

The Gods 1571

Chapter 1571 - The Eternal Night Slaughter

As the Northern Chill Divine Sovereign roared out those words, the ten great Divine Kings released their profound energy at the same time... but no one moved forward or attacked.

After all, if one were to ignore the current situation... Attacking a single person in front of ten million profound practitioners was not something these famous and reputable masters could easily do. Their pride and their own mental barriers stood in the way.

The whole place was silent and everyone's eyes were fixed on the scene in front of them. But they were not waiting for the conclusion of this battle, a battle where the disparity in strength could not be any greater, a battle which was not the least bit suspenseful. Instead, they were waiting to see how the Southern Phoenix Divine Country would handle the aftermath.

Beihan Chu had sincerely and humbly sought her hand in marriage, but Nanhuang Chanyi had directly rejected him. If this battle ended up with Nanhuang Chanyi becoming the servant of Beihan Chu, then the Southern Phoenix Divine Country would become the greatest laughingstock of all the middle star realms.

It was at this time that Qianye Ying'er subtly raised her head to shoot Nanhuang Chanyi an indifferent glance. After that single instant, she withdrew her gaze and closed her eyes once more.

Even though it was only in the instant where she closed her eyes, a cold and dangerous light silently flashed in the depths of her golden eyes.

The ten great Divine Kings stood around staring at each other in the battleground and none of them were willing to step forward and attack.

At this time, Yun Che slowly raised a hand and spread out all of his fingers in a languid manner.

It was also in this moment that the atmosphere in the silent battlefield suddenly grew stifling for no apparent reason and the light in the area had clearly dimmed.

This abrupt change caused everyone to involuntarily raise their heads, but they discovered that there were no black clouds covering the sky. Furthermore, that stifling feeling was quietly growing more intense and it made everyone feel as if there was an object that was growing heavier and heavier by the second pressing down on their chests.

Amidst everyone's shock and fear, a black light suddenly burst out from Yun Che's body. In an instant, the huge Central Ruins Battlefield in front of them was covered in a pitch-black darkness.

This dramatic change had not occurred gradually, it had occurred in a single instant. The entire battlefield was now filled with darkness, it was as if the Central Ruins Battlefield had suddenly been engulfed by a dark night. It was as if the darkness had swallowed up everything.

This darkness that was far too dense had swallowed up every trace of light within the battlegrounds. Everyone's vision, and this included the great Divine Sovereigns, was completely blocked by the darkness. They could not even make out an outline of Yun Che's figure or the figures of the ten great Divine Kings, and even their spiritual perception was clearly being obstructed.

Qianye Ying'er's delicate brows faintly twitched...

Because the darkness that had engulfed the entire battlefield was clearly the unique domain of darkness from the Illusory Devil Tome of Eternal Night—Lightless Eternal Night!

He had also cultivated the Illusory Devil Tome of Eternal Night after all!

It was just that, for him to make such a grand gesture against a few measly Divine Kings... It looked like he had some sort of special plan.

Could it be...

As startled gasps ran through the crowd, all of the great Divine Sovereigns shot to their feet with a “whoosh”, looks of shock and alarm plain on their faces. As for those ten great Divine Kings inside the Central Ruins Battlefield, the moment the darkness had descended upon them, they did not feel as if they had been swallowed up by the dark night, they felt as if they had been swallowed up by an abyss!

There had been no warning or telltale signs before everything turned black before their eyes. In their shock and horror, they had instinctively released their profound energy but their hearts had become even more horrified and alarmed at this moment. This was because they felt as if their limbs, their bodies, were being shackled by countless invisible things. They had to use nearly all of their strength just to lift a hand.

They felt as if an enormous mountain was firmly pressing down on their profound energy and no matter how much they struggled, they were unable to shake free from this suppression.

But what was even more frightening than all of these things were those threads of ice-cold, oppressive and sinister energy that crazily surged toward their bodies and souls from every direction. It was as if countless evil spirits were gnawing away at their bodies and minds, causing fear and despair, both of which only grew heavier with every passing second, to be birthed in their hearts

Lightless Eternal Night did not only devour light, it also devoured life and hope!

Yun Che's body had soundlessly moved within this darkness and he appeared in front of one of the Divine Kings... Even though he was only a few feet away from him, this strong Divine King, who stood at the pinnacle of his realm of power, did not sense him at all. Even his spiritual perception had been completely devoured.

Yun Che pointed his finger at this particular Divine King. After that, a wave of darkness profound energy struck his body before exploding inside of him as it cruelly battered his four limbs.

“UWAAAAAH!”

That cry of misery was completely drowned out by the darkness. The first Divine King's chest ruptured open, his arms and his legs snapping simultaneously... Even though Yun Che had only used a single finger, these Divine Kings' profound energy and wills were being heavily suppressed, so what sort of defence or guard could they put up? Under Yun Che's power, they were practically as frail as rotten wood.

As Yun Che's feet moved in the darkness, he instantly appeared in front of another Divine King. Once again, he lazily and casually stretched out his arm and tapped the air in front of him... Before the body of

the first Divine King had even fallen over, the second Divine King's body was already fountaining blood, his limbs snapping simultaneously.

Bang!

Bang!

Bang!

Bang!

Bang!

.....

The explosion of energy, the shattering of bodies, the miserable wails of despair... All of these things were completely buried by the darkness. Outside the battlegrounds, the audience could only see the battlefield being blanketed by complete and utter darkness. They could not see any bodies or hear any sounds, so they had no way of knowing what was happening within the darkness.

The brows of the Northern Chill Divine Sovereign, the East Ruins Divine Sovereign, and the Western Ruins Divine Sovereign furrowed greatly. There was a pure mass of darkness in front of them, a darkness so pure that it was even somewhat inconceivable. They all moved forward at the same time without any prompting, but the moment they approached, the darkness shrouding the battlefield suddenly dissipated.

It was as if a pitch-black curtain had been torn open from the middle. Light suddenly spilled out from within, instantly swallowing up all of the darkness in an instant.

The battleground appeared in front of every once more.

A long stifling silence also appeared at the same time.

Yun Che was quietly standing in the middle of the battleground, and no matter whether it was his stance or his position in the battlefield, they were no different from before.

His face was expressionless and there were no ripples in his eyes. The audience also could not see any wrinkles or dust on his clothes, and it looked as if he had not even moved a single inch from where he had been standing.

However, there were ten startling and ghastly pools of blood in front of him. Within these ten pools of blood lay ten bodies so brutalized that it was hard to look at them. Each body was drenched in blood and there were five bloody holes carved into their chest and limbs. These bloody holes were practically identical in shape and location, and blood was still swiftly spurting from them.

Their faces were as white as a sheet and their bodies twitched and spasmed from time to time. Their bodies occasionally shuddered due to the fear that had yet to dissipate from their hearts, and hoarse and miserable groans leaked from their mouths, making them sound like ten dying worms.

Furthermore, these ten people... were, shockingly enough, ten top Divine Kings that had come from Northern Chill, East Ruins, and Western Ruins!

The expressions of the three great Divine Sovereigns dramatically changed and their bodies visibly swayed. It was as if someone had smacked them on the head with a hammer.

Silence, a deathly silence appeared. The violent impact of the scene in front of them had brought about a shock and terror that had completely exceeded their understanding, had completely torn apart their beliefs.

Nobody knew exactly what had happened. They had only seen the darkness that had come and gone, and they were currently looking at the ten great Divine Kings lying limply on the floor. They were so heavily wounded that they could not even stand up.

Furthermore, only a frightfully short time had passed.

“Ah... Ah...”

“Hsss...”

“This... What is... this...”

“.....”

Whispering, groaning, sharp intakes of breath, and the chattering of teeth rang in the air... But even the ten great Divine King themselves had not known what had happened, much less the audience.

“What happened!!?”

The wind whistled as the Northern Chill Divine Sovereign instantaneously blinked into the battlefield and arrived at where the ten great Divine Kings lay. As he observed them closely, his eyelids twitched and his face twisted up even more.

Half of these ten people belonged to the North Ruins Realm. Furthermore, among these five top Divine Kings, one of them had come from abroad and the other four were part of the core and foundation of Northern Chill City. It was very likely that these terrifying wounds would leave behind some permanent damage, so to his Northern Chill City, this was an incalculably huge loss.

He did not know what had happened... but he definitely did not believe that Yun Che had done it with his own strength!

“Uw... aaaah...” The Divine King from Northern Chill City who lay in the middle gasped groaned painfully through bloodied teeth. “Demonic technique... It’s a demonic technique!”

That sudden darkness, the suppression of their bodies and profound strength, the corrosion of their souls... This was the very first time this Divine King was truly convinced that demonic techniques existed in this world.

“Yes... it’s a... demonic technique...” another Divine King belonging to Northern Chill desperately gasped out in a hoarse voice. That shocked, terrified, and despairing voice burrowed into everyone’s ears like an evil wind.

On the seat of honor, Beihan Chu’s brow greatly furrowed as he spoke in a low voice, “Junior Master, what exactly happened just now!?”

“...” Superior Unwhite lapsed into a brief and heavy silence before he spoke again. “Stories of demonic techniques are purely fantasy. But this child definitely used some sort of high-grade devil artifact.”

He spoke those words with a cast-iron certainty.

Beihan Chu gave a brief nod of his head. “This disciple thinks so as well.”

But when he said those words, a strange light flashed through his eyes.

Superior Unwhite’s head drooped slightly. “It looks like you’ve taken some interest in this devil artifact.”

“But of course,” Beihan Chu said with a dry laugh, “since we have been presented with such an opportunity, wouldn’t it be a waste if we didn’t try our luck?”

The pained words of the two great Divine Kings belonging to Northern Chill City caused the Northern Chill Divine Sovereign’s head to jerk upwards, his gaze piercing straight towards Yun Che. “Yun Che! What exactly did you do!?”

“Isn’t what he did obvious?” Nanhuang Chanyi’s voice rang out from the southern side of the battlefield. “Our Nanhuang’s Yun Che defeated the ten Divine Kings belonging to your three sects by himself. Could it be that you can’t see it? Or is it that... you, the distinguished Northern Chill Divine Sovereign himself, actually truly believes that Yun Che used some sort of demonic technique?”

“Hmph! Yun Che is only a mere... How could he defeat the ten of them!?” How could the Northern Chill Divine Sovereign even possess a hint of the confidence he had displayed before? His voice was laced with a shock and killing intent he could not conceal. “Even if he did not use a demonic technique, he definitely used some sort of devil artifact!”

His words and thoughts were exactly identical to Superior Unwhite’s.

“So what if he did?” Nanhuang Chanyi said. “In the battle between Yun Che and the ten Divine Kings from your three sects, did anyone set any rules prohibiting the use of profound artifacts?”

“Yooou!” The Northern Chill Divine Sovereign’s face abruptly stiffened... Nanhuang Chanyi’s words seemed to be admitting that Yun Che had indeed used some sort of powerful profound artifact, but they had also left the Northern Chill Divine Sovereign with no room to retort.

Because while profound pellets and profound formations were all forbidden items in nearly all the battlefields, there were nearly no prohibitions on profound artifacts other than armor. Weapons were also a kind of profound artifact and the ability to handle a powerful profound artifact was also an ability in and of itself.

If one’s ability was lacking and one forcefully attempted to control a powerful profound artifact, it was nearly equivalent to courting death.

There was finally an explanation for the scene that had appeared before their eyes, so a look of fury appeared on the face of the East Ruin Divine Sovereign as he spoke in a severe tone, “Even though the Central Ruins Battle does not prohibit the use of profound artifacts, it is very clear that the devil artifact that Yun Che used is no ordinary item, so it is very likely that it is a forbidden item!”

“To use a forbidden devil artifact to harm ten great Divine Kings of our three sects, and to inflict such vicious and cruel wounds on them at that... How can we pardon you!” the Western Ruin Divine Sovereign shouted in a furious voice.

“Oh?” Nanhuang Chanyi said in a serene voice. “The result of the battle between our representative from the Southern Phoenix and the ten people from your three sects has already been decided. It ended in Yun Che’s complete victory. However, with the way you three realm kings are acting, could it be that you are prepared to abandon all of your dignity and the dignity of your sects and go back on your word in front of everyone?”

The Northern Chill Divine Sovereign’s eyebrows sank even further. Just as he was about to speak, he heard Nanhuang Chanyi’s tone suddenly change as she said, “Young Master Beihan. As the highest ranking arbiter and witness to this battle, what do you think?”

The Northern Chill Divine Sovereign immediately swallowed the words he was about to say. He knew that it was impossible that Beihan Chu would decide in Yun Che’s favor, no matter what happened.

Under the riveted gazes of everyone present, Beihan Chu stood up and gave a small smile as he said, “Profound artifacts are indeed not prohibited in the Central Ruins Battle. However, profound artifacts that exceed the level of this battlefield can indeed be considered ‘forbidden items’. Normal profound artifacts will provide a reasonable boost to a profound practitioner, making for a more exciting and entertaining battle.”

“But forbidden profound items which exceed the level of this battle will destroy the most basic rules and balance of this fight.”

“What should decide victory and defeat in this battle are the profound practitioners themselves. It should not be a profound artifact that completely breaks the balance of the competition! So this battle has basically been rendered meaningless! If one were forced to decide on a winner, then the winner would be this devil artifact that should not even have appeared in this battle, not Yun Che!”

Beihan Chu’s words were spoken calmly but they were irrefutable.

Yun Che did not lift his head either. Instead, he simply replied in an extremely cold and dull voice, “I didn’t use a devil artifact.”

Chapter 1572 - Forcefully Seeking Ruin

“You didn’t?” Beihan Chu let out a dry chuckle. “Yun Che, I am here today on behalf of my master and the Nine Lights Heavenly Palace to supervise and observe this Central Ruins Battle. The fight just now is also under the jurisdiction of the Central Ruins Battle.”

“As the arbiter and witness of this battle, how can I tolerate any violation of the rules!?” Beihan Chu’s tone did not change, but the look in his eyes grew a little grimmer. “It would be best if you chose not to lie, especially not in front of me.”

“Oh really?” Yun Che said with a smile that was not a smile. “Then can you tell me, what sort of devil artifact did I use exactly?”

“Hehe.” As he knew Yun Che would say such a thing, Beihan Chu chuckled and said, “The devil artifact you used should be a ‘container’ type, and it is able to instantaneously release a large amount of darkness energy stored within it. At the same time as the darkness started to spread, our sight and spiritual perception were obstructed, so we naturally could not see anything.”

“To release a darkness energy that can eat away at and suppress top Divine Kings to such an extent. Given your cultivation, the only sort of devil artifact that you can control that can produce such an effect can only be a ‘container’ type, right?”

Beihan Chu’s slow and unhurried explanation swayed the minds and thoughts of all the profound practitioners present. Understanding and admiration began to build up in their hearts.

No one from the Southern Phoenix’s side spoke up, their gazes conflicted... It was very clear that even they were utterly convinced that Yun Che had borrowed the power of an extremely powerful devil artifact. The darkness that sealed everything away had been released by the devil artifact... If not, if it was just Yun Che alone, how could he defeat a total of ten peak Divine Kings!

Furthermore, he had seriously injured all of them in the span of a few short breaths!

Otherwise, even if they gave him huge benefit of the doubt and acknowledged that he did indeed have the strength to defeat ten great Divine Kings, why would he need to suddenly release a darkness profound energy that obstructed all sight and spiritual perception the moment the battle began? It was very clear that he was hiding something.

“This means that all of this is merely your conjecture and guesswork.” Yun Che still maintained that cold and indifferent attitude that infuriated everyone who witnessed it. “Does everyone in your Nine Lights Heavenly Palace operate on pure conjecture and assumption?”

“You bastard!” The moment Yun Che said those words, the Northern Chill Divine Sovereign immediately grew agitated and furious. “How dare you speak so disrespectfully about the Nine Lights Heavenly Palace, are you tired of living!?”

“There’s no need to be angry Royal Father.” Beihan Chu raised a hand and he did not seem the least bit angry. In fact, the slight smile on his face had actually deepened by a few degrees. “It is indeed true that none of us personally witnessed Yun Che using a devil artifact, so it is reasonable for him to say such a thing. If it were anyone else in his shoes, they would also cling on tenaciously to this outcome which was incredibly difficult to obtain.”

“However,” Beihan Chu said, a strange light glinting in his eyes, “since I am the supervisor and witness of this battle, then I naturally must ensure that we obtain the most fair outcome.”

He stood up from his seat of honor and slowly started walking down, the faintly discernible oppressive might of a Divine Sovereign radiated from his body and engulfed the entire battlefield, even his voice now sounded more frightfully intimidating and menacing, “Since you so resolutely insist that you did not use a forbidden devil artifact that exceeded the level of this fight, you’re saying that you used your own strength to defeat and seriously injure ten top tier Divine Kings in the span of three short breaths.”

“Even though no one in this world would believe such a patently ridiculous story, I will give you a chance to prove yourself... You must prove yourself!”

