#### Tang Sect 576

### Chapter 576.1: One on Ten!

Getting the army to retreat was but one of his objectives. The other objective was targeted at the Holy Ghost Church.

Yes! The Holy Ghost Church was their common enemy. However, targeting the Holy Ghost Church now was something that conflicted with Ju Zi's plan. However, Huo Yuhao could no longer be bothered with this. Now that he was in front of so many people, he had no choice.

"Huo Yuhao, I can't believe you are foolish enough to attempt to challenge ten of my people just by yourself. We definitely have no qualms betting with you. However, it doesn't seem to be fair, does it? If we were to lose, our entire army has to retreat. And if you were to lose, it will just be the loss of a single life. Aren't you thinking too highly of yourself? I don't think you're quite there yet." Ju Zi sneered.

Huo Yuhao really wanted to give Ju Zi a big thumbs up for the great teamwork she was showing!

It was really incredible for her to be able to instantly understand what he meant despite the tension in the atmosphere.

The main targets Huo Yuhao had in mind were naturally the evil soul masters from the Holy Ghost Church. The safety of the Sun Moon Empire's army was definitely not enough to motivate the evil soul masters to act. After all, those evil soul masters would prefer to witness more deaths so they could capture the spirits to improve their cultivation. Hence, Huo Yuhao knew he needed something to attract all of them. And he naturally needed to produce these things himself.

Huo Yuhao nodded and said, "I definitely can't be compared with your entire army. However, I can offer a few more things on top of my life."

As he spoke, a huge black door opened beside him. Following which, a massive creature crept out from the huge door.

After the massive creature appeared, countless observers could not help but gasp in fear.

What is that??It was a gigantic bear which over fifty meters tall that was radiating an insanely frightening aura! Its fur was somehow grey, while its eyes were blood-red. It seemed as though there were flames burning in its eyes.

Following which, Huo Yuhao retrieved a dagger from his hand. It was a dagger whose blade was radiating an icy blue color.

The dagger flew up into the sky, and instantly, the surrounding temperature plunged. The linked defensive barrier formed by the Fire Phoenix Soul Engineer Legion, which was quite a distance away, started to fade. Snowflakes also started to fall from the sky.

If Xia Xuanchen were here, he might have been able to connect the dots after seeing the black door and the Morning Dew Dagger Huo Yuhao had just released.

Unfortunately, he had yet to return. Everything was within Huo Yuhao's expectations and under his control.

Jiangshi Ice Bear King, Er Bai, and the Sigh of the Frozen Goddess, Morning Dew Dagger.

"These two items are the most precious items I have. This dagger is a godly weapon. If not for it, I would not have been able to block Di Tian's blow. Let me show you what it can do."

As he spoke, the Morning Dew Dagger suddenly turned vertical in mid-air before it transformed into a blue light that shot straight towards the linked defensive barrier set up by the Fire Phoenix Soul Engineer Legion.

Before Ju Zi even gave the order, the Fire Phoenix Soul Engineer Legion instinctively enhanced the protective soul barrier to its maximum defensive potential.

However, the fiery red glow on the linked defensive barrier immediately faded the moment the dagger came into contact with it. The entire barrier turned dark blue instead before a series of loud explosive noises could be heard.

A deep cut could be seen on the outer side of the linked defensive barrier. The barrier was a hair's breadth from being torn open by the dagger.

It was important to note that this was a full-power linked defensive barrier which was established by a beast lord-ranked soul engineer legion.

The Morning Dew Dagger was actually able to create such an effect just from a gentle tap. The most frightening thing was how it was able to overcome its elemental disadvantage. Its fearsome extreme coldness was actually able to penetrate the protective soul barrier and be felt by the Fire Phoenix soul engineers. The fiery red color radiating from their bodies became a lot fainter. They could not believe that a single dagger was able to achieve so much.

After retracting his Morning Dew Dagger, Huo Yuhao spoke plainly, "As for my pet over here, I believe there's no need for me to explain much. Those who dabble in spirits and spectral matters should naturally understand what it is. Isn't that right, Leader Zhongli Wu? I know you're scrutinizing it. Why don't you come out?"

A purple-black light suddenly soared into the sky. Zhongli Wu, the Leader of the Holy Ghost Church, had revealed his figure in the air.

His eyes revealed the greed he had for Er Bai. He didn't even bother to look at Huo Yuhao as his eyes were completely focused on Er Bai's body.

Even as the Leader of the Holy Ghost Church, Zhongli Wu was unable to tell how Huo Yuhao was able to transform such a powerful soul beast into a spectral creature. However, he was absolutely sure that this spectral creature was likely to be stronger than it was in its previous life.

It must have been a Savage Beast in its past life in order to release such a powerful aura. Turning Savage Beasts into spectral puppets had always been one of Zhongli Wu's goals.

Previously when he went after Di Tian, he was hoping to turn Di Tian into his puppet. If he were to succeed, he believed he would become the strongest individual in the entire world.

Unfortunately, the Beast God's power had far exceeded his expectations, and the Holy Ghost Church had sustained huge losses in their attempt to hunt the Beast God down. Even Zhongli Wu was injured

during the attempt, and he had only barely recovered after taking a rest. The only reason why they were able to flee from the Great Star Dou Forest was that the Beast God was already injured, and they were still sufficiently sensible to flee before their situation worsened. If not, their bodies might have had to stay within the Great Star Dou Forest forever.

The forces within the Great Star Dou Forest were far more powerful than they had imagined.

"Military supervisor." Ju Zi looked at Zhongli Wu as though she was asking him for advice.

As the military supervisor, Zhongli Wu had a lot of authority in the army. He was not in charge of anyone, but was supposed to supervise Ju Zi. Whenever Ju Zi had to make an important decision, she needed to get his approval. A military retreat was an example of an important decision.

Zhongli Wu's greed was apparent as he nodded and said, "I think what he is offering is sufficiently precious." After finishing his sentence, he did not even look at Huo Yuhao as he turned around and flew down to the Sun Moon Empire camp.

Even though his answer was not exactly direct, Zhongli Wu had undoubtedly expressed his opinion.

Just as Ju Zi wanted to talk to Huo Yuhao, a purple-black light suddenly flashed, and Zhongli Wu had returned.

He shot a peculiar look at Huo Yuhao and said, "Huo Yuhao, if you are to lose, we can also choose not to kill you. As long as you join my Holy Ghost Church, I can spare your life."

Even though Huo Yuhao's words might have sounded very offensive in the ears of others, they were nothing for the Leader of the Holy Ghost Church. On top of that, after seeing how Huo Yuhao was able to showcase Er Bai and hearing some of the stories about him, he was already certain that Huo Yuhao must possess some secrets about evil soul masters. He not only wanted to know all of these secrets, but also nurture Huo Yuhao into a member of the Holy Ghost Church. With the talents that he possessed, he felt that he might have a chance at becoming the Holy Son of the Holy Ghost Church!

It would definitely be a great blow to Shrek Academy if the Dragon God Douluo's disciple were to join the Holy Ghost Church.

Zhongli Wu was not in the least bit worried about whether Huo Yuhao really wanted to join the Holy Ghost Church. He was confident of transforming any person—no matter what type of person he or she was—into an evil soul master.

Huo Yuhao smiled at Zhongli Wu and said, "Sure! As long as all of you can defeat me, I am perfectly fine with joining the Holy Ghost Church. After all, I am no longer part of any organization."

Zhongli Wu also smiled. In fact, he was very happy. "Then I guess we have a promise."

Ju Zi watched the sly foxes who were smiling before her and couldn't help but wonder who was actually falling into the other person's trap.?Zhongli Wu, should I start mourning for you now?

Zhongli Wu was naturally unaware of what Ju Zi was thinking as he turned around and flew back to the camp.

Ju Zi exclaimed, "Alright since our military supervisor has already agreed to this gamble, I shall agree to it as well. The battle shall begin in two hours' time at the space between our camp and Shrek City. The victor will be decided after ten rounds of battle!"

Huo Yuhao smiled, but didn't say anything. He merely looked Ju Zi in the eye. Following which, he grabbed Tang Wutong's hand and flew towards the flat ground behind them. The virtual image of him which he had created in the air disappeared after he left. ?Following which, Er Bai and the Morning Dew Dagger also turned into light that vanished into thin air.

The Sun Moon Empire army and Shrek City were about forty-five kilometers apart. The midpoint between these two locations was hence about twenty-two kilometers or so. It was undoubtedly the safest distance for both parties, as well as the fairest location to conduct the battle.

After landing on the ground, Huo Yuhao crossed his legs and sat down before beginning to meditate. Tang Wutong merely stood behind him silently as she kept watch over him.

Meanwhile, Ju Zi brought the members of her Fire Phoenix Soul Engineer Legion into the camp.

Very soon, a meeting was held within the Commander's Tent.

Every soldier and commander from the Sun Moon Empire had witnessed what had happened in the sky. Hence, Ju Zi did not need to introduce the challenge to the people present. After everyone had gathered in the tent, she immediately fired two questions at the rest of them.

"Huo Yuhao has challenged our army. After receiving approval from the military supervisor, we have decided to accept his challenge. In that case, we now have two problems before us. First, who are the ten people who should represent us? Second, who should keep the items that Huo Yuhao has promised to give up if he were to lose the challenge." no  $\mathcal{V}e/l\mathcal{V}$ . In

Zhongli Wu was sitting next to Ju Zi. When she raised these two questions, he glanced at her before his brows furrowed together. No one knew what he was thinking about.

There were many powerful individuals within the Commander's Tent. The elite troops from the Sun Moon Empire were all present in this camp. Other than the powerful evil soul masters, several Class 9 soul engineers were also present. And this included several powerful individuals from the Sun Moon Empire's Imperial Consecration Hall.

One of the Class 9 soul engineers stepped forward and said, "The winnings should naturally belong to the empire. I am willing to fight for the empire and get rid of that haughty rascal."

Another Class 9 soul engineer nodded in approval.

These Class 9 soul engineers were not idiots. After seeing Zhongli Wu fly up into the sky, they could tell that he was very much attracted by Er Bai. They would definitely not allow him to lay his hands on the Ice Bear King. Hence, they were all expressing their disagreement. At the same time, these Class 9 soul engineers were all expressing their interest to put their lives on the line for the empire to fight Huo Yuhao.

#### Chapter 576.2: One on Ten!

Then, Ju Zi looked over to Zhongli Wu and asked, "Military supervisor, what do you think about this?"

Zhongli Wu said, "Logically speaking, what they have said is entirely correct. All war spoils should be kept by the empire."

As he finished his sentence, he scanned the Class 9 soul engineers with his cold gaze. The Class 9 soul engineers who fell under his gaze revealed an awkward expression. Even though they were all extremely powerful, they were still a little fearful of the Leader of the Holy Ghost Church.

"However!" It was within everyone's expectation that Zhongli Wu would not stop at that sentence. "Since Huo Yuhao dares to challenge us, he must possess some special abilities. He is known to be adept at concealing himself, and seems to possess extremely powerful fighting abilities. He can also evade attacks from soul tools extremely well. Hence, it might be better for soul masters to go up against him rather than soul engineers. From the soul power fluctuations he has exhibited so far, I don't think he has become a Transcendent Douluo. After all, he is only a bit more than twenty years old. Among the two items which he has shown us, the short dagger is an ice-type godly weapon. I believe everyone has seen how powerful it is, and I agree that it should belong to the empire. As for the other item, I am certain that it is a spectral creature. It doesn't have any direct use for our country. I believe that it can only be controlled by the Holy Ghost Church. We are the only ones capable of harnessing its power for the betterment of the empire."

One of the Class 9 soul engineers who was formerly addressed by Ju Zi as Elder Su stood out and exclaimed, "Does this mean that our military supervisor plans to keep the war spoils for himself?"

Zhongli Wu stood up straight as he attempted to intimidate the others with his imposing figure. "Of course I will not be taking the spectral creature without contributing anything. I believe everyone here treasures his or her life a lot. No one would willingly put their lives on the line to fight to the death with Huo Yuhao. In that case, why not allow the Holy Ghost Church to be the main fighting force for the challenge against Huo Yuhao? As long as we can defeat him, it should make sense for us to take away one of the items which are not directly useful for the country. Isn't that right, Marshal?"

He did not even look the Class 9 soul engineers in the eyes as he turned around to look at Ju Zi.

Ju Zi looked at Zhongli Wu as a thought formed in her head.?Yuhao! Yuhao! You have really made a brilliant move this time around! Everything seems to be going according to your plans! It seems like you have predicted what Zhongli Wu would do. If not, you would never have flashed that item to tempt him. In that case, there's no reason why I shouldn't assist you to take on our common enemy. However, are you really confident that you can defeat them?

As Ju Zi thought about it, she nodded gently. "Alright. Since the military supervisor has agreed to take on this responsibility, I shall hand this battle over to him. However, this battle concerns the pride of our army. At the same time, it also concerns the arrangement of our military strategy. Hence, there is no room for failure. Military supervisor, are you ready to receive an official military order?"

"Huh?" Zhongli Wu was caught off guard by Ju Zi's words. An official military order? What was an official military order? When a person did not manage to achieve what was stated in an official military order, he or she would have to be punished by military law. This was something that was usually given only for tasks which were extremely important. Zhongli Wu did not expect Ju Zi to ask him to receive an official military order. It was apparent that she did not want him to lay his hands on the powerful spectral creature.

However, Zhongli Wu was not overly concerned about receiving an official military order. After all, Huo Yuhao was so much younger than him. He felt that he had been foolish to challenge them. In fact, he believed that it was laughable for him to propose such a battle format. Zhongli Wu felt that Huo Yuhao would not stand a chance against the power of the Holy Ghost Church. If the Holy Ghost Church were to fail, he believed he would have failed as their Leader.

Under the intense scrutiny of the surrounding Class 9 soul engineers, Zhongli Wu nodded slowly and said, "Sure, I will now take on your official military order. I am willing to be punished by military law if I fail to defeat Huo Yuhao with my people from the Holy Ghost Church!"

Very soon, under the supervision of the other people in the tent, Zhongli Wu penned down the official military order. Even as the Imperial Tutor and the military supervisor, he could not amend it once it had been issued. No one was exempted from this rule.

Ju Zi nodded and said, "Alright. In that case, I wish you good luck, and that you will return victorious."

"Hmph!" Zhongli Wu released an angry grunt as he waved his sleeve and left the Commander's Tent furiously. Following which, the evil soul masters which had followed him into the tent left behind him.

After watching him leave, Elder Su and the other Class 9 soul engineers quickly crowded over to Ju Zi's side.

Elder Su said, "Marshal, are we really going to allow those evil soul masters to deal with Huo Yuhao? The aura released by the spectral creature is really frightening. Even though we don't know where it comes from, the Holy Ghost Church will definitely become a lot stronger if it were to fall into Zhongli Wu's hands!"

The other Class 9 soul engineers were also visibly worried about the possible disaster that could happen.

Ju Zi waved her hand and replied plainly, "Huo Yuhao is a smart person. After all, he is the disciple of Mu En, the youngest member of the Shrek Academy's Sea God's Pavilion, and also the Heir to the Sea God's Pavilion. Do you all think that an intelligent person like him would commit to a suicidal situation? Even if a conflict were to occur between him and the Academy, he would never do something like that. Besides, I could tell from the way he conversed with me today how assured he was about his chances. In that case, he must have something up his sleeve to be so confident. Since the military supervisor is so enthusiastic about the whole challenge, I felt that there would be no harm for him to give it a try. After all, he probably doesn't have enough people to form the ten-man team. If he can't pull it off, we will figure out a way to solve the problem. And if he were to somehow win, we will also figure something out."

After hearing what she said, the powerful soul engineers went silent. Ju Zi's passive and somewhat conservative attitude was not exactly a bad option for the current situation.

Huo Yuhao sat quietly on the expansive plains between the Sun Moon Empire camp and Shrek City. The soul power in his body was fluctuating in a sustained and stable manner. However, even though Tang Wutong was standing right beside him, she was unable to detect even a single bit of the soul power fluctuations from his body.

This was why his two soul cores were so scary. Huo Yuhao was able to rely on his soul cores to compress all of his soul power into tiny spirals in his body. These spirals were the result of a perfect fusion between spiritual power and soul power. His soul cores would only absorb the origin energy of heaven and earth from his surroundings, and would definitely not release any energy easily. Hence, even Zhongli Wu was unable to tell exactly how powerful Huo Yuhao was. He could only make a guess from his breathing that Huo Yuhao had not become a Transcendent Douluo.

Yes, Huo Yuhao might not have truly attained the Transcendent Douluo rank. However, he had twin martial souls and a second soul core. His Rank 93 soul power was not something that any other Rank 93 Titled Douluo could match.

The Icy War God's Armor was already on his body. The human-shaped soul tool was able to keep all of its essence in its interior, and did not release a single bit of Ultimate Ice aura into the surrounding air. Hence, Huo Yuhao's surroundings appeared to be frighteningly quiet.

Going one against ten was something that had never happened before in the world of soul masters. Huo Yuhao was like a rash young man who had acted on an impulse after running out of options. Was he really going to end his life in such a violent manner?

On top of the city wall which surrounded Shrek City.

The Elders from the Sea God's Pavilion had all arrived. The higher-ups from the Tang Sect had also just arrived.

Even Bei Bei did not know what Huo Yuhao was intending to do. And now, there was already no one who could stop him from continuing what he had planned.

Tang Ya squeezed Bei Bei's hand and whispered, "Bei Bei, do you think Yuhao can really do it?"

Bei Bei nodded fervently. "He can definitely do it. Since he has already suggested it to them, he must be able to do it. We must believe in him. Yuhao definitely possesses the ability to do it. He is only doing all of this to force the Sun Moon Empire army to retreat. He would not have done it if he were not confident of pulling it off. At the same time, he probably wants to take advantage of this battle to take down some of the more powerful individuals within the Sun Moon Empire."

Tang Ya's worries did not seem to have lessened by Bei Bei's words. "However, why do I feel that he is not fully confident that he will be able to triumph over all of them? It feels like he is putting himself into an extremely dangerous situation!"

