Ghost Church will not hold back when the time comes."

Ju Zi replied, "Alright, I will command all the soul tool fronts' offensive soul tools to cooperate with you. Let's just keep waiting."

Zhongli Wu contemplated momentarily before he said, "This matter is extremely important, Commander. Let me go and make some preparations."

"Alright, do as you wish, Imperial Tutor." Ju Zi hurriedly replied.

Zhongli Wu left, and he took the Holy Ghost Church's evil soul masters with him as they swiftly turned to leave.

A faint smile appeared on Ju Zi's face as he watched their backs, but her smile was charged with cold murderousness.

I'll have to wish you good luck then, Imperial Tutor.

Elder Su suddenly appeared beside Ju Zi and asked softly, "Commander, are we really helping the Holy Ghost Church obtain the Beast God's corpse?"

Ju Zi smiled plainly and said, "Of course, as long as we can kill the Beast God."

Elder Su was shocked for a moment before a thin smile quickly appeared on his face. What a fantastic scheme to kill two birds with one stone! The commander lives up to her name after all. She's set a trap for the Holy Ghost Church in such a short period of time. This tremendous temptation was undoubtedly the best bait for the greedy Holy Ghost Church.

Two silhouettes separated in the sky as Elder Xuan retreated all the way between his Godly Taotie Bull's two horns before he stabilized himself. The Beast God's formidable strength was on full display in this moment, as he was just pushed back a little more than ten meters.

Elder Xuan's face turned a little red as he felt his heart pulsing with fear. The Beast God wasn't known as the world's most powerful individual for nothing, and his strength exceeded his expectations.

When he clashed with the Beast God, all he could feel was how deep Di Tian's power was. Elder Xuan could feel almost no end to Di Tian's strength, and his frightening strength instantly vaporized his attack. Furthermore, Di Tian seemed to be holding back, and that was the reason why Elder Xuan could retreat in one piece.

"You should be able to tell, Xuan Zi, that you are still too far from me. Go, bring Huo Yuhao out. I only wish to ask him a few questions. I won't do anything to him. I don't wish to kill you." Di Tian said plainly.

Elder Xuan grunted coldly and said, "Don't think you've won." He took a step forward as he spoke, and the Godly Taotie Bull behind him growled deeply. Elder Xuan disappeared into thin air just like that, and the bull's initially illusory figure grew material.

This was Elder Xuan's martial soul true body, Godly Taotie Bull.

The heavens and the earth, darkness and soil were in conflict, but the element of earth's power was being completely suppressed. It couldn't go higher than a hundred meters above the surface.

The Godly Taotie Bull's long horns glowed with circles of yellow light before the bull suddenly accelerated and charged right at the Golden Eyes Black Dragon King.

The bull charged crazily as rolling thunder seemed to boom through the heavens. Frightening explosions could be heard, like the entire sky was being trampled apart.

Circles of yellow light expanded beneath the bull's feet and covered the Golden Eyes Black Dragon King's body. It was controlling gravity, and tremendous gravity tore at the Golden Eyes Black Dragon King's body in an attempt to arrest it.

Di Tian heaved a sigh and said, "Since you wish to die, I will give you a lesson that you will never forget." He turned around as he spoke, and pressed his right hand against the Black Dragon King's head before he wheeled his arms into the air.

A strange sight occurred as the enormous Black Dragon King that was more than a thousand meters long began to concentrate towards Di Tian's wheeling right arm like a whale sucking in water.

Di Tian's arm had just wheeled over his head when a large sword appeared in his hand.

This sword's hilt was three feet long, and the blade was eight feet long. The hilt was black, and resembled a black dragon. The blade was dark purple, and the terrifying sword intent seemed to tear an enormous hole in the sky when the sword appeared. Enormous circles of black light appeared behind Di Tian's back, and it was like a black hole that seemed to swallow everything.

The Tang Sect members were watching this battle in the sky from their courtyard inside Shrek City.

The Sword Maniac, Ji Juechen, suddenly trembled when he watched Di Tian turn his shadow into a sword, and he grunted as blood flowed from his nostrils.

Jing Ziyang hurriedly supported him and said, "What's wrong with you, Juechen?"

Ji Juechen shook his head softly, but there was determination in his eyes. Only he knew what had just happened. In that moment, he used his own sword intent to feel Di Tian's sword intent, and that was the reason why that had happened.

Such formidable sword intent. Is this the sword intent that belongs to the most powerful individual in the world? His sword intent is his own martial soul, and it's also his overwhelming and domineering will. And... and that frightening strength.

Ji Juechen continued to think as he crossed his legs, sat down on the ground, and started meditating. This moment's revelation was far too important for him.

Ji Juechen had been stuck as a Soul Douluo for a long time, and couldn't break through at all, because there was no way he could form his own soul core. Ji Juechen's cultivation method was different from everyone, and he had to find the path that belonged to him alone if he wished to become a Titled Douluo.

Chapter 563.1: Complementing Yin and Yang, Yuhao Leaves Seclusion

The Dark Dragon's Sword!

A purple light formed a powerful beam and slashed downwards. The sky was torn apart as every ounce of gravity was destroyed and ground into dust. The Godly Taotie Bull's enormous body was somehow immobilized by the torn-up sky, as it found itself unable to dodge the sword. Following which, the frightening Dark Dragon's Sword was about to reach the area between the Godly Taotie Bull's horns.

"Boooooommm!" A deafening sound exploded in the sky.

Two yellow glows, which were circulating around one another between Elder Xuan's horns, had actually blocked Di Tian's sword. However, the Godly Taotie Bull's enormous body was now falling rapidly from the sky. It fell from five thousand meters to two thousand meters. Because it was about a thousand meters tall, it looked almost as if it were about to crash into Shrek City.

The Godly Taotie Bull let out a deafening roar as yellow plumes of clouds separated from its feet and struggled to support its body.

Di Tian continued to float where he was as he pointed the gigantic sword in his hand at Elder Xuan. His eyes were extremely frightening, as they resembled that of the Devilgod himself.

This was absolute power. The absolute power of the world's strongest individual.

Elder Xuan suddenly felt powerless. Di Tian had already controlled all spatial power. Most importantly, he had realized the power gap between a second soul core built from the Resonance technique and a soul core built from the Yin Yang Complement technique. The density of Di Tian's soul power was not something his soul power could compare to. The frightening dark aura continued to devour his earth-type elemental energy greedily.

However, he knew that he could not retreat. He must not allow Di Tian to disturb Huo Yuhao at this crucial moment. If not, Yuhao might never be able to push past his current bottleneck. He might even die instantly.

Elder Xuan closed his eyes as the flashback of Elder Mu reminding him of his wishes before his death flashed across his eyes. His enormous Godly Taotie Bull body did not fly straight up into the sky. Instead, it waited down there patiently.

The figure revolved, and the Godly Taotie Bull disappeared. Elder Xuan reappeared as his powerful aura vanished.

Di Tian's face revealed a faint smile. In his eyes, Elder Xuan was about to give up.

If Elder Xuan were to even give up on his own Martial Soul True Body, what else would he fight Di Tian with?

However, Di Tian started to become worried again in no time. Is Elder Xuan really going to consent like this?

A primordial aura started to radiate from Elder Xuan's body. A low but resonant dragon roar echoed in the sky as a layer of pale yellow flames rose around Elder Xuan's body.

That ancient aura contained the authority and might of the Dragons. Even Di Tian's heart couldn't help but contract under the pressure of that aura.

This was not the first time he had sensed this aura. Previously, when the Great Star Dou Forest had started the beast wave, he had experienced it firsthand. Even with his power, he was only able to break free from it after a few days.

Yes, he was sensing the power of the Taotie from Elder Xuan's body.

"Xuan Zi, are you crazy? You actually want to fight with your life on the line?" Di Tian was both furious and shocked by what he was seeing. "I have repeatedly gone easy on you, yet you don't seem to know how to retreat. Do you really think I don't dare to kill you?"

It was usually impossible for Elder Xuan to draw upon the power of the Taotie within his blood. However, if he burned his soul power and forced his soul core to release all of his power, it became possible.

It was not fatal for an Ultimate Douluo to burn his or her own soul power. As long as their soul core remained intact, the Ultimate Douluo would have a chance of recovering. However, burning one's soul power was still extremely demanding on one's body. It would definitely take a long time for the cultivator to recover and recuperate. Right now, Elder Xuan was burning his soul power as he tried to summon that bit of pure Taotie power within his blood.

Because both the Taotie and Di Tian were Dragons, Elder Xuan could only stand a chance against Di Tian by harnessing the power of the Taotie to delay him from confronting Huo Yuhao.

Elder Xuan did not know how long he could withstand the furious attacks of Di Tian. However, he knew he had to do what he could to fight for as much time as possible for Huo Yuhao.

Di Tian became increasingly worried as he saw how Elder Xuan did not plan on revealing anything to him. Now he was certain that Huo Yuhao must be doing something which could not be revealed to the rest of the world. In addition, Elder Xuan must know what was going on in order to put his life on the

line to defend him. From the balance of interests, this meant that whatever Huo Yuhao was doing was of equal value to the life of an Ultimate Douluo.

Di Tian was the Beast God, and he possessed the domineering Golden Eyes Black Dragon King bloodline.

Even though he was not exactly sure what was going on, he was certain that this would not be a good thing for the Great Star Dou Forest. If not, Elder Xuan would not have tried to evade his questions.

After coming to this realization, Di Tian was able to toss away all of his former reservations as a frightening golden glow lit up in his eyes. The soul beasts who were familiar with him would recognize this. This was Di Tian's scariest state. This meant that he had developed murderous intent.

The gigantic Dark Dragon Sword rose once again as it brought strong winds and heavy clouds in the sky. The dense purple-black clouds seemed to turn the entire world dark, while Di Tian slowly took on a dark purple color in mid-air. His entire body seemed to have turned into the same color as his Dark Dragon's Sword.

A mystical sight started to form behind Di Tian's back. A black sun and a purple moon appeared behind him as they overlapped and illuminated one another. Di Tian's frightening aura began to surge once again at an incredible rate. This gave the surrounding people the impression that the dark clouds in the sky were about to fall and crush everything beneath them.

Yan Shaozhe, Xian Lin'er, and the others all revealed shocked expressions. This was the real aura of the Beast God—the most powerful individual in the world! Is Di Tian about to go all-out on Elder Xuan? Even with their collective abilities, they felt as if they would not even be able to stand a chance against Di Tian.

Elder Xuan seemed to be unfazed by the mystical sight forming in the sky. He continued to float in mid-air indignantly as the faint yellow flame around his body became increasingly intense. A mystical faint figure also started to form behind his back.

This faint figure had the head of a human, but the body of a goat. Its head was extremely large. It was the Taotie—one of the nine sons of the Dragon God! The Godly Taotie Bull's Taotie bloodline was finally unleashed by Elder Xuan.

The Beast God's aura seemed to weaken a little in the presence of the Taotie's aura. After all, the Taotie's bloodline power had the ability to suppress and curb the abilities of the Darkness Dragon bloodline.