Beihan Chu's feet landed inside the Central Ruins Battlefield. He stood in front of Yun Che, both hands behind his back, as he spoke in a calm voice, "As the referee of this match, I will personally duel you. If you can prove that you truly do have this sort of strength in your match with me, then no one will be able to say anything, and the previous battle will also naturally be counted as your win. Furthermore, for the next five hundred years, the Central Ruins Realm will completely belong to the Southern Phoenix Divine Country."

BUZZZ— — — —

It was as if countless bees had invaded the battlegrounds as the whole place erupted in a cacophony of noise.

The Central Ruins Battle was a battle among middle star realms. And who exactly was Beihan Chu!? He was extremely young but he had already become one of the Nine Lights Heavenly Palace's young palace masters. He had even entered the Northern Region Heavenly Sovereign Ranking and even in an upper star realm, he would still be considered a transcendent existence that would draw great attention to himself!

Beihan Chu, who possessed such status, would actually personally do battle with Yun Che just for the sake of "proof"!?

The Western Ruins Divine Sovereign swiftly said, "This must not happen! This definitely must not happen! Proving such a small thing could not be any simpler. The Young Palace Master has such an esteemed status, so how can he be allowed to lower himself to such an extent."

"That's right! This is just a small Southern Phoenix profound practitioner who is trying to put one over on us, so how can we let the Young Palace Master personally take action! If the Young Palace Master thinks that some unfairness has occurred, then this king can take his place and the Young Palace Master can simply referee it," the East Ruins Divine Sovereign followed anxiously.

But the Northern Chill Divine Sovereign did not make any move to stop Beihan Chu. Nobody understood a man better than his father, so he was well aware that there was definitely a reason behind Beihan Chu's sudden actions.

"Sigh." Nanhuang Chanyi let out a silent sigh. She briefly glanced backwards and said to Qianye Ying'er, "Your young master is truly very bad."

She knew that this was one way Yun Che was taking revenge on her... Provoking Beihan Chu meant that one would offend the Nine Lights Heavenly Palace. Furthermore, Yun Che was representing the interests of the Southern Phoenix at this moment, so the Southern Phoenix would have to shoulder any consequences of his actions. If they could not bear them, then it might even end up in the destruction of their country.

This was a form of revenge, but it was also... a test for her.

"You were the one who acted presumptuously first." Qianye Ying'er had finally spoken to Nanhuang Chanyi but when she spoke, she did not even glance in her direction. "Not everyone in this world can be played by you!"

"..." She was not anxious or furious, and underneath that colorful veil, her pearly lips curved into a pouty smile. "Interesting."

He was even more interesting than the rumors had described.

"There's no need." Beihan Chu looked straight at Yun Che as he mildly and politely turned away the flattery and bootlicking of the two great Divine Sovereigns. "Today, since I am the arbiter, it is only appropriate that I do it myself."

"If you cannot prove it," Beihan Chu continued, "then I will have no choice but to pursue the matter of you deliberately and maliciously lying to an arbiter and slandering my Nine Lights Heavenly Palace! The consequences won't only end with a simple defeat... I will need to take you into custody and bring you back to the Nine Lights Heavenly Palace and hand you over to my master so that he can decide!"

"One more thing. As this matter concerns the final result of the Central Ruins Battle, you have no right to reject it!"

The atmosphere had started to turn heavy. Following that, the looks that everyone directed toward Yun Che were immediately filled with an increasingly deep pity.

This was the consequence of overplaying one's hand and being so stubborn and dishonest in front of the Nine Lights Heavenly Palace.

Of course, there were also a few people that had instantly figured out... that Beihan Chu's actions were very likely because he had taken an interest in the mysterious devil artifact that Yun Che had used.

As the saying goes, an innocent man gets into trouble because of his wealth, and for a weakling to harbor great wealth was an even greater sin than that!

Beihan Chu had personally entered the battleground and with the heavenly might of the Nine Lights Heavenly Palace backing him up, Yun Che had to go along with it, no matter what his feelings were on this matter.

As for the outsiders, they did not even dare breathe too loudly, much less attempt to give advice or stop this from happening.

"...Fine," Yun Che spoke after a brief period of silence. "Then, what if I prove that I do not possess any devil artifacts?"

"Oh?" Beihan Chu's lips curled up.

"The results of the previous battle have already been decided and your sudden demand for this so-called proof appeared out of thin air. If I cannot prove it, then not only will I be judged as having been defeated, I will even fall into the hands of the Nine Lights Heavenly Palace. But if I am able to prove myself innocent... then could it be that I have to suffer this indignity for nothing!?"

"Hahahaha." Beihan Chu tipped his head back as he let out a hearty laugh. "Well said. These are the words an intelligent person should say. If you had not said such a thing, I might actually have been disappointed instead."

Beihan Chu's finger drew a line in the air. White light abruptly flashed and a sword that was nearly eight feet long appeared in his hand. The sword was long and balanced, its body was ash-colored, but strangely enough, a layer of faint black energy surrounded it.

"The Hidden Heaven Sword!"

The Northern Chill Divine Sovereign involuntarily let out a startled cry the moment the sword appeared.

Those three short words, which spelled out the name of the sword in question, were so shocking that they caused everyone's heart to skip a beat. Furthermore, a fervent light burned in the eyes of all the swordsmen present.

"This sword is called the Hidden Heaven Sword and it is the namesake of our Hidden Sword Palace. Master was only willing to bestow this upon me three months ago."

With a turn of his palm, he withdrew the Hidden Heaven Sword and the dazzling gleam of the sword immediately disappeared. Beihan Chu spoke in a leisurely manner, "This is the treasured sword of our Nine Lights Heavenly Palace, it is worth one hundred Southern Phoenixes! If you can prove yourself innocent, I will not only apologize to you, I will even gift you this Hidden Heaven Sword to make up for the indignity that you have suffered."

"In this case, do you still have anything to say?"

The audience forgot to breathe for a while as they stared wide-eyed at the scene unfolding in front of them.

The Hidden Heaven Sword, this was the Hidden Heaven Sword he was talking about! Even in the Nine Lights Heavenly Palace, it was considered one of the sect's treasures! No one was too shocked by the fact that it had been gifted to Beihan Chu so early. After all, Beihan Chu was the first person from the Nine Lights Heavenly Palace to have entered the Northern Region Heavenly Sovereign Ranking in its entire history.

And now that the Hidden Heaven Sword had been offered up as a bargaining chip, what else could Yun Che say? What path of retreat had been left open to him?

This had undoubtedly sealed away all of Yun Che's escape routes... At the same time, this action also clearly showed that Beihan Chu was convinced that there was no way that Yun Che could truly "exonerate" himself.

"..." Nanhuang Chanyi's eyes rippled. She, the person who possessed the authority to speak on the Southern Phoenix's behalf, had not uttered a single word from the moment Beihan Chu had walked down from his seat of honor to stand in front of Yun Che.

Beihan Chu was a genuine genius, and he was an exceptional one at that. He had been born in a middle star realm, yet he had been able to enter the Northern Region Heavenly Sovereign Ranking. This was undoubtedly the greatest proof of his genius. At any level, such a person as Beihan Chu deserved all the accolades and praise he received and he did indeed have the right to be wildly arrogant in front of the profound practitioners who were his peers.

However... While everyone was directing gazes of pity towards Yun Che, Nanhuang Chanyi was directing a gaze of pity towards Beihan Chu... The current him was completely unaware of what sort of monster he was facing at this moment.

"Fine! You better not regret it." Yun Che nodded his head. There was no anxiety or nervousness on his face. In fact, it was completely expressionless.

He had been like this from the moment he had stepped into the battleground. He made the audience feel as if he was completely unflappable.

"I have never experienced the word regret in my entire life, so you should keep this kind of pointless advice for yourself."

Beihan Chu found Yun Che's false bravado and feigned calm extremely funny. He narrowed his eyes and started to slowly walk forward. It was only when he was slightly less than thirty meters away from Yun Che that he finally came to a halt.

"Don't worry, I won't stoop so low as to bully a mid stage Divine King." Beihan Chu wore a faint smile on his face and his voice was calm. His hands were still casually folded behind his back and there were no traces of profound energy circulating in his body. "I will allow you three attacks... Ah, no. Let's give you seven attacks. Before you make seven attacks, I won't retaliate, I won't dodge, I won't even reflect your blows back on you. I will also give you all the space you need to perform these attacks. If it's like this, is that to your satisfaction?"

"I am satisfied, I am very satisfied!" Yun Che nodded his head as he raised an arm and casually stretched it.

"Then, you may begin." Beihan Chu's hands were still behind his back and even his posture was casual. "Allow me, and everyone in the audience as well, to experience the power that you used to defeat ten peak Divine Kings!"

Yun Che did not say another word. His feet and his body blurred, and he was already rushing towards Beihan Chu, a cluster of thin black energy gathered in his upraised right hand.

His speed was not too fast and the ball of black energy in his hand seemed exceptionally thin. As he rushed towards Beihan Chu, Yun Che sent his fist flying towards his chest.

Even when Yun Che drew near to him, Beihan Chu did not move a muscle... How laughable! As a Divine Sovereign, how was it possible that he would hold a Divine King's power in any regard?

In Yun Che's previous two battles, he had unleashed a power that approached the power of a half-step Divine Sovereign, even if it was for just an instant. Even though a half-step Divine Sovereign was the closest realm of power next to the Divine Sovereign Realm itself, there was still a world of difference between a half-step Divine Sovereign and a true Divine Sovereign! Even if the power of a half-step Divine Sovereign exploded from Yun Che's body yet again, he would not even bat an eye.

And the soft and gentle blow that was heading for him only made him want to laugh.

Bang!

Yun Che's right hand, which was wrapped in black light, smacked against Beihan Chu's chest, the impact of the blow producing a dull thud.

The Northern Chill Divine Sovereign, the East Ruins Divine Sovereign, the Western Ruins Divine Sovereign, Superior Unwhite... In this moment, a contemptuous and cold smile flashed across all of their faces at the same time. In front of a true Divine Sovereign, this sort of power could not even be called a joke.

If Beihan Chu had not coveted the mysterious devil artifact Yun Che possessed, he definitely would not even have condescended to personally exchange blows with Yun Che.

However... the wry smile that Beihan Chu wore on his face, the smile of someone who could decide the ultimate outcome of the situation, froze in that instant.

The instant Yun Che's palm touched his chest, Beihan Chu felt as if a thousand, no, ten thousand volcanoes had violently erupted in his mind and body at the same time.

BOOOM— — — —

"UWAAAAH!"

A loud, miserable, throat-tearing wail rang in the air. Beihan Chu, who had been as proud and arrogant as a mountain just a second ago, was sent flying like a kicked ball as he spun in the air... He shot through the air, flying for several kilometers before he crashed heavily into the ground.

No one knew if it was deliberate or not, but when Beihan Chu's body collided with the ground under that dreadful force, he hit face first. His face plowed along the ground for more than three kilometers before his body finally ground to a halt, leaving a large amount of shattered teeth and foamy blood in his wake.

Chapter 1573 - Miserable Beyond Description

Beihan Chu's body finally stopped moving and he lay on the ground limply.

Countless jaws smacked the ground in the same instant, and even the eyes of the great Divine Sovereigns had very nearly popped out of their sockets.

Superior Unwhite's body abruptly sank down but he forcefully caught himself. As he stared at the scene in front of him, a look of deep shock and astonishment appeared on his face for the very first time.

What had they just witnessed?

Beihan Chu... The Beihan Chu, who had become a Divine Sovereign, had actually been sent flying by a single punch...

From Yun Che!?

Beihan Chu slowly stood up from the ground amidst the frightful silence. His eyes were widened to their fullest and they were trembling violently. He felt incomparable pain course through his Divine Sovereign body, his aura was a mess, and he felt as if his internal organs had been minced...

A mouthful of fresh blood surged up his throat but he forcefully swallowed it. He barely managed to stand up, but the moment his aura fluctuated, blood wildly spewed from his mouth in a manner that was many times more violent than before, and he vomited wave after wave of blood... He dropped to his knees just after he managed to stand up, and he spat out mouthful after mouthful of blood, more than a dozen in total, each mouthful of blood containing pieces of tooth.

About eighty percent of his teeth had been shattered. Given his Divine Sovereign body, they naturally had not shattered due to the impact of his fall. Instead, they had been cruelly destroyed by the power that had come from Yun Che, the power that had surged through his entire body in a split second...

It was clear that this had been Yun Che's malicious intent.

The blood he had vomited had very nearly taken away half of Beihan Chu's life. Blood no longer flowed and his aura had become much more restrained. However, he still knelt limply on the ground and did not rise to his feet even after a long time had passed. The only things that were moving were his widened and trembling eyes and it looked as if he had suddenly been thrust into a preposterous nightmare.

Right... A nightmare... This was definitely a nightmare...

Yun Che slowly lowered his arm as he said in a calm and indifferent voice, "Are you still going to let me attack you?"

Those nine incomparably cold and indifferent words were like nine steel needles stabbing into Beihan Chu's heart and soul. His pupils froze and he was startled awake from his nightmare. His body flipped in the air as he leapt up and stared straight at Yun Che... His hand involuntarily moved towards his face and his entire hand was stained a bright crimson.

His face... was ruined.

Just a moment ago, he had been oh so majestic and awe-inspiring, oh so lofty and matchless. He was one of the young palace masters of the Nine Lights Heavenly Palace, an extraordinary genius whose name had been entered into the Northern Region Heavenly Sovereign Ranking, who was the referee of this Central Ruins Battle. The realm kings of the Five Nether Ruins had to treat him with extreme deference and respect, and that included his own father. All the people who directed admiring gazes at him looked as if they were worshipping a child of the gods with their eyes.

As he faced Yun Che, he had displayed all of a Divine Sovereign's might and presence, he had stood proudly with his hands behind his back, as if he was facing a large ant.

Yet Yun Che had smashed him into the ground like a defeated and paralyzed dog with a single fist.

A face that was smeared with blood, teeth that were completely shattered, sinister and warped features... He cut such a sorry figure that everyone could not even bear to look at him as their hearts filled with pity.

"Chu... Chu'er!?"

It was only now that the Northern Chill Divine Sovereign managed to force out a croak... He had been struck dumb, he had been left completely stupified by these turn of events.

In fact, everyone had been struck dumb, the word “flabbergasted” was writ large on every face in the audience.

“...” The corners of Beihan Chu’s eyes and mouth were twitching violently. His vision blurred and it sometimes spun. Nothing had happened to his vision, but he had never experienced such humiliation and wretchedness in his entire life, and they were violently tearing at his heart and soul.

“You...” He opened his mouth, but the voice that came from his lips were as hoarse as the quacking of a duck whose neck had been twisted.

“Ahh!” A disordered black light suddenly flashed through his violently protruding eyeballs as Beihan Chu let out a strangled yell and rushed crazily toward Yun Che.

In an instant, his entire body was enveloped by black light and even his skin seemed to have turned a dusky gray. The oppressive might of a Divine Sovereign, an oppressive might that was clearly a little disordered, was violently released from his body as sword energy explosively erupted from his right arm and solidified into a black sword energy projection that was a foot long.

What proof? What letting Yun Che attack him seven times... He had already lost all of his face in that previous moment, so what dignity did he still have left!? Right now, he only wanted to rip Yun Che to shreds in the cruelest way possible.

All of the energy waves in the battlefield were shoved aside in an instant. As loud, startled gasps ran through the crowd, that black sword-shaped energy projection thrust toward Yun Che’s throat.

Yun Che did not move a single inch. Under countless eyes, whose pupils had shrunk to pinpricks, he raised an arm and actually grabbed at the dark sword energy that was piercing toward his throat.

Due to Beihan Chu’s humiliation and rage, he was using all of his Divine Sovereign strength without holding anything back!

“GO AND... DIE!!” Beihan Chu howled in a sinister voice.

SCREECH— — —

The clanging noise was so screeching that everyone felt as if countless sharp knives had shattered deep inside their hearts. Beihan Chu’s black sword energy projection made contact with Yun Che’s fingers and fresh blood erupted in the air...

But it was not Yun Che’s blood that had erupted into the air...

Beihan Chu’s black sword energy projection was instantly shattered along with five of his fingers, filling the air with black light, chunks of flesh, and blood.

Yun Che’s hand continued on its path forward, instantly latching around Beihan Chu’s throat, cutting off the miserable wail that was about to escape his mouth. After that, his fingers started to tighten, swiftly causing Beihan Chu’s neck bones and windpipe to contract, change shape, and start to fracture.

“Young palace master? Northern Region Heavenly Sovereign Ranking?” As he stared straight into Beihan Chu’s eyes, stared into those pupils that nearly ruptured due to his shock and fear, Yun Che muttered in a gloomy and cold voice, “You were crowing so happily that I wondered just how much ability you

actually had. But it turns out that you are nothing more than a crippled dog who only knows how to bark!”

“Urgh... Ah... Aaaahhh...” Beihan Chu’s face turned black before swiftly turning green, the crippled hand which had lost all of its fingers wildly waved in the air as he struggled. But this terrifying hand had not only shackled his throat, it had even shackled his profound energy...