Elder Xuan, who was not too far from both of them, overheard what Tang Ya said. He turned his head and nodded. He said, "That's right. He wants to put himself into a suicidal situation. He wants to be reborn after 'dying'. I am sure he knows what he's doing, even though I don't know exactly what his plan is. However, I believe that improving his own cultivation is one of his objectives." n--0*VE*? b1n

"There is this saying that there will be a huge amount of fear when one is placed in a life-and-death situation. Huo Yuhao wants to improve himself by putting himself under immense pressure and fear. He is very different from any other normal Titled Douluo, because he already possesses his second soul core. This grants him the ability to grow and improve rapidly. He is yearning for power to become stronger and change the current situation on the battlefield."

"That is why he is making this decision. He wants to be stimulated by battle to activate his potential and become stronger. This would definitely speed up the process of him becoming a Transcendent Douluo. I don't think he has even considered the possibility of failure. On top of that, this is probably not his only objective. He must have made plans for something else too. If he were to successfully triumph over the ten people, he would definitely attain a new level of understanding of his abilities, and become a lot stronger. In fact, he might even be able to push for Transcendent Douluo directly."

Yes, only Elder Xuan was qualified to comment about Huo Yuhao. This was because he was the only other person present who had two soul cores. However, Huo Yuhao had formed his second soul core from the Yin Yang Complement technique, whereas Elder Xuan had formed his from the Resonance technique.

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# Chapter 576.3: One on Ten!

After gaining his second soul core, Elder Xuan did not only find his abilities greatly enhanced, but also saw the true powerful effects of a second soul core. The enhancement did not just stop at the compression of soul power, but it also increased his potential to new heights.

Elder Xuan was thinking about the possibilities Huo Yuhao would unlock if he were to successfully form his third soul core when he became an Ultimate Douluo rank after perfecting his second soul core. When that happened, Huo Yuhao would truly become one of the most outstanding soul masters ever. At the same time, he would definitely be able to overcome the limits imposed by this world. Even if he were not able to inherit a Godly Seat, he should be freed from the restrictions at Rank 99 once he formed his third soul core.

At the end of the day, all of the above were just guesses made by Elder Xuan. However, those guesses were what he hoped Huo Yuhao could achieve. Of course, he knew how hard forming the third soul core would be after experiencing the challenge of forming his second soul core.

Yuhao, Yuhao! Do you really have to push yourself so hard to become stronger?

Was this really what Huo Yuhao had planned? No, it was not entirely true.

Just as Elder Xuan had accurately predicted, Huo Yuhao already had a complete plan. Improving himself was indeed one of the important parts of the plan. However, he did not intend to put his life on the line just to force some sort of breakthrough. Instead, he wanted to gain a better understanding of the new abilities he had just acquired by fighting in a life-and-death situation.

It had already been a few days since he had formed his second soul core with the Yin Yang Complement technique. However, he still had not fully understood the capabilities of his second soul core.

By forcing himself to fight with powerful cultivators, he would be able to understand the intricacies behind his second soul core as soon as possible.

He was the second being in the world to possess a second soul core formed from the Yin Yang Complement technique. The first being was the Beast God.

Even though Di Tian was able to take on human form, he was ultimately a soul beast. Huo Yuhao was indisputably the first human to form his second soul core with the Yin Yang Complement technique. Hence, no one could teach him how to use his second soul core, or how powerful his second soul core actually was. Hence, he had to explore all of these by himself.

If Huo Yuhao had enough time, he would definitely have chosen to explore its capabilities in a more rigorous and slower manner. That would be the ideal way to prepare himself to take on the challenge to become a God in the future. However, time was definitely a luxury for him now.

Hence, he had no choice but to agitate his body with battles to see what capabilities he now possessed after forming his second soul core. It was the fastest way for him to accurately determine how much power he possessed. The greater the adversity, the more potential he could try to squeeze from his body. This was something he had learned when he had first participated in the Continental Advanced Soul Master Academy Soul Dueling Tournament.

Compared to back then, his powers and abilities had grown exponentially. However, Huo Yuhao still believed that putting oneself under immense pressure was the best way to learn more about one's abilities regardless of one's current standing.

Very soon, two hours passed, and it was almost time for the battle.

Neat contingents of troops started to move out from the Sun Moon Empire camp.

There were not many people who left their military camp. There were less than a thousand people in total. However, all of them were soul engineers who were fully armed. They had activated their linked defensive barriers as they started to head towards Huo Yuhao, who was roughly twenty-two kilometers away from them. These contingents were surrounding a group of powerful individuals from the Sun Moon Empire.

Shrek City also opened their gates. Even though Huo Yuhao had seemed to cut off his connections with the Academy, Elder Xuan had his own reasons for dispatching some of his forces. After all, it was not possible for the Academy to sit and wait as the Sun Moon Empire's soul engineers advanced closer to the city.

Shrek City seemed to have only sent soul masters into the air. In fact, they sent more than a thousand soul masters who were all at least Soul Sages into the air.

The ones who were flying at the front of this contingent were the Elders of the Sea God's Pavilion and the elite cultivators from the three empires.

None of them held any bad feelings towards Huo Yuhao, because they could not even hear what he had said to the Sun Moon Empire army! Elder Xuan only informed them of how Huo Yuhao had planned to take on ten different individuals to solve their current predicament.

Huo Yuhao was a hero in everyone's eyes!

The way both parties sent out a force of close to a thousand individuals towards the battleground made it seem as though everything had been planned in advance.

If the battle was conducted in a one-on-one fashion, the Sun Moon Empire would have no chance of beating Shrek Academy even if they were to double the number of people they had. However, this was ultimately war. In a battle which included soul engineers, concepts about one-on-one battles were non-existent.

Elder Xuan brought his group of people to a position which was roughly five hundred meters from Huo Yuhao before stopping. He also did not allow anyone to go over and interact with him. All they did was line themselves up and watch the upcoming battle silently.

At this crucial moment, Elder Xuan did not wish for anyone to disturb Huo Yuhao.

The Sun Moon Empire troops also stopped five hundred meters away from Huo Yuhao. This meant that they were about a thousand meters away from Elder Xuan and the powerful cultivators of Shrek Academy.

A distance of a single kilometer separated both parties. A battle, which would definitely go down in history as one of the most important battles in the world of soul masters, was about to take place in the space between these parties.

Ju Zi was still looking brilliant as ever in her armor. After her subordinate brought a huge chair over, she sat down in the chair as she gazed at Huo Yuhao. As the Commander of the Three Armies, she was the only person here who was qualified to sit down. Even Zhongli Wu—the military supervisor—was not entitled to do so.

Zhongli Wu stared coldly at Huo Yuhao as a light flickered in his eyes. It was unclear what was on his mind. However, the aura he was radiating was becoming more and more intense by the minute.

Even though Huo Yuhao was still meditating, he could sense the series of transformations occurring around him. However, he chose to ignore all of these movements.

"Huo Yuhao, let the ten battles begin." Zhongli Wu announced as his low but thunderous voice traveled towards Huo Yuhao.

It was only after hearing Zhongli Wu's words that Huo Yuhao finally opened his eyes slowly.

At the instant when Huo Yuhao opened his eyes, Zhongli Wu felt his heart beat faster. He saw a mystical pair of eyes before him.

Huo Yuhao's eyes were differently colored. One of them was a brilliant gold. Even though it did not radiate a particularly bright light, it seemed to possess the endless depth of the sun. His other eye was flickering with an azure blue light. It seemed to embody the vastness of the big blue ocean.

The different-colored lights in his eyes only lasted for a short while before they regained their original color. In fact, this entire transformation happened without him releasing any aura at all. However, this was sufficient to make the powerful individuals from the Sun Moon Empire wary of him.

Just as Ju Zi had put it, courage was not enough to drive a person to challenge ten people to a battle. It was important to note that this was not the Continental Advanced Soul Master Academy Soul Dueling Tournament. There was an age limit in the tournament, which usually helped to ensure that competitors were of similar ranks. However, this was a matter of life and death on the battlefield. No one would

hesitate to send his or her strongest members to battle. Huo Yuhao was definitely going to be up against the most powerful individuals from the Sun Moon Empire.

Even though the Death God Douluo, the Dragon Emperor Douluo, and the Sun Moon Empire's most powerful soul engineers were not present, they still possessed top-class power which even the Shrek Academy had to be wary of!

Huo Yuhao floated above the ground before standing up. Following which, he turned around to nod in Tang Wutong's direction.

Tang Wutong stared deeply into his eyes before stepping forward to hug him. She whispered something in his ear before walking back to where Elder Xuan and the rest were. However, she did not join them, as she chose to observe Huo Yuhao from a hundred meters in front of Elder Xuan and the rest.

Huo Yuhao stared at Zhongli Wu before looking at Ju Zi, who was sitting in her chair. He said, "Bring it on. Let's start with the first one!"

When Huo Yuhao mentioned how he was ready to begin with the first one, Ju Zi could not help but think of the time she had spent with Huo Yuhao at the Sun Moon Empire's Sun Moon Imperial Soul Engineering Academy. It was then that Huo Yuhao had once challenged the powerful students of the Academy. Back then, he also did not cower as he used his power and abilities to go up against those students.

That was him—a powerful individual with heroic qualities, but also a soft heart.

More than ten years had passed, and he had grown to become one of the most powerful soul masters in the entire world. If he were able to win today's battle, he would undoubtedly become one of the Sun Moon Empire's biggest threats in the future. He would also naturally become a beacon of hope for the three other empires.

This was destined to be a battle in which Huo Yuhao would truly become famous. Even if he were to die, he would still be a hero of the three original empires of the Douluo Continent.

Ju Zi was overwhelmed by a multitude of feelings as she kept quiet. It seemed as though she had handed the entire battle over to Zhongli Wu.

Zhongli Wu let out a cold grunt as he waved his hand. A black figure launched himself forward towards Huo Yuhao from Zhongli Wu's side.

This was a person who was wrapped tightly in his black cloak. There was no way one could see his appearance at all. He was like a cloud of black fog when he flew towards Huo Yuhao. His aura was rapidly becoming stronger. The power of darkness within his aura was brimming with evil vibes as it exploded like a geyser. Even though he had only flown a few hundred meters, huge clusters of dark clouds had already gathered above his head. They seemed to be swarming towards Huo Yuhao as they threatened to block all sunlight from reaching him.

This person's name was Wu Yun. Even though he was not one of the eight Elders within the Holy Ghost Church, he was one of the most powerful soul masters within the Holy Ghost Church's Hall of Consecration.

Actually, he was not a purebred evil soul master. He had been mistaken by others as an evil soul master and was, in fact, being hunted down by others because of his dark-type martial soul. In a fit of anger, he killed all the people who were going after him and chose to join the Holy Ghost Church. After several years of cultivation, he finally became a true evil soul master.

### Chapter 577.1: First Fight, Extermination!

He was one of the evil soul masters who went after the Beast God with Zhongli Wu. That endeavor could be considered a huge failure, especially with the number of casualties they had sustained. However, he was the only one who managed to emerge unscathed.

Similar to Di Tian, he also possessed dark-type power. When they were going after the Beast God, he was able to develop a much deeper understanding of dark-type powers by sensing Di Tian's aura, as well as observing how he controlled his dark-type power. After returning from the hunt, he not only did not sustain any injuries, but also improved his soul power, and had become a Transcendent Douluo. He managed to make a breakthrough past a bottleneck which had restricted his development for several years.

Hence, Huo Yuhao was actually facing an evil soul master who was a Transcendent Douluo for his first battle. On top of that, the evil soul master specialized in dark-type power!

The dark clouds that hung over the sky rolled towards Huo Yuhao and instantly enveloped his entire body.

After reaching the rank of Titled Douluo, the execution of soul skills was no longer the sole deciding factor in battles. Aura, soul skills, self-created soul skills, and identifying weaknesses were all important factors which could decide the outcome of a battle.

Huo Yuhao stood there without moving the whole time. He could definitely feel the immense pressure exerted on him by his opponent. In fact, this pressure felt strangely familiar. This was because the Beast God was the last person to exert that much pressure on him, and helped unlock his potential!

Even though this evil soul master was also skilled in dark-type power, he was a long way from matching Di Tian's powers.

Dark-type powers...?

Huo Yuhao revealed a faint smile as the visor of his Icy War God's Armor descended over his face. His entire body was now fully enveloped by his armor. Following which, the Icy War God's Armor emanated a familiar dark blue light.

The Icy War God's Armor was not just any armor. It was a human-shaped tool which was controlled not by Huo Yuhao's body, but by his invincible spiritual power.

While Xuan Ziwen was making the Icy War God's Armor, he had considered Huo Yuhao's impossibly strong aptitude in spiritual power, and hence adjusted the armor such that it demanded an unbelievably huge amount of spiritual power from its user. Hence, a normal human being would never be able to activate the Icy War God's Armor. Once he or she managed to activate it, the person would find his or her spiritual power emptied by the armor.

The entire Icy War God's Armor was controlled by one's intent. Because of how the dark clouds had completely enveloped Huo Yuhao, he was no longer able to see anything in the dark. Even his powerful Spiritual Detection seemed to have been trapped in a marshy swamp of darkness. Formless pressure was surging towards him from all directions.

However, would this power be sufficient to restrict Huo Yuhao?

"Spiritual Blast!" Huo Yuhao enunciated those words slowly. Even though he did not shout them, the two thousand powerful spectators around him could hear his words audibly.

Following which, everyone present felt as though their spiritual power had been influenced by Huo Yuhao's attack. Even the dark clouds that had enshrouded Huo Yuhao started to surge violently.

An intense vibration started to travel through the dark-type clouds as Wu Yun started to feel a mystical energy coming into contact with the soul power he had released into those clouds. Even though his soul power was not directly affected by this mystical energy, the spiritual power he had used to control his soul power was being disintegrated by the mysterious energy. The clouds which had broken free from his control started to rise back into the sky. This strange sight resembled the mushroom clouds which usually formed after huge explosions.

A figure instantly flickered from within the mushroom cloud into the sky as the dark blue light on his body gave away his identity. Yes, he was none other than Huo Yuhao!

After ascending into the sky, Huo Yuhao, who was wearing his Icy War God's Armor, seemed like a God who was about to descend to the land of mortals. His gaze was already locked onto Wu Yun, who was now enveloped by the dark clouds.

A transparent crystal at the forehead of the Icy War God's Armor suddenly cracked. Following which, a streak of purple-golden light was emitted as a mystical sight formed before everyone's eyes. Initially, the streak of light was purple-gold when it was just emitted. However, it gradually turned rose gold in the air. Then, when it penetrated into the dark clouds, it mysteriously changed into a pure golden color. A streak of light was somehow able to change colors three times in the air. How mystical was that?

A loud grunt could be heard as the dark clouds started to tremble violently. n.) $\sigma$ )) $V.(e-/\ell-.\&--1..n$ 

Following which, a streak of dark blue light tore across the sky as it surged into them.

The dark clouds seemed to be melting like snow the moment they came into contact with the dark blue light as they disintegrated into fine black smoke that scattered everywhere.

Wu Yun's figure was revealed. He was currently rapidly retreating as he started to show signs of panic. A pair of black wings had formed behind his back. However, the wings were not part of a flying-type soul tool. They were given to him by his martial soul.

His martial soul was the Darkness Crow. It was dark-type martial soul, which was extremely rare.

The wings behind Wu Yun's back seemed to be alive as the feathers on them emitted black lasers that intertwined to form a net in front of him. They were trying to block the streak of dark blue light that was going straight for him.

Unparalleled Chill, Empress' Sword!

The dak blue light just straight through the net. Even though the net did not break apart, its original black color turned dark blue.

A figure silently appeared at the tip of the dark blue sword.

Huo Yuhao had disappeared from the sky, and had seemed to use the sword light as a bridge to appear in front of Wu Yun.

Wu Yun's movements seemed to be very messy. It was apparent that he had been affected by the blow landed on him by Huo Yuhao's Eye of Destiny. However, he was still able to retaliate.

The two yellow, two purple, and five black rings on his body gave him the confidence that he could still retaliate against Huo Yuhao. His sixth ring, which was black, suddenly expanded as his entire body suddenly became illusory.

His sixth soul skill, Darkening.

Even though his consciousness had been a bit blurred by Huo Yuhao's Spiritual Shock, he was still able to activate his abilities. Darkening would allow him to negate seventy percent of all physical attacks and soul power attacks instantly. However, it would also mean that he would not be able to attack in that short period of time.

Wu Yun needed the five seconds of buffer time to shake off the effects of Huo Yuhao's previous Spiritual Shock.

However, Huo Yuhao did not attack him at the first instant possible. Instead, he exclaimed a single word.

"Explode!"

A light flickered within the Eye of Destiny on his forehead.

Following which, Wu Yun's entire body started to tremble intensely. His body, which had just started to undergo Darkening, was somehow returned to its original state under the effects of the mystical Spiritual Blast. On top of that, a black figure also exploded out from his body.

This is...

After seeing this, even Zhongli Wu could not help but gasp in surprise.

Is this spirit detachment? When did Huo Yuhao launch another spiritual attack on Wu Yun?

Huo Yuhao naturally did not launch a second spiritual attack. He had only released his Spiritual Shock once.

Even though it was just a single attack, the power of a Spiritual Shock released with the Eye of Destiny must not be underestimated. Its power was fully released in a single instant only because Huo Yuhao had feared that Wu Yun had some alternative defensive means. He had only chosen to detonate the Spiritual Shock when Wu Yun was injured.

It was undoubtedly the best time to detonate Spiritual Shock right now. Wu Yun was not a soul engineer, and hence did not possess any defensive soul tools which could block spiritual attacks. Even

though he was already a Transcendent Douluo, he was facing Huo Yuhao, whose spiritual power was on par with an Ultimate Douluo's.

Wu Yun's body flew backward in an uncontrollable fashion. At that instant, all the characteristics of his martial soul that his body had adopted all vanished. The black image which had been ejected from his body was trying its best to return. However, why would Huo Yuhao give him a chance to do that?