Previously, Elder Mu and Elder Xuan had to work together to activate the Taotie power to seal him. This was something that Di Tian remembered very clearly. This time around, he was not prepared to let the same thing happen again. He did not know how much more time Huo Yuhao needed to be done with his thing. What if he were to be done when he was in the midst of being sealed?

Di Tian let out a cold grunt as he—the most powerful individual in the world—suddenly knelt in the direction of the Great Star Dou Forest in front of everyone. He sheathed the Dark Dragon Sword behind him, and appeared to be paying respects to something in that direction. The way he was paying respects resembled the gestures people made in military ceremonies.

What is he doing?

Everyone was stunned. Could there be someone in our world who is worthy of Di Tian's reverence? That would be unbelievable.

Elder Xuan was equally startled by what Di Tian was doing. While he was trying to muster his Taotie aura towards Di Tian to suppress his Golden Eyes Black Dragon King's aura, Di Tian was bowing in the direction of the Great Star Dou Forest. Why is he doing that? Unless he has some other motives?

At this instant, the color of the sky above the Great Star Dou Forest suddenly changed.

The sky suddenly took on the seven different colors of the rainbow without any warning. The colored lights rotated amongst one another as though a God were about to descend from the heavens.

When the lights appeared, they were actually able to dye the dense purple-black clouds that Di Tian had released with their colors. Following which, Di Tian's aura transformed overwhelmingly.

His aura was originally extremely domineering. However, under the influence of the rainbow lights, Di Tian's aura seemed to become grander and more majestic. When he stood up again, his golden pupils had become silver. Even though the sword in his hand did not change, the thousand-meter radius around him seemed to have undergone some sort of spatial transformation, as it turned into a silver domain.

What is this?

Elder Xuan would not be the only one who did not know what this was. Even if all the past leaders of Shrek Academy were to witness this, they would also not be able to identify what power Di Tian was using now.

The only thing that Elder Xuan could distinguish was that this was not Di Tian's own power. He seemed to have borrowed power from some other entity. Nonetheless, what did he actually borrow?

While he was still in shock, an authoritative force suddenly descended from the sky. The gigantic Taotie that was behind Elder Xuan started to tremble before exhibiting the tendency to bow down to this authoritative force.

This can't be it. This was the first thought that entered Elder Xuan's head.

Back then, both he and Elder Mu had used the power of the Taotie to suppress Di Tian. The authority in the blood of the Taotie—one of the nine sons of the Dragon God—was enough to force the Golden Eyes Black Dragon King to bow down to it.

However, at this instant, the situation seemed to have been reversed. The Taotie was now about to bow down to Di Tian, who was in the sky. How could this be happening? What kind of power did Di Tian borrow?

This instantaneous transformation not only startled Elder Xuan, but the people in Shrek City, as well as the Sun Moon Empire's troops, were also startled by the sight before them. None of the powerful cultivators had expected this to happen.

Even though they might not know how Elder Xuan's Taotie should have suppressed Di Tian, they were still surprised that Di Tian was actually able to borrow power from a mysterious source within the Great Star Dou Forest. This was a frightening revelation. Was there another powerful individual hidden within

the Great Star Dou Forest? Or was there some hidden treasure or source of power that no one knew about?

Di Tian stared coldly at Elder Xuan as he raised the Dark Dragon Sword above his head.

Elder Xuan discovered that the earth-type elemental energy which he was supposed to control with ease was suddenly beyond his control. It was cowering in fear from the aura Di Tian was emitting. It was as if a subordinate was bowing down to his or her superior.

How could Di Tian—an individual who possessed dark-type elemental energy—affect earth-type elements?

Elder Xuan's heart sank as he realized how he would be unable to seal Di Tian even if he were to continue burning his soul power. When Di Tian landed the blow from his sword, it would definitely be earth-shattering.

Chapter 563.2: Complementing Yin and Yang, Yuhao Leaves Seclusion

“Beast God, why are you venting your rage on others? Come at me if I am the one you're looking for. Huo Yuhao will be here waiting for you.” A bright voice suddenly rang in the sky without any warning. Even though this voice did not appear to be particularly loud, the entire battlefield, including the Sun Moon Empire's troops, which were camped fifty kilometers away from Shrek City, could hear his words clearly.

Huo Yuhao!

The same words entered everyone's ears, but different people reacted to this differently.

Elder Xuan's eyes suddenly lit up just when he was starting to lose hope. He immediately doused the flames on his body, which were burning his soul power, as the Taotie behind his back vanished.

After regaining his Godly Taotie Bull martial soul, he was no longer that affected by Di Tian.

Even though it was the same name, it induced a different emotion within Ju Zi. Now she knew that Di Tian had intruded into Shrek City to find Huo Yuhao. This also confirmed her suspicion that Huo Yuhao was really in Shrek City. At this instant, she was overwhelmed by several emotions as her mind turned completely blank after hearing Huo Yuhao's voice.

A jade green light flashed as a figure soared up into the sky from within Shrek City. In the blink of an eye, the jade green figure was able to reach an incredibly high altitude. The powerful pressure released by Di Tian's body did not seem to work on him.

The image flickered as the jade green light stopped next to Elder Xuan. This person was none other than Huo Yuhao.

Huo Yuhao was now wearing the Icy War God's Armor. However, his body was radiating a jade blue glow underneath the armor. Elder Xuan could immediately sense the reduction in the surrounding pressure the moment Huo Yuhao moved closer to him. The pressure acting on him was essentially halved by his presence.

Elder Xuan was surprised to see Huo Yuhao next to him. He whispered, “Did you succeed?”

“Yes.” Huo Yuhao nodded.

Elder Xuan laughed and said, “That’s great! That’s great! Di Tian, weren’t you looking for Yuhao? Yuhao is now here.”

Di Tian’s expression changed as he stared at Huo Yuhao. He was startled to find himself no longer able to see through the young man before him. He could not tell what cultivation Huo Yuhao had attained.

“Di Tian, how have you been? I have something I want to return to you. I want to thank you for protecting me for all these years.” As he spoke, Huo Yuhao’s wrist shook as a grey light surged towards Di Tian.

Di Tian waved his right hand in the air as his aura weakened a little bit.

He did not need to see what he had caught to know what exactly was in his palm. It was the Black Dragon’s reverse scale which he had given to Huo Yuhao previously to seal and monitor him.

He was actually able to remove the reverse scale from his body? This means that his power must have reached the heights of mine momentarily to even be able to remove my scale.

Ultimate Douluo? No, that’s impossible. He was still a Soul Douluo who was unable to attain the Titled Douluo rank not too long ago! How could he become an Ultimate Douluo in such a short amount of time?

The same questions formed in Ju Zi’s mind as she watched from afar.

She had already known how powerful Huo Yuhao had become the last time she saw him at the palace in Radiant City. However, he was definitely not this strong! When did he develop the ability to stand unfazed before a battle between an Ultimate Douluo and the strongest individual in the world? It seemed like the Beast God had also become a little nervous after he had appeared.

There was a calm expression on Huo Yuhao’s face as he stared at the Beast God and expressed his respects.

“You actually managed to break free from my reverse scale. If I do not guess wrongly, there can only be one explanation.” The Beast God was able to speak calmly after recovering from his momentary shock.

Huo Yuhao lifted the visor on his armor as he flashed a smile. “Beast God, do you dare to fight me?”

What?

After hearing his words, everyone, including the people from Shrek Academy and the Sun Moon Empire, was shocked beyond belief. There were many people who knew Huo Yuhao, and they could not believe their ears when they heard him challenging the Beast God—the strongest individual in the world—to a fight.

How old is he? How much power does he actually possess? What is he banking on to beat the Beast God? Isn’t he just seeking his own death?

What surprised them even more was how the Beast God actually nodded in approval. Di Tian pointed his Dark Dragon Sword at Huo Yuhao and said, “Sure. Let me see what you have learned and understood.”

Huo Yuhao's pupils lit up after hearing Di Tian's response. One of his pupils was completely golden, while the other one radiated a jade blue glow.

At this instant, he was brimming with confidence. Even he himself did not know how strong he had become.

Yes, he had succeeded. With the help of his companions and Elder Mu, he had finally succeeded.

.....

"Ice Spirit Fusion!"

"Boooooommm!"

As the Snow Empress' intent entered Huo Yuhao's heart, he felt as if he was blown into a million pieces by the insane amount of energy.

At that instant, he was completely unable to sense his own soul cores and body. Everything seemed to have turned blank.

This sensation lasted for an unknown amount of time before he slowly regained his senses.

An extremely familiar energy was enveloping his spiritual soul core, which had many tiny cracks around it.

It was the presence of this energy that prevented it from shattering. Right now, his spiritual soul core was repairing itself at an insane rate.

Waves of mystical energy were being released constantly from his body. When Huo Yuhao took a closer look at his body, he realized that it had completely transformed.

A crystal clear white soul core was rotating quietly at his chest. Its size was slightly bigger than the spiritual soul core. There seemed to be a human figure flickering within it.

This is...

The Snow Empress?

Huo Yuhao was able to recognize the figure in his soul core instantly. The figure was none other than the Snow Empress.

The Ice Jade Empress Scorpion's torso bone was no longer glowing. At this instant, his bones had turned a brilliant golden color after being nourished by the Dragon Pill. The Ice Empress' aura had become so weak that he could barely sense it.

Huo Yuhao had no idea what had happened. But at this instant, he realized he was no longer able to communicate with the Snow Empress, the Ice Empress, Little Bai, and the rest. Even Li Ya had fallen into a deep slumber.

"Skydream!" Huo Yuhao was finally, fully awake. He recognized the mystical energy which was encircling his spiritual soul core. It belonged to the Skydream Iceworm!

Huo Yuhao's exclamation seemed to have awakened the Skydream Iceworm. However, Skydream did not seem to be able to respond. The mystical energy simply disappeared as the Skydream Iceworm transformed into a streak of light which vanished in his spiritual sea.

Now, he had lost all contact with his six Spirits.

He finally had two soul cores. His spiritual soul core was bright golden, while the Ultimate Ice soul core at his chest was white.

The two soul cores were now rotating in opposite directions. The energy they were releasing was fusing at a point that lay between them. That point was where all of Huo Yuhao's power began. Tiny spirals, which were formed after the power released by the two soul cores had collided, flowed into the passageways within his body. This pure compressed soul power and spiritual power was healing Huo Yuhao's broken body at an incredible speed.

The Life Guardian Sword was also naturally nourishing Huo Yuhao's body with the dense life energy it was radiating. It was almost as if Huo Yuhao was getting a brand new body.

.....

The memory flashed across his mind for an instant before vanishing. To be honest, even Huo Yuhao did not know how he had managed to succeed. His six Spirits were now all asleep, and were unable to answer any of his queries. He just knew that he had somehow managed to succeed. He believed that his six Spirits must have paid a hefty price to assist him.

After his body had completely recovered, he noticed the Black Dragon's reverse scale on the floor. Immediately, he sensed that the Beast God was high up in the sky above him.

