The Gods 1001

Chapter 1001 - Absolute Frost Power

Mu Xuanyin's earlier anger was already enough to cause people to lose their color, so when she suddenly released murderous intent, everyone instantly became even more scared.

Because the murderous intent was coming from the Snow Song Realm King!

"Wait, wait! Please listen a second to this Yan!" Yan Wancang anxiously shouted as he solemnly stepped forward. By now, he was extremely regretting bringing Huo Rulie along. After all, the reason only six of them had come was because they didn't want to seem hostile and menacing. They had only come about the matter of the horned dragon. And yet, even when their side was weak, even when they were in the midst of the Ice Phoenix Realm, Huo Rulie still dared to give no face to Mu Xuanyin in front of everyone else, speaking especially harsh words.

They couldn't even think of anything worse that could of happened... Huo Rulie's head must have become filled with shit!

Mu Xuanyin's murderous intent not only terrified and shocked Yan Wancang and Yan Juehai but also the two rows of elders as Mu Huanzhi quickly yelled, "Sect Master! Let's listen to what Sect Master Yan has to say..."

However, by this time, Mu Xuanyin's figure had already rushed forward like a gale wind.

"Retreat!"

Yan Wancang screamed loudly as a fiery light burst from his body and a giant wave of energy pushed Yan Zhuo, Yan Mingxuan, and Huo Poyun far far away.

"Form the formation!"

Seventy two elders simultaneously flew into the sky, instantly creating a huge barrier of ice crystals.

The moment Mu Xuanyin moved, the entire courtyard went out of control. Only Yun Che stood still where he was, the expression on his face not one full of panic but that of one lost in thought.

Because he could see clearly, that the person who had caused this situation to go out of control was not Huo Rulie but Mu Xuanyin.

Yan Wancang had been sincere enough, even giving his respects as he remained calm and polite. Yet in exchange, Mu Xuanyin had coldly reprimanded him, taking the initiative to bring up old conflicts and stoke the hard to endure, fires of hatred within Huo Rulie. As if this itself wasn't enough, she had also completely exposed all of the matters which shouldn't be exposed to everyone here...

For such matters to be made public, it was impossible for a man to bear, let alone the Golden Crow Sect Master.

Moreover, with the burden of the Golden Crow flames, Huo Rulie's temperament was already like a volcano... If he hadn't exploded in anger and lost control, it would have been strange.

Mu Xuanyin must have had a deep understanding of Huo Rulie's temperament, as there was no way she would have done what she had, if she wasn't certain Huo Rulie would become enraged and go mad.

The only explanation for her actions was that she had done it on purpose.

However, outside of this moment, the insults thrown would have no other benefits for the relationship between the Snow Song and Flame God Realms. Yet at this moment, the only feeling Mu Xuanyin gave Yun Che was one of extreme unfathomless... and it wasn't only her profound energy which felt unfathomable. After all, even the Ice Phoenix itself had said that Mu Xuanyin was extremely wise.

Why would she go so far to incite Huo Rulie? Was it to create a reason for killing him?

No!

If she really wanted to kill Huo Rulie, then he would already have died. Moreover, as she had not killed Huo Rulie during the thousand years when Mu Bingyun was suffering, then she had even less of a reason to kill him now that Mu Bingyun had recovered.

After all, Mu Xuanyin had just stated that in the past, she had vowed that if Mu Bingyun died, the day she abdicated as Realm King would be the day the Golden Crow Sect vanished... These thousand years, she had vowed to kill Huo Rulie but only after she abdicated her position as Realm King. Clearly, as Realm King, she still had to consider the Snow Song Realm in her actions as, if the Snow Song and Flame God Realms truly came into bloody conflict, she herself would be fine but the Snow Song Realm would definitely meet tragedy.

Yet now, just what...

As these thoughts flashed through Yun Che's mind, Mu Xuanyin had already reached Huo Rulie.

"You think I'm scared!?"

Huo Rulie's entire body erupted in flames as he roared in anger, the cry of a Golden Crow resonating through the sky. At the same time, raging waves of scarlet red flames went to meet Mu Xuanyin.

At this point, Yan Wancang and Yan Juehai couldn't help but also bite the bullet and make their own moves as they both appeared beside Huo Rulie, Vermillion Bird and Phoenix flames erupting from their bodies. The three flames of primordial gods simultaneously shot into the pale sky at Mu Xuanyin, turning the sky into a mass of crimson red.

As for the three Flame God Realm disciples who had been sent flying by Yan Wancang, they remained kneeling on the ground where they were, their eyes wide as they observed from a distance... This was the first time in their lives that they had seen the three great sect masters working together to deal with a single person... and it was even a female.

As for Yun Che, his gaze was locked firmly on the figure of Yan Wancang...

The flames of the Golden Crow were so fierce they were uncontrollable. They were without a doubt the flames with the most intensity and incinerating power. Although Phoenix flames were more mild in comparison, they still naturally had the ability to burn everything. Yet the feeling Yan Wancang's Vermillion Bird flames gave Yun Che was even milder, one which could even just be considered warmth.

This was the number one flame of the three great flames, the one called the "holy flame," the Vermillion Bird flames feared by all devils?!

The combined three flames of the three Flame God Realm sect masters was undoubtedly the most powerful attack in the Flame God Realm. The terrifying strength of the flames caused even Yun Che to feel completely unable to breathe. As for Mu Xuanyin, who directly faced these three divine flames, she merely casually stuck out the palm of her hand... of just her left hand.

Time suddenly seemed to slow. Even the weakest disciples of Divine Ice Phoenix Sect could clearly see Mu Xuanyin's snowy hand reach out and slowly open, revealing her white jade palm which was whiter than snow and then gently push forward. They watched as a nearly invisible icy blue flower of light went forward to meet the three divine flames which seemed to be burning the world.

The scene looked like a blue firefly charging into an erupting volcano.

Ding!

The instant the weak blue light collided with the divine flames, which seemingly covered the sky, everyone's hearts all simultaneously clenched but no sound of profound energy explosion could be heard. Instead, at this moment, everything seemed to have suddenly become fixed in place as the blue light stopped flickering and the three divine flames completely stopped rolling forward... It was like time had suddenly and completely stopped.

The only signs which showed that time was still passing were the violently trembling pupils of the three Flame God Realm sect masters.

This unbelievable freeze frame remained for three short breaths before the blue light suddenly flickered and dissipated with a gentle sound. Then, the light red Vermillion Bird flames, the deep red Phoenix flames and golden red Golden Crow flames all quickly turned a deep blue color in the blink of an eye.

"W-what?! Yun Che was so shocked his mind trembled.

The flames... were the product of the combined flames of all three Flame God Realm sect masters, yet they had actually been turned to ice!

Mu Xuanyin's expression remained cold and still, devoid of any emotion. As for Yun Wancang and Yan Juehai, their expressions were both bitter, while Huo Rulie's face now contained some obvious traces of fear within the anger.

Bang!

The frigid ice exploded, suddenly covering the sky with countless flying shards of ice. In this instant, Yan Wancang and Yan Juehai were simultaneously sent flying. Yan Wancang's feet scraped against the ground as he slid hundreds of meters backwards until his back heavily collided with the ice barrier condensed by the combined energies of the Ice Phoenix elders. As for Yan Juehai, he flew into the barrier on the other side and was left kneeling on the ground. He remained that way for quite a while before standing up and when he finally did get up, his hands both covered in a thin layer of ice...

Although this layer of ice seemed thin and fragile, Yan Juehai had to desperately incite his phoenix flames several times to slowly melt all of it.

However, Huo Rulie was much less fortunate than the two of them as a streak of blue light penetrated through space whilst the ice exploded, destroying the profound energy protecting Huo Rulie's body, silently piercing through his chest.

"Pfft!"

An extremely painful moan escaped Huo Rulie's lips as his body was sent tumbling through the air. As he flew, a long arrow of blood formed from the blood spurting out of his wound. He smashed into the ground hundreds of meters away.

Before the arrow of blood could land, it melted back into blood.

Whoosh!

A windstorm whistled as a catastrophic blizzard descended on the courtyard. Mu Xuanyin floated in midair, enveloping herself in the eye of the storm as she coldly looked down at Huo Rulie, who was painfully twitching in the frost.

The entire palace courtyard was silent. The three disciples brought by the three sect masters were all dazed where they were, unable, or perhaps not daring, to believe what they had seen. Although had heard of the Snow Song Realm King's peerless might long ago, they had never imagined that the three sect masters, who were unparalleled in the Flame God Realm, whom they viewed as gods, would be beaten into such tragic states by the Snow Song Realm King. It was even more impossible for them to accept it... and the defeat had been so fast and so thorough.

In the short span of several breaths, two of them had been sent flying and the third, Huo Rulie, had been severely wounded.

They finally realized why in the past, the Flame God Realm had chosen to swallow its anger after Mu Xuanyin destroyed all of the star realms under its control even though the Flame God Realm was clearly tens of times stronger than the Snow Song Realm.

Yun Che's mouth was gaping open. Only a while later did it finally close. His entire chest felt like it was filled with cold air.

Although Mu Bingyun had already mentioned that the three Flame God Realm sect masters together were still not a match for the Snow Song Realm King on his first day in the Snow Song Realm, Yun Che had never imagined that the gap was so wide... the three great sect masters were each equal in strength to a Realm King of a middle star realm, yet they couldn't even endure a single one of Mu Xuanyin's attacks.

It was definitely not that the three sect masters were too weak; Mu Xuanyin was just too terrifyingly strong.

Her power was perhaps no less than a fully restored Jasmine... Yun Che trembled as this thought silently passed through his mind.

"Master!" Anxious and panicking, Huo Poyun mindlessly rushed to Huo Rulie's side. Upon seeing that Huo Rulie's injury was nothing too serious, Huo Poyun felt slightly relieved even though Huo Rulie's face

was still a pale white and his entire body was radiating cold. Nonetheless, Huo Poyun's heart was still uncontrollably trembling.

Without observing it themselves, no one from the Flame God Realm would ever believe that the Snow Song Realm's Great Realm King was terrifying to such an extent. She was an existence that was on a completely different level than the three sect masters.

"Snow Song Realm King... please have mercy!" Yan Wancang desperately screamed, "We definitely did not come here with any hostile intentions!"

"Sect Master, please calm down!" Mu Bingyun had already rushed out to beside Mu Xuanyin. She slowly nodded her head.

"Killing Huo Rulie is not beneficial to either of our realms... I beg for the Snow Song Realm King to think carefully." Yan Juehai stood up, his two frostbitten hands still quivering as he said, "We only came because of the matter of the horned dragon. We definitely did not come here with the intention of provoking you."

Mu Xuanyin completely ignored the two but did indeed stay her hand as she coldly glared at Huo Rulie and emotionlessly taunted him, "Huo Rulie, this king had thought that you had become stronger these past years as you dared to bark wildly in front of this king, yet your bark indeed still has no bite behind it."

"Mu Xuanyin!" Huo Rulie's hand propped against the ground as his two scarlet red eyes seemingly exploded. However, as soon as words came out of his mouth, Yan Wancang screamed, "Huo Rulie, shut the hell up!"

Yan Juehai gritted his teeth as he also turned to Huo Rulie and said, "Huo Rulie, if you want to die, don't drag us along with you! If you are so easily angered by just a couple phrases, you have wasted your time alive all these years! It hasn't been long since you accepted a direct disciple, one who you personally said was like your own child, yet right now, you are about to cause him to die!"

Yan Juehai seriously wanted to go over and give Huo Rulie several slaps and then also slap himself several times... he knew that Huo Rulie's anger had never been dispelled these last thousand years. Moreover, he also knew that Huo Rulie had a fit upon learning that Mu Bingyun had completely recovered. Yet he still brought Huo Rulie along this time...

His head must have been filled with shit!

Yan Juehai's voice was like a bucket of ice water thrown onto Huo Rulie's face. Huo Rulie's teeth clenched, releasing cracking sounds but... looking at Huo Poyun beside him, Huo Rulie finally swallowed the curses in his mouth along with the blood.

"Alright... alright..." Huo Rulie's voice trembled as he said, "Mu Xuanyin, I will admit my defeat today... I was my own undoing! Indeed, in front of you, all I am is a piece of garbage! I can't defeat you, I couldn't rescue my son, and I couldn't even properly get revenge for him!"

"However, there is one thing which you, Mu Xuanyin, will never match me at!" Huo Rulie's voice suddenly became louder as he shouted with coarse breaths, "Your Snow Song Realm, outside of yourself, will never be able to compare to my Flame God Realm! In your pitiful Snow Song Realm, you

can't even find someone to pass your techniques on to! I truly cannot compare to you... but that is just me! Once I've died and once you've died, your successor and their successor, will only ever be able to kneel at the feet of my successors. They will never be able to match up! Hahahahaha!"

Chapter 1002 - Arrogant Claim

Huo Rulie was evidently trying to find a psychological balance after suffering such humiliation, as forceful as it may have been. Though every single person of Divine Ice Phoenix Sect was enraged, at the same time, none of them were not ashamed or dispirited.

Because Huo Rulie's words had firmly struck Snow Song Realm's sore point.

For these ten thousand years, Mu Xuanyin alone was the reason why the Snow Song Realm could stay this mighty among the middle star realms.

Without Mu Xuanyin, their status would fall from the upper levels to the lower levels of the middle star realms and they would completely lose the power to match the Flame God Realm.

If this idiot doesn't stop his mouth now... Even with Yan Wancang's ten thousand years of cultivation, he wished that he could just step forward and kick Huo Rulie right in the head. Mu Xuanyin was already filled with killing intent in the first place. He shouted that it was his defeat and that he was his own undoing just earlier, yet in the next moment, he suddenly began to mock her right in her face. Furthermore, he even included the entire Snow Song Realm.

However, what shocked Yan Wancang was, in the face of Huo Rulie's mockery, Mu Xuanyin did not burst into fury. That dreamily beautiful, yet heart-chilling face broke into an ice-cold, scornful smile. "Huo Rulie, this king suddenly realized how pitiful you truly are right now, pitiful to the point where even this king suddenly deems it distateful to kill you."

Mu Xuanyin's gaze slowly swept towards Huo Poyun who was next to Huo Rulie. That short moment of chilling light instantly stiffened Huo Poyun's body and even after a long while, he did not dare to even fidget the slightest bit. "It's understandable that Sect Master Yan Wancang and Sect Master Yan Juehai brought their own grandsons over for their first visit to my Snow Song Realm, yet Huo Rulie, you brought a disciple along with you. This king figured that you might have done it to make up the numbers but it's actually for that pitiful bit of sense of balance in your heart. After hearing that this king has taken in a new direct disciple, you especially brought your own direct disciple to flaunt."

"The mighty sect master of Golden Crow Sect actually has to rely on his disciple to make a desperate struggle to grasp that pathetic bit of pride, it sure is something that made this king take pity on you."

Looking at Mu Xuanyin's back figure, Yun Che was once again was stunned... Even her words were so venomous!

When his own new master was facing the three great sect masters of the Flame God Realm... It was simply as if she was poking fun at three little mice.

Yun Che was beginning to feel immense pressure... Was his decision to make Mu Xuanyin his master a huge blessing or a huge disaster? Back then, when he had Jasmine as his master, though there was an extremely huge difference in strength, Jasmine had to depend on his life and the Sky Poison Pearl. Their two figures were never separated and could be said to be a single body. There had never been

something like "sense of distance" between them, nor was there ever a need to worry that she would kill or harm him.

As for Mu Xuanyin however... with her terrifying temperament and strength, the thought of killing him might just occur because of a sudden irritable mood. Furthermore, she wouldn't even need to even lift her finger to do it, as he could be exterminated several times over with just a single blow of her breath.

Huo Rulie's face was crimson red, either from the surge of bad blood from his injuries or from the anger he was forcefully holding in. However, he still laughed arrogantly, "That's right! I, Huo Rulie, might not be able to beat you, Mu Xuanyin, for the rest of my life! Ever since you crippled my son back then and I was unable to take revenge, I no longer have the slightest bit of dignity in front of you! However... Whenever I think that your successors will never be able to beat my successors, that after this generation, your successors in the future generations to come will forever have to kneel before mine... I feel incredibly refreshed. Absolutely refreshed, I say! Hahahahaha..."