An image flickered as Huo Yuhao vanished once again. When he reappeared, he was at a position between Wu Yun and his spirit.

Huo Yuhao swung his left hand backward, while he threw his right hand forward.

A mystical vortex suddenly appeared above Wu Yun's spirit. The spirit, which was rapidly flying towards his body, suddenly stopped in mid-air.

"Boom!" A soft sound could be heard as Wu Yun's body flew backward once again.

Huo Yuhao's attack on Wu Yun's body did not seem to be particularly strong. After all, Wu Yun was already a Transcendent Douluo. His body was definitely stronger than any normal rare metal.

Wu Yun's body flew back by about fifty meters. Even though his spirit had been detached from his body, his body still possessed certain reflexes, which allowed him to slow himself down as he tried to regain his balance.

Without looking him in the eye, Huo Yuhao faced his spirit as a light flickered across his eyes. A streak of rose gold light suddenly shot out from Huo Yuhao's eyes.

It was another Spiritual Shock!

"Boom!" The spirit instantly disintegrated into countless grains of light, which started to surge back towards Wu Yun's body.

This time, Huo Yuhao did not try to stop them from reuniting.

The spirit of a Transcendent Douluo was already considered very stable. Even after striking it with two waves of Spiritual Shock, Wu Yun's soul could still not be completely destroyed. Even so, his soul was definitely heavily damaged.

After his spirit fused back into his body, blood started to spurt from Wu Yun's mouth and nose.

He immediately lifted his head, and the hood that had covered his head fell down. His fairly good-looking face was revealed to the spectators. Other than the fact that his face was a little pale, he looked no different from any normal human being.

However, he suddenly raised his hand and pointed at Huo Yuhao as though he wanted to say something. Nonetheless, he seemed to be unable to speak for some strange reason.

Following which, a mystical vortex suddenly appeared behind Wu Yun. The vortex was a combination of blue and gold colors. The moment the vortex appeared, Wu Yun's body immediately took on the same combination of colors as the vortex.

"Boooommmm!"

Wu Yun's body was instantly shattered and powderized. His already shattered soul was destroyed in this huge explosion. There was nothing left of it at all.

From the start till the end of the battle, the entire process only took a short while. Wu Yun, the Transcendent Douluo who possessed the Darkness Crow martial soul, and the first evil soul master to represent the Sun Moon Empire, had fallen!

A heavy silence fell upon everyone present as Huo Yuhao stood calmly where he was before turning around to face the Sun Moon Empire.

Chapter 577.2: First Fight, Extermination!

Everyone had gone silent. Even Zhongli Wu, who had been brimming with confidence, became quiet.

During the two hours before the battle, Zhongli Wu had made a series of plans, and Wu Yun was the first pawn he had decided to send out.

Zhongli Wu was definitely able to guess what Ju Zi had managed to guess. Huo Yuhao must have the necessary credentials to possess the courage to step forward and challenge ten opponents.

On top of that, Zhongli Wu must have tried to understand Huo Yuhao's abilities and fighting style. He knew Huo Yuhao was but a Titled Douluo. Hence, his plan was carefully constructed with several considerations in mind.

Zhongli Wu only had a single objective for sending Wu Yun out in the first battle. He wanted to use the strength and viscosity of Wu Yun's dark-type powers to burn away Huo Yuhao's soul power. This would create opportunities for the subsequent opponents Huo Yuhao would have to face. In fact, Zhongli Wu had instructed Wu Yun to surrender when necessary.

After all, it was not easy to nurture an evil soul master to a Titled Douluo. Furthermore, Wu Yun had just successfully become a Transcendent Douluo. Once he was able to consolidate his abilities, he would definitely be a huge asset to the Holy Ghost Church.

A Transcendent Douluo had an enormous advantage over a Titled Douluo when it came to survivability. Hence, Zhongli Wu had planned for the first battle to be a protracted one. Even if Huo Yuhao were able to use his Ultimate Ice to suppress the dark clouds, he would have to exhaust a lot of his soul power and techniques in order to triumph over Wu Yun.

However, little did he expect Wu Yun to perish in just a few short encounters. Even his soul had been destroyed. In fact, Wu Yun did not even have a chance to unleash his martial soul true body. He was simply killed while he was trying to probe Huo Yuhao to see what he had up his sleeves.

Has Huo Yuhao really become so powerful?

These thoughts fleeted in the minds of the powerful soul masters and soul engineers from both sides who were spectating the battle.

As they went through the entire battle in their heads again, they realized that Huo Yuhao did not make many moves. In fact, they did not even remember seeing him release the soul rings from his body. However, his extremely powerful Spiritual Shock left a deep impression on everyone. A Transcendent

Douluo was somehow unable to block his Spiritual Shocks, and had died because of his spiritual attacks. How strong must Huo Yuhao be in order to have pulled this off?

Those who were capable of keener observations would have noticed the huge explosion which happened in the end. It seemed to be some sort of ability Huo Yuhao possessed. It was important to note that an eight-ringed Soul Douluo might not even be able to kill a Transcendent Douluo even if the Transcendent Douluo were to just stand there and allow the Soul Douluo to attack him for twenty-four hours straight. On top of that, Huo Yuhao did not even seem to be using any kind of soul skills. He was somehow able to kill Wu Yun with a gentle movement of his palms.

Even if Wu Yun did not possess a spirit, and hence could not effectively control his body, it did not change the fact that his body was still impossibly strong, and his soul power was still present within his body! What kind of ability would allow Huo Yuhao have to have to achieve that feat?

His Yin Yang Complement soul cores! This was the answer which very few people actually knew.

When Huo Yuhao had planted his palm on Wu Yun's body, he had transferred his Yin Yang Complement soul power into his body. The soul power he had transferred was an extremely unstable vortex. To put it simply, Huo Yuhao planted a mini soul core which drilled into Wu Yun's body. And this soul core was controlled by Huo Yuhao.

The explosion of a soul core within Wu Yun's body was bound to kill him. Without his spirit to control his soul power to defend against the explosive force, he would never be able to survive no matter how strong his body was. It was important to note that Huo Yuhao's soul core not only contained Ultimate Ice, but also his spiritual power.

Hence, Wu Yun's already shattered spirit could never have survived the explosion formed from the powerful Yin Yang Complement soul power. His spirit was simply destroyed!

### So powerful!

Ju Zi's heart started to beat faster as she started to grasp a better appreciation of Huo Yuhao's power.

No wonder he was able to pursue my two beast-ranked soul engineer legions with such ease.

I can't believe how strong he's become. Yuhao, you really are a generational talent! You are definitely the right heir to inherit Shrek Academy.

Ju Zi was amazed by the powers Huo Yuhao had exhibited. At the same time, she was becoming depressed. The more powerful Huo Yuhao became, the likelier he was to remain her enemy.

Ju Zi could still remember the words Huo Yuhao had said to her earlier. If he really wanted to continue harassing the Sun Moon Empire's army, she would have no choice but to ask the Death God Douluo for help. And when that happened, it would definitely be a fight to the death.

"Can the second fighter please step forward?" Just when everyone was staring at Huo Yuhao as though he was an actual War God, he suddenly spoke.

Yes, now that the first one was dead, it was time for the Sun Moon Empire to send out their second representative! The battle had only just begun.

Zhongli Wu was visibly angered by Huo Yuhao's words. After all, he had just lost an evil soul master who had just attained the Transcendent Douluo rank! It had taken him many years to develop and nurture a Transcendent Douluo, only for Huo Yuhao to take him down so easily. Wu Yun was an evil soul master who would rank in the top ten soul masters within the Holy Ghost Church.

Wu Yun's death was completely futile! He did not even manage to showcase his abilities, and was instantly killed by Huo Yuhao when he was still trying to probe him. This was a result of him not being sufficiently familiar with Huo Yuhao as well as the explosive power of Huo Yuhao's spiritual power. He did not even manage to drain much of Huo Yuhao's power.

Zhongli Wu turned around to look at Ju Zi before whispering, "Marshal, Huo Yuhao seems to possess extremely powerful spiritual power. We must borrow the power of spiritual defensive soul tools in order to deal with him. Hence, I need our Class 9 soul engineers to lend us a hand."

Ju Zi immediately frowned.

Zhongli Wu was able to keep his wits about him and find out where the problem lay even in such stressful situations. No wonder he was the Leader of the Holy Ghost Church!

That was right! In the age of soul tools, it would be extremely difficult to beat Huo Yuhao without soul tools, especially when Huo Yuhao's Spiritual Shock was so powerful. However, once Zhongli Wu was able to equip his people with spiritual defensive soul tools, they should be able to withstand a few blows from Spiritual Shock. After all, Huo Yuhao's spiritual power was limited. He would not be able to replicate his Spiritual Shock ten times.

Ju Zi was definitely unable to turn Zhongli Wu's request down when there were so many people, including evil soul masters from the Holy Ghost Church, around her.

She immediately turned around to look at the soul engineers behind her before asking, "Is any of you willing to lend your spiritual defensive soul tool to the military supervisor?"

There were about eleven Class 9 soul engineers behind Ju Zi, and all of them were top-class soul engineers within the Sun Moon Empire. More than half of the Class 9 soul engineers in the entire Sun Moon Empire were present here. However, after hearing Ju Zi's words, all of them kept silent.

Zhongli Wu's eyes widened in rage. He was angry to find out that no one was willing to help him!

Huo Yuhao was definitely not going to rush them. After all, the longer they took to send out the next person, the more soul power and spiritual power he could recover. Of course, Zhongli Wu knew this as well.

Zhongli Wu gritted his teeth and exclaimed, "I will buy them!"

There was no time for him to lose. Considering how much he wanted the Jiangshi Ice Bear King, as well as how there was no room for failure after receiving the military order, he knew he had no choice but to buy the spiritual defensive soul tools.

After running its operations for so many years, the Holy Ghost Church possessed wealth which could rival the other empires.

The soul engineers present were visibly attracted by the proposition of a purchase. After a short discussion, they produced a price list before Zhongli Wu. noVe/lB.1n

All eleven Class 9 soul engineers were like brothers from the same mother, as they produced the exact same price list as one another.

A Class 9 spiritual defensive soul tool was definitely priceless. The Class 9 soul engineers would naturally only accept rare metals as the currency of the transaction.

They requested ten types of rare metals, and one tonne of each type of rare metal in exchange for a single Class 9 spiritual defensive soul tool.

Zhongli Wu could feel his heart bleeding after seeing what the Class 9 soul engineers had quoted. Even though the Holy Ghost Church was incredibly rich, rare metals were commodities which had great strategic value!

The Duskwater Alliance, which Huo Yuhao had previously joined, specialized in trading rare metals. Even though the Holy Ghost Church had the quantity of the rare metals they had quoted, it was still a substantive cost.

But could Zhongli Wu say no? The value of a Titled Douluo evil soul master was definitely a lot more than whatever rare metals they were demanding.

I will make sure all of you pay for this! Zhongli Wu gritted his teeth and agreed to the prices offered by the Class 9 soul engineers, even though he knew they were simply trying to raid him when he was out of options.

He purchased a single spiritual defensive soul tool, because he had no idea how long Huo Yuhao could last against the next person he was about to send forward.

Zhongli Wu was trying to buy as few spiritual defensive soul tools as possible. If he needed them again, he would buy them later.

Even though the Class 9 soul engineers appeared to be very calm and collected, they were all laughing deep down. It was a pleasant feeling to see how an evil soul master was forced to accept an unfair agreement. After all, soul engineers, like soul masters, were normal people. They would naturally not have a good impression of evil soul masters. On top of that, the relationship between the Holy Ghost Church and the soul engineers was becoming increasingly strained over the past few years.

Zhongli Wu regretted not bringing some of the soul engineers from his Holy Ghost Church along for this war. He had left all of them behind in the Radiant City. If not, he would not have to agree to such an unfair deal.

Following which, Zhongli Wu passed the spiritual defensive soul tool he had just bought to the person beside him. "Little Feng, take care. Please prioritize your safety."

"Okay." The person who was standing beside Zhongli Wu was the woman he loved. She was none other than Feng Ling, the Vice-Leader of the Holy Ghost Church!

Zhongli Wu was going to send Feng Ling as Huo Yuhao's second opponent.

Right from the beginning, Zhongli Wu had never planned to use all ten battles. He did not believe that Huo Yuhao had the ability to last for ten battles, even though he must have something up his sleeves. At the same time, he did not want to use all of his trump cards.

There were more than ten powerful soul masters from the Holy Ghost Church who had followed the army to war. Every one of them was at least a Titled Douluo. Other than the two Ultimate Douluo, they pretty much formed the backbone of the Holy Ghost Church.

However, after their previous battle, as well as the fight against Di Tian, they had lost a couple of people. The battle against Di Tian had been exceptionally costly. Currently, they only had nine people left, and two of those nine people were heavily injured.

Hence, they could at best send out seven people. Among the seven people, only four of them—including Zhongli Wu himself—were at the level of a Transcendent Douluo.

It was extremely difficult to cultivate to become a Transcendent Douluo as an evil soul master. It was even more difficult to nurture one. Usually, an evil soul master would have an enormous advantage over a normal soul master even if they were at the same rank. It was not impossible for one evil soul master to fight against multiple normal soul masters. However, when it came to higher-ranked battles, the advantage would gradually diminish.

### Chapter 577.3: First Fight, Extermination!

For example, a two ringed evil soul master would definitely be able to slaughter a huge number of normal two ringed soul masters with his or her own evil soul skills. However, the gap would be a lot smaller when a five ringed evil soul master fought against a five ringed soul master. Eventually, after both types of soul masters had reached Titled Douluo, evil soul masters would be more or less the same as normal soul masters, except for some advantages which were near negligible.

Zhongli Wu had ranked him alongside his other Transcendent Douluo after Huo Yuhao had demonstrated the courage to fight ten different people. Even if Huo Yuhao was super arrogant, he would never have proposed such a ludicrous challenge if he did not even possess the abilities of a Transcendent Douluo.

Hence, Zhongli Wu only planned to send the Transcendent Douluo under him to fight Huo Yuhao. Sending any Titled Douluo would just be a waste of his precious resources. After all, it was very difficult to train an evil soul master to become a Titled Douluo! Those dead Titled Douluo could have been war machines on the battlefield.

Hence, the second person Huo Yuhao was about to fight was Feng Ling.

Feng Ling was the second strongest evil soul master among those who had followed Zhongli Wu to the battlefield. She was right behind him in the pecking order. ?The fact that Zhongli Wu had decided to send her as the second person meant that he did not want to lose any more of his powerful evil soul masters.

Feng Ling floated to a position which was about a hundred meters away from Huo Yuhao before landing on the ground.

She was also robed in black, even though she was not covering her head with a hood.

She was undoubtedly beautiful, even though she was already a middle-aged woman. Her skin was still extremely fair, and she radiated a devilish, seductive aura.

It was not the first time Huo Yuhao had seen the Vice-Leader of the Holy Ghost Church. Previously when he first met Feng Ling, he could still remember clearly how pressuring it was to even be in her presence.

This time when they finally met again, she had become his opponent.

Feng Ling had a strange pair of eyes. Even though they were not particularly huge, they were alluring in a very different way. There were two dark red streaks which extended from the corners of her eyes to her temples. These streaks on her face gave her a very devilish look.

"Huo Yuhao." Feng Ling spoke coldly.

Huo Yuhao revealed a faint smile and said, "Hello, Vice-Leader. We meet again."

Feng Ling replied coldly, "You are Tang Wu, the person who participated in the Radiant City Elite Soul Engineering Tournament, right?"

Huo Yuhao smiled and answered, "That's right! It seems like the Vice-Leader is very observant."

"Very well." Feng Ling's voice was becoming colder as the black robe on her body started to flutter, even though there was no wind at all. Suddenly a piercing phoenix roar could be heard from her body as her soul rings started to rise around her.

Three purple, five black, and one red ring!

Her soul ring combination far exceeded the optimal soul ring combination. Her soul rings were radiating a brilliant glow onto their surroundings. She did not have a single hundred-year soul ring. Even her lousiest soul ring was a thousand-year soul ring.

Even Huo Yuhao was a little startled after seeing her nine soul rings appear before his eyes. He was amazed at the power she had demonstrated.?No wonder she's the Vice-Leader of the Holy Ghost Church.

Huo Yuhao did not know exactly what rank Feng Ling was at. However, he could roughly tell from her aura that she should be somewhere around Rank 96. Because of the fact that she was an evil soul master, she could even be Rank 97. This Vice-Leader would definitely pose a bigger challenge than Wu Yun. On top of that, Feng Ling was now using a spiritual defensive soul tool. She would be a lot more resistant to Huo Yuhao's Spirit Eyes' soul skills.

Huo Yuhao's face revealed a faint glow as his Icy War God's Armor gave off a mystical glow under his control.

Suddenly, the purple soul ring on Feng Ling's body started to emit a bright light. At the very next instant, a pair of dark purple wings extended behind her back.

A powerful aura was instantly released as it swarmed and surged towards Huo Yuhao.

Phoenix wings? What kind of phoenix is this? Why are its wings purple?

Huo Yuhao had previously seen Feng Ling in action. However, back then, Feng Ling did not go all-out. This time, the Vice-Leader of the Holy Ghost Church was undoubtedly going to use all of her powers to take him down.

There were no flames at all despite the immense pressure the wings were radiating.?That is...

Darkness? Darkness Phoenix?

No, that would be wrong. It can't be the Darkness Phoenix. The Darkness Phoenix's aura should be pure, and would definitely not be so cold.

This must be the Evil Phoenix!

Yes, this was Feng Ling's martial soul—the Evil Phoenix. This matched exactly with her title, which was the Evil Phoenix Douluo.

The Evil Phoenix Douluo, Feng Ling!

Intense soul power fluctuations were radiating from the gigantic Evil Phoenix wings as the surrounding light started to become dimmer. It seemed as though the entire sky had turned grey. A powerful, suffocating sensation made Huo Yuhao find it hard to breathe, even though he was within his Icy War God's Armor.

Feng Ling is really powerful!