The power of a Divine Sovereign he had been so proud of, the Divine Sovereign power that was clearly so strong, had been trampled by Yun Che as if he was stepping on a small worm. No matter how hard he tried, he could not struggle free.

“Chu’er!”

“Stop!!”

Two roars that were so loud that they nearly shattered everyone’s eardrums rang out from two different places simultaneously. What followed quickly after those two shouts were two earth-shaking explosions... and many screams of misery.

Profound energy erupted from the bodies of the Northern Chill Divine Sovereign and Superior Unwhite at the same time as they rushed straight toward Yun Che.

As the number one person in the Five Nether Ruins, the Northern Chill Divine Sovereign was not only a Divine Sovereign, he was a level four Divine Sovereign that approached the midstage of his realm of power! Superior Unwhite was also a level four Divine Sovereign and his power was slightly superior to the Northern Chill Divine Sovereign’s power. As the power of two level four Divine Sovereigns erupted in the Central Ruins Battlefield, just the energy waves and the force that exuded from their bodies was enough to send thousands of people flying through the air.

These two blasts of power, which were viewed as divine might in the Five Nether Ruins, were hurled toward the same person at the same time... A person who they had merely viewed as an “insignificant participant in the Central Ruins Battle”.

The power of the two great Divine Sovereigns engulfed Yun Che at the same time, suppressing his movements for an instant as his eyebrows fiercely sank.

BOOM!!

A huge blast of extremely cold and bizarre energy smashed into the left side of Yun Che’s chest. His body flipped in the air as he was instantly knocked several hundred meters away, the force of the blow cracking the ground underneath his feet.

Beihan Chu, who had been trapped in his grip, was also sent flying into the distance. The Northern Chill Divine Sovereign’s body turned as he grabbed Beihan Chu. When he saw Beihan Chu’s crippled and maimed hand, his eyes bulged so violently that his eye sockets nearly shattered.

“...” Yun Che straightened his body before using a hand to lightly sweep away the dust covering the left side of his chest.

The Central Ruins Battlefield had been thrown into complete chaos. Fear, shock, bewilderment... No, the audience were all at a complete loss as to how to describe their emotions as they witnessed the events that had just unfolded.

Beihan Chu had actually been heavily wounded by a single punch from Yun Che, and his furious counterstrike had been like a joke to Yun Che, easily disrupted and countered.

He was the genius Divine Sovereign in the Northern Region Heavenly Sovereign Ranking, the miracle of the Five Nether Ruins, the pride and joy of the Five Nether Ruins!

And Yun Che was clearly only a level five Divine King!

Could it be that he truly had not used any extraordinary methods to defeat those two Divine Kings before this? Could it be that he had truly not used a devil artifact to heavily injure those ten great Divine Kings in the span of a few breaths!?

Before this, no one would have believed that a level five Divine King would possess such strength. They were all convinced that he had used something like a devil artifact to defeat those ten great Divine Kings...

So what exactly... were they witnessing right now!!?

A level five Divine King had completely crushed Beihan Chu, a level one Divine Sovereign, under his foot, and he had trampled on him as if he was a small dog... Even a lunatic would not be able to spin such a ludicrous joke, yet this very "joke" had played out before their eyes.

"He... he... he..." Nanhuang Jian stared at Yun Che. Amidst his extreme shock and astonishment, he could not even speak properly. "Just who... exactly... is he..."

"Ah..." Nanhuang Mofeng's throat continuously jiggled, but he had been rendered completely speechless.

"This isn't good!" a Southern Phoenix Divine King suddenly blurted out. "Beihan Chu was wounded and he even suffered such great humiliation in front of the crowd. So there's no way the Nine Lights Heavenly Palace will leave the matter at that... and Yun Che is representing our Southern Phoenix in this battle today."

Once he said that, all of the dazed members of the Southern Phoenix turned their gazes toward him, shock and astonishment writ large on their faces.

Yun Che's strength was so terrifying that it was completely inconceivable. Furthermore, his methods were also extremely venomous and vicious. He had shattered Beihan Chu's teeth, ruined his face, maimed his hand... and what was even worse than all of these things was that he had caused Beihan Chu to lose all of his dignity and suffer endless humiliation!

Given Beihan Chu's status in the Nine Lights Heavenly Palace, this was not as simple as just offending them anymore... Their revenge would be unimaginable.

Given Yun Che's shocking strength, if he wanted to shrug off all the matters and leave, no one would be able to stop him. So the wrath of the Nine Lights Heavenly Palace would undoubtedly fall upon the Southern Phoenix Divine Country... and how could the Southern Phoenix Divine Country bear it?

“There’s no need to get flustered over this matter.” The Southern Phoenix Divine Sovereign finally spoke and he sounded bizarrely confident.

He looked at Yun Che before looking at Nanhuang Chanyi. As he recalled his daughter’s utterly strange behavior and words today, his heart swelled with shock.

He was well aware of Nanhuang Chanyi’s “other identity”.

For her to act like this... Just who exactly was this man called Yun Che!?

Qianye Ying’er, who had been extremely silent up to this point, started to slowly rise to her feet... At the exact same instant, Nanhuang Chanyi’s gaze briefly flickered to the side.

Under countless shocked and stupefied gazes, she slowly walked forward and stepped into the battleground. She did not stop walking until she reached Yun Che’s side.

“There was no need for you to come out,” Yun Che said. “As long as their heads are screwed on straight, they won’t attack.”

“Hmph, the one whose head isn’t screwed on straight has always been you!” Qianye Ying’er retorted in an icy voice.

In front of them, the Northern Chill Divine Sovereign stared daggers at Yun Che, his eyes boring into him like hooks, as he supported Beihan Chu with one hand. Shock and rage pounded in his heart like tidal waves, but he bitterly held himself back from attacking. “You... Just who are you!?”

Even when he had seriously injured Beihan Chu in a single strike, even when he had shattered Beihan Chu’s fingers with a single hand, Yun Che had released the profound energy of a fifth level Divine King from beginning to end.

He had never witnessed such a bizarre and terrifying thing before. In fact, he had never even heard of such a thing before.

Even the rumors and legends about the distant king realms had not contained such an inconceivable tale.

“Is this proof enough?” Yun Che asked as he simply ignored the Northern Chill Divine Sovereign’s question.

“...” The Northern Chill Divine Sovereign’s face twisted up.

Bang!

Beihan Chu, whose profound energy was no longer suppressed, struggled free from his father’s grasp as his body fiercely shot forward. Just after he had advanced two steps, his body froze once more as fear and hatred danced wildly in his eyes. He finally started to backpedal as he howled in a quavery voice, “Royal Father... kill him... KILL HIM!!”

“Shut up!”

Superior Unwhite descended from the skies and those two fierce and severe words had been directed at Beihan Chu.

Beihan Chu was stunned. "Junior Master..."

"Didn't I tell you to shut your mouth!?" Lu Bubai let out another deep yell. After that, he faced Yun Che and one could not find a single trace of anger on his face. In fact, he looked completely calm as he said, "Yun Che, your duel with the young palace master has already proven that you did not use any forbidden devil artifact to defeat those ten Divine Kings. The result of that battle was completely based on your own strength."

"So, in the battle between the Southern Phoenix and the three sects, the Southern Phoenix wins."

These words should have been said by the referee, Beihan Chu. But at this moment, it was Lu Bubai who pronounced these words. "According to the agreement, the Central Ruins Realm will belong to the Southern Phoenix Divine Country for the next five hundred years. The other star realms in the Nether Ruins are not allowed to take a single step into this place."

The winner of the Central Ruins Battle normally only won forty percent of the Central Ruins Realm and they only held that portion for fifty years.

But this time... it was the entire Central Ruins Realm and it would be for a whole five hundred years!

This was completely unprecedented in the history of the Five Nether Ruins!

That was because they had absolutely never imagined that this scenario would truly come to pass when they had presented this bargaining chip.

The faces of the Northern Chill Divine Sovereign, East Ruins Divine Sovereign, and Western Ruins Divine Sovereign warped violently, but... none of them said a single word.

There were no cheers or rejoicing from the people belonging to the Southern Phoenix Divine Country either.

"There's something else." Yun Che stretched out his hand. "The Hidden Heaven Sword."

"Young Palace Master, give it to him." Lu Bubai heaved a heavy sigh as he said those seven words that left everyone disbelieving.

Chapter 1574 - A Mysterious Girl

"Junior Master..." Beihan Chu thought that he was hearing things. "What did you... just say?"

"Give it to him!" Lu Bubai's voice grew even heavier and the look he shot towards Beihan Chu was cold and severe.

It was not only Beihan Chu, everyone present could barely believe what they had just heard.

Even though Beihan Chu had proactively offered the Hidden Heaven Sword up as compensation for the indignity Yun Che would suffer, that had only happened because Beihan Chu and Lu Bubai were dead certain that Yun Che definitely had not beaten the ten great Divine Kings using his own strength. They had used this "bargaining chip" to cut off all his paths of retreat.

Otherwise, if there was even a hint of risk or a possibility of defeat, Beihan Chu would not have risked the Hidden Heaven Sword.

But right now, Beihan Chu had been utterly defeated and he was left in an incredibly sorry state... Would they really give away the Hidden Heaven Sword, which had only been offered up as a bluff, to Yun Che?

The Hidden Heaven Sword was no ordinary profound sword... The name of the Hidden Sword Palace had come from the Hidden Heaven Sword, so one could well imagine its status and importance in the Nine Lights Heavenly Palace.

It was a sect treasure, a symbol of their prestige!

Handing over the Hidden Heaven Sword did not only mean that they had lost a sword, it also meant that they had thrown away the dignity and face of the entire Nine Lights Heavenly Palace.

“We... we can’t!” Beihan Chu shook his head, his entire body shivering. “How can we allow the Hidden Heaven Sword to fall into the hands of an outsider!?”

As a proud Divine Sovereign whose name had been entered into the Northern Region Heavenly Sovereign Ranking, a young palace master of the Nine Lights Heavenly Palace, Beihan Chu no longer cared about reneging his promise in front of everyone else in order to protect the Hidden Heaven Sword.

But having said that, his dignity had already been completely ground beneath Yun Che’s feet, so what was wrong with stooping even lower... If he lost the Hidden Heaven Sword just because of this, no matter how well-regarded he was in the Nine Lights Heavenly Palace, he would still definitely receive a heavy punishment.

Lu Bubai’s face suddenly darkened as a bit of fury could be seen on his face. “The Hidden Heaven Sword is indeed the treasured sword of our Nine Lights Heavenly Palace. But a loss is a loss, we can lose the Hidden Heaven Sword, but our Nine Lights Heavenly Palace must never lose its dignity.”

“...” Beihan Chu grew even more stunned.

Because the Hidden Heaven Sword was simply far too important... Its importance far exceeded that of their so-called dignity.

At this moment, Lu Bubai’s anxious voice suddenly rang in his ears, he had sent Beihan Chu a sound transmission. “Don’t say anything else, hurry up and hand the Hidden Heaven Sword over to him! This man called Yun Che, his power is probably no lower than mine!”

The words that followed caused Beihan Chu’s expression to dramatically change.

“Furthermore... it’s very likely that he is someone from a king realm!”

Even though Beihan Chu had just become a Divine Sovereign, he was still a genuine Divine Sovereign, yet he had been rendered completely helpless in front of Yun Che. Furthermore, when he, Lu Bubai, struck Yun Che with a blow, he was left completely unscathed. All of these things told Lu Bubai that Yun Che’s strength was very likely not beneath his own!

A level five Divine King had comparable strength to a mid-stage Divine Sovereign, if such an absurd and ridiculous thing truly did exist, it could only have originated from a king realm!

Yun Che knew full well that they were from the Nine Lights Heavenly Palace. He even knew that Beihan Chu was the person that the Nine Lights Heavenly Palace had spent the most effort grooming, but he had still made such a vicious and cruel attack on him. He was not the least bit apprehensive or fearful when facing them, so it was clear that he did not even have any regard for the Nine Lights Heavenly Palace... All of these things proved that Yun Che was most likely a junior from one of the king realms!

The two words "king realm" immediately destroyed the last bit of Beihan Chu's conviction. Even the hatred and killing intent in his heart seemed to have been trampled underfoot as they died down in an instant. The look in his eyes grew less belligerent and his face grew stiff. "Fine, I, Beihan Chu... will walk the walk!"

With a twist and a push of his hand, the Hidden Heaven Sword appeared and was pushed toward Yun Che.

Yun Che extended a hand to grab it and he did not even spare it a single glance, he simply put it away. His actions were so casual that it seemed like he had merely picked up a rock that was lying on the side of the road.

As they watched the Hidden Heaven Sword vanish in Yun Che's hand, no matter whether it was Beihan Chu or Lu Bubai, both their faces twitched violently.

"Don't worry, I will explain what happened to the Chief Palace Master and your master." Lu Bubai sent another sound transmission to Beihan Chu. "The Hidden Heaven Sword has the most primal and pure soul connection to our Nine Lights Heavenly Palace... If he isn't someone from a king realm, he won't be able to escape."

But if Yun Che truly did come from a king realm, then no matter what, they could not afford to offend him any further.

However, if they were to find out that he was not from a king realm in the future, then they had no need to be worried any longer. Through the soul connection the sect shared with the Hidden Heaven Sword, they would be able to easily pinpoint the whereabouts of the Hidden Heaven Sword. Given the Nine Lights Heavenly Palace's power, taking it back from Yun Che would be a piece of cake!

Lu Bubai nodded towards Yun Che as he said, "The Young Palace Master's innate talent is extraordinary, but he is still young. Suffering this crushing defeat will only greatly benefit his future. On this point, Bubai has to thank the honorable one... Beihan, do any of you have anything to say about this result?"

With Lu Bubai's status, his attitude had already given the others hints and decided everything. So how could the Northern Chill Divine Sovereign dare to have any objections? His face immediately grew solemn as he fiercely suppressed all of the negative emotions he felt toward Yun Che. "The ten profound practitioners from our sect lost to one person, the Southern Phoenix's Yun Che. Everyone here witnessed it and the result cannot be doubted. So we, the three sects, willingly accept our defeat."

"So from tomorrow onward, the Central Ruins Realm... will belong solely to the Southern Phoenix Divine Country for the next five hundred years."

Every word he said caused the Northern Chill Divine Sovereign's heart to bleed, especially that last bit. He had already tried his best to control himself, but there was still an obvious tremor in his words when he said that.

"East Ruins, Western Ruins, what about the two of you?" Lu Bubai asked again.

"I naturally have no objections." The Western Ruins Sovereign was smiling, but his smile was extremely stiff and ugly.

"...Congratulations, Southern Phoenix." The East Ruins Divine Sovereign closed his eyes and did not open them for a very long time, his face was frightfully pale.

Dong Xueyan, who stood by his side, was staring at Yun Che dumbly... The slap mark on her face had not disappeared yet, but she no longer felt any pain. For the first time in her life, she truly experienced just how painful regret could be.

Her most respected older brother, Dong Xueci, had been crippled by a single blow from Yun Che. Beihan Chu had been surrounded by such a brilliant halo of light, but Yun Che had easily trampled over him. What sort of existence was the Nine Lights Heavenly Palace? They had so easily and proactively given in to him, and had even handed over the Hidden Heaven Sword, an existence that was akin to a sacred item for them, in such an obedient and submissive manner...

As she recalled how she and Dong Xueci had pranced about in front of Yun Che, looking exactly like two clueless and laughable clowns... No, in his eyes, they definitely were not even on the level of clowns.

The battlefield had descended into a sea of silence. Lu Bubai's extreme willingness to compromise and his obvious friendliness had not only deeply stunned the three great realm kings, but it had also undoubtedly shaken everyone who was present... They were unable to imagine just what sort of person, what sort of existence could make someone like Lu Bubai behave like this.

Yun Che, this person of unknown origin, who had seemingly appeared out of nowhere... Just who exactly was he!?

Nanhuang Chanyi had not allowed him to take the final battle because she had been crazy, she also had not been bluffing when she suggested that he take on ten people from the three other sects at the same time. Rather, it was now extremely clear that she was luring the three sects into a trap.

Now that everyone thought about it, could it be that even her public rejection of Beihan Chu had been because of Yun Che?

Was there an even stronger power than the Nine Lights Heavenly Palace... backing Yun Che?

"Chanyi, who... exactly is he? Who exactly is she?" Nanhuang Jian asked consecutively, the excitement in his voice barely suppressed. Up to now, his mind was still a little dizzy.

"Yun Che," Nanhuang Chanyi simply replied.

"..." Nanhuan Mofeng also turned around at this time. His old head drooped slightly before he spoke with much difficulty, "This old one... truly had eyes but could not see. I even presumptuously... offended someone who was my superior... time and again... I am willing to accept any punishment your Highness wants to give me."

“Let’s discuss this again when we return. Prepare to take over the entire Central Ruins Realm,” Nanhuang Chanyi said.

“Yes.” This time, Nanhuang Mofeng deeply bowed his head and his reply was full of respect and deference.

“Chanyi.” The Southern Phoenix Divine Sovereign sent a sound transmission in a low voice. “Were all of these already preparations you made for the Central Ruins Battle?”