The faces of every single person in Divine Ice Phoenix Sect turned green, mixed with embarrassment and anger. However, when they looked at Huo Poyun who was brought along by Huo Rulie and then turned to glance at Yun Che who was standing absolutely still, every single one of them secretly sighed and shook their heads.

Mu Xuanyin had eight direct disciples in these past ten thousand years. Though all of them possessed incredible talents, had achieved impressive feats and a large half of them had even become sect masters of the various branch sects of Divine Ice Phoenix Sect, when compared to the direct disciples of the sect masters of the Flame God Realm, they were still lacking by a huge margin.

After all, though Mu Xuanyin was incredibly powerful, she was the biggest anomaly in the several hundred thousand years of Snow Song Realm's history. Furthermore, because of the restrictions in terms of the divine blood inheritance and environment, the resources of profound practitioners in the upper, middle, and even the lower levels of Snow Song Realm were a far cry from the profound practitioners of the Flame God Realm. This was a truth every single person knew.

The new direct disciple Mu Xuanyin took in this time... was even from the lower realms and he had merely just entered the Divine Origin Realm as well. It was no wonder Huo Rulie would forcefully bring his own direct disciple along after hearing this news.

Yun Che secretly sighed... This Huo Rulie is freaking crazy! When did your daddy here ever offend you!?

Mu Xuanyin was still not angry, her voice had instead turned sluggish. "Like I said, you truly are pitiful and pathetic. Huo Rulie, just where did you get the confidence to suggest that your successor can beat this king's successor? Aren't you afraid that in the end, that little bit of pitiful face that you have left will be thrown away under this king's feet!?"

Yan Wancang and Yan Juehai were speechless from hearing her words, their eyes happened to sweep towards Yun Che at the same time.

From these two gazes, Yun Che instantly felt as if two suns had shone past his body.

Such terrifying auras... Yun Che was stunned in his heart.

However, such terrifying people were still seemingly vulnerable under Mu Xuanyin's hands... Yun Che looked at Mu Xuanyin's back, growing even more nervous.

The shaking Huo Rulie stood up from the ground and Huo Poyun hurriedly stepped forward to support him. However, Huo Rulie pushed him away and he stood there firmly, coldly laughing. "What? Could it be that you're trying to say that this king's disciple can't be compared against your disciple?"

"Hmph..." Mu Xuanyin let out an extremely disdainful snort and scornfully said. "Let's set aside my disciple for now. Just based on the new disciple you took in, he's not even worthy of bringing this king's new disciple his shoes!"

When these words fell, not just the six people from the Flame God Realm, every single person in Divine Ice Phoenix Sect was jaw-droppingly stunned.

"Sect... Sect Master..." Mu Huanzhi, who was nearest to Mu Xuanyin, reached out his hand and softly called out, his skin crawling. Though Huo Poyun had the weakest profound strength out of the three youths brought by the Flame God Realm, he was still already at the fifth level of the Divine Tribulation Realm. Furthermore, his life aura was especially youthful, indicating that he was definitely below the age of twenty five.

Furthermore, for Huo Rulie to have taken him as his direct disciple and to have brought him over to flaunt, he most definitely had incredible attainments in the laws of fire. Not to mention, he definitely possessed a direct or side inheritance of the Golden Crow's bloodline... No matter how, he was not someone Yun Che, who had just entered the Divine Origin Realm, could go toe-to-toe with.

Huo Rulie's eyes were staring wide, the muscles on his face began to twitch. Following after, he let out a thunderous, arrogant laughter.

"Ha... Hahahaha... Hahahahahaha..."

"He? Not even worth bringing his shoes..." Huo Rulie reached out his hand and pointed his finger straight at Yun Che, as though he had just heard the most ridiculous joke in his entire life. "Based on him? Just based on him alone!? Hahahahahaha..."

Mu Bingyun's brows tightly furrowed, as she hurriedly sent a sound transmission to Mu Xuanyin. "Elder Sister, what are you doing!? If you state such a thing, aren't you giving Huo Rulie control of the situation?"

Just as she sent the voice transmission, Mu Xuanyin's voice resounded in her soul, causing her to stay silent.

"That's right, just based on the new direct disciple I took in, standing behind this king." Not only did Mu Xuanyin not retract her words, she once again repeated them with a solemn voice, "That disciple of yours isn't even worthy of bringing him his shoes!"

Yun Che, "..."

Mu Bingyun's words had immediately come true. How could Huo Rulie, who was carrying a stomach full of fury and hatred, not grasp onto the reins of the conversation which Mu Xuanyin had just let go of? He

let out a heaven-shaking roar. "Good! Good! Well said!! Since you claim that my disciple isn't even worthy of bringing him his shoes... Then do you dare have him compete against my disciple!?"

"Huo Rulie!" Mu Huanzhi could no longer stay calm, as he roared out heavily. "Don't take things too far!"

"Sect Master Huo, this is really inappropriate," Yan Wancang said solemnly as well.

Huo Rulie however took a step forward, his voice reverberated in all four directions. "Taking things too far? Who's the one taking things too far!? Mu Xuanyin, do you dare? Do you dare!? Hahahahaha!"

He knew Mu Xuanyin definitely would not dare to do so, which was why he was laughing so joyfully. This was the first time in his life, where he held the upper hand when facing Mu Xuanyin and it was even Mu Xuanyin herself who had offered it.

"Sect Master Huo, enough." Yan Wancang held onto Huo Rulie's arm and then said to Mu Xuanyin, "Snow Song Realm King, we will not disturb you any longer and shall take our leave now. The matter concerning the ancient horned dragon benefits both our sects, so we hope that Snow Song Realm King will consider it carefully. We bid you farewell..."

"Wait a minute!!"

Huo Rulie shook off Yan Wancang's hand, his fiery eyes stared straight at Mu Xuanyin. "Mu Xuanyin! Never did I expect that the Snow Song Realm King would make such an outrageous and laughable claim just for the sake of the slightest bit of face and to disgrace others. Heh... Mu Xuanyin, even you have a day where I, Huo Rulie, can look down upon you! You might as well openly admit it now, so I can still think somewhat highly of you!"

Not just today, in these ten thousand years, Huo Rulie had always been the one being suppressed in front of Mu Xuanyin. On this day, where he had such an extremely rare opportunity to slap Mu Xuanyin in the face, how could he possibly let go of it?

Mu Xuanyin slightly narrowed her eyes and coldly said, "You're not going to shed a tear until you see the coffin, huh!? Fine, since you insist so, then this king shall grant you your wish."

Mu Xuanyin's snowy figure shook as she turned around. "Che'er, go on and have a spar with this so-called great disciple of Sect Master Huo. Though he's a visitor... there's no need to show any mercy!"

Every single person in Divine Ice Phoenix Sect was stunned and several elders stepped forward at the same time. "Sect Master..."

"Silence!!" Mu Xuanyin coldly commanded. The elders who had just taken half a step forward instantly shrank back, not daring to say another word.

"...Yes, master."

Yun Che walked out with forced calm, however, his feet were trembling and his skin was crawling.

Huo Poyun, who was brought along by Huo Rulie, was comparable to him in age but the aura of his profound strength was not weaker than Mu Hanyi in the slightest! In other words, his profound strength was at least in the middle stage of the Divine Tribulation Realm as well.

This was the Divine Tribulation Realm they were talking about! How the hell was he going to fight that!?

By relying on Star God's Broken Shadow, he could probably barely hold on for a short while... and it would just be barely. However, since he could not even use the Star God's Broken Shadow, the only conclusion from exchanging blows with Huo Poyun, was instant defeat!

The fright of the entire Divine Ice Phoenix Sect and the uneasiness in Yun Che's eyes all fell under Huo Rulie's eyes. He widely threw out his hand. "Poyun, go on and get some experience from this great disciple whom this Snow Song Realm King claimed that you're not even worthy of bringing his shoes to! Hahahaha..."

"Yes, master." Huo Poyun respectfully responded and then walked forward.

Huo Poyun stood firmly as he faced Yun Che from afar. However, when he sensed that Yun Che's profound strength was just at the first level of Divine Origin Realm, someone who had clearly just entered the divine way not too long ago, his expression turned a little complicated.

He entered the divine way at the age of fourteen and broke through into the Divine Soul Realm at the age of seventeen... He was now twenty four years old and it had been exactly seven years since he last exchanged blows with someone at the Divine Origin Realm, let alone someone who had just entered the Divine Origin Realm.

Facing Yun Che who was just at the first level of Divine Origin Realm, though he was the new direct disciple of the Snow Song Realm King, he truly found it a little hard to make a move.

Chapter 1003 - A Wager!

"This one is Flame God Realm Golden Crow Sect's Huo Poyun." Huo Poyun faced Yun Che as he gently said with courtesy, "What is the name of my esteemed opponent?"

"Yun Che. I was born in a lower realm but am now a disciple of the Divine Ice Phoenix Sect," Yun Che politely replied. In his mind, however, he was repeatedly pondering over the possible intentions of Mu Xuanyin.

"Yun Che?" Huo Rulie suddenly began to laugh, "To think that you would be surnamed Yun while my disciple's name is Poyun (breaking cloud). It is truly well suited for the occasion, hahahaha."

"Huo Rulie, are you not afraid of losing your tongue if you laugh so loudly?" Mu Xuanyin's gaze became frosty. "Yun'er, begin!"

"~! @#\\"..." Yun Che could only bite the bullet as he moved his body and took a fighting stance... after all, his opponent was in the Divine Tribulation Realm! Even if he were ten times stronger, he would still not be an opponent for Huo Poyun. What exactly were Mu Xuanyin's intentions... it couldn't be that she wanted him to intentionally make a fool of himself, right?

Huo Poyun slightly cupped his hands as a fiery glow enveloped his body, "Please enlighten me!"

Although he took a fighting stance, he naturally would wait for Yun Che to make the first move. After all, he was a dignified practitioner in the middle stage of the Divine Tribulation Realm. How could he take initiative to make the first move against someone who had just entered the Divine Origin Realm?

The arrow had already been drawn. Thus, Yun Che already had no way of backing out. It was impossible for him to just duke it out, and in terms of strategies... the difference in their strengths was just too great. Moreover, with everyone observing him and Mu Xuanyin's prestige at stake... he felt like even if he had suddenly grown ten more heads, he still wouldn't be able to find a method to win.

"Sect Master." Right as Yun Che's heart became ablaze with flames of nervousness, a cold voice containing hints of gentleness suddenly resonated from nearby as Mu Bingyun walked forward and calmly said, "This is still the Sacred Hall, we should not fight here. Moreover, both sides are direct disciples who were chosen with utmost care. In a clash between ice and fire, it is extremely easy to accidentally cause serious injuries. If such were to happen, it would be an irreparable loss for both sect masters."

"What? You want to forcibly call it off?" Huo Rulie sneered.

"How could we go back on the words said by our sect master?" Mu Bingyun's brows knit together. "However, this is my sect's Sacred Hall, not a fighting arena. Furthermore, your disciples are only clashing for superiority and not for each other's lives. In this case, why don't we just use a simpler method?"

"Fairy Bingyun, please speak," Yan Wancang quickly replied.

Mu Bingyun turned to Huo Rulie and the other two and indifferently said, "My sect's core profound art is the Ice Phoenix God Investiture Canon, whereas Golden Crow Sect's is the renowned Golden Crow's Record of the Burning World. So why not let our two disciples demonstrate their sect's core profound art? The two will move several hundred meters away from each other and each one will have three opportunities to use their sect's core profound art to attack the other. The one defending can only defend. Once each side has made their three attacks, the outcome will be decided by scoring. As such, we can avoid a nasty clash. Let us use each sect's profound art to determine the end of this matter."

Before Mu Bingyun had even finished speaking, Yan Wancang had already begun to nod in agreement as he said, "Fairy Bingyun's idea is so clever. Not only does it touch on all of the major points, such as avoiding injuries and ruining the atmosphere, it also presents us with a realistic way to compete. Sect Master Huo... if you must really force a competition, then let it be like this."

As Yan Wancang spoke, his eyes glared at Huo Rulie, seemingly hinting... after all, he simply couldn't agree more with the rules proposed by Mu Bingyun. Because this was the domain of the Snow Song Realm. With Mu Xuanyin's personality, if these two disciples were to truly begin fighting, regardless of who won or lost, there would be severe consequences. Thus, this more "moderate" method was clearly countless times better.

"Good! Very good!" Huo Rulie didn't hesitate as he slowly nodded his head. "This will also prevent certain people from becoming too ugly and angry... however!"

The sound of Huo Rulie's voice abruptly changed, "Since we are letting our disciples compete to end this matter, how can we not bet! Mu Xuanyin, if my disciple who isn't even worthy of carrying your disciple's shoes were to somehow win, what should happen?"

"What do you want?" Mu Xuanyin's face was expressionless.

"Hahaha, it's very simple!" Huo Rulie laughed. "If my disciple, who isn't even worthy of carrying your disciple's shoes were to win, then you must acknowledge that you, Mu Xuanyin, are inferior to me, Huo Rulie, in front of everyone here!"

Huo Rulie once again put emphasis on "not worthy of being able to carry his shoes" to remind Mu Xuanyin again and again of the words that she had personally said! Words which had come out of her own mouth!

"Huo Rulie, you..." Mu Huanzhi shouted in fury.

"What about me?" Huo Rulie retorted, "Your sect master personally said my disciple wasn't even worthy of carrying her disciple's shoes, how could she be afraid of losing! She won't dare to not accept!"

"You!" Mu Huanzhi's body quivered as the veins on his forehead bulged out.

Compared to Mu Huanzhi's agitated state, Mu Xuanyin still seemed calm and emotionless as she coldly asked, "Then what if this king's disciple were to win?"

"Win?" The corners of Huo Rulie's mouth rose and his eyes narrowed as he responded, "Then I will do whatever you command without hesitation."

"Huo Rulie!" Yan Wancang exclaimed in shock. However, he had just shouted when Mu Xuanyin's voice abruptly cut him off.

"Good! Remember what you said!" A frosty glint flashed through Mu Xuanyin's icy pupils.

"I, Huo Rulie, am a man of my word. I will never take them back!" Huo Rulie ignored Yan Wancang as he solemnly said, "I am just afraid you will not dare to accept!"

"You two aren't even worthy of me being afraid!" Mu Xuanyin gently waved her palm, instantly causing the blizzard to subside as her voice spread across the entire space, "If this king's disciple loses to your disciple, this king will personally acknowledge here and now that I am inferior to you! Happy?!"

"Alright—" Huo Rulie slowly nodded his head as his pair of fiery eyes opened wide.

"Ah." Having been obstructed again and again, Yan Wancang could only sigh as he watched the situation continuously develop to this point. He helplessly turned to Huo Rulie and said, "Mu Xuanyin is absolutely not an impulsive person who would do anything to maintain face. She is even less of a person who would dig their own hole and jump into it. You... alas."

As all kinds of nasty words had already been said, it was useless for him to say any more.

"Hmph! Could it be that you believe that that garbage disciple she took in can compare to my Poyun?" Huo Rulie solemnly asked.

"..." Yan Wancang was speechless. From what he knew, there were several talented disciples younger than thirty in Divine Ice Phoenix Sect whose profound strength had reached the Divine Tribulation Realm, yet Mu Xuanyin had chosen someone who had been born in a lower realm. Moreover, the profound strength of the person she had chosen as her direct disciple had just entered the divine way. As such, it was clear that this "Yun Che" definitely had something extraordinary about him.

Perhaps Yun Che was extremely wise or perhaps he had an abnormal physique. Perhaps he was especially gifted in manipulating ice.

Regardless, considering he only had a cultivation of the Divine Origin Realm, there was absolutely no way for him to match with the middle stage Divine Tribulation Realm Huo Poyun... No matter how much Yan Wancang thought about it, he wasn't the slightest bit of doubt in regards to Yun Che losing.

Moreover, the two were competing in sect profound arts. The difference between them could only be described as a "world of difference." Regardless of whether it was the Golden Crow's Record of the Burning World or the Ice Phoenix God Investiture Canon, the power and control that could be exerted was greatly related to the strength of one's bloodline.

Huo Poyun was the direct inheritor of the Golden Crow's bloodline.