Yan Shaozhe, who was watching from the distance along with the other powerful individuals from the Shrek Academy, was startled as he muttered, "Evil Phoenix? So she's actually the Evil Phoenix Douluo... I can't believe Feng Ling is the person who is holding that title. It seems like she has also joined the Holy Ghost Church."

After hearing what he was muttering, two people looked over at him with unfriendly eyes.

One of them was naturally Cai Mei'er—Yan Shaozhe's wife and the Vice-Dean of the Martial Soul Department. The other person was none other than Xian Lin'er—the Valkyrie Douluo.

Yan Shaozhe forced a cough as he quickly regained his composure.

Of course he knew who Feng Ling was. To be even more precise, he had once shared an ill-fated relationship with her.

Back then, when Yan Shaozhe had just completed his training, he had been the most talented individual in the new batch of students from Shrek Academy. He was not only the disciple of the Dragon God Douluo, but was also extremely powerful and handsome. Coupled with his powerful martial soul—the Radiant Phoenix—he was blessed with every single thing which could make him successful.

However, Yan Shaozhe tended to be a little flirtatious when it came to relationships. Otherwise, he would not have developed a poor relationship with the Valkyrie Douluo.

His relationship with Feng Ling had happened before he had even gotten together with Xian Lin'er. Back then, when he had just completed his training, he had bumped into Feng Ling.

Both of them had phoenixes as their martial souls. Back then, Feng Ling was a lot weaker, and the evil within her phoenix martial soul had yet to be awakened. Hence, it seemed a lot more like the Darkness Phoenix, especially when it was easy to mistake the evilness as dark-type energy.

Even though the Radiant Phoenix had just met the Darkness Phoenix, Yan Shaozhe did not ostracize her. He felt that he did not have to do so because his very own teacher—Mu En—was also very good friends with Long Xiaoyao. In fact, the Radiant Holy Dragon and Darkness Holy Dragon even became a very inspirational tale for everyone in the Douluo Continent.

Hence, instead of finding Feng Ling repulsive, he was very interested in her. After all, he might just be able to start another inspirational tale with her.

Yan Shaozhe was young, handsome, powerful, and extremely charismatic. Before long, both of them got together, and became a lot closer very quickly.

However, their blissful days did not last very long. After being together for about three months or so, Feng Ling's evil aura was suddenly awakened one day. In fact, if Yan Shaozhe were to only find out about it later, he would have been killed and consumed by her.

This was a special kind of connection the Evil Phoenix had with the Radiant Phoenix. To be more precise, Feng Ling's Evil Phoenix was only able to awaken so quickly after Yan Shaozhe had developed an intimate relationship with her.

Hence, a huge battle broke out between Yan Shaozhe and Feng Ling. Yan Shaozhe was able to suppress Feng Ling with his superior powers. However, he could not bear to kill her. After all, he had already developed very powerful feelings for her. Feng Ling was the first woman in his life.

In the end, he could not help but let Feng Ling flee. Afterward, he also left. From that day onwards, he had never seen Feng Ling again. Even though he managed to catch hold of news about her attaining the Titled Douluo rank, he had no idea where she was.

Mu En had, in fact, reprimanded him severely because of this incident. The Evil Phoenix was one of the most gifted martial souls among the possible martial souls which evil soul masters could possess. This meant that Yan Shaozhe had let a powerful monster loose! No one would know how many people would have to suffer under her wrath.

Back then, Mu En had made the exact mistake, and naturally did not want to see his disciple repeat the same mistake. In fact, he was more worried that Yan Shaozhe would fall too deeply in love with her.

Hence, Yan Shaozhe was grounded for three years as he studied and trained hard within Shrek Academy. It was the three years of closed-door cultivation which helped him develop the ability to eventually become the Dean of the Martial Soul Department.

After so many years, Yan Shaozhe finally saw Feng Ling again. The thoughts and feelings which were racing through his body and mind could only be understood by him alone.

On the other hand, Feng Ling seemed to have completely forgotten about him. She did not even try to steal a glance at him as she kept her gaze focused on Huo Yuhao. The powerful Evil Phoenix aura exploded like a geyser as it radiated from her body.

Huo Yuhao and Feng Ling were now facing one another, but neither of them took the initiative to start the attack. Huo Yuhao's aura was well concealed, whereas Feng Ling released her aura flamboyantly. Her aura caused the weather within a thousand-meter radius to become extremely volatile. Even the powerful soul masters from both sides who were spectating had no choice but to release their soul power to defend themselves from her aura.

"Die!" Feng Ling let out a cold grunt as her figure flickered. A series of strange-looking figures were left behind her as she sped forward. The shape of the figures resembled a purple phoenix.

Feng Ling's right hand suddenly became incredibly huge as it transformed into a gigantic purple claw as she raced towards Huo Yuhao.

It was a simple, direct attack. She did not use her martial soul true body. It was almost as though she did not learn from Wu Yun's lesson.

Huo Yuhao neither retreated nor tried to evade her attack. Instead, he dug his toes into the ground before launching himself forward in a ferocious manner. Similarly, he raised his right hand and waved it furiously. A gigantic dark golden claw which spanned a hundred meters immediately enveloped Feng Ling's body.

# Darkgolden Terrorclaw!

After seeing the intense glow and the incredibly sharp aura of the Darkgolden Terrorclaw which threatened to tear anything in its way apart, even Zhongli Wu was startled. He had never imagined Huo Yuhao to be so powerful. The Darkgolden Terrorclaw Huo Yuhao had released was already on par with that of a hundred thousand year Darkgolden Terrorclaw Bear.

Feng Ling released a cold grunt as the wings behind her folded together before she extended her right phoenix claw to grab Huo Yuhao's Darkgolden Terrorclaw. She was trying to use her small claw against Huo Yuhao's humongous claw!

"Cling!" A bright sound echoed in the air as a series of soul power explosions occurred at the point of contact. The loud explosive sounds traveled through the surrounding air and into the ears of the surrounding spectators.

The series of explosions released countless sharp auras which cut deep into the earth around them, resulting in humongous trenches around them.

The troops from the Sun Moon Empire and the people from Shrek Academy had no choice but to activate their strongest defensive measures to protect themselves from the invincibly sharp fluctuations which radiated from Huo Yuhao and Feng Ling.

Huo Yuhao remained stationary in the air, while Feng Ling had been forced backward by close to forty meters. Her black long robe had been torn to pieces by the sharp aura, revealing the light armor built from black scales she was wearing under it.n $\mathcal{O}\mathcal{V}e$ -lb.In

### Chapter 578.1: Second Fight, Feng Ling

Feng Ling was completely decked in armor. Although Huo Yuhao didn't know how old she was, he was still in awe.?Great figure.

Huo Yuhao had gained the upper hand in their first clash. The strength of his Darkgolden Terrorclaw suppressed Feng Ling's Phoenix Claws.

Both of them seemed to have great chemistry with each other. They leapt into the sky at almost the same time and transformed into two different projections. Instantly, they shot more than a thousand meters into the sky.  $n\mathcal{OV}e$ -lb.In

The sky was a battlefield for truly strong individuals. Otherwise, everything on the ground would be torn apart from the shockwaves generated during an intense clash between powerful individuals.

They were a hundred meters away from each other. They continued to rise into the sky. No emotional undulations appeared in Feng Ling's eyes. She only glared at Huo Yuhao. Just as she was rising, her own stature was also growing rapidly.

Huo Yuhao wasn't any inferior. Dark-blue projections flashed around his body. The higher it was, the colder the air temperature. The number of ice elements also increased. With the help of the Icy War God's Armor, these ice elements were quickly absorbed into his body before they were turned into a part of his strength.

Terrifying soul power undulations rippled through the air. The fight between them immediately reached a peak.

A sharp phoenix cry sounded. In mid-air, Feng Ling opened her wings once again. Behind her, the sky instantly turned purplish-black. At the same time, a giant dark phoenix surfaced amidst the purplish-black. Its appearance was very subtle.

Yan Shaozhe's Phoenix was agile, elegant and holy. Feng Ling's Phoenix was sinister and evil! It seemed like it wanted to crush the sky.

"Bang!" A strange pop could be heard from around Feng Ling's body. Her first soul ring also popped. The evil energy around her, which was already very strong, started to grow many times stronger.

"Her soul skill is different from before." Yan Shaozhe muttered to himself.

He had once had a relationship with Feng Ling. Back then, Feng Ling already had six rings, even though she wasn't as strong as she was right now. The soul skills that she demonstrated then were quite different from her soul skills right now.

Elder Xuan said, "It must be a mutation after her Evil Phoenix awakened. As her martial soul mutated, her soul skills also mutated."

This was something that had happened to Xu Sanshi and Bei Bei. Generally speaking, a mutation of a martial soul would lead to mutations in soul skills.

Yan Shaozhe said, "I'm afraid Yuhao has underestimated his opponent this time. Feng Ling is already so strong. Zhong Liwu must be even stronger than her."

A smile surfaced on Elder Xuan's face, "While Feng Ling is strong, Yuhao is no longer the same as before either. Today, he'll prove to everyone that he's one of the strongest in the world now. Shaozhe, he's already exceeded you in terms of cultivation and fighting strength. While Feng Ling is strong, she's still worse than you."

Yan Shaozhe was astonished. He hadn't expected Elder Xuan to have such a high opinion of Huo Yuhao. It was also at this moment that Huo Yuhao experienced a transformation.

With his body as the center, a ball of blurry blue light shone in the air. At the start, it was deep-blue. However, as it spread, it turned dimmer and dimmer. When it had spread more than a hundred meters, it had turned completely white.

This white was in great contrast with the purplish-black that Feng Ling had unleashed. The white started to scatter and turn into countless snowflakes, that twisted and turned in the air.

The snowflakes were pure-white, and carried a holy aura. When Feng Ling's evil energy spread towards Huo Yuhao, the snowflakes were stirred, but they easily dispelled the evil energy. The evil energy couldn't get close to Huo Yuhao at all.

At the very start, it felt as if Feng Ling had gained the upper hand. Her evil energy engulfed most of the region, and even engulfed the position that Huo Yuhao was standing in.

However, this changed very soon. The snowflakes around Huo Yuhao's body were continuously and steadily expanding. No matter how much Feng Ling tried to summon her evil energy, she couldn't breach the region covered by Huo Yuhao's snowflakes. Her strength was suppressed and forced back by the falling snowflakes.

Originally, she had wanted to use her evil energy to influence Huo Yuhao. However, she was the one who was being influenced right now. Although she wasn't engulfed within his domain, the air temperature was still falling dramatically. Given her cultivation, she was still horrified when subjected to such a low temperature. The circulation of her soul power seemed to be affected too.

Ultimate Ice is actually so terrifying?

Eternal Domain of Perpetual Ice!

Snowy Dance of Ultimate Ice!

Huo Yuhao had shut his eyes. Every snowflake he felt was like a part of his feelings and emotions. They kept on extending.

The evil energy that Feng Ling unleashed was very strong and pure. Normally, she wouldn't be at a disadvantage even when up against his Ultimate Ice.

However, Huo Yuhao's Ultimate Ice was no longer like it was before. After he completed the fusion of his second soul core, his Ultimate Ice reached an entirely new tier.

The strongest point of the Yin Yang Complement was that 'Yin' was in 'Yang' and 'Yang' was in 'Yin'.

The strength of the Snowy Dance of Ultimate Ice was many times greater than before after it combined Huo Yuhao's Ultimate Douluo spiritual power and the compressed, extremely low temperature of his Ultimate Ice.

"I can't allow this to continue!" Feng Ling immediately judged. If Huo Yuhao continued to suppress her using his domain, she would be in a far worse position as time passed. Since she was losing in the aspect of elements, she could only rely on pure fighting strength!

Her pitch-black seventh soul ring suddenly shone. Thick purplish-black light instantly devoured her.

After this, purplish-black clouds separated in the sky, and a giant purplish-black phoenix rushed out. It carried a dazzling purplish-black tail flame and brought strange ripples as it charged towards Huo Yuhao.

As she was suppressed by the Snowy Dance of Ultimate Ice, Feng Ling finally resorted to using her Martial Soul True Body.

From afar, her phoenix seemed to be very elegant and dazzling. However, it had a pair of blood-red eyes, which completely destroyed any elegance it might have possessed.

Wherever this phoenix passed, the air would distort tremendously. There seemed to be countless, pathetic screams echoing around the purplish glow that came from the phoenix, and fierce-looking faces could be subtly seen.

What was the evil part of this Evil Phoenix? It was through devouring other soul masters! The Evil Phoenix devoured the martial souls of other soul masters to improve.

Comparatively speaking, Feng Ling had killed very little compared to other evil soul masters. This was because she had to devour a martial soul that was similar to her own. Furthermore, it was only effective if the other party had a roughly similar cultivation.

This was why she had wanted to devour Yan Shaozhe's martial soul when she first experienced her awakening.

When the aura of her martial soul was fully unleashed, she became even keener to devour martial souls. Even though Huo Yuhao had an Ultimate martial soul, he was still affected. A fear that originated from his martial soul caused him to waver a little.

Huo Yuhao drifted within his Snowy Dance of Ultimate Ice. Against Feng Ling's attack, he didn't immediately unleash his True Body to resist it. Instead, he maintained his domain.

Feng Ling was about to crash into his Snowy Dance of Ultimate Ice. A Transcendent Douluo's True Body was extremely terrifying, especially when she fully demonstrated her ability to devour. Feng Ling had absolute confidence that she could break Huo Yuhao's domain.

Huo Yuhao's expression was very serious. Suddenly, he made a hugging motion. Immediately, the snowflakes in his Snowy Dance of Ultimate Ice gathered towards his body. They were moving directly towards his palms.

Feng Ling's True Body stopped in the air.?He's given up on his domain? Don't tell me he's going to unleash his True Body too?

This was the first thought that arose in her mind.

Following this, Feng Ling was in front of Huo Yuhao. A strong force of evil swept towards him. The Evil Phoenix True Body already had its mouth wide open, and was about to devour Huo Yuhao.

Huo Yuhao still didn't unleash his True Body. He drifted in mid-air, as still as a statue.

His Icy War God's Armor unleashed intense dark-blue light. Huo Yuhao gradually pushed his right hand out to resist Feng Ling's Evil Phoenix True Body.

It was a clash between large and small. Right now, the difference between Huo Yuhao and Feng Ling appeared to be very great.

What is he doing? He's actually not avoiding the True Body of a Transcendent Douluo or unleashing his own True Body to resist? Is he really so confident?

Just as everyone was puzzled, Feng Ling suddenly stopped in the air.

Her gigantic True Body stopped in the air just like that. Following this, it was clear that a trace of icy-blue was spreading to the rest of the Evil Phoenix's body from its head.

This...

Zhong Liwu's pupils shrank.

He, he's actually frozen Little Feng's True Body? What strength is this? Even an Ultimate Douluo couldn't possibly be so strong, right? Little Feng's Evil Phoenix is considered one of the strongest among evil soul masters!

Yes, Huo Yuhao had only used his Snowless Glacier!

The strength of his Snowy Dance of Ultimate Ice was tapped by his soul core. He instantly compressed and gathered it before unleashing it using his Snowless Glacier.

Feng Ling felt it the most. She felt that she wasn't just facing a palm, but a giant whirlpool of ice and snow. It was just that this whirlpool was formless. Her immense soul power was actually frozen by this formless Ultimate Ice. She was unable to move, and could only sense a terrifying chill engulfing her entire body.

### **Chapter 578.2: Second Fight, Feng Ling**

Could ice freeze soul power? Huo Yuhao gave her a definite answer to this question.

A sharp scream sounded. Bright light suddenly exploded from the Evil Phoenix True Body. A purplish sun above its head tore the clouds apart before revealing itself. When this purplish sun appeared, the strength of the Evil Phoenix True Body instantly surged. Cracks started to appear on the frozen parts of its body.

A huge purplish beam of light that was more than ten meters in diameter also shot out from the purplish sun. This beam shot straight towards Huo Yuhao.

Powerful!?This was Huo Yuhao's first feeling. However, he had no intention of stepping back.

His eyes shone with golden light before his body turned ethereal. Following this, a huge vertical eye that was more than ten meters tall also appeared in mid-air.

It was his Martial Soul True Body, Eye of the Asura!

Yes, Huo Yuhao had finally unleashed his True Body.

When his Eye of the Asura appeared, time seemed to slow down. Everything seemed to have been delayed. The purplish beam of light that was shooting straight towards him was no exception.

Time has become slower? Is this a soul skill, or...

The Eye of the Asura was bright gold. Around the eye, there were dense yet dazzling rose-gold sunray patterns. A strange glow was being exuded.

This was Huo Yuhao's first time unleashing his True Body ever since he made his breakthrough.

Bright gold light shot out in the next instant, aimed at that beam of purplish light.

As gold and purple clashed in the air, unprecedentedly bright lights were produced. Countless streaks of light scattered everywhere. It was very clear that two rings of light were spreading in a balanced manner. Within a region covering fifty square kilometers, this was completely clear and visible. n/. $\sigma$ -V./e--L.. $\vartheta$ --I--n

Direct clash! This was a direct confrontation. Huo Yuhao chose to resist Feng Ling's all-out attack the hard way.

Just as the two different types of lights clashed, an ethereal projection surfaced behind Huo Yuhao's Eye of the Asura. This projection was golden. It was huge, but ethereal.

Destiny God Beast, Emperor Beast, the Three-Eyed Golden Lion!

The Three-Eyed Golden Lion appeared out of thin air. A rose-gold halo also rose from below the pupil of the Eye of the Asura. The color of the Eye of the Asura immediately changed. Two balls of light, black and white, intersected, fusing and turning into the core of the pupil of the Eye of the Asura.

Following this, these two balls of light shot out. They were aimed at Feng Ling, who had just struggled her way out of Huo Yuhao's Ultimate Ice.

Although Feng Ling had struggled her way out of Huo Yuhao's Ultimate Ice, the terrifying chill had still invaded her body and soul. Even her spiritual sea was affected by Huo Yuhao's Ultimate Ice.