Hence, he left the room and came to where they were to face the Beast God. And at this moment, he did not fear Di Tian.

Huo Yuhao's figure flickered, and disappeared from Elder Xuan's side. When his body flickered again, he was already a few kilometers away from the parameters of Shrek City.

Di Tian let out a cold grunt as he took a huge stride in the air and appeared in front of Huo Yuhao. As he lifted the Dark Dragon Sword in his hand, the sky started to darken. It was as if the entire intent of heaven and earth was in his control as he smashed the power of the natural elements into Huo Yuhao.

Huo Yuhao pressed the visor down onto his face as the Icy War God's Armor released a bright jade blue glow. Following which, a short dagger appeared in his hand. Huo Yuhao immediately raised his arm as a four foot-long blue light appeared on the blade of the dagger. In addition, there seemed to be a layer of thin mist surrounding the blade.

The surrounding air seemed to come to a standstill as extreme cold permeated throughout the air. Even the Sun Moon Empire soldiers, which were a long way from the battle could sense the plunge in temperature.

Di Tian's pupils suddenly contracted as the Dark Dragon's Sword in his hand went straight for Huo Yuhao.

The purple-black sword light ripped apart the space between them and left a gaping hole as it went straight for Huo Yuhao's head.

The sword not only contained the power of darkness, but also spatial power. The Beast God's power lay in how he was able to combine and fuse both his dark-type and spatial powers. At this instant, for unknown reasons, the power he had borrowed from the Great Star Dou Forest had started to recede like the tide.

Huo Yuhao did not try to avoid the sword as he waved the dagger in his hand to block the sword light coming from Di Tian. This was a power which even Elder Xuan could not block directly!

A gasp of surprise could be heard from behind Elder Xuan. Yan Shaozhe, Xian Lin'er and the rest had arrived by his side.

They had all been stupefied when they heard Huo Yuhao challenge Di Tian. They could not understand what Huo Yuhao was trying to do. Can he challenge the Beast God with the power he possesses?

"Clinggg!" A bright metallic sound echoed from high up in the sky. An unexpected sight unfolded before everyone's eyes.

Chapter 563.3: Complementing Yin and Yang, Yuhao Leaves Seclusion

The black gaping hole in the sky, which was created by Di Tian, now had a layer of white light on it. All the spatial energy had suddenly been isolated by the white light. It was almost as if the opening was now sealed, and was no longer able to release its energy.

Huo Yuhao was only able to stabilize his body after flying backward for close to a thousand meters. However, his backward movement had helped him absorb some of the force exerted on him by Di Tian. On the other hand, Di Tian's body was now covered in a layer of thick frost. The frost only shattered and fell after he shook his body intensely, and only fully disintegrated after it landed on the ground.

Yes, Huo Yuhao did not gain the upper hand. Compared to Di Tian, his abilities were still considered relatively undeveloped. However, every observer present placed their hands over their mouths subconsciously. What had they just witnessed? They had just seen a human, who was just a little more than twenty years old, block Di Tian's blow directly.

Di Tian was frowning as he reflected on the interaction earlier. No one had a deeper impression of the collision than him. Even though the frost on the surface of his body had shattered, he could still feel how retarded the circulation of his blood and soul power had become. This was caused by the extreme temperatures of the frost.

He was actually able to seal my spatial energy and inflict his Ultimate Ice on my body?

In the meantime, Huo Yuhao was not feeling too well after the collision. Purple-black lines were flickering on his body. However, they quickly faded away under the jade blue light released by the Icy War God's Armor. No one knew his current state because his body was concealed by the human-shaped soul tool.

Huo Yuhao suddenly vanished after his figure faded away like a mirage. Even the Beast God, who had been focusing on Huo Yuhao, could only sense a slight distortion in the air before losing his target.

A worried expression started to form on Di Tian's face. He had finally concluded that he had underestimated Huo Yuhao.

This young man was a lot more powerful than he had imagined.

Yes, he succeeded.

That's right. He must have succeeded. If not, there would be no way that he could have blocked my attack without having first attained the Ultimate Douluo rank.

The Yin Yang Complement technique. He was actually able to form his second soul core using the Yin Yang Complement technique with a human body. I can't let this go on. I must stop his development no matter what. If not, it will be impossible to control him in the future.

The Beast God took a deep breath before raising the Dark Dragon Sword in his hand. Following which, he closed his eyes. He had no intent to kill Huo Yuhao. However, he had to take him away today and imprison him within the Great Star Dou Empire at all costs. The Beast God planned to destroy the power which Huo Yuhao had painstakingly cultivated, and leave him and the power of destiny within the Great Star Dou Forest forever.

When Huo Yuhao's body reappeared again, he appeared behind Di Tian. The Icy War God's Armor instantly released a brilliant jade blue smoke behind it as it sped up and carried Huo Yuhao forward by nearly five kilometers. Huo Yuhao was getting nearer to the Sun Moon Empire troops.

"Shit!" Ju Zi exclaimed as she ordered, "All soul tool deployment areas, get ready!"

Yes, she had to ensure her troops were ready for what could happen next. Huo Yuhao was undoubtedly trying to bring whatever destruction his clash with Di Tian would create to the Sun Moon Empire military camp instead of Shrek City.

The fact that Huo Yuhao was able to withstand a single blow from Di Tian meant that he was pretty close to the level of an Ultimate Douluo, even if he was not quite there yet. If Di Tian—the current strongest individual in the world—were to clash with him above the Sun Moon Empire's military camp, it would probably bring apocalyptic destruction to the troops and their equipment.

Di Tian seemed to be acting a little strange. He was not going after Huo Yuhao. Instead, he was just wielding his Dark Dragon Sword with a single hand, and standing there as though he had been frozen.

However, Huo Yuhao was still running. With his cultivation, it only required him to sprint a few moments to cover tens of kilometers. Before long, the Sun Moon Empire's troops were beneath him.

Countless virtual images appeared from Huo Yuhao's body as he disappeared. He only left a distorted glow in his place after his disappearance.

He had executed his Spiritual Interference Domain. He wanted to make sure no one beneath him was able to pinpoint his exact location.

The soul tool deployment areas were unable to attack at this instant. They could only watch as their surveillance soul tools tried their best to locate where exactly he was.

At this instant, Di Tian suddenly made his move. His movement was extremely simple and elegant as he flipped in mid-air before wielding his Dark Dragon Sword with his two hands instead of one. The gigantic sword suddenly released a blinding purple-black sword light in the air. However, the sword light merely appeared for a short while before disappearing.

It was strange to see Di Tian's attack disappear after he seemed to have made an all-out slash in the air.

However, the entire sky began to contort and twist as the dense purple-black clouds which were hanging over the land beneath them started to disappear. The sun reappeared and continued its irradiation of sunlight on the land beneath it. However, no one could sense the warmth from its rays.

Elder Xuan felt as if his heart had skipped a beat at that instant. Di Tian, who had just completed his slashing motion, seemed to have returned to his formerly calm and collected state. However, he had turned around as he gazed in the direction of the Sun Moon Empire's military camp.

Huo Yuhao reappeared. However, this time around, he was no longer in mid-air, but on the ground. He was standing inside the Sun Moon Empire's military camp.

He was standing there quietly, as though he had sensed something. His hands were wielding the dagger in his hand as he looked around warily.

The surrounding soldiers were able to notice his presence instantly. However, no one dared to confront him. In fact, even the surrounding soul engineers did not possess the courage to do so.

None of them were foolish enough to believe that they could challenge a person who had just managed to withstand a blow from Di Tian.

The temperature of the air around Huo Yuhao plunged instantly. Any place within a thousand meters of him was now permeated with a chilling aura. The entire Icy War God's Armor which he was wearing had now taken on a jade blue color. The Morning Dew Dagger which was in his hand was now emanating a radiant glow.

A chilling current surged within the white icy mist. A figure slowly formed behind Huo Yuhao.

This figure had long golden hair. It was floating behind Huo Yuhao as it revealed a smile on its face. One of its pupils was black, while the other was white.

Huo Yuhao let out a grunt as he suddenly waved his Morning Dew Dagger upwards.

This action was extremely succinct, but it contained a lot of force.

In the meantime, Ju Zi's orders were being disseminated across her army. "All soul tool deployment areas and linked defensive soul tools, activate at full power. Do not hold back."

The Sun Moon Empire was fortunate to have had their soul engineers ready to set up their soul tool deployment areas. All of their linked defensive and offensive soul tools were already charged and ready for use.

Ju Zi's orders could be implemented right away after they were broadcasted and communicated through sound amplifying soul tools and communication soul tools.

Several radiant barriers quickly formed above the military camps as they enveloped the large volume of space beneath them.

At this instant, an inconspicuous crack suddenly formed in front of Huo Yuhao. Following which, a purple light flickered from within it.

Huo Yuhao moved his Morning Dew Dagger and managed to block the blow from the purple light.

“Clingggg!”

A bright metallic sound echoed in the air. Huo Yuhao’s body was vibrating intensely, as though he had just been electrocuted. The insane amount of destructive energy spread to every single corner of his body.

At that instant, his two Yin Yang Complement soul cores seemed to have stopped working. In fact, Huo Yuhao found himself incapable of thinking.

“Hummmm!” The Morning Dew Dagger released a bright humming sound as its blade began to tremble. In fact, it was trembling so fast that it appeared to be in possession of multiple blades.

Multiple deep blue whirlpools began to form on the Icy War God’s Armor. The ground beneath Huo Yuhao started to vibrate as those whirlpools started to fall to the ground from Huo Yuhao’s armor. After landing on the ground, those whirlpools began to expand furiously.

At the same time, Huo Yuhao felt as though everything inside him had stopped. Following which, he could sense the frightening power being channeled into his body by the Dark Dragon Sword tearing up everything within him.

This sensation felt horrible. In fact, it was unbelievably frightening.

Two figures started to appear behind him.

Those two figures looked very similar to the ones which had formed behind Di Tian earlier. They were also a sun and a moon. However, while Di Tian had a black sun and a purple moon, Huo Yuhao’s sun was golden, and his moon was a brilliant blue.

After they appeared, a mystical energy started to appear in his body. This energy was like a powerful glue which recombined the parts of his body that had been shredded by Di Tian’s attack.

Di Tian was observing all of this from afar. Previously, he had only guessed that Huo Yuhao had successfully formed his second soul core with the Yin Yang Complement technique. Now, he was certain that Huo Yuhao had managed to pull it off.

The mystical appearance of a sun and a moon was the signature of the Yin Yang Complement technique. He has actually managed to cultivate his second soul core using the Yin Yang Complement technique. He has managed to accomplish a feat which no human has ever done.

Even Di Tian was starting to fear the potential that Huo Yuhao was displaying. This young man is growing too quickly. Even though Di Tian did not believe Huo Yuhao could form his third soul core to become an Ultimate Douluo, he was still a little wary of the power and potential he was exhibiting. Di Tian believed that he must not be given the room and time to become even more powerful.

