

The Gods 1191

Chapter 1191 - A Strike for Dignity

As the sword light and the lightning dragon collided against each other in the air, the daylight was smashed to pieces. A black mark, that appeared like a bolt of lightning, burst apart in the midst of the remaining light and disappeared in the next instant.

“Spatial... crack!?”

“The clash between two profound practitioners of the Divine Spirit Realm, who are still so young that their age hasn’t exceeded thirty, actually caused a spatial crack to appear!”

Yun Che heard countless sighs of astonishment, and he himself also felt intensely shaken in his heart. When he was in the Profound Sky Continent, he could casually make the space quiver and break, and even cave in. But the law forming the space of the God Realm, was of a far greater level than that of the lower realms. Even if Yun Che were to launch an all-out attack in his most powerful state, let alone cracking the space, he could not even cause the slightest ripple in the space.

DING DING DING DING DING BOOM BOOM BOOM...

Amidst the shattered profound light, two sword beams fiercely clashed with each other while maintaining a great distance between them. In the blink of an eye, they had already collided against each other several hundred times. Whenever the two of them came into contact, it would produce a sudden flash of profound light; sometimes making eardrum-ripping sound, other times a rumbling sound like that of the thunderclap from the Ninth Heaven.

“Since Luo Changsheng unleashed his full strength, his strength has become unbelievably tyrannical. But Jun Xilei... is actually still able to contend with him!” Mu Huanzhi had a deep look of surprise on his face.

“No... She is just barely holding on,” Mu Bingyun said. “Jun Xilei will be completely suppressed before long.”

Not long after Mu Bingyun finished her words, a streak of lightning blew up all of a sudden and its light filled the sky while swallowing all the sword images. Jun Xilei let out a light groan as she forcefully fell down from amidst the purple light.

“This... Looks like the victor has been decided,” Mu Huanzhi said.

Jun Xilei was falling downward like a meteor. When her body was about to touch the ground, it suddenly spun lightly and shot up in a magnificent arc. The rays of light darkened all of a sudden and all sorts of sounds gradually disappeared too. The “Undistracted Sword Domain” was opened up once again as it immediately extended to engulf Luo Changsheng within it.

“This woman is truly extraordinary to be able to so quickly enter the state of sword and heart unification in such a situation.” A look of surprise appeared in Luo Guxie’s eyes as she sighed lightly.

In the sword domain, thousands upon thousands of stars appeared all of a sudden and the sword energy grew menacing. However, the Undistracted Sword Domain failed to surround Luo Changsheng this time. A deep purple lightning domain rapidly formed in the area around Luo Changsheng, and as if a purple

star had burst abruptly, it instantly extended across an area of fifty kilometers, forcefully pushing away Jun Xilei's Undistracted Sword Domain.

In the midst of the lightning domain, the image of a giant wolf could be vaguely seen letting out a long howl to the sky

A big frown emerged on Jun Xilei's face, and the look in her eyes grew serious again. Thousands upon thousands of stars twinkled in the sword domain, as countless sword beams poured down heavily, like meteors tearing through the air on their way to the stage below.

The two powerful domains remained in deadlock for a short period. Their energies erupted at the same time, and two enormous whirlpools appeared on the Conferred God Stage in an instant. One sword had heavenly lightning entwined around it, and another had terrifying sword beams shooting from it. The heavens and earth seemed to have been cut up suddenly, as sword light shone on one side, and a purple glow filled the sky on the other.

The deadlock didn't continue for long. Following a soul-shaking wolf's howl, the purple lightning domain suddenly expanded by greatly as it firmly suppressed the sword domain. Once this suppression force came into existence, it advanced with an unstoppable momentum. The gradual expansion of the lightning domain caused the sword domain to shrink little by little.

Originally, the two domains were only countering each other with equal power, but Jun Xilei's sword domain had now shrunk to less than twenty kilometers in just ten odd breaths' time. On the other hand, Luo Changsheng's lightning domain had already occupied seventy percent of the Conferred God Stage.

Jun Xilei's figure could also be seen retreating. She slowly raised her beautiful neck as unusual light burst in her blank eyes once again.

Swoosh!

A sword image emerged behind her before expanding at a very fast rate. The sword might emitting from Jun Xilie increased crazily as well, with every expansion of the sword image.

Luo Changsheng had a dark face, as if his body was pressed down by an extremely big mountain. The lightning domain shrank at an extremely fast speed due to the enormous suppression.

"This is... Dual Sword Domain!" the experts of the way of sword cried out unconsciously in surprise.

The sword image enlarged to a size of fifty kilometers in no time. Like a heavenly sacred sword standing proud in the midst of the sky and earth, it thoroughly suppressed Luo Changsheng's domain which held absolute superiority in an incomparably domineering manner.

Luo Changsheng had to take a few steps back. At this time, a big hole was torn open in the lightning domain all of a sudden, and a large number of sword beams made their way in through it, piercing through several layers of lightning in their way while heading straight to Luo Changsheng.

Luo Changsheng didn't panic in the slightest and causally stretched out his hand. Immediately, a semi-circular barrier appeared in front of him. When the sword beams bumped into the barrier, all of them were disintegrated without coming into contact with Luo Changsheng's body.

Luo Changsheng lightly moved his lips, as an incomparably deep purple light flickered in the depths of his eyes. Afterwards, he let out an extremely loud shout...

It appeared as if tribulation lightning had suddenly blown up on his body, and the resulting purple light had blotted out the sky.

The extremely suppressed lightning domain shone with a very bright purple light and forcibly shook away Jun Xilei's Dual Sword Domain. In the next instant, the sword domain was deformed. As if a deity had descended to the world, a fifty kilometer tall lightning wolf let out a long howl as it stood proudly and loftily in the sky. It then immediately pounced towards Jun Xilei. When the huge mouth of the wolf opened, Jun Xilei's sword domain was completely swallowed by it.

Eeeeeee!!

The images of the sword and wolf collapsed at the same time, and a crack more than three meters long was suddenly opened up on the extremely tough and tenacious Conferred God Stage... The sound of the crack opening up exceeded even that of the heavenly lightning bursting in the sky.

Jun Xilei flew far, far away amidst the scattering light. Even after she had landed heavily on the ground, the remaining force of impact still caused her to retreat dozens of steps. Her face was pale, and her body was wobbly, but she forced herself to stand still nonetheless.

Luo Changsheng slowly landed on the ground in front of her. Although the young man was breathing heavily, no new wounds had been inflicted on his body.

Jun Xilei frowned deeply and raised Misty Light once more, but her face suddenly turned white as blood uncontrollably spilled out of her mouth. The young woman collapsed on her knees and trembled from head to toe, unable to climb back to her feet for a very long time.

It was clear who was the victor of the match.

The young woman hadn't even reached her fifties yet, but her sword mastery stunned every Eastern Divine Region sword profound cultivator that was given the chance to witness this battle. No one would question her title as the number one sword cultivator of the young generation in the Eastern Divine Region after today. In fact, someone could claim that she would become the number one sword cultivator of the Eastern Divine Region in the future and no one would dispute it.

The only reason she lost was because her opponent was Luo Changsheng. There were countless proud sons and daughters of heaven in the entire Eastern Divine Region, but Luo Changsheng was the only person who could defeat her.

"Lei'er, let us stop here." Jun Wuming's calm voice came from afar. He had predicted this outcome a while ago.

Jun Xilei respected Jun Wuming deeply, and she had never gone against his orders. However, his voice spurred her to stand up slowly and power up Misty Light once more.

"I... won't..."

Jun Xilei suddenly took to the air. She had obviously suffered severe internal injuries from the previous clash, regardless, her sword will instantly shrouded the sky. A single blade intent fell away from Misty Light like a meteor, but it suddenly split into ten, a hundred, a thousand, ten thousand...

“Comet Sword Formation!?” Luo Guxie’s eyebrows abruptly furrowed as he exclaimed in an obvious tone of disbelief.

Lightning ran along Luo Changsheng’s Holy Lightning Sword as the young man faced the attack with a calm look on his face. However, his instincts suddenly flared up with danger when the ten thousand swords approached, causing him to move away immediately in a burst of speed. He employed all of his profound energy and threw Holy Lightning Sword at the incoming sword lights. The sword seemingly transformed into a three kilometer long giant sword as countless wind blades and lightning bolts blossomed into view in the blink of an eye.

After a loud noise erupted as the Comet Sword Formation clashed against the giant sword of wind and lightning, profound light enveloped the Conferred God Stage as if a disaster had descended upon it.

Jun Xilei’s sword formation was unnaturally powerful despite her injuries, but Luo Changsheng’s full power was just more terrifying. The ten thousand swords were continuously crushed to pierced by Luo Changsheng’s giant sword of wind and lightning, and in just a few breaths’ time, about seventy percent of the sword formation was annihilated in the clash. Meanwhile, Luo Changsheng’s wind and lightning power hadn’t even dropped below fifty percent yet.

Jun Xilei’s sword arm trembled slightly as pain rose to her face. Although she was supporting the sword formation with her full strength, she could feel that it was gradually but surely falling apart.

Suddenly, she withdrew her power from the sword formation. She didn’t try to block or avoid the giant sword either. A beam of light suddenly cut through space itself and flew towards Luo Changsheng.

The beam of light was incredibly glaring, like a light that suddenly flashed through one’s mind. Even time seemed to slow down because of its presence... this wasn’t the first time they had seen this attack.

Huo Poyun had lost instantly because of this sword beam.

Luo Changsheng obviously didn’t expect Jun Xilei to do such a thing. He had injected all of his strength into the giant sword, and the sword beam was so fast that he wasn’t able to withdraw all of his strength in time. He waved his arm and created a shoddy round barrier before him.

Ding!

The beam of light dissipated, but his father’s growl abruptly entered his ears. “Changsheng watch out!”

When the young man looked up, a total of seven sword beams were already flying towards him...

Boom———

Jun Xilei was fully struck by the giant sword and sent flying back like a rag doll. Her white clothes were drenched in blood.

Bang!

Luo Changsheng's barrier was destroyed after it had endured two attacks, and the young man managed to spin around just in time to avoid another three sword beams. However, there was nothing he could do about the final two attacks...

Riiipp!!

Blood sprayed through the air as the two sword beams penetrated Luo Changsheng's right ribs one after another. Two fist-sized holes appeared in his body as a result.

Luo Changsheng's stumbled backwards unsteadily, but he gritted his teeth and immediately annihilated or locked up the sword energy that had entered his body from the wound. Then, he charged forward and threw a gust of wind straight at the falling Jun Xilei.

Jun Xilei hadn't reserved any power for protection because she wanted to wound Luo Changsheng by force. Moreover, she was fully struck by the giant sword of wind and lightning and could barely stand on her two feet. Naturally, she had absolutely no way of cancelling out Luo Changsheng's profound wind and was instantly tossed outside the Conferred God Stage.

A person instantly vanished from the spectator's stand and caught Jun Xilei in midair. After he landed safely outside the Conferred God Stage, he quickly sealed her wounds using his profound energy.

"Jun Xilei has left the bounds of the Conferred God Stage and lost the match! She will enter the Losers Group and fight in the fifth round of tomorrow's loser bracket match!"

"Luo Changsheng wins! He will enter the finals of the winner bracket!"

Honorable Qu Hui declared the result at first notice.

No one was surprised that Luo Changsheng had won the match. However, no one had imagined that the battle would be as intense as it was.

Everyone had high hopes for the battle between the two strongest God Children. However, both Luo Changsheng and Jun Xilei's true strength far exceeded their expectations and had surprised them again and again.

The short period of silence was suddenly broken by thunderous claps and loud cheers.

Luo Changsheng slowly walked to the edge of the God Conferred Stage while covering his right ribs with his left hand. Blood poured out between his fingers like water, but he didn't show any sign of pain on his face. He asked Jun Wuming, "Senior Jun, is Miss Jun... alright?"

Jun Wuming looked up and shot him a deep glance. "She's fine... I should thank you for holding back."

Anxious, Luo Changsheng immediately saluted Jun Wuming despite his injuries. "You're exaggerating, Senior Jun."

A hand rose to the air and pushed Jun Wuming away. Jun Xilei was very badly injured both inside and outside, and she had practically no profound energy left. However, she stood up stubbornly and glared at Luo Changsheng just as fiercely and coldly as before. "Wipe... that smugness... one day... I'll... cough... cough cough..."

Blood poured down Jun Xilei's lips, and her face kept turning paler and paler. But even then, she refused to let Jun Wuming support her and left the place step by step on her own two feet. As Luo Changsheng stared at Jun Xilei's back, an unconscious smile sprung to his lips. His eyes glowed with unprecedented radiance as he muttered half-consciously, "What an amazing woman."

"She endured all those injuries just to put two holes in Luo Changsheng. That woman is seriously..." Yun Che hid a couple of gasps as he recalled Jun Xilei's hatred of him.

Chapter 1192 - Do or Die

"Hoo..." Lu Lengchuan let out a long sigh from Shrouding Sky Realm's seating.

He wasn't as strong as Luo Changsheng. He couldn't compete with Jun Xilei or Shui Yangyue either. He was well aware that he was the weakest cultivator out of the "Four God Children of the Eastern Region," and that many people thought there should only be three, not four god children.

Lu Lengchuan never got angry though. Not only was he the weakest, he was also the oldest out of all of them. That was why he himself believed that he would be disqualified from the title in at most a hundred years' time.

However, Luo Changsheng and Jun Xilei's battle had made him realize that... he didn't need to wait for a hundred years. He was already unworthy.

"It looks like I was born in the best era," Lu Lengchuan mocked himself, but smiled from the bottom of his heart.

Meanwhile, in the Glazed Light Realm's seating area, Shui Yangyue became absorbed in her own thoughts for a very long time.

"Sister?" Shui Meiyin stared at her with vibrant eyes.

"For the longest time, I thought that I was the only one who was hiding my strength. But..." Shui Yangyue looked up and said seriously, "It appears that the match between Jun Xilei and I will be a difficult one."

Shui Meiyin blinked. "Is it just me, or did you forget something very important, sister?"

"?" Shui Yangyue turned to look at her.

"Your next opponent is me, sister!" Shui Meiyin's expression suddenly turned very serious.

"Ah?" Shui Yangyue gave her a beautiful smile. "You're right. I nearly forgot about that."

She extended a hand and caressed Shui Meiyin's soft black hair while looking at her tenderly, "We haven't fought each other seriously for a very long time, Meiyin."

"Who do you think will win then?" Shui Meiyin smiled.

Shui Yangyue shook her head. "I don't know. At the very least, I don't have any confidence that I can beat you."

She wore a frown when she spoke of her upcoming battle against Jun Xilei, but the possibility of losing to her younger sister actually brought a faint smile of pride to her face.

Seated next to the two sisters, a smiling Glazed Light Realm King watched his two daughters and listened to their conversation quietly without interrupting. No matter who the victor of the battle between sisters was, it would be the best result nonetheless.

The Glazed Light Realm King's love life was a strange tale of its own. He had a hundred and one children to date, but the first ninety nine were all males. His two daughters had only just entered his life about thirty years ago.

He could add up all ninety nine of his sons, and they would still be incomparable to his two daughters.

Shui Meiyin especially was outstanding beyond words. Despite being only fifteen years of age, she was already the greatest pride of his whole life. She was so outstanding that sometimes the high and mighty Glazed Light Realm King himself doubted his own worthiness—was Shui Meiyin really his seed?

Shui Meiyin had undoubtedly grown up in a sea of love. Her parents weren't the only ones who pampered her; her ninety nine brothers would literally climb a mountain of blades or traverse a sea of flames if it was her will. However, Shui Meiyin's personality was completely absent of arrogance despite growing up in such an environment. Even better, she was born with a charm which made others want to protect her. It was so potent that it was almost demonic.

"Next, we have the second battle of the Conferred Gods Group third round battles, Shui Yangyue from the Glazed Light Realm versus Shui Meiyin from the Glazed Light Realm!"

The battle between the two pearls of Glazed Light was without a doubt a battle that everyone was looking forward to. Even Honorable Qu Hui was staring at the sisters strangely.

"Let's go."

Shui Yangyue held her sister and floated all the way to the Conferred God Stage's airspace. Then, a soft push separated the two sisters—a blue butterfly and a black butterfly—as they landed on opposite ends of the stage.

"Let us begin."

Although Honorable Qu Hui normally maintained a serious outlook, he sounded exceptionally even and gentle this time. His gaze was mostly drawn towards Shui Meiyin as emotions of admiration, praise and affection flitted across his eyes. He knew that the Eternal Heaven Divine Emperor had purposely visited the Glazed Light Realm because he wanted take her in as his personal disciple. She was the only one who ever had the honor, including the honor of turning down his offer.

Besides her unbelievable amount of talent, Shui Meiyin was also unusually attractive. She could just stand there and do nothing, and anyone who looked at her would feel their irritation fading away and unconsciously start smiling as well. Their fondness for her eventually swelled to the point where they couldn't even bear to take their eyes off her.

There was a soft ring, and the Shui Yangyue's sword "Moon In Water" exited its sheathe. Water instantly flowed around the body of the sword.

But Shui Meiyin didn't move at all. Her eyebrows moved as if she was hesitating about something. Finally, she looked towards Honorable Qu Hui and asked, "Grandpa Qu Hui, can I surrender this match?"

Shui Yangyue, "..."

"Huh?" Honorable Qu Hui was caught off guard. "Of course you can, but... may I know your reason?"

"Well," Shui Meiyin said seriously, "I gave this fight some serious thought just now, and I just don't think I can beat sister because she's so powerful. If I accidentally got hit and it hurts... I think it's best if I surrender this fight."

Honorable Qi Hui hadn't smiled for god knows how many years already, but he actually felt tempted to do so as he stared at Shui Meiyin's innocent face. When he shot a sideways glance at the Glazed Light Realm King, he discovered that he was beaming from his seat.

"..." Shui Yangyue didn't say anything. It was obvious that she didn't want to fight against Shui Meiyin either.