Feng Ling was certain that her True Body would really have been completely frozen if she were not a Transcendent Douluo and if she didn't immediately invoke the strength of her soul core. It would be impossible for her to break free if she waited until then.

His Ultimate Ice is frightening. It can freeze soul and spiritual power!

Even so, Feng Ling's expression was still very fierce and serious. There was no look of fear in the blood-red eyes of her True Body. There was only a look of arrogance!

The black and white lights reached her almost instantly. Feng Ling's first reaction was to dodge. Her immense True Body turned illusory, as if it had become transparent.

However, something strange occurred. The black and white lights spread when they landed on her, and added two layers of light to her body. They did not lose their effect just because her body had turned illusory.

How was this possible?

Feng Ling was in a daze. This ability of her True Body was able to easily neutralize any soul power or material attack. But how did Huo Yuhao manage this?

Was it a spiritual attack? However, Feng Ling didn't sense any spiritual attack!

What was going on? Feng Ling was completely unaware. At this moment, his Eye of the Asura shot out a beam of light once again. This time, a beam of bright gold light shot straight at Feng Ling.

Feng Ling groaned! A hostile look flashed across her eyes. The purplish sun above her didn't instantly unleash an attack to resist Huo Yuhao's Spiritual Shock. Rather, it shot out a beam of purple light towards the main body of the Eye of the Asura.

She had the intention of perishing together with Huo Yuhao.

In fact, Feng Ling was carrying a Class 9 spiritual defensive-type soul tool. She was confident of resisting Huo Yuhao's Spiritual Shock. The Devouring Light of the Evil Phoenix that she unleashed couldn't be dealt with so easily.

No one knew the true terrifying part of an Evil Phoenix. In fact, her origin strength came from spiritual attacks. She also devoured the spiritual origins of martial souls to strengthen her own body.

The evil and devouring characteristics ignited by spiritual power was what spawned the purplish sun.

This purplish sun was also Feng Ling's ninth soul skill, Sun of the Evil Phoenix. When she first became a Titled Douluo, she couldn't even use this hundred thousand year soul skill. She could only use it after she became a Transcendent Douluo.

It was also precisely why she could become a Transcendent Douluo in a few decades, and become the vice-leader of the Holy Ghost Church.

The Devouring Light of the Evil Phoenix unleashed by the Sun of the Evil Phoenix had landed on the Eye of the Asura earlier. Suddenly, the Eye of the Asura was stained purple. The sunray patterns around the eye quickly retracted as a result, as if the eye had been greatly harmed.

However, Feng Ling opened her eyes wide at the next instant. What she sensed was different from what others saw. She couldn't sense that Huo Yuhao had been attacked. This also meant that everything that had happened was just an illusion.

Just as this feeling developed, Huo Yuhao's Spiritual Shock also hit her.

At almost the next instant, Feng Ling's True Body was destroyed by that immensely powerful beam of golden light. She reverted to her original form, and her entire body was also engulfed by the beam of golden light.

A necklace released intense silver light to protect her. It demonstrated the strength of a Class 9 spiritual defensive-type soul tool.

Feng Ling only felt that her heartbeat had quickened. When she faced Huo Yuhao's Spiritual Shock, she finally understood why Wu Yun was defeated so quickly. He was simply too strong. His spiritual power was simply too immense. She felt as if she were facing the Death God Douluo, Ye Xishui.

Fortunately, she had a Class 9 defensive-type soul tool. If it could block his attack, whatever was expended to create this soul tool would have been worth it.

Feng Ling glared at Huo Yuhao. Right now, the problem she was facing was that she had just been struck by his Spiritual Shock. She couldn't use her spiritual power to detect where he was. In this way, she couldn't tell what Huo Yuhao was really up to.

"Ka ka!" A slightly horrifying sound echoed.

When Feng Ling lowered her head, she was astonished to find out that her necklace was already on the verge of failing. There were already cracks in it.

This...

It's a Class 9 soul tool! It's actually beginning to fail because of that fellow's attack.

An indescribable fear surged in her heart. In her mind, she couldn't help but think about the black and white lights that had appeared on her body earlier.

At this moment, Huo Yuhao's Eye of the Asura was destroyed by the Devouring Light of the Evil Phoenix. His Spiritual Shock also ended.

"Piang!" Feng Ling's soul tool cracked, but still finally managed to resist Huo Yuhao's Spiritual Shock.

However, Feng Ling's fear didn't disappear. She only felt as if she was being watched by some kind of savage beast. It was a torturous feeling.

Subconsciously, she unleashed her Martial Soul True Body again.

However, it was also at this moment that she heard an anxious exclamation.

This was a very familiar voice. Didn't it come from Zhong Liwu?

A huge vertical eye silently appeared behind Feng Ling. The Eye of the Asura seemed to have transcended space. It was dazzling gold, and ten meters high. The sunray patterns were also still shining around it.

Yes, the Eye of the Asura hadn't been destroyed. It was still there!

Golden light shot out. Compared to before, it might be a little weaker. However, it engulfed Feng Ling's entire body.

Feng Ling's body turned rigid. Her True Body turned into countless streaks of purplish smoke that quickly dissipated.

She was even more shocked to realize that there was no movement in her spiritual sea. Against such a spiritual attack, she was completely unable to resist. The terrifying spiritual power instantly struck her brain.

Feng Ling groaned, and her body shook in the air. After that, she passed out.

The golden light retracted, and a hand grabbed her neck.

Huo Yuhao also jolted himself out from his Eye of the Asura.

The entire place descended into silence.

Second! She was the second to be defeated. She was even a Transcendent Douluo, the Evil Phoenix Douluo! The powerful vice-leader of the Holy Ghost Church was defeated just like that. If Huo Yuhao had wanted to kill her, he could have done so earlier.

What Huo Yuhao did wasn't complicated at all. However, only he was capable of doing it.

Before he unleashed his Spiritual Shock, it was evident that the divine skill the Three-Eyed Golden Lion conferred onto Huo Yuhao was used on Feng Ling. It was Destiny's Demise, Spiritual Reaving. All material and spiritual defenses could be overcome by this skill.

While a Class 9 spiritual defensive-type soul tool was strong, it could only block Huo Yuhao's all-out attack.

When he unleashed that strike earlier, Huo Yuhao had actually used his Spiritual Interference Domain too.

His Spiritual Interference Domain had caused Feng Ling's lock-on and vision to be slightly off. This was why her Devouring Light of the Evil Phoenix didn't actually hit him, but a projection that Huo Yuhao had imitated through his Spiritual Interference Domain and Imitation.

### Chapter 578.3: Second Fight, Feng Ling

After this, things were much easier. He used his Instant Teleportation and sent the real Eye of the Asura behind Feng Ling. Following this came his second strike of Spiritual Shock.

If Huo Yuhao had really wanted to, he could have really hurt Feng Ling by tapping into the strength of his Spiritual Reaving earlier. After that, he could even kill her.

However, he didn't do so. Instead, he sealed Feng Ling's senses and spiritual sea before capturing her.

He slowly landed on the ground. There was a strange glow in his eyes. After two consecutive fights, it seemed like he had won very easily. In fact, only he himself knew that he had to react very quickly during these two fights. He had to rely on his strengths to win these two fights easily.

From the start until the end, Huo Yuhao didn't conserve his strength at all. This was because he knew that the more he didn't want to unleash his soul power, the more he would be drained. He still had more fights after this. The recovery speed of his twin soul cores and the amount of soul power he had was unimaginable. However, even so, he couldn't possibly last ten rounds.

This was why he didn't kill Feng Ling. Instead, he grabbed her and gave himself some time to recover. Also...

As he landed on the ground, Huo Yuhao took lifted his visor. He grabbed Feng Ling with one hand and had no intention of relaxing at all.

Zhong Liwu stood where he was and didn't move. Feng Ling was already in Huo Yuhao's hand. Even if an Ultimate Douluo were here, he couldn't possibly save her from his hands. Once Huo Yuhao unleashed his Darkgolden Terrorclaws, he could tear Feng Ling's neck apart in an instant.

"What do you want?" Zhong Liwu asked coldly. They were clever people. He wouldn't demand that Huo Yuhao release Feng Ling. Since Huo Yuhao didn't kill her, it meant that there was room for negotiation. He had to have some kind of agenda. To Zhong Liwu, Feng Ling was very important. Not only was she his right-hand man, but she was also his wife.

Evil soul masters weren't devoid of emotions! This was even though Zhong Liwu didn't control Feng Ling using emotions!

"I want to exchange her for your other Holy Lady. I'll leave it up to you to decide whether a Holy Lady or your vice-sect leader is more important." Huo Yuhao revealed his demands simply.

Yes, he had been waiting for this moment for a long time. He couldn't find where the Holy Ghost Church's headquarters was. This was why he couldn't find Ma Xiaotao at all.

Not long ago, Huo Yuhao attempted to use his Spiritual Detection to search for her before when they first entered Radiant City. However, he didn't find any trace of her. Since he couldn't find her, he could only turn to the Holy Ghost Church.

After hearing Huo Yuhao's demand, Zhong Liwu focused his gaze. "Keep daydreaming."

When he had first captured the two Holy Ladies, he had used the Holy Ghost Church's methods to stimulate them and rapidly increase their cultivations. After that, the Bluesilver Holy Lady Tang Ya was captured by Huo Yuhao and the others. This left them with only the Fire Phoenix Holy Lady, Ma Xiaotao. Zhong Liwu had high hopes for Ma Xiaotao. She was close to becoming a Transcendent Douluo. Furthermore, she had an Ultimate martial soul! The evil energy of her Ultimate martial soul became fuel for her Ultimate Fire under the stimulation of the Holy Ghost Church's special methods. Her abilities had grown significantly over the past few years. She was bound to become a pillar of the Holy Ghost Church in the future.

In Zhong Liwu's plan, Ma Xiaotao could become an Ultimate Douluo in a decade's time. Once she succeeded, she would completely lose her own awareness and become a puppet, a puppet who was an Ultimate Douluo.

Then, even though both Ye Xishui and Long Xiaoyao would eventually pass away, the Holy Ghost Church would still remain strong.

This was why Zhong Liwu immediately rejected Huo Yuhao's demand the moment he mentioned Ma Xiaotao.

He had feelings for Feng Ling. However, his feelings weren't important compared to the future of the Holy Ghost Church. This was the Holy Ghost Church's motto – profit was the most important.

"Are you saying that you don't want her life anymore?" Huo Yuhao lifted Feng Ling high.

A sharp, dark gold blade shot out from his index finger, shining brightly. The tip of it came extremely close to Feng Ling's throat.

"Stop!" Zhong Liwu shouted furiously.

He was conflicted! He couldn't bear to watch Feng Ling die. It was his first time regretting this mission. If he hadn't personally requested to fight this battle, Wu Yun wouldn't have died, and Feng Ling wouldn't have fallen into Huo Yuhao's hands.

While the Vampire Ice Bear King was precious, he was still not worth it compared to two Transcendent Douluo! Zhong Liwu subconsciously clenched his fists.

Huo Yuhao said, "Sect leader, you can take some time to consider. I'm not in a rush either. I have ten rounds to fight. I can't wait to get some rest." He pointed out his weakness, and even did it with a grin on his face. He wasn't afraid that Zhong Liwu wouldn't buy his words.

Zhong Liwu's breathing became a little heavy. He was very aware that the generals of the Sun Moon Empire army were all looking at him from afar.

He had already given a military order. If he failed, his reputation in the army would fall dramatically, even if he wasn't dealt with according to military laws.

He was now caught in a bind. What should he do? All sorts of ideas rose in his mind. He really didn't know what to do right now.

He couldn't bear to give Feng Ling up. However, he was even more unwilling to sacrifice the Fire Phoenix Holy Lady!

Zhong Liwu's expression turned grim as he took in a deep breath. "I can't pass the Fire Phoenix Holy Lady to you. She's already one of the pillars of the church. Even as the sect leader, I have no right to exchange her for Little Feng. If you are willing, I can make her fight you next. You can use your own abilities to snatch her away. If you can do that, I'll have nothing to say. However, I can't directly pass her to you."

"It's a promise." Huo Yuhao answered without any hesitation.

A cold light flashed across Zhong Liwu's face. He waved towards the back.

A terrifying aura swept over immediately. The cries of a phoenix sounded following this.

It was different from the cries of Feng Ling's phoenix. Feng Ling's phoenix cries were sharp and shrill, whereas this phoenix cry was filled with dominance. It was extremely domineering! It rocked heaven and earth. n)-0 $\mathcal{V}eL\mathfrak{B}$ In

A mighty aura exploded into the air. Scorching air currents surged. One person slowly walked out from the Sun Moon Empire crowd.

She wasn't very quick, but every step she took left a fiery-red footprint on the ground. Fiery-red light shone from her without dissipating at all.

She was wearing a red hat with a veil that covered her entire head. That mighty yet scorching aura exuded from her body.

Huo Yuhao focused his gaze and stared at her.? Is that you, elder sister?

It was unknown what that red hat was made of. It didn't appear to be damaged even as it was subjected to the scorching air currents.

Zhong Liwu turned around and walked towards a bunch of soul engineers. He gritted his teeth before grabbing another Class 9 spiritual defensive-type soul tool.

This time, it was a bracelet. He returned in front of that person in red.

The person in red lifted her left hand. Her palms were milky-white, but there were red air currents coming from them. Intense soul power undulations originated from her body, which couldn't be suppressed at all.

Her scorching aura made her seem like a volcano that could erupt at any time.

Zhong Liwu gave her the bracelet. After this, he turned to Huo Yuhao and said, "She's here. You can let go of Feng Ling now."

Huo Yuhao coldly replied, "How do I know if she's the one? Ask her to lift her veil and reveal her true appearance."

Zhong Liwu nodded and gestured at the lady.

The lady lifted her veil. When she revealed her appearance, Huo Yuhao's pupils shrank.

All these years, he had done his best to find Ma Xiaotao. However, he couldn't find her. Now that he saw her, his heart sank.

Ma Xiaotao was still Ma Xiaotao. Her appearance had not changed at all. Time also didn't leave any marks on her beautiful face. However, her eyes had changed.

Her eyes had turned completely red. Whether it was the black or white part of her eyes, everything had turned red. It was even a deep red. It was as if blood could seep out of her eyes at any time.

When she lifted her head and looked at Huo Yuhao, there was only a strong killing intent and terrifying evil energy coming from her eyes.

Sister Xiaotao!?Huo Yuhao's heart was shuddering.

Sister Xiaotao, I was the one who harmed you! For various reasons, I couldn't leave with you when we first met. After that, we were attacked by the Holy Ghost Church's Third and Fourth Elder, which caused Qiu'er to sacrifice herself. After Qiu'er sacrificed herself, Shrek Academy was struck by the beast wave. I had no choice but to return to Shrek. When I returned, I could no longer find any traces of you.

When Huo Yuhao saw her years later, today, he could clearly sense that she had lost a part of her soul. She had become a killing machine controlled by the Holy Ghost Church.

Huo Yuhao's killing intent grew instantly.? Holy Ghost Church, Holy Ghost Church!

An icy-cold look flashed across his face. He stared at Zhong Liwu. A cold smile appeared on Zhong Liwu's face. He turned to Ma Xiaotao and said, "Kill him."

There were so many people around. Huo Yuhao couldn't renege on his words. Huo Yuhao shook his right hand before he flung Feng Ling towards Zhong Liwu. At the same time, Ma Xiaotao was already like a ball of intense flame as she charged towards him.

The air immediately distorted due to the heat. Ma Xiaotao seemed to have gone crazy. She opened her arms wide and shot a phoenix-shaped, dark-red flame towards Huo Yuhao.

She immediately used her fourth soul skill, Phoenix Skywhistle.

Ma Xiaotao's phoenix flames were much stronger now compared to before. Her Ultimate Fire was mixed with some kind of terrifying energy that Huo Yuhao couldn't even recognize. The flame was aimed straight at him. Ma Xiaotao's nine soul rings instantly rose at the same time.

# Chapter 579.1: Third Fight, Holy Phoenix Lady

Apart from the soul rings that Huo Yuhao was familiar with him, there was an extra blood-red ninth soul ring on her body.

The Holy Ghost Church had gone all-out to nurture her. They even gave her a hundred thousand year soul ring.

Huo Yuhao opened his arms, and a beam of jade-blue light shot out from his backbone. It was his Ice Empress' Wrath.

Red and jade-blue clashed in the air. It was a confrontation between Ultimate Ice and Ultimate Fire.

A deafening sound echoed, as if hot oil had been spilled onto ice and snow. A huge amount of fog rose instantly.

Ma Xiaotao's Fire Phoenix disappeared. The last shockwave from Ice Empress' Wrath hit her, and caused her to shudder.

In terms of cultivation, she was no longer as strong as Huo Yuhao. She wasn't as strong as that fellow she had almost killed in a manic rage back at the lakeside of the Sea God's Lake.

Her body turned cold, and Ma Xiaotao went into a bit of a daze. However, the aura of Ultimate Ice was quickly expelled by the phoenix flames in her body.

Ultimate Ice and Ultimate Fire were two extreme strengths. Since time immemorial, they suppressed each other. As for which way it went, it depended on the cultivation of their owners.

Her huge phoenix wings opened behind her back. She used her third soul skill, Soaring Phoenix. As her Soaring Phoenix grew stronger and stronger, Ma Xiaotao's stature kept growing. Phoenix flames reached towards Huo Yuhao.

He couldn't fight her on land.

Huo Yuhao pointed his toes to the ground, as if he were about to shot into the sky. However, Ma Xiaotao was only filled with boundless killing intent and the innate desire to fight. Why would she be bothered where they were?

Earlier, Feng Ling was already not in a very good mental state. However, she was already much better compared to Ma Xiaotao. Ma Xiaotao was like a killing machine now.

As she opened her mouth, she spat out a beam of dark red fire towards Huo Yuhao. It was her first soul skill, Phoenix Fireline, which was enhanced by her Soaring Phoenix.

Not only this, but her entire body also started to smoke with burning flames. Her entire body released an indescribable yet immense aura. Then, she unleashed her second soul skill, Phoenix Baptism.