“No,” Nanhuang Chanyi replied, “I just met an extraordinary person by sheer coincidence, and I simply made convenient use of him.”

The Southern Phoenix Divine Sovereign. “...”

“If we take full control of the Central Ruins Realm for the next five hundred years and no other incidents happen, it will be enough for our Southern Ruins to just about grow as strong as the other three realms.” Nanhuang Chanyi tilted her head up slightly to look at Yun Che. “However...”

“We did not obtain this result for free. I am looking forward to seeing what sort of reward he will want.”

The core of the Central Ruins Battle this time had not been four Ruins Realms, it had been Yun Che alone.

The scenes of him cruelly dominating Beihan Chu and the scenes of Lu Bubai lowering his head in submission were simply far too shocking. At this moment, how could anyone still look at him with even a trace of the ridicule or pity that their gazes had contained before? The only things that were left were deep shock and fear.

“Let’s go.” Yun Che turned around and said to Qianye Ying’er, “We’ve worked really hard today. It’s time for us to get paid.”

“Now isn’t the time to antagonize anyone, the Nine Lights Heavenly Palace isn’t a group that you can afford to offend!” Qianye Ying’er softly said in a cold voice. “This time, you didn’t provoke a huge conflict, so you can count your lucky stars. But if you dare to act in such a presumptuous manner again...”

She could not think of anything to threaten him with right now. After all, in their current conditions, she was the one who was relying completely on Yun Che.

Lu Bubai did not stop him or speak any further. From start to finish, he had not asked a single question about his background.

He pressed a hand against Beihan Chu’s body, stopping him from making any strange moves. As he stared at Yun Che’s back, his eyes also hovered over Qianye Ying’er for a brief moment... Like Yun Che, she was also radiating the aura of a fifth level Divine King, and that head of long, dull golden hair was very rarely seen in the Northern Divine Region.

“Junior Master, could it be that we are really going to...” As he saw Yun Che walk into the distance, Beihan Chu simply could not accept what had just happened.

“Quiet,” Lu Bubai rebuked him in a low voice. He greatly admired Beihan Chu and he was even willing to accompany him to the Five Nether Ruins and stay in the background to personally protect him. He very rarely spoke to him so harshly, but this time, he was in an extremely bad mood and just controlling his emotions took nearly all of his strength.

“...” Beihan Chu’s lips trembled.

Drip... drip...

Drops of blood continued to flow down his face. He did not dare to imagine just how ugly his face looked right now, but he knew that his shameful performance had been clearly witnessed by the ten million profound practitioners present. In fact, at this very moment, there were even some lowly profound practitioners who were looking at him with gazes filled with pity.

That’s right, pity...

He had proudly stood up in such a majestic and awe-inspiring manner, yet he had been casually beaten like a dog, and he had even given the other person the Hidden Heaven Sword. He even had to watch him leave in complete safety, and his side did not even dare to pursue the matter...

Before too long, his disgraceful performance today would spread and he would become the laughingstock of the Five Nether Ruins, the Nine Lights Heavenly Palace, and the Northern Region Heavenly Sovereign Ranking.

Shame was an extremely frightening thing. It was many times more painful than the pain one experienced during cultivation... As his mind replayed the events that had just happened in a jumbled manner, he finally understood what it meant to be so ashamed that one wanted to die.

Beihan Chu’s body shuddered and color drained out of the pupils of his eyes. Due to his extreme anger and shame, his entire body violently swayed as his heart’s blood flowed in reverse, causing him to wildly vomit out a large mouth of blood.

“Chu’er!” The Northern Chill Divine Sovereign was greatly shocked and he hurriedly went to support him. Upon seeing Beihan Chu’s dull and dim eyes, his heart wrenched in his chest... Beihan Chu had grown up lavished with praise and admiration and even when he had gone to Nine Lights Heavenly Palace, he still radiated such a brilliant halo of light. His life had gone exceedingly well, so he had never had to endure the humiliation and shock he had received today.

“...” Lu Bubai let out a heavy sigh.

But it was at this moment, in the distant skies above, that the darkness barrier around the profound ark that had been hovering over the battlefield suddenly collapsed.

This barrier was linked to Beihan Chu’s aura, and there was no way that the person inside this darkness barrier could escape it originally. However, because Beihan Chu’s heart and soul had received such a heavy impact, the barrier had also dispersed afterwards.

The strange sound caused everyone’s eyes to abruptly look towards the sky... The figure of a frail and delicate girl flew out from within the dispersing black mist as it swiftly fled towards the north.

"Hmph." Lu Bubai gave a cold and disdainful snort as he soared into the sky and shot towards the fleeing girl like a fierce eagle.

The girl looked very young and she was dressed in loose white robes. Her cultivation was only in the late stages of the Divine Soul Realm, so when faced with an existence like Lu Bubai, even if she had managed to escape from her cage, there was no way that she could escape.

As she felt danger swiftly closing in on her, the girl turned her head around. But there was no fear on her face. Instead, there was a cold ruthlessness that did not match her age on her face. Her hand swiftly weaved through the air and a bolt of lightning flashed into life out of thin air as it struck Lu Bubai directly.

Crack!!

Lu Bubai simply ignored it. Even though the lightning struck the top of his head, the power of a mere Divine Soul practitioner could not even harm a hair on his head.

"!?" Yun Che's feet suddenly ground to a halt as his eyebrows fiercely sank.

Chapter 1575 - Taking by Force

"What's the matter?" Qianye Ying'er said as her eyebrows arched.

"..." Yun Che did not say anything. He simply turned around and looked to the sky.

"You still want to run?" Lu Bubai's hands did not even move. A black light flashed through his eyes and a layer of thin black energy engulfed the young girl's body, completely suppressing her body and profound energy. She could not even move a single muscle, much less think of escaping.

However, it was very clear that Lu Bubai did not intend to kill her and he was extremely careful even when he bound her with his power.

"Vill... ain!" The girl shouted through her gritted white teeth. There was no fear on her face and her widened eyes were filled with unyielding hatred.

"The Great Elder... and Big Brother Xiang... will definitely come and save me, and they definitely... won't let any of you off!"

Her voice still contained several traces of childishness that had yet to completely fade away, proving that her age did indeed match her appearance. She should only be around fifteen to sixteen years old.

"Save you? Let us off?" Lu Bubai gave a cold laugh. "With just your Sinful Yun Clan alone?"

Yun Che, "..."

Once the three words "Sinful Yun Clan" were spoken, whispers immediately broke out around the battlefield. The Northern Chill Divine Sovereign realized what was happening and asked, "This girl is from the Sinful Yun Clan?"

Bei Han Chu's hand covered his chest as he panted heavily. He spat out venomously, "Yes! Master, Junior Master and I managed to meet members of the Sinful Yun Clan by coincidence when we were on our way here."

“I thought the members of the Sinful Yun Clan were not allowed to leave the sinful region as they pleased?” The Northern Chill Divine Sovereign’s eyes gleamed. “Could it be that they are trying to escape?”

“Probably,” Beihan Chu replied. “The members of the Sinful Yun Clan scattered as they fled in all directions. Master went after them and that is also the reason why he was not able to be here today.”

When he said those words, Beihan Chu gritted his teeth fiercely... If Venerable Hidden Sword had been here, he would not have needed to suffer such great humiliation.

“But we met this little lady by coincidence and we captured her without any trouble.” Beihan Chu suppressed his voice. “Junior Master said that she probably possesses an extraordinary status within the Sinful Yun Clan, and the Chief Palace Master just so happened to be... Bringing her back to the Heavenly Palace will at the very least lessen my sin of losing the Hidden Heaven Sword.”

“Get back there!” Lu Bubai flipped a hand. He was about to sweep the young girl back onto the profound ark.

The girl could not move a single muscle of her body and even if she were a thousand times more powerful than she was today, she still would not be able to put up any resistance, much less the current her. However, she stubbornly refused to resign herself to her fate and a beam of deep purple light suddenly shot out from her slender, white hand.

There was no way a profound practitioner in the Divine Soul Realm could escape the suppression of a Divine Sovereign, no matter what they did, no matter whether it was their body or profound energy. However, that beam of purple light was truly released from that girl’s arm and it had not come from some profound artifact that could be controlled by one’s will.

Purple light pierced the sky and shot straight towards Lu Bubai’s eyes...

When he saw this purple light, Lu Bubai completely froze and even his eyes dramatically widened.

Bang!!

The purple light hit him straight between the eyes, but it did not cause any damage at all. However, Lu Bubai was actually stunned for a moment. But after that instant had passed, an incomparably fervent light blazed in his eyes.

On the ground below, Beihan Chu’s body violently shuddered as he blurted out, “A Purple... Purple Devil Handle!?”

“He... Haha...” Lu Bubai suddenly started laughing, and he was filled with an uncontrollable, wild joy, the sort of joy a person would feel if they were suddenly blessed by the heavens. “We’ve truly picked up a treasure... Hahaha... Eh!?”

A figure suddenly appeared before his eyes, causing his uncontrollable joyful laughter to cease.

Yun Che stood at the young girl’s side and he slowly extended a hand and pushed the young girl behind him. At the same time, he undid the darkness seal that was placed on her body.

“...” The young girl was stunned as she dazedly stood behind Yun Che. A layer of power that originated from him covered her body. It seemed to be protecting her, but it also did not allow her to flee.

Lu Bubai’s smile froze on his face. His eyebrows sank slightly as he said, “What do you mean by this?”

“I want this person,” Yun Che said in an icy voice.

Qianye Ying’er, “...”

“You!” Lu Bubai took a step forward, but after that, he fiercely suppressed his anger again as he spoke in a calm voice, “This girl is a descendant of that clan of sinners, I need to bring her back and punish her accordingly. Even if the honorable one’s surname is also Yun, it is clear that you have no connection to this clan of sinners, so why is there a need for this unnecessary show of pity?”

Yun Che simply grabbed the girl’s tiny hand and descended with her.

No matter how strong Lu Bubai’s restraint and patience were, he was already on the verge of exploding with rage. He turned his body around and suddenly stood in front of Yun Che, blocking his path. His face had already grown dark as he said, “Our Nine Lights Heavenly Palace has no grudge or grievance with your honor, but we were deceived by you and as a result, we lost the Hidden Heaven Sword and allowed one of our young palace masters to suffer great humiliation and a devastating setback. But even so, the Young Palace Master and I gave way to you again and again... Please do not take a mile when we have already given you an inch!”

The deception that he spoke of was naturally referring to Yun Che’s deliberate act of spreading out darkness to obscure the battleground from everyone’s vision when he fought the ten great Divine Kings. As a result, no one was able to see the battle play out and everyone came to the conclusion that he had definitely used some sort of extremely strong devil artifact, arousing Beihan Chu’s curiosity and greed... Everything that happened afterwards was a result of that act.

Even though he was fully aware that Yun Che had deliberately deceived them, he still admitted defeat.

However, with Yun Che being so overbearing... even he would despise himself if he backed down any further, much less other people.

Besides, they definitely... they definitely had to bring this girl back to the Nine Lights Heavenly Palace!

He was apprehensive about Yun Che’s possible background, but that absolutely did not mean that he was scared of Yun Che. Furthermore, even if Yun Che’s true strength was truly not inferior to his, there was still Northern Chill City, Eastern Ruins Sect, and Western Ruins Sect around!

As he spoke, his body had already started to radiate the thick and heavy oppressive might that belonged to a Divine Sovereign. Dark sword energy projections appeared on his arms and over his shoulders as they faintly flickered and radiated a dreadful devilish might.

Yun Che, “...”

A tiny hand tightly grabbed onto the corner of his robe from behind, its grip growing tighter and tighter with each passing moment.

Lu Bubai continued, "The Five Nether Ruins have always obeyed the orders of our Nine Lights Heavenly Palace. Besides me, there are seven Divine Sovereigns from the Five Nether Ruins present. With a single command from me, and this includes the Southern Phoenix as well, we will all attack you together, and even if the honorable one has incredible strength, you still will not be able to leave this place alive."

"We can still be friends. Your honor is a smart man, so why would you want to lose your life over a girl you don't even know?"

Lu Bubai's words were both a piece of advice and a threat. Before they could verify Yun Che's identity, he did not want to fall out with him. But if Yun Che insisted on taking the girl by force... he would have no choice but to kill him right here.

Yun Che's reply only consisted of five words:

"Either get lost or die!"

"..." Qianye Ying'er heaved a weary sigh.

The expression on Lu Bubai's face changed, but it did not grow darker or more solemn. Instead, his expression became completely calm, but killing intent suddenly erupted from his body and in his eyes.

"It looks like you are determined to behave shamelessly even though we have already given you face."

Rumble!

The wrath of a Divine Sovereign shook the earth and caused the heavens to weep. Black clouds roiled in the skies as a dark wind started gathering underneath. The killing intent and rage that Lu Bubai no longer needed to restrain erupted at the same time. He raised a hand and a black light wreathed it, resembling a sinister howling evil spirit.

Yun Che's expression also changed. The corner of his lips started to curl, the curve of his lips boundlessly sinister.

"Today, you will be leaving behind her, the Hidden Heaven Sword... and your own life!" Black energy instantly covered Lu Bubai's entire body, with his hair and beard dancing in the air. The oppressive might of a Divine Sovereign engulfed the entire area, causing the profound practitioners below to shudder uncontrollably in fear. "You don't know how to appreciate the kindness shown to you and you have sought your own death instead. Right now, even if you were to kneel down and beg for mercy, it is already too late!"

As a dreadfully shrill noise rang in the air, a beam of dark sword energy suddenly shot out from Lu Bubai as it dove straight at Yun Che. The beam of dark sword energy caused cracks in the ground that were more than ten kilometers long as it zoomed overhead.

In the same instant, an invisible barrier instantly appeared over Yun Che's body.

Sealing Cloud Locking Sun!

He carried the girl in his arms and in a flash, he dodged the sword beam. The Heretic God Barrier completely blocked any aftershocks left by the attacks, preventing the girl from being harmed.

It was at this moment that Lu Bubai let out a furious roar and rushed forward, but his five fingers were not pointed at the white-robed girl, they were pointed at Yun Che's chest.

With a sweep of his arm, Yun Che hurled the girl far away. The Heretic God Barrier surrounding him left his body and followed the girl. After that Yun Che's body flashed forward as he, shockingly enough, chose to close the distance between him and Lu Bubai. He also arched his fingers into a claw as he met the blow directly.

Pfffboom!

The two claws clashed and the space five kilometers around them shattered like brittle ice. The dark storm produced from this clash of blows instantly swallowed the girl and she let out a startled scream... But she immediately realized that the mystical barrier which encased her was faintly releasing some light, blocking out all of the calamitous power and darkness that raged around her.

Boom!

Boom!!

BOOOM!!!

Darkness energy continued to explode and the arms of the two combatants clashed once again, causing the space around them, which had just endured a disaster, to violently collapse once more.

The clash between Yun Che and Lu Bubai had been so sudden that it was impossible for anyone in the Central Ruins Battlefield to react. This sort of power was undoubtedly a terrifying natural disaster to them, causing wails of misery to rend the air as countless people fled for their lives.

Superior Unwhite, who had kept giving in to Yun Che, who had obviously felt great apprehension towards Yun Che, had actually launched a sudden attack on him.... He had even attacked with all of his might, his killing intent flooding the area. This had caught Beihan Chu and the other great Divine Sovereigns completely unprepared.

But what caused them even greater shock was that Lu Bubai's power... was actually being matched by Yun Che's in a direct clash!

Lu Bubai was a level four Divine Sovereign! Furthermore, he was someone who had been at the level of a Divine Sovereign for just over eight thousand years, so his profound strength was as deep and boundless as the ocean. Yun Che had defeated Dong Xueci, he had defeated the ten great Divine Kings, he had defeated Beihan Chu, and right now... he was actually resisting Lu Bubai's strength in a direct clash of power!

But the profound strength that radiated from his body was still at the fifth level of the Divine King Realm!

What sort of monster was this!?

"Junior Master has attacked!" After he recovered from his shock, Beihan Chu, who had been suppressing his boundless humiliation and discontent, was shaken greatly. "Royal Father, Senior Realm Kings, we need to quickly attack together! Let's tear Yun Che apart!"

“No,” the Northern Chill Divine Sovereign said calmly as he looked at the sky. “What sort of status does Superior Unwhite have? If we rashly attempt to aid him, it would only arouse his ire. Furthermore... He alone is enough.”

RUMBLE!!

Another beam of black light ruptured the air. Yun Che’s arm was violently thrown aside and Lu Bubai’s fingers arched into a sword. His hand smashed into Yun Che’s chest, sword might erupting from it, sending Yun Che flying.

“Oh no!” Nanhuang Chanyi gave a low cry. She took a step forward, but her body immediately ground to a halt after that... Because she suddenly saw that Qianye Ying’er, who stood in the middle of the battleground, did not seem to be the least bit concerned.

After he blasted Yun Che aside, Lu Bubai did not try to capture the white-robed girl. Instead, he rushed toward Yun Che once more. Because it was not possible for her to escape, and since things had already come this far, Yun Che had to die!