Just when Di Tian was thinking about what to do with him, a horrifying change was underway in the Sun Moon Empire's military camp.

The little whirlpools which had landed on the ground from Huo Yuhao's body had transformed into humongous hurricanes which were sweeping across the land beneath them and destroying anything in their way.

These hurricanes were all dark blue. To be precise, their colors were a combination of black and blue.

They contained both Huo Yuhao's Ultimate Ice and Di Tian's dark-type energy. They essentially dark and ice hurricanes of sorts.

Huo Yuhao and Di Tian's clash had inflicted horrifying destruction to their surroundings.

The tents which were within a thousand meters from Huo Yuhao had all turned a dark blue color before disintegrating into powder. Nothing within them was spared a similar fate.

Chapter 564.1: Injuring the Beast God, Holy Ghost Blood Sea

The Sun Moon Empire's military camp was actually designed with several considerations in mind. Every camp surrounded a single soul tool deployment area. The soul tool deployment area would then be able to activate its linked defensive soul tools to protect the camp when they were attacked by their enemies.

When the multiple dark blue hurricanes began to expand, they were already almost touching the linked defensive barriers. The four nearest linked defensive barriers turned dark blue within a few seconds. Even though they did not disintegrate instantly like the tents, the linked defensive barriers began to consume an insane amount of energy.

Every soul engineer within these soul tool deployment areas was frantically trying to inject soul power into their various soul tools. They were very well aware that they would have no chance of surviving if they were to allow the dark blue hurricane to sweep into the soul deployment area.

Huo Yuhao paused for a little more than ten seconds before he regained his ability to move. Even though his body was a little shaky, he was still able to stand up and stabilize himself immediately.

When he looked up at Di Tian in the sky again, his eyes reflected the fear in his heart.

After this recent breakthrough, he now possessed his second soul core. He could sense from his own soul power that he was definitely stronger than someone who had just become a Titled Douluo. He believed he was somewhere between Rank 92 and 93. In addition, his soul power had undergone a transformative change because his second soul core was formed from the Yin Yang Complement technique. Every single strand of soul power had been compressed, and his Ultimate Ice and spiritual power were now perfectly fused. His martial souls were no longer individual, and could fuse perfectly without any deliberate control.

Huo Yuhao believed his power now exceeded that of any normal Transcendent Douluo. At the same time, one must remember the Icy War God's Armor on his body!

The boost given to him by the world's strongest human-shaped soul tool was immense. After this breakthrough, he was finally able to fully control the capabilities of the Icy War God's Armor, as well as

some of the capabilities of the Morning Dew Dagger. These were the reasons why he was confident of challenging Di Tian.

However, it was only after clashing with Di Tian head-on that Huo Yuhao fully understood why Di Tian was called the strongest individual in the world. His strength and abilities were still way above his expectations.

Just that previous blow alone was sufficient to make Huo Yuhao realize how he had underestimated Di Tian's power. If Di Tian were to have followed up that blow and pursued him, Huo Yuhao would have been dead by now.

Of course, Elder Xuan, who was watching vigilantly by the side, would never allow Di Tian to take action against Huo Yuhao. However, this was enough to show the enormous gap between his and Di Tian's abilities.

He should be proud of his feat of blocking Di Tian's blow at his current tender age. However, it was still not enough in Huo Yuhao's opinion. It was still a long way off from what he had expected from himself.

Huo Yuhao kept his gaze on Di Tian as he panted lightly. He slowly raised the Morning Dew Dagger in his hand as he channeled the soul power in his body into the dagger continuously. Following which, he circulated the same soul power back into his body as every bit of cold elemental energy was absorbed into his body.

Even though he did not have the help of his Spirits, the Morning Dew Dagger was able to make up for it. It was only after he had truly experienced its might that Huo Yuhao finally knew how powerful the dagger was. If he did not have the Morning Dew Dagger and the Icy War God's Armor, which together had negated close to seventy percent of Di Tian's blow, he would have died there and then. How could Huo Yuhao have taken Di Tian's frightening blow, which was infused with darkness and spatial energy, on his own?

"Boom! Boom!"

Two linked defensive barriers shattered at the same time. Following which, everything within the soul tool deployment areas was enveloped by the dark blue hurricanes.

It was important to note that there were fifty thousand soldiers within each of the soul tool deployment areas. In addition, there were several precious soul tools and soul engineers inside as well.

However, their other protective soul barriers managed to withstand the hurricanes as the remaining dark blue hurricanes slowly faded away.

Huo Yuhao was confused as to why Di Tian did not continue attacking him. Suddenly, a mystical power suddenly emerged within the Sun Moon Empire's military camp.

It was a dark red light which was extremely slim, yet very long. It suddenly appeared after the two soul tool deployment areas were destroyed. After appearing in mid-air, it stopped right above the two soul tool deployment areas.

Following which, countless enraged and extremely fearful avenging spirits started to gravitate rapidly to the dark red light. The dark red light was expanding at an incredible speed before it formed a long spear in mid-air.

“Huh?” Di Tian was a little startled as he stared at the dark red spear warily.

Huo Yuhao was also looking at that long spear. He was naturally able to sense that it was aimed at Di Tian with his superior spiritual detection ability.

At the same time, Ju Zi, who was hiding in the core area of the camp, ordered coldly, “ Fire Phoenix Soul Engineer Legion, get ready! Fire! Concentrate your firepower on Di Tian!”

Streaks of light started to rise from the Sun Moon Empire’s military camp as they transformed into a beam of the purest red light, which surged towards Di Tian, who was hovering in mid-air.

The reaction from the Sun Moon Empire shocked the powerful cultivators from Shrek Academy. They would never have expected the Sun Moon Empire’s soul engineer legion to attack Di Tian. Isn’t that the same as seeking one’s own death? Unless the Sun Moon Empire is able to recognize the need for humans to unite against soul beasts? That can’t be it. That is not something the Sun Moon Empire would do!

Of course, that was impossible. Right from the beginning, Ju Zi had been trying to get Zhongli Wu to attack Di Tian. Now, she was also commanding the soul engineer legions to strike Di Tian. There was only one reason for her decisions. She wanted to help Huo Yuhao!

Ju Zi had never planned to attack Shrek Academy. After Huo Yuhao had returned her son to her, revenge was no longer the most important thing in this world. In her eyes, the most important things for her were the two men in her life. One of them was Xu Yunhan, while the other one was naturally...

Hence, Ju Zi had already made up her mind the moment Huo Yuhao suddenly appeared on the battlefield. She was initially not planning to make a move. After all, it was best for Di Tian and the Holy Ghost Church to be engaged in a mutually disadvantageous battle. However, she could not care anymore after seeing how Di Tian slashed his sword at Huo Yuhao. When she saw that, she felt as if her heart had almost stopped. That sensation was simply unbearable!

Thus, she did not hesitate to order her troops to attack Di Tian. She simply could not afford to allow Di Tian to attack Huo Yuhao again.

Of course, there was no one present here who could understand her true intentions. Even Huo Yuhao, who was involved in this whole saga, could not tell why she was making these decisions. After all, no one would have expected the Sun Moon Empire’s commander to make her decisions based on her feelings for a single man. Besides, Ju Zi’s orders had been given at an extremely timely moment. She issued the orders precisely when Zhongli Wu first made his move. This seemed more like a combined effort with the Holy Ghost Church rather than a selfish decision. Hence, no one would challenge her decision.

The reason why Di Tian did not continue to attack Huo Yuhao was because Elder Xuan was watching vigilantly by the side. On top of that, he was a little lost right now. He did not know what he should do to Huo Yuhao. While he was aware that he must not kill him, he was also aware that catching him would be extremely challenging.

The presence of the powerful soul masters from the Shrek Academy was bound to make things difficult for him. On top of that, Huo Yuhao had already acquired his second soul core using the Yin Yang Complement technique. If he were unable to put up a fight, he would definitely be able to flee successfully. Di Tian was not confident of abducting Huo Yuhao when he was also up against the powerful cultivators from Shrek Academy and Elder Xuan—an Ultimate Douluo.

Just when he was hesitating, the attacks from the Sun Moon Empire's soul tools reached him.

Di Tian let out a cold grunt as he waved his humongous hand in front of him. Instantly, a black light formed before him. The black light was like an expanded dragon scale with pointed edges. It floated before Di Tian as it attempted to block the linked offensive soul tool attacks coming towards him.

However, it was only able to block the soul tools for a short instant.

The pitch black scale seemed to pause for a while as a look of surprise flickered across Di Tian's usually calm face. Following which, he instantly vanished from where he was. More than ten streaks of light shot through the black scale and tore the void behind him to shreds.

Di Tian reappeared a couple of hundred meters from where he had been. A frustrated expression had replaced the shocked look on his face. He could not imagine how these humans were able to become so powerful. The power of the humans' attacks had already exceeded his expectations. What exactly was that power? The total energy stored in the attack had already exceeded the power he had. It was simply too frightening for him. Was it possible for humans or a group of soul masters to collectively produce such power?

Back when he launched the beast wave against Shrek City, Di Tian had witnessed the destructive ability of soul tools. Even though he had been wary then, those soul tools were not as powerful as the ones he was witnessing now.

However, it was very different now. These soul tools were clearly able to threaten him. This was a frightening prospect for him to fathom. The existence of such weapons meant that the Great Star Dou Forest could be in danger at any moment!

The beams from the linked offensive soul tools did not disappear after penetrating Di Tian's black scale. Instead, they swept horizontally as they tried to chase after him.

This was an opportunity that Huo Yuhao would definitely seize. Of course, he did not intend to attack Di Tian. He was going to flee.

In a flicker, he concealed himself within the air as he sped out of the range of the Sun Moon Empire's military camp.

At the same time, he used his spiritual power to contact the people from Shrek Academy. Through his Spiritual Detection Sharing ability, he was able to direct everyone back to Shrek City. ~~n@ve-lB-1n~~

Huo Yuhao was already very satisfied to have destroyed two soul tool deployment areas with Di Tian's help. This was effectively equivalent to a tenth of the entire Sun Moon Empire's troops.

In addition, it was good that Di Tian was now fighting the Sun Moon Empire. Such battles were better viewed from afar.

The destructive ability of the linked offensive soul tools was simply overwhelming. Di Tian might be fine if he were only hit once. However, if all of them were to land on his body, even he might not be able to take it!

Chapter 564.2: Injuring the Beast God, Holy Ghost Blood Sea

Di Tian flickered around the sky as he used his mastery over spatial power to avoid the attacks of these linked offensive soul tools. At the same time, he lifted the Dark Dragon Sword in his hand.

These despicable humans! How dare they try to attack me! They shall pay the price for their audacity!

At this instant, a deafening howl suddenly echoed in the sky. A dark red light flickered in the air.

When the dark red light vanished, the sky suddenly turned red. It now resembled an ocean of blood as red clouds surged in the sky.

Di Tian immediately tried to step into the space before him which he had opened up. However, he was shocked to discover that the space around him had been sealed. He was actually unable to break this spatial barrier to freely flicker around.