As for the inheritance of the bloodline of the Snow Song Realm's Ice Phoenix... it could just be ignored. After all, the greatest reason why the total strength of the Snow Song Realm was only a tenth of the Flame God Realm was the great restrictions over the inheritance of the Ice Phoenix bloodline.

"Let me remind you again, this is the Snow Song Realm!" Although Yan Wancang believed it was impossible for Huo Poyun to lose, he also couldn't put down the fear in his heart when he thought about Mu Xuanyin's character, "So what if Poyun wins? Do you truly believe that Mu Xuanyin will admit in front of everyone that she is inferior to you!?"

"I can't wait for her to eat her own words!" Huo Rulie quietly said, "If she dares to not admit it, unless she dares to keep all of us here for the rest of our lives, I will definitely let the entire God Realm know what happened here today! I will let the entire God Realm know that Mu Xuanyin is someone who spouts outrageous nonsense and lies! It can be considered... me helping my son vent his frustrations!"

"..." Yan Wancang shook his head but remained silent. However, his heart still felt like something was wrong.

...As for Yun Che, he had suddenly calmed down at this time. Amidst his worrying, his mind had become flooded with coldness.

The machinations of the mind were so terrifying!

Huo Rulie had been played like a monkey the whole time yet he still didn't know it.

However, for Mu Xuanyin to incite Huo Rulie and then cause his emotions to go out of control bit by bit... just what exactly did she want to achieve?

The faces of the elders and palace masters on both sides were pale.

On one side stood Yun Che and on the other stood Huo Poyun...

The thoughts running through their minds were the same ones which had been going through Yun Che's when he had first walked out... how the f*ck was Yun Che supposed to fight!?

Moreover, Yun Che had just completed his discipleship ceremony today and had yet to obtain the blood of the Ice Phoenix God. It was impossible for him to display the Ice Phoenix God Investiture Canon.

Just what was the sect master doing!?

Could it be that once the words had been said, she couldn't help but accept under Huo Rulie's continued attacks?!

It seemed like this could be the only explanation.

"Huo Rulie, remember what you said just now," Mu Xuanyin solemnly said. "Let it begin!"

"Please enlighten me." Huo Poyun once again took a fighting stance... and it was clearly a defensive posture.

"Wait, wait!"

At this time, another voice suddenly interrupted them as Mu Hanyi's figure flickered, leaving behind an extremely beautiful blue light as he gently floated to beside Yun Che.

Mu Hanyi deeply saluted Mu Xuanyin and then turned to Huo Rulie, saying, "Sect Master Huo, this junior is Divine Ice Phoenix Sect's Mu Hanyi. It might be presumptuous but I would like for Sect Master Huo to let me say something."

Mu Xuanyin's brows slightly furrowed but she remained silent.

"Ah!" Huo Rulie sneered. It was clear that he thought Mu Hanyi was someone who Mu Xuanyin had silently arranged for to come out to disrupt the clash between the two, "Okay, then I shall listen to what you have to say."

Mu Hanyi said, "This junior once wished to become the direct disciple of the sect master but was too mediocre and lost to brother Yun Che in the competition. As Yun Che is the Sect Master's direct disciple, this junior is completely convinced that this junior is not able to compare to Yun Che. Sect Master Huo's disciple is certainly extraordinarily talented and that has caused this junior's hands to become itchy. There should be no harm in letting this junior exchange a couple blows with Brother Poyun to learn from each other, right?"

"If this junior were to, by chance, luckily defeat your precious disciple..." Mu Hanyi casually smiled as he arrogantly said, "Then, I'm afraid your disciple just isn't qualified enough to exchange blows with my sect master's beloved direct disciple."

Once Mu Hanyi finished speaking, Huo Poyun's brows greatly furrowed as hints of anger arose on his face.

As for all of the Divine Ice Phoenix Sect elders with strange lights in their eyes, those seniors whose hearts had been tightly clenched, their expressions seemed to become more comfortable as they silently nodded in relief. It seemed like they had all suddenly relaxed a lot.

Mu Hanyi was indeed Mu Hanyi... his confident emergence and clever words had caused this situation, which seemed so lost for the Divine Ice Phoenix Sect, to suddenly turn.

Especially his "if this junior were to, by chance, luckily defeat your precious disciple... I'm afraid your disciple just isn't qualified enough to exchange blows with my sect master's beloved direct disciple." This made it so Huo Rulie couldn't refuse even if he wanted to.

Moreover, if Mu Hanyi were to defeat Huo Poyun, then the dangerous matter of face between the two sect masters would also be resolved.

"Hanyi, you've done well!" Mu Huanzhi generously praised, greatly relieved.

Huo Rulie had not yet spoken when Huo Poyun stepped forward and sternly said, "Alright! Then I, Huo Poyun, will ask Brother Hanyi to enlighten him first!"

"I couldn't be more willing!" Mu Hanyi's expression turned serious as he turned to Yun Che and then gently said, "Senior Brother Yun Che, as of right now, he still doesn't deserve to exchange blows with you. Let me fight with him for a while first."

"...Then please be careful." Yun Che silently withdrew.

Yun Che had just withdrawn several steps when profound lights simultaneously exploded from Mu Hanyi and Huo Poyun's figures as two equally shocking profound energies of opposing attributes began emanating from their bodies... the energies released were so tyrannical and overbearing that no one could believe that they came from two youths who were still not yet thirty years old.

In terms of their cultivations, the two were both at the fifth stage of the Divine Tribulation Realm. The only difference between them was—Mu Hanyi being three years older than Huo Poyun.

But in terms of bloodlines, Mu Hanyi's was naturally inferior to Huo Poyun's.

However, Mu Hanyi's cold gaze still contained hints of confidence because this was the Snow Song Realm and moreover in the Sacred Hall, the place closest to the Heavenly Netherfrost Lake. This could be said to be the coldest place in the Snow Song Realm outside of the Heavenly Netherfrost Lake itself.

The frost aura here was greatly beneficial for Mu Hanyi's Ice Phoenix God Investiture Canon while also being greatly detrimental for Huo Poyun's Golden Crow's Record of the Burning World.

Thus, he believed he had enough control.

Chapter 1004 - Frozen End Heaven Sealing, Yellow Springs Ashes

Yun Che retreated to Mu Xuanyin's side, silently looking forward. His line of sight, however, didn't fall upon Mu Hanyi; rather, it was fixed upon the opposing Huo Poyun.

Between the trio of Yan Zhuo, Yan Mingxuan, and Huo Poyun, Huo Poyun's profound strength was the weakest and thus, relatively the most unremarkable. Most people concentrated their shocked gazes upon Yan Zhuo, the one with the greatest profound strength, yet Yun Che, from the very start, only paid attention to Huo Poyun.

Yun Che was extremely sensitive to the strength of flames. Although Huo Poyun's profound strength was the weakest, Yun Che clearly felt that the flame aura on his body was purer than that of Yan Zhuo or Yan Mingxuan... Furthermore, it wasn't just by a little bit.

"Why don't you attack first?" Huo Poyun asked.

Different from the ordinary manner whilst facing Yun Che, the voice of the Huo Poyun facing Mu Hanyi was icy and a little overbearing, and his expression clearly reflected a scarlet light that caused one's

heart to palpitate. Evidently, he had been somewhat incensed by Mu Hanyi's previous words... this surely was a man with extreme dignity.

"No, you are a guest from afar. You should certainly be the one to attack first."

It had previously been stated that no fighting could occur in front of the Sacred Hall. Although Mu Hanyi was planted like a flagpole, he still had to abide by the previously stated rule.

Two people each exchanging blows three times... the one being attacked could only block and couldn't counterattack or dodge!

Under this kind of rule, the person to attack first naturally held a considerable advantage. But these two were both exceedingly talented and just as proud, so neither wanted to take the advantage.

"Hanyi, strike him directly. There's no point in mincing words with him," Mu Xuanyin uttered coldly.

Mu Hanyi's body shivered slightly, then respectfully answered, "Yes!"

Ding!

With a tinkle like the fracturing of an ice crystal, Mu Hanyi thrust forward. Frost energy radiated all around and the layer of ice beneath Huo Poyun's feet exploded. Three ice crystal trees rose steeply from the ground, forming a triangle and trapping Huo Poyun in the center. Following the rapid growth of the ice crystal trees, a terrifying frost energy and life-threatening frigid ice mercilessly fell down.

"Tree of Frozen End," Yun Che muttered. Looking at Mu Hanyi's appearance, it was just a casual action, yet the Frozen End Tree he had released and the strength of the frost energy surpassed his tens of times over.

After all, Mu Hanyi had the rare blood of the Ice Phoenix and his profound strength at the Divine Tribulation Realm was something the current Yun Che simply couldn't hope to reach.

Yet Huo Poyun didn't move at all, he didn't even raise a hand, choosing only to furrow his brow.

Boom!!

A streak of flame violently exploded from his body, then scattered and extinguished in an instant. At the same time, the three Frozen End Trees also directly exploded, filling the sky with ice crystals that completely burned into nothingness before they could even land on the ground.

"Greetings won't be necessary." Huo Poyun's brow was heavy, "Why don't you honestly and properly use your full strength and let me experience your presumptuous self."

"Hahaha, I don't deserve to be called presumptuous." Mu Hanyi let out a long laugh. Just as his laughter fell, his expression also suddenly turned cold, "Since this is so, then I won't be polite... my second strike!"

The rich frost energy turned into a substance with blue light, expanding rapidly from Mu Hanyi's body. Air completely stopped circulating and the sky filled with floating snow, also completely slowed to an immobile state. An astonishing frost energy, with a similarly shocking speed, extended outwards and in merely the blink of an eye, covered the entire Sacred Hall region.

"Hanyi is finally starting to get serious," an Ice Phoenix Palace Master said in a low voice.

"Let's see how that Huo Poyun will receive it," another Ice Phoenix Palace Master said confidently. In this Sacred Hall region, Mu Hanyi's frost profound energy had a considerable increase in power.

At this time, Mu Hanyi's hands suddenly intertwined and the earth-shattering frost energy concentrated frantically following his movements, pouncing straight at Huo Poyun.

This attack was colorless and formless.

This was an ultimate frost energy, capable of freezing heaven and earth.

Huo Poyun's expression became a bit more cautious. Reacting to the compression and approach of the frost energy, he lowered his figure then began to spin into the air. Following the rotation of his body, the raging flames of the Golden Crow began to ignite violently amidst the frost energy, turning into streaks of dragon-shaped flames that wantonly fluttered around him.

Frost energy pounced forward, seemingly freezing emptiness. An incomparably strong mist arose from the dragon-shaped flames, yet they still didn't have the slightest indication of being extinguished. Even the speed at which they danced and the astonishing Golden Crow aura didn't lessen at all.

"Haah!"

After several breaths' time of stalemate, the frost energy was forced away layer by layer, actually unable to persist. Huo Poyun let out a low roar at this time and the fluttering flames suddenly exploded. The flames soared and a scarlet-red appeared in the white sky for an instant. The frost energy that came from Mu Hanyi was instantly swept away by a thick fog, like a storm.

The air, along with the peak frost energy, rapidly became scorching hot.

"You still have one last move." Huo Poyun landed slowly. His landing point and his previous position didn't have the slightest difference.

"Worthy of being the Sect Master Huo's high disciple, you truly are extraordinary," Mu Hanyi praised sincerely.

"Hanyi, there's no need to hold back. Let him experience what the Ice Phoenix God Investiture Canon really is!" Mu Yunzhi said in a low voice.

Mu Hanyi nodded slowly. The expression on his face vanished as he clenched his hands unhurriedly.

If one said he had held back thirty percent just now, he certainly would let out his very best in this final strike.

In contrast, Huo Poyun actually remained there, standing straight. Only a layer of weak flames dotted with holes surrounded his entire body and he didn't appear to be in any position to defend with Golden Crow profound energy at all.

Mu Hanyi furrowed his brow as his hand gestures slowed. Looking at his actions, Huo Poyun said in an incomparably dull tone, "I've already finished my preparations, don't hesitate to make your move!"

His attitude, as well as his words, caused Mu Hanyi's brow to wrinkle greatly. Half of Divine Ice Phoenix Sect was shocked, while the other half had expressions filled with anger.

"What does this brat mean, is he looking down on Senior Brother Hanyi!?"

"Tch! He thinks he's deserving? I think he doesn't want to live anymore! Senior Brother Hanyi, your previous two attacks were too courteous; don't hold back anymore, strike him down directly."

Compared to Divine Ice Phoenix Sect's anger and taunts, before Huo Poyun's clear arrogance and contemptuous actions, not only did Huo Rulie not chide Huo Poyun, he actually revealed a slight smile.

Mu Hanyi inhaled lightly and didn't say anything more. His gaze, however, concealed a sense of anger. Soundlessly, the frigid light surrounding his body rapidly became much deeper.

This slight change in atmosphere caused all the sounds of discontent from the Ice Phoenix disciples to disappear like they'd been frozen. Once the frost energy had become heavy to a critical point, Mu Hanyi's pupils suddenly turned ice-blue. His hair, billowing against the frigid wind, rapidly turned into a sparkling white-blue color amidst the blue light.

This action caused all the disciples, and even the palace master and elders, to hold their breaths.

This was a state in which frost profound energy had been channeled to the extreme limit! Mu Hanyi wouldn't hold back even the slightest in this strike!

An enormous halo of blue light, centered on Huo Poyun's body, silently appeared in the air. This halo was initially an azure blue color, then it slowly turned lighter and lighter. Finally, it were any lighter, it would seemingly be colorless and formless.

But at the center of the blue halo, frost energy actually accumulated violently at a speed frightening beyond compare.

"This is... Ice Phoenix God Investiture Canon... the seventh stage's Frozen End Heaven Sealing Formation... within the divine hall, it seems only Senior Brother Hanyi and Senior Sister Feixue have been able to cultivate it..."

"Ss! Senior Brother Hanyi is angry... that Huo Poyun... won't die, right?"

"Serves him right if he dies! I've only seen palace master use it once. I didn't think that Senior Brother Hanyi, who doesn't have the bloodline inheritance, could actually cultivate the seventh stage relying on only elder blood essence... it's too terrifying."

Not one of the Ice Phoenix disciples didn't have their eyes open wide and breaths held, scared to miss the scene that instant amidst their extreme excitement and raised spirits.

Yet Huo Poyun still remained standing there perfectly straight, his body not moving even an inch. Only his line of sight showed a little deviation.

"Frozen—End—Heaving—Sealing—Formation!!"

As Mu Hanyi recited in a low voice, the shadow of an illusory Ice Phoenix flashed on his body.

In that instant, heaven and earth fell silent as the blue halo in the air suddenly gathered together and the region inside of the halo became a frigid hell. Countless layers and cones of ice appeared out of nowhere in a flash and a frightening storm arose as if doomsday had arrived, mercilessly sweeping towards the Huo Poyun standing in the center of the Frigid Hell.

"Ahhh—" The Ice Phoenix disciples let out an unbroken series of fearful sounds.

Huo Poyun raised his head slightly, his gaze concentrated on the approaching frigid disaster. Then, seemingly without any notice... he let out a heaven-shaking roar.

"Haahhhh!"

Boom!!

Just then his entire body had been immobile and only contained a feeble flame aura, but with only a roar, flames that scurried several hundreds of feet away exploded from his body. These flames were only the beginning.

Boom!

Boom!!

Boom!!!

Boom boom boom boom boom...

The explosion of the Golden Crow flames sounded incomparable intensely. Under Mu Hanyi's Frozen End Heaving Sealing Formation, the extremely heavy frost energy would cause fire-type profound practitioners with slightly weaker profound energy to be incapable of igniting a flame for even an instant. But these Golden Crow flames, situated at the center of the Frozen End Heaven Sealing Formation, actually ignited fiercely in a flash and ruptured outwards violently, filling the sky with Golden Crow Divine Flames amidst the icy storm.

The air, atmosphere, and infinitesimal particles, even snow and frost energy became a medium for the combustion and ignition of Golden Crow flames. At the center of the frigid hell and icy storm, layer after layer of pure gold flames became lit... moreover, these spread outwards at a considerable speed.