Yun Che’s body flipped in midair and the profound energy radiating from his body suddenly changed in a bizarre manner.

Rumbling Heaven, open!

His profound energy, which had become many times more violent and frenzied in an instant, directly smashed aside Lu Bubai, who had rushed in with all of his strength. Before Lu Bubai could even grow shocked, a pair of crimson-black eyes already appeared right in front of him as an arm that was wreathed in bloody light smashed down towards him.

RUMBLE!!

Both arms collided in midair and Lu Bubai’s eyeballs instantly bulged to the point where they nearly exploded. He felt as if his fist had smashed into a slab of indestructible profound steel. He instantly lost all sensation in his right arm. All five fingers on his right hand broke and the sound of his blood vessels rupturing was deafening.

But in the end, his experience in the profound way was extremely strong and solid, and he used the remaining power behind his attack to move backwards at the fastest possible speed as he just managed to escape the full force of Yun Che’s attack.

“You...” He used his left hand to grasp his right arm and a frightened cry escaped from his trembling lips. Shock and fear danced in his eyes and it was as if he had seen a god or a ghost. Even after several seconds had gone by, his arm still remained numb. He was unable to lift it and a large amount of blood crazily flowed down its length.

“Junior... Master!” Beihan Chu was nearly shocked to death, and even the other Divine Sovereigns were so shocked that their souls shuddered.

Once again, Yun Che had violently smashed apart their knowledge and previously-held beliefs.

Yun Che did not make a follow-up attack, because the consecutive energy impacts had very nearly exhausted the Heretic God Barrier that protected the white-robed girl. He turned around and arrived at the girl's side. After he stretched out a hand, a new Heretic God Barrier covered her body.

But at this moment, Beihan Chu's head suddenly swiveled as he abruptly shot into the air like an arrow. In an instant, he arrived in front of Qianye Ying'er, a sword energy projection that was about nine feet long exploding out from his palm and coming to rest against Qianye Ying'er's throat.

"..." Qianye Ying'er did not move a single muscle.

This sudden change in the situation caused everyone to look at her in shock.

"Yun Che," Beihan Chu said as he gasped roughly. If the sword energy projection in his hand moved a single millimeter closer, it would slice open Qianye Ying'er's throat. "This is your woman, right? Hand over that girl... to Junior Master! Then both you and she can leave safely, and you can also take the Hidden Heaven Sword with you."

"If not, I'll kill her!"

Well done... As he grasped his still numb arm, Lu Bubai, who would normally despise such behavior, was full of praise for Beihan Chu at this moment.

Yun Che did not respond, but a trace of pity flashed through his cold and indifferent eyes.

Chapter 1576 - Needlessly Barging into Hell

Beihan Chu had appeared with the halo of the "Northern Region Heavenly Sovereign Ranking" surrounding him, but Yun Che had never truly held him in any regard at all.

The number one genius of the profound way in the Eastern Divine Region, the man who had made history time and again, Luo Changsheng, had been abused by Yun Che and left completely at his mercy on top of the Conferred God Stage, and that dark shadow would probably haunt him for the rest of his life.

The Northern Region Heavenly Sovereign Ranking? What was that?

But at this moment, Yun Che had no choice but to admit that Beihan Chu truly was someone.

Because he had actually dared to point a sword energy projection at Qianye Ying'er!

"Yun Che," Lu Bubai said as he gasped roughly, the killing intent present in his eyes had mostly disappeared. What replaced it was deep shock and fear. "Our Nine Lights Heavenly Palace has no wish to be your enemy and we truly do not wish to make this into an ugly scene. Give her to us and there will be peace between our two sides. Why would you want to engage in a life or death struggle... over a girl from that clan of sinners?"

He was afraid, he was truly afraid.

Yun Che's ability to resist his power had already greatly shaken him. But to think that he could still explosively increase his strength... Furthermore, his strength had grown by multiple times in an instant, and one blow had very nearly crippled his arm, the arm of a fourth level Divine Sovereign!

What sort of monster was this... This startled exclamation had appeared in his mind countless times today.

Yun Che did not speak, and his hand was pressed against the white-robed girl's shoulder.

Beneath them, the light in Qianye Ying'er's eyes subtly changed underneath that pitch-black mask.

She softly muttered words that only she could hear. "Since it's come to this... then let's take it all the way."

She gently brushed a finger across her waist.

Ding!

A light ringing sound suddenly rang in the ears of everyone present... Even though it was very soft, it entwined itself around everyone's ears and seeped directly into their souls.

Amidst this soft ringing sound, a long and thin golden line, flecked with pitch black, was suddenly drawn on this oppressive and desolate battleground.

Beihan Chu's head was in the center of this golden line.

The sword energy projection which extended from Beihan Chu's hand was pointed toward Qianye Ying'er and his aura had firmly locked onto her. The look in his eyes was dark and heavy and he could sense the appreciative gaze that Lu Bubai had thrown towards him, his heart swelling with emotion.

He was convinced that the relationship that Yun Che and this woman shared was no ordinary one. If he could force him to submit with this action and get back the young girl who could release the purple "Devil Handle", then this great accomplishment could perhaps completely make up for his sin of losing the Hidden Heaven Sword.

He could even recover some of the ground he had lost to Yun Che!

Even though this method was extremely despicable, Yun Che was the one who had despicably tried to rob them in the first place, so no one could say anything against him.

However... for some odd reason, all of the sounds around him had suddenly vanished, and the only thing he could hear was a buzzing sound that was coming from an unknown place.

His vision had also suddenly become blurry, and his connection to his profound energy had also grown weak and faint. After that, everything actually... vanished altogether.

The world in front of him started tilting upwards... No, it was his vision that was tilting backward as it grew dimmer, before turning upside down... Suddenly he saw a person, that person had the same figure as him, was wearing the same clothes as him and even that person's maimed right hand was exactly the same as his.

A black sword energy projection was also jutting out from that person's left hand.

But that person only had half a head left.

A golden light that had come out of nowhere was drawn across that person's head, and it seemed as if that golden line had perfectly split that head in half.

In that instant, boundless terror and despair flooded into the last remaining bits of his consciousness. He wanted to scream in a hoarse voice, but he could not make a single sound. After that, the last remaining bits of his consciousness descended into the eternal darkness along with the greatest terror and despair he had felt in his entire life.

Lu Bubai was stunned, the Northern Chill Divine Sovereign was stunned... Everyone was stunned and it was as if billions of bees had surged into their brains and filled their heads with a buzzing cacophony of noise.

"Chu... Chu'er..."

The Northern Chill Divine Sovereign mumbled as his vision went dark... But before he could even stretch out a hand towards Beihan Chu's corpse, which was still standing up straight, a beam of golden light suddenly swept toward his body.

Qianye Ying'er truly valued her life nowadays.

The profound veins she thought were crippled forever had been healed, she had obtained the blood of a Devil Emperor, and she even had Yun Che, a monster who used her as she used him. As long as she remained alive, there would definitely come a day when she could personally take revenge.

Thus, she had warned Yun Che time and again that he was absolutely not allowed to take unnecessary risks before they had grown strong enough.

However, the moment her killing intent was ignited, she would become completely merciless and cruel!

With one stroke of her sword, she had lopped off half of Beihan Chu's head, and with her second attack, her sword was already streaking toward the Northern Chill Divine Sovereign in a bid to take his life. She did not show an iota of hesitation, nor did she hold back at all.

As the Northern Chill Divine Sovereign, he had grown far too used to death, so he naturally would not lose his wits because he had witnessed one. But Beihan Chu... had not only been the son he was most proud of. He had also been his future, the future of the entire Northern Chill City!

He had become the number one disciple in the Nine Lights Heavenly Palace, his name had been entered into the Northern Region Heavenly Sovereign Ranking, he had become the greatest genius in the Five Nether Ruins, its pride and joy. All of these things had been so glorious and brilliant, but they had suddenly been buried right before his eyes in this moment.

The enormity of this impact was no less than the heavens capsizing and the earth collapsing.

He was so distracted by this event that his soul had practically left his body. As such, when confronted with Qianye Ying'er's sword strike, a sudden attack that flowed as fast as light, leaving afterimages in its wake, the Northern Chill Divine Sovereign did not even have time to circulate his profound strength when he came back to his senses. He could only just barely move his body to one side.

RIP!!

A second golden light ripped through the air, drawing a horizontal line across the left side of the Northern Chill Divine Sovereign's body, cutting through the ribs on the left side of his chest while severing most of his left arm. Fresh blood spurted into the sky.

Bang!

The top half of Beihan Chu's head hit the ground with a soft thud. That sound seemed to have smashed into the hearts of everyone present, suppressing all the sound in the world.

Bang!

The Northern Chill Divine Sovereign's left arm hit the ground at almost the same instant that Beihan Chu's bisected skull landed.

All of this happened in a split second... Qianye Ying'er's profound aura had only been at the fifth level of the Divine King Realm, and she was a woman at that, so why would Beihan Chu, Lu Bubai, and the Northern Chill Divine Sovereign bother put their guard up against her?

"Ah... AAAAAHHH!" The Northern Chill Divine Sovereign's wails of misery only started ringing out at this moment. At the same time, the body of Beihan Chu finally toppled backwards. Having lost both his son and an arm, a shrill and miserable wail that should not have come from the mouth of a Divine Sovereign resounded in the air.

However, that fatal golden light shot at him again in the next instant.

"Ah... UWAAAAHH!!" The Northern Chill Divine Sovereign's wails of pain bordered on despair as he let blood freely spurt from the stump of his left arm. With a wave of his right arm, a green-black great sword appeared in his hand and his wild and frenzied Divine Sovereign power was concentrated inside it as he sent it smashing downwards.

"Divine Sovereign!!" Lu Bubai, who hovered overhead, let out an involuntary cry of shock as the pupils of his eyes contracted.

Yun Che's cultivation in the profound way was indeed at the fifth level of the Divine King Realm, that was no lie.

However, Qianye Ying'er's profound strength had been hidden by the Ni Yuan Stone. Thus, when her profound strength erupted from her body, it completely exposed her true power.

The Ni Yuan stone was something that had belonged to the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor. As long as the wearer did not choose to expose one's profound strength, even the ancient gods and devils would not be able to see through its obfuscation, much less any of the people present.

When the power of a Divine Sovereign suddenly burst out from the body of a fifth level Divine King, the moment of bewilderment it caused in everyone else was enough to be fatal!

Even though the Northern Chill Divine Sovereign was wielding his sword with only one hand, the might of that greatsword was still incredibly shocking. In comparison, the long and thin golden sword in Qianye Ying'er's hand seemed frail and tiny.

However, in the instant that both swords collided, the slender golden sword bent like a whip. It instantly pierced through both the Northern Chill Divine Sovereign's sword might and power like a spirit snake before striking him in the chest... With an explosive sound, it pierced through his body.

Boom!

Qianye Ying'er borrowed the power of the Northern Chill's sword might to move backwards, gracefully flying through the air. The flexible sword left her hand like a streaking golden light and wrapped around her slender waist. It did not look like anything other than a normal golden-colored belt.

However, a fist-sized hole had appeared in the Northern Chill Divine Sovereign's chest.

"Sect... Sect Master!?"

"Royal Father!!"

Everything had happened far too quickly and suddenly. From the moment Beihan Chu's head had been bisected to the moment a hole had been bored into the Northern Chill Divine Sovereign's chest, everything had happened in the matter of instants. It was also at this time that the people from Northern Chill City started to cry out in shock and fear.

As for those from the East Ruins, Western Ruins, and the Southern Phoenix, all of them were dumbstruck by the events that had just unfolded before their very eyes. Every corner of the Central Ruins Battlefield burst out into a riotous clamor at this moment.

The members of Northern Chill City surged forward and rushed toward the Northern Chill Divine Sovereign. The greatsword in the Northern Chill Divine Sovereign's hand hit the ground and he stood frozen in place. His eyes were glassy and blank, and it was as if his soul had left his body.

"Royal Father, are... you okay?" The Northern Chill Divine Sovereign's eldest son asked in a trembling voice.

Even though the Northern Chill Divine Sovereign's arm had been lopped off and a hole had been put in his chest, a Divine Sovereign could reconstitute an arm, and a hole in their chest definitely would not be fatal... After all, how could it be so easy for a mighty Divine Sovereign to die?

But...

Thud!

At this moment, the greatsword fell from his grasp and crashed into the ground.

"Chu'... er..." He muttered in a voice that was as soft as a wisp of wind. After that, he stiffly fell backwards, like a log tumbling to the ground.

"Sect... Sect Master!!"

The members of Northern Chill City cried out in great shock. The Northern Chill Great Elder stepped forward and caught the Northern Chill Divine Sovereign. But in that moment, his entire body trembled violently, and it was as if he had been smashed by a huge hammer.

Because the Northern Chill Divine Sovereign's internal organs had already been reduced to a bloody mess. It was as if millions of devil claws, millions of sharp swords, had ruthlessly and cruelly torn them to shreds. Not even the smallest fragment of an organ remained.

The Northern Chill Great Elder had frozen in place and the Northern Chill Divine Sovereign's aura swiftly dissipated from everyone's spiritual perception before disappearing completely.

"He... died?" The East Ruins, Western Ruins, and Southern Phoenix... all muttered those words. These two short words caused them to shiver more violently than they ever had before.

Qianye Ying'er's current cultivation was still at the third level of the Divine Sovereign Realm. Even with the advantages provided to her by the Devil Emperor's origin blood, when facing off against an opponent like the Northern Chill Divine Sovereign, a level four Divine Sovereign, she might not lose, but there was practically no way for her to win either.

However, she was still the previous Brahma Monarch Goddess in the end. She still possessed experience and knowledge at the level of a god emperor and she still possessed cruel and ruthless methods that made even the god emperors shudder.

Furthermore, from the time she had been the Brahma Monarch Goddess, she had always had a Brahma Golden Soft Sword wrapped around her waist. Its name was "Divine Oracle".

To be able to instantly kill a first level Divine Sovereign and fourth level Divine Sovereign with the power of a third level Divine Sovereign. In the entire God Realm, perhaps only Qianye Ying'er was able to accomplish this task.

"Ah... Aahhhh..." Lu Bubai stretched out an arm, his fingers trembling wildly as fear and shock seized his throat and his spirit like a demon.

Beihan Chu had died... The first disciple in the history of the Nine Lights Heavenly Palace to have entered the Northern Region Heavenly Sovereign Ranking had died. The pride and the future of the Nine Lights Heavenly Palace... had died!!

His father, the Northern Chill Divine Sovereign who was closest to him in strength, had also died!

How could... such a thing... happen in this world...

Beihan Chu's miserable death had been a foregone conclusion in Yun Che's eyes. Just pointing his sword energy projection toward Qianye Ying'er ensured that even ten thousand lives would not be enough to help him survive. However, he had not anticipated that she would kill the Northern Chill Divine Sovereign in an instant as well.

Yun Che grabbed the white-robed girl and as he descended, then tossed her at Qianye Ying'er. "Protect her."

Qianye Ying'er caught the girl as she spoke in an icy voice, "Since it has come to this, just kill everyone... After that, you better have prepared a perfectly suitable explanation for me!"

With a cold snort, Yun Che barreled toward Lu Bubai.

After she had helped Yun Che get rid of two Divine Sovereigns, Qianye Ying'er stopped attacking. Instead, she grabbed the white-robed girl in a rough manner and returned to within the Southern Phoenix's barrier.

The two of them had perfectly divided their duties.

When she returned, a chorus of strangled cries immediately rang out from within the Southern Phoenix's battle formation. Everyone backpedaled in fear and Nanhuang Jian very nearly fell to the ground as he stumbled over himself.

Even Nanhuang Mofeng had swiftly retreated a few steps.

As they recalled how she had simply sat quietly in the middle of the Southern Phoenix's battle formation during the duration of the Central Ruins Battle, cold sweat ran down the spines of all the members of the Southern Phoenix. At this moment, their entire bodies were tensed up and they did not even dare breathe too loudly.

Chapter 1577 - Fallen Heavenly Wolf

"Wait... Wait a moment!"

As he saw Yun Che swiftly close the distance between them, Lu Bubai jerked his head upwards and said in an anxious voice, "I will give this girl from the clan of sinners to your honor and depart. In the future, I, Lu Bubai, will definitely stay away from any location the honorable one is residing in."

Lu Bubai had lived close to ten millennia and he had weathered countless storms in his life, but he had never once been as panicked and afraid as he was today.

If it was the Yun Che in the past, he would definitely have merrily yelled "are you a bloody master in changing your attitude!?".

Even though he had lost the Hidden Heaven Sword and Beihan Chu, not only had Lu Bubai not entered a frenzied state, he even changed his stance at the fastest possible moment and decided to offer up the "girl from the clan of sinners" instead... One could call him either a coward or a rational person, but it also clearly showed just how great a shock Yun Che's dreadful strength, a strength which overturned his knowledge and experience and exceeded his imagination time and again, had given him.

But it was a pity... that since Yun Che had already completely fallen out with the Nine Lights Heavenly Palace, he would naturally kill as many of them as he could to reduce their power in the future!