It was during this short moment when the linked offensive soul tools started to sweep towards him again.

Di Tian was ultimately Di Tian. Even though he was shocked, he was able to react in time. He swept the Dark Dragon Sword in his hand horizontally as he ripped the space next to him apart. This was enough to absorb more than two-thirds of the linked offensive soul tools, while the remaining third landed on his body.

The black sun and purple moon suddenly appeared behind him again as Di Tian's body paused in mid-air. After some of the linked offensive soul tools swept past his body, the aura his body was radiating instantly became overwhelmingly intense as his eyes lit up with a golden glow. It was apparent that the Beast God had been enraged.

However, at this instant, a flash of dark red suddenly appeared before him without any warning as it pierced right into his chest.

It was a devilish looking, long, and blood-red spear. It was so frighteningly red that it seemed as though fresh blood was about to drip from its tip. What was most scary about it was how Di Tian was suddenly surrounded by a sea of blood which immobilized him before the spear appeared. There was no way he could have evaded the spear's attack.

This must be the thing that sealed the space around me! Di Tian immediately understood that at the first instant. However, this red spear had simply caught him off-guard. At the same time, Di Tian was busy trying to deal with the attacks from the linked offensive soul tools. Under such circumstances, the long red spear was able to pierce into his chest.

Di Tian's body was tougher than any known rare metal. Hence, after he was pierced, Di Tian released a loud cry as he swept his Dark Dragon Sword horizontally before him.

A painful grinding sound could be heard as the red spear was sliced in half. However, the tip of the spear suddenly drilled itself into Di Tian's body. Countless vengeful howls could be heard echoing about in the

sky. The blood sea was also fervently trying to consume Di Tian. At this moment, the linked offensive soul tools had finally stopped their attacks. Such powerful attacks were often incapable of being executed in a sustained fashion. Otherwise, the soul tools would overheat, and end up being damaged. However, they had already played their part. The red spear was the real weapon that could actually harm the Beast God.

Di Tian's body was trembling in the air as he furiously slashed his Dark Dragon Sword downwards in the direction of the Sun Moon Empire military camp.

The blood sea was forcefully ripped apart as a dragon's roar echoed in the sky. The linked defensive protective barrier of a soul deployment area within the Sun Moon Empire military camp immediately cracked. A streak of purple-black sword light flashed and headed for one of the tents.

A flash of blood-colored light emerged from the tent instantly as it countered the sword light which was coming down on it.

Four of the twelve evil soul masters who were sitting with their legs crossed in the tent spat out a mouthful of blood at the same instant. Zhongli Wu's face also turned pale.

Di Tian's howl could be heard from fifty kilometers away. He raised the Dark Dragon Sword in his hand before slashing it at the blood sea. Another crack formed in the sky, and he crept into it despite knowing how the space around him had been sealed. Nonetheless, he disappeared into the crack.

The blood sea continued to ripple furiously as it circulated in the air in search of Di Tian. However, it eventually disintegrated after failing to locate its target.

A dissatisfied look formed on Zhongli Wu's face. "How could he have fled like this? Nonetheless, he has been pierced by the red spear, and must now be seriously injured. Follow me into the Great Star Dou Forest." As he spoke, he quickly rose from where he was as he led a group of evil soul masters to chase Di Tian into the Great Star Dou Forest.

With their group's ability, even if all twelve of them were to link up together, it was still unlikely that they could harm Di Tian. However, they had not only used their own powers for the blow earlier. They had borrowed the vengeance from tens of thousands of avenging spirits. Zhongli Wu had burned these spirits into the red spear that had pierced Di Tian. It was able to seal all the space around him in that instant and deal a heavy blow to him. Even though the spear was unable to penetrate Di Tian's body fully, a part of it had successfully pierced through his body and released the frightening vengeance into him. The frightening vengeance would wreak havoc within his body until he was fully consumed by it.

This was why Zhongli Wu was so eager to hunt him down. If they were really able to take Di Tian down, the Holy Ghost Church would truly become unstoppable. He would then take over Di Tian as the strongest individual in the world!

After witnessing this scene, Huo Yuhao, Elder Xuan, and the rest were able to finally heave a sigh of relief. The Beast God was finally gone. He would probably not threaten Huo Yuhao for the time being.

It was only after Huo Yuhao lifted his Icy War God's Armor's visor that Elder Xuan saw how pale his face was.

“Wah!” Huo Yuhao spat out a mouthful of blood as his body started to sway left and right. He was only able to not fall with the help of Elder Xuan.

“Let’s talk after we have return.” Elder Xuan supported Huo Yuhao with his arm as he mustered his soul power and brought both of them back to Shrek City. Yan Shaozhe and the others followed behind them.

The battle which had just occurred had so many close shaves. At the same time, it had allowed them to witness the Sun Moon Empire’s frightening capabilities.

Even Di Tian could not gain the upper hand over the linked offensive soul tools with the power he possessed. On top of that, the Sun Moon Empire had the backing of the Holy Ghost Church. The Holy Ghost Church was even able to hurt the Beast God, and force him to retreat.

The people from Shrek Academy had not even found the time to celebrate Huo Yuhao’s success before they were once again overwhelmed by that demoralizing revelation.

Elder Xuan brought Huo Yuhao back to the Sea God’s Pavilion directly. When they came before the Golden Tree, Huo Yuhao knelt before it and prayed to it just as before.

“Teacher, thank you for lending me a hand. I have finally made a breakthrough, and completed my second soul core. You can rest assured that I will definitely do my best to defend Shrek City, and stop the Sun Moon Empire from destroying our Academy.”

Elder Xuan, who was standing beside Huo Yuhao, turned around and hid his face from him. He naturally knew that Elder Mu would not be able to hear Huo Yuhao’s voice again. However, how could he bear to tell him the truth?

After paying his respects to the Golden Tree, Huo Yuhao stood up and returned to the Sea God’s Pavilion with Elder Xuan.

“How are you?” Elder Xuan asked. Even though both of them had two soul cores, Huo Yuhao’s cultivation method was entirely different from his. Even Elder Xuan was unable to use his soul power to see the condition of his body.

Huo Yuhao said, “I’m fine. My body is just a little shaken after taking the Beast God’s blow. However, my body’s regenerative ability seems to have become a lot more powerful than it was previously. I should be fine in no time.”

Elder Xuan nodded and said, “That’s great. Anyways, congratulations! You now finally own your second soul core. And it’s a second soul core formed from the Yin Yang Complement technique. I believe that you should be able to surpass me in no time, and become the number one soul master in our Academy. In fact, you might even possess the ability to challenge the Beast God. Di Tian must have come to look for trouble after sensing that you were about to make your breakthrough. Fortunately, we managed to tide over his attacks. In fact, I believe that Di Tian might also be in a sticky situation right now. Just now, I saw a group of evil soul masters heading in the direction of the Great Star Dou Forest. Di Tian must have sustained serious injuries, and now they’re going to hunt him down.”

A sly smile formed on Huo Yuhao’s face as he said, “Those evil soul masters have no idea what they’re getting into. They must be mad to even think about hunting the Beast God.”

Elder Xuan nodded in agreement. “The Great Star Dou Forest does not only have Di Tian. It also houses the Emerald Swan, the Bear Lord, the Myriad Demon King, and many other powerful soul beasts. Those evil soul masters might not be able to get the better of them.”

Huo Yuhao shook his head and said, “I don’t think Emerald Swan and the rest can actually hold up against those evil soul masters. The collective strength and power they are able to draw from is immense. They must have absorbed the souls of the soldiers which were killed by the spillovers released by my battle with Di Tian. That’s why they were able to harm Di Tian. With the power that they now wield, they would be equivalent to a few Transcendent Douluo. However, they have probably overestimated the extent of the injuries the Beast God has sustained.”

“Oh?” Elder Xuan was surprised by Huo Yuhao’s words. “Is it not serious enough? I thought the attack was already pretty powerful.”

Huo Yuhao replied, “Yes, it was very powerful. It contained the vengeance of tens of thousands of avenging spirits, and possessed immense destructive power. However, it is also important to note that Di Tian also possesses Yin Yang Equilibrium soul cores. With these soul cores, it will be extremely difficult for him to sustain heavy injuries.”

“Quick, tell me what’s so special about your Yin Yang Equilibrium soul cores,” Elder Xuan asked curiously.

Huo Yuhao explained, “After the Yin Yang Equilibrium soul cores are formed, the power of the two soul cores will fuse with one another. If I were to phrase it another way, the powers would be reorganized, purified and compressed after colliding against one another. This allows my soul power to possess spiritual power and Ultimate Ice characteristics. At the same time, the brand new soul power will also take the form of a whirlpool. This whirlpool-shaped soul power was definitely the product of the fusion between my soul power and spiritual power. It possesses extremely destructive capabilities. At the same time, it is also able to compress my soul power to the most compact state possible. I can sense how the total volume of my soul power had increased to three times its original amount after I made my breakthrough. In addition, my fighting power has increased to five times what it was before my soul power compression.”

“The brand new soul power produced by the Yin Yang Complement technique is extremely resistant to any external energy or power. Even though the vengeance from the spear was extremely intense, I believe Di Tian’s Yin Yang Equilibrium soul power, which he must have cultivated for many years, will definitely be able to dissolve the vengeance. Besides, his body is dark-type. Even though he should definitely be injured, his injuries should not be as serious as the evil soul masters have imagined. Those evil soul masters are really unwise to intrude into the Great Star Dou Forest and challenge the Beast God on his home ground.”

After hearing Huo Yuhao’s explanation, Elder Xuan exhaled deeply. It seems like it’s really not easy for any soul master to fight the Beast God—especially with the power he possesses!

Chapter 564.3: Injuring the Beast God, Holy Ghost Blood Sea

Even though the status of soul engineers had been on the rise—in fact, they seemed to be overtaking soul masters in terms of prestige—as soul tools continued to become more advanced, the most powerful individuals still remained at the top of the pyramid.

For example, the Beast God was definitely able to flee no matter how many soul engineers were sent after him. No one would be able to hold him down. And if he were to go all-out and attack, he would definitely be more frightening than any soul engineer legion.

As he thought about soul engineer legions, Huo Yuhao suddenly recalled the short interaction he had with the Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineer Legion. It was truly a force not to be meddled with. If they were to clash head-on with the Beast God, who knew if they could actually slay him? Huo Yuhao knew that he would eventually have to face the world's most powerful soul engineer legion in the future when they clashed head-on with the Sun Moon Empire.

Elder Xuan said, "Yuhao, you've said enough. Go and treat your injuries. I will keep watch over you. You should consolidate your powers now that you've made your breakthrough. It would have been great if Wutong was around. Who knows? Both of you might just be able to stand up to Di Tian if both of you were to link up together."

Huo Yuhao revealed an awkward smile as he shook his head. "I am afraid there might now be a problem with my martial soul fusion with Wutong after my breakthrough. My soul power has fundamentally changed, and might not be able to fuse with her soul power anymore. However, I think our martial soul fusion skills should still be usable. If she is around, I think both of us should be able to defend ourselves."