Huo Yuhao had already beaten two evil soul masters. In terms of soul power cultivation, both Feng Ling and Wu Yun were above Ma Xiaotao. However, Huo Yuhao felt more strained when he fought Ma Xiaotao.

The reason was very simple. Ma Xiaotao was in a manic state right now. Furthermore, her Ultimate Fire didn't fear Huo Yuhao's Ultimate Ice. Furthermore, Huo Yuhao didn't dare to go heavy on her!

Given these restraints, Huo Yuhao was unable to fully unleash his abilities. Naturally, he was under some pressure.

Huo Yuhao took in a deep breath. He lifted his right hand and grabbed towards the Phoenix Fireline.

A layer of diamond ice crystals surfaced on Huo Yuhao's Icy War God's Armor.

Ultimate Ice and Divine Ice Crystals, which were used to build the Icy War God's Armor, were complementary. In terms of cultivation, Huo Yuhao was far superior to Ma Xiaotao, as he was enhanced by his Icy War God's Armor.

Ice Empress' Pincer!

The Phoenix Fireline was blocked, but Huo Yuhao was also astonished to find out that the diamond ice crystals on his Ice Empress' Pincer were about to melt under the attack of Ma Xiaotao's Phoenix Skyline. This was unthinkable. There was a huge gap between their cultivations. Why was Ma Xiaotao's Phoenix Fireline so strong?

Just as Huo Yuhao was astonished, Ma Xiaotao had already turned into a Fire Phoenix and flew towards him.

She was still using her Phoenix Skywhistle. The only difference was that her second and third soul skills, the Phoenix Baptism and Soaring Phoenix, enhanced her Phoenix Skywhistle this time. It was even stronger than before.

Huo Yuhao squinted. An icy-blue halo spread from his body.

Star Anise Ice Origin! It was a soul skill that originated from the Star Anise Mysterious Ice Grass.

In fact, Huo Yuhao wasn't in his best state right now. This was because his six Spirits were all in deep sleep. He was affected without his Spirits. He could only use the powers that belonged to his Spirits. There were even some special abilities he couldn't use.

For example, he couldn't use the complete version of the Pride of the Ice and Snow Empresses when both the Ice and Snow Empress were asleep. At the same time, he couldn't use his Ultimate Ice True

Body too. The Ice Empress was asleep. If he used the Ice Empress' True Body, he couldn't possibly unleash its essence. This was not to even mention that the Ultimate Ice True Body also depended on tapping into the Snow Empress' strength.

However, even so, Huo Yuhao was still considered one of the strongest in the world of soul masters because of his Ultimate martial soul.

Under the effect of the Star Anise Icy Origin, his Icy War God's Armor dazzled. He punched out a fist.

It was just his fist; he didn't use any soul skills. However, at this instant, Huo Yuhao seemed to have fused with heaven and earth. Ma Xiaotao, who was against him, seemed to be subjected to the wrath of heaven and earth.

"Cluck——" Ma Xiaotao's Phoenix Fireline was forcefully crushed, and she was thrown back. Her entire body seemed to be covered by a layer of diamond ice crystals. Even her Class 9 defensive-type soul tool on her wrist shone brightly. Evidently, it was taking effect. It was helping her resist Huo Yuhao's spiritual power.

Zhong Liwu had only just dispelled the Ultimate Ice soul power in Feng Ling's body right now. When he saw this scene, his expression changed completely.

That fist contained the principles of heaven and earth! He got the same feeling from his mother's body. However, it wasn't as intense. He also sensed that from Long Xiaoyao's body, which was a little stronger than his mother. Di Tian was the one who left him the deepest impression when it came to this feeling. It was just that Di Tian was a soul beast, and didn't seem to be able to completely fuse with heaven and earth. However, Huo Yuhao appeared to have originated from heaven and earth when he unleashed his fist earlier! He didn't use a lot of his soul power, but Ma Xiaotao was greatly disadvantaged.

Huo Yuhao didn't try to call out to Ma Xiaotao at this moment. This was because he was clearly aware that she was greatly poisoned. She wouldn't respond so easily. He needed to save her first before he had a chance to neutralize the toxins and wake her up.

The first thing he had to do before he could save her was defeat her!

Lights flashed, and Huo Yuhao revealed a determined and serious look on his face. He forced Ma Xiaotao back with one fist, and felt the undulations coming from the two soul cores in his body becoming a little more intense. The slight collision between his soul cores generated a whirlpool of soul power that seemed to strengthen the impact of his fist.  $n(o)/V(e/\ell/(b-l)(-n))$ 

Heaven was Yang, and Earth was Yin. Yin and Yang complemented each other according to the principles of heaven and earth.

Yes, this was the origin of his fist earlier. It was a perfect combination of his spiritual and Ultimate Ice soul power. If there was something lacking, it could only be emotions!

Yes, it was emotions!

If it was before he met the God of Emotions Nian Rongbing, Huo Yuhao would perhaps not know why his Three Ultimate Haodong Skills were so strong. After that, he realized that it was because they fused his

emotions. Soul skills without emotions were like soul skills without souls. The strength of a soul determined the potential and power of a soul skill.

His Three Ultimate Haodong Skills were only so strong because they perfectly unleashed all his emotions. They were so strong that he could defeat an opponent that was much stronger than him in terms of cultivation.

Right now, he was much stronger than before; even compared to if he hadn't fused his emotions into his self-invented skill. When he unleashed this fist, his understanding of his Yin-Yang Complement twin soul cores suddenly deepened.

"Ang!" A sonorous phoenix roar sounded. A huge fire phoenix appeared in the air. It was the Phoenix True Body!

Ma Xiaotao didn't know what fear was in her manic state. There was only one thing in her mind right now, which was to kill.

When she revealed her Phoenix True Body, she charged towards Huo Yuhao. The sky distorted, and there seemed to be an extra layer of ripples high up in the sky. The earth also distorted. The temperature turned terrifyingly high, and caused the battlefield to burn.

Countless scorching meteors formed in the sky before they shot towards Huo Yuhao. This was Ma Xiaotao's sixth soul skill, Phoenix Meteor Shower!

Against this soul skill, Huo Yuhao was feeling very touched. A long time ago, Ma Xiaotao used this skill to help them win the championship during the Continental Advanced Soul Master Academy Soul Dueling Tournament!

Right now, he could still clearly remember how strong Ma Xiaotao was back then, how awe-inspiring she was. When he saw this soul skill again, he was very touched, even though the meteor shower was coming towards him.

Snowflakes drifted once again. Ice turned into spikes and bloomed like icy flowers in the sky.

Star Anise Omnithrust!

Every spike accurately hit a meteor. When ice and fire clashed, ice melted, and fire became weaker. Dazzling lights also turned into dazzling fireworks in the sky.

Perhaps this fight wasn't the most dangerous compared to the previous two fights, but it was certainly the most eye-catching.

The Star Anise Omnithrust managed to resist the Phoenix Meteor Shower. However, the Phoenix True Body was still charging towards Huo Yuhao with the Phoenix Skypierce.

Undoubtedly, the best way for Huo Yuhao to react right now was to use his Ice Jade Empress' Scorpion True Body. Even without the Ice Empress' help, he was still confident of suppressing Ma Xiaotao using his Ultimate Ice True Body.

However, he didn't do so. The reason was very simple. Ice and fire were two extremes. This was even more so between Ultimate Ice and Ultimate Fire. He was worried that he would hurt Ma Xiaotao using such extreme methods. If that happened, he would be regretful.

Ever since his mother had died, Huo Yuhao had no close relatives. When he came to Shrek Academy, he seemed to have found his home. Ma Xiaotao also became like his biological elder sister. Even though they didn't spend a lot of time together, Huo Yuhao still considered her to be very important in his life.

### **Chapter 579.2: Third Fight, Holy Phoenix Lady**

Moreover, Huo Yuhao blamed himself a lot for landing Ma Xiaotao in this state. He believed that she only ended up like this because he didn't leave with her immediately before. This was why he was willing to risk anything to save her.

A layer of diamond ice crystals surfaced on the Icy War God's Armor. It was the Ice Empress' Armor.

At the same time, Huo Yuhao clasped his hands together in front of his chest. He unleashed his Snowy Dance of Ultimate Ice.

His eighth soul ring shone!

He unleashed his Ice Bear Blizzard!

The Snowy Dance of Ultimate Ice and Ice Bear Blizzard were unleashed at the same time, with Huo Yuhao at the center of both attacks.

Right now, he was like the eye of a blizzard. A whirlpool of ice and snow that resembled a tornado swept towards Ma Xiaotao.

By doing this, he was even stronger than when he unleashed his True Body. It was also much easier for him to maintain control. He wouldn't end the fight immediately, but approach the situation slowly. It was only by doing this that he could control his own attacking strength based on the changes to Ma Xiaotao's soul power.

The only shortcoming of doing this was that his soul power would be drained much more than if he used his True Body.

Normally, soul masters would enter a weakened state after using their True Body. Huo Yuhao didn't have such a concern. However, domain-type abilities could only be maintained by draining a lot of soul power, no matter what stage of cultivation a soul master was at.

After Ma Xiaotao's Phoenix True Body was entangled in the Ice Bear Blizzard, it was as she had been chained up. The terrifying blizzard was challenging her Ultimate Fire, and a great amount of fog rose into the air. No one could see what was happening.

Zhong Liwu's expression was very gloomy. However, there seemed to be a shifty look in his eyes.

What Huo Yuhao didn't know was that Zhong Liwu was only prepared for five out of the ten fights. Among the five fights, Ma Xiaotao was actually involved in one of them.

What was more effective against Ultimate Ice than Ultimate Fire? It was just that Ma Xiaotao was supposed to be fourth on Zhong Liwu's list. She was shifted forward by one now, but it didn't affect his plan too much.

Of course Zhong Liwu was aware of Ma Xiaotao's background. She had been a top-performing student in Shrek Academy, and the immediate disciple of Yan Shaozhe. Huo Yuhao was also from Shrek Academy. It was only natural that she shared a close relationship with him.

This was why he wasn't worried about her safety when she was sent out to fight. Once Ma Xiaotao drained Huo Yuhao up to a certain point, it would be time for him to doom Huo Yuhao.

In Zhong Liwu's mind, he wasn't the most concerned about the Ice Bear King, but Huo Yuhao himself.

Ultimate Ice martial soul! If he could get a Holy Son with an Ultimate Ice martial soul and who was a Titled Douluo, the Holy Ghost Church's strength would only stand to increase even if he lost the Bluesilver Holy Lady. In the future, he could have two Ultimate Douluo by his side. They were even Ultimate Douluo with Ultimate martial souls. Who else in this world could fight him then? Even those soul engineers would be helpless against him.

An Ultimate Fire and Ultimate Ice Douluo was an extremely strong combination!

If he could get this Holy Son, he wouldn't mind sacrificing more. This was because his appearance would only serve to offer the Holy Ghost Church unlimited potential.

Zhong Liwu's goal wasn't just to become an Imperial Advisor of an empire. He wanted to become a ruler, the ruler of the entire continent. Whether it was the Douluo Continent or Sun Moon Continent, his goal was to rule.

The Fire Phoenix was struggling in the sky. However, the Ice Bear Blizzard and Snowy Dance of Ultimate Ice were only getting stronger and stronger. n)-0 $\nu eL\mathfrak{B}$ In

The heat in the air had already disappeared. What replaced it was a refreshing chill. The air temperature changed drastically from high to low. This dramatic change left everyone in awe.

Phoenix flames were released continuously. However, their temperature was quickly brought down when a snowflake landed on them.

Suddenly, the Fire Phoenix stopped in the air. She opened her wings to their limit, and her body started revolving in the air. A dazzling halo was formed by her wings, and sonorous phoenix calls continued to echo. Dark red streaks of light started to expand, isolating the blizzard.

The Fire Phoenix also picked up speed. In just an instant, she came in front of Huo Yuhao.

Huo Yuhao only had time to lift his hand. He lifted his right hand in an attempt to stop the Fire Phoenix.

It was Ma Xiaotao's eighth soul skill, Nine Heavens Phoenix Dance!

Scorching phoenix flames were already in front of Huo Yuhao. Two balls of blinding light shone behind Huo Yuhao's back.

A sun and a moon appeared. The sun was gold, while the moon was blue. The sun and the moon intersected weirdly, causing Huo Yuhao to enter a special state.

The phoenix flames struck his body, but they started to revolve tremendously. After this, they were flung away. The Snowy Dance of Ultimate Ice also experienced weird changes.

Snowflakes started to conjoin in the air, forming lines of snow. After this, they tangled up and formed chains that started to entangle the Fire Phoenix from all directions.

This was the improved version of the Snowy Dance of Ultimate Ice, Ice Snow Chain.

Every chain was a consolidation and fusion of Ultimate Ice. When they landed on the Fire Phoenix, they caused her to shake tremendously. The temperature of the phoenix flames fell drastically. No matter how much Ma Xiaotao tried to muster her soul power, her flames couldn't get past Huo Yuhao's palm.

There was an unprecedently strong force in his palm. All the energy that rushed to his palm would instantly be flung away. They couldn't breach it.

The shining sun and moon behind Huo Yuhao's back became stronger and stronger. Even the Sun in the sky seemed to lose some of its glow in the face of Huo Yuhao's sun and moon.

What kind of power is this?? Everyone was astonished, but none of them knew anything about it.

Even Zhong Liwu was astounded. However, he knew more than the rest. This was because he could still recall that he had seen a similar sun-moon projection behind Di Tian before. It was just that Di Tian's was much stronger. However, their auras were very similar.

What kind of strength has he understood to make him so strong now?

Just as Zhong Liwu was astounded, the look of delight in his eyes intensified. The stronger Huo Yuhao was, the stronger the future Holy Son of the Holy Ghost Church would be if his plan succeeded.

Yes, what a brilliant Holy Son!

As the chains entangled her further and further, the Fire Phoenix struggled less and less.

Ma Xiaotao's soul power fell significantly as she was restrained by the chains.

Huo Yuhao heaved a faint sigh of relief. He had used the power of his twin soul cores, which enabled him to trap Ma Xiaotao without hurting her. It was important to know that this wasn't easy. It was actually very difficult.

However, he had succeeded. Even though he was drained, it was worth it.

Just as he heaved a sigh of relief, the Fire Phoenix suddenly lifted her head. There was a manic streak of light that seemed to come from her eyes.

What? This isn't good.

Huo Yuhao was shocked. Just as he was about to react, it seemed like it was already too late.

A terrifying ball of golden-red light was suddenly unleashed from Ma Xiaotao's True Body. The chains were instantly crushed. Heat dominated again, and the frightening explosive flames instantly devoured Huo Yuhao.

Yes, this was Ma Xiaotao's ninth soul skill!

Phoenix Nirvana.

A phoenix and the fire of baptism led to nirvana and rebirth!

In a state of nirvana, a phoenix was at its strongest and its weakest state. At the beginning of nirvana, a phoenix was at its strongest. At the end of nirvana, it was at its weakest. However, they both brought new life to the phoenix.

This Phoenix Nirvana was Ma Xiaotao's strongest and ninth soul skill.

If the enemy didn't die, she would most certainly die after unleashing her Phoenix Nirvana, since she would be in a weakened state for a month. However, this attack was at the standard of an Ultimate Douluo. If she could become a Transcendent Douluo in the future, even an Ultimate Douluo would need to fear such an attack from her.

This was one of Zhong Liwu's trump cards. He wasn't afraid that Huo Yuhao would kill Ma Xiaotao. He was even less worried that Ma Xiaotao wouldn't be able to unleash her Phoenix Nirvana.

She didn't even need to accumulate for this soul skill. She could just unleash it with a thought. The price to pay was to become weak for a month. This was a testament to how much power she could unleash with this attack.

Huo Yuhao didn't know that. This was why he was engulfed by her Phoenix Nirvana. The entire sky turned golden-red. It was as if countless golden-red flowing clouds were shaking the sky.

Within a fifty kilometer radius from Shrek City to the Sun Moon Empire's base, a heatwave seemed to sweep over everything. The heat caused everyone to feel extremely fearful and frustrated.

Tang Wutong stood where she was and watched everything in a daze. She didn't move. There was only a very unsettled look in her eyes.

Zhong Liwu smiled. He was delighted.

Was Huo Yuhao dead? Of course he wouldn't die. Zhong Liwu was very confident in Huo Yuhao. He was a Transcendent Douluo who possessed Ultimate Ice. He even had many powerful soul tools on his body as well as that divine blade. How could he possibly die so easily?

However, he would surely be skinned even if he didn't die.

This was enough.

The scorching golden-red flames lasted for a good minute before they slowly disappeared.

The first figure that appeared was drifting in mid-air.

Strange golden-red runes spun around her body. She was calmly lying in the air. Her hair was flowing, and her eyes were shut. It was as if everything in the outside world had nothing to do with her.

# Chapter 579.3: Third Fight, Holy Phoenix Lady

Yes, she was Ma Xiaotao. At this moment, she was no longer the Phoenix Holy Lady. She had lost consciousness, and was drifting in the sky like a patch of red clouds, slowly falling to the ground.

Zhong Liwu revealed a cold smile on his face. He pointed his toes to the ground and wanted to leap up to catch her.

However, it was at this moment that a pitch-black hole appeared below Ma Xiaotao without any warning. It was like a slit had opened up in the sky. Ma Xiaotao was instantly devoured, and the slit sealed up. She disappeared just like that. Not even her aura was left.

Zhong Liwu was completely dazed in the air.?She's gone? The Phoenix Holy Lady is gone? What kind of power was that?

An ethereal projection flashed. Another person appeared in the air. It was Huo Yuhao.

His Icy War God's Armor had dimmed significantly. Its original deep-blue hue had turned shallower. There were even scorch marks left behind on this Class 9 soul tool.

His expression wasn't shown, as his visor was lowered. However, his Ultimate Ice aura remained.

"I've won. This is my third one." Huo Yuhao said coldly.

Zhong Liwu lifted his head to look at him. The sinister look in his eyes turned even more intense. "Huo Yuhao, where did you take my Phoenix Holy Lady?" His script definitely didn't involve her disappearance.