Also, Yun Che had trampled over Beihan Chu and "extorted" the Hidden Heaven Sword to cause trouble for Nanhuang Chanyi... But the moment the white-robed girl appeared, it had caused Yun Che's attitude towards the Nine Lights Heavenly Palace to dramatically change.

At that point, even when Lu Bubai fearfully raised his hands in surrender, Yun Che's speed did not dip at all. The black light on his body turned into golden flames and in an instant, the entire gloomy sky turned golden.

There were very few people in the Northern Divine Region who cultivated fire, so Lu Bubai had not come into contact with it very often. However, he had enough experience to recognize that Yun Che's flames were definitely no ordinary flames.

Before the fiery might emitted by those golden flames exploded or even came close to him, they already caused his soul to feel a painful scorching sensation.

Lu Bubai grew even more shocked, but he no longer held onto any hope. His expression turned fierce and severe once more as killing intent started to radiate from his body yet again. This time, it was even more intense than before. “Yun Che! You have gone too far! Today, it will only end with either your death or mine!”

He no longer retreated. He crossed both his hands and two greenish-black swords appeared in them. He rushed toward Yun Che, a howling storm instantly coalescing into existence inside the Central Ruins Battlefield as the entire world changed color.

Using darkness profound energy as its foundation, the Nine Lights Heavenly Palace focused on cultivating the sword while also cultivating the power of the storm. Since Lu Bubai had already unleashed all of his profound energy as he retreated, the storm of swords that he unleashed instantly engulfed Yun Che’s body.

Bang, bang, bang, bang...

As his swords clashed with Yun Che’s palms, every collision shook the air and stirred the clouds. Lu Bubai was holding two swords in his hands while Yun Che was meeting those naked blades with his bare hands. However, it was Lu Bubai who was being beaten back amidst the howling storm and trembling space. Furthermore, every time there was an energy explosion, the blood vessels on his arms would rupture, spraying blood into the air.

With his face twisting up in pain, Lu Bubai gradually felt the bones in his arms start to fracture and the feeling in his arms were swiftly disappearing as they grew increasingly numb.

“Aaaaah!!” As he gave a loud yell, he found an opportunity to swiftly back away. Nine pitch-black wheel seals suddenly appeared behind him. This was the Nine Lights Power, the strongest move in the Nine Lights Heavenly Palace’s core profound art.

However, before the Nine Lights could form completely, his pupils quickly contracted as Yun Che suddenly drew near and a beam of fiery light flashed past him.

In that instant, all the hairs on his body stood up straight.

BOOOM— — — —

An enormous conflagration of flames that spanned fifty kilometers exploded in the air, drowning out all sight and sound. Lu Bubai desperately tried to escape the sea of flames, his green clothes and the hair on his body having already been incinerated. The flesh on parts of his chest were burned through, exposing scorched and blackened bone.

Wildly struggling to suppress the flames raging on his body, he screamed hoarsely like a fierce ghost, “What are all of you waiting for!? Do all of you want to die!?”

After a moment of silence, four figures from the east, west, and north soared into the air and rushed toward Yun Che.

The auras that exploded out from their bodies were all at the Divine Sovereign Realm!

The North Ruins Realm's Northern Chill City Great Elder.

The West Ruins Realm's great realm king, the West Ruins Divine Sovereign.

The East Ruins Realm's great realm king and grand elder, the East Ruin Divine Sovereign and Dong Jiukui.

Two level three Divine Sovereigns and two level two Divine Sovereigns.

All of the Divine Sovereigns belonging to the three realms who were present here today attacked Yun Che... It was not because they desired to, it was because they had no choice but to!

If they did not, it would be impossible to imagine what sort of punishment the Nine Lights Heavenly Palace would inflict on them in the future.

Only the Southern Phoenix Divine Country did not make a move.

Because there existed a large amount of high-grade wind-element resources in the Central Ruins Realm, most of the sects in the Five Nether Ruins cultivated wind-element profound arts and that was also the case for the realm king sects. Thus, the powers of the four great Divine Sovereigns easily concentrated and merged together, forcefully suppressing Yun Che's flames and pressed down on his body, allowing Lu Bubai, who had fled the fiery hell in a sorry state, to catch his breath.

Lu Bubai did his best to suppress his wounds as he let out a furious roar, "Southern Phoenix! If you still choose not to act... the Nine Lights Heavenly Palace will definitely slaughter your entire clan in the future!"

"..." The bodies of everyone belonging to the Southern Phoenix tensed up and cold sweat slicked their backs... Lu Bubai was roaring at them from above, but Qianye Ying'er, who had killed Beihan Chu and his father in mere instants, was standing beside them. They did not dare to move a single muscle. In fact, they did not even dare to make a single sound.

Today, two great Divine Sovereigns from the Southern Phoenix were present; the first was the Southern Phoenix Divine Sovereign himself, and the second was Nanhuang Mofeng.

"No one is to attack," Nanhuang Chanyi said.

"Everybody retreat!" The Southern Phoenix Divine Sovereign's own orders followed tightly after Nanhuang Chanyi's orders.

As Lu Bubai saw the Southern Phoenix swiftly withdraw instead of attacking, he yelled in anger. After that, he looked toward the four great Divine Sovereigns who had been suppressing Yun Che for a short period of time. His eyes flashed but he did not join the battle formation. Instead, he abruptly changed direction and started to crazily flee into the distance. He even let out a hoarse yell as he fled, "Hold him back with all of your strength!!"

But...

Pfffboom!!

The storm of darkness that had been conjured up by the combined might of the four great Divine Sovereigns was violently ripped apart by the flames. The four Divine Sovereigns shot through the air as if

hit by a heavenly hammer. They let out howls of misery as arrows of blood fiercely sprayed out from their mouths.

It was only when they had personally faced Yun Che that they truly understood just how dreadful his power was and why even someone like Lu Bubai would be so shocked and terrified by him.

Their combined might, the combined might of four Divine Sovereigns, two of whom were the great realm kings of the East Ruins Realm and West Ruins Realm respectively, was actually so insignificant and weak in front of Yun Che.

It was utterly ridiculous that they had actually viewed this level five Divine King with such scorn and disdain, and they had even tried to find fault with him and criticize... How utterly farcical.

What was even more ridiculous was that such a frightening person had actually come to participate in the Central Ruins Battle!?

Just what was he up to!?

Yun Che's gaze flickered in Lu Bubai's direction as the corner of his lips curved up slightly.

You want... to run?

The Golden Crow flames in his hands turned into heavenly law tribulation lightning. The boundless purple light resembled divine chains of heavenly law as the lightning shot toward Lu Bubai and the four Divine Sovereigns he had blasted aside in a single instant.

Lu Bubai had started to run quickly enough, but how could he possibly outrun the heavenly law tribulation lightning. He sensed danger suddenly drawing near, but before he could even turn his head, the heavenly law tribulation lightning had snaked around him like a python, firmly entwining him in its grasp.

It had just been fire, and now it was lightning... Lu Bubai did not even have the ability to be shocked any longer and he struggled to break free with all his might. But no matter how he struggled, he could not break free of the lightning python that twined around his body as he was dragged back toward Yun Che at an even faster speed than he had fled.

"Southern Phoenix!" Lu Bubai let out a great roar. But this time, there was clearly a plea for help contained within that demand.

But the two Divine Sovereigns belonging to the Southern Phoenix turned a deaf ear to him as they continued to retreat.

However, a Divine Sovereign was still a Divine Sovereign in the end. Even though Yun Che had been able to completely suppress the five great Divine Sovereigns by himself, it would definitely be no easy feat to kill them off.

If he focused all his power to kill one of them, he would surely give the other four ample opportunity to flee.

However, that was the case for normal situations and normal people.

And since when had Yun Che ever dwelled within the realms of logic and common sense?

He waved both his arms and the five great Divine Sovereigns were violently flung downwards by those chains of lightning.

Yun Che did not pursue them. Instead, he stood proudly in the air as the profound energy radiating from his body abruptly swelled.

“Hell... Monarch!”

Bloody light exploded from Yun Che’s body and his crimson-black profound energy turned into a dense bloody color. It was as though he had transformed into a bloody and fiendish devil god who had just emerged from a blood pool in Purgatory.

What accompanied that bloody profound light was a dreadful oppressive might that caused everyone’s expression to change again, an oppressive might which made them feel as if a devil god had descended in this place.

“Aaaaaaaaahhhhhh!” Lu Bubai and the other Divine Sovereigns who were hurtling downwards let out heart-rending wails.

Even though the Yun Che before had been frighteningly strong, he had not been so strong that it plunged them into the depths of despair. But at this moment... he clearly radiated the aura of death.

More than ninety percent of the profound practitioners present in the Central Ruins Battlefield were flattened to the ground by the oppressive might that descended from the sky. They were not able to stand up and their minds were filled with nothing but shock and fear.

“You’er.”

After he softly called that name, the pitch-black Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor sword appeared in his hand. Within the devil pearl, You’er, who had been sleeping for a long time, opened her four-colored eyes.

You’er and Hong’er shared the Heaven Smiting Sword, causing it to undergo a bizarre change. At that time, no matter whether it was the Heaven Smiting Devil Slayer Sword which used Hong’er as the dominant soul, or the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor Sword which used You’er as the dominant soul, he was unable to control either one of the swords.

However, after his profound strength had grown from the first level of the Divine King Realm to the fifth, he could finally forcefully control it if he opened the Hell Monarch gate... but he could only swing it about it five times.

This was You’er’s first battle, the first time that the Heaven Smiting Devil Emperor Sword would display its might in the Northern Divine Region... and its might would be bestowed upon these Divine Sovereigns who had chosen to throw themselves into hell!

He raised both hands in the air, pointing his sword towards the heavens. In that moment, the skies instantly darkened and all light disappeared.

“Fallen... Heavenly... Wolf!!”

His voice sounded like a devilish chant and the Devil Emperor sword slowly descended along with the sky which had already been transformed into a devilish abyss of darkness, swallowing up the five great Divine Sovereigns... and everything beneath them in an instant.

Fallen Heavenly Wolf was the first move Yun Che had created after arriving in the Northern Divine Region. It was a technique that combined the Heretic God's first technique, Falling Moon Sinking Star, and the technique from the Heavenly Wolf's First Sword Style, Heavenly Wolf Slash.

Falling Moon Sinking Star was a move that the Heretic God and Jie Yuan had created together, while the Heavenly Wolf Slash was one of the Heavenly Wolf divine techniques recorded in the Heavenly Wolf Hell God's Tome. Their final form had been the result of tens of thousands of years of painstaking effort and the level of these moves was so high that they were unmatched in the present age.

Yet Yun Che, who no longer had any attachments in his heart and only desired power for the sake of vengeance, had created this bizarre fusion in the short span of one month, creating a destructive power that far outstripped the power of the Falling Moon Sinking Star and Heavenly Wolf Slash.

Lu Bubai, the East Ruins Divine Sovereign, the West Ruins Divine Sovereign, the Northern Chill Great Elder, Dong Jiukui... In that instant, they could no longer hear any sound, see any light, or let out any more yells.

The only thing they could see was an enormous devilish wolf of darkness rushing towards them and swallowing them up in an eternal abyss of darkness.

BUZZZ— — — —

The mouths of everyone in the Southern Phoenix's battle formation gaped open, but they could not make a single sound. Profound energy crazily surged in all of their bodies to protect them, but their sense of hearing had been completely cut off. They could not hear anything and they could only see a swath of utter darkness in front of them.

This lasted for... an indeterminate amount of time, until the darkness finally dissipated.

The members of the Southern Phoenix loosened the hands which covered their heads protectively as they opened their eyes... When they looked at the world in front of them, all of them were frozen in place, as if their souls had flown out of their bodies.

The Central Ruins Battlefield had disappeared.

The five great Divine Sovereigns had also disappeared. They had vanished into thin air. No one from the Southern Phoenix could sense their auras and not even a single trace of them remained.

The East Ruin's battle formation, the West Ruin's battle formation, the Northern Chill's battle formation... and the near ten million profound practitioners who had been in the audience, all of them had disappeared.

The entire Central Ruins Battlefield, that incomparably huge piece of land, had disappeared... Only pitch-black darkness remained, a boundless abyss that even their divine way empowered eyesight could not penetrate.

And... the small piece of land where the Southern Phoenix's battle formation was standing.

“Ah... urk... Ssss...”

Sounds that did not sound human spilled from the throat of every survivor. They slowly lifted up their heads to look to the sky... A black-haired human clad in all black was silently floating there. There was no joy or sorrow on his face, only a cold indifference which caused one's heart to shake in fear.

This time, Yun Che had listened to Qianye Ying'er and he had indeed been very thorough.

Besides the one hundred people who made up the Southern Phoenix's battle formation, everyone else present had been killed!

He, someone who had never been willing to slaughter innocents in the past, had left behind a blood debt of ten million today without even blinking an eye.

Just to ensure that he would not leave behind any trouble for the future.

Chapter 1578 - The Mysterious Chanyi

In the Five Nether Ruins, Divine Sovereigns made up the heavens.

There were only around a score of Divine Sovereigns in the East Ruins Realm, West Ruins Realm, North Ruins Realm, and South Ruins Realm combined.

The Central Ruins Battle was a battle between peak Divine Kings that was second only to battles at the Divine Sovereign level.

But today, these exalted existences within the Five Nether Ruins had been mowed down like weak grass by a single stroke of Yun Che's sword.

Three of the four great realm kings had lost their lives.

Even the people who had come to referee this Central Ruins Battle, Beihan Chu and Lu Bubai, had lost their lives here.

The Central Ruins Battle had become an extremely terrifying and calamitous battle. And everything, everything...

As his black figure blurred, Yun Che's body sank down from the sky and landed in front of the Southern Phoenix's battle formation. The aura radiating from his body was dark and heavy, but there was no bloodlust or malice. Even so, it shocked the members of the Southern Phoenix so much that their bodies tensed up as they recoiled in panic.

Dead...

Everyone... had died...

With a single sword stroke... With just a single sword stroke!?

This sort of person had actually represented their Southern Phoenix... and participated in the Central Ruins Battle!?

Was there anything more ridiculous, more absurd than this!?

Nanhuang Mofeng stepped forward, his entire body as tense as a coiled spring. He cupped his hands towards Yun Che and bowed. "I thank Venerable... Yun for showing mercy."

Nanhuang Jian's legs wobbled three times before he finally took a step forward and said with a forced calm, "After being able to witness Venerable Yun's glorious performance today, Nanhuang Jian... can die without any regrets."

"Sigh." The Southern Phoenix Divine Sovereign let out a long sigh as he stared at the Central Ruins Battlefield that had been turned into an abyss. He felt boundless shock, fear, lamentation and sorrow.

Three great realm kings and ten million profound practitioners had died just like that.

This included Beihan Chu, whose name was entered into the Northern Region Heavenly Sovereign Ranking, and Lu Bubai, whose status was not low in the Nine Lights Heavenly Palace.

Even someone like him would need a considerable amount of time to fully accept what had happened today.

The Northern Divine Region was an extremely cruel world, so the two things that absolutely should not exist in here were soft-heartedness and compassion. However, to be able to bury ten million people without blinking an eye... This person could not even be described as cruel or cold-blooded anymore, he could only be called a genuine devil.

The Southern Phoenix Divine Sovereign could foresee that these lucky survivors from the Southern Phoenix, himself included, would shudder in fear every time they thought about what had happened today for a very long time.

He did not say anything to Yun Che. Instead he turned around and waved a hand. "Let's go."

He knew that they all could not wait to be as far from Yun Che and Qianye Ying'er as possible

"I respectfully bid Royal Father farewell." Nanhuang Chanyi gave a full curtsy.

No one said or asked anything. They merely left with extreme fear and trepidation in their hearts. Only Nanhuang Chanyi remained behind to face Yun Che and Qianye Ying'er alone.

It did not seem like the Southern Phoenix Divine Sovereign feared for her safety.

"Don't worry, our Southern Phoenix won't leak a single word about what happened today," Nanhuang Chanyi said. "The people from the Nine Lights Heavenly Palace won't find out what your names are either. However..."

"The two of you are truly vicious."

They could not see her face or her eyes, but even her voice did not sound the least bit shaken.

If it was someone else, even if it was her eldest brother Nanhuang Jian, they would not even be able to pronounce the most basic of words in a clear manner, much less remain so calm and cool-headed.

"Hmph, wasn't it all because of you!" Qianye Ying'er said coldly.

Right now, they had the ability to kill people like Beihan Chu and Lu Bubai, but they definitely could not afford to offend the Nine Lights Heavenly Palace. They knew full well just how strong a huge sect in an upper star realm was.

If they truly wanted to prevent all future troubles, they should have also silenced everyone belonging to the Southern Phoenix... However, whether it was Yun Che or Qianye Ying'er, neither of them had chosen to attack the Southern Phoenix. This was especially true for Yun Che as he had deliberately excluded them from his attack.

It was not that they did not want to, it was that they were not able to.

Because of one person, Nanhuang Chanyi...