"Shui Meiyin, I shall ask you this one last time. Are you sure you want to surrender this battle?" Honorable Qu Hui asked.

"Mn, I surrender." Shui Meiyin nodded.

"Alright," Honorable Qu Hui said softly as if not being able to see the two sisters fight was a great loss for him. Then, he declared, "Shui Meiyin has voluntarily surrendered the match and will enter the Losers Group. She will fight in the sixth round of tomorrow's Losers Group match!"

"Shui Yangyue wins. She will be fighting in the Conferred Gods Group final round the day after tomorrow!"

Although the battle between the sisters, which everyone was looking forward to, had ended in an unexpected manner, it wasn't exactly a surprising outcome. They were sisters after all.

The Conferred Gods Group battles had ended, and Jun Xilei and Shui Meiyin were both sent down to the Losers Group. This meant that there were only two people left in the Conferred God Group—Luo Changsheng and Shui Yangyue.

Their match was also the Conferred Gods Group's final battle.

"Big sister, please do your best during the next match!" Shui Meiyin encouraged her sister after she returned to her seat.

Shui Yangyue nodded slightly. She knew that she was no match for Luo Changsheng, and her defeat the day after tomorrow was certain... her only real opponent left was Jun Xilei.

After a short period of rest, the Losers Group matches officially began.

The first round was between Meng Duanxi and Chao Feng. The two participants were equally matched, and after a grueling battle that nearly lasted for two hours, Meng Duanxi ultimately emerged victorious and entered the top six. Chao Feng's journey in the Conferred God Battle was ended here.

The second Meng Duanxi and Chao Feng's battle ended, Yun Che's eyes abruptly focused, and his blood boiled with great excitement.

Lu Lengchuan had also turned to look at him as their gazes clashed in midair, generating invisible sparks. It was clear that they were eager to fight one another.

"Next, we have the second battle of the Losers Group fifth round battles, Lu Lengchuan from the Shrouding Sky Realm versus Yun Che from the Snow Song Realm!"

Countless gazes became concentrated on Yun Che. The moment Honorable Qu Hui made his declaration, Yun Che and Lu Lengchuan rose from their seats and landed on the Conferred God Stage at the same time.

Everyone from the Snow Song Realm and the Flame God Realm had fallen silent. It was because they knew that this was Yun Che's final match. However, his astounding achievement had won great honor for the Snow Song Realm; an achievement that he could be proud of for his entire lifetime. That was why they didn't feel any heaviness, despite feeling nervous for Yun Che.

Mu Bingyun was the only one who was still frowning deeply. Although she thought that Yun Che would lose—but not without honor—she also knew that Yun Che wouldn't want to be stopped here no matter what.

"Match begin!"

Boom!!

The Skysplitter Spear and Heaven Smiting Sword appeared in their wielders' hands at the same time as Lu Lengchuan and Yun Che detonated their profound energy... but instead of ice, it was golden flames that had surged from Yun Che's body and transformed the Conferred God Stage into a fiery hell in an instant.

Every Golden Crow Sect, Phoenix Sect, and Vermillion Bird Sect elder and disciple goggled at Qin Lie. They were so shocked that they nearly fell off their seats.

"G-g-g-g-golden crow flames!?!?"

"T-t-t-t-t-this..."

Huo Rulie was the only one who looked completely unfazed. He turned his head sideways and said with unbelievable calmness, "Stop making a fuss about nothing and stay quiet."

Huo Rulie's unnatural calmness only caused the crowd to become even more flabbergasted. Yen Juehai asked hurriedly, "What's going on, Sect Master Huo? Yun Che..."

Huo Rulie waved a hand to cut him off. "We can talk about this after we have returned to the Flame God Realm."

"..." Yan Juehai frowned but didn't say anything more. Instead, he focused his attention back on Yun Che.

Huo Rulie looked calm in front of his people, but his emotions were actually in great turmoil. If Yun Che hadn't purposely sought him out and showed him the Golden Crow flames, his jaw would probably be the first to hit the floor just now.

"Golden Crow flames... it's actually the Golden Crow flames!"

"Isn't Yun Che a Snow Song Realm disciple? He clearly used the Ice Phoenix God Investiture Canon earlier! How on earth is he wielding these flames?"

"Is... is he a fire and ice cultivator!? There's actually a fire and ice cultivator in this world?"

The spectator's stand was without a doubt stunned by the display of power. The god emperors in the eastern seating area were slightly caught off guard as well.

"A fire and ice cultivator? This is truly rare," the Eternal Heaven Divine Emperor said.

The profound elements naturally reject each other, but those with sufficient talent and power of understanding could manipulate multiple elements at once. However, ice and fire were the only two elements that sat at completely different ends of the spectrum. Not only was it nearly impossible to master both elements at once, the two powers would only clash and diminish each other's power even if they could be forcefully mastered. The cultivator might as well just choose one or the other power as they would be much better off in the end.

Therefore, even if someone was born with an extraordinary body that could accommodate both elements at once, they still wouldn't cultivate both elements seriously. Those who did would only be thought of as very unwise.

"It's not merely dual cultivating fire and ice," the Brahma Heaven God Emperor said. "The Ice Phoenix God Investiture Canon must be cultivated with the Ice Phoenix's bloodline, and the Golden Crow flames must be cultivated with the Golden Crow bloodline. Yun Che is clearly cultivating two divine blood inheritances at once!"

"Yun Che is the Snow Song Realm's direct disciple, so it's only natural that he was given the Ice Phoenix's bloodline. However... giving divine blood to outsiders is a big taboo. Why in the world did the Flame God Realm decide to grant Yun Che the Golden Crow bloodline?"

A lot of people turned to look at Huo Rulie, only to discover that the sect master was sitting perfectly calm and unfazed in his seat. His behavior immediately made everyone think that he was the one who granted Yun Che the Golden Crow bloodline... it could only be him anyway.

"Heh," Cang Shitian laughed. "What's so strange about that? Even I'm willing to break my rules for a monster like him, much less the likes of the Flame God Realm!"

Although Cang Shitian's tone was purposely eccentric, the logic behind his words were very sound.

On the Conferred God Stage, Yun Che's profound energy shot upwards like it was riding a rocket. Evil Soul, Burning Heart, Purgatory, and Rumbling Heaven. He instantly entered his peak form and charged towards Lu Lengchuan like a loosed arrow.

He could only maintain his peak state for a mere hundred breaths' time, and defeat was certain if he couldn't take him out during this time limit. Not only must he end this battle as soon as possible, he

absolutely couldn't give Lu Lengchuan the chance to activate his Glowing Dragon's Sacred Barrier! Not even once!

Chapter 1193 - Profound Art Dominance

Lu Lengchuan's profound energy had also climbed to the peak. The Skysplitter Spear let out an excited dragon's roar, and the weapon was swept straight at Yun Che's face.

Lu Lengchuan had once said that he would fight Yun Che with all his power. He was a man of his word.

The two cultivators didn't speak or probe each other's strength. The moment Honorable Qu Hui said the word "begin", they immediately unleashed all of their profound energy and charged one another as if they were sworn enemies, even though they obviously hadn't crossed each other's path in the past.

Boom!

Two kinds of power ran fiercely into each other. A yellow explosion pushed both combatants away, but they bounced back into the battle at the same time and clashed once more. Every time the burning Heaven Smiting Sword clashed against the Skysplitter Spear that was enveloped in dragon's breath, it was like a thunderclap.

Yun Che's power was absolutely oppressive and Lu Lengchuan's ferocity was unrivaled. Every time the two powers ran into each other, it was as if a hurricane was coming or the ground was shattering.

Everything Yun Che touched became tinged by wildfire. The golden flames illuminated countless stunned faces.

"Yun Che... is... fighting Lu Lengchuan head on?"

Earlier, Yun Che's feat of enduring Wu Guike's attacks head on and sweeping him in just seven strikes had already shocked everyone. It was even praised as a miracle.

But Wu Guike was one man, and Lu Lengchuan another. Wu Guike was absolutely inferior to Lu Lengchuan, and while Yun Che's attack might have stunned the entire Eastern Divine Region, no one thought he would be a worthy opponent for Lu Lengchuan.

However, Yun Che was meeting every single one of Lu Lengchuan's attacks head on... Even scarier was the fact that he wasn't falling behind at all!

Lu Lengchuan was a rank ten Divine Spirit cultivator! He was one of the famous Four God Children of the Eastern Region!

"Lu Lengchuan is obviously going all out."

"It can't be... was Yun Che hiding his strength even during the previous battle?"

"But he... he's just in the eighth level of the Divine Tribulation Realm!"

"Doesn't that mean... that Yun Che is actually at the level of the god children!? Heavens..."

The shock on everyone's faces was only growing deeper and deeper as the fight went on. Every single cultivator from the young to the realm kings was shaking with emotion as the flames on the Conferred God Stage burned stronger and stronger.

"This boy never fails to give a pleasant surprise." God Emperor Shitian narrowed his eyes intently at Yun Che and whispered to himself very, very quietly, "Eighth level of the Divine Tribulation Realm, huh... Tsk tsk..."

"The intensity of his power and the amount of profound energy he possesses are clearly inferior to Lu Lengchuan's," the Eternal Heaven God Emperor said. "Even his sword is weaker than Lu Lengchuan's Skysplitter Spear."

Every God Emperor nodded in agreement of his assessment.

"Profound Art Dominance." The Brahma Heaven God Emperor spoke up. "He is weaker than Lu Lengchuan in every aspect, but he's on an equal footing with Lu Lengchuan because he's using the Golden Crow flames... it truly deserves its title as one of the three strongest divine flames ever!"

"The Flame God Realm has never produced a Divine Master, and it has stayed a middle star realm for a very long time. It's no wonder that some people have forgotten that the Vermillion Bird, Phoenix and Golden Crow were once the Three Supreme Fire Attribute Beasts of ancient times! The fact that Huo Poyun's strength far surpasses his peers was a proof of the Golden Crow's power already, but this dominance is made even clearer on Yun Che. When this fight is over, the entire God Realm will certainly be reminded of the Three Supreme Fire Attribute Beasts."

"This stalemate isn't going to last for long." The Dragon Monarch suddenly spoke up. "In fact, Yun Che is the one with the upper hand right now. His advantage is already starting to show."

Fire was everywhere on the Conferred God Stage right now. Every time Yun Che swung his sword, large eruptions of golden flames would immediately follow. Moreover, the flames didn't just dissipate immediately after they appeared. Instead, they continued to burn wildly until more than half of the Conferred God Stage was completely covered in flames. Conversely, the yellow stone dragon aura covering Lu Lengchuan's body was very dim.

As the God Emperors had mentioned earlier, Lu Lengchuan was superior to Yun Che in terms of strength, aura and weapon might.

However, his stone dragon aura was instantly burned into nothingness every time it came into contact with Yun Che's Golden Crow flames. Even a large portion of his profound energy was burned along with it. Worse, the burning sensation that was pressing against his body grew more and more intense with every breath drawn, causing him increasing levels of pain over time.

Boom!

The sword and the spear clashed once more, and there was a terrific explosion of fire. Finally, the yellow stone dragon aura covering Lu Lengchuan's body vanished completely.

Lu Lengchuan frowned deeply and regathered his breath, but Yun Che had already jumped into the air and slammed the increasingly hot Heaven Smiting Sword right down on him.

Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom!

Cries erupted from the spectator's stand after Yun Che threw four consecutive strikes at Lu Lengchuan in a single breath. It was because Lu Lengchuan was forced to take a step backwards every time he blocked.

Yun Che's eyes were ferocious. He flipped once in the air, summoned a ten meter long fire around the Heaven Smiting Sword and slashed downwards with even greater strength.

"Falling... Moon... Sinking... Star!!"

Boom!!!!

Everyone's heart skipped a beat during the attack.

Lu Lengchuan threw everything he had behind the Skysplitter Spear and was barely able to hold out amidst the exploding fire. However, his right knee crumpled and he hit the floor in the next instant.

Lu Lengchuan clenched his teeth so hard he could've crushed them. His pupils were completely colored by shock.

He had never underestimated Yun Che, or he wouldn't have used his full strength from the get go.

However, his lack of disdain was more akin to respect towards another powerful opponent. He didn't actually believe that Yun Che could fight him on equal footing... after all, he was one of the Four God Children of the Eastern Region! He might be the weakest god child on the list, but he was invincible among the rest of his generation!

As the fire approached Lu Lengchuan, his protective profound energy was burned swiftly away. Suddenly, his eyebrows and the front part of his clothes began to burn as the stench of burning flesh lingered in the air.

Lu Lengchuan clenched his teeth in pain, but his pupils were bright with excitement.

"Hah!!"

Roar~~~~~

Lu Lengchuan roared, and yellow light erupted from his body. The dragon's roar knocked Yun Che forcefully away and gave Lu Lengchuan the opportunity to summon a yellow dragon around his spear and throw a straight thrust.

Riipp!!

Lu Lengchuan missed, his attack hitting only an ice afterimage. However, he didn't panic and summoned a dragon's image behind himself.

Yun Che appeared behind Lu Lengchuan like a ghost and swung his burning sword downwards.

Boom!!

Lu Lengchuan's dragon protection exploded, causing him to stagger and fall down from the sky. Yun Che himself was knocked far, far away.

Lu Lengchuan extinguished the Golden Crow flames on his body as quickly as he could, but before he could turn around a new wave of power was already approaching him like a tidal wave.

Yun Che didn't give Lu Lengchuan or himself any opportunity to breathe. He hounded Lu Lengchuan like a leech or a shadow.

"Come at me!!"

Lu Lengchuan wasn't afraid at all. On the contrary, he was boiling with passion. He roared again and caused the Skysplitter Spear to glow brightly with profound light.

Boom!!

The two powers clashed yet again, but this time Lu Lengchuan was in full defense mode. He allowed himself to be thrown far, far away by Yun Che's strike and flew several thousand meters up into the sky. Then, he raised the glowing Skysplitter Spear above his head.

"Demon Dragon Seal!!"

There was a dragon's roar, and the giant image of a dragon suddenly plunged towards the ground. Its head had grown to several hundred meters wide by the time it got close to Yun Che, and it opened its mouth in an attempt to swallow him whole. Blinding yellow light could be seen behind its mouth.

Yun Che's instinct warned him of danger, and he backed away from the dragon in a burst of speed. However, the world before his eyes suddenly changed into a desolate and yellow desert. Yellow light danced across the sky like flying dragons, and they collapsed on top of his head ruthlessly as if they would bury him alive.

Yun Che's eyes burned, and a single lotus of fire blossomed around him. He didn't even bother to look at the dragon images. The brilliant flames of gold and red instantly became the center of the illusionary world and destroyed all the dragon images upon contact. Forget hurting Yun Che, they couldn't even get close to him.

Yun Che lifted the Heaven Smiting Sword and summoned a pillar of fire that was several hundred meters long. The moment the flames took form, he swung his sword downwards in the style of "Golden Annihilation".

Crack!!

A golden crack instantly appeared around the desolate, yellow world. Then, the entire illusion shuddered and collapsed.

In the air, Lu Lengchuan shuddered all over at the sight. After sealing Yun Che into the Demon Dragon Seal, he tried to gather energy to form the Glowing Dragon's Sacred Barrier. He thought he would have enough time to form one layer at least, but in reality Yun Che had broken through the Demon Dragon Seal in just two breaths!

It was almost as if he was breaking through rotten wood!

"The title of the strongest divine flame... is well deserved!"

Lu Lengchuan muttered to himself.

The battle had gone completely against his expectations. By now, he was starting to realize that it was only a matter of time before he was fully suppressed by Yun Che. If he couldn't conjure the Glowing Dragon's Sacred Barrier in time, defeat... was practically a certainty.

Lu Lengchuan ultimately had a far greater profound energy reserve than Yun Che. Although Yun Che's successful breakthrough had resulted in a minor profound energy backfire, he was able to gather the profound energy necessary to unleash yet another "Dragon Demon Seal". A new dragon image dropped towards Yun Che yet again.

Yun Che wasn't falling for the same trick twice. Not only did he choose to stand his ground, he charged straight toward the dragon image and flung a "Golden Annihilation" at it. The golden light penetrated the dragon image entirely.

"Crack!!

Cut in half, the Demon Dragon Seal exploded into a cloud of yellow light before it came anywhere close to Yun Che.

"W... what?" This outcome stunned the spectators so much they could faint.

Lu Lengchuan's profound energy and profound weapon were clearly superior to his opponent's, and yet Yun Che was the one who was slowly but surely gaining the upper hand...

One of the reasons the Shrouding Sky Realm was able to become one of the strongest upper star realm in existence was thanks to their powerful dragonstone ability.

However, the dragonstone ability they were proud of was completely defeated by the golden crow flames!

If this was the outcome when Lu Lengchuan had the stronger profound energy and better profound weapon, then... didn't that mean that Lu Lengchuan would be thrashed like a small fry if they were at equal strength!

"No need to panic." Shrouding Sky Realm King remained calm, however. "Defense is the dragonstone ability's greatest trait, not offense. It's only natural that its destructive power is incomparable to the golden crow flame's."

"Right now, they're almost at equal strength. If Lengchuan can conjure even one layer of barrier, it'll be nearly impossible for him to lose this fight... there's no reason he can't find an opportunity to do so."

Yun Che kept his attention fixed on Lu Lengchuan after he tore the second Demon Dragon Seal apart. He flew straight into the air towards his opponent at high speed, but Lu Lengchuan was also backing away at his highest possible speed. Swinging the Skysplitter Spear, he conjured a five kilometer desert that was formed in front of him and threw it straight towards Yun Che.

Yun Che's brow creased slightly, but he didn't slow down. He charged straight towards the desert like a burning meteor.

"Break!"

The ten kilometer wide desert was instantly cut in half by the Heaven Smiting Sword, causing the spectators to let out yet another exclamation of surprise. This time though, a frown suddenly appeared on Yun Che's face.