Huo Yuhao replied, "You don't need to know that."

Zhong Liwu's eyes turned colder. "Great, great, great!"

What left Huo Yuhao surprised was that Zhong Liwu flew back to the ground after he finished saying those three words.

Is this his only reaction?

Yes, it was just like this. In Zhong Liwu's mind, would he be afraid that he couldn't get the Phoenix Holy Lady if his plan succeeded and he controlled Huo Yuhao?

This was why he wasn't anxious. He suppressed his rage. However, he immediately waved at his own side after he landed on the ground.

The fourth person representing the Sun Moon Empire, or rather, the Holy Ghost Church, appeared!

A black figure leapt out and charged towards Huo Yuhao. This time, the Holy Ghost Church didn't give Huo Yuhao any buffer time.

The Phoenix Holy Lady had been defeated and abducted by Huo Yuhao. But that was fine! Zhong Liwu had still managed to achieve his goal. He believed that Huo Yuhao would definitely have been greatly

drained after that earlier attack, no matter how strong he was. How could he possibly survive the next round?

Even so, he didn't personally fight in the fourth round. He never did anything he wasn't confident in. This was why the fourth round was still a prelude to his personal involvement.

When that black figure charged towards him, Huo Yuhao immediately recognized him.

He was familiar. Yes, he was a very familiar person.

He was the Scorpion Tiger Douluo, Zhang Peng!

When Huo Yuhao first met the Scorpion Tiger Douluo, Zhang Peng was pursuing and trying to kill him. Then, Huo Yuhao had Yan Shaozhe and Xian Lin'er with him. Xian Lin'er fought Zhang Peng, and they ended in a stalemate. That time, it was also Huo Yuhao's first meeting Long Xiaoyao. He only managed to chase Long Xiaoyao off through a wager.

Not long ago, Huo Yuhao had learned from Mu En that Long Xiaoyao didn't harbor any ill-intentions towards him. Otherwise, he would have been able to kill him at their first meeting.

He was no longer as weak as he used to be. He was a powerful Titled Douluo now. This Scorpion Tiger Douluo was already a Transcendent Douluo back then. So many years had passed. His cultivation would have increased. Even though he wasn't as strong as Feng Ling, the difference wouldn't be too great either.

Zhang Peng let out a low-pitched tiger roar before he appeared in front of Huo Yuhao. Behind him, a projection of a giant scorpion tiger surfaced. He instantly punched a fist towards Huo Yuhao's chest.

Huo Yuhao's Eye of Destiny opened. Huo Yuhao unleashed his Spiritual Shock at the Scorpion Tiger Douluo.

Huo Yuhao had always been very good at making use of his strengths. He was doing that right now.

Zhang Peng groaned, and intense black light was released from his body. It turned into a small mirror that flashed with black light in front of him.

When Huo Yuhao's Spiritual Shock struck the mirror, it was instantly refracted.

Oh? It can refract spiritual power? No wonder he didn't purchase a spiritual defensive-type soul tool, and no wonder Zhong Liwu sent him to fight. The Holy Ghost Church has strong foundations indeed!

However, that small mirror still cracked, even though it had refracted Huo Yuhao's Spiritual Shock. Zhang Peng's body shook a little, and his fist arrived right in front of Huo Yuhao.

Huo Yuhao pushed his right hand forward. He was using his Controlling Crane Capturing Dragon, a skill that came from the Tang Sect's Secret Techniques.

He was no longer the same Huo Yuhao who had just entered the sect. When he used his Controlling Crane Capturing Dragon, it felt very profound and magical.

Zhang Peng only felt a strong suction force coming towards him, causing his fist to deviate to one side. At the same time, Huo Yuhao pressed his other hand against Zhang Peng's chest.

Zhang Peng roared, and his entire body started to shine brightly. His body suddenly expanded, and his other arm straightened like a blade. After this, he slashed it towards Huo Yuhao's palm.

Huo Yuhao's shoulder shook. The pull from his left hand and push from his right hand brought his palms together. Suddenly, strong whirlpool-like soul power was instantaneously unleashed. A terrifyingly strong destructive force was released. Before Zhang Peng's attack could even hit Huo Yuhao, he was already knocked far away.

From the observers' point of view, there was nothing separating Huo Yuhao and Zhang Peng. However, Zhong Liwu revealed an evidently satisfied look on his face.

From Huo Yuhao's reaction, he could tell that his abilities had weakened slightly compared to before. He didn't even use his Ultimate Ice immediately. Evidently, he must have had been affected when he was resisting the Fire Phoenix Holy Lady earlier.

Just as Zhang Peng moved back, he let out a tiger roar, revealing his True Body. A huge scorpion tiger appeared out of thin air. The sky turned dark. Following this, beams of black light formed in the air. They turned into countless, flashing black needles, which shot towards Huo Yuhao.

What is this?

Scorpion Tail Needle!

The Scorpion Tiger Douluo's lethal weapon was his scorpion tail. This was a very powerful soul skill that Zhang Peng possessed.

The needles blocked off all of Huo Yuhao's escape routes. This was the type of attack that a Transcendent Douluo could unleash when he used his True Body.

Huo Yuhao squirmed in the air. After this, he turned illusory. When the needles were about to hit him, he turned into broken pieces and disappeared into the air.

#### Concealment?

When they saw Huo Yuhao disappearing, the soul engineers from the Sun Moon Empire had the biggest reaction.

Huo Yuhao's concealment abilities had caused great problems for the Sun Moon Empire. Without such abilities, he couldn't have destroyed so many of the Sun Moon Empire's aerial surveillance soul tools! Without his concealment abilities, how could he have threatened the Sun Moon Empire's army by himself?

He finally used his concealment abilities in the fourth fight. This also confirmed everyone's suspicions that he was the one who had destroyed so many of the Sun Moon Empire's aerial surveillance soul tools. It was him!

The needles swept past, but didn't hit anything. When Huo Yuhao reappeared, he was already above the Scorpion Tiger Douluo.

A white halo silently flew out from Huo Yuhao before landing on Zhang Peng.

The Scorpion Tiger Douluo only felt a little giddy, and he was soon engulfed by intense weakness.

This was the upgraded version of Mass Enfeeblement, Singular Enfeeblement.

Huo Yuhao could use his spiritual power in ways other than his Spiritual Shock. That small mirror that drifted above Zhang Peng could resist offensive spiritual attacks. However, it was helpless against such an auxiliary spiritual ability.

Huo Yuhao's Spirit Eyes enabled him to adopt different ways of fighting. He didn't just have to fight directly.

Just as he was weakened, Zhang Peng's figure flashed, and he instantly picked up speed in the air. Wings extended from his ribs, enabling him to make a turn in the air. When he faced Huo Yuhao again, his needles shot from the sky once more. This time, they covered an even bigger area.

His spiritual cultivation was far beneath Huo Yuhao. He had already unleashed all his spiritual power earlier, but he couldn't discover Huo Yuhao at all. Zhang Peng also knew that it was impossible for him to locate his enemy using his spiritual power. Since this was the case, he used his attack to seek Huo Yuhao. nove)I&/In

The needles seemed to have taken effect. Huo Yuhao didn't choose to hide himself this time, but his body turned illusory.

But when the needles flew past his body, his body only rippled. He didn't get hurt at all.

It's not real??Zhang Peng was astonished.

At this moment, he felt as if everyone in this world was spinning. Everything seemed to become unreal.

Only those observing could tell that there was an extra whirlpool above his head. This whirlpool was revolving very quickly, as if it were sucking out Zhang Peng's soul.

It was Huo Yuhao's fourth soul skill, Spiritual Confusion.

Huo Yuhao was only able to perfectly demonstrate the strength of this soul skill by strong spiritual suppression. He had the greatest advantage in terms of his spiritual power. Why would he not use it? He had only used a part of it in the earlier rounds. In this fight, he was counting on his spiritual power.

Although his Spirit Eyes only had eight soul rings right now, Huo Yuhao still had the confidence to resist the strongest Ultimate Douluo in the world with it.

## Chapter 580.1: The Scorpion Tiger Dies and Zhong Li Comes Out

Another Huo Yuhao suddenly appeared, and this time, he appeared behind the Scorpion Tiger Douluo. The Huo Yuhao who had appeared before was still in the sky. Two identical people appeared at the same time. How could that not be astonishing?

Spiritual Interference Domain!

Huo Yuhao's second domain-type ability.

Not many people paid attention to this domain because it wasn't as well-known as his Snowy Dance of Ultimate Ice. But there were many instances where his Spiritual Interference Domain was much more fearsome than his Snowy Dance of Ultimate Ice. Not a single one of the four soul skills that the Skydream Iceworm's million year soul ring had bestowed upon him were useless.

Formidable soul power undulations erupted in the sky as Huo Yuhao's Darkgolden Terrorclaw sliced through the air and went straight for the Scorpion Tiger's enormous martial soul true body.

Brutal force to break brutal force!

Zhang Peng was affected by Huo Yuhao's formidable Spiritual Confusion and single-target enfeeblement. He couldn't possibly dodge this attack.

But just as Huo Yuhao's claw struck Zhang Peng, he suddenly trembled vigorously before a dark golden beam of light erupted from his body.

Zhang Peng's Scorpion Tiger True Body was torn to pieces in front of Huo Yuhao's Darkgolden Terrorclaw. However, a dark shadow suddenly appeared soundlessly behind Huo Yuhao's back.

Frightening sharp blades went straight for Huo Yuhao's heart from behind.

Exuviating Cicada! It was one of the Scorpion Tiger Douluo's automatic defensive soul skills, and this soul skill was known as a godly skill compared to his other soul skills.

This soul skill was automatically triggered when Zhang Peng was struck with an attack that he couldn't defend himself against. If this automatic release was successful, then his original body would be extracted, and he would use thirty percent of his soul power to instantly teleport himself to wherever he wanted. Zhang Peng had cultivated this soul skill to its highest possible level, and he could reach anywhere within a thousand meters with it. At the same time, Exuviating Cicada allowed him to use another thirty percent of his soul power to unleash an attack at his peak condition. However, he couldn't use any other soul skills during this time.

Sixty percent of the Scorpion Tiger Douluo's soul power would be expended after this attack, so he would evidently be unable to continue the battle.

This attack was excellent in a fight to the death, and it was also excellent in ambushing others! There would always be many strange and peculiar soul skills in the world of soul masters.

Zhang Peng had thought that he would definitely win this battle when he first locked horns with Huo Yuhao because Huo Yuhao had already fought three times before this.

But when they truly clashed, Huo Yuhao's formidable spiritual power and his Spirit Eyes' various soul skills made Zhang Peng understand that he was no match for Huo Yuhao even when he had already expended so much energy.

Spiritual Shock was no longer effective, so Huo Yuhao didn't use it, but Zhang Peng still couldn't take Huo Yuhao's other spiritual-type soul skills. The gap between their spiritual powers was just too vast.

Therefore, Zhang Peng had no choice but to go all-in. In that moment when he was struck by Spiritual Confusion, Zhang Peng could have done something to weaken part of the soul skill's effects, but he

decided against it. Instead, he chose to take the soul skill's entire effect. The reason for his choice was so that he could retaliate and end the battle with his Exuviating Cicada.

Zhang Peng would defeat his enemy and win this battle if he was successful, but if he wasn't, then he would turn and escape.

Zhang Peng was a member of the Holy Ghost Church's Worship Hall, but he never considered placing his life on the line for the Holy Ghost Church.

Zhang Peng's idea was good, and his tiger claws were already right behind Huo Yuhao's heart. Everything was going according to plan.

Unfortunately, he forgot about something. Huo Yuhao still had another extraordinary skill, and that was Spiritual Detection!

Spiritual Detection conferred three-dimensional detection to Huo Yuhao, and even if he didn't realize anything when Zhang Peng began his attack, his reappearance with all those soul power and spiritual power undulations in the air was long within Huo Yuhao's senses.

Therefore, Zhang Peng's tiger claws still sliced through the air anticlimactically in the end.

Missing an attack at full strength was even more agonizing than taking a heavy hit from an enemy. Zhang Peng almost vomited blood.

And Huo Yuhao? He reappeared behind Zhang Peng's back. His Darkgolden Terrorclaw didn't grow bigger this time, but a five sharp ?dark golden about thirty centimeters long plunged into the Scorpion Tiger Douluo's back and protruded from his chest.

Zhang Peng's body froze in midair. The corner of his mouth curved, as he was very unconvinced and unwilling about what had just happened. His eyes were filled with hysteria, and his soul power immediately erupted from his dantian.

Zhang Peng's heart had been impaled, and he couldn't possibly continue living. He had dominated the world throughout his lifetime, and he wasn't willing to just die like this.

Zhang Peng's stable soul core within his dantian was suddenly triggered by his riling soul power.

Self-destruction! This was Zhang Peng's final choice. He had to take Huo Yuhao with him even if he had to die and disappear from the world. A Transcendent Douluo's self-destruction was comparable to that of a Class 9 stationary soul cannon shell. Zhang Peng chose such a brutal path, and he lived up to his name as the Scorpion Tiger Douluo.

Zhang Peng's muscles immediately contracted, and even his skeleton was withdrawn toward his chest. Huo Yuhao's Darkgolden Terrorclaw was instantly stuck. Zhang Peng was using his full strength right before his death to tie Huo Yuhao down.

Zhang Peng's eyes weren't dimming at all in this moment. There was only hysteria in his eyes, an otherworldly insanity, the kind that didn't belong to this world.

Since he had chosen to self-destruct, then he had to pull Huo Yuhao down with him. He wouldn't give him a chance to survive at all.

A Transcendent Douluo's eruption right before his death was absolutely terrifying. Not even an Ultimate Douluo could easily shake Zhang Peng's grip within a short period of time.

Zhang Peng even raised his hands and used his own tiger claws to clamp down on the Darkgolden Terrorclaws protruding from his chest. He used all the strength he had left to channel his soul core and stop Huo Yuhao from leaving.

However, he couldn't see Huo Yuhao, who was still behind him. Huo Yuhao didn't panic at all because of Zhang Peng's retaliation right before his death. His expression didn't even change. There was only pity in his eyes.

This pity was towards a dying man, towards one who had been defeated, and towards a formidable individual.

Huo Yuhao planted his left palm soundlessly on Zhang Peng's back, while his torso, which was almost pressed against Zhang Peng's back, erupted with intense bluish-green colors.

Huo Yuhao's formidable Ice Empress' Wrath immediately swallowed Zhang Peng's body and bathed his entire body in bluish-green light. A cold sensation that chilled even his heart followed his veins as it coursed through his body. Zhang Peng didn't have any strength to resist this because they were so close together, and he was using his full strength to trap Huo Yuhao and trigger his own soul core.

A Transcendent Douluo's retaliation right before his death was powerful. However, how could a Titled Douluo who had spiritual power that rivaled that of an Ultimate Douluo, who possessed two formidable soul cores and had an Ultimate Ice martial soul, be any weaker when he had the absolute upper hand?

Zhang Peng's body immediately froze, and he realized to his intense fear that his rapidly exploding soul core's rotation was starting to slow after he was struck. Zhang Peng's blood was also starting to freeze, and every ounce of strength that he had left was quickly disappearing as his heart froze over.

No!?Zhang Peng wanted to shout at the top of his lungs, but his voice stuck in his throat. He could only wheeze, and he could no longer speak with that originally bright and clear voice of his. n--0veℓbIn

Huo Yuhao's Darkgolden Terrorclaw vanished, and Zhang Peng's blood, muscles, and skeleton had been frozen. He could no longer trap Huo Yuhao's claws.

Zhang Peng's tiger claws crumbled and broke as the two figures separated in midair.

Shadows flickered as Huo Yuhao reappeared a thousand meters away.

"Boom!"

Bluish-green flames erupted in the air like firecrackers exploding through the sky. But a formidable soul master who had dominated the entire Continent, who was a Transcendent Douluo, was obliterated just like that.

Huo Yuhao descended from the sky, and his aura seemed to be raised to its highest possible level in this moment.

This battle wasn't that magnificent or spectacular, but everyone who was watching fell silent at the outcome.

This was the fourth one. This was already the fourth one, and two had perished in battle. Huo Yuhao used his formidable strength to tell everyone that what he had claimed about ten battles wasn't an impossible task.

Zhongli Wu's expression was as black as could be. However, there was no turning back for him. He was already sustaining such heavy losses, and if he still couldn't gain anything from it, the Holy Ghost Church would be taking an overwhelming blow in both their strength and their mental states. He was supervisor to the Sun Moon Empire's entire army, and if his reputation suffered like that, how would those soul engineers who never had a good impression of him think about him?

Zhongli Wu's dark and gloomy expression gradually turned cold. As matters were, he could only capture Huo Yuhao and win this battle so that he could make up for everything that had happened.

Huo Yuhao gradually drifted down, while Zhongli Wu raised his head and stared at him with burning eyes. There was a tinge of hysteria in Zhongli Wu's eyes amid all that iciness.

The same hysteria in Zhongli Wu was vastly different from Zhang Peng. Zhang Peng's insanity was retaliating when on the brink of death, but Zhongli Wu's insanity was like a sharp knife plunging into Huo Yuhao's chest.

Huo Yuhao's breathing became a little rushed, and it seemed like he had expended a lot of energy from his four continuous battles. However, his eyes were still as calm as ever, and he wasn't affected by his breathing. Huo Yuhao stared back at Zhongli Wu sharply.

If Zhongli Wu's eyes were like a razor-sharp knife, then Huo Yuhao's eyes were like mountains of ice. No matter how sharp that knife was, it couldn't pierce through the mountain, which seemed like it was made from mysterious ice over ten thousand years, and descending from the sky with a crushing pressure.

Nobody knew how much energy Huo Yuhao had expended besides himself, and Zhongli Wu could only make certain judgments based on the soul skills that Huo Yuhao had used in his previous fights.