"Wh...at!" Mu Yunzhi let out a startled cry. Even as a divine hall elder, her eyes clearly bulged at this moment.

"This is..." Mu Bingyun's expression also revealed a violent change. She looked at Mu Xuanyin and captured an instance of astonishment from her eyes.

"Yellow Springs Ashes!" Yun Che muttered in a low voice. His gaze passed through layers of frost energy and flames, firmly locking onto Huo Poyun.

The speed in which Huo Poyun released Yellow Springs Ashes was actually not much slower than him!

Not only was his release speed extremely fast, under the suppression of Mu Hanyi, the first instant of the Yellow Springs Ashes being released already allowed it to resist the Frozen End Heaven Sealing Formation in its complete state and subsequently forcefully counter-suppress the core strength of the

Frozen End Heaven Sealing Formation bit by bit... furthermore, it was an incomparably overbearing and fierce counter-suppression!

In the short span of five breaths, the core region of the Frozen End Heaven Sealing Formation was filled completely with Golden Crow flames and frost energy was simply incapable of entering by even a little bit.

After ten breaths' time, the pure gold flames actually eroded away almost half of the Frost Domain!

This person named Huo Poyun....

"Haah!!!!"

With another blood curdling roar, a Golden Crow flame silhouette appeared on Huo Poyun's body. This Golden Crow flame silhouette brought about pure gold flames that covered the body and shot up to the sky amidst Huo Poyun's explosive roar. A Golden Crow's long cry tore through the horizon, entering directly into one's heart and soul.

"Scree!!"

Boom--

With the sound of an oppressive explosion, the Frozen End Heaven Sealing Formation completely collapsed from the ray of flames shooting towards the sky. The frost energy, charged with the limit of Mu Hanyi's strength, was rapidly swallowed by the flames until nothing was left and even the ice layers and ice cones filled with Ice Phoenix energy were also overturned by the Golden Crow flames, melting away in an instant.

The domain had been broken and Mu Hanyi looked as if he had been hit by a heavy attack. The enormous recoil caused his entire body to stand stiff. A current of blood bubbled up his throat, filling his mouth, yet was immediately forcefully swallowed back down. Only a layer of morbid paleness appeared on his face.

The flames dispersed and the frost energy had been eliminated long ago. Huo Poyun still stood there fixedly... the location in which he stood didn't have even a half-step of deviation. Compared to Mu Hanyi's deathly pale complexion, his could be said to not have any change.

"It looks like this should be the limit of your strength." Huo Poyun said dully. The meaning behind these words was clearly "it was only this much".

"Now, it's my turn to attack." Huo Poyun slowly extended a hand.

"..." Mu Hanyi's complexion was tranquil as ever, yet was unable to speak for a long while.

Everyone in Divine Ice Phoenix Sect had been startled frozen... Mu Hanyi had constructed the Frozen End Heaven Sealing Formation using Ice Phoenix energy that was condensed over ten breaths' time yet Huo Poyun, who was situated right in the center of the domain, completely suppressed and locked down, had defeated Mu Hanyi's Frozen End Heaven Sealing Formation in not even twenty breaths' time.

Both of their profound energies were at the fifth level of the Divine Tribulation Realm.

But as for who was stronger and who was weaker, even a blind man could tell very clearly.

Mu Hanyi's attainments in frost energy was considered either first or second in this generation of disciples in the Snow Song Realm; only Mu Feixue was comparable. This only meant that, not mentioning equal rank, even one whose profound strength was one or two levels higher than his wouldn't necessarily be a capable opponent.

Yet in the domain battle just then, facing an opponent with the same profound strength, he was disadvantaged.

And it was a considerable disadvantage!

In contrast to Divine Ice Phoenix Sect's shock, Yan Wancang had an undisturbed expression... it was evident he had long anticipated this situation.

Countless frosty gazes fell upon Huo Poyun... An extremely fast release of Golden Crow Divine Flame with a strength so great it shouldn't belong to one at the fifth level of the Divine Tribulation Realm! Huo Poyun was someone that had been newly accepted by Huo Rulie, specially brought over to show off...

To have mastered the Golden Crow flame to this extent was something even the Huo Rulie of then definitely wouldn't have been able to accomplish.

Such an existence actually appeared in this generation of the Flame God Realm's Golden Crow Sect!

Chapter 1005 - The Extraordinary Huo Poyun

Yun Che's brow slowly tightened, his gaze focused unwaveringly at Huo Poyun.

This feeling...

Bloodline suppression?

There were no less than nine drops of the Golden Crow's divine blood in Yun Che's body; moreover, these were personally bestowed upon him by the Golden Crow Soul. In addition to this, he also had some of the Golden Crow's divine soul.

Yet when Huo Poyun released the Yellow Springs Ashes just then, he had clearly felt some sort of bloodline suppression... and guite distinctly so.

The only explanation for this situation was that Huo Poyun's Golden Crow bloodline couldn't possibly have been inherited; it had to be origin blood! Furthermore, it was origin blood even richer than his!

It was even extremely likely to have the Golden Crow's divine soul!

Both his Phoenix and Golden Crow bloodlines came from origin blood and not from inheritance. Before today, only Feng Xue'er had been able to suppress him with bloodline.

And Feng Xue'er's Phoenix bloodline came from the complete bestowal of the Phoenix Soul.

Vastly unlike the Blue Pole Star, the God Realm had a history that spanned hundreds of thousands of years and nearly all the inheritances left by the gods had been unearthed to exhaustion. The soul fragments left before the extinction of the primordial gods should have been discovered tens of

thousands of years ago and it was impossible for any to remain until now, like those in the Blue Pole Star had done.

But Huo Poyun...

Could it be...

It took Mu Hanyi a dozen breaths before his complexion finally became a little better. After letting out a weak laugh, his right foot shifted backwards, "Brother Poyun, make your move!

Golden Crow flames, having the greatest combustive power of the Three Great Divine Flames, possessed might that naturally far exceeded that of the Ice Phoenix. But if one were to compare defensive capability, fire was naturally vastly inferior to ice.

Huo Poyun didn't speak. A ray of flame flashed within his eyes as he lightly flicked his finger and a fist-sized ball of flame flew out like lightning while simultaneously increasing in size. When it had arrived in front of Mu Hanyi, the flame had already become taller than the height of several people combined.

Mu Hanyi's brow furrowed as he swung his fist out. Blue light flashed and the ball of fire was swept far away, scattering and disappearing in the air.

"I've returned your 'greeting' just now."

That one cold statement from Huo Poyun completely revealed the arrogant nature ingrained in his bones.

"You're too polite," Mu Hanyi replied somewhat stiffly.

At this time, Huo Poyun slowly raised his right hand, igniting a raging flame on his arm. This Golden Crow flame expanded extremely quickly, climbing to over a hundred feet tall in the blink of an eye. After, the flame suddenly began to contract rapidly as the color of the flame simultaneously turned from a scarlet gold color to an increasingly deep pure gold color.

Following the change in the flame's color, its combustive aura began to rise tens times over.

In the end, the raging Golden Crow flames shooting towards the sky, impressively turned into a golden ray in Huo Poyun's hand.

It was like it had become a hundred foot tall golden fire sword!

"Golden Annihilation!" Yun Che exclaimed softly, "It looks like Mu Hanyi will fall directly."

Since Golden Crow flames had the greatest destructive power, it was useful not only for large-scale incineration but also for extreme power compression, allowing it to carry out concentrated burn kills. At the time when Yun Che was in the Emperor Profound Realm, he was able to seriously injure the Sovereign Profound Realm Duke Huai simply using Golden Annihilation. Later, when Xuanyuan Wentian broke into the Illusory Demon Realm and even the combined efforts of Feng Xue'er and Little Demon Empress couldn't completely defeat him, it was also Golden Annihilation that had caused heavy injuries.

So Yun Che was incomparably clear that, on a level playing field, Golden Annihilation was something that simply couldn't be defended against, head-on. Due to Golden Annihilation's incineration range

being very small and also requiring a set amount of time to compress flame power, it was relatively easy to avoid... but with the current rules, Mu Hanyi could only defend head-on and couldn't choose to evade.

Previously, Mu Hanyi's three attacks had been completely blocked by Huo Poyun, which also proved that his comprehension was far inferior to Huo Poyun. If he wanted to block this Golden Crow flame head-on...

Yun Che could directly assert... that it was fundamentally impossible!

At this time, Huo Poyun gave a low cry as the golden fire sword chopped down from midair, drawing an enormous golden arc that hacked towards the top of Mu Hanyi's head.

"Oh no!" Mu Yizhi, Mu Hanyi's master, cried.

Mu Hanyi had never exchanged blows with anyone from the Fire God Realm or seen this fire-turned sword move before but once the frightening aura had almost arrived all the hairs on his body suddenly stood up straight. This frightening feeling caused his entire body to go taut. Too afraid to hold anything back, Mu Hanyi violently released all the profound energy in his body, erecting ten thick and heavy layers of ice in front of his body in an instant.

In another instant, another ten layers of ice appeared.

It was at this time that the golden fire sword hacked open the first layer of ice.

Zznn——

Ice and fire collided. The first layer of ice split in a flash; the resulting sound wasn't one of shattering but an oppressive noise of direct incineration.

Under the destruction of the layer of ice, the might and aura of the golden fire sword practically didn't weaken in the slightest. The second layer... the third layer... the fourth layer... the fifth layer...

The ninth layer... the tenth layer!

This was a frost defense erected with the full power of Mu Hanyi, the Ice Phoenix Divine Sect's peak disciple of this generation. Under Huo Poyun's fire sword, his defense had been broken apart like tissue.

Only after burning apart ten layers of ice in a flash did the might of the golden fire sword weaken to about twenty percent. Mu Hanyi's profound strength had already been channeled to its very peak; his pupils enlarged and he could only look on helplessly as the ice shield created from the extreme limit of his strength was destroyed as easy as one broke dried branches. That rich, almost to the point of dazzling, golden fiery light seemingly completely disregarded the existence of the layers of ice in front of him, approaching abruptly within his pupils...

Bang!!

The last ice shield in front of Mu Hanyi broke and the golden fire sword directly fell down, ripping apart the blue light surrounding his body with no difficulty... suddenly stopping right before his left shoulder.

Whoosh!

The snow robe on Mu Hanyi's left shoulder was instantly incinerated. If the stagnant fire sword fell just a little more, his left shoulder would directly be severed from his body.

Mu Hanyi didn't seize the opportunity to retreat; rather, he stood there blankly and didn't recover his bearings for a long time.

If he had faced someone whose profound strength far exceeded his, he would be able to calmly accept such a defeat. But opposing him was someone that had a comparable profound strength and was even younger than him. To Mu Hanyi, someone with extreme talent and nearly no true equal at the same level, this was unprecedented and an enormous blow he was unable to accept.

"You lost," Huo Poyun said lightly. Following the casual retraction of his hand, the golden fire sword immediately flew upwards, sprinkling the sky with embers.

"..." At this time, Mu Hanyi finally sat on the floor, his complexion gloomy.

"Ah... how could this be... Senior Brother Hanyi actually... actually..." This result was something none of the Ice Phoenix disciples, much less Mu Hanyi, could dare to believe or begin to accept.

Nearly all the gazes of the Ice Phoenix elders and palace masters concentrated onto Huo Poyun. Within every person's eyes, a sense of extreme shock flashed.

"Hanyi, step down," Mu Xuanyin said coldly.

"..." Mu Hanyi rose, inhaled deeply, then cupped his hands at Huo Poyun and said, "I, Mu Hanyi, concede defeat. My previous words were a slip of the tongue to maintain morale; I meant no malice, please forgive me."

Huo Poyun blinked, then nodded and deeply returned the courtesy.

Mu Hanyi turned, glanced at Yun Che deeply and faintly shook his head at him, revealing an apologetic yet cautioning expression. Then, he returned to Mu Yizhi's side with heavy footsteps.

Clap! Clap! Clap!

Huo Rulie clapped heavily, then let out his usual deafening laugh, "Hahahaha, I heard long ago that your respected sect produced a disciple this generation named Mu Hanyi, whose talent and strength were both astonishing beyond compare. After witnessing this today, his reputation truly is well-deserved. This fight was truly extremely brilliant and thrilling. Though this inferior disciple of mine won, his victory was hard-fought and something to be ashamed of!"

"I presume the Snow Song Realm King's newly accepted high disciple certainly must be even stronger. Poyun, you must fight with all your strength. The least you can do is make sure your loss isn't too unsightly, hahahaha."

Every one of Huo Rulie's words carried deep satisfaction and reckless ridicule. Those in the Ice Phoenix Divine Sect all revealed expressions of anger, yet all were unable to respond.

"Sect Master?" Mu Huanzhi could only direct his gaze towards Mu Xuanyin.

"Che'er, you go up," Mu Xuanyin directly coldly, then added softly, "At any rate, they're guests from afar. Let's comply with the Sect Master Huo's desire and make sure his loss isn't too unsightly."

This statement immediately caused Huo Rulie to almost choke on laughter as the entire ice sect stared on speechlessly.

"...Yes," Yun Che answered. He walked up to Huo Poyun with a slow gait, stopping when the distance between them was about a hundred feet.

"Just then, our side attacked first. This time, you should make a move first." Yun Che's tone carried a sense of helplessness. Up to now, he still wasn't clear what Mu Xuanyin's true intentions were.

Just as Huo Poyun was about to decline, Huo Rulie already roared with laughter, "Since this is the Snow Song Realm King's high disciple, then there's no need to modestly decline. Poyun, just properly experience the strength of this Snow Song Realm King's high disciple. You must not lose your master's face, hahahaha."

"...Yes." Though it was really hard to accept, voluntarily attacking someone at the first level of the Divine Origin Realm, it was difficult to disobey his master's order.

At this time, a sound transmission from Yan Wancang sounded by his ear, "Poyun, make sure to control your profound energy well. If you slip up and cause him a serious injury by any chance, with Mu Xuanyin's temperament, you're bound to immediately be in trouble. In this situation, it's extremely likely this is the result she wants to see the most."

"But you must also make sure not to underestimate him. In order to become the Snow Song Realm King's direct disciple, he must be something extraordinary."

Huo Poyun nodded slightly, his gaze directly at Yun Che, "I'll be careful."

Huo Poyun's footsteps stopped. He grasped out with a hand and a lump of scarlet golden flames suddenly condensed in front of Yun Che, blossoming into a luminous fiery light. Following the light retraction of his five fingers, the lump of golden flames exploded in midair, engulfing the region near Yun Che.

"Be careful!" Mu Huanzhi yelled worriedly.

This was Burning Sun Rupture, the third realm of the Golden Crow's Record of the Burning World. It was also the most fundamental Golden Crow incineration technique. Looking only at the strength aura, Huo Poyun simply used only ten percent of his strength but he still believed Yun Che absolutely wouldn't be able to block it.

The hearts of everyone from the Divine Ice Phoenix Sect immediately clenched tight. Yun Che's steps, however, didn't move in the slightest. Only his hand extended unhurriedly, welcoming the pouncing Golden Crow flames... upon his palm, bright blue light floated.

Whoosh!!

Heat waves surged forward. When the Golden Crow flames carrying formidable combustive power neared Yun Che's body, they were suddenly split into two portions like a current being sliced, scuttling to the left and right of Yun Che and towards the region behind him.

Boom!!

The flames exploded and the layer of ice behind Yun Che soared towards the sky. He put his arm down and the blue light surrounded his body simultaneously vanished.

Besides his hair being whipped up by the heatwave, his entire body didn't have the slightest injury... so much so that the Golden Crow flame simply hadn't even touched a single hair on his body.

"That was the first move." Yun Che's tone was flat.

Yet the Huo Poyun opposing him had been startled frozen. Even Huo Rulie, by his side waiting to watch the show, had his smile plastered rigid to his face.

Huo Poyun was extremely afraid he would cause heavy burn injuries to Yun Che, so his first strike only carried very weak force, weak to the point that Yun Che could directly deflect it. As for the blue light and frost profound energy... it was nothing more than a pretense used to create the facade that he had used frost profound energy to dispel the flames.

Chapter 1006 - Never Before Seen

"What... what happened?"