"Where did this little brat run off to? Why is Wutong not with you at such an important time?" Elder Xuan asked.

Huo Yuhao replied, "Elder Xuan, I shan't hide it from you. I have gotten her to go to the Dou Ling Empire and persuade the people there not to send their troops over to Shrek City."

Elder Xuan did not seem to be surprised by what Huo Yuhao had revealed. Instead, he sighed and said, "Yuhao, do you know what will happen if everyone were to know what you have done?"

Huo Yuhao lowered his head and said, "It's really obvious that this is a trap. I really don't want them to fall into this trap. At the same time, I know my actions will not be able to change the outcome. The Dou Ling Empire and Star Luo Empire will not be able to pass up this chance to cooperate with us and defeat the Sun Moon Empire. However, if they were to really come and assist us, I'm afraid..."

Elder Xuan sighed and said, "Even though Wutong was fairly emotional the other day, I could tell that what she had suggested was very likely true. However, you must understand that no matter how likely her proposition was, the Academy can never take such risks. This is because we simply cannot afford to fail. Hence, when such moments arrive, we have no choice but to prioritize the survival of our Academy."

"Even though we were able to inflict some damage on the Sun Moon Empire thanks to your efforts, at the same time, we caught a glimpse of how powerful their army has become. Even Di Tian had no choice but to avoid a direct blow from some of their attacks. Needless to say, we would probably not be able to withstand their blows either. If we were really to clash head-on, what do you think our odds of beating them are?"

Huo Yuhao nodded. "I understand your dilemma. Hence, I can only do what I can to improve the situation. Following which, I went into my closed-door cultivation and attempted to make my breakthrough in the hopes of threatening the Sun Moon Empire with my new abilities. Elder Xuan, once I have recovered, I hope to pay a visit to the Sun Moon Empire's military camp."

Elder Xuan's eyes widened slightly before he replied, "Sure, go ahead. In fact, this is a good time to do that." He did not bother asking what Huo Yuhao planned to do at the camp. After hearing what Wutong had said previously, he could roughly guess that Huo Yuhao and the War God Empress had a peculiar relationship going on. Now that the evil soul masters had headed to the Great Star Dou Forest, it was a good chance for him to find her.

Elder Xuan personally sent Huo Yuhao to his room in the Sea God's Pavilion before ordering his people to head to the Tang Sect and inform the people there that Huo Yuhao was well.

After crossing his legs and sitting up straight, Huo Yuhao's mind returned to its tranquil state. Following which, he began to recount the collision he had had with Di Tian.

That blow from Di Tian must have been close to his full power. Even though his dark-type power was not particularly frightening, it became invincible once it was combined with his spatial power

The Yin Yang Equilibrium soul cores in his body started to rotate as small whirlpools of soul power started to circulate within his passageways, releasing a mystical sensation.

Even though Huo Yuhao had sustained some concussive injuries, they were not particularly serious because of his Icy War God's Armor. In addition, he had fully absorbed the energy from the Dragon Pill. This gave his body strength and resistance which was beyond that of any human.

The soul power which was infused with his spiritual power and Ultimate Ice circulated along the path dictated by the Mysterious Heaven Technique under his control. After a few circulations, the injuries in his body vanished.

Even though it was unbelievably tough to use the Yin Yang Complement technique to cultivate one's second soul core, it promised many incredible benefits after it was completed.

Even Huo Yuhao was unable to accurately measure how much soul power he could control now. However, he was certain that he should be able to take on powerful cultivators like Yan Shaozhe one-on-one even if he didn't have Tang Wutong with him.

Having a second soul core formed from the Yin Yang Complement technique granted him regenerative ability that was far beyond that of a Titled Douluo or Transcendent Douluo, who both only had one soul core. He had a massive advantage over them when it came to his soul power's strength and flexibility, as well as the duality of his soul power.

Di Tian's soul power also possessed dual characteristics. However, his duality was a fusion of his dark-type power and spatial power. It was important to note that the spatial power did not belong to him. Instead, he had spent hundreds of thousands of years accumulating and experimenting to gain an understanding of the spatial power which surrounded him. Following which, he integrated this understanding of spatial power into his own dark-type power and used his spatial power to replace his

relatively weak spiritual power. Hence, Di Tian's soul power actually contained three different kinds of power. However, his spiritual power was relatively weaker than the others.

Huo Yuhao knew that he still had a long way to go. Acquiring his second soul core was equivalent to opening a new door of possibilities. There was plenty for him to explore and look forward to.

While he had started to get the hang of how to use his Icy War God's Armor, he had only come into contact with the tip of the iceberg when it came to the capabilities of his Morning Dew Dagger.

After all, the Morning Dew Dagger was an actual godly weapon! Today, the Morning Dew Dagger had already helped him negate a large part of the power from Di Tian's slash, which had transcended space. Otherwise, he would definitely have sustained heavier injuries. However, Huo Yuhao believed that his life would not be at any risk. He could sense that Di Tian did not want to kill him.

Of course, he would not feel grateful towards the Beast God because of this. He was very clear why Di Tian did not want to kill him.

As nightfall came, Huo Yuhao gently stretched as he floated from his bed to the ground. As he stretched, his entire body radiated a powerful aura. It was as though he were a gigantic dragon

After completing the cultivation of his second soul core, Huo Yuhao had officially stepped into the league of the most powerful cultivators. Even though Shrek Academy had plenty of powerful cultivators, he was definitely qualified to call himself one of them now.

Huo Yuhao took in a deep breath, and allowed the air to circulate within his body before exhaling. The air that escaped from his mouth seemed as though it had left his body in a spiral manner. Even though there was no soul power in his breath, Huo Yuhao felt as though everything around him was in his control.

After his fight with Di Tian and the cultivation he had just completed, he had now developed a basic understanding of his body's current situation.

As of now, Huo Yuhao's soul power should be somewhere around Rank 92. His actual soul power volume was closer to that of a Rank 96 Transcendent Douluo. However, his soul power possessed dual characteristics, and had been formed through Yin Yang Equilibrium. At the same time, his soul power possessed rapid regenerative ability, and was a lot more flexible than normal soul power. Coupled with his twin martial souls, he would not even be at a disadvantage if he were to fight with a Rank 97 Transcendent Douluo based solely on soul power. If he were to bump into powerful cultivators like Long Xiaoyao again, he still might not be able to defeat them, but he would not be powerless like before.

He was able to melt into the night sky by developing that intent. There was no need for him to deliberately execute a soul skill.

This was obviously an ability that belonged to a Transcendent Douluo. After becoming a Transcendent Douluo, one's soul skills would fuse perfectly with one's body. The soul skill would naturally be executed according to one's intent. There was no need to deliberately release one's martial soul or activate one's soul rings. The speed of the execution would hence be faster as the power of the effect became enhanced.

As he floated out of the Sea God's Pavilion, Huo Yuhao soared high up into the sky before vanishing out of sight.

Elder Xuan, who had been meditating in his own room, opened his eyes as he revealed a warm smile. "Elder Mu, I have found you a successor."

The azure sky was very clear. Perhaps it was because the battle earlier in the day had blown away all the clouds and mist. The night view was spectacular.

Countless stars decorated the sky. They were like sparkling diamonds sewn on a dark blue piece of silk. The view was particularly moving.

Because of the radiant moon, the night did not seem as dark and depressing as it would have been. The moon allowed Huo Yuhao to look far ahead.

While he was flying through the sky, the sensations which were attacking his senses were completely different from before.

After acquiring his second soul core, everything seemed to have changed. His cultivation level, senses, spiritual power, and even his understanding of the world had become different.

If his understanding of the world was formerly but the tip of the iceberg, he was now capable of appreciating everything, and drawing out the universal laws that governed the patterns around him. He felt as if he could be in control of anything and everything around him, no matter what circumstances he found himself in.

This sensation was particularly special and pleasant. Even Huo Yuhao was unable to explain why it felt this special. He merely felt that even the smallest particles in the air could transform under his control and according to his intent.

And the original three-dimensional world that Huo Yuhao was familiar with now seemed to have disintegrated into isolated segments. After acquiring his second soul core, he seemed to have understood some ideas about the spaces and the gaps between dimensions. Even though he was far from reaching Di Tian's level, he believed he would be able to eventually attain a deep understanding of spatial power if he were to continue developing his understanding of this state.

He no longer seemed to require any soul power to fly. It was as if the air had become a part of his body. With simple intent, the air would propel his body forward. Controlling the speed of his motion was also controllable by his intent.

Chapter 565.1: Abduction!

It turned out that he no longer needed a flying-type soul tool after gaining his second soul core. As for his speed limit, Huo Yuhao gave that an attempt too. He was definitely faster than supersonic speed. Once he reached a certain speed, he felt that he was able to break through space.

It was only now that he realized that the Beast God's ability to transcend space wasn't very special. It was achievable once his speed reached a certain extreme, and once he was able to understand the mysteries of space. He couldn't do so now, but he would find a way to do it in the future.

The formation of his second soul core opened a new door for him. The existence of this door also gave him the opportunity to work towards the peak of this world.

He soon covered fifty kilometers just as he was silently comprehending everything.

Huo Yuhao let all types of soul tools scan his body, but he wasn't afraid of being discovered. This was because he was like a part of the air right now.

Even the Beast God couldn't do this, as he didn't have Imitation. After forming his second soul core, Huo Yuhao's Imitation had also reached a peak. It was no longer just simply imitating. It was more like a transformation. He could transform into anything he wanted to, including air.

The destruction caused in the day could still be seen. Watching from the sky, it was clear that one entire region was completely empty. Even from the sky, Huo Yuhao could still sense the aura of darkness and Ultimate Ice coming from that section. This plot of land would take a long time to neutralize these forces. Before they were neutralized, no living matter could survive here. Even any living organism above it was affected.

Huo Yuhao's Spiritual Detection was unleashed like a huge web. The entire Sun Moon Empire camp was covered. Very soon, Huo Yuhao found who he wanted.

He drifted down and landed in the base.

Ju Zi was distracted in her seat at this moment. There was an uncertain look in her eyes. One couldn't blame her for feeling this way. She was still very confused.

In the day, she had watched as Di Tian stuck Huo Yuhao with a sword. That was also a very key reason why she was determined to attack the Beast God.

Everything that had happened afterward was under her control. The only thing she was unsure about was how Huo Yuhao was. He actually clashed against the Beast God. Although he was much stronger than he was before, would the Beast God's attack have left him with serious injuries?

"Can I enter?" A clear voice sounded from outside, which caused Ju Zi to lift her head.

"Who is it?" After she asked, she subconsciously covered her mouth. This was because she realized that the voice didn't come from outside the tent, but was ringing inside her head

"Whoosh whoosh!" A few figures quickly dashed into the tent.

"Marshal, what's going on?" The people who entered were all dressed in fiery-red human-shaped soul tools. They were members of the Fire Phoenix Soul Engineer Legion.