The desert Lu Lengchuan conjured looked incredibly intimidating. It was clearly made using an incredibly high level law of earth. However, his attack had cut through it way too easily.

"Oh no..." Mu Bingyun suddenly turned pale.

The decapitated desert didn't lose its power. On the contrary, it suddenly joined back together and devoured Yun Che completely.

The ten kilometer long desert continued to float in midair. Yun Che's presence had completely vanished.

Lu Lengchuan fell towards the ground while yellow light erupted continuously from his body. The frowning young man was clearly creating the first layer of the Glowing Dragon's Sacred Barrier.

"Is that... Shrouding Sky Realm's 'A World In Sand'!?" Mu Huanzhi exclaimed.

"Yun Che has no idea how to break through 'A World In Sand'! It's highly unlikely that he'll be able to escape it in a short time. Worse, if Lu Lengchuan successfully forms even a single layer of Glowing Dragon Sacred Barrier, then there's no way he'll be able to beat Lu Lengchuan!" Huo Rulie said heavily.

Chapter 1194 - Barrier of Despair

Yun Che was stuck in a borderless world of yellow sand.

He spread out his spiritual perception, but couldn't sense any presence or danger at all.

He realized immediately that it was a non-offensive sealing domain!

The only reason Lu Lengchuan would execute a pure sealing domain like this was to evoke the Glowing Dragon's Sacred Barrier.

Yun Che spread his spiritual perception to the max, but he still couldn't sense anything but rolling yellow sand. Not daring to hesitate any longer, he fired the Golden Crow flames and the power of his heavy sword straight to the space in front of him.

Boom!!

Space itself shook, and yellow sand filled the air. A crack appeared in the distant sky, but it slowly repaired itself over time.

"A World in Sand" could be brought down in one hit if Yun Che could find its core and destroy it, but he had never come into contact with a Shrouding Sky Realm denizen until today, much less fought one. Naturally, he wouldn't have any idea where or how to find the core of "A World in Sand". The only thing he could do was to break it down by force.

The Heaven Smiting Sword's repeated strikes caused the sky to become filled with cracks in the blink of an eye, and the world of flowing sand itself to shudder again and again. However, despite Yun Che firing more than a dozen strikes in a row the world stubbornly remained intact.

Yun Che paused slightly and gathered his flames. It was as if a new sun had suddenly risen in the world of flowing sand.

“Yellow... Spring... Ashes!”

Boom... Boom!!

The floating desert above the Conferred God Stage suddenly exploded in a sea of flames. Even the bits and fragments of power of the desert were engulfed by the flames before they could scatter into the distance.

Yun Che locked onto Lu Lengchuan the second he emerged back onto the Conferred God Stage. Both cultivators’ pupils shrank at once.

Lu Lengchuan was shocked because Yun Che had broken through “A World in Sand” in an unbelievably short amount of time, by force no less.

Yun Che was shocked because a barely discernible layer of profound light had appeared around Lu Lengchuan.

It was the Glowing Dragon’s Sacred Barrier!

“Ah. It’s over.” Huo Rulie and Yan Juehai sighed at the same time.

The same sigh came from every corner of the spectator’s stand.

The Golden Crow flames were so powerful that they enabled Yun Che to fight Lu Lengchuan on even ground despite being inferior to his opponent. He was even slowly but surely gaining the upper hand. However, the strength gap between them was still very small, and now that Lu Lengchuan was empowered by the Glowing Dragon’s Sacred Barrier...

Everyone could predict what was going to happen.

The Shrouding Sky Realm King knew that Lu Lengchuan had won the moment he successfully evoked the first layer of the Glowing Dragon’s Sacred Barrier. However, instead of smiling at Lu Lengchuan’s success, he kept a tight rein over his rioting heart... He hadn’t expected Yun Che to break through “A World in Sand” as quickly as he did without knowing the correct way. He thought it would take him at least two Glowing Dragon’s Sacred Barriers layers’ worth of time before he could break through it by force.

In fact, Yun Che didn’t just break “A World in Sand” by force. He utterly annihilated every speck of power that was used to create the domain, just after Lu Lengchuan had successfully evoked the first layer of the barrier!

The Shrouding Sky Realm King couldn’t help but feel both admiration and regret when he thought of Yun Che’s age and cultivation level. Lu Lengchuan would win this match without fail, he knew... but this might also be both the first and last time he could ever beat Yun Che.

This was without mentioning that that Yun Che was more than qualified to replace Lu Lengchuan as one of the God Children.

The scenario he least wanted to come true had happened, and Yun Che's breathing grew heavier as a result. However, the fire in his eyes also burned brighter than ever.

Lu Lengchuan was reacting the same way. Although he was protected by the Glowing Dragon's Sacred Barrier, he didn't look relaxed or pleased at all. He continued to inject all of his power into the Skysplitter Spear.

Both combatants burst into movement at the same time their eyes met one another.

Boom boom boom...

Yun Che and Lu Lengchuan growled as they clashed weapons against each other with the speed lightning. The airspace above the Conferred God Stage barely had a moment to breathe before it became filled with fire once more.

Every time Yun Che and Lu Lengchuan clashed weapons, the impact went straight into the people's hearts. It was a clash of pure strength without any tricks behind the attacks, and it was definitely the first time a clash like this had ever happened in this Conferred God Battle. Even the spectators who had to watch the fight through the star tablets were bristling with passion.

Boom boom boom... BOOM!!

Lu Lengchuan was finally knocked back a step after Yun Che threw a dozen or so strikes at him, but this time he simply allowed the Golden Crow flames to wash over him. His expression was calm, and his body wasn't burned in the slightest. All foreign power and energy shockwaves were held at bay by the half visible Glowing Dragon's Sacred Barrier, so no harm came to Lu Lengchuan at all.

Yun Che frowned deeply and slowed his attacks a little. Suddenly, his body erupted with power like a volcano before he swung the Heaven Smiting Sword straight at Lu Lengchuan's chest with unparalleled might.

Lu Lengchuan's dragon wrapped spear moved straight forwards to meet it... but instead of sticking out his spear at the first available opportunity, the young man suddenly slowed his attack for some reason.

Yun Che immediately understood what he was trying to do, but not only did he not withdraw his strength, he charged Lu Lengchuan faster than ever before... He had to break through Lu Lengchuan's barrier by force even at the cost of an injury! He couldn't afford to drag out this fight! This was his only choice—perhaps even the perfect chance Lu Lengchuan had delivered right into his hands!

Boom!!

Burning with an extreme amount of Golden Crow flames, the Heaven Smiting Sword slammed fiercely into Lu Lengchuan's chest. At the same time, Lu Lengchuan finally stabbed his spear forwards and struck Yun Che perfectly in the left ribs.

There was one loud, combined bang as two terrific explosions erupted at the same time. A depression appeared on Lu Lengchuan's Glowing Dragon's Sacred Barrier, and blood poured out of Yun Che's left ribs as he was thrown back wildly by the impact.

Lu Lengchuan remained perfectly unharmed even as he stepped backwards three times in a row. However, the result of the clash had shocked him deeply.

The Glowing Dragon's Sacred Barrier was deeply dented. A scarlet golden mark could be seen burning incessantly on the barrier. But what shocked him even more was the overall effect of his spear strike.

Technically speaking, even if the spear strike might not be enough to penetrate a cultivator in full, the spear strike still should've been powerful enough to crush both muscles and bones. However, when his spear penetrated Yun Che's profound energy defense and struck his body, it felt less like hitting flesh and bone, but more like an unbelievably sturdy profound steel. He didn't even break a rib with the stab.

Yun Che staggered backwards a dozen steps or so, his white clothes drenched in blood. However, like a loosed arrow he pounced straight towards Lu Lengchuan again without even checking his wound. His aura hadn't diminished in the slightest.

Yun Che was in fact as shocked as Lu Lengchuan was. Lu Lengchuan was only covered by a single Glowing Dragon's Sacred Barrier, and he already knew from the battle between Lu Lengchuan and Luo Changsheng that the first layer of the barrier was the weakest of the three.

But not only did the barrier manage to block his full power slash entirely, he didn't even succeed in tearing a hole through the barrier!

Lu Lengchuan's eyes blazed brightly as he held the Skysplitter Spear horizontally before him, actually taking a fully defensive stance.

Boom boom boom boom...

Yun Che charged at Lu Lengchuan using Moon Splitting Cascade and swung his burning sword at his opponent from seven different positions. However, Lu Lengchuan successfully blocked all his attacks. By the time Yun Che swung his sword for the seventh time, the Glowing Dragon's Sacred Barrier had already healed itself back to full.

Yun Che left behind yet another icy afterimage and appeared behind Lu Lengchuan, swinging his sword for the eighth time towards the back of Lu Lengchuan's heart. However, his opponent suddenly switched from defense to offense by transforming the profound light around his spear into a roaring dragon and performing a reverse wide sweep. He ignored Yun Che's attack entirely during the process.

Boom!!

Crack!!

The full throttle attacks landed on their intended targets at nearly the same time.

Red and yellow erupted, and Lu Lengchuan was thrown a dozen or so steps away from the point of impact. However, once again he was perfectly unscathed, except that the Glowing Dragon's Sacred Barrier had depressed yet again.

Yun Che's right arm took the full brunt of Lu Lengchuan's sweep. A loud snap and a dull grunt later, Yun Che was thrown nearly a hundred meters away from the point of impact before he crashed heavily on the floor.

"Yun Che!" Mu Bingyun shouted in shock and fright.

"His right arm has to be a goner after that hit." Everyone had heard the snap as clear as day.

“This battle has ended since the Glowing Dragon’s Sacred Barrier appeared.”

“Yun Che’s performance is so unbelievable it’s practically a miracle. Sigh, what a shame.”

Yun Che slowly climbed back to his feet under everyone’s pitying gazes.

Blood dripped down the corner of his lips, and his face was contorted with pain. However, his eyes remained as dark and fierce as ever.

His right arm was currently twisted backwards in an exaggerated fashion. Yun Che inhaled deeply, grabbed it with his left arm and pulled it back into position abruptly.

Crack! His dislocated arm returned to its original position. Yun Che didn’t groan out in pain even once throughout the process. The only things that changed were the color of his face and the sweat beads pouring off his forehead.

“Wha... his arm was only dislocated?” It was such stunning revelation that no one could believe their own eyes for a time.

Lu Lengchuan’s full throttle attack was so deadly that Yun Che was swept nearly a hundred meters away from the point of impact. Even the reverberation of the attack was powerful enough to scare some cultivators already.

But that powerful attack... only succeeded in dislocating Yun Che’s arm!?

“...Hmm?” Even the god emperors looked surprised by this.

“It has nothing to do with profound energy,” Eternal Heaven God Emperor said, “He was planning to destroy the the Glowing Dragon’s Sacred Barrier, so he didn’t saved any energy for defense at all. His body... is extraordinarily tough.”

“...” The Dragon Monarch’s eyebrows twitched indiscernibly for an instant.

Meanwhile, Yun Che forced himself to grip the Heaven Smiting Sword once more despite the fact that his right arm was screaming in intense pain. However, his pupils contracted yet again when he looked at Lu Lengchuan.

A new, faint yellowish barrier that was more visible than the first barrier had encased Lu Lengchuan before he knew it.

His opponent had successfully evoked the second Glowing Dragon’s Sacred Barrier!

“...” Yun Che clenched his teeth tightly.

Yun Che obviously had no hope of winning, but Lu Lengchuan didn’t conserve his strength at all. After evoking the second Glowing Dragon’s Sacred Barrier in a nearly cruel fashion, he suddenly charged towards Yun Che like wild thunder. He swept his spear in front of him and fired a dozen or so spear auras straight towards Yun Che.

He had just fixed his right arm from a very severe dislocation, and it was hurting so much that he couldn’t quite move the limb as he wanted to. At this point, Yun Che dared not suffer Lu Lengchuan’s

attacks head on. He backed off in a burst of speed, but Lu Lengchuan threw down a dragon image from the sky.

“Demon Dragon Seal!”

Yun Che stopped himself and stared at the dragon image. He cut down the stone dragon image with Golden Annihilation, but Lu Lengchuan was already charging towards him. His spear was brimming with draconic power.

Yun Che’s right arm was working slowly, so his counter attack was just slow enough that he was knocked back by the enemy’s spear. Suddenly, Yun Che jumped into the air and summoned aura that surpassed his limits.

The sudden, unbelievable power gave Lu Lengchuan pause.

“Destroying... Sky... Decimating... Earth!!”

Ignoring the intense pain in his right arm, Yun Che summoned every ounce of strength in his body to commence this ultimate strike. The Golden Crow flames had actually turned a pure golden color at some point.

Lu Lengchuan looked at him seriously and raised his spear right in front of him. His entire body was enveloped in yellow light. The attack hadn’t even come down on him yet, but its sheer might had nailed him to the ground.

“Haah!!!!”

Destroying Sky Decimating Earth took a lot out of Yun Che, but it was also his strongest attack. The moment he swung the Heaven Smiting Sword at Lu Lengchuan, the air within a radius of tens of kilometers was pushed away completely.

Everyone in the spectator’s stands opened their eyes wide. However, Lu Lengchuan remained calm in the face the mighty attack. He didn’t try to dodge out of the way. He hadn’t even raised his Skysplitter Spear higher to block the attack.

Boom————

There was a terrible explosion that shook space itself. Destroying Sky Decimating Earth landed perfectly on the second layer of the Glowing Dragon’s Sacred Barrier. However, Yun Che’s expression abruptly changed drastically.

The moment the Heaven Smiting Sword touched the second layer of the Glowing Dragon’s Sacred Barrier and caused it to distort, a large portion of its explosive power suddenly vanished as if it had sunk into water, while the rest was completely repelled... This time, he wasn’t able to cause even a scratch on the barrier.

Lu Lengchuan’s counter attack abruptly came.

The moment after Destroying Sky Decimating Earth was unleashed was also Yun Che’s weakest moment. Lu Lengchuan had been waiting for this moment to fling Yun Che into the sky. He jumped into the air, his

three meter long spear transforming into a True Dragon whose soul shaking roar reached nearly every corner of Eternal Heaven Realm.

“Dragon... Crush... Strike!!”

The words sounded like both Lu Lengchuan’s voice and the mighty roar of a True Dragon. A power as strong as Yun Che’s Destroying Sky Decimating Earth gathered inside the dragon that was the Skysplitter Spear before it fell mercilessly on Yun Che’s back.

BOOM———

The space within tens of kilometers was filled with dragonstone power in an instant.

Yun Che spat out a mouthful of blood and crashed onto the stage like a falling meteor. The entire Conferred God Stage shook intensely as a result.

“Ah... ah!!”

“His back! His back... he must have broken his back... Hsss...” a profound cultivator gasped in response. It was clear to everyone that the absolutely destructive attack had landed squarely on Yun Che’s back. An injury like this was so serious that even a divine way profound cultivator must spend a long time in recuperation, much less get back into the fight.

Members of the Snow Song Realm and the Flame God Realm looked like they could faint. Mu Bingyun slowly rose to her feet with slightly pale cheeks. “Yun... Che...”

Yun Che lay immobile on the ground for a very long time. Honorable Qu Hui studied Yun Che with his spiritual perception to see if the young man had fainted entirely, but to his surprise... Yun Che slowly sat back up on his own.

Although his movements were painful and difficult, it was a sight that stunned everyone once more.

“He could sit up? Does that mean that the attack... failed to break his spine?”

“But he was struck dead on by Lu Lengchuan’s Dragon Burst Spear! This is impossible!”

“...Sigh. What does it matter? Look at Lu Lengchuan, you all.”

Roar!!

A dull sounding dragon’s roar suddenly entered everyone’s ears.

The spectators turned their gaze towards Lu Lengchuan, only to find that the image of a yellow dragon slowly swimming around the profound cultivator. Its aura was as towering as a hundred thousand meter tall mountain.

The third and final layer of the Glowing Dragon’s Sacred Barrier had formed!

Hah... hah... hah...

Right now, Yun Che could only hear his own panting, his absolutely heavy panting.

Lu Lengchuan's Dragon Burst Spear was so powerful that his spine would've been shattered into bits if he didn't have bones as tough as refined steel and the dragon god marrow. However, he still suffered severe internal injuries from the attack. He staggered back to his feet using the Heaven Smiting Sword, but the moment he stood still his aura fell into disorder, prompting him to cough out three full mouthfuls of blood.

Every time he coughed, he was coughing blood and bits of flesh out of his mouth.

He had a vague idea that nearly forty percent of his internal organs were crushed by the impact.

At the same time, he noticed that Lu Lengchuan's aura had changed massively yet again. When he looked up, he was immediately greeted by the sight of a dragon swimming around his opponent.

The Glowing Dragon's Sacred Barrier... the absolute barrier of despair... was complete.

Before Lu Lengchuan had evoked the Glowing Dragon's Sacred Barrier, he was able to gain an increasing amount of advantage with the Golden Crow flames over time.

However, from the moment Lu Lengchuan had evoked the barrier's first layer, the fight had become completely one sided.

Lu Lengchuan had even evoked the Glowing Dragon's Sacred Barrier all the way to the third layer.

He didn't think that Lu Lengchuan's Glowing Dragon's Sacred Barrier was all that impressive when he saw how easily Luo Changsheng had torn it apart... but after facing down the barrier himself, Yun Che finally realized just how scary this ultimate technique of the Shrouding Sky Realm truly was.

Lu Lengchuan hadn't broken his promise and gone easy against Yun Che. Despite wielding the absolute advantage, he still evoked the third layer of the Glowing Dragon's Sacred Barrier without hesitation.

Yun Che had already lost when Lu Lengchuan successfully evoked the first layer of the Glowing Dragon's Sacred Barrier. After that, he was seriously wounded after Lu Lengchuan had evoked the second layer. Now...

He had been defeated by his opponent completely and utterly. There was no longer even a trace of a chance for Yun Che to overturn this outcome.

That was what everyone thought at least.

However, they didn't think that Yun Che's defeat was shameful in the slightest. Considering his age, cultivation level, and his ability to suppress Lu Lengchuan at the beginning, it was an honorable defeat to say the least.