The reason why Yun Che and Qianye Ying'er had participated in the Central Ruins Battle was because they had wanted a part of the Central Ruins Realm and its resources. Nanhuang Chanyi was the main reason the situation had developed to this point. No matter whether it was her "entanglement" with Beihan Chu or the various small things she did to add fuel to the fire.

"Me?" Nanhuang Chanyi's gaze turned to fall on the white-robed young girl who had been staring blankly into space. "Don't you mean it's because of her?"

Before this white-robed girl had appeared, Yun Che had only stepped on Beihan Chu's face and robbed him of the Hidden Heaven Sword. He had done these things to test Nanhuang Chanyi. But the appearance of this young girl had caused the conflict to escalate to the point of no return, and Beihan Chu had been slain with a single stroke of Qianye Ying'er's sword... The difference between what happened before and after this girl's appearance was extremely huge.

"I want the Central Ruins Realm," Yun Che suddenly said in an icy voice.

"Alright." Nanhuang Chanyi nodded her head without any hesitation. From now on, this Central Ruins Realm belongs to you. For the next five hundred years, you can use it for as long as you want."

"Before I leave the Central Ruins Realm, I also do not want to be disturbed by anyone," Yun Che continued.

"...Sure." Nanhuang Chanyi nodded her head again. "From tomorrow onward, besides all of you here, no one else will enter the Central Ruins Realm. You can do whatever you want. You can even blow up the Central Ruins Realm if you want to."

Everyone who needed to die had already died. Even though the Nine Lights Heavenly Palace did not know how Beihan Chu or Lu Bubai died, they definitely knew that they had died in the Central Ruins Realm. So before too long, they would definitely dispatch people to the Central Ruins Realm.

Other than that, the realm kings and battle formations of the East Ruins Realm, West Ruins Realm, and North Ruins Realm, along with all of the spectators, had been obliterated from the face of this universe. One could well imagine just how turbulent the Central Ruins Realm would be after this.

Given the capabilities of the Southern Phoenix, they might have been able to hold off the other three realms, but they would not be able to hold off the Nine Lights Heavenly Palace.

Yet Nanhuang Chanyi had still agreed to it.

She said that she would definitely be able to give Yun Che whatever he wanted as payment.

Furthermore, she had already obtained the answers that she wanted.

Qianye Ying'er's lips twitched lightly as she transmitted a message to Yun Che.

"Fine, I will come to the Central Ruins Realm to meet the two of you in six months," Nanhuang Chanyi said.

"...!!" The look in both Yun Che's and Qianye Ying'er's eyes subtly changed at the same time.

Because the message that Qianye Ying'er had just sent to him had been "Ask her to come to the Central Ruins Realm in six months."

"Don't worry, I'm a friend." Nanhuang Chanyi seemed to be smiling faintly. "Only that bunch of idiots in the Eastern, Western and Southern Divine Regions would choose to become an enemy with such monsters... and they even chose to become mortal enemies who could not be forgiven at that."

"..." Yun Che and Qianye Ying'er remained silent.

Nanhuang Chanyi turned around, floated into the air and slowly flew into the distance. "Yun Che, Yun Qianying, welcome to the Northern Divine Region. Your brilliant performances today has made me even more convinced that a new era has finally dawned in this world that has been forsaken by the heavenly laws, an era which will turn this world upside down... even if it is a dawn of darkness."

Qianye Ying'er's golden eyes started to slowly narrow, but what was reflected in those golden orbs was not shock or joy. Instead, an incomparably dangerous and cold light was gleaming in her eyes... In an instant, her lips faintly curved up into an extremely beautiful smile.

Just as she had expected, Nanhuang Chanyi's strange actions and behavior had indeed been because she had long ago known of the name "Yun Che".

The Northern Divine Region and the other three divine regions were completely opposed to each other, so news very rarely leaked to the other side. Yun Che may have been crowned with an incredibly brilliant halo in the Eastern Divine Region... But that had, after all, been during the Profound God Convention, an event held for the young profound practitioners of the Eastern Divine Region. Even Yun Che, who had obtained the first place in the Conferred God Battle, had only been in the mid-stages of the Divine Spirit Realm at that time.

Given how hard it was for the Northern Divine Region to obtain information about the other three divine regions, why would they specially pay attention to someone at that level?

Even Qianye Ying'er, as the Brahma Monarch Goddess, had only known about the existence of the Northern Divine Region's Northern Region Heavenly Sovereign Ranking. She had never known who the geniuses placed at the top of the rankings every generation were. In fact, she had not even bothered to find out. After all, there were far too many of these young geniuses, and they were replaced far too often.

Even Yun Che, who had suddenly become a devil and was being chased by the entire world, was only a level one Divine King in the end.

As for the return of Jie Yuan and the matter of Yun Che saving the world... and everything that had happened during that period, the news of all of these things had been firmly suppressed. Besides the peak existences in the three divine regions, not many people knew what had transpired, much less the Northern Divine Region who had not participated in this event at all.

But strictly speaking, it was not impossible that the Northern Divine Region could be aware of what had happened... However, it definitely would not be from someone belonging to the level of the Five Nether Ruins.

The person who could extend their feelers to such an extent should be...

Nanhuang Chanyi knew of Yun Che's true identity, and she very likely knew Qianye Ying'er's true identity as well.

But they knew absolutely nothing about Nanhuang Chanyi... besides the fact that she was the "Southern Phoenix Crown Princess".

"Can you give me a rough estimate of her cultivation level?" Yun Che suddenly asked.

Qianye Ying'er shook her head. "At the very least, she is absolutely beyond us."

Just based on the fact that Nanhuang Chanyi could so easily eavesdrop on her sound transmission.

"..." Yun Che's face darkened. To think that they would actually meet such a person in one of the Northern Divine Region middle star realms. How truly unfortunate... Because this was a variable that was far too great, a variable that had been thrust upon them far too suddenly, a variable that was completely out of their control.

"She said that we are friends, what do you think?" Qianye Ying'er asked.

Yun Che looked up before he coldly said, "In the Northern Divine Region... there are no such things as friends, there are only tools!"

"Good." Qianye Ying'er was very satisfied with Yun Che's reply.

"Then let's make Nanhuang Chanyi into our tool, or perhaps..." she said as a strange light flashed in her eyes, "a slave."

Yun Che turned around and looked behind him. Immediately, this Central Ruins Realm had become a place that belonged solely to him and Qianye Ying'er. However, the huge variable that had appeared today meant that this place was no longer a place they could stay.

As she looked at Yun Che's eyes, Qianye Ying'er suddenly realized something and said, "Does this mean that your request for the Central Ruins Realm and your request to be left alone were all just a trick? Your original intentions were to leave this place without her knowledge?"

"From the moment she wanted me to battle those ten Divine Kings alone, I knew that she was testing me," Yun Che said. "So you're absolutely right. What we need right now is time, so we need to avoid any and all variables. Nanhuang Chanyi is here, so we shouldn't stay here any longer."

“In my view, it’s actually the opposite,” Qianye Ying’er said. “It is precisely because of this person, Nanhuang Chanyi, that the Central Ruins Realm is actually the safest place for us.”

Yun Che’s eyebrows twitched.

“Also,” Qianye Ying’er continued, “while you were participating in the Central Ruins Battle, I was observing her. I discovered that she had no flaws or openings whatsoever. But I did discover one extremely foolish quality of hers.”

Yun Che, “?”

“That is compassion,” Qianye Ying’er said. “This was especially obvious when you attacked with your sword just now. She clearly wanted to make a move, but she managed to stay her hand at the final moment... If she was not trying to hide something, she definitely would have blocked your attack in any other situation.”

“Also, the respect and reverence she has for her father comes from her heart.” After Qianye Ying’er said those words, a cold, mocking light flashed through her eyes.

After he pondered things for a little while, Yun Che looked towards the white-robed girl he had saved. When she had faced Lu Bubai just now, she had been brave and stubbornly defiant. But right now, her tiny face was filled with timidity and fear. She simply stood there without moving a muscle and she was even more afraid to speak.

“What’s your name?” Yun Che asked.

“...” The young girl’s lips parted, but it took a long while for her to answer in a tiny and tremulous voice. “Yun... Shang.”

Yun Che extended a hand towards her. “Follow me, I have some things to ask you.”

She had personally witnessed Yun Che instantly turn this entire place into an abyss of death. She did not dare to reject, and she did not even have a choice in the first place. She merely obediently placed her tiny hand into Yun Che’s own with extreme caution.

“Are you not going to explain what happened to me first?” Qianye Ying’er asked in an icy voice.

Yun Che did not reply. He merely pulled the young girl’s hand and silently walked into the incomparably quiet depths of the Central Ruins Realm.

At the borders of the Central Ruins Realm, Nanhuang Chanyi suddenly stopped and calmly turned around.

She extended a jade hand, a black ring slowly appearing on one of her slender fingers. After that, a light flashed through her eyes and a strange and wondrous black lotus soundlessly blossomed on top of that ring.

“Mistress, he has arrived...”

Chapter 1579 - The Sinful Yun Clan

In the depths of the Central Ruins Realm.

Fierce winds tore through the skies. Howling and shaking the air, they greatly restricted visibility here. This was the center of the Central Ruins Realm, a true disaster zone. Every gust of wind that swept by contained a frighteningly destructive force.

However, the space that Yun Che and Qianye Ying'er occupied was completely calm and silent. Their power completely blocked off the storm howling around them and it was completely unable to penetrate the barrier they had erected.

Yun Shang obediently sat at Yun Che's side, the hand that Yun Che was holding was drenched in sweat. She did not know who these two people beside her were or why they rescued her. She also had no clue as to what kind of fate was in store for her.

Her frail and delicate body tensed, and she still had not recovered from witnessing the apocalyptic destruction Yun Che had visited on the Central Ruins Battlefield just now... In front of that sort of disastrous power, things like life and death were so insignificant that his act of destruction hardly seemed cruel.

Yun Che turned around. With a flip of his hand, his fingers pressed into the girl's arm. After that, his profound energy surged into her body, causing the girl to let out a startled and flustered cry. Her arm was immediately encased in a deep and profound purple light... Even though it was obstructed by her clothes, it was still dazzlingly bright.

"This seems to be a sort of bloodline ability," Qianye Ying'er said. "Previously, Lu Bubai had sealed off her profound energy, but she was still able to release it. The only things that could accomplish such a feat are extremely rare bloodline abilities such as this one."

It would definitely be hard for a normal person to understand just what a bloodline ability was. But what sort of existence was Qianye Ying'er... In fact, their Brahma God Clan did not only possess the extremely strong Brahma Soul power, they also possessed a divine bloodline ability unique to their clan.

The girl's body trembled slightly and she was so nervous that she dared not speak. Besides fear, there was also deep shock in her bright eyes... Why was he able to cause my power to automatically appear?

As he looked at the mark of purple light on the girl's arm, Yun Che's started to stare.

Because, this was clearly a...

Profound Handle!

The Profound Handle that belonged solely to his Yun Clan!

Furthermore, when this girl had escaped her cage and launched a bolt of lightning at Lu Bubai while she was fleeing... the laws of lightning contained within that attack was extremely similar to his Yun Family's clan profound art, the "Purple Cloud Art"!

Profound Handle... Purple Cloud Art... and this girl's surname was also Yun...

"Where does your family reside? Why are they being pursued by the members of the Nine Lights Heavenly Palace?" Yun Che asked. "What exactly did they mean when they called your clan a 'clan of sinners'?"

Yun Shang's lips parted, but she did not speak. It was clear that she was still afraid... Even though it was Yun Che who had saved her from Lu Bubai's clutches.

"Don't worry. Since I saved you, I won't harm you." Yun Che's tone grew slightly gentler. "Furthermore, my surname is also Yun."-

But his words did not have too much effect... After his fate had been dramatically altered, Yun Che had undergone a complete and drastic change. It was as if his entire person was wrapped up in gloom and darkness, and his eyes were as gloomy and cold as an abyss. Even a single glance from him would cause a chill to run through that unfortunate person's heart.

Besides, Yun Chang was only a young girl not even twenty years of age. Furthermore, she had not only seen how frightening he was, she was also in such close proximity to him right now.

But this time, her eyes, which had been filled with fear, steadied and her gaze fell on Yun Che's neck. After that, she opened her mouth and actually said in a very soft voice, "A Glazed Sound Stone..."

Yun Che, "?"

"Was it given to you by your daughter?" Her lips moved slightly and her voice was very soft, but her question had come out of nowhere.

"..." Yun Che's expression changed slightly and he replied, "Yes... How did you know?"

He had practically blurted out that question involuntarily.

"Because, before Daddy left, I also recorded my voice into a Glazed Sound Stone... They said that only immature girls would enjoy doing such a childish thing. But Daddy liked it a lot and he hung it around his neck... just like you."

Yun Che, "..."

"You're so powerful, yet you wear such an ordinary stone around your neck. So... it really was something that your daughter gave you." Yun Shang looked up at him and before she knew it, her eyes had actually started to mist up, "It's just that... it's just that... I beg you, please don't deceive your daughter, okay?"

"...What do you mean by that?" Yun Che's brows twitched.

"Daddy clearly said that he would protect me forever and that he would not allow anyone to hurt me. But... but... he lied... and he never returned." Yun Shang's voice was trembling and tears started flowing down her face like water from a burst dam. The Glazed Sound Stone that hung around Yun Che's neck had prodded the most painful scar in her heart.

"You..." Yun Che felt as if a poisoned blade had been thrust straight through his heart and soul in an incredibly cruel manner. His body violently swayed and his face instantly lost all of its color.

Qianye Ying'er took a step forward and grabbed Yun Che's shoulder.

Yun Chang did not realize that Yun Che was acting strangely. Her gaze had been focused on the Glazed Sound Stone that hung around his neck from start to finish. "What a beautiful Glazed Sound Stone, you definitely have a daughter who loves you very much. I beg you... Don't deceive her... Okay..."

Because she knew just how cruel this sort of “deception” was.

“Shut up!” Qianye Ying’er yelled in a frosty voice. “You are not to say another word!”

To the current Yun Che, there were not many things in the world that could move him... not even death.

But the dispirited and soft words of this girl whose heartstrings had clearly been plucked was the cruelest torture that could be inflicted on Yun Che right now.

“...” Yun Che’s chest heaved violently and he only managed to calm down after several breaths had passed. He gritted his teeth lightly and was about to speak. However, when he saw the tears slowly rolling down that girl’s face and that tearful gaze that was fixed to the Glazed Sound Stone around his neck, the words that were about to leave his mouth became lodged in his throat.

Yun Che shrugged off Qianye Ying’er’s hand and crouched slightly as he said, “Yun Shang, listen here. Answer my question... as long as you answer me honestly and truthfully, I can guarantee that I will return you back to your clan!”

“Ah...” The young girl’s beautiful eyes trembled and she vigorously wiped her face as she said, “You... aren’t lying to me?”

“I promise that I won’t deceive you!” Yun Che said with a focused look in his eyes. “I promise on my name as a father!”

“But shouldn’t everyone already know about the matter regarding the ‘clan of sinners’?” Yun Shang asked suspiciously. Because, according to her knowledge, this was something that should be common knowledge in the middle and lower star realms as well. It was not knowledge that only people on her plane of existence possessed.

“Then just tell me what you know,” Yun Che said. “First, answer this question. What is your clan called and which star realm do they reside in?”

“...” Yun Che’s attitude toward Yun Shang caused Qianye Ying’er’s eyebrows to sink a little. She shot Yun Shang a glance, and a hidden murderous intent suddenly flashed in the depths of her eyes.

“The Sinful Yun Clan,” Yun Shang replied. “This is what everyone calls our clan. The star realm we reside in is called the Thousand Desolation Realm.”

“Why are you called the Sinful Yun Clan?” Yun Che asked again. This word ‘Sinful’ was clearly meant to be an eternal mark of guilt that would hang over this clan’s head.

Yun Shang’s expression became a little sadder as she spoke in a soft voice, “Because our clan once committed an unforgivable crime... I heard Daddy tell me that our clan used to be called the ‘Heavenly Handle Yun Clan’ a very long time ago and even our star realm had been called by a different name. It had been called the ‘Heavenly Handle Cloud Realm’, not the Thousand Desolation Realm. At that time, our clan had been the most powerful ruling clan. Our ancestor and the clan chiefs of the past were the great realm kings of that star realm.”

“What great crime did your ancestors commit?”

Yun Shang said, "More than ten thousand years ago, the Lord Clan Chief... and the second clan chief of that era had very different views and thoughts. Then, one day, the second clan chief, along with many clansmen who agreed with him, fled the Heavenly Handle Cloud Realm... and they also fled the Northern Divine Region."

"Fled the Northern Divine Region?" Qianye Ying'er gave a soft snort of disdain. "Isn't that simply courting death!?"

The moment the devils from the Northern Divine Region were discovered by members of the other divine regions, they would definitely be pursued and killed. The stronger the devils were, the easier it was to discover them. Moreover, this person that Yun Shang called the "second clan chief" definitely possessed an extremely powerful darkness profound strength... Besides, he had not fled by himself, he had fled with a whole bunch of people.