Among the five soul engineer legions in the Hand that Protects the Nation, only Ju Zi's thirty bodyguards, the team and vice-team leaders of the respective soul engineer legions, and the entire Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineer Legion were equipped with human-shaped soul tools.

These guards that were standing guard outside Ju Zi's tent were all elites among the elites in the Fire Phoenix Soul Engineer Legion.

Ju Zi waved her hand and said, "Nothing. I might have heard wrongly earlier. All of you can leave now."

“Yes.” While the guards were a little perplexed, they still retreated after performing a simple check of the tent.

Ju Zi returned to her seat and sat down. She gently pressed her right hand to her chair handle. Around the tent, a spiritual barrier silently went off.

In that short period of time earlier, she had already known whose voice that was. Is he here? Is he really here?

“Ju Zi.” The voice sounded once again. Ju Zi was stunned. She subconsciously covered her mouth. This was because she was astonished to discover that Huo Yuhao had appeared in front of her without any warning.

“You...” Ju Zi was in a daze. Before she could even open her mouth, Huo Yuhao had already pulled her over with one hand.

At this instant, countless images surfaced in Ju Zi’s head. She subconsciously wanted to grab the handle on the other side. However, she stopped after her hand moved slightly. Huo Yuhao wasn’t restraining her. Instead, she stopped of her own accord.

A sorrowful feeling surged in her heart. Is he finally going to make a move on me? Has he made up his mind?

Ju Zi mocked herself and shut her eyes. She had many tricks up her sleeve to deal with Huo Yuhao. The tent was full of traps. If she used the installations in the tent to stop Huo Yuhao for even a moment, she was confident that someone would come to save her.

However, she didn’t do so. Rather, she didn’t do anything. At this instant, she even felt as if the shackles on her had been removed. Dying under his hands was probably the best relief that she could get.

Huo Yuhao placed his hand on Ju Zi’s shoulder. Following this, a pitch-black door appeared behind him. Lights flashed, and both he and Ju Zi vanished into that door.

Ju Zi only felt that her soul had left her body. Everything around her distorted, but there was a weird force protecting her. Nothing in the outside world could touch her body.

And then, everything returned to normal. Ju Zi’s legs shook, and she found her footing again.

Everything around her brightened up. The air was slightly cold and sinister. When Ju Zi opened her eyes, she discovered that she was on a little mountain with Huo Yuhao. Not far from this mountain was a huge base. There were many soul engineers training there. The lighting here was also dimmer than usual, like it was night time.

Ju Zi was shocked as she asked Huo Yuhao, “Where are we?”

Huo Yuhao smiled and replied, “This is my place.”

“Your place?” Ju Zi was curious. She wasn’t afraid of dying in Huo Yuhao’s arms. Right now, she wasn’t fearful at all.

Huo Yuhao asked a little cheekily, “Do you really think I’ll tell you the secret of this place?”

Ju Zi shook her head and said, "Whatever. Why did you bring me here?"

Huo Yuhao laughed slightly, "For no reason. We are friends. I only invited you here as a guest. Can't I do that? Let's go and get a cup of tea."

As he spoke, he proceeded in the direction of the base.

Ju Zi stomped the ground. Although she didn't know what was going on, she still followed him. For some reason, she felt that she would be in grave danger if she left his side.

Ju Zi wasn't wearing any armor right now, only a red dress. It seemed like she was a young but rich lady.

"Marshal!" The soldiers all came up to greet Huo Yuhao when they saw him. They were all delightfully surprised to see him.

Huo Yuhao and the others from the Tang Sect had been gone for some time without returning. Although there was food and water here, they were still very lonely. The three soul engineer legions were loving the war against the Sun Moon Empire. It was truly exciting. Furthermore, they were also very happy to plunder the Sun Moon Empire.

It was also their first time seeing Ju Zi. When they saw her, they appeared very playful. Although Ju Zi wasn't as pretty as Tang Wutong, she had a very special aura about her. This left a deep impression on others, especially her delicate skin. These soul engineers unwittingly took another few glances at her.

Huo Yuhao brought Ju Zi to where he stayed in the base.

Although Ju Zi kept on following him, she was still observing everything around her. Since she hadn't died, everything here was very important to her. Being observant had become a habit that she followed in her life.

Huo Yuhao didn't bother her, and didn't stop her either.

After entering his room, someone delivered tea and some snacks. After this period of restructuring, this base was already very similar one on to the Douluo Continent.

"Please, enjoy some tea." Huo Yuhao raised his own teacup and took a sip.

Ju Zi didn't move, only silently sat and watched.

Huo Yuhao smiled as he asked, "Why are you looking at me?"

"Tell me, where is this place? Yuhao, I didn't expect you to have such a big secret." Ju Zi said with a serious face.

Huo Yuhao smiled and replied, "Didn't I tell you earlier that this is my place?"

Ju Zi's eyes suddenly brightened. "You can control spatial power?"

After hearing her question, Huo Yuhao was astonished. "Can you actually tell?"

Ju Zi groaned, "While I might not be particularly strong, you must not forget that I'm the Sun Moon Empire's War God Empress. I'm always in touch with the most senior officials in the Sun Moon Empire, especially their top soul engineers. In terms of my experience, I'm not lacking compared to others. It's

just that I don't believe you can control such a big plot of space, given your abilities. This isn't just ordinary spatial power anymore. Even Di Tian couldn't possibly create an entire plane that belongs to him. I understand everything now. The sneak attacks on the Sun Moon Empire were indeed committed by you. With such a plane and your flying speed, you can indeed appear in any corner of the Sun Moon Empire. No wonder you were so difficult to deal with. Even His Majesty was hurt by your attack."

Chapter 565.2: Abduction!

Huo Yuhao said, "So Xu Tianran really was hurt. It's a pity we couldn't kill him. Otherwise, the Sun Moon Empire's army would collapse on its own."

Ju Zi suddenly laughed. "I think so too. It's a pity that you didn't kill him. However, I have to tell you that the Sun Moon Empire wouldn't be in chaos even after he dies. This is because I'm still here."

"What if you were dead too?" Huo Yuhao's voice suddenly turned cold.

The smile on Ju Zi's face became even more captivating, "Don't try to scare me. That trick won't work on me. I've already seen through you. If you could really bear to kill me, you wouldn't have brought me here. You would have killed me when we were in the tent earlier."

As she spoke, she leaned on the sides of the table and stood up. Then, she moved in front of Huo Yuhao and looked at him, saying, "You can't bear to kill me, right?"

Huo Yuhao was forced to move back a little. As he looked at Ju Zi, he felt very helpless. She was simply too clever! Yes, he wouldn't have brought her here if he was determined to kill her.

"Yes, I can't bear to kill you. However, since you're here and have seen my greatest secret, do you really think I'll let you off?"

Ju Zi laughed and said, "It's not important whether I go back. The more important thing is, how will the Sun Moon Empire's army react if I go missing? Should I analyze things for you? If you plan on keeping me captive, I would say that's a wrong move."

"What?" Huo Yuhao was a little astonished as he looked at her. In fact, he had really wanted to keep her captive in here. Otherwise, he wouldn't have brought her here.

In terms of military matters, Ju Zi was an absolute genius. Without their marshal, the Sun Moon Empire's army would be without a leader. When that happened, there was bound to be internal chaos. That would make them easier to deal with.

Ju Zi laughed and said, "If I'm around, Shrek City will be fine. However, I can't guarantee that if I go missing. I can even say that Shrek City will be in danger. Think about it. If I'm missing, wouldn't Shrek naturally be the most likely culprit? Given that, the Sun Moon Empire's army and my subordinates will first think of attacking Shrek and asking for me."

"If I'm held captive here, I can't send any instructions. Once they can't find me, they'll definitely enact vengeance on Shrek City. Do you really think that Shrek can handle our army? You should have seen how strong we were when we dealt with Di Tian today."

Huo Yuhao said, "I can bring you back to Shrek City and make you appear on the city walls. Once your subordinates see that you're there, will they dare to attack the city?"

Ju Zi laughed coldly and replied, "You're overthinking things. In this world, there are at least two people who can command the army. One is my husband, who's the current Emperor of the Sun Moon Empire. Once I'm captured, they'll immediately send word back to Radiant City. My husband can even forsake his own son. What do you think he'll do for me? Furthermore, that would only give him the perfect reason to attack Shrek City. If I'm dead, he can easily find another person to replace me. That person is the military supervisor of the Sun Moon Empire's army, Zhong Liwu. You should know how vicious the Holy Ghost Church is. If I'm in the army, I can still suppress them. Once I'm gone, you should know about the hatred between the Holy Ghost Church and Shrek City. He can't wait to lay his hands on Shrek City. When that happens, he'll definitely activate all my subordinates to attack. In addition, he also wants me dead. If I'm dead, there's one less person in the empire that can restrain him. Isn't that a good thing for him? He can kill two birds with one stone."

"If they can destroy Shrek City, those from the Holy Ghost Church are willing to pay any price. After destroying Shrek, they'll strengthen their control over the Sun Moon Empire's army and launch an all-out war. When that happens, who can stop them? Do you really think that the Sun Moon Empire's army is better under their control, or mine?"

Ju Zi left Huo Yuhao wide-eyed in shock with her words. As he looked at her serious face, he couldn't speak for a long time.

His reason for finding Ju Zi today had been very simple. He wanted to hold her captive to alleviate the crisis that Shrek was currently facing. At least he could threaten the Sun Moon Empire, so that they wouldn't act recklessly. After that, he could also judge who Ju Zi's real target was.

However, Huo Yuhao hesitated after hearing her words. This was because every word she said made sense.

Ju Zi raised her teacup and blew into it. She blew the tea leaf on the surface away and tasted the tea. She revealed a relieved look on her face. "Drinking a cup of hot tea is really a joy. Didn't you want to keep me captive here? You can go now. Don't worry. I know this is your independent space. Anyway, I can't escape. You just need to ask someone to send me three meals every day. I can't wait for some rest. I really have to thank you. Go on, you can go. Quickly, return. Otherwise, things wouldn't be great for Shrek if a master like you isn't around."

Huo Yuhao looked at how calm Ju Zi was as she sipped her tea. He sighed and said, "Ju Zi, did you know? I was almost tempted to kill you after hearing your words."

The teacup in Ju Zi's hand shook slightly, and she smiled. She placed the teacup on the table before staring at Huo Yuhao. "Alright! Do it then. At least keep my corpse intact after you kill me. Please bury me too. In fact, I'm more interested in staying in your heart. If you kill me, you'll be unsettled for the rest of your life. You'll remember me forever then. I'll be satisfied if that's the case. Come on, do it."

As she spoke, she had already shut her eyes. Her long eyelashes touched the bottom half of her face. She was abnormally calm.

Huo Yuhao only felt something stuck in his chest as he looked at Ju Zi. He slowly stood up. If he really wanted to kill her, would he have waited until now?

Huo Yuhao let out a long sigh as he left the room and took in a deep breath of the cold air in the demiplane. He knew that he had lost. Although he held Ju Zi captive here, he still lost to her eventually!