## Chapter 580.2: The Scorpion Tiger Dies and Zhong Li Comes Out

Huo Yuhao's eyes revealed a trace of ice-cold light as he stretched his arms out to his sides. Circles of icy blue light rippled from his Icy War God's Armor one after another, and formless ice elements condensed toward his body at an incredible speed.

Star Anise Icy Coagulation!

Zhongli Wu suddenly howled, and it sounded like a dragon's roar as his soul rings rose from beneath his feet. A formidable aura emerged and flourished.

Zhongli Wu's soul rings only had two colors: black and red.

Yan Shaozhe's expression changed drastically out of fear when he saw those soul rings.

Zhongli Wu's soul rings weren't like that when they had last battled, but he had six black and three red soul rings now! His combination wasn't that much inferior to Huo Yuhao's.

The colors of a soul master's soul rings didn't mean everything, but they were a symbol of a soul master's strength. Furthermore, Zhongli Wu was an evil soul master, and he was a Transcendent Douluo. The Holy Ghost Church's supreme leader was stronger than anyone had expected.

Huo Yuhao's expression grew solemn. He was aware that after his previous four battles' consumption, his battle against Zhongli Wu would be the hardest moment today.

If the previous evil soul masters' cultivation ranks were lower than Huo Yuhao's, then Zhongli Wu's true strength was definitely comparable to Huo Yuhao, and possibly even stronger. Huo Yuhao's only advantage was his two soul cores. His chances of victory against Zhongli would also decide his chances of success in this one-versus-ten contest. This battle would determine the outcome.

Zhongli Wu pointed his right hand into the air as a black soul ring flickered on his body, and an enormous staff appeared in his hand.

This staff was black all over, and another silhouette appeared behind his back when it appeared. This figure didn't seem very big, about the same size as Zhongli Wu's body. However, everyone who was watching could feel their hearts constrict when this shadow appeared.

## What was that?

Yan Shaozhe had crossed paths with Zhongli Wu before, and even he wasn't entirely sure what Zhongli Wu's martial soul was.

Elder Xuan's expression had become incredibly solemn as he watched in the distance. He muttered under his breath, "Back then, Ye Xishui's martial soul mutated into a Blood Soul Demonpuppet. Zhongli Wu's martial soul seems superior to Ye Xishui's martial soul, and it must have mutated once more. But for some reason, it feels extraordinarily powerful. Its origins must be similar to Ye Xishui's Blood Soul Demonpuppet."

"Ye Xishui's Blood Soul Demonpuppet is a martial soul that improves continuously by nourishing itself with human souls. This is one of the most important reasons why Elder Mu couldn't approve of her anymore, no matter what. Many humans have perished at Ye Xishui's hands, and Zhongli Wu's martial soul should have the same characteristics as hers. I just don't know how powerful he can be. This battle will be very difficult for Yuhao."

Yan Shaozhe forced a laugh and said, "What this child is doing is too risky. He's challenging the Sun Moon Empire's powerful individuals all by himself. He really..."

Elder Xuan shook his head gently. "I can understand what he's thinking. He's laying down the foundations for his future. At the same time, he really is confident to some extent. Perhaps he is estimating his chances at fifty percent, but fifty percent is enough to try. As long as he can complete this battle peacefully, then no matter who he faces afterwards, he will definitely be able to escape with his life even if he loses in the end. And if he lives after today's episode, then he will undoubtedly give everyone a big surprise."

"Eh?" Yan Shaozhe glanced at Elder Xuan in surprise. "Surprise? What surprise?"

Elder Xuan glanced back at Yan Shaozhe and said, "We are soul masters, and we have to deal with any problem rationally. However, once our cultivation rank reaches a certain standard, we have to be

passionate, and we have to be crazy, besides just accumulating and working hard. I have lacked this insanity, and that's the reason why I have dallied for so long. What Yuhao is doing is relying on external forces to fully unleash his potential. When he obtained his second soul core, his potential far exceeded ours."

Yan Shaozhe started to think. Using battles to unleash one's potential? He did want to do that, but at his cultivation, finding a suitable opponent who could threaten his life was just too difficult. There were some in Shrek Academy, but who in the academy would wish to fight with him to the death? A showdown with outsiders to the death was too dangerous, and it was hard to find such opponents.

Huo Yuhao had just recently obtained his second soul core, and he was doing this to train himself so that he could fuse with his two soul cores even more perfectly and seamlessly. He also wanted to stimulate his immense potential at the same time so that he could prepare for the future. The future? What was Huo Yuhao's future like?

Yan Shaozhe couldn't tell what Huo Yuhao's future would be like anymore. He was only praying for him, praying that he could emerge victorious against Zhongli Wu in this battle. However, he didn't approve of how Huo Yuhao was forcefully pressuring himself. He was up against a powerful evil soul master. How dangerous was that?

Huo Yuhao and Zhongli Wu's battle had begun in the sky. n--0veℓbIn

Zhongli Wu didn't attack Huo Yuhao at once. He tapped his staff in the air as a deep howling sound could be heard, and the enormous head of some beast appeared in front of him.

Surprisingly, it was a dragon's head. It was entirely black, but it emanated translucent green light as intense green flames danced within its eyes. Chilly and sinister winds billowed through the air as the dragon head appeared.

What was that?

Yan Shaozhe had crossed paths with Zhongli Wu before, but he had been incinerating himself back then so that he could buy time for his companions, while Zhongli Wu didn't give his full strength in that battle. Yan Shaozhe now watched as Zhongli Wu suddenly released an enormous dragon head. This dragon head seemed to be related to his martial soul, yet it seemed like it wasn't. Yan Shaozhe was astonished.?How powerful is Zhongli Wu, exactly?

Not many people in the Holy Ghost Church knew what Zhongli Wu's true power was like, not to mention Yan Shaozhe.

The enormous dragon head wasn't the end, it was just the beginning.

Its large black frame gradually snaked out, and the dragon's claw quickly reached out as the dragon slowly revealed its tremendous body. This was a giant black dragon! However, the differences were that this black dragon didn't have scales, muscles, or flesh, but was formed entirely from black bones. Even then, this black dragon's aura was comparable to that of an actual dragon.

Huo Yuhao didn't attack Zhongli Wu as he was releasing his dragon. Instead, he just hovered quietly in midair and waited. He had his Icy War God's Armor covering him, so nobody could see his expression, while he was using Star Anise Icy Coagulation to swiftly recover his soul power.

Why didn't Huo Yuhao take this opportunity to attack? Shrek Academy's various elders were all worried.

The black bone dragon took ten seconds to appear fully in front of everyone. The dragon was a hundred meters long, and its wingspan was also about a hundred meters wide. This size wasn't considered much compared to a top-tier individual's martial soul true body. Soul masters like Elder Xuan's martial soul true body could easily reach a thousand meters.

However, this black bone dragon looked almost material! Furthermore, all sorts of illusions and images flickered in the sky as it appeared. There were mountains of corpses and seas of blood, and they all belonged to soul beasts. There were countless soul beasts' agonizing cries echoing through the heavens, like there were uncountable avenging beast spirits crying out hysterically.

How many soul beasts did Zhongli Wu have to kill to create something like this?

Zhongli Wu was standing on the enormous bone dragon's skull. He was very small compared to the bone dragon, but he gave off a stifling feeling that created a terrifying pressure.

"I discovered this set of dragon bones in some historical remains. The dragon's soul hadn't dissipated back then. Even though the dragon itself isn't considered a top-tier draconic species, and even though its bloodline isn't even pure, this dragon has a tinge of the Silver Dragon on its body. You've probably heard of the history of the dragons, that the Dragon God split into the Golden Dragon King and the Silver Dragon King. In addition to the nine sons of the Dragon God, they were considered kings of their species. Their descendants all have a little of their blood in them. But the truth is, there are still some other secrets."

"Only the Dragon God's nine sons passed on their bloodline. The Golden Dragon King and the Silver Dragon King had no offspring. The Golden Dragon King met its demise for some unknown reason after the split, while the Silver Dragon King disappeared. That was the reason why the dragons fell from grace. However, the Dragon God released large amounts of energy when he split into the two dragon kings. Some of that energy contained the Golden Dragon King's Ultimate Strength and the Silver Dragon King's control of the elements. Those dragons who were bathing in the Dragon God's favor were partially affected by those energies, and their claims afterward about how they possessed the Golden Dragon King or the Silver Dragon King's bloodline arises from this fact."

"The Silver Dragon King blessed this dragon when it was still alive, therefore, the dragon's soul is undying, while it also possesses part of the Silver Dragon King's powers. This dragon is the strongest beast spirit among those that I possess, and it took me ten years to capture it, and I couldn't receive any external help during that period of time. Ten years later, the dragon's strength enabled me to break through directly to become a Transcendent Douluo. Subsequently, I took over as the Holy Ghost Church's supreme leader."

"Normally, I would never use this dragon's power, because it has become my origin beast spirit, and even part of my martial soul. Today, you can be proud that you've forced me to unleash my Bone Dragon King."

Zhongli Wu's voice was deep and cold. The Bone Dragon King's aura became a little stronger, and the sky a little darker, with every syllable he uttered. Zhongli Wu's soul rings flickered amid the black light from the beginning to the end, and nobody could tell whether he was using his soul skills.

### Chapter 580.3: The Scorpion Tiger Dies and Zhong Li Comes Out

"You're spouting so much nonsense." Huo Yuhao said plainly, "aren't you afraid that I'll recover all my strength during this time?"

Zhongli Wu laughed out loud. "So what if you recover? Do you really think you can challenge me one-on-one? Furthermore, what you've expended before along with the Holy Lady's strength isn't that easy to recover from. I'm spouting so much nonsense to you only because I'm confident of defeating you. The heavens and the earth will change as the winds and clouds rumble!"

A strange sight occurred as Zhongli Wu exclaimed those words. The giant dragon beneath his feet suddenly turned green, and the dark clouds in the sky turned green at the same time. Strong winds gusted through the air, and the heavens and earth did seem to change in that moment.

Wind! This was the power of wind, and Zhongli Wu was completely unlike an evil soul master at this point.

Strong winds billowed as tiny tornados appeared in the sky and swept toward Huo Yuhao. Frightening winds gusted at him, and the elements of water in the sky swiftly plummeted as Huo Yuhao's Star Anise Icy Coagulation was dispelled just like that.

Such powerful winds. Is this the Silver Dragon King's mastery over the elements?

This peculiar fighting style was entirely out of a normal soul master's scope, and not a single person could tell what soul skill Zhongli Wu was using. He was using his beast spirit to fight, and his beast spirit was entirely different from Huo Yuhao's Spirits.

Huo Yuhao was the only person who could understand a little about what was happening at a time like this.

He still couldn't tell what Zhongli Wu's martial soul was, but he could be sure that Zhongli Wu had relied on his martial soul to capture this Bone Dragon King as his beast spirit. Zhongli Wu should be targeting soul beasts, but there were so many soul beasts' agonizing cries, while he only had one beast spirit. This meant that those soul beasts that Zhongli Wu had killed had probably become nourishment for this Bone Dragon King!

It was no wonder he wanted to chase down and kill the Beast God, Di Tian. Of course, Zhongli Wu wouldn't use this Bone Dragon King to consume the Beast God if he was successful. Instead, he would directly control the Beast God as his new beast spirit, and he would probably use that new beast spirit to consume this Bone Dragon King. Zhongli Wu's own strength increased continuously with this continuous cycle of the strong swallowing the strong. Zhongli Wu evolved with every instance.

When Zhongli Wu's spirit was sufficiently powerful, he would consume other soul beasts to strengthen his beast spirit. When his own beast spirit wasn't strong enough, he would go the other way and change his beast spirit.

Zhongli Wu himself probably wasn't sure how many soul beasts had died at his hands from the beginning of his career until now, when he was a Transcendent Douluo. His soul skills were probably all auxiliary skills to support his beast spirit.? What a formidable evil soul master! He has his own salient characteristics and overbearing might.

Huo Yuhao shook his arms amid the strong winds and swiftly soared into the sky. However, he realized to his surprise that he couldn't really control his body, as his attempt at breaking out wasn't successful.

Any kind of flight had to rely on air resistance and air flow, whether the individual flying was using the air in the sky or releasing air from his own body. When Huo Yuhao released his soul power once more, he found that the air around him had been completely sucked away. Huo Yuhao's soul power landed in empty space, and his body barely moved before he stopped.

Right at this moment, enormous green blades of wind that were several meters long and about a meter thick cut down toward him from all directions. Ear-piercing crackles could be heard as gashes were opened in the air again and again. Huo Yuhao felt like the air around him had been shattered, and he was about to be torn apart.

Strength like this is just too frightening.

I can't fight, and I can't even control my own movement. What do I do? Do I take this head-on?

These winds are actually so powerful!

Huo Yuaho's eyes glowed as he swept his right arm in front of him, and he began to move.

Light flickered as he vanished into thin air just like that. Right when everyone thought that he had used Instant Teleportation, he reappeared at his original spot.

Huo Yuhao's disappearance and reappearance coincidentally evaded the first few blades. He to phase in and out on the spot, and his position seemed to change a little, but those changes weren't big.

Zhongli Wu raised the staff in his hands, and his expression became even darker as he watched what was happening. However, there was only astonishment deep in his eyes.

Normal soul masters couldn't tell what Huo Yuhao was doing at this moment, but how could he not know? Huo Yuhao was clearly using spatial power!

Zhongli Wu was all too clear about who had the ability to control space. Ultimate Douluo, and only Ultimate Douluo, could control spatial power. How could Huo Yuhao accomplish that?

Zhongli Wu had seen such power from his mother and from the Darkness Holy Dragon, the Dragon Emperor Douluo. Zhongli Wu had also seen this from Di Tian when he was chasing him down. Di Tian had relied on his mastery over spatial power to repel Zhongli Wu and the others. Di Tian was clearly injured, but he could still launch a series of retaliations to the point where Zhongli Wu and the others had to escape wretchedly. They would have perished in the end if they hadn't escaped quickly enough.

But such powers shouldn't appear on Huo Yuhao! How old is he? What's his cultivation? How can he have mastered the secret of spatial power?

Had Huo Yuhao really mastered spatial power? The answer was no, because Huo Yuhao only had a brief and superficial understanding of spatial power.

Zhongli Wu's suspicions were also correct, because only Ultimate Douluos could control spatial power. More accurately put, only individuals with two soul cores could do so.

A human with two soul cores could use his two soul cores' connection to sense and feel everything in the world more intricately. Spatial power was among those things.

Those who formed two soul cores through the Yin Yang Complement method would have a much easier time feeling and sensing everything, because their strength was produced as Yin and Yang clashed and fused in their bodies. There was a certain extent of spatial transformation embodied within them.

Therefore, even though Huo Yuhao's control over spatial power was still very shallow, his ability to understand was even stronger than other Ultimate Douluo. n/(OVeLB)In

Faint light flickered as Huo Yuhao's expression grew strange, because his understanding of spatial power grew deeper with every break through space.

What was spatial power? Spatial power was just different nodes of time. One who wished to master the secrets of spatial power also had to master the transformations of time. The secrets contained within this were extraordinarily profound.

Those blades forced Huo Yuhao to understand spatial power a little better, and he couldn't evade every blade because he was still a little unfamiliar with what he was doing. However, a single blade couldn't really hurt him with his Icy War God's Armor.

The reason why he couldn't use spatial power to phase to someplace else was because he wasn't familiar enough with it. If the Beast God had been here, so what if there wasn't any air around him to use? The Beast God would penetrate directly through space and appear right in front of Zhongli Wu.

But even so, Zhongli Wu was still greatly astonished.

The blades suddenly stopped as the tornadoes appeared once more. There wasn't just a single tornado, but many small tornados concentrated and stacked together. The tornados were actually multiplying into each other as they became an even larger one.

The air was being torn apart, and some of the tornado's strength was even starting to create gashes in space.

You can draw upon spatial power, can't you? Then I shall tear open space and mess everything up. Let's see how you can control space then.

The Beast God would have been able to control space if he were here, but Huo Yuhao couldn't really do that because he was just starting out.

Huo Yuhao's body swayed amid the strong winds, and his Icy War God's Armor radiated intense dark blue light and blocked the winds around him. However, even lower-tier soul masters could tell that he was expending a lot of soul power to do this.

However, Huo Yuhao didn't seem to care. His movements were very slow, and his arms slowly closed around his body as a strange force appeared as his hands wrapped around himself.

That was a small air flow, and the Ice Jade Empress Scorpion's silhouette appeared behind Huo Yuhao's back. Huo Yuhao was protecting this sphere like a jewel as it gradually took shape, and it was rotating in a direction opposite to the tornado.

Does he plan to use this small air flow to resist my tornado? My tornado will just instantly consume it.

Zhongli Wu's face was filled with contempt, but he didn't do anything. He wanted to defeat Huo Yuhao, but he didn't want to kill him. He could only convert Huo Yuhao into the Holy Ghost Church's Holy Son by capturing him, and only then could he maximize his profit.

Zhongli Wu had chosen to enter a war of attrition from the beginning, but who knew that he had to consume so much because of his tactics in the end.

Zhongli Wu had sent four people, and two perished in battle, one was returned in exchange, while the last was just missing. Huo Yuhao's strength had far exceeded his expectations, and he had to be equivalent to a Transcendent Douluo. Furthermore, Huo Yuhao was a Transcendent Douluo with an Ultimate martial soul. There had to be something peculiar about that soul tool on Huo Yuhao's body as well. Otherwise, he couldn't possibly become a Transcendent Douluo at such a young age.

But so what? Huo Yuhao still had to consume energy even if he was a Transcendent Douluo, and he would definitely be defeated if he expended energy continuously.

Therefore, what Zhongli Wu wanted to see most was for Huo Yuhao to continue using his soul power. He could only admit defeat once he was beyond a certain threshold.

Zhongli Wu's tornado contained terrifying strength, but he had some way to minimize his own expenditure. This was his Bone Dragon King's doing, as it could perfectly control the element of wind so that he could minimize the soul power that he had to use.

The airflow in Huo Yuhao's arms slowly became bigger, but the size was relative. The small sphere started releasing its aura, but it was immediately broken once it touched the destructive cyclone.