Lu Lengchuan slowly stepped towards the blood drenched Yun Che while holding the Skysplitter Spear. He could've advised Yun Che to surrender the fight, but he refrained from doing so because of Yun Che's ferocious gaze. He knew that his opponent would fight to the last second even if he was destined to lose this fight. Telling him to surrender would only serve to insult that resolve.

Lu Lengchuan's heavy footsteps approached closer and closer. Yun Che's right arm continued to cling onto the Heaven Smiting Sword as he panted heavily.

He did something strange with his left arm, however. He lifted it into the air with the palm facing up to the sky.

Chapter 1195 - Profound Handle: God Manifestation

“What is he doing? Is he going to surrender?”

“It... doesn’t look like it?”

Yun Che’s internal injuries were severe, and his breathing was incredibly heavy. However, he closed his eyes and quickly emptied his mind. Blue light suddenly flashed from his left arm before it flew away from the limb entirely.

The blue light flashed in midair before it suddenly discharged a great amount of heat and light. The fire quickly took on the shape of a giant three-legged bird.

It was the Golden Crow’s image!

“Is that... the Golden Crow’s divine image?”

“Why is he conjuring this image now?”

Every spectator looked confused and puzzled by this sight.

“Oh? What is he doing?” the Star God Emperor asked. “Is he trying to show off the majestic presence of the Golden Crow before his moment of defeat?”

“Maybe. He has inherited the power of the Golden Crow despite being a Snow Song Realm disciple.” Eternal Heaven God Emperor nodded slightly.

The Golden Crow image moved rapidly above Yun Che. At first, it was completely an illusion. Over time, it slowly gained substance and became a half real, half illusory thing. Finally, it manifested... fully into existence?

Swoosh—

The fiery Golden Crow image spread its wings and let out a long, resounding cry.

In that moment, the five great god emperors and every Divine Master present froze where they were. A blank moment later, their expressions changed drastically.

“Is... is that the...”

Both the Star God Emperor and Moon God Emperor stood up at once. They cried out in utter disbelief:

“God... Manifestation... Art!???”

The two God Emperors’ exclamations stunned every spectator in the stands... Just what was it that stunned the two god emperors so much that they forgot themselves?

“The God Manifestation Art?... How... how is this possible?” An indescribably strange atmosphere started spreading from the spectator’s stands. Nearly every Divine Master was staring at Yun Che’s

Golden Crow image with a stupefied look on their faces. They looked like they had just seen the most unbelievable and ridiculous thing in the whole wide world.

The Golden Crow image stood proudly above Yun Che as it quietly spread its fiery might to every corner and every soul present at the Conferred God Stage, oppressing them.

When a Divine Spirit's power was wielded to a certain extent, or when a Divine Spirit was executing a certain profound technique, they could manifest a divine spirit image to show off their power. They could manifest or erase the image whenever they wanted to. For example, there were the Golden Crow flame image, Phoenix flame image, Heavenly Wolf image and Azure Dragon image...

However, an illusion was ultimately just an illusion. It had no use other than to intimidate.

The fiery Golden Crow image above Yun Che's head was different though. Not only was it emitting a tremendous amount of spirit pressure and fiery aura, they could sense its life and soul as well!

"That's not a phantom..." Huo Rulie looked up into the sky and mumbled like he was dreaming. "That's a god he manifested!"

"Manifest God" was an alien concept to most young profound practitioners and average experts. Only those who stood at the peak of the Primal Chaos would truly understand how precious the God Manifestation Art was.

It was precious because it was an ultimate power that only Divine Masters who inherited a certain level of primal god blood and above could unleash.

But Yun Che... was obviously just a Divine Tribulation cultivator!

"No... it cannot possibly be the God Manifestation Art. No matter how amazing he is, he cannot possibly use the power of a Divine Master." The Eternal Heaven God Emperor stared at Yun Che with clear shock in his eyes.

He tried to find a flaw or abnormality in the Golden Crow image as best he could, but the more he tried, the bigger his shock became.

A Divine Tribulation cultivator executing the God Manifestation Art... it was a revelation so ridiculous that their common sense, the common sense of god emperors, was completely overturned. That was why they couldn't believe it no matter what.

Lu Lengchuan stopped in his tracks and stared at Yun Che in astonishment.

The God Manifestation Art was a power that could only be wielded by Divine Masters. Naturally, Yun Che couldn't execute it. Therefore, the Golden Crow image he unleashed wasn't a product of the God Manifestation Art, but Profound Handle: God Manifestation!

The day he returned to Snow Song Realm and dove to the bottom of the Heavenly Netherfrost Lake, after his request for power was turned down by the Ice Phoenix girl, she had given him a simple bit of advice. She had told him to fuse his profound handle, profound veins, and god souls together.

At first, Yun Che didn't pay her advice much attention. His biggest desire at the time was to increase his profound energy level and nothing else.

After the Universe Penta Jade Pellet was completely refined, he still had some time before the Time Wheel Pearl was completely used up. It was during that time he started fusing the god soul granted to him by the Ice Phoenix girl. When the fusion process was complete, the girl's advice flashed across his mind during his moment of enlightenment and greatest clarity.

A trace of sudden realization flowed into his soul.

The power of the profound handle was the Illusory Demon Realm Yun Family's core power. Back then, it was this power that had brought the Yun Family to the top of the Twelve Guardian Families.

However, Yun Che's profound energy was special. The Evil God Arts sat at the core of his power, but didn't affect the profound handle. Moreover, the profound handle was unusable because it helped little at the cost of much strength. The gain wasn't worth the cost.

That was why Yun Che very rarely used it back in the Profound Sky Continent. Most of the time, he only used it to confuse his enemy's senses.

After he arrived in the God Realm, the profound handle was practically useless to him.

However, in that instant of enlightenment, he finally realized that the profound handle in his bloodline wasn't just an unsophisticated, completely separate special power. When he unlocked a certain key and completed the fusion process, he suddenly discovered a new, awesome power that had never been revealed to him until that moment.

Right now, his profound handle wasn't just a profound handle anymore. It had completely fused with Yun Che's bloodline, profound veins, and god soul. Although it was subordinate to Yun Che, it had a life of its own. Some of its power came from Yun Che, but it also had its own power, and a high level consciousness that originated from the god soul!

In terms of its very nature and level of power, it was completely on par with the so-called God Manifestation Art practiced by the God Realm's profound practitioners.

However, a practitioner of the God Manifestation Art must be at Divine Master Realm and possess a rich amount of primal god blood. Yun Che's Profound Handle: God Manifestation could be executed whenever he wished from the moment he learned how to use it... It was a special, divine power that he had learned on his own that belonged to no other.

It literally was the one and only in the entire Primal Chaos!

Profound Handle: God Manifestation was one of the trump cards Yun Che had planned for the Conferred God Battle. Originally, his plan was to use it during the final battle. However, he had underestimated the Four God Children's true strength, and had no choice but to use it now.

When Profound Handle: God Manifestation was fully formed, Yun Che lowered his arm and gripped the Heaven Smiting Sword once more. By now, the discomfort plaguing his right arm had lessened by a lot, but instead of sparing some profound energy to suppress his wounds, he summoned his profound energy for battle once more.

Boom!!

Yun Che's destroyed forcefield erupted into existence again. Despite his terrible wounds, it was as strong as it was before. Lu Lengchuan was staring at the bizarre Golden Crow image in doubt and puzzlement when Yun Che's aura eruption caught him by surprise. He was just about to tell Yun Che to suppress his wounds when he saw the latter charging towards him while covered in fire.

Lu Lengchuan's brow creased as the Skysplitter Spear's dragon image danced around him. It was at this moment that he sensed a second blazing aura swinging towards him from above, prompting him to look up. The Golden Crow image, with spread wings, was swinging a three hundred meter long sword of fire straight down at his head! Its form was so mighty that it was only slightly inferior to Yun Che's.

The crowd's deafening roars of shock entered his ears.

"G... Golden Annihilation!?" The Flame God Realm elders and disciples were so shocked their eyeballs nearly fell out of their sockets.

Momentarily distracted, Lu Lengchuan subconsciously raised his spear to block the flaming sword swinging down from the sky. By then Yun Che had already gotten close to Lu Lengchuan and struck him with his sword.

Boom... Boom!!

Two fiery auras exploded on the Skysplitter Spear and Glowing Dragon's Sacred Barrier separately. The amplified attack was a fiery hell that Lu Lengchuan had never experienced until now. It left a dim golden mark on the barrier, and caused the guardian dragon image to cry out in pain.

Lu Lengchuan's pupils widened in an instant. The Golden Crow image's power was bigger than he imagined, and more importantly Yun Che's power hadn't decreased at all.

The fiery image was no illusion. In fact, its life and soul presence might be the real thing. Even more unbelievable was the fact that the Golden Crow image had executed the same Golden Crow sword technique Yun Che had used before!

"Did an image... just use... Golden Annihilation?" A Golden Crow disciple rubbed his eyes strongly.

"I said it's not an image. It's highly like that it's a... Manifest God!" Huo Rulie said slowly. His lips had been trembling visibly for a while now.

"What's a... Manifest God?"

"It's a power none of you can understand right now. It's not something even I can execute. You only need to know that a Manifest God is capable of using the power of the Golden Crow's Record of the Burning World. It'll exhaust Yun Che faster, but won't weaken his power. It's like... getting a huge support for free!" Huo Rulie explained while reining in his boiling blood.

"Manifest God... sss... how can a power like this exist in the world? Still, even if his power isn't split, he has to spare some consciousness to control the Manifest God, especially when he's executing a flame technique, right? Isn't he afraid that he'll lose control?"

"No!" Yan Juehai shook his head firmly. "If that really is a Manifest God... then it could operate entirely on its own. You can say that it has its own consciousness... or soul!"

It wasn't just the Golden Crow Sect. Every Divine Master and god emperor present in the Conferred God Stage felt their eyes twitch like they were pricked by a needle when they saw the Golden Crow image unleashing the flaming sword.

Although Lu Lengchuan was completely unharmed, the force of impact still knocked him back hard. He did his best to quell his puzzlement and shock as quickly as he could, but Yun Che was already slashing downwards at Lu Lengchuan.

Bang!!

Yun Che's attack was blocked by the Skysplitter Spear. At the same time, a giant, golden fireball several hundred meters wide fell from the sky towards Lu Lengchuan like a meteor. Lu Lengchuan was kept occupied by Yun Che's heavy sword, so he had no choice but to resist the attack with the Glowing Dragon's Sacred Barrier. There was a loud explosion, and both Yun Che and Lu Lengchuan became engulfed in flames.

Ssssssssst...

Distorted sizzles could be heard from the surface of the Glowing Dragon's Sacred Barrier, but the Golden Crow image was already following up with another attack. Again, the image swung its sword straight at Lu Lengchuan's body.

Lu Lengchuan was keeping the sea of flames at bay with the Glowing Dragon's Sacred Barrier and struggling full force against Yun Che. The attack instantly broke the balance between the duo and knocked Lu Lengchuan a dozen steps backwards. Yun Che immediately followed up with a torrent of attacks.

Boom boom boom boom boom!

Every time Yun Che swung, he left behind a fiery impression on the Glowing Dragon's Sacred Barrier. It took five hits before Lu Lengchuan finally recovered his balance, and he counterattacked with a straight stab while ignoring Yun Che's attacks.

This time though, Yun Che didn't try to trade damage with Lu Lengchuan. Instead, he stopped his assault and dodged the attack instantly with Moon Splitting Cascade. Meanwhile, a new blast of fire buried Lu Lengchuan in a sea of flames yet again. The attack was quickly followed by more swings from Yun Che. The one man and one image duo kept attacking Lu Lengchuan with the Golden Crow flames and kept him buried in flames nearly all the time.

A profound handle's strength could be deduced from its color. A blue profound handle could unleash sixty percent of Yun Che's strength.

A profound handle was the body of the Manifest God. Therefore, the Manifest God could only wield sixty percent of Yun Che's strength. But unlike a normal profound handle, the blue profound handle that had fused completely with the Evil God profound veins now wielded the same type of power as Yun Che, meaning that it could now be amplified by the Evil God Arts. In short, the Manifest God wielded sixty percent of Yun Che's current strength.

Combat strength wise, there was very little difference between Yun Che and Lu Lengchuan. The stalemate at the beginning of the fight was a sign of that.

Since the difference between their strengths was so small, any tiny variable could change the tides of battle entirely. For example, Lu Lengchuan was able to push Yun Che gradually to the edge of defeat after evoking just one layer of the Glowing Dragon's Sacred Barrier.

But now what would happen if Yun Che suddenly gained sixty percent more power out of nowhere?

Even better, it wasn't just a plain addition of strength. Yun Che himself gaining sixty percent more strength, and Yun Che gaining a Manifest God with its own soul and consciousness wielding sixty percent of his strength were two entirely different concepts!

The cries of the Golden Crow resounded again and again on the Conferred God Stage. Yun Che and the Manifest God cooperated flawlessly to attack and defend, defend and attack, or attack and defend Lu Lengchuan at the same time. Lu Lengchuan could take on Yun Che alone, but not Yun Che and his Manifest God at once. His defense was easily picked apart, and his attacks were interrupted before he could complete any one of them... It was almost felt like he was dragged into a borderless sea of Golden Crow flames. The Glowing Dragon's Sacred Barrier kept sizzling like it was on fire, and the dragon image never stopped crying out in pain.

One might say that Yun Che was wiping the floor with Lu Lengchuan in a sea of fire.

If Lu Lengchuan chose to stop Yun Che, he wouldn't be able to defend himself from the Manifest God. But if he chose to stop the Manifest God, he wouldn't be able to defend himself from Yun Che. If he tried to stop both of them... it couldn't be done even if he went all out against them.

If he hadn't encased himself in three layers of Glowing Dragon's Sacred Barrier, his body and soul would have crumbled already.

Countless mouths were agape as the spectators watched the fight.

"Are we sure... that isn't a... contracted profound beast?"

"Have you ever seen a profound beast that can use an ancient divine flame god art? This is the Golden Crow flame we're talking about, the Golden Crow's Record of the Burning World!"

Chapter 1196 - All or Nothing

Booom! Booom!

Before anyone realized it, the entire Conferred God Stage was flooded with Golden Crow flames and turned into a one hundred and fifty kilometer wide golden purgatory. Both Yun Che and Lu Lengchuan were buried under a sea of fire while the Golden Crow image hung majestically up in the sky. It poured down more and more Golden Crow flames to turn the Conferred God Stage into a scarier purgatory.

Although Yun Che was severely injured, his attacks and the Manifest God's were as frantic as ever.

Before Yun Che had summoned the Manifest God, Lu Lengchuan was able to defend himself perfectly, and Yun Che had to open himself up to massive counterattacks if he wanted any chance of breaking open his Glowing Dragon's Sacred Barrier at all. Moreover, he couldn't destroy the first layer of the Glowing Dragon's Sacred Barrier in one go even if he struck it with everything he had. Worse, Lu Lengchuan could use the opening to wound him deeply and restore the barrier unhurriedly while Yun Che was down.

But now, Lu Lengchuan no longer had that luxury. Although he was still able to defend himself against Yun Che's attacks, he couldn't spare any energy to resist the Golden Crow image's flames. Not only had Yun Che's attacks become like a downpour just like before, but he gave Lu Lengchuan no openings to exploit, like the time he tried to break through the Glowing Dragon's Sacred Barrier in one go, not to mention he also had the Moon Splitting Cascade. As a result, Lu Lengchuan couldn't find even an instant to restore his barrier.

This meant that Lu Lengchuan's Glowing Dragon's Sacred Barrier was burning all this time. There was only damage and no recovery!

The Golden Crow flame itself was an incredible power on its own. Both the persistent sizzling noise coming from his barrier and the painful cries of the stone dragon scared Lu Lengchuan immensely. He wanted very much to find an opportunity to restore the Glowing Dragon's Sacred Barrier, but Yun Che hadn't even given him the chance to breathe. If he tried to restore the barrier by force, and Yun Che seized the opportunity to shoot a direct blast, he would only lose his barrier faster.

Lu Lengchuan was completely suppressed, and the aura of the Glowing Dragon's Sacred Barrier was weakening by the second. It was clear to everyone that the barrier would collapse if Lu Lengchuan couldn't produce a trump card that would overturn this dire situation.

Lu Lengchuan would lose when all three of his barriers had crumbled.

However, that was assuming that Yun Che could hold out that long... It was just as clear to everyone that he was severely injured and deeply exhausted.

Everyone on the Snow Song Realm's side had long since stood up from their seats. Flame God Realm's elders and disciples were the same too. In fact, they seemed to be even more excited and tense than the Snow Song Realm was, judging from the fact that they had slightly lost control over their fiery auras.

"Do your best, Yun Che!"

Every one of them were cheering for Yun Che inside their heads. Their eyes were wide open, and they dared not blink even once for a long time. The disciples seemed to be especially agitated, considering that their veins were bulging and their hair was standing on end.

Yun Che was a Snow Song Realm disciple, true.

But the flame burning on his body was without a doubt the Golden Crow flame!

When Huo Poyun was defeated, they thought that the Golden Crow flame would never burn on the Conferred God Stage again. However, not only had it reentered the Conferred God Battle through Yun Che, it was shining like never before!

The Four God Children were undefeated legends of the Eastern Region.

They all desired to see the moment a legend was burned to dust by the Golden Crow flame!

It no longer mattered at all why Yun Che was able to ignite the Golden Crow flame—and such a pure one no less—despite being a Snow Song Realm disciple.

"Yellow... Spring... Ashes!!!"

Yun Che's roar overlapped with the Golden Crow's cry as two Yellow Spring Ashes erupted at once. The dozens of kilometers long golden flames were so powerful that spectators could clearly sense its world annihilating heat even through the barrier.

Lu Lengchuan's figure was thrown far away by the highly concentrated flames. However, the Conferred God Stage suddenly turned quiet.