The entirety of Divine Ice Phoenix Sect was shocked into a daze. Even Mu Huanzhi, who had been preparing to move and rescue Yun Che, was astonished as he just stood where he was, his eyes blankly staring on.

Everyone could tell that Huo Poyun had only used a small portion of his strength, yet even then, it was clearly not something which someone at the Divine Origin Realm could withstand. Yet somehow, Yun Che had directly caused the Golden Crow flames to disperse.

This was unquestionably even harder to accomplish than resisting the flames straight on without injury.

Moreover, even though Huo Poyun had suppressed his strength, from Yun Che's gestures, it wasn't something he had done by accident.

"This brat... what the hell?" Huo Rulie was unable to laugh anymore. Yun Che, with profound strength at the first stage of the Divine Origin Realm, was actually able to use frost profound energy to casually disperse Huo Poyun's Golden Crow flames... could Yun Che's attainments in ice have actually reached such heights?

It was Huo Poyun's Golden Crow flames which Yun Che had dispersed!

As the person who had released the Golden Crow flames and with his understanding of them, Huo Poyun knew clearer than anyone else what had happened.

"No wonder Mu Hanyi lost. For someone who made it thousands of meters into the lake, his attainments with ice... have actually reached such heights!" Mu Huanzhi quietly said.

"What are you waiting for? Hurry up and make your next move!" Mu Xuanyin suddenly said, her voice sounding extremely impatient.

The dazed Huo Poyun's figure quivered as he quickly regained his senses. The way he looked at Yun Che had suddenly dramatically changed.

"Poyun, seeing how the Snow Song Realm King herself has said such words, there is no longer a need for you be courteous!" Huo Rulie said. He then suppressed his voice as he continued, "Use Golden Annihilation!"

Huo Poyun didn't respond as he raised his right arm up, sending Golden Crow flames surging into the sky and lighting it up before the flames quickly shrank back down and turned into a dazzling gold sword of fire.

"It's... it's the sword of fire from earlier!" the Ice Phoenix disciples screamed.

It was exactly this flame sword which had caused Mu Hanyi's defense of ice and frost to completely crumble moments earlier, putting Mu Hanyi into such a helpless state. And now, it had appeared again, against Yun Che. Huo Poyun had once again ignited this extremely terrifying flame sword.

Moreover, the aura and fiery glow emanating from it were no weaker than earlier!

He clearly wasn't planning to give Yun Che any more chances after his first blow had been so easily defended against.

"You better use all of your power." Huo Poyun slightly furrowed his brows, "However, you can relax. Even if you can't receive this blow, it will not injure you."

Huo Poyun's ability to manipulate Golden Crow flames had already reached an extreme stage. Earlier, even after he broke through all of Mu Hanyi's defenses and tore through the profound energy defending Mu Hanyi's body, he did indeed manage to not actually injure Mu Hanyi... This time, he naturally wouldn't allow Yun Che to receive any injuries either, if Yun Che were unable to resist.

Yun Che didn't respond as he looked at the golden yellow flame sword. However, he wasn't like Mu Hanyi, who had quickly condensed an ice shield. Instead, he once again stuck out his right hand as a blue light once again condensed atop his palm and quickly became increasingly concentrated. This was the only movement he made.

Huo Poyun's eyes slightly wavered as the fiery light atop his body flickered and the golden yellow flame sword abruptly swung down under countless terrified gazes.

A streak of fiery golden yellow light cut across the sky, seemingly tearing apart the entire world. In the face of the sword, Yun Che remained completely still, not making any movements. Even the profound energy covering his body remained tranquil. The only difference was the blue light on his right hand grew increasingly darker and more mysterious.

"After seeing Poyun's Golden Annihilation, this brat isn't even bothering to try and resist it anymore," Huo Rulie cackled loudly.

Although everyone already knew that Huo Poyun wouldn't injure Yun Che, they couldn't help it, as their hearts all tightened while the golden yellow flame sword descended. Yet even as the flame sword rapidly closed in on Yun Che, he still didn't move.

Huo Poyun's fiery eyes stared at Yun Che as his sword descended. He too believed that Yun Che had been scared into a daze and had become unable to respond. At this point, the golden yellow flame sword was a mere couple of meters from Yun Che's head. Huo Poyun's brows clenched as he prepared to suddenly stop the flame sword the moment it touched Yun Che.

But right at this same exact moment, Yun Che suddenly reached out with his right hand and made to grab the golden yellow flame sword.

Yun Che's suddenly action caused the jaws of the entire Divine Ice Phoenix Sect and Flame God Realm people to drop... Even Mu Hanyi's full power defenses had been completely demolished by this terrifying flame sword, fully demonstrating the astonishing amount of power contained within it, yet Yun Che dared to use his hand to go grab it... he would just be incinerated to nothingness in an instant.

"Yun Che, stop!" Mu Huanzhi screamed so loudly, he nearly tore his throat.

"Ah!" Mu Xiaolan shrieked.

"This brat's gone mad!" Huo Rulie shouted.

Huo Poyun also suffered great shock but it was already too late for him to try and disperse the golden yellow flame sword. His pupils dilated but he could only look on and watch as Yun Che's glowing blue palm grabbed the golden yellow flame sword like a bolt of lightning.

Szzz!

A pale white fog covered the skies as the sound of frost profound energy being extinguished resounded throughout. But amidst the white fog, at the point where Yun Che touched the brightly glowing golden yellow flame sword, it... suddenly crumbled.

Bang!

"W-what!?" Faced with this scene, the astonished Huo Rulie suddenly stumbled backwards.

As the flame sword fragmented, the energy of the Golden Crow flames instantly went out of control and wildly scattered. In the blink of an eye, the hundreds of meters long flame sword had been turned into several fragmented pieces of fiery light which were quickly extinguished by the frigid air.

"..." Huo Poyun's sword wielding arm continued moving as if his sword were still there but the entire rest of his body seemed to have frozen over as he remained motionless for a long time, his face was covered in an expression of extreme shock from having seen something that he had never before seen, in his life.

"What... what just happened?" Even the dignified Phoenix Sect Master Yan Juehai had been shocked speechless by the events.

Yan Wancang could only slowly nod as the look of shock on his face matched the ones on Yan Juehai and Huo Rulie's faces.

Even the entire Divine Ice Phoenix Sect had become lost in a daze.

After all, they had just seen Mu Hanyi be easily defeated by this flame sword. It's power was clearly extremely terrifying.

Yet Yun Che... was able to cause this flame sword to disperse!?

As for Mu Hanyi, who had just lost to Golden Annihilation and personally felt its terrifying power, he seemed to have become petrified on the spot. Even the pupils of his eyes had become completely frozen as he emotionlessly gazed at the area for a long time.

Yun Che lowered his arm as he calmly looked at Huo Poyun and said, "You still have one last move."

Although Golden Annihilation was terrifying, in the end, it was nothing more than pure Golden Crow flame energy.

As long as it was purely flames, no matter how terrifying they were, they could not possibly harm him.

"HAHAHAHA!" At this time, Mu Huanzhi, who had been stunned for a long time, suddenly began laughing. "He is indeed worthy of being someone who descended thousands of meters into the lake. With his talent for ice, even with his Divine Origin Realm profound strength, he was able to disperse the Golden Crow flames of a Divine Tribulation Realm cultivator. This is something that is almost never seen..."

Immediately afterwards, however, Mu Huanzhi realized that he had lost control due to his excitement and said some rash words. Thus, he quickly shut up.

"What? Thousands of meters into the lake?" As Mu Huanzhi revealed this fact, Yan Wancang, Yan Juehai, and Huo Rulie all simultaneously exhibited their shock.

Naturally, all three of them knew about the Heavenly Netherfrost Lake and were able to make the connection. Moreover, for someone at the Divine Origin Realm to descend thousands of meters into it... this required an incomparably terrifying innate talent for ice!

The gazes of all three Flame God Realm sect masters connected as their expressions all changed. This kind of talent was indeed extremely rare!

No wonder Mu Xuanyin had abandoned such a rare talent like Mu Hanyi for Yun Che, who was from a lower realm and whose cultivation was only at the start of the Divine Origin Realm!

The three also instantly realized why Divine Ice Phoenix Sect had proposed such a competition.

If it were an actual battle, there was absolutely no way for a practitioner at the first level of the Divine Origin Realm to compete with one in the Divine Tribulation Realm.

However, if they were only competing with profound arts and using profound arts to release the pure energies of the elements, then as long as his attainments in ice were high enough, Yun Che would be able to release high level ice profound energy even with his low cultivation, allowing him to defend against the flame profound energy of his higher cultivation opponent.

Only, the difference between the two was a full two realms and Huo Poyun's own attainments with flame profound energy were already extremely high. For Yun Che to have been able to do this... it could only be possible if his attainments with ice had reached a level which defied the heavens.

But for him to have been able to descend thousands of meters into the lake with just his Divine Origin Realm cultivation... it was already heaven defying!

Yun Che had indeed defended against Huo Poyun's golden yellow flame sword earlier. This clearly proved that in terms of elemental laws, he was far superior to Huo Poyun!

"Yun Che is actually... this strong?" All of the Ice Phoenix disciples were stunned silly.

"He is only at the Divine Origin Realm... yet... he is stronger than Senior Brother Hanyi? This..."

"No wonder Sect Master actually chose him..." The large majority of Ice Phoenix disciples had only more or less heard of what happened inside the Heavenly Netherfrost Lake and so, when Mu Xuanyin decided to pick Yun Che and abandon Mu Hanyi and Mu Feixue, nearly all of them had become shocked and unable to understand, while some even became angered.

But now, after seeing Mu Hanyi and Yun Che face against the same golden yellow flame sword wielded by Huo Poyun with different results, they had all completely changed their minds.

"Congratulations, Snow Song Realm King... for accepting such a good disciple!" Huo Rulie said, gritting his teeth.

Now that it had reached this point, he finally inwardly knew that he had been played.

However, as he repeatedly played the scene of Yun Che breaking Golden Annihilation in his mind, he was completely unable to calm down.

"However, compared to my inferior disciple... he is still far worse!"

"Poyun!" Huo Rulie said in an extremely agitated voice, "For the last move, you don't have to hold back any longer... let the Snow Song Realm King see clearly for herself our Flame God Realm's once in ten thousand years talent!"

Huo Poyun was quite surprised as he turned around and said, "Master, could it be..."

"Yes!" Huo Rulie slowly nodded as his eyes became increasingly vicious, clearly explaining everything.

As he thought about the bet from earlier and then the destruction of his Golden Annihilation by Yun Che's single hand, Huo Poyun clenched both fists and then nodded his head in affirmation.

Yan Wancang seemingly wanted to say something but as soon as he was about to take a step forward, he paused momentarily and then decided to remain where he was as he faintly sighed... Although this would reveal some secrets, Huo Rulie indeed could not lose. With the wager made over this contest, Huo Rulie absolutely could not afford to lose.

"A once in ten thousand year talent?" Mu Xuanyin sneered coldly, "Such bravado. Okay! Then this king will carefully see where your courage comes from!"

"I hope you will not be too frightened!" Facing the Divine Master Realm Snow Song Realm King, Huo Rulie said some extremely exaggerated words. "Poyun!"

Huo Poyun's expression had already become extremely solemn as the Golden Crow flames on his body reignited. However, this time, the flames were especially sparse and sluggard.

"Ha!" Huo Poyun grunted. Almost immediately afterwards, he violently screamed in an extremely painful manner.

"Haaaaaaaaaah!"

The Golden Crow's soul shadow emerged over his body... but it was different from earlier. This time, the Golden Crow's soul shadow did not contain the slightest feeling of illusion. Instead, it felt extremely real, as if the true Golden Crow Divine Spirit had suddenly descended.

The flying snow stopped as the nearby profound ice, which had been frozen for tens of thousands of years, began to silently recede at a terrifying pace. A burning heat completely swallowed up the nearby frigid air and continuously radiated into the surroundings.

As the heat became increasingly intense, the light also underwent an enormous change... the world in front of them had suddenly become covered in a layer of scarlet red. As time passed, the scarlet red became increasingly intense before slowly turning into a golden color.

"This... this is?" The temperature had already heated up to an extremely shocking degree, yet it was still increasing at a crazy pace. It was at this moment that Mu Huanzhi subconsciously raised his head, after which he became dazed.

The sky, which had originally been a pale snow white had become completely red.

And high above in the red sky was a dazzling golden sun! One which no one noticed the appearance of!

Observing this golden colored sun, Mu Huanzhi first felt shock and then some confusion, before finally thinking of something which caused both of his pupils to suddenly contract... However, no matter how much he wanted to, he couldn't speak the name, it just couldn't be.

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"Nine —— Suns —— Heaven's —— Fury!
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As Mu Xuanyin looked up, her snow white lips moved as she coldly said four words.

None of the Ice Phoenix disciples could comprehend these short four words but all of the elders and palace masters acted as if they had been struck by lighting as an expression of extreme disbelief emerged on each of their faces as if they had seen a ghost.

The looks of surprise and disbelief on their faces were several times greater than when they had personally seen Yun Che block Huo Poyun's golden flame sword.

Nine Suns Heaven's Fury... it was the divine power of the tenth stage of the Golden Crow's Record of the Burning World!

It was the ultimate divine flame which even Huo Rulie had failed to cultivate up to now!

Chapter 1007 - Descent of the Sun

Huo Poyun's entire body was completely covered in golden flames, only leaving behind a faint outline of his figure. But no one was paying attention to this as they were all too busy focusedly staring at the golden sun hanging in the sky.

Regardless of who it was, the first thing which came to mind when they first saw it was a sun which blazed amongst the blue skies!

"Nine Suns Heaven's Fury." These four words gave all of the Ice Phoenix elders an immense shock, yet were completely not understood by the young generation. However, as the juniors saw the faces of the elders and hall masters suddenly pale, they immediately realized how terrifying the four words had to be.

"AHHH-UAHHHH!"

Huo Poyun continued to scream, his voice becoming increasingly hoarse. Intermittently, the cry of the Golden Crow would weave itself in between as amidst the intense screams and cries, the golden yellow radiance became an increasingly pure golden color. As for the "blazing sun", it calmly remained where it was in the sky and seemed to not undergo the slightest change. Nonetheless, the terrifying aura continued to quickly increase with each breath as if it would never stop.

Yun Che's eyes were also fixed on the sun in the sky, unable to move away. As turmoil went through his mind, Mu Xuanyin's voice suddenly transmitted beside his ear.

"This is the power of the tenth stage of the Golden Crow's Record of the Burning World. It is called Nine Suns Heaven's Fury."

The tenth stage!? Yun Che's mind shook yet again.

"When cultivated to perfection, Nine Suns Heaven's Fury does indeed summon nine suns to extinguish the world. Huo Poyun seems to only be at the most elementary level, the 'one sun' stage. However... in the tens of thousands of years which make up the Flame God Realm's history, only four cultivators have managed to actually successfully cultivate Nine Suns Heaven's Fury! Even the strongest cultivator in the Golden Crow Sect's history, Huo Rulie, has yet to make it to this tenth stage of the Golden Crow's Record of the Burning World."

Yun Che, "..."

"As for those four Golden Crow seniors who did manage to cultivate the stage level of the Golden Crow's Record of the Burning World, the youngest was already more than six thousand years old. Huo Poyun, however... he has not yet reached thirty!

Yun Che's mind trembled... The Nine Suns Heaven's Fury released by Huo Poyun had a terrifying aura which was countless times greater than Yellow Springs Ashes, yet it was only at the most basic 'one sun' stage.

Just what kind of terrifying realm would a complete Nine Suns Heaven's Fury reach!?

"This kind of power, can you resist it? If you can't, just directly surrender and I shall bear the consequences. You must not force yourself."

Mu Xuanyin's voice was cold and devoid of emotions. Without hesitation, Yun Che gently nodded his head.

However, his gaze was still fixed on the sun hanging in the sky, as a look of deep desire emerged within his pupils.

From the Golden Crow's Soul, he himself had received the first seven stages of the Golden Crow's Record of the Burning World. Since then, because of just how powerful the Golden Crow flames were, they had replaced the Phoenix flames as his main ability. However, he had never expected that the higher levels of the Golden Crow's Record of the Burning World would actually be so powerful.