Ju Zi shut her eyes for a brief moment and didn't move at all. When she reopened her eyes, Huo Yuhao was no longer in the room.

She also stood up and revealed a fierce look on her face, "This guy has no conscience! To think that I risked fighting the Beast God trying to save him. Hmph, guys really are jerks."

After she finished speaking, she also laughed. Eventually, did he also not lay a hand on her?

She picked up her teacup once again. She didn't leave the room, but continued to sip her tea quietly. After she finished her own teacup, she took Huo Yuhao's teacup and slowly sipped on it too. She didn't mind that he had used it earlier.

After the pot of tea was finished, Huo Yuhao returned to the room. When he saw that Ju Zi was holding his teacup, he was stunned for a moment.

"Ju Zi, what do you want? Are you really helping Xu Tianran rule the continent? You should know that this war will kill many people. Your family died in war. Why are you so intent on continuing this war?"

Ju Zi turned cold. "I'm continuing this war? Huo Yuhao, ask yourself. If I wasn't in this war, would it not happen? If I'm not around, will the Sun Moon Empire lose its ambition? Without me, can you deal with the Sun Moon Empire's soul tools? That's right, war kills people. However, I can touch my heart and tell you one thing. At least the number of people dying in this war is the lowest ever in history when I'm the one orchestrating everything."

"Things change in this world. The Douluo Continent requires a powerful nation to unite and rule it. Why aren't the three empires as strong as the Sun Moon Empire? It's because they are technologically inferior. A unified empire can use technology to the benefit of its citizens. You should also have noticed that the Sun Moon Empire's technology has entered the Heavenly Soul Empire after we occupied it. At the start, their people were still very resistant, and unwilling to listen. However, as time passed, aren't they already slowly starting to recognize us? This is the charm of technology. People's lives will only get better with progressive technology, and the future will also be brighter. That's why I believe that a unified empire is absolutely necessary. Of course, who rules this empire is a different thing."

Huo Yuhao silently listened to Ju Zi. After hearing her words, he gently shook his head. "We have different beliefs. We can't watch as our empires get attacked. That's why I was unwilling to face everything at the start. However, I'll need to face things eventually. We are on opposing sides. The Sun Moon Empire is very strong, but it might not be able to rule the entire continent in the future. The foundation of the three empires of the original Douluo Continent can't be corroded so easily. If things go bad, the people who really suffer are the civilians."

Chapter 565.3: Abduction!

Ju Zi said, "You don't have to say all that to me. We don't have a consensus when it comes to this. I have no desire for power or authority. I followed Xu Tianran for revenge. However, my desire to exact revenge has slowly died down over the past few years. Now, I have a son. I must pave the way for him."

“You’ve also seen how Xu Tianran treats my son. The last time, little Yunhan almost died outside. If you didn’t bring him back, I can’t imagine what would have happened to him. That’s why I must become strong and make my son the most powerful person in this world. I’m not fighting for Xu Tianran, but my son. In the future, my son will become the true master of this world. No one can stop me. The only way is to kill me. If you are intent enough, I can tell you a secret.”

Huo Yuhao was stunned. “Using your life in exchange for a secret? What is it?”

Ju Zi smiled, and her gaze turned gentler as she looked at him. “It’s a secret you’ll never guess. However, you can only know if you are determined enough to kill me. When you stab my heart, I’ll tell you.”

Huo Yuhao laughed bitterly. “You’ve already seen through me clearly. You know I won’t lay my hands on you. That’s why you’re so calm. I can’t even hold you captive right now. However, you’ve also seen this independent dimension of mine. If I want to intentionally cause destruction, the Sun Moon Empire will definitely be greatly affected.”

Ju Zi replied, “You can try then. Let’s see whether I unify the continent faster, or you cause damage to the Sun Moon Empire faster.”

Huo Yuhao furrowed his brow and said, “Aren’t you worried at all? Don’t forget that Xu Tianran was once hurt by me.”

Ju Zi said, “Yuhao, if you can do one thing, I might be able to delay the invasion of the Douluo Continent.”

“What is it?” Huo Yuhao was curious as he looked at her.

“Help me kill Xu Tianran!” Ju Zi exclaimed with the utmost seriousness.

“What?” Huo Yuhao hadn’t expected her to say this. “He’s your husband! You, you want to murder your husband?”

Ju Zi laughed coldly. “Husband? He was never my husband. Neither was I ever his wife. I’m only a tool for him to use. Or rather, everyone around him are like tools to him. This includes my son. Originally, I still had some feelings for him. I wouldn’t be here today if not for him. However, I no longer owed him anything the day he decided to forsake our son. In the near future, I must kill him. My son can only ascend the throne if he’s dead. All the problems will cease to exist as a result of that. That’s why you must kill him to delay the invasion of the Douluo Continent. I’ll only have the freedom to pull our troops back if we kill him. Of course, I still need to deal with the Holy Ghost Church after he’s dead. It’s also because of this that I won’t unite the continent temporarily. So what do you think? If you can do that, I can promise that no war will be waged in the next ten years. You can also help the Star Luo and Dou Ling Empires develop over those ten years. Let’s see whether they can catch up to the Sun Moon Empire. If you can do that, this world will still be split into three.”

Huo Yuhao felt as if it were his first time meeting Ju Zi. He stared at her, and couldn’t utter a word for some time.

Ju Zi had actually asked him to kill Xu Tianran. She was very unfamiliar to him in this manner. Right now, it seemed like she was only genuine when talking about her son.

“Ju Zi, I didn’t know you’d become like this. No matter what, Xu Tianran is the father of your son! Although I really wish for him to die, you shouldn’t. I don’t want you to become a cold-blooded creature.”

Ju Zi laughed coldly. “Father of my son? If that’s the case, would he have laid his hands on his son? Although I’m not a good person, I’m a person of flesh and blood. I’m a real woman. However, Xu Tianran isn’t a real man. He didn’t just lose his legs when he was attacked by his biological younger brother. He also lost his manhood. My son is mine. He has no relation to Xu Tianran. To have a Crown Prince and stabilize his throne, he forced me to artificially inseminate a kid. Did you know that? Do you know how much I’ve suffered over these years?”

Tears flowed as she laughed coldly. Ju Zi was shaking uncontrollably.

Huo Yuhao was also in a daze. Of course he didn’t know that she had suffered so much.

Xu Tianran and Ju Zi were actually only husband and wife in name. He had even forced Ju Zi to artificially inseminate herself. This had to be the Sun Moon Empire’s greatest secret. If it spread, both Xu Tianran and Ju Zi would be doomed.

However, Huo Yuhao wasn’t thinking about this. He only realized why Ju Zi hated Xu Tianran. A man, who was her husband, actually let her inseminate herself with some other guy’s semen. How cruel was this? To a woman, this was even more cruel.

“I’m sorry, Ju Zi. I didn’t know.”

Ju Zi took a few steps forward and came in front of him. She lifted her head to look at him. Right now, both of them were less than thirty centimeters apart.

“I don’t need you to apologize. Although I hate Xu Tianran, I love my son. That’s why you can help me kill Xu Tianran, if that’s possible. However, you must never harm little Yunhan. If you can do this, I don’t need you to care about anything else. I’ll think of a way to stop the Sun Moon Empire from waging a war for the next ten years. What do you think?”

Huo Yuhao was really moved. The Star Luo and Dou Ling Empires could achieve a lot in ten years. Although there was still a huge gap between these two empires and the Sun Moon Empire in terms of soul tool technology, they had the opportunity to catch up if they had ten years to plan and prepare. After ten years, he would also become stronger. When that happened, he could possibly control the entire war.

However, this matter involved many things. Huo Yuhao was still hesitant. “Let me consider it.”

Ju Zi nodded and said, “I’m not in a rush. However, don’t worry. No matter what, I won’t really attack Shrek City. You told me that the city is your home. Why would I destroy your home?”

Huo Yuhao asked, “What’s your true intention? Apart from forcing me back from the Sun Moon Empire, what else do you want if you are not intending to attack Shrek? Is your target the Dou Ling Empire or the Star Luo Empire?”

Ju Zi looked at him and smiled without saying anything.

Huo Yuhao looked at her. “Answer my question and I’ll send you back.”

Ju Zi sighed and replied, "So what if I answer you? Even I promise not to attack Shrek Academy, will those from the academy believe you? Even if they do, will you take a risk with the academy?"

Huo Yuhao furrowed his brow. "You've calculated it perfectly already!"

Ju Zi chuckled, "Yes! Am I not clever? However, I don't really think I'm smart. If I were, I wouldn't have let you get away back then. Then there wouldn't be Wang Dong'er."

Huo Yuhao turned his head away and avoided her passionate gaze. He sighed and said, "Come on, let me send you back."

Ju Zi laughed, "What are you so scared of? I won't eat you." As she spoke, she took a step forward and came closer to Huo Yuhao.

Huo Yuhao subconsciously took half a step back. He lifted his right hand and pressed it on her shoulder to keep her at arm's length.

"Is she really that good?" Ju Zi asked as she stared at Huo Yuhao.

Huo Yuhao silently looked at Ju Zi, but he didn't utter a word. When he was still learning in the Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineer Academy, he didn't know that Wang Dong'er was a girl. If he had known that then, he wouldn't have been able to accept anyone else in his heart.

Huo Yuhao's feelings for Ju Zi were complex. Indeed, Ju Zi was the first girl to walk into his heart. It was just that he was very confused about that feeling. Then, Huo Yuhao had felt a yearning in his heart. After this, he realized that his yearning was actually for Wang Dong'er.

Things changed with the passage of time. He was really dumbfounded when Ju Zi asked him such a question now. He wasn't willing to harm her, but he couldn't just speak blindly.

Ju Zi only watched him silently. After a while, her tears started to flow. "Yuhao, I only hope that you remember that I won't harm two people in this world – my son and you."

Huo Yuhao shook a little. Given his spiritual cultivation, he could naturally sense that her words were filled with emotions. They weren't a pretense.

He nodded gently before he revealed a long look on his face, "I'm really not willing to face you on the battlefield. At least we're still friends."

Ju Zi asked, "Can you give me a hug?"

Huo Yuhao hesitated for a moment. Eventually, he opened his arms wide and gently hugged her. However, he didn't pull her close to him.

Ju Zi pushed him away, "You're really patronizing. But I'm happy enough." After she finished speaking, she suddenly turned around and ran away. She ran outside.

Huo Yuhao quickly followed her outside.

As she stood in the base, Ju Zi looked into the distance. In the distance, the soil was barren, and there were still many hills. There was nothing green, and no sign of life could be seen.

“It’s really magical. I don’t know why such a place exists. I know you won’t tell me. I won’t probe either. Send me back. After I return, I’m still the War God Empress. Everything I told you earlier still holds.”

“Okay.” Huo Yuhao gently sighed. He didn’t recite any incantations before a pitch-black door opened behind them. Huo Yuhao grabbed Ju Zi’s shoulder with one hand. Their figures flashed. They crossed the threshold and vanished.