The Golden Crow flames slowly descended and revealed Yun Che and Lu Lengchuan.

Both combatants were standing quite a distance from each other. Lu Lengchuan couldn't control his expression because the double Yellow Spring Ashes he suffered earlier had left several cracks that were nearly a meter long on his Glowing Dragon's Sacred Barrier.

Although the cracks were faint, their appearance meant that the Glowing Dragon's Sacred Barrier could be destroyed at an even faster rate than before. But what was puzzling was that Yun Che had stopped trying to pursue his enemy. It wasn't just him either, the Manifest God simply hung in the air and did nothing for a time.

Lu Lengchuan hurriedly seized the opening to restore his barrier. The cracks that took Yun Che so much to create began healing at a visible rate.

"Yun Che... He's..." The members of both the Snow Song Realm and the Flame God Realm felt their hearts clenched at once.

Slowly, Yun Che raised a palm and pressed it to his lips. He shook once, and blood poured down his fingers for a very long time.

He had suffered quite a few internal injuries earlier, but not only did he try to suppress them, he even used his full strength and summoned the Manifest God. All these exertions had without a doubt worsened his injuries.

Even worse than his injuries was the physical burden of his body and loss of profound energy.

It was true that Lu Lengchuan had to spend a lot of energy to maintain the Glowing Dragon's Sacred Barrier, but he was also a bona fide rank ten Divine Spirit practitioner. Although the Evil God Arts helped amplified Yun Che's strength to the point where he was a match for Lu Lengchuan, the amount of profound energy he possessed was overwhelmingly inferior to the latter's.

If he had another three hundred breaths... no, two hundred breaths' time, Yun Che was confident that he could break apart all three layers of the Glowing Dragon's Sacred Barrier.

However, he could sustain "Rumbling Heaven" for only a hundred breaths even when he was at his peak. Now that he was gravely wounded, and he had to use Profound Handle: God Manifestation, his time limit was drastically shortened. His body was telling him that ten breaths was his ultimate limit.

He just couldn't break open the Glowing Dragon's Sacred Barrier in such a short time no matter what.

"Yun Che!" Those from the Snow Song Realm cried out in unison.

The atmosphere lingering around the Conferred God Stage suddenly became greatly subdued. At the beginning, they didn't believe that Yun Che had any chance of beating Lu Lengchuan at all. But as he

showed them one miracle after another, their attitudes began to shift down another direction. By the time the Golden Crow image made its appearance and worked together with Yun Che to suppress Lu Lengchuan completely, almost all of them were rooting for Yun Che to win.

Even the Shrouding Sky Realm's disciples were waiting for the moment Yun Che achieved victory.

After all, it was everyone's dream to see legends broken, and new history made.

In the end though, a legend was still a legend. It was no easy feat to overcome them.

"Ah," Yan Juehai let out a long sigh, "It's a miracle he made it this far, really. If he had used the God Manifestation Art from the beginning then... this fight may have ended another way."

Suddenly, his mind turned blank.

Why hadn't Yun Che used the God Manifestation Art from the beginning?

He had purposely kept this trump card under wraps, and he used it only when he had no other choice... was beating Lu Lengchuan not his ultimate goal?

Slowly, Yun Che lowered his hand. The Heaven Smiting Sword and even the Golden Crow image vanished from view.

Lu Lengchuan, "..."

"Yun Che... Yun Che finally gave up. Sigh."

"It's a miracle he managed to make it this far. He may not be a match for Lu Lengchuan right now, but he'll definitely be Lu Lengchuan's better in five years' time at most!"

"To think that a Manifest God would appear on the Conferred God Stage... I guess I really have gotten old. The next generation has arrived earlier than I expected."

There were sighs everywhere in the spectator's stand. Although this was their predicted result from the start, their feelings were completely different from before. Still, Yun Che had no doubt become the shiniest star of the Conferred God Battle. Not even Luo Changsheng and Jun Xilei could surpass his glory.

Just when everyone including Lu Lengchuan thought that this battle was over, Yun Che suddenly raised his left arm and summoned the blue profound handle again.

Screee—

A long cry cut through the air, and an icy figure slowly manifested into existence. A sudden chill descended on the still burning Conferred God Stage, followed by an icy might that was just as powerful as the Golden Crow image's before.

Everyone from the Snow Song Realm jumped out of their seats again. "That's... that's the Ice Phoenix!"

It was a phoenix with feathers of ice. Dreamy mist and dazzling light trailed its body like smoke. It was none other than the Ice Phoenix of the three ancient Supreme Water Attribute Beasts!

Just like the Golden Crow image from before, it was a mighty being with perfect life presence and soul presence!

“Ice... another Manifest God? I...”

“Two Manifest Gods? This... this can’t be real, can it?”

“He can summon the Golden Crow Manifest God and the Ice Phoenix Manifest God? Hmm... you can do this with the God Manifestation Art?” God Emperor Shitian half-stared, and half-narrowed his eyes at Yun Che for a long time.

“Unheard... of. Never... seen,” the Brahma Heaven God Emperor said very, very slowly.

“The God Manifestation Art is one and only, and it has to be powered by a Divine Master. This is common sense among all Divine Masters,” the Dragon Monarch explained, “Therefore, Yun Che’s technique cannot possibly be the God Manifestation Art.”

“The fact that we have no idea how Yun Che managed to do what he did probably means that it is a power that he had created and learned by himself... that’s the scariest part of all this.”

The Dragon Monarch’s words caught all god emperors off guard.

“A young man who’s less than fifty years has invented a power that’s comparable to that of the God Manifestation Art... do you understand how significant that is?”

The god emperors fell silent. They weren’t able to say anything for a very long time.

“What’s Yun Che trying to do?” Mu Huanzhi looked confused. Destructive power wise, the ice phoenix was absolutely inferior to the Golden Crow. Yun Che was also grievously wounded, deeply exhausted, and now without a weapon because he had put away his sword. By all accounts, he looked like he was going to give up the fight, but if that was the case why had he summoned the Ice Phoenix’s image?

Was he trying to show to the world that he was a Divine Ice Phoenix Sect disciple during his last moments on the stage?

The Ice Phoenix didn’t attack Lu Lengchuan after it appeared. It simply hovered quietly above Yun Che’s head.

Yun Che slowly moved his hands towards his chest and closed his eyes. His fingers were curled, and his palms were facing each other. A tiny, golden spark burned in between his hands.

The moment the tiny spark appeared, Yun Che’s body suddenly burned wildly with fire. A Golden Crow image appeared around Yun Che and let out a proud cry.

In an instant, the very air of the Conferred God Stage seemed to screech to a halt as a deadly heat like never before spread to the surroundings. At the same time, light suddenly underwent a bizarre transformation and painted the world red without a sound. By the time the people returned to earth, the world became even redder until dreamy gold suddenly joined the palette as well.

Lu Lengchuan’s face was contorting drastically on the Conferred God Stage. He could sense the air temperature rising and rising and rising at an unbelievable rate.

“Look... look up there!!”

Everyone at the spectator's stand subconsciously looked up to the sky. They finally discovered the source of the red and gold color.

The pale white sky had turned completely red.

A golden sun had appeared at the center!

"It's... it's..."

"Nine Suns Heaven's Fury!!" Mu Huanzhi, Huo Rulie, and Yan Juehai roared in unison.

"Yun... Yun... Yun Che can use Nine Suns Heaven's Fury!?" Mu Huanzhi was so shocked he could barely articulate himself.

"..." Huo Rulie's feeling was only more turbulent than his.

Nine Suns Heaven's Fury was the tenth stage of the Golden Crow's Record of the Burning World, the ultimate flame that not even he, the sect master of Golden Crow Sect, was able to cultivate! It was why Huo Poyun's successful cultivation of Nine Suns Heaven's Fury was a historical moment to them.

But Huo Poyun was clearly not the only one who could do it, because Yun Che was gathering the flames of Nine Suns Heaven's Fury right before his eyes!

Still, his rationality made him clench his teeth. "It won't work! Nine Suns Heaven's Fury is the ultimate divine flame of the Golden Crow's Record of the Burning World. The cultivator must concentrate fully when circulating the laws, and spend a long time to gather the flames. They also can't be interrupted at any point while the technique is channeled. Lu Lengchuan can easily cut it off before it forms completely... there's no way he can activate Nine Suns Heaven's Fury by force this way!"

Chapter 1197 - Outcome

Nine Suns Heaven's Fury was the ultimate flame in the Golden Crow's Record of the Burning World. It could even be called the strongest and most destructive flame in the entire god realm.

Knowing extremely high level flame laws and having perfect control over the Golden Crow flames was just the start. The person in question must also be extremely smart and lucky to have a chance at learning Nine Suns Heaven's Fury.

Not even Huo Rulie, the number one cultivator of the Golden Crow Sect was able to learn this technique.

But Yun Che...

He had defeated those in the Divine Spirit Realm at Divine Tribulation Realm, he possessed both the Ice Phoenix and the Golden Crow divine bloods, he knew the technique Profound Handle: God Manifestation, he even had two Manifest Gods of ice and fire... in comparison, it was surprisingly unsurprising that he had the ability to unleash this ultimate flame.

The sky was golden. Everyone including Lu Lengchuan was looking up at the legendary strongest divine flame and becoming absentminded for a very long time.

That being said, his Glowing Dragon's Sacred Barrier was slowly returning to normal.

Huo Rulie wasn't exaggerating. Nine Suns Heaven's Fury was the Golden Crow's strongest power, so of course the requirements to unleash it were stringent. Not only must the user concentrate fully on the task, but they must gather their flame powers for a very long time... when Huo Poyun used Nine Suns Heaven's Fury at Snow Song Realm, it had taken him fifteen breaths to charge up his power.

Huo Poyun could unleash his Nine Suns Heaven's Fury because of the rules of the gamble that time. He didn't need to worry about being interrupted.

However, in a real fight a powerful opponent would never allow an instant's opening to go unpunished... much less one that was fifteen breaths long!

Nine Suns Heaven's Fury was powerful, but logically speaking there was just no way it would be allowed to go off successfully on the Conferred God Stage.

That was why Yun Che's choice looked like an unwise decision made under desperation's spur.

The fire surrounding Yun Che grew more and more intense. Soon, his entire body was enveloped in golden flames. Although no visible change could be seen from the golden sun in the sky, its power was in fact skyrocketing at an incredible rate, seemingly without end.

The Shrouding Sky Realm King roared, "Interrupt him now, Lengchuan!"

Honorable Qu Hui abruptly turned around and shot a fierce, warning look at the Shrouding Sky Realm King.

Lu Lengchuan was already flying toward Yun Che. The warning was completely unnecessary because he was the closest person to Yun Che, and he wasn't isolated by the Conferred God Stage's barrier. He knew better than anyone present just how terrifying those flames were.

The moment he moved, the Ice Phoenix broke its long silence with a cry and swooped down at Lu Lengchuan. It fired an ice beam that looked as gorgeous as the rays of dawn at the north magnetic pole.

Kakakakaka...

A dozen or so thick ice walls rose from the ground and blocked Lu Lengchuan's path. At the same time, an icy mist appeared and sealed off Lu Lengchuan's vision and spiritual perception. The instant Lu Lengchuan plunged into the mist, he lost track of Yun Che completely.

A bone deep chill penetrated Lu Lengchuan's soul, but for some reason it didn't insulate him from the rising heat. These two powers were supposed to cancel each other out, but somehow he felt like he was submerged in lava and trapped in an icy hell at the same time.

It was an incredibly bizarre and uncomfortable experience to say the least.

Despite his alarm, Lu Lengchuan didn't fail to react immediately. He easily destroyed the ice walls with one horizontal sweep, but even more icy obstacles were already forming and blocking his way. Soon, they grew so big and numerous that it was apt to describe them as an icy fortress. Meanwhile, the icy mist continued to spread and seal off any chances of Lu Lengchuan detecting and advancing toward Yun Che.

"Yun Che is borrowing the Ice Phoenix's power to stop Lu Lengchuan," Mu Bingyun said.

“This... this is the power of the Ice Phoenix God Investiture Canon!” Mu Huanzhi whispered to himself. “The Golden Crow image could use the Golden Crow’s Record of the Burning World, the Ice Phoenix image could use the Ice Phoenix God Investiture Canon... How am I not comprehending this power at all despite surviving for over ten thousand years?”

“I told you, it’s a Manifest God, not a mere image!” Huo Rulie emphasized for the third time.

Huo Rulie had inherited the purest Golden Crow bloodline, so it was absolutely possible for him to cultivate the Golden Crow God Manifestation Art, “Golden Crow’s Descent” if he reached Divine Master Realm. It was the power he hoped to obtain even in his dreams, which was why he couldn’t stand others calling the Manifest God an “image” again and again.

Mu Bingyun was right. Yun Che had unleashed the Ice Phoenix Manifest God to hinder Lu Lengchuan.

Ten breaths was all he needed!

It was true that the Ice Phoenix was incomparable to the Golden Crow in terms of destructive power. However, the opposite was also true. The Ice Phoenix’s ability to defend and control the enemy far exceeded the Golden Crow’s!

Although the Ice Phoenix only had sixty percent of Yun Che’s power, and there was no way it could hinder Lu Lengchuan for long... delaying him for ten breaths was absolutely within the realms of possibility!

In order to complete Nine Suns Heaven’s Fury in the shortest amount of time, Yun Che went so far as to seal off all six of his senses to focus on his task. It meant that he couldn’t sense Lu Lengchuan even if the latter was just three steps away from him... It was a decision spurred by his trust in his Manifest God’s power, and a lack of any other choice.

The consciousness and combat instinct of a Profound Handle Manifest God came from the god soul, not Yun Che. Therefore, he didn’t need to spare it any attention at all.

Yun Che’s god soul was the soul fragment of a True God. Therefore, its combat instinct could only be far greater than Yun Che’s!

The chains of frosty obstacles turned into a giant ice barrier formation in just a few breaths. Lu Lengchuan couldn’t escape the ice barriers despite attacking again and again.

However, he wasn’t attacked at all during this period... obviously, the Ice Phoenix had decided to focus all of its efforts on defense.

Lu Lengchuan raised his eyebrows before concentrating his power into his spear. A dragon image suddenly appeared around the spear and let out a roar.

“Dragon Burst Spear!!”

A draconic roar shook the heavens, and yellow light shrouded the sky for an instant. The explosion of power took out nearly seventy percent of the icy mist and the ice barriers. Finally the ice barrier formation crumbled, and Lu Lengchuan was able to charge out of the icy mist. He looked to the front but couldn’t find Yun Che. When he turned around, he was shocked to find his opponent more than fifty kilometers away from him!

He had actually lost his direction while he was destroying the barriers inside the ice barrier formation!

Lu Lengchuan locked onto Yun Che once more, but he didn't try to get near this time. Instead, he held his spear horizontally in front of him and enveloped the space one hundred and fifty kilometers around him with an aura.

"Not good!" Huo Rulie and the others felt their hearts clenching.

"Dragonstone Formation!"

After spending two breaths to gather his strength, a burst of dragonstone power erupted from the dragon image.

It was an explosion that enveloped the entire Conferred God Stage, so there was nowhere for Yun Che to dodge, especially since he was fully concentrated on his task. If the explosion affected him in any way at all, the channeling of Nine Suns Heaven's Fury would definitely be cut short.

The Ice Phoenix flashed once in midair. A dozen or so ice barriers instantly sprang up around Yun Che as it circled above his head.

The power of an attack would be spread out if it was applied across a large area. The ice barriers crumbled one after another as the yellow light approached Yun Che, but by the time the eleventh layer fell apart so did the dragonstone power behind Lu Lengchuan's attack. Not only was Yun Che completely unharmed, the attack hadn't even ruffled his sleeves.

Suddenly, instead of creating more ice barriers around Yun Che, the Ice Phoenix switched directions and engulfed Lu Lengchuan in a gust of snow and ice during the short period he was depleted by his attack.

The airspace above Lu Lengchuan instantly turned white.

As the snowstorm raged, a giant blue ring appeared soundlessly where Lu Lengchuan stood. Then, the ring contracted and transformed the space Lu Lengchuan was in into an icyhell.

"Frozen End Heaven Sealing Formation!!" Every Snowsong Realm disciple yelled in unison.

"Dragonstone Formation" was an attack that was as big as it was exhausting, so Lu Lengchuan had to wait for a moment to recover his strength. The Ice Phoenix had seized this opening instantly to conjure the Frozen End Heaven Sealing Formation and bury him under a devastating, apocalyptic snowstorm.

Krakrakrakrakrak...

Ice swelled exponentially where Lu Lengchuan was. By the time the snowstorm had come to a stop, an iceberg over three hundred meters tall had spawned on the Conferred God Stage, reflecting the golden light of the Golden Crow flames. Surprisingly, its coolness wasn't affected by the Golden Crow flame's burning heat in the slightest.

"He... he's sealed!!" Every Snow Song Realm disciple who was watching from the spectator's stand or on a star tablet roared out in excitement.

"How did an Ice Phoenix image activate such a huge Frozen End Heaven Sealing Formation in an instant..." Mu Huanzhi wondered absentmindedly.

“It’s a Manifest God! A MANIFEST GOD!!” Huo Rulie shouted at him. He would’ve sat on the guy’s head if he could.

“Now Lu Lenhchuan won’t be able to escape the Divine Ice Phoenix Sect’s Frozen End Heaven Sealing Formation in a short time. To think that this Ice Phoenix would know how to entrap Lu Lengchuan the second he exposed a huge opening... this Manifest God doesn’t just have independent consciousness, it obviously possesses a high level of intellect as well,” Yan Juehai praised.

“But Lu Lengchuan still has three layers of Glowing Dragon’s Sacred Barrier. Is the weakest first sun really enough to break through his defenses?” Yan Juehai voiced his worries.

“Look closer,” Huo Rulie said while staring at the sky.

Yan Juehai’s pupils abruptly shrank when he looked up again.