Given the sensitivity the three other divine regions had towards darkness profound energy, in Qianye Ying'er's eyes, this was indeed no different from courting death.

"I heard Daddy say that the second clan chief had found a method to completely disperse all the darkness profound energy in his body back then." Yun Shang said something that would utterly shock anyone who heard it.

Yun Che, "..."

"Mn?" Qianye Ying'er's brow furrowed slightly. "The moment darkness profound energy comes into contact with your body, there's no way to get rid of it, and it will definitely be passed down to your descendants. Once you become a devil, all of your offspring will be devils as well. I have never heard of any case where the darkness in one's profound strength can be washed away completely. If that could truly be realized, then all of the devils in this Northern Divine Region would have fled long ago."

Yun Shang's lips parted but she did not know how to explain this.

"Was the price for getting rid of their darkness profound energy the crippling of their profound strength beforehand?" Yun Che suddenly asked.

"Mn." Yun Shang thought about it for a while before giving a light nod of her head. This was indeed something that was contained in the information given to her.

"But if it was just a portion of your clansmen breaking away from the main family, it would only be an internal matter. So why did it end up with all of you being labeled the 'clan of sinners'?" Yun Che continued.

"Because when they fled from the Northern Divine Region, they also took a 'sacred artifact' that our clan had been guarding for generations."

"What sacred artifact?"

"I don't know." The young girl shook her head. "I heard Daddy say that the Lord Clan Chief was the only person in the clan who knew what it was, even Daddy didn't know. That 'sacred artifact' had always been guarded by our clan. Ten thousand years ago, the clan chief was even prepared to offer this sacred

artifact to a king realm... It seemed as if this was precisely the reason that the second clan chief took the sacred artifact and fled the Northern Divine Region.”

Yun Che, “...”

“When the king realm discovered it, they were enraged and they said that our clan had presented the sacred artifact to the other three divine regions. They said it was an unforgivable betrayal and sin and they gave our clan an extremely terrifying punishment.”

“The seniors who were in charge of guarding the sacred artifact were all executed while the clan chief was grievously wounded and inflicted with a very dreadful ‘curse’, a ‘curse’ that could never be lifted. The place that had been previously known as the ‘Heavenly Handle Cloud City’ had become the ‘sinful region’ that imprisoned our clan, and the Heavenly Handle Yun Clan had also become the ‘Sinful Yun Clan’ which bore the mark of guilt and sin.”

Yun Shang said these words in a very calm manner. There was no sorrow in her voice, no anger or discontent about the unfairness of her fate. She had been born within the ‘sinful region’, she had grown up bearing the name of a ‘clan of sinners’ on her back, so she had long grown used to it.

“So the Nine Lights Heavenly Palace also resides in the same world as your clan, the ‘Thousand Desolation Realm’?” Yun Che asked.

“Mnn.” The young girl nodded her head. “Unless the members of our clan obtain permission from the ‘Thousand Desolation Divine Sect, we are not allowed to leave the ‘sinful region’ as we please. If we leave without permission, anyone can attack us and kill us. That is how Daddy was...”

Her voice ground to a halt as her delicate head drooped. When she opened her mouth to speak again, her voice had grown even softer. “This is the first time I have ever left the ‘sinful region’. Because the ‘time limit’ given to our clan is about to run out, the Clan Chief said that they had to help me flee, no matter what. But... but...”

“And what is this time limit you speak of?”

“...” This time, Yun Shang lapsed into a very long silence before she finally spoke in the softest of voices, “The king realms... assigned the Thousand Desolation Divine Sect to be the overseers and judges of the Yun Clan. If we are not able to find the sacred artifact, they are to kill one hundred of our clan members every year... If we are not able to find it within a thousand years, half of our clan will be executed... If we are not able to find it within ten thousand years... they can administer any punishment they want, including the complete and total destruction of our clan.”

Chapter 1580 - The Trembling Venerable Sword

“The Northern Divine Region has a total of three king realms; Hell Devil, Burning Moon and Soul Stealing.” Qianye Ying’er spoke suddenly, “Which king realm are you referring to?”

“...Burning Moon.” Yun Shang was clearly more nervous when facing Qianye Ying’er, even her tone had become a lot quieter.

“Hmph, for the Burning Moon of the Devil God Realm to be angered to this extent, it looks like the ‘sacred artifact’ that your clan was guarding is no ordinary thing.”

As Qianye Ying'er was also from a king realm, she knew a fair amount about the king realms in the Northern Divine Region.

Especially...

A women's figure flashed through her mind... followed by a name that would send a chill through the soul of all the god emperors in the three divine regions if it was uttered aloud.

Yun Che did not ask any more questions. He stood up straight and looked into the distance. His gaze remained frozen for a long time. But after that, he suddenly stretched out his hand and placed it on top of Yun Shang's head. Profound light flashed in his palm and Yun Shang trembled faintly before losing consciousness and gently collapsing on the ground.

Yun Che moved to grab her and tapped a finger between her eyebrows. His Profound Handle immediately entered her soul sea but he quickly let go of her soon after.

He did not read her memories, but verified that she had spoken the truth... In fact, she had not spoken a single lie.

Yun Clan...Profound Handle...Purple Lightning...Ten thousand years...

It was too much of a coincidence, everything was too much of a coincidence.

A hair raising coincidence.

As she glanced at the unconscious maiden in Yun Che's arms, Qianye Ying'er said, "It's about time you gave me an explanation!"

"She is probably my clansman," Yun Che said.

"Your... clansman?" Qianye Ying'er knitted her eyebrows slightly, this place was the Northern Divine Region after all.

Yun Che stretched his left arm out and a cyan light appeared in an instant.

The power that this cyan light emitted was many times more powerful compared to Yun Shang's. But its shape and its unique bloodline divine aura was nearly exactly the same.

Qianye Ying'er was momentarily silent before speaking, "The Heavenly Handle Yun Clan that escaped from the Northern Divine Region back then... are you one of their descendants?"

"It's highly likely," Yun Che said. "Because the timing, surname, profound art, and the power of the profound handle... all of it fits perfectly."

"Is that how you inherited your darkness profound energy?" Qianye Ying'er asked. But her expression immediately changed after that. "No! The Illusory Demon Realm's Yun Clan that you are from, your parents, your daughter, your clansmen, do not have the darkness profound energy. Otherwise, it would be impossible for me not to detect it."

During her time as Yun Che's slave, she had come into contact with almost everyone around Yun Che.

Yun Che did not let go of the girl sleeping in his arms, and it was not known whether it was because he had forgotten to do so or if he was subconsciously unwilling to do so. He stared into the distance and said in a somewhat absent-minded voice, "The start of my Yun Clan in the Illusory Demon Realm dates back to ten thousand years ago... Before that period, whether it was in our annals or the ancestral records of the Illusory Demon Realm, there was no mention of us."

Qianye Ying'er, "..."

"Ten thousand years ago, the Illusory Demon Royal Family finally unified the Illusory Demon Realm after many years of war. A large portion of the credit went to the Yun Family, and thus they were made the head of the Twelve Guardian Families. The power of the Profound Handle, a power unique to my clan, was also known to everyone in the Illusory Demon Realm. However, there were absolutely no records of such a strong clan or a power as unique as the Profound Handle in the Illusory Demon Realm before that period of time, and that in and of itself is already something that is very strange."

"I've heard about this from Father once. Back then, the Illusory Demon Royal Family had shown great grace and kindness to the Yun Family. Because of that, my ancestors had decided to forsake their past and loyally serve the Illusory Demon Royal Family. However, I'm afraid that even my father was not totally convinced by this explanation."

"It's just that it's been so long since then, so no one really cared about just how the Yun Family was founded any longer."

Qianye Ying'er stared at Yun Che's reaction. Clearly, he had been greatly affected by this.

Yun Che closed his eyes and he slowly described the scenes that had unconsciously formed in his mind, "Ten thousand years ago, in the Heavenly Handle Cloud Realm, an incident happened within the ruling clan, the Heavenly Handle Yun Clan. Their second clan chief and a portion of the clan members took the 'sacred artifact' and fled from the clan and escaped the Northern Divine Region altogether. This was because of the divergent views and opinions that had formed within the clan and because outsiders were lusting after the sacred artifact they were guarding. They kept fleeing east until they landed on a planet, the Blue Pole Star, and they ended up in the Illusory Demon Realm."

"By using a certain special method, they lost their cultivation and their true devil bloodline. This was the price they had to pay to rid themselves of darkness profound energy... But, the power of the Devil Handle that was deeply rooted in their bloodline miraculously survived this process, and its name was changed to 'Profound Handle'."

"On the plane where the Blue Pole Star existed, the upper limit and the speed of their cultivations were a far cry from when they had been in the Northern Divine Region. It was very likely that they had met with a great crisis before their strength had fully matured and were saved by the Illusory Demon Royal Family in this time of crisis. Thus, the entire clan decided to follow them after that."

"Since they were repaying their debt of gratitude, they also made use of this opportunity to change their identities and determine a new future for the entire clan."

"Although their strength was restricted by the plane that they dwelled in, their knowledge and experience in the profound way allowed them to quickly become the strongest clan in the Illusory Demon Realm. After that, they helped the Illusory Demon Royal Family conquer the Illusory Demon

Realm and became the head of the Twelve Guardian Families, their position in the Illusory Demon Realm second only to the Illusory Demon Royal Family.”

“From then on, they have lived as a guardian family of the Illusory Demon Royal Family. No one would know of their origin or their past. The Northern Divine Region as well as the Heavenly Handle Yun Clan would never be able to find them since they no longer possessed the darkness aura.

“However, they were not willing to change their surnames. The unique divine power that flowed through their veins and the lightning profound art that they cultivated were marks that could not be erased.”

Yun Che’s detailed explanation was undoubtedly telling Qianye Ying’er that all of these things were not only based on speculation and conjecture. She furrowed her brow and asked, “Did everything really fall into place so nicely? Wait... what about that ‘sacred object’ then? Could this be some sort of ‘coincidence’ as well?”

“That ‘sacred artifact’ is with me,” Yun Che said as he opened his eyes, a strange light glinting in them.

“What is it?”

“You shouldn’t ask.”

“Hmph.” Qianye Ying’er scoffed.

There was something that had always puzzled Yun Che after he had returned to the Illusory Demon Realm all those years ago.

And it was regarding this matter. Everyone knew that the “Mirror of Samsara” was the greatest treasure of the Illusory Demon Royal Family, but when he brought the Mirror of Samsara back to the Illusory Demon Realm, the Little Demon Empress took the Demon Emperor’s Seal back from him... but she had never asked him for the Mirror of Samsara.

It was not just the Little Demon Empress. Even Yun Qinghong, who was extremely loyal to the Illusory Demon Royal Family, had never asked him to return the Mirror of Samsara to the Illusory Demon Royal Family.

Afterwards, he married the Little Demon Empress and when he casually brought the topic up, the Little Demon Empress had said that he could take it as his dowry... Oh, that’s not it, he could regard it as a betrothal gift from her.

A treasure that had been guarded by a royal family for many generations and had not been demanded back by that royal family even after its return. On the contrary... it seemed to have been given to him very casually... by the Little Demon Empress, an extremely forceful person who clung to tradition.

Even though it seemed quite illogical to Yun Che back then, he had never been in the habit of questioning good fortune too deeply.

Come to think of it... perhaps, the Mirror of Samsara belonged to the Yun Family.

Perhaps one of the patriarchs had offered it to the Illusory Demon Royal Family in the past... But, back then, the second clan chief would rather flee together with it than allow it to fall into the hands of a king realm. So, this possibility was very small.

Or perhaps, it was exposed for some reason, and to prevent others from coveting it, they had publicly announced that it was an item belonging to the Illusory Demon Royal Family. But in actual fact, it had always been with the Yun Family... Back then, Yun Qinghong and his wife had brought the Mirror of Samsara with them to the Profound Sky Continent and that served as excellent proof of this idea.

If it was just one or two factors coinciding, then it could very well be written off as pure coincidence. But when everything, including the unique item, completely matched with each other... then he had no choice but to believe it, no matter how inconceivable it was.

"It seems that our Yun Family could actually have originated from this devilish domain..." Yun Che gave a soft sigh. This was something he would have never thought of in the past. He could not imagine just how Father would have reacted to this revelation if he was still alive.

"Are you going to verify this matter?" Qianye Ying'er asked.

"I will," Yun Che replied. "But not now. For the next half a year, we will remain here. This is indeed the most suitable place for us so far."

"What about her?" Qianye Ying'er asked as she gave Yun Shang a glance.

"Let her follow us." He quickly suppressed an emotion that momentarily surfaced in his eyes. The young lady in his arms... was not Yun Wuxin. But that sensation of her safely curled up in his arms brought about an illusion that he was fully aware of, but was unwilling to snap out of. "Since I have promised to take her back, I will do just that."

The corner of Qianye Ying'er's mouth turned downwards as she crossed her arms over her chest and asked in a slightly gloomy voice, "Follow us? Are we going to let her see us cultivate every day? Are you trying to liven up our cultivation sessions with something fresh?"

Yun Che put Yun Shang down and placed a small barrier over her to prevent the storm from hurting her. As he stood up, his gaze had already turned cold and he said, "In the next six months, I will refine the Ice Phoenix divine power in me completely. I will also fuse with the devil blood and absorb the aura of this place. Even if I am unable to become a Divine Sovereign in six months time, it will be enough for me to reach the limits of the Divine King Realm."

"As for you... Act as proper incubator during our dual cultivation and you should be able to properly start cultivating a Heaven Smiting Devil Art that belongs solely to you."

"With the Devil Emperor's blood as the origin of your power, the Illusory Devil Tome of Eternal Night as your foundation, and your title as Brahma Monarch Goddess to top it off... you mustn't disappoint me six months from now."

"What about our profound strength?" Qianye Ying'er asked unenthusiastically.

“If I am in the Divine King Realm, then you will be in the Divine Sovereign Realm. If I am a Divine Sovereign, then... you will be able to become a Divine Master once again.” Yun Che said calmly as he spoke words which were unimaginable to any profound practitioner.

A light flashed in Qianye Ying'er's orbs and her golden brows furrowed, “Are you restricting my recovery?”

“I am the only person in this universe who is able to restore your profound veins,” Yun Che replied coldly. “Until I have properly cultivated the ‘Eternal Calamity of Darkness’ and am able to control you completely, I will never let your strength surpass mine!”

Qianye Ying'er's golden eyes narrowed before she smirked coldly, “Even though it will only be to your advantage if I recover faster, I greatly admire your choice.”

Whoosh!!

A terrifying gust of storm rolled in and covered the figures of Yun Che and Qianye Ying'er, before swallowing up everything in sight.

The core of the Central Ruins Realm, a disaster zone which struck terror into the hearts of all the profound practitioners from the Five Nether Ruins, had instead become the place Yun Che chose to cultivate in at present.

.....

The borders of the Central Ruins Realm.

The great realm kings of the East Ruins Realm, West Ruins Realm, North Ruins Realm had lost their lives in the Central Ruins Realm along with countless other strong individuals. One could well imagine the chaos that was occurring in these three great realms during this period of time.

The Southern Phoenix Divine Country had taken control of the Central Ruins Realm and had strictly banned any profound practitioners from stepping foot onto it.

It was just when the Five Nether Ruins were descending into chaos that a terrifying aura which exuded extreme malice shot toward the Central Ruins... But just when he neared the borders of the Central Ruins Realm, a woman's voice suddenly rang out and caused him to slow down.

“Venerable Hidden Sword, why have you come here?”

This person was the Palace Master of the Nine Lights Heavenly Palace's Hidden Sword Palace, the master of Beihan Chu, Venerable Hidden Sword!

He had pursued the fleeing members of the Sinful Yun Clan and had brought the apprehended members back to the Nine Lights Heavenly Palace. En route, he had also received a sound transmission from Beihan Chu and had found out that he had coincidentally caught that girl from the clan of sinners. The girl who everyone had protected with all their strength, who definitely possessed an extraordinary status within their clan.

He had originally been waiting for Beihan Chu and Lu Bubai's return at the Nine Lights Heavenly Palace. But what arrived instead was news that their soul crystals had been shattered.

This caused him to immediately rush over to this place like a madman.

“Who are you?” He asked in a deep voice. The woman before him was adorned in a striking gold palace robe and she wore a jade crown decorated with pearls. Even though her face was hidden, an extraordinarily luxurious aura was faintly radiating from her body.

The aura of her profound strength was only at the Divine Spirit Realm, yet she dared to block his path.

“This princess’s name is Nanhuang Chanyi.” The woman’s voice was as gentle as water. “Since Venerable Hidden Sword is Beihan Chu’s master, you should know my name.”

“So you are that Nanhuang lass who has eyes but cannot see, the girl who failed to appreciate my Chu’er?” Malice rippled all over Venerable Hidden Sword’s body as his aura fiercely surged towards Nanhuang Chanyi. “You’ve come at the right time! Speak, what happened here! Who killed Chu’er... Speak!!”

“It was I who killed him, and what can you do to me?” Nanhuang Chanyi spoke in a