He thought to himself, if I could manage to learn the higher levels of the Golden Crow's Record of the Burning World, with my power of the Evil God, I should be able to quickly cultivate them without much difficulty. At that time, my own strength will be able to rise yet another level, only... as it was the core divine art of the Golden Crow Sect, they naturally would not be willing to hand it over to others.

Mu Xuanyin's gaze inadvertently swept across Yun Che's eyes and then continued on to look elsewhere.

Clustered drops of sweat fell from Huo Poyun's body like a torrential rain, only to be instantly vaporized. Huo Poyun's screams gradually calmed as the aura of the sun high in the sky finally began to stabilize and stop increasing at this time.

Under the gazes of everyone present, the previously pale white sky had become a dazzling mass of golden yellow which stretched as far as they could see. The blazing sun had seemingly become the center of the world as it released blindingly bright rays of light just like a true sun.

If they had not personally seen it with their own eyes, they would never have believed that all of this had been caused by a young profound practitioner who was only in the Divine Tribulation Realm.

At this moment, Huo Poyun could already no longer be considered just an unparalleled talent... it was clear that he was a monster who had gone beyond the realm of logic and knowledge! He was a monster who had caused all of the upper level members of Divine Ice Phoenix Sect to hang their jaws in shock.

In ancient legends, the source of the Golden Crow's flames were the flames of the sun. As such, the flames created by Nine Suns Heaven's Fury were true flames of the sun.

Huo Rulie's head slowly turned as his pupils burned with a constant excitement. This was something he could only dream about, a realm which he would never be able to reach. This was why, when Mu Hanyi had suddenly jumped out to play "spoiler", Huo Rulie hadn't bothered to complain.

Forget about fifth level of the Divine Tribulation Realm's Mu Hanyi, even Yan Zhuo who had also come today, with his eighth level cultivation, would not be Huo Poyun's opponent. In Huo Rulie's eyes, when Mu Hanyi had jumped out, he was merely delivering vegetables and would not be the slightest obstruction for Huo Poyun.

"Mu Xuanyin, the disciple that you have just accepted is indeed not normal and indeed caused me great shock. However, compared to Huo Poyun... he is still greatly lacking!"

Huo Rulie stood beside Huo Poyun as he extremely arrogantly and proudly sneered, "Poyun is a hundred times stronger than his foolish master! In the future, he will be the first person in the Flame God Realm's history... to reach the Divine Master Realm!"

Become a Divine Master!

In the God Realm, these four words contained an extremely sacred weight because "Divine Masters" were gods in the eyes of mortals. Yet when Huo Rulie said these words, none of the Divine Ice Phoenix Sect members laughed...

Twenty four years old... tenth realm of the Golden Crow's Record of the Burning World...

Using "become a Divine Master" to describe such a monster did not seem exaggerated or ridiculous at all.

Following the appearance of a Divine Master in the Snow Song Realm, its status amongst the middle star realms had suddenly skyrocketed.

If the Flame God Realm were to give birth to a someone who could reach the Divine Master Realm...

Then it might even directly ascend to an upper star realm!

"Sect Master!" Mu Bingyun gazed at Yun Che for a while, then finally couldn't take it any more as she spoke towards Mu Xuanyin. Mu Bingyun and Mu Xuanyin both knew that Yun Che's body contained the power of the Evil God. However, as they were not Yun Che, they naturally didn't know just what level of power the limit of the Evil God's power could reach.

Facing such a high level of Divine Golden Crow flames, Mu Bingyun couldn't help but feel fear for Yun Che.

Mu Xuanyin didn't respond.

"Huo Rulie, although you have achieved nothing yourself, you have indeed taken on a good disciple!" Mu Xuanyin coldly sneered.

"Gah... gah..." Huo Poyun's figure was still covered in flames. He stuck a single hand towards the sky as he intensely gasped, his expression and breathing seemingly filled with pain.

After all, although this was only the elementary level, 'one sun', it was still too much of a burden for his Divine Tribulation Realm cultivation. Although he had forcefully used it, he had also completely exhausted his strength in the process.

"Heh..." Huo Rulie snickered, "Hurry and tell your disciple to surrender. You should know that this Nine Sun Heaven's Fury is not something which cannot be easily controlled. Once it begins its descent, your newly accepted disciple will definitely die!"

"Surrender?" Mu Xuanyin's face showed disdain, "Can something like this even be considered the Nine Suns Heaven's Fury?"

Huo Rulie's eyes furrowed as he solemnly said, "As expected of the Snow Song Realm King, you sure are stubborn! You actually don't even care about the life and death of your direct disciple, my eyes have truly been opened today!"

"Life and death? Hmph, why do you believe that this king's disciple cannot defend against a mere Nine Suns Heaven's Fury!?" Mu Xuanyin coldly asked.

"Good... good!" Huo Rulie's entire body suddenly trembled. If Mu Xuanyin had insulted him, he could bear it but she had actually dared to insult Nine Suns Heaven's Fury. "Then if your disciple, this Yun Che, dies to Nine Suns Heaven's Fury... what will you do!?"

"Die?" Mu Xuanyin raised her brows as she extremely indifferently said, "Good, then this king will tell you what will happen!"

"If Yun Che were to be grievously injured or killed by this Nine Suns Heaven's Fury, this king promises not to cause pursue the matter. If this promise is broken, may the heavens smite me! Huo Rulie, does this make you happy!"

These heavy words caused everyone to fall into a daze. Huo Rulie was especially shocked by these words as he pointed at Mu Xuanyin and said while gritting his teeth, "Mu Xuanyin, this... is something you said yourself!"

"Sect Master! This ... "

"Silence!" A divine hall elder had just begun speaking when Mu Xuanyin coldly glared at him and reprimanded him, "Two disciples are competing, just where are you all getting all of this nonsense? If any of you dare to intervene while they are exchanging blows... don't blame this king for being harsh!"

All of the Ice Phoenix elders and hall masters went pale as they no longer dared to speak. Meanwhile, Yan Wancang and Yan Juehai just looked at each other.

If Yun Che were to die, she would absolutely not cause trouble... not only that, but she had forbidden any others from intervening and saving him!

But it was the Nine Suns Heaven's Fury! How could Yun Che receive it!?

"Poyun!" Huo Rulie shouted.

Huo Poyun raised his head with difficulty, "Master... but..."

"Now that the Snow Song Realm King has said such things, how can you retract it!?" Huo Rulie shouted, "Attack!"

Huo Poyun had already reached his limits as he fiercely clenched his teeth and let out a loud roar, the flames on his body instantly exploding as the "blazing sun" in the fiery sky began to descend amidst cries of shock.

"WAHHHHHHH!"

The Ice Phoenix disciples had still been able to endure the earlier heat but now, as the sun descended, the entire world seemed to have suddenly been thrown into a sea of flames as the Ice Phoenix disciples with the lowest cultivations all suddenly began to shriek in pain.

The seventy two elders and thirty six hall masters all abruptly flew into the sky at this time, condensing an enormous barrier of crystalline ice to contain the heat. As a result, however, the heat within was naturally given nowhere to go... Yun Che, who was in the center of all this, was now facing the brute force of the Nine Suns Heaven's Fury.

The blazing sun left streaks of flames in its wake as it fell. Even on the other side of the barrier of ice, all of the Ice Phoenix disciples could still sense the unparalleled and terrifying aura of the attack.

Yun Che raised his head, his entire body illuminated a golden yellow color. As the sun slowly descended, it became clear that it was not locked onto Yun Che's energy. It seemed like Huo Poyun had left Yun Che with the opportunity to escape. However, Yun Che did not move as he just stood there, his gaze fixed on the blazing sun as it fell towards him. It seemed like he was analyzing it.

"AHHHH--"

Countless screams and shouts of shock overlapped with each other as everyone intently watched the blazing sun finally descend and envelop Yun Che within...

Boom~~~~~

A dull explosive sound accompanied the explosion of golden light as the sky tens of thousands of meters above was illuminated by the fiery glow. Everyone watched as the sun in front of them completely exploded.

The space where Yun Che was had been completely turned a golden color. There were only golden, world incinerating flames burning and raging. Layers of ice separated everyone from the golden flames, preventing them from rampaging everywhere. Nonetheless, all of the Ice Phoenix elders and hall masters maintaining the crystalline ice barrier were horrified.

Because the power they felt clashing against the ice barrier... had nearly reached the level of the Divine Spirit Realm!

A person at the fifth level of the Divine Tribulation Realm... releasing power comparable to a Divine Spirit Realm cultivator!

Considering how terrible the most basic Nine Suns Heaven's Fury was, if nine suns had truly descended, then perhaps it truly would have been a world annihilating "heaven's fury".

Only, Yun Che...

"Ah!" Yan Wancang's gaze was bright as even he had been affected by the extraordinary sight of the blazing sun descending. He heavily sighed as he truly couldn't determine why Mu Xuanyin had disregarded her disciple's life and not allowed him to forfeit while also taking the initiative to make such a heavy promise.

His sigh had just ended when his expression suddenly changed.

Through the layers of Golden Crow Flames... he could still clearly feel Yun Che's aura!

Moreover, this aura was not only present but it was extraordinarily clear... it did not seem to have weakened at all!

This sudden discovery caused this number one expert of the Flame God Realm to directly go blank as his gaze firmly fixed on the area in front of him. He was completely unable to believe in what his own spiritual perception felt.

"So... so terrifying... the Flame God Realm actually... has such terrifying people," an Ice Phoenix disciple said, shivering. Mu Hanyi, whom they had worshipped so much in the past, truly could not compare.

"Yun Che... he... he... sss! Facing such terrifying power, he must have immediately died... Sect Master, she..."

"Don't speak nonsense!"

.....

The Ice Phoenix disciples were all astonished and terrified. Amongst the entire young generation of the Divine Ice Phoenix Sect, there was absolutely no one who could release this level of power. As for Yun Che... they were certain that he had died. Perhaps in the very first moment it hit, he had immediately turned to ashes.

However, none of them noticed the expressions of the elders and hall masters suddenly undergo an immense change at this moment as their gazes were all still fixed on the spot where Yun Che had formerly been standing... with their shocked expressions and completely fixed gazes, they seemed to have all lost their souls.

A long while after the sun's explosion, it finally began to calm back down as the flames slowly began to extinguish.

As the dense clusters of golden flames gradually thinned out, a figure which had been enveloped within the flames gradually emerged.

Yun Che was still standing at his original position. However, all of the ice beneath his feet had long since disappeared. Moreover, an enormous hole of unknown depth had been created below him. Yun Che's expression was solemn. Around his body, a blue colored barrier of crystalline ice stood out amongst the remaining flames, reflecting and releasing golden and blue lights.

Some golden flames were still burning but they were all on the outside of the barrier, unable to touch Yun Che's body regardless of how hard they burned. Yun Che's entire body was completely devoid of injuries and the snowy Ice Phoenix clothes he wore did not have the slightest traces of being burned.

The moment Yun Che's figure emerged, outside of the sound of flames crackling and burning within the realm, everything was silent.

Chapter 1008 - Mu Xuanyin's Request

As the Golden Crow flames slowly subsided, it became clear that the layer of ice in the area enclosed by the crystalline ice barrier condensed by the Ice Phoenix elders had dropped nearly three thousand meters... Moreover, the ice which had been melted was no regular ice but extraordinarily tough profound ice, which had endured countless years of cold energy.

However, it seemed as though not a single person had noticed the disappearance of the profound ice, as their gazes were all firmly locked on the figure of Yun Che.

No one knew how long had passed but the Golden Crow flames finally completely disappeared. Yun Che lowered his raised arms as the crystalline ice barrier surrounding him disappeared as well. With a

flourish from his right hand, a blue light flickered as a section of ice abruptly condensed beneath him, above the newly created hole. His two feet silently landed on the ice.

"Ah ... ugh ... "

Huo Poyun's body bent forward, his entire body completely red from top to bottom. At just a glance, it seemed like he had just been roasted as beads of sweat poured off his entire body. His posture was extremely twisted as he appeared to be just barely standing. His entire body was weak and exhausted. His eyes were opened as wide as they could be as his pupils bulged out and fixedly stared at the completely unharmed Yun Che, revealing a confusion which couldn't be described.

Boom!

Huo Poyun's figure trembled as he heavily fell to the ground. However, his intensely quivering eyes remained fixed on Yun Che. In any case, he was completely unable to believe the scene he saw in front of him.

As for Huo Rulie, who stood beside him, he made no attempt to help him up because he was completely petrified where he stood, as if he had been struck by a restricting curse. Huo Rulie's pupils were quivering even more intensely than Huo Poyun's had been... it seemed like they could explode at any second.

"This... this... to think... I..."

Yan Wancang's mouth opened and closed countless times but words wouldn't come out. Under such a great shock, even he couldn't figure out just what he wanted to say.

It was not only them, all of the members of Divine Ice Phoenix Sect were the same. None of them could utter a single sound. It seemed as though all of them had lost their souls. Even though Yun Che was clearly standing in front of them, completely unharmed... none of them dared to believe what their own eyes were seeing.

"..." Mu Huanzhi looked at Yun Che, then looked at Mu Xuanyin, as his lips moved several times but he was unable to speak.

This result was something which no one could have predicted and was one which no one dared to believe. Even Mu Xuanyin had specially sent Yun Che a voice transmission prior to this to affirm his ability. Only Yun Che himself knew that this was the inevitable result. It was impossible for Huo Poyun's "Nine Suns Heaven's Fury" to harm him. In fact, it wouldn't have harmed him even if it were Huo Rulie.

Yun Che spoke, his words neither fast nor slow, "The three moves have passed. Now, it's my turn to attack."

Earlier, Yun Che had realized that although the pure Golden Crow flames couldn't harm him, he also couldn't harm the Divine Tribulation Realm Huo Poyun with his current strength. However, after Huo Poyun had released his "Nine Suns Heaven's Fury", he had completely exhausted his entire profound energy. It was likely that Huo Poyun didn't even have enough profound energy left to maintain a defensive layer around his body. If Yun Che were to attack Huo Poyun in his current state... it indeed wouldn't be too hard.

- "..." Yun Che's words caused Huo Poyun's contracting pupils to recover some of their focus. He was currently unable to move as he kneeled on the ground... it seemed like he was already unable to stand. He slowly lowered his head as he heavily took a deep breath and said with difficulty, "There is no need... I accept my defeat..."
- "..." Huo Rulie didn't say anything as he raised his head and slowly closed his eyes before taking a deep breath. Only many moments later did he finally exhale with some difficulty.

"Yun Che... is the victor!" Mu Huanzhi finally declared.

Mu Huanzhi's declaration contained a still somewhat out of control profound energy, causing the entire courtyard of dazed Ice Phoenix disciples to wake up as their eardrums shook. As they looked at the proudly standing Yun Che and the wretchedly kneeling Huo Poyun, all of them seemed to have awoken from their dazes as they all simultaneously burst into roars of excitement and loud cheers.

"He won! Senior Brother Yun Che won... Sect Master won!"

"So Senior Brother Yun Che was actually this strong... no wonder Sect Master chose him to be her direct disciple."

"Nonsense. After all, it's the Sect Master, how could her vision be wrong? Senior Brother Yun Che is indeed much stronger than Senior Brother Hanyi... and at least ten times stronger at that."

"Is Senior Brother Yun Che really at the Divine Origin Realm? Phew... too terrifying! A Divine Origin Realm actually defeated a Divine Tribulation Realm!"

"He didn't actually defeat Huo Poyun. If they were truly to fight, Senior Brother Yun Che definitely would not have been his opponent. What Senior Brother Yun Che won in was the understanding of elemental laws... the rumor that senior brother descended ten thousand feet into the Heavenly Netherfrost Lake was true after all! If he's already so terrifying at the Divine Origin Realm, his future will be unthinkable. Perhaps he will one day become as strong as the sect master."

"...Then doesn't that mean he will one day become the next Great Realm King of the Snow Song Realm?"

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The sound of cheering covered the entire courtyard for a long time. When the Great Sect Assembly had started, and when Yun Che had been received as disciple, everyone had felt all kinds of envy and jealousy. They had all been confused. Not a single person had felt any respect for Yun Che. But now, all of them were fervently gazing at him with burning eyes.