The golden light was so bright that it spread all the way to the horizon. One might even claim that the golden sun had become the center of the world, blazing with heat that couldn’t be touched directly.

It was near the edge of the fiery light that Yan Juehai saw a floating outline.

“There’s... there’s two suns!!”

It wasn’t one sun, but two suns overlapping each other!

At another corner of the Eternal Heaven Realm.

The sky above Huo Poyun was dyed a scarlet gold as well. Under a thick tree trunk, the young man stared at the two suns and felt their incredible heat brushing against his skin even from this distance. He turned absentminded for a very, very long time.

One breath... two breaths... three breaths... four breaths... five breaths...

Krak!!

A long crack appeared on the iceberg, followed by a sudden explosion. Still covered in ice, Lu Lengchuan finally escaped from the iceberg. There were clear frostbite marks on his body.

It took him five breaths to escape the Frozen End Heaven Sealing Formation. The moment he appeared, he immediately felt a terrifying aura pressing down from above.

Oh no... Shocked, Lu Lengchuan immediately locked onto Yun Che’s current position and gathered every ounce of his energy on the Skysplitter Spear as quickly as possible. Dragon roars reverberated through the air as the weapon glowed yellow. The Ice Phoenix was thrown out of his mind completely.

“Dragonhunt Kill!!”

Shhhhhh!!

Space itself seemed to be torn as an impossibly shrill cry pierced the air. Then, Lu Lengchuan threw the roaring Skysplitter Spear straight at Yun Che. The weapon travelled at the speed of a meteor.

Scree!!

A phoenix's cry suppressed the dragon's roar entirely. The Ice Phoenix Manifest God threw ice barriers and snowstorms at the Skysplitter Spear again and again.

Bang bang bang bang bang...

The ice barriers weakened the power behind the spear non-stop, and the snowstorms kept distorting its flight trajectory. However, the Manifest God only wielded sixty percent of Yun Che's strength. It simply wasn't strong enough to block Lu Lengchuan's entire, concentrated power fully. Despite everything, the Skysplitter Spear made it through all the ice barriers and was about to collide with Yun Che.

Another phoenix cry rang out, and the Ice Phoenix suddenly appeared right in front of Yun Che.

"Moon... Moon Splitting Cascade!?" Mu Huanzhi was so shocked his jaw nearly hit the floor.

Bang!!!!

The Skysplitter Spear pierced right through the Ice Phoenix. The Manifest God dissipated into nothingness after a death cry.

Thanks to the Ice Phoenix's efforts, the Skysplitter Spear's power and flight speed were greatly decreased. Even its trajectory was distorted so much that it passed harmlessly by Yun Che; at least two hundred and fifty meters to the right.

Yun Che slowly opened his eyes.

Two suns shone golden in the air.

Lu Lengchuan stood still and ceased all attacks. There was no point in continuing because Nine Suns Heaven's Fury had already been completed... Now, all Yun Che needed to do was to drop the suns on him with a single thought. He had no way of interrupting that.

Thanks to the Ice Phoenix, he had failed to even touch Yun Che's sleeves for ten breaths.

The Conferred God Stage was completely silent. Everyone was staring at the suns in the sky. The Golden Crow Sect disciples in particular were shaking like they were looking up to a god.

In ancient legends, it was said that the Golden Crow's fire came from the sun itself. Therefore, Nine Suns Heaven's Fury was literally made up of the sun's flame.

"He made it... he actually made it... he actually created two suns in just... ten breaths!?" Huo Rulie whispered like he was in a dream.

Despite standing on the Conferred God Stage and facing down one of the four God Children of the Eastern Region himself, Yun Che still managed to complete the Nine Suns Heaven's Fury!

"This Yun Che boy... you can never judge him by common sense," Yan Juehai praised.

Normally, the entire Golden Crow Sect would be alarmed that an outsider was wielding their unique bloodline and profound art. Right now though, Yan Juehai could only feel envy for Golden Crow Sect.

How gratifying and glorious would it be if the power shining on the Conferred God Stage right now was the Phoenix Sect's World Illuminator Red Lotus?

Yun Che's eyes were calm, but his breathing was heavy and his face was constantly twitching in pain.

He had poured every ounce of strength into this Nine Suns Heaven's Fury. He hadn't conserved even the slightest bit of power for himself.

If he still couldn't beat Lu Lengchuan with this attack, then he had no choice but to submit himself to fate.

Although Yun Che was on the verge of losing control, he didn't throw Nine Suns Heaven's Fury at Lu Lengchuan immediately. The two combatants said nothing as they stared at each other. When Nine Suns Heaven's Fury falls, whatever happens will be completely out of my control—that was what Yun Che's eyes were telling Lu Lengchuan right now.

"..." Lu Lengchuan stretched out his arm and summoned the Skysplitter Spear back to him. Then, he raised the weapon high into the sky and covered himself in yellow light. A dense defensive aura surrounded him. "Come!"

Yun Che panted once, and fire suddenly erupted from his skin. The golden red sky above everyone's heads suddenly crumbled as the two overlapping suns sank to the ground, straying away from one another in the process. The spectators cried out loudly.

"Aaaaaahhh!"

The Conferred God Stage was isolated by a powerful barrier, so it was impossible for the powers occurring inside the barrier to affect anyone outside. However, more than half of the profound practitioners watching the battle still lost control over their own mouths when the sky collapsed, and the suns swelled abruptly before their very eyes.

Lu Lengchuan looked up as the terrifying aura approached him. He could hear his father roaring beside his ears, but he still chose to stay instead of escaping the Conferred God Stage. He roared. "HAH!!!!"

BOOM

There was a dull explosion, and the suns exploded so brightly that the entire sky was dyed completely red and gold. Everyone felt like they had just witnessed the explosion of two real suns.

Lu Lengchuan's figure was completely devoured by the two suns. The entire Conferred God Stage had transformed into a golden world where only world ending golden flames could be seen. The sheer force of presence that was brimming from the arena was so scary that even Divine Kings were stunned beyond words.

"Sect master, the young master, he... he's safe, right?"

"..." The Shrouding Sky Realm King was on his feet. His hands were clenched so tight that they were shaking ever so slightly.

"This... is the power of our Golden Crow Sect!" Every Golden Crow Sect member from the elders to the disciples was staring at the Conferred God Stage piously like they were witnessing a divine miracle.

Yun Che fell from a sky of golden flames. He was so spent that he couldn't even get up on his feet. Unleashing Nine Suns Heaven's Fury had worsened his injuries and pained him greatly, but finally, he could have a moment's respite.

That was what he thought... until he suddenly sat up and stared down in a particular direction. His gaze slowly focused.

The terrifying golden flames burned for a very, very long time. If this wasn't the Conferred God Stage, no one had any doubts that this whole area would burn down to nothingness.

A long time later, the golden flames gradually thinned and subsided. The two figures that were swallowed by the flames for a very long time slowly came into view.

Yun Che was sitting on the floor with a pale white face and bloody lip corners. The aura he was exuding was unbelievably weak.

In front of him, Lu Lengchuan was clinging to his spear in a half crouch. His head was bowed, and he wasn't moving in the slightest. The three-layer Glowing Dragon's Sacred Barrier on his body was long gone, and his clothes, right down to his exposed skin, were completely burned. Some of the burn marks on his body were so deep that the crowds could see the bones inside.

His aura had also become very weak.

Weak, but it was nightmare for Yun Che all the same.

Lu Lengchuan finally moved as the flames around him gradually subsided. He slowly stood up while holding the Skysplitter Spear.

Lu Lengchuan was burned so badly that he was completely unrecognizable, but he still managed to stand as straight as an arrow.

His aura was so weak that it was less than a tenth of a tenth, but he was still faring far, far better than Yun Che.

The long long silence was shattered by a cheer from the Shrouding Sky Realm's seats. The Shrouding Sky Realm King let out a huge sigh of relief and collapsed on his seat, drenched in cold sweat from head to toe.

Everyone from the Snow Song Realm and the Flame God Realm fell silent and somber. Those spectators who were hoping for a miracle were just as quiet. In the end... Yun Che ultimately lost the battle.

"Sigh, it was so close. It was so, so close." Huo Rulie closed his eyes and let out a long, bitter sigh.

Yun Che's Nine Suns Heaven's Fury was unleashed in a state of grievous injuries and near exhaustion. Lu Lengchuan couldn't possibly have endured the attack otherwise.

"He could've won this. He should've used the Manifest God from the start," Yan Juehai said while looking up. At the beginning, he hadn't believed that Yun Che could defeat Lu Lengchuan at all. But now, he simply couldn't find it in himself to accept this result.

Yun Che pushed the ground with his hands and slowly, very slowly climbed to his feet.

Right now, he was as weak as a child. Simply standing on his two feet had taken everything he had. Lu Lengchuan might appear to be as weak as he was, but in reality it would take only an instant for his opponent to defeat him.

The result was set. He had poured every bit of power into the fight without saving anything, and this was the final outcome. Acceptance was the only path left for him... no matter how much reluctance he felt.

Lu Lengchuan stared straight at him, but for some reason he didn't send Yun Che away from the stage. Instead, his gaze wavered as if he was struggling with something.

Suddenly, Lu Lengchuan's eyes turned peaceful as he smiled at Yun Che.

The Skysplitter Spear vanished from his hands, and he turned around to face Honorable Qu Hui. "I surrender."

The two indifferently spoken words stunned everyone so much that they almost thought that their ears had gone awry.

Yun Che, "... ???"

"What did you say...? Did you just ask to surrender?" Honorable Qu Hui frowned. "You have the absolute advantage right now, so why have you asked to surrender?"

Lu Lengchuan shot a glance at Yun Che before saying seriously, "I am Lu Lengchuan, a son of Shrouding Sky, and I have lived my entire life proud and deserving, but in this fight... I don't deserve victory."

Chapter 1198 - Overnight Celebrity

"I don't deserve victory."

To think that such words would be uttered by a God Child of the Eastern Region in front of so many people. The people were definitely surprised, but they suddenly realized that they weren't puzzled by his reaction. On the contrary, his words sparked a strange resonance in their hearts.

"Sect master, the young master is..." a Shrouding Sky Realm elder spoke up urgently.

However, the Shrouding Sky Realm King raised a hand and stopped him from continuing any further. His gaze was surprisingly approving.

Honorable Qu Hui wrinkled his eyebrows and asked again, "Lu Lengchuan, this is your last warning..."

"I surrender!" Lu Lengchuan declared before Honorable Qu Hui could finish his question. This time, the words were spoken even more unhesitatingly than before.

Yun Che, "..."

Honorable Qu Hui stopped trying and declared immediately, "Lu Lengchuan surrenders the Conferred God Battle!"

"Yun Che wins and will enter the sixth Loser's Group battle tomorrow!"

There was a short silence, and the spectator's stand erupted into thunderous applause and earthshaking cheers.

Lu Lengchuan was victorious, but had surrendered the battle willingly. Normally, his actions would be booed especially considering that he was fighting on the Conferred God Stage, but the applause and cheers kept going on and on like a tidal wave. Countless profound practitioners were standing or even flying in the air. As it turned out, the reception of this battle far exceeded the one between Luo Changsheng and Jun Xilei.

Yun Che looked up and surveyed his surroundings slowly... I didn't realize there were so many people who wanted me to win.

If someone were to recall the battle, they would realize that it was nearly a one man show by Yun Che. Again and again he had shaken every profound practitioner's eyeballs, heart, and soul. Again and again he had created miracles right before their eyes.

Although Lu Lengchuan was one of the famous four God Children of the Eastern Region, Yun Che was the one who pulled at their heartstrings from the beginning to the end. His performance today was as bright as the Golden Crow flames he ignited, whereas Lu Lengchuan was really just a foil that added to his brilliance.

This was Yun Che's battle. This was a miraculous battle that belonged to the Eastern Divine Region alone.

Yun Che deserved to win... he deserved to win far more than Lu Lengchuan ever would in this particular battle! Since the moment Yun Che summoned his Manifest God and challenged Lu Lengchuan with all three layers of his barriers active, nearly every spectator, including a large majority of the Shrouding Sky Realm disciples, had come to root for Yun Che.

That was why the spectators were unusually silent when the golden crow flames died, and Lu Lengchuan got back onto his feet. That was why they were all looking dissatisfied and reluctant until just now. When Honorable Qu Hui declared Yun Che's victory, the cheers were so loud that it was as if thunder had descended from the Ninth Heaven.

It was clear from this huge discrepancy who was the true victor of this battle.

"Yun Che!"

"Hahahaha... well done boy!!"

The Snow Song Realm's elders and disciples could no longer rein in their excitement or tears. They were so excited that they forgot Eternal Heaven Realm's renown and charged onto the Conferred God Stage, surrounding Yun Che. If the young man wasn't grievously wounded, they would've tossed him into the air in celebration.

"Junior Brother Yun, you are... the pride of Snow Song Realm!" an elder disciple said tearfully and tremblingly.

"Well done, Yun Che! Divine Ice Phoenix Sect... no, the entire Snow Song Realm is proud of you! Well done!" Mu Huanzhi was so excited that his beard was flying all over the place. When he remembered

that his granddaughter had the fortune to become his dual cultivation incubator, he couldn't help but laugh from the bottom of his heart.

"Yun Che, you've actually beaten one of the four God Children! Your name is going to spread throughout the Eastern Divine Region!"

"Hahahaha, let's see who else dares question the sect master's decision to take Yun Che in as her direct disciple... Yun Che, you may... no! You'll definitely surpass the sect master in the future! You won't just be the pride of Snow Song Realm today, you'll definitely bring prosperity and honor to the Snow Song Realm in the future as well!"

"Back down, please." Mu Bingyun walked forwards and isolated the crowd from Yun Che. "Yun Che is seriously wounded, and he has used up all of his profound energy. Watch yourselves and make sure you don't accidentally hurt him."

She then put a hand on Yun Che's chest and injected a gentle wave of frost energy straight into his body.

Yun Che smiled, "It's okay, I'm fine."

"All five of your viscera have fallen apart! There's nothing fine about that at all!" Mu Bingyun frowned and scolded him slightly.

Yun Che continued to smile at her. "This really is not a problem for me."

Although the battle was already over, the crowd's presence on the stage was still impudent to say the least. However, Honorable Qu Hui didn't chase them off the stage despite wearing a frown. Instead, he stared at Yun Che with complicated feelings for a very long time.

Every Flame God Realm member—especially those who belonged to the Golden Crow Sect—was flushed red with passion.

They were excited because Yun Che had used the golden crow flames to beat Lu Lengchuan!

From this day onwards, Yun Che's name would resound throughout the world. The golden crow flames would become a deep memory in every profound practitioner's mind once more.

They could imagine how much better they would be treated in the future when they revealed themselves to be Golden Crow Sect members in the future.

On the other side, the Shrouding Sky Realm King stood up and walked towards Lu Lengchuan. Although Lu Lengchuan lost the battle and became the only God Child who failed to become a top six fighter in the Conferred God Battle, the realm king didn't blame him in the slightest. On the contrary, he gave his son a heavy slap on the shoulder and laughed loudly, "You've made the absolute best decision. You truly are my son, hahahaha."

Meanwhile, earthshaking roars were exploding from every region and corner of the Snow Song Realm and Flame God Realm. The shouts were so great that both star realms were literally shaking.

"Yun Che won! Our Yun Che won the Conferred God Battle! Top six... top six!!"

"To think that he's one of us and our realm king's disciple... I'm not dreaming, am I?"

“Since Yun Che beat one of the four God Children of the Eastern Region, does that mean that Yun Che will replace Lu Lengchuan and become the new God Child?”

“Of course he will!!”

“Waaah! First he whipped the son of the Holy Eaves Realm King, then he crushed the son of the Divine Martial Realm King... who cares if they’re the top geniuses of upper star realms? They’re all losers under his feet! Now he’s even beaten a God Child... Ooo... he’s one of us... I’m so glad I was born in Snow Song Realm...”

Although Yun Che’s complete victory over Luo Changan and Wu Guike had also started a loud commotion, they were utterly incomparable to the noise generated by this new victory.

It was true that Lu Lengchuan was the one who had surrendered willingly, but Yun Che still would’ve been the victor in the people’s hearts even if he hadn’t done so. Their cheers were reserved for Yun Che only.

The four battles today had ended in an absolutely gorgeous manner.

The two fights that would happen during the sixth Losers Group battle that would be fought tomorrow and the battle ranking list were displayed on the screen.

First battle: Flying Star Realm’s Meng Duanxi versus Jasper Heart Sword Pavilion’s Jun Xilei.

Second battle: Glazed Light Realm’s Shui Meiyin versus Snow Song Realm’s Yun Che.

After the battle ended, just before the spectators left, nearly everyone at the Conferred God Stage, the God Emperors, Star Gods, Moon Gods, Guardians, Realm Kings, elders and young profound practitioners had glanced at Yun Che at least one time.

Before they knew it, Yun Che had become the absolute center of attention of this Conferred God Battle.

Mu Bingyun waited until Yun Che’s wounds had sufficiently stabilized before she led him away.

“I wonder if your master would be happy or furious after seeing your match today,” Mu Bingyun whispered. Even she couldn’t believe that Yun Che had actually taken out Lu Lengchuan.

He had fought Lu Lengchuan head on... stunned every Divine Master out there with his Manifest God... and conjured a Nine Suns Heaven’s Fury that looked like a falling sun...

She would never have imagined that the man she took back to the Snow Song Realm, as repayment for saving her life, would rock the entire Eastern Divine Region with his feats on the Conferred God Stage in just three years.

“Master... probably can’t bear to get angry with me even if she wanted to,” Yun Che replied softly.

Mu Bingyun, “...”

They fell silent for a very long time. The atmosphere between Mu Bingyun and Yun Che instantly grew awkward.

A group of people happened to pass by them at this very moment. When Yun Che subconsciously turned his head to see who it was, he came eye to eye with Lu Lengchuan.

Yun Che and Lu Lengchuan stopped in their tracks at nearly the same time.

Mu Bingyun glanced sideways before saying, "He's the one who gave you your victory. Go thank him."

Yun Che nodded and flew towards Lu Lengchuan. Lu Lengchuan sent his people away before flying towards Yun Che too.

"Brother Yun, you seem to be... fine?" Lu Lengchuan looked very surprised when he saw Yun Che's condition. It wasn't obvious because he had changed into a new set of clothes, but there were still burn marks all over Lu Lengchuan's body. Even with his cultivation level, it would take him quite a bit of time before he could recover fully.

"I'm fine now." Yun Che answered before thanking him sincerely, "Brother Lengchuan, this victory is very important to me. I thank you very much for your aid."

"You don't have to thank me." Lu Lengchuan shook his head. "I've cultivated almost twice as long as you have, and you're only in the Divine Tribulation Realm. However, your bloodline, elemental power, power of comprehension and potential... you've surpassed me in nearly every way. I simply don't deserve to win."

Yun Che, "..."

"You deserve this victory. You deserve to stand on the Conferred God Stage far more than I do." Lu Lengchuan smiled. "I'm certain that everyone—even me—is looking forward to your next match, not mine."

"That is why I accept this loss wholeheartedly. I would only feel uncomfortable had I claimed this victory by force, and I'm certain that no one would cheer for me."

Yun Che smiled. "You're the one who gave me the victory, but here you are trying to console me. You truly are a rare character, Brother Lengchuan."

"Hahaha, 'rare' characters like me can be found everywhere, but people like you can't be found even after one million years, I suspect." Lu Lengchuan laughed loudly. Suddenly, he narrowed his eyes and said seriously, "I'm not sure if your technique is the God Manifestation Art my father spoke of, but I do know that I would've lost much sooner if you had used it from the beginning."

Yun Che. "..."

"You were planning to save this trump card for another time, weren't you? Your goal in this Conferred God Battle is farther than it appears... are you aiming for Luo Changsheng, for example?"

"..." Yun Che didn't deny it. He slowly nodded.

"I thought so." Lu Lengchuan raised his eyebrows and looked like he wanted to say something.

"How do you compare to Jun Xilei, Brother Lengchuan?" Yun Che asked.

Lu Lengchuan said slowly and heavy heartedly without any hesitation. "I'm far beneath her."

The word "far" was emphasized quite strongly.

Yun Che's chest heaved once before he let out a sigh. "I guess it's impossible for me to beat Jun Xilei as she is... much less Luo Changsheng."

"Jun Xilei is Senior Sword Sovereign's only successor, and there's nothing ordinary about her. As for Luo Changsheng, everyone knows that he's a real monster. Maybe if you had a couple more years, you'd be able to fight them evenly or even surpass them..." Lu Lengchuan obviously thought very highly of Yun Che, but his tone took a sharp turn as he said, "But as of now, there's no way you're a match for either one of them."

Lu Lengchuan just fought Yun Che on the Conferred God Stage, so no one knew about Yun Che's limits better than him right now. That was why he sounded so certain.

Yun Che immediately fell silent.

"Jun Xilei will definitely beat Meng Duanxi. If you can win your match tomorrow, your next opponent will definitely be Jun Xilei."

"However..." Lu Lengchuan's face grew even more serious. "You absolutely mustn't underestimate Shui Meiyin either. Meng Duanxi had proven his strength by entering the top six, but he could do nothing against Shui Meiyin at all... In fact, Shui Meiyin is much scarier than Jun Xilei in certain areas!"

Chapter 1199 - Inner Demon

"Thank you for the reminder, Brother Lengchuan. I'll be careful." Yun Che nodded, but he didn't actually feel much on the inside.

He had witnessed the battle between Shui Meiyin and Meng Duanxi with his own eyes, and he had to agree that her mental powers were extraordinary. Meng Duanxi was powerful, but he was almost completely helpless before her mental powers. If Shui Meiyin hadn't let up in the end, he wouldn't have even noticed that he was mind controlled past the point of defeat.

Although Shui Meiyin couldn't be underestimated, he had four types of divine souls in this body... He was at least confident that he wouldn't lose to a little girl in terms of mental power.

As for profound strength... Shui Meiyin was without a doubt the weakest out of everyone present. As long as he could suppress her mental attacks, the rest of the battle should be as easy as bullying a three-year-old.

Lu Lengchuan examined Yun Che's expression shortly before saying, "It looks like you're pretty confident about tomorrow's fight. That is good, of course... I still don't think you can beat Jun Xilei as you are now, but I definitely look forward to your battle against her."

Lu Lengchuan tossed three glittering items at Yun Che after he said this.

Yun Che caught them and gave them a glance. They were three Time Wheel Pearls.

"They are useless to me now, but you... maybe a few months' time is enough for you to create a miracle." Lu Lengchuan smiled.

Yun Che didn't turn down his offer. He held the Time Wheel Pearls tightly and thanked Lu Lengchuan gratefully, "Thank you, Brother Lengchuan. I definitely need these items."

"You don't have to thank me." Lu Lengchuan turned around before speaking in a low tone. "Thank you, Brother Yun."

"Why are you thanking me?" Yun Che looked confused.

"There are two reasons." Lu Lengchuan sounded rueful when he said this, "One, you... purposely separated the two suns before you unleashed Nine Suns Heaven's Fury, didn't you?"

"..." Yun Che looked caught off guard, but he didn't speak up or shake his head in denial.

It was true that he had split the two overlapping suns right before he threw Nine Suns Heaven's Fury. It was also true that its power was diminished as a result... he had used up all of his profound energy at the time, so he had no way of controlling the two suns once he unleashed them. It was entirely possible that a full powered Nine Suns Heaven's Fury might kill Lu Lengchuan.

The reason he changed his mind at the last moment and did something that went completely against his own objectives was because of Lu Lengchuan's slapping of Lu Chenyuan and the things he said yesterday.

"I thought so." Lu Lengchuan smiled. "You obviously want to win a lot, and yet you still hold yourself back from passing the line of cruelty and ruthlessness. You never brought this up until I asked you about it, which makes it obvious that you're protecting my pride... despite possessing unparalleled strength and talent, you also have a good nature. The Eastern Divine Region is lucky to have a genius like you."

Yun Che shook his head. "You praise me too much, Brother Lengchuan. I'm sure you can block the attack even if I hadn't done so. Plus, I personally don't think that my nature deserves your praise at all. I've done many ruthless things in the past, and about my final attack... I doubt I'll do that again if I have to repeat myself."

Lu Lengchuan smiled noncommittally before continuing, "The next thing I want to thank you for... is about the fact that I'm about to hit sixty in a couple of years. Thank you for giving me a battle like this at the end of my youth. I no longer have any regrets left in this part of my life."

Lu Lengchuan walked away, but not without giving Yun Che a few more parting words, "Feel free to visit Shrouding Sky Realm when you're free. My father praises you a lot, and I'm sure he'll be absolutely delighted to meet you."

How many people in the entire Eastern Divine Region had the honor to be "praised a lot" by the Shrouding Sky Realm King himself?

Yun Che didn't leave immediately. Instead, he stayed where he was, silently, for a very long time.

"Far beneath, huh..." Yun Che hid a sigh as he recalled Lu Lengchuan's words.

If even the likes of Lu Lengchuan was "far beneath" Jun Xilei, then there was no way he could beat her as he was right now.

His only ray of hope... was the six months of extra time granted by the Time Wheel Pearls in his hands.

"I must find a way to improve my strength as much as I can in the next two days." Yun Che muttered to himself before glancing at his left hand. "As for Hong'er... Her power is lagging behind mine already. I remember that she hasn't finished all the swords Ji Ruyan gave me... but in the end, they are swords from lower star realms. Her power wouldn't improve drastically even if she ate all of them. I guess I must find another way."

He looked up into the sky and muttered absentmindedly. "Jasmine, have you seen my fight today?"

The Eternal Heaven Realm was as quiet as usual. The moment Yun Che returned to his courtyard, he immediately noticed the master and the disciple Huo Rulie and Huo Poyun. It was obvious that they were waiting for him.

"Brother Yun!" Huo Poyun strode towards him excitedly, "The entire Eastern Divine Region has learned that you've beaten Lu Lengchuan. I... I can't believe I missed the match. I can't even begin to tell you how regretful I'm feeling right now. Er... how are your wounds?"

"Haha, they're fine, it's nothing," Yun Che said casually. He felt relaxed after judging that Huo Poyun was looking a lot better.

"Boy Yun..." Huo Rulie walked over with a chuckle. "Your opponents will only be more and more powerful from this point onwards. They are all the strongest young geniuses of the Eastern Divine Region. No one will question your current achievements, but... I'm sure that everyone of us are looking forward to you reaching even greater heights. Therefore, you must do your best in your next match... everything else can wait until after the Profound God Convention."

Yun Che nodded. "Don't worry, Sect Master Huo. I will do my best... including Brother Poyun's portion."

"Brother Yun..." Huo Poyun shot Yun Che an emotional look. "Not only did you manage to beat Lu Lengchuan, you even helped spread the glory of our Golden Crow Sect. It should've been my duty... but I ultimately failed to live up to everyone's expectations."

"Haha, do you understand now, Yun'er? The Golden Crow flame isn't weak at all, on the contrary it's very, very powerful. There are none more deserving of the title "strongest divine flame" than the Golden Crow flame. Yun boy's Nine Suns Heaven's Fury especially stunned those upper star realm fellows so much that they couldn't wipe their expressions off their faces for a very long time, hahahaha."

Huo Rulie couldn't control his sense of pride and passion and laughed loudly the moment he recalled the moment the world became illuminated by golden flames.

That was definitely the most fame Golden Crow Sect had ever gotten during his lifetime.

"Mn!" Huo Poyun nodded strongly. "Brother Yun defeated Lu Lengchuan, a God Child of the Eastern Divine Region with the Golden Crow flames. The entire Eastern Divine Region has borne witness to its power. I finally understand that my defeat at the hands of Jun Xilei isn't because the Golden Crow flame isn't strong enough. It's because my cultivation is utterly lacking... To think that I had become depressed for such a ridiculous reason... I must have disappointed you greatly, master."

“Hahahaha,” Huo Rulie waved his hands smilingly, “Of course not. Yun’er, Yun boy was right that day. You’re just a young boy, and it’s only natural for you to feel lost sometimes. The fact that you managed to escape your depression so quickly only makes me proud and happy for your sake. Why would I ever be disappointed by this?”

“Well, hehe... I would’ve been depressed for much longer if it wasn’t for Brother Yun. For the longest time, I thought I was strong enough to hold my own. I even thought that I was good enough to support Flame God Realm’s future already. In the end, I guess I was too young and naive. I’ll do my best to cultivate harder in the future... I’ll cultivate the Golden Crow flames hard and my mind even harder.”

Huo Poyun stretched out his hand and revealed a Time Wheel Pearl. “Brother Yun, this is my last Time Yun Pearl... Please accept this insignificant gift.”

Yun Che accepted the Time Wheel Pearl and looked at him firmly. “Brother Poyun, just you wait. I’ll take back what’s yours from Jun Xilei... using the Golden Crow flames no less.”

Huo Poyun’s eyes flashed once before he nodded firmly.

He had obtained three Time Wheel Pearls from Lu Lengchuan and one from Huo Poyun. This meant that Yun Che had a total of seven Time Wheel Pearls, and could extend fourteen hours to seven months right now.

Huo Rulie and Huo Poyun soon left the area. Neither of them asked Yun Che how he came by his Golden Crow bloodline. Huo Rulie’s explanation was that he wanted Yun Che to focus fully in the next few matches... Everything else could wait until afterwards.

Yun Che’s eyebrows furrowed a couple of times as he gripped Huo Poyun’s gift.

It was obvious that Huo Poyun had pulled himself free from depression and regained his usual spirit, but for some reason he still felt that something was wrong with him.

However, he couldn’t exactly figure out what was wrong with him either. It was just a feeling.

Maybe... maybe he hasn’t completely walked out of his shadow. Although today’s battle has dispelled his doubt about the Golden Crow flame’s strength, the defeat was a terrible shock. I guess he still needs more time before he can truly regain himself.

It was night. When Huo Rulie returned to his accommodation, he noticed that Huo Poyun had been lowering his head and staying silent all this time.

Huo Rulie’s eyebrows moved. “Yun’er?”

Huo Poyun jolted slightly before looking up. “Ah?”

“What are you thinking about? Are you still regretting that you missed out on Yun boy’s fight against Lu Lengchuan?” Huo Rulie smiled. “It’s okay. Someone must’ve captured that fight using a Profound Imagery Stone. You will be able to watch it.”

Huo Poyun bit his lips slightly before asking, "Master, were you the one who gave Brother Yun his Golden Crow bloodline and Golden Crow Divine Soul?"

Of course, this wasn't the first time someone asked him this question. Huo Rulie shook his head immediately. "Of course not. Yun'er, do you remember? The Golden Crow Divine Spirit once mentioned that there was another Golden Crow inheritance in a certain place beyond the God Realm."

Huo Poyun looked surprised. "Master, are you saying..."

Huo Rulie nodded. "The fact that he's able to unleash such pure and refined Golden Crow flames proves that the Golden Crow blood he bears is no ordinary inheritance. It can only be the Golden Crow origin blood just like you."

Huo Poyun, "..."

"The Golden Crow Divine Spirit presented its final origin blood and divine soul to you, meaning that there is no Golden Crow origin blood or Golden Crow divine soul left in this world. Therefore, his Golden Crow bloodline can only come from the other Golden Crow inheritance."

When Huo Rulie looked up, his eyes were shaking with excitement. He sighed. "Maybe this is the Golden Crow Divine Spirit's guidance. Although he isn't a Golden Crow Sect disciple, this is the first time the Golden Crow flame was glorious as this in the Eastern Divine Region. After today, all Golden Crow Sect disciples will come to respect him greatly, and the elders can't stop praising him for his actions. It doesn't actually matter where he came to earn his Golden Crow bloodline now, hahahahaha..."

Huo Rulie laughed to his heart's content. Huo Poyun's terrible defeat and depression had made him feel down for a little, but Yun Che's fight today had opened up so many pores and made him so happy that he literally couldn't describe his emotions. Who knew how many times he had laughed like he did today.

Huo Rulie didn't notice that Huo Poyun wasn't laughing or smiling alongside him. Instead, the young man looked down to his feet.

"Master," Huo Poyun said, "Brother Yun's obviously at the eighth level of the Divine Tribulation Realm... but he still managed to defeat Lu Lengchuan with the Golden Crow flames, who's at the tenth level of the Divine Spirit Realm. His Golden Crow bloodline... must be a lot purer than mine, isn't it."

"Oh no." But Huo Rulie shook his head and answered seriously, "The Golden Crow Divine Spirit once said that you're the next Golden Crow Divine Spirit. This means you have the richest Golden Crow bloodline in the entire world. Yun Che..."

Huo Rulie paused for a second before continuing, "Yun'er, do you remember how Yun Che blocked your Golden Annihilation and Nine Suns Heaven's Fury head on and suffered no damage three years ago at Snow Song Realm?"

Huo Poyun. "..."

"I never really understood how he did it until today. Considering his cultivation level that day, it should've been impossible for him to block your Golden Crow flames no matter how good he was at commanding ice profound energy... the fact that he was able to resist your power while being

completely unharmed proves that he has tremendous control over the power of ice and fire... a level that's far higher than yours."

"Plus, he has the Golden Crow's bloodline in him. This means that it's definitely possible for him to block your Golden Crow flames perfectly."

"..." Huo Poyun couldn't say anything for a very long time.

"I finally understood why Mu Xuanyin wanted me to gamble the Golden Crow's Record of the Burning World that day. It was all for..." Huo Rulie shook his head and smiled unconsciously.

If he had learned of the truth that day, he would've been absolutely furious with Mu Xuanyin. However, his "loss" had contributed largely to Yun Che's victory... he could only feel pleased and lucky when he thought about this. He actually didn't feel displeased by Mu Xuanyin's trickery in the slightest.

"I see." Huo Poyun muttered before continuing, "The Snow Song Realm King took the Golden Crow's Record of the Burning World from master because she wanted to give it to Brother Yun. This means that Brother Yun probably hadn't cultivated the Golden Crow's Record of the Burning World even though he already had its bloodline. If that's true, that means that he was able to unleash Nine Suns Heaven's Fury... despite cultivating the Golden Crow's Record of the Burning World for only three years..."

Huo Poyun's words caught Huo Rulie completely off guard. He stopped in his tracks and stared blankly into space for a very long time. "Now that you mention it... this kid... is seriously a monster..."

He was the Golden Crow Sect's sect master, and he hadn't been able to cultivate Nine Suns Heaven's Fury despite spending almost ten thousand years trying to do so... Meanwhile, Yun Che took only three years to cultivate Nine Suns Heaven's Fury!! Three measley years!!

If he didn't love Yun Che to death right now, he would probably choke to death instead.

"Yes." Huo Poyun said, "Brother Yun is just so impressive. It's only today that I realize that I'm incomparable to him in every way... actually, I should say that I'm not even qualified to be a comparison. To think I would be so foolish as to think that I'm..."

"Hahaha, now, you shouldn't undervalue yourself so much, Yun'er. Yun Che is an absolute monster that surprised even the god emperors. This God Conferred Battle will definitely make him famous throughout the entire God Realm, and there's no praise that he doesn't deserve. He's the kind of monster that may not show up even in a hundred thousand years after all! You don't need to compare yourself to him. You only need to know that you will always be my greatest pride."

Huo Poyun sucked in a deep breath. "Don't worry, master. I won't disappoint you any longer."

"Good! Your promise gladdens me considerably, Yun'er. Mn, speaking of which, that Yun boy has the Golden Crow bloodline even though isn't a member of our Golden Crow Sect, and now the entire Eastern Divine Region knows about it. The two of you are best friends, and I'm fond of him too, so I guess we can call him half a member of the Golden Crow Sect? To think that our Golden Crow Sect will be fortunate enough to welcome both of you into its fold. I, Huo Rulie can meet my ancestors with a smile even if I were to die right away, hahahahaha..."