This was not only Yun Che's victory, as due to Mu Xuanyin and Huo Rulie's clash and bet, it had long since become a battle which affected the two realms' relationship as well.

Huo Poyun's talent was terrifyingly high. When Mu Hanyi had lost tragically to Huo Poyun, all of the Ice Phoenix disciples had felt despair amidst their terror... but in the blink of an eye, Huo Poyun had ended up falling at Yun Che's hands.

Moreover, Huo Poyun had surrendered whilst laying on the ground, unable to move.

Amidst the ear-rattling shouts, Yun Che began to slowly make his way towards Huo Poyun.

Huo Poyun deeply lowered his head as his body continuously trembled. His entire body seemed to be surrounded by a thick layer of despair and depression.

Without a doubt, he was a true heavenly talent. With his level of talent, he was the greatest talent in the entire history of the Flame God Realm, not to mention the current generation of the Flame God Realm—the three great Sect Masters had all personally acknowledged this fact.

He was proud but not arrogant. Nonetheless, he was prouder than anyone else.

As such a person, he had used his most powerful ability... and still ended up losing, to someone whose cultivation was far below his own.

This kind of heavy blow... it was likely that it would become a shadow which hovered over Huo Poyun, one which would become a nightmare and obstruct his path of cultivation, preventing further breakthroughs in the future... moreover, it could become a great barrier.

Yun Che did not wish for a true heavenly talent's radiance to diminish because of him.

"Brother Poyun." Yun Che stopped beside Huo Poyun and then stuck out his hand, "In terms of elemental laws, I may have won but I am far from being your match in terms of profound strength. This competition was not fair for you and I am ashamed of my victory."

"I am the same age as you but your profound strength is so many times greater than mine, I cannot help but feel both envy and admiration towards you. In the future, you will be my target, so you must continue putting in effort. Don't let me surpass you on the path of profound cultivation. In turn, I will make sure you don't surpass me in terms of elemental laws!"

Huo Poyun raised his head and stared at Yun Che for a moment, his gaze gradually becoming calm. Afterwards, he stuck out his hand and grabbed Yun Che's hand as he slowly stood up.

"I, Huo Poyun, have never before accepted defeat." The air of depression and despair disappeared like a morning fog as a smile appeared on Huo Poyun's face and he confidently chuckled. Amidst the laughter, hints of gratitude could be felt. "Although I have lost today... there will be one day where I will win it back. Brother Yun Che, you must be careful."

From within Yun Che's words, Huo Poyun could feel Yun Che's sincerity and pureness. It was not just merely some compassionate words from the winner to the loser.

"You too." Yun Che faintly smiled.

Their hands both clenched at the same time as they mutually admired each other.

As Yan Wancang and Yan Juehai observed this moment, Yan Juehai sighed deeply, "This generation of the Snow Song Realm has given birth to an unbelievable figure."

"The strength of one's understanding of elemental laws determines how far one can reach. This youth called Yun Che... I'm afraid that in the future, he may even surpass Mu Xuanyin. It is indeed terrifying but it is also something that I am looking forward to."

This was the first time Yan Wancang had ever given such a high appraisal to someone, yet Yan Juehai was not surprised in the slightest. In fact, moments later, Yan Juehai slowly began to nod his head in agreement, after some hesitation.

"Not proud, not arrogant. What a great demeanor!" Yun Che's actions caused Mu Huanzhi's eyes to light up as he loudly praised Yun Che.

All of the elders and palace masters nodded in agreement as their expressions displayed their approval... Yun Che had indeed brought a lot of face to their Divine Ice Phoenix Sect in front of the three great sect masters from the Flame God Realm!

In the past, the disciples, as well as the elders and palace masters, had all felt confusion towards Mu Xuanyin for her decision to take Yun Che over Mu Hanyi, yet now, all of them praised Mu Xuanyin for her wise choice and were ashamed of themselves for doubting her.

"Yun'er, come back," Mu Xuanyin coldly said.

Yun Che obeyed Mu Xuanyin's words and returned to her side. Mu Xuanyin's frosty gaze turned and landed on Huo Rulie's figure, "Huo Rulie, now that the winner and loser have been decided, you haven't forgotten your own words have you?"

Huo Rulie fiercely raised his head as he faintly clenched his teeth and coarsely said, "A loss is a loss! Mu Xuanyin, do not worry. The words that I, Huo Rulie, say are ones which will never be taken back even if the heavens collapse and the earth tears! If it is my life that you want, I will even die neatly here and now in front of you... I will even vow that Golden Crow Sect will never pursue revenge! Are you happy?!"

"Master!" Huo Poyun cried in shock.

"Your life?" Mu Xuanyin sneered, "As Bingyun suffered in torment from the flame poison all those years, this king has indeed dreamed about taking your life! But now that Bingyun has recovered, this king no longer has the selfish intention of causing two realms to be eradicated because of this king's own hatred. To this king, your life already has no more value. Even if you give your life to me, this king can't be bothered to take it."

Huo Rulie became slightly dazed as he solemnly said, "Then what do you want from me!?"

"This king only wants one thing!" As Mu Xuanyin spoke, a blizzard once again began to fall over the courtyard. In the blink of an eye, the burning aura wrought by "Nine Suns Heaven's Fury" was completely devoured, returning the world to its normal state of frost.

"This king wants your Golden Crow Sect's complete Golden Crow's Record of the Burning World!"

"..." Yun Che's pupils quivered.

"What?" Huo Rulie trembled. He had never expected Mu Xuanyin to make such a request.

"This... Snow Song Realm King, please let this Yan speak." Yan Wancang solemnly spoke, "The Golden Crow's Record of the Burning World is the core profound art of Golden Crow Sect and cannot be transferred. Moreover... one can only cultivate it if one has the bloodline or soul of the Golden Crow. It is completely impossible for anyone not part of Golden Crow Sect to cultivate it. Furthermore, your sect's ice profound energy is the direct opposite of it. This Yan would like to know why Snow Song Realm King wants to see the Golden Crow's Record of the Burning World."

"This king has no obligation to tell you my goal." Mu Xuanyin rudely said, "Huo Rulie, are you going to give it to me or not!?"

It wasn't just Yan Wancang and company, the entire Divine Ice Phoenix Sect was thoroughly confused and curious as well. No one could understand why their sect master had, under the conditions of "not going back on his word" and "accept any request", requested for Huo Rulie to provide the Golden Crow's Record of the Burning World.

As a primordial god art, it was natural for a profound cultivator to want to get a glimpse of it... However, in the end, it was only looking at it. Without the Golden Crow's bloodline or soul, it was impossible to cultivate it. Moreover, Divine Ice Phoenix Sect cultivated ice attribute profound arts, making it even more impossible.

Yan Juehai furrowed his brows and at the same time, sent Yan Wancang and Huo Rulie sound transmissions, "For someone like Mu Xuanyin, who has reached the Divine Master Realm, it is extremely hard to advance even another small step. If she wants the Golden Crow's Record of the Burning World, it should be to just try and comprehend something from within it. Although she can't cultivate it, it is still a primordial god art after all and contains True God laws and True God truths."

Yan Wancang silently thought for a while then slightly nodded. This was indeed the only explanation he could come up with.

The lines on Huo Rulie's forehead faintly quivered. After a bout of rough breathing, he said in a deep voice, "I, Huo Rulie, am a man of my word!"

As these words were said, a cluster of flames abruptly appeared amidst his hand. With a simple flip of his palm, they were sent flying to Mu Xuanyin.

Mu Xuanyin caught the cluster and immediately extinguished the flames, suddenly revealing a jade scripture which flickered with a crimson gold radiance. She didn't open it and look within but just simply put it away as she indifferently said, "Sect Master Huo is indeed trustworthy. This king will now look at you in a higher light."

"Hmph!" Huo Rulie heavily snorted. It seemed like every pore on his body was about to erupt with flames.

Chapter 1009 - Flame God's Ambition

"With how well Sect Master Huo has adhered to his word, this king is not completely unwilling to think over the matter of the horned dragon."

Joy emerged on Yan Wancang's face. However, Mu Xuanyin's words suddenly took a sharp turn, "Before that, however, you all must first answer a question from this king."

Yan Wancang hurriedly responded, "Please ask, Snow Song Realm King. As long as it doesn't involve any of the secrets of our sects, the three of us are willing to answer anything."

At this time, Mu Xuanyin's gaze landed on Huo Poyun once again, "Because of the urgent matter of the horned dragon, the three of you all personally came to my Snow Song Realm. However, outside of the two reasons you have given me so far... there is still one more reason and it should have to do with Huo Poyun!"

Mu Xuanyin's last words caused the three sect masters to simultaneously become stunned in place as Yan Wancang sighed and responded, "The Snow Song Realm King's eyes are indeed sharp. Indeed, our longing to kill the horned dragon this time has a great deal to do with Poyun. We hope that by obtaining the fire spirit treasure on its body, we can help Poyun..."

"Sect Master Yan!" Yan Juehai sternly interrupted.

Yan Wancang shook his head, "It matters not. Without the Snow Song Realm King's strength, it is impossible for us to kill the ancient horned dragon. Since we are sincerely requesting the Snow Song Realm King's assistance, we cannot hide any secrets."

Yan Juehai opened his mouth several times but couldn't respond. Finally, he just sighed and remained silent.

Yan Wancang sternly continued, "There are still more than two years time until the Profound God Convention. Regardless of what is hidden behind the Profound God Convention this time, as long as one can enter the top one thousand, one can cultivate in the Eternal Heaven Pearl for one thousand years!"

"While one thousand years will have passed in the Eternal Heaven Pearl, only three years will have passed in the outside world. However, that is not even worth mentioning, as due to the extremely high level of laws within the realm created by the Eternal Heaven Pearl, the thousand years of cultivation within it is comparable to several thousands of years of cultivation outside it!"

"Thus, if Poyun can enter the Eternal Heaven Pearl, then three years later, our Flame God Realm..." Upon reaching this point, a strange glint appeared in Yan Wancang's eyes while Yan Juehai and Huo Rulie's breathing both drastically changed, "...might give birth to the first Great Realm King in its history!"

These words were indeed exceptionally astonishing and forceful.

Although Huo Poyun had lost to Yun Che today, his innate talent was indeed terrifying. Everyone could attest to that. He was only twenty four years old, yet he had cultivated the tenth realm of the Golden Crow's Record of the Burning World, which even those who had cultivated for tens of thousands of years could not necessarily cultivate. He was indeed a talent which had never before been seen within the Flame God Realm.

After spending a thousand years cultivating within the Eternal Heaven Pearl... it was impossible to predict just what level he would reach.

For Huo Poyun to surpass Huo Rulie was by no means an impossibility.

However, the problem was...

"What a good plan," Mu Xuanyin sneered. "However, in order to be eligible to enter the Eternal Heaven Pearl, one must rank in the top one thousand of the Profound God Convention. Huo Poyun's talent with flames is indeed so high it's shocking—at least it's much higher than you three old things—but his profound cultivation is still lacking too much! He can compete with the young generation of the middle star realms but he is not yet qualified to compete with those from upper star realms! Just how can he enter the Eternal Heaven Pearl?"

"It is as you say." Yan Wancang calmly nodded, "This is the real reason why we want to kill the ancient horned dragon so urgently before the Profound God Convention."

"If we can obtain the Fire Spirit Stone on the ancient dragon's body, then..." A light flickered through Yan Wancang's eyes, as he without any trace of confidentiality, "The three of us have methods to allow Huo Poyun's profound strength to reach the Divine Spirit Realm before the Profound God Convention!"

"What?" As Yan Wancang said these words, all of the Ice Phoenix elders and palace masters became shocked and doubtful. How was it possible for someone to reach the Divine Spirit Realm from the fifth level of the Divine Tribulation Realm in just two years? Regardless of how high Huo Poyun's talent was, it was impossible.

Yun Che's heart began to beat wildly... To break through to the Divine Spirit Realm from the fifth level of the Divine Tribulation Realm in just two years, this idea was no crazier than his thought of breaking through to the Divine Tribulation Realm from the Divine Origin Realm in two years! Was there really such a method which would allow for this!?

"Him? Two years to reach the Divine Spirit Realm?" Mu Xuanyin observed Huo Poyun for a moment, then indifferently said, "This king is truly curious as to just what kind of heaven shocking secret method you Flame God Realm people found which would allow you to dare to say such crazy words."

Yan Wancang shook his head as he responded, "Of course it's not some amazing secret method. Otherwise the entire young generation of the Flame God Realm would have already become incredibly strong. Our "secret method" can only be used on Huo Poyun. I'm sure Snow Song Realm King has already realized that the bloodline inherited by Huo Poyun is different from the one inherited by normal Golden Crow Sect disciples. Our "secret method" is based off of utilizing his unique inheritance."

Mu Xuanyin's gaze moved away from Huo Poyun's body as she slowly nodded and said, "Indeed. Hmph, Sect Master Yan has spoken so frankly it is not good for this king to pursue questioning it any longer!"

"..." Yun Che inwardly sighed... indeed, this kind of secret method could not be easily used. His only question was, Huo Poyun was a disciple of the Golden Crow Sect, yet Vermillion Bird Sect Master Yan Wancang and Phoenix Sect Master Yan Juehai both spared no effort for this matter. It seemed like although the various sects within Flame God Realm competed with each other, when it came to a large matter which would influence the entire realm, they would all put down their differences and selflessly work together.

The Golden Crow inheritance within Huo Poyun's body was abnormal...

Wait... could it be that he was the same as Xue'er!?

"A profound energy cultivation at the early stage of the Divine Spirit Realm is not considered top of the line amongst the geniuses of the upper star realms but with Poyun's extremely high attainments in fire, he absolutely has the ability to defeat those who are several levels ahead of him." Yan Wancang was full of confidence as he continued, "Although it will be incredibly hard to enter the top thousand, at least it is not impossible!"

Yan Juehai glanced at Yan Wancang... he knew very well that Yan Wancang was still retaining some information. If everything went as planned, it was very possible that Huo Poyun's cultivation would go beyond the early stage of the Divine Spirit Realm.

There was a chance to reach the middle stage of the Divine Spirit Realm!

However, such a "miraculous" event would only be possible if they could kill the ancient horned dragon that was hundreds of thousands of years old! Otherwise, it was only all empty words.

"Now that you all have finished presenting your points, this king can indeed consider helping Flame God Realm this time... however, this king has an additional condition."

Yan Wancang's expression trembled as he become overjoyed in his mind, "Please speak, Snow Song Realm King. The three of us will do whatever we can."

"Don't be in such a hurry to respond," Mu Xuanyin expressionlessly said. "Previously, we had agreed that if this king were to help you successfully kill the ancient horned dragon, we would split the dragon's corpse in half, However, this king's mind has now changed."

"This king doesn't only want half of the dragon but also the entire dragon heart!"

The expressions of the three simultaneously experienced slight changes as Yan Wancang furrowed his brows and said, "This... forgive us but we cannot accept this. A dragon's heart is..."

"Huanzhi, send our guests away!" Mu Xuanyin coldly said as she directly turned around and began walking away."

"Wait, wait!" Yan Wancang hurriedly raised his hand. He didn't dare waste any more words as he slowly nodded and said, "Alright, alright. Then as Snow Song Realm King has requested, if we succeed in killing the ancient horned dragon, we will present Snow Song Realm King with the entire dragon's heart."

"That is not necessary. When the time comes, this king will personally go and obtain it," Mu Xuanyin said without turning around.

Yan Wancang opened his mouth several times before finally saying, "We thank the Snow Song Realm King for the assistance. We shall no longer disturb you then... When the dragon molts, we will definitely personally come to notify and receive the Snow Song Realm King. Goodbye."

Finished speaking, Yan Wancang, Yan Juehai, and Huo Rulie, along with their respective disciples Yan Zhuo, Yan Mingxuan, and Huo Poyun, simultaneously glanced at Yun Che.

After some hesitation, Huo Poyun finally spoke, "Brother Yun Che, if you ever have time, I welcome you to my Flame God Realm. I will make sure to treat you with great hospitality."

Yun Che responded, "This... I will have to ask my master. I thank Brother Poyun for his kindness."

Huo Poyun sincerely smiled towards Yun Che, then followed Huo Rulie and the rest as they flew into the skies and left.