Huo Rulie laughed loudly as he strode back into his room. Even an idiot could see that his feelings couldn't get any better than this.

A surge of irritation suddenly rose from the bottom of Huo Poyun's heart as he stared at Huo Rulie's departing back.

He went out of the courtyard with a heavy heart to take a walk, unaware of the passage of time or where he was headed to until he nearly ran into an ancient tree.

"Sigh." Huo Poyun stopped in his tracks and smiled mockingly at himself. He shook his head and looked at the sky with clear regret. "My master's praise, my peers' admiration, and fame throughout the entire Divine Eastern Region... Brother Yun rightfully deserves all these. He even inherited my will and kept the Golden Crow flames burning on the God Conferred Stage..."

"I should be happy, gratified and honored by his deeds. He even thinks of me as a friend! He's the first person who came over to console me when I fell into depression. I can definitely see that he's trying to help me regain my confidence by beating Lu Lengchuan with the Golden Crow flames as well."

"Brother Yun is undoubtedly a proud son of god, and yet he was never an arrogant or insincere person. I'm truly lucky to be able to make a friend like him. But as his friend... to think that I was so jealous of him just now."

He exhaled deeply before continuing, "It seems that my cultivation of the mind is far behind my cultivation of the profound way. I probably don't even deserve to call him my brother the way I am right now."

After breathing the air outside for a very long time, Huo Poyun was finally able to muster a smile. The walk had made him feel a lot better.

Yun Che's Golden Crow flames had stunned the entire Eastern Divine Region. Huo Rulie, Yan Juehai, and the elders only had endless praise for him. Even the disciples of all three Flame God sects couldn't hold back their respect and admiration when they were speaking of Yun Che. All these factors had undoubtedly caused an uncontrollable spurt of jealousy inside his heart.

Had Yun Che won all this using any other power, he would only be happy for him and cheer for him from the bottom of his heart.

However... the power he used was the Golden Crow flame...

He, Huo Poyun was the one who had the richest Golden Crow bloodline and Golden Crow Divine Soul. He was the one who was supposed to become Flame God Realm's hope and future. He was the one who was supposed to burn the brightest Golden Crow flame to ever exist... for the longest time, he had believed that he was one and only...

He had never felt such a smothering pressure and jealousy in his life until today. It made him afraid, ashamed, and disgusted with himself.

His emotions also made him realize that he was sorely lacking in the mind department.

His emotional issues slightly resolved, Huo Poyun turned around and got ready to return. It was at this moment two white figures dressed in Ice Phoenix snow robes suddenly walked over from the distance. They were obviously Ice Phoenix disciples, and they were chatting excitedly about something.

“Everyone’s talking about Senior Brother Yun right now. To think that he would actually beat Lu Lengchuan, Sss... it still feels like a dream honestly.”

“Yeah, did you notice that the upper star realm people we ran into earlier were looking at us with different eyes? It’s not just a dream, it’s a dream I wouldn’t even dare to imagine.”

“Haha, speaking of which, do you remember the time the sect master took in Senior Brother Yun as her direct disciple and gifted Senior Sister Feixue as his dual cultivation partner? At first, I thought it was a shame that the great elder and Senior Sister Feixue had to deal with Yun Che. But now? Tsk, I can’t believe I was stupid enough to doubt our sect master.”

“But of course, our sect master is beyond amazing.”

“...” Suddenly, Huo Poyun stopped in his tracks and shuddered like he was just struck by lightning...

It took him a very long time before he was finally moved and walked away in silence. However, his footsteps looked a tad floaty...

Chapter 1200 - A Warning Sign

Yun Che completely healed from his injuries and recovered his profound strength inside the Time Wheel Pearl. Afterwards, he immediately deactivated the time wheel barrier instead of choosing to cultivate inside it. It was almost impossible for him to raise his profound strength to the same level as Jun Xilei just by cultivating for a few months.

He had to make the best use of the seven Time Wheel Pearls in his possession before his fight against Jun Xilei. Otherwise, it would be waste of them.

The night passed by quietly as Yun Che adjusted his state to its peak. When he opened his eyes, it was bright outside.

His battle on this day had come so soon, and his opponent was... Shui Meiyin.

Perceiving the change in his aura, Mu Bingyun came over to his side, “The time for your battle is near. Let’s go.”

Yun Che got up and said as he thought of something, “Palace Master Bingyun, Brother Poyun’s condition still didn’t seem to be in a good condition yesterday, so I’ll go over to take a look at him. It would naturally be the best if I can get him over to the competition site to watch the battle.”

“...That’s all right.” Mu Bingyun nodded her head. She had already realized during this time period that Yun Che really considered Huo Poyun his friend, and was very concerned about him getting disheartened because of Jun Xilei.

Yun Che came over to the residence of the Flame God Realm, but he was not able to sense Huo Poyun’s aura.

“Oh... Senior Brother Poyun has already gone to the Conferred God Stage, along with Sect Master, quite a while ago,” a Golden Crow Sect disciple, who was staying behind in the residence, told him. There was a look of worship in his eyes as he informed Yun Che.

The look of worship in his eyes was absolutely much more intense than when facing Huo Poyun.

“I see.”

As Yun Che was about to leave, the Golden Crow Sect disciple called out, as he found it difficult to suppress his excitement, “S-sir... Yun Che, best of luck in your Conferred God Battle today!”

Yun Che soared into the sky as he made his way to the Conferred God Stage by himself. Huo Poyun had finally gone to the audience seating area today along with Huo Rulie, which made it seem as if he had come out of his depression. But Yun Che didn't feel relaxed in the least, and he became even more worried instead.

Looking at the extremely passionate look in that Golden Crow Sect disciple's eyes had made him think of something all of a sudden.

“Sigh.” Yun Che let out a light sigh. He talked to himself, “Seriously, these youngsters...”

He appeared to have forgotten that his current biological age was even lower than Huo Poyun's.

As he drew closer to the Conferred God Stage area, a group of three flew over from another direction. Yun Che was immediately startled when he cast a sideways glance in their direction.

The one leading the group was actually none other than Shui Yingyue! The most eye-catching among the three people, that subconsciously made others look at her first, was an exquisite and petite girl of tender age who was dressed in black skirt.

It was his opponent on this day—Shui Meiyin!

The third person was a youth in blue. His face was fair and clear, and had delicate features, but he still looked heroic despite that.

“Huh?” When Yun Che saw the group of three, Shui Meiyin also caught sight of him. She moved her beautiful eyes in a circle before suddenly pulling her elder sister as she flew straight to Yun Che.

“Big Brother Yun Che!” Shui Meiyin's fine eyebrows curved as she waved her little hand at Yun Che. “What a coincidence. We meet again.”

“Eh... ah, it is indeed quite a coincidence.” This heaven favored girl who was the focus of attention of the people throughout the world had surprisingly taken the initiative to come over and chat with him. Yun Che had no idea how to respond in such a situation.

Shui Meiyin slightly raised her face as her starry eyes twinkled, “Big Brother Yun Che, your performance was truly awesome in the fight with Brother Lengchuan yesterday! I worship you so much!”

“...” Yun Che was startled. He noticed that Shui Yingyue and the youth who were with Shui Meiyin were completely taken aback at her words, and even the expressions in their eyes seemed to have changed.

Seeing the clear look of disbelief on Yun Che's face, Shui Meiyin pursed her tender lips, "I'm telling you the truth. Moreover, this is my first time sincerely worshiping someone. It's because Big Brother Yun Che is truly so, so awesome... Oh, that's right!"

Shui Meiyin moved a bit to the side, "This is my big sister. You must have seen her before."

Shui Yingyue slightly nodded towards Yun Che. There was no doubt that the look in her eyes, while looking at Yun Che, was completely different from the first time she saw him.

"He is my Ninety-ninth Big Brother." Shui Meiyin pointed to the youth. "Ninety-ninth Big Brother also participated in this session of the Profound God Convention, but was defeated in the third round of the preliminaries. He is so much worse than Big Brother Yun Che, and can't be compared to even your little finger."

The identity of the youth was naturally extraordinary for him to be able to travel with Shui Yingyue and Shui Meiyin. He could have acted proud in front of Yun Che given his identity as a son of the Glazed Light Realm King, but his noble and towering presence was instantly reduced to nothingness by the remark Shui Meiyin made. He said to Yun Che with an awkward expression, "Cough, this humble one is Shui Yinghen, the ninety-ninth son of my royal father. Watching little brother Yun's battle yesterday, broadened the horizons of this humble one."

"...So it's the ninety-ninth young master of the Glazed Light Realm. I'm very pleased to meet you." Yun Che returned the greeting, as he sighed with emotion in his heart. If it was before the Profound God Convention, how was it possible for a proud person of the Glazed Light Realm, a peak level upper star realm, to even spare a glance at a person from a middle star realm? But now, not only did a son of the Glazed Light Realm King take the initiative to talk to him, but he even called himself "this humble one"...

He had an impression of Shui Yinghen. He vaguely remembered that he was one of the thousand heaven chosen children, but was not able to pass the third round inside the Eternal Heaven Tower, and consequently, was unable to enter the Conferred God Battle.

Considering how Shui Meiyin roasted him without any mercy just now, it appeared to be quite a disgrace to this ninety-ninth young master of the Glazed Light Realm.

"Big Brother Yun Che, your opponent today is me, so you need to be careful." Shui Meiyin's eyebrows curved as she revealed a sweet and lovely smile. She didn't seem as if she was facing an opponent in the least.

"Same goes for you," Yun Che replied.

"However," the girl slightly moved her starry eyes, as she said smilingly, "it doesn't look like you are completely unworried about losing to me."

"No." Yun Che shook his head. "I have never underestimated my opponent, and it is even more so in your case."

Shui Meiyin blinked her eyes. She wore a serious face, as she pointed her nose and lips up a bit and said in a certain tone, "But... do you really think so in your heart?"

“...” Shui Meiyin’s eyes looked pure like crystals, however, they had the same depth to them as a dark night. It seemed as if she could directly see through a person’s soul.

Yun Che was definitely not taking Shui Meiyin lightly, but as he was extremely confident in his mental power, he had never thought of the possibility of him losing to Shui Meiyin, not even subconsciously. After winning the battle against Lu Lengchuan the previous day, he had spent the whole night racking his brain to come up with a way to win against Jun Xilei. He almost didn’t bother thinking about how he was going to fight his battle with Shui Meiyin.

Looking at Shui Meiyin’s pitch-black eyes and hearing the surety in her tone, he suddenly grew wary of her in the depths of his heart for the first time... Furthermore, it was an extremely strong feeling of wariness.

“Haha,” Shui Meiyin lightly laughed at this time all of a sudden. Her laughter sounded quite lovely. “I may be younger in age and such a cute girl, but you might find it even more difficult to deal with me than Big Brother Lengchuan. Big Brother needs to be extremely careful.”

“All right,” Shui Yingyue pulled Shui Meiyin by the hand and slightly glanced at Yun Che. “The time for the battle to start is near, so let’s be on our way.”

“Mn!” Shui Meiyin pulled her elder sister’s hand. “Big Brother Yun Che, we’ll meet again in a bit

The pair of sisters slowly flew away, one dressed in black, the other blue. As the sleeves of their robes fluttered in the wind, they appeared like two butterflies dancing in the air, which was quite a delightful sight to say the least.

Shui Yinghen’s figure, however, came to a stop in the sky. He suddenly turned around and told Yun Che in a low voice, with a stern expression on his face, “Hey! I must warn you not to think that you will be able to defeat my little sister just because you defeated Lu Lengchuan. My little sister... is a monstrous girl that is several thousand times more capable and fearsome than what she has shown or you can imagine. You barely managed to keep your life to get that brilliant victory yesterday, so try not to be thoroughly destroyed today!”

“...” Yun Che was slightly stunned. He said while nodding, “I thank the ninety-ninth young master for the warning.”

“It’s good if you understand!” Having finished his words, he surprisingly drew a bit closer instead of leaving. He also lowered his voice a lot, “Well... you see, I warned you out of kindness, so shouldn’t you, you know... cough, repay me for it? During your fight with Lu Lengchuan yesterday... how did you pull off that ‘God Manifestation Illusion Divine Art’?”

Yun Che, “...”

“It isn’t the true ‘God Manifestation Illusion Divine Art,’ right? Royal father told me that it is only after reaching the Divine Master Realm that one is able to use it to its utmost ability. Why did someone such as you, who is just at the Divine Tribulation Realm, succeed in doing it...? Is there some trick to it? Is it difficult to learn?”

“Ninety-ninth Big Brother! Hurry... up!”

Shui Meiyin's voice was heard from far, far away. Shui Yingyue promptly turned his head around, as if he had heard an imperial edict, and after a moment of hesitation, immediately flew in the direction of the voice. At the same time, he didn't forget to leave a few words for Yun Che, "Later... Let's talk about it again later!"

When Yun Che arrived at the Conferred God Stage, he immediately caught sight of Huo Poyun. Huo Poyun also saw him coming over and stood up to welcome him.

"Brother Poyun, you have finally come. It seems that you have definitely thought through a lot of things," Yun Che said with a faint smile.

However, Huo Poyun shook his head in response, and let out a bitter laugh, "If I speak the truth, it would only sound like a joke to Brother Yun. Yesterday, I also once believed that I had broken free from the obstacles set up by my inner demons, but..."

"Sigh." Huo Poyun let out a light sigh, as a perplexed look surfaced in his eyes. "I clearly know that I'm under the influence of a heart demon, but I'm still utterly incapable of getting rid of it. I clearly know that I should not be thinking so pessimistically, but I'm still unable to change my way of thinking... It is only after arriving at the Eternal Heaven Realm that I discovered I'm actually a useless person."

"Hahaha," Yun Che unexpectedly laughed at his words. "Brother Poyun, do you still remember my words? Don't treat your inner demon as a bad thing. On the contrary, this is something one must experience in their life. Once you pass through this phase, you will be able to have a brand-new perspective of heaven and earth."

"Mn!" Huo Poyun nodded heavily. "I won't let myself continue to be in such a disgraceful state. Brother Yun, you will be able to enter the ranks of the top four after winning your battle today! You will be able to become part of the 'Four Conferred God Children!' I remember the Voice of Eternal Heaven saying that the top four contestants will be given special rewards by the four great king realms. Therefore... you have to do your best. You must emerge victorious."

"Of course!"

It was the sixth round of the Losers Group that was to be held this day, and a total of two battles would be fought. Following the announcement by Honorable Qu Hui, the Conferred God Battles for this day began quickly.

In the first battle, it was a face-off between Jun Xilei and Meng Duanxi. Nothing suspenseful or unexpected happened during this battle, and Jun Xilei easily won after only using six sword attacks.

"Meng Duanxi has lost, and his journey in the Conferred God Battle will stop here. Jun Xilei has won, and she will be participating in the seventh round of the Losers Group three days from now!"

"Now we will now have the second battle of the sixth round of the Losers Group, Shui Meiyin of the Glazed Light Realm versus Yun Che of the Snow Song Realm!"

As soon as Honorable Qu Hui made the announcement, the gazes of everyone present, including the great god emperors, star gods, moon gods, and guardians, focused on Yun Che right away... This scene alone was enough to manifest the enormous influence Yun Che possessed after his battle the previous day,

Mu Bingyun spoke five words of warning, "You must be extremely careful."

"Brother Yun, I suggest you suppress her with your profound strength as soon as possible, once the battle starts, so that she doesn't get the chance to execute her mental attacks," Huo Poyun said in a low voice.

Yun Che slightly nodded his head. He flew up into the air and landed on the Conferred God Stage, facing Shui Meiyin who was standing quite far away. Vermillion rays of light flashed, after which the Heaven Smiting Sword appeared in his hand, though he hadn't moved his profound energy yet.

Compared to the serious look in his eyes, and him preparing himself for the battle, Shui Meiyin had both of her hands behind her back. Her delicate fingers were still dexterously fiddling with the butterfly-shaped knot that was tied around her slim waist. There was a faint, beautiful smile on her face that made others feel no tension or deterrence at all.

The audience seating area was particularly quiet, as everyone looked at the stage with bated breath.

It was because no one dared to predict the outcome of this face-off.

There was no doubt that Yun Che had great strength, and it could be said that the whole Eastern Divine Region was stunned by his performance in the battle the previous day.

Shui Meiyin, however, was an extremely special existence.

Her profound strength was only at the first level of the Divine Spirit Realm. Although it was an absolutely world-shaking cultivation for someone of her age, it was undoubtedly at the bottom level among the participants of the Conferred God Battle. She had not faced a single defeat so far in the Conferred God Battle, except for the one time when she took the initiative to admit defeat in her battle against Shui Yingyue!

Moreover, she was able to win each of her battles quite easily.

At the same time, she had never used her profound strength to fight until now, and instead relied entirely on her extremely high level movement skill, and her incomparably extraordinary mental power.

Besides, the two of them had the lowest profound strengths among the thirty-two Conferred God Candidates, and even the thousand heaven chosen children.

One was at the first level of the Divine Spirit Realm, the other at the eighth level of the Divine Tribulation Realm.

Despite having such low cultivations, these two had surprisingly trampled on all their opponents in the late stage of Divine Spirit Realm, and they were now going to fight for a position among the final four of the competition. There was no doubt that it was a great, miraculous spectacle to see such people facing each other at this stage in the history of the Conferred God Battle.

As Yun Che was staring fixedly at her, Shui Meiyin tilted her head to the side. Her charming eyes narrowed into the shape of crescent moons, as a very soft and light soul voice transmitted inside his mind, "Big Brother Yun Che, be careful."

"Begin!!"

The moment Honorable Qu Hui's voice resounded like a thunderclap, Yun Che rushed ahead, while unleashing all of his profound energy, like an arrow that had just left the bowstring...

He had the same plan as Huo Poyun—to suppress her with his absolutely superiority in energy, and give her no chance to make use of her mental power!