The unexpected episode which had occurred during the Great Sect Assembly had unfolded in a fierce manner yet ended in a fairly peaceful manner.

Although the Flame God Realm had achieved its goal, the greatest winner was no doubt the Snow Song Realm. It was because in the end, there was no way Mu Xuanyin would not agree to go and kill the ancient horned dragon. It was as Mu Bingyun had said at the start. Even a scale was a great treasure if a dragon had lived hundreds of thousands of years. There was no way to resist its temptation—not to mention one in such a unprecedented critical state.

In the end, she agreed to the Flame God Realm's request but only after obtaining more in return as well.

Moreover, she had also obtained a complete Golden Crow's Record of the Burning World from Huo Rulie as well!

It was something, even though no one could figure out why she wanted something she couldn't even cultivate.

In comparison, the Flame God Realm had revealed Huo Poyun. The shock he had caused towards the Divine Ice Phoenix Sect members today would not disappear for a long time.

Amidst the flurry of snow, Mu Xuanyin returned to her throne. Directly in front of her was the giant, seemingly bottomless hole which had been created by Huo Poyun's "Nine Suns Heaven's Fury".

Mu Xuanyin's brows slightly furrowed as a sky of snow abruptly swept down without any other indication, completely filling the hole. In the blink of an eye, the giant hole had completely disappeared without a trace. A thick, complete layer of pale white ice emerged in its place.

"Yun'er, your behavior today has prevented your master from losing face," Mu Xuanyin quietly said.

"I thank master for the praise," Yun Che responded as he groaned in his mind... What kind of behavior had he shown today? What occurred today had only happened because of the cheat elemental power provided by the Evil God.

"Congratulations to Sect Master on having accepted such a rare talent," Mu Huanzhi excitedly said, unable to conceal his praise.

Now that a figure with terrifying attainment in ice and frost had appeared in Divine Ice Phoenix Sect, how could Mu Huanzhi, with his status as great elder, not feel excited?

"Huanzhi, there is a matter this king needs to discuss with you," Mu Xuanyin suddenly said.

The word "discuss" caused Mu Huanzhi's heart to thump as he hurriedly kowtowed on the ground in fear and trepidation. "What instructions does Sect Master have for me? Please tell me, Huanzhi will comply."

Mu Xuanyin's frosty eyes were half open as she nodded and said, "Yun Che is now this king's disciple and his ice laws can be considered to be unparalleled. However, his profound cultivation is just too low.

Within the entire sect, his cultivation is on the lowest tier. In this respect, he is really not qualified to be this king's disciple."

"..." Mu Huanzhi didn't dare speak.

"The Flame God Realm now has Huo Poyun. Naturally, our Snow Song Realm cannot fall too far behind. Thus, this king must make Yun Che's profound strength to rise in the shortest time possible while also making his Ice Phoenix bloodline to become increasingly purer. With these two conditions, it is increasingly important that we find a dual cultivation companion for him as quickly as possible.

Yun Che, "~! @#\\\" (dual... dual cultivation companion?!)

As these words were said, how could Mu Huanzhi not understand her meaning as he raised his head and said, "Sect Master, could it be..."

Everyone present within the courtyard all suddenly understood. Moreover, considering that Mu Xuanyin had chosen to "discuss" this with Mu Huanzhi, how could they not see it clearly?

However, no one expressed any extreme shock as some of them even felt like it should be. Nonetheless, many gazes secretly turned towards Mu Hanyi... before Mu Xuanyin's words had even ended, Mu Hanyi's face had already turned incredibly pale. His expression could still be considered calm but his pupils were trembling in pain as beads of blood silently fell from his two tightly clenched fists.

"In terms of profound strength, bloodline and constitution, there is no one more suited than Feixue." Mu Xuanyin frankly stated the words which everyone had already become aware of. "Huanzhi, what do you think?"

After a brief moment of shock, Mu Huanzhi's face showed deep joy as he kowtowed without hesitation and loudly said, "Huanzhi thanks Sect Master in the place of his granddaughter, Feixue!"

Chapter 1010 - Ice Phoenix Divine Blood

If it were before today that Mu Feixue was being designated to be Yun Che's dual cultivation partner, Mu Huanzhi would definitely be slightly unhappy. However, after personally witnessing Yun Che's performance today, the only feeling that he had now was ecstasy!

Yun Che's current status... was the sect master's direct disciple! Within the young generation of the entire Snow Song Realm, he was the male with the highest status. Today, the talent that he had shown was evident. Simply in terms of his comprehension of the laws of ice, he most likely exceeded that of the past Mu Xuanyin. As long as his life or talent did not end prematurely, he would most certainly become the next generation's Realm King.

If his granddaughter Mu Feixue was able to get married to Yun Che, it would be like being bestowed a gift.

If Yun Che were to become the Snow Song Realm King in the future—becoming the first male Realm King in their entire history, then Mu Feixue would have become the wife of the Realm King!

Although losing her virginity would cause severe repercussions to her cultivation in the future—despite being termed as dual cultivation partner, in actual fact, she was only a incubator for the male to gain

benefits. However, even if it were not Mu Xuanyin's intent, simply considering Yun Che's status and future, there would be no reason to reject... or even hesitate.

"Feixue, quickly thank the sect master." Mu Huanzhi's voice sounded anxious as it was difficult to hide his joy.

Those elders, palace masters, and hall masters who had unmarried female descendants all revealed signs of jealousy—Damn! Why do such good things not happen my grandaughters!?

However, when they thought of Mu Feixue's talent, bloodline and looks, they could only envy helplessly.

Mu Feixue came forward and knelt down beside Mu Huanzhi.

"Feixue, do you have any objections to this matter?" Mu Xuanyin asked sternly.

"Everything will be according to Sect Master's plan," Mu Feixue replied. Her voice was as cold as ice, without sorrow or joy, without any tones in it.

From the start to the end, she did not take one look at Yun Che.

"Excellent, then this matter will be decided like this." Mu Xuanyin nodded with satisfaction, "Huanzhi, inform Feixue's parents regarding this matter. As for the date, we shall discuss it another day. However, the earlier it happens the better."

"Understood, Huanzhi shall start preparations tomorrow." Mu Huanzhi nodded continuously.

Yun Che stood there stiff as wood with a dumbfounded expression... What? WHAT!? What is this? Dual cultivation partners? The hell? Divine Ice Phoenix Sect has this kind of concept? Furthermore... this concerns me and is such a big matter, but why is no one asking for my opinion!?

I don't even know Mu Feixue well and haven't even talked to her before!

Yun Che had an expression of wanting to speak but stopped, looking like he had something to say but was unable to. However, Mu Xuanyin had never even thought of asking for his opinion at all. Then, she gradually stood up, her icy cold gaze sweeping across the entire place. "Since the discipleship ceremony is already over and the matters that need to be discussed already decided, if there is nothing else, all of you may leave."

Hearing Mu Xuanyin's words, everyone paid their respects and started to scatter in a swift but orderly manner.

At the back of the Ice Phoenix Divine Hall, numerous divine hall disciples went towards Mu Hanyi and they seemed to be verbally consoling him... After all, Mu Hanyi's obsession with Mu Feixue was something the entire sect knew. Furthermore, everyone always felt that the two of them were a pair made in the heavens and even Mu Huanzhi had never shown any intention of objecting.

However, she had been bestowed to Yun Che by the sect master... as an incubator to boost his bloodline and profound strength at that too.

In the past, Mu Hanyi was the brightest halo within the entire sect. Now, however, because of Yun Che, he had faded into the darkness. Even those who used to vehemently speak out on his behalf that he should be the direct disciple, no longer believed he could surpass Yun Che.

With Mu Xuanyin's cold words, Mu Hanyi's dream of obtaining Mu Feixue had been turned into an impossible one.

If Yun Che had never arrived in the Snow Song Realm, then the Heavenly Netherfrost Lake competition would have followed the script and Mu Hanyi would have become the sect master's direct disciple. As a result, Mu Feixue would likely have been given to him, Mu Hanyi, today by the Sect Master. He would have been able to achieve the perfect scenario he envisioned for himself.

But with Yun Che's emergence, all of this had been destroyed. Everything which should have belonged to him had all been given to Yun Che... as for him, he had just become a sad foil for Yun Che.

Mu Hanyi's current mood was one no one could empathize with.

Perhaps it was just life being cruel to him. From birth, he had always had an extremely high innate talent, as well as a distinguished status and perfect temperament. Compared to normal people, he had worked ten times harder... yet his twenty odd years of effort somehow couldn't compare to Yun Che, who had only arrived for three months and had yet to gain a firm standing.

In the blink of an eye, everyone scattered and disappeared from atop the large sacred palace's courtyard. Only Mu Xuanyin and her newly accepted disciple Yun Che remained.

Now alone with Mu Xuanyin, Yun Che silently stood there, not daring to speak a word or move a step... He naturally still had not forgotten his vulgar phrase of "big breasted senior sister".

Ah, he could only hope that he wouldn't "die" too tragically.

The world became completely quiet except for the sound of snow floating amidst the wind. Mu Xuanyin stood in the midst of the snowstorm for a long time without speaking a word as if she was thinking about something. Yun Che sneakily glanced at her figure from time to time but still didn't dare take the initiative to speak... when he had first stepped into the Snow Song Realm, he had never imagined that he would one day be alone with such a terrifying person.

"It is indeed the inheritance of the ancient Evil God. The fame of the Creation God of Elements is indeed well deserved for the legacy to have reached such a stage," Mu Xuanyin suddenly said. Her voice was cold and indifferent as always, "Huo Poyun's talent was just too unexpected and abnormal. During those few instances, even I couldn't believe it."

Now that Mu Xuanyin had spoken and moreover spoken positive words, Yun Che finally released the breath he had been holding and dared to speak, as he directly asked the question that was on his mind, "Master, this disciple wishes to ask... did you intentionally lead Huo Rulie to a decisive competition between disciples?"

"..." At this moment, Mu Xuanyin slowly turned around. An image which seemingly combined the entire extreme beauty of the ice and snow of the Snow Song Realm abruptly appeared within Yun Che's vision, momentarily taking his breath away. Afterwards, he subconsciously lowered his head as if he had been influenced by the appearance of such an unparalleled, frosty dignity. He didn't dare meet her eyes.

"What do you think about Huo Rulie?" Mu Xuanyin asked in response.

Yun Che contemplated it for a moment, then said, "Your disciple believes that Sect Master Huo seems to be quite irritable. This should have something to do with the Golden Crow bloodline within his body. Other than that, it seems like he is indeed someone who will absolutely keep his word."

"Irritable? Hmph," Mu Xuanyin lightly snorted, then said, "Huo Rulie, with his status as Golden Crow Sect Master, has a status which is no less than a king in the Flame God Realm. If he was truly reckless and stupid, he never would have become the Golden Crow Sect's Sect Master."

Yun Che, "..."

"Huo Rulie seems extremely irritable but he is in fact extremely shrewd and extremely hard to anger. However, his character has an extremely large weakness, which is as soon as he is angered, it is extremely easy for him to lose control and make reckless moves. Moreover, it is hard for Yan Wancang and Yan Juehai to stop him once that happens. While it is extremely difficult for others to anger him, it is extremely easy for me to do so, if I wish!"

Yun Che slightly raised his head, "So, Master did indeed anger Sect Master Huo on purpose?"

Mu Xuanyin didn't reply and instead coldly asked yet another question, "Let me ask you another question. Three Flame God Realm Sect Masters who personally came today also brought their disciples to show their sincerity but to also show a threat. Since they wanted to show a threat, why did they only bring three of the young generation?"

"..." Yun Che opened his mouth several times but couldn't think of a reply.

"On the surface, it looks like Huo Rulie was forced to bring his direct disciple along because Yan Wancang and Yan Juehai were both bringing along a junior. It wouldn't have been proper for Huo Rulie to come by himself. However, it was exactly the opposite of that." Mu Xuanyin's pupils seemingly froze over, refracting the purest, coldest light in the world as if they were the coldest ice in with world. "It was clear that Huo Rulie was the one who insisted on bringing his personal disciple along and that Yan Wancang and Yan Juehai were the ones who had to helplessly bring their own juniors along as the provocation would otherwise have been too clear."

"Provocation?" Yun Che realized something.

"Seven days ago, although the matter of you being accepted as my direct disciple was not made public, the Flame God Realm was naturally able to learn of it through their connections within the Ice Phoenix Realm. They also definitely knew that Bingyun had been cured of her poison long ago. Huo Rulie has always wanted to exact revenge on me for grievously wounding his son. In fact, when he had learned of this matter, his anger and hatred had definitely increased tenfold. Furthermore, learning of my acceptance of a direct disciple, how could he restrain himself from bringing his own abnormally talented direct disciple here today to cause me to lose face!?"

"...Master seems to especially understand Sect Master Huo," Yun Che said.

"Hmph, with the eyes with which he looked at me when he first arrived and Huo Poyun's obvious aura of an abnormal bloodline, I could immediately tell what his goal was," Mu Xuanyin coldly said. "However, he is still far from being able to play games of manipulation with me!"

"..." Yun Che's heart silently quivered as his scalp became numb.

Huo Rulie had been easily enraged by Mu Xuanyin and then verbally attacked. Under such conditions, Huo Rulie completely lost control of his mind and turned from Golden Crow Sect Master into a reckless, out of control man. Everything that had happened afterwards could be said to have happened naturally.

The dignified Golden Crow Sect Master had been led by his nose the entire time and played like a tiny mouse... Yun Che began to increasingly feel like spending too much time beside Mu Xuanyin would definitely be incredibly terrifying.

"Master, this disciple wants to ask, your calculations... uh, you didn't purposefully lead Sect Master Huo over with the goal of receiving the Golden Crow's Record of the Burning World, right?"

When Mu Xuanyin had requested the Golden Crow's Record of the Burning World, which she couldn't cultivate, from Huo Rulie, she had surprised everyone, including Yun Che.

Mu Xuanyin indifferently said, "Asking Huo Rulie to provide me with the Golden Crow's Record of the Burning World was merely a sudden change of mind on my part."

Yun Che, "???"

Mu Xuanyin turned over her hand, revealing her palm. A rolled up jade scroll releasing a golden glow appeared and was then directly given to Yun Che.

Yun Che subconsciously stuck out his hand and received it... his eyes could easily tell that this was the jade scroll which Huo Rulie had just handed to Mu Xuanyin. It was the scroll inscribed with the complete Golden Crow's Record of the Burning World!

"This scroll of the Golden Crow's Record of the Burning World is inscribed with soul imprints. It can only be seen once before it completely disappears. The amount you can cultivate will be completely dependent on yourself!" Mu Xuanyin coldly said.

"..." As Yun Che held the jade scroll, he remained dazed. Only a while later, did he finally startledly say, "You did it for me..."

"Sit!" Mu Xuanyin coldly said.

While Yun Che put away the crimson gold jade scroll, he obediently sat down, his expression complex.

Mu Xuanyin took several steps toward Yun Che, bringing an extremely icy cold chill along with her as she stopped just one step in front of him.

"Close your eyes, calm your soul, and observe your mind. There cannot be any distractions."

"Yes," Yun Che replied.

As he closed his eyes, his aura gradually calmed down as well. By the end, the sky of falling snow began directly landing on his clothes and sticking.

Mu Xuanyin stuck out a single finger as a drop of blood flickering with an icy blue light condensed at her fingertip and then directly touched the center of Yun Che's brows.

Yun Che's body quivered as a pure, frosty energy dispersed around him. A blue light flashed as the abnormally colored drop of blood slowly merged into Yun Che. Afterwards, a layer of illusory ice blue light emerged on the surface of Yun Che's body.

The blood of the Ice Phoenix God!

Moreover, it was the purest origin blood!

Mu Xuanyin retracted her finger as a frosty glow condensed in the center of her palm. Just as she was about to come into contact with the center of Yun Che's brows again, her eyes and palm simultaneously paused for a moment, after which she once again slowly retracted her palm and began to just silently watch. It seemed like there was no need for her to use her own strength to help Yun Che refine the blood.

For the past few days, Yun Che had constantly been thinking whether becoming her direct disciple was a right or wrong decision, whether he was lucky or unlucky.

And towards him, Mu Xuanyin also had the same thoughts in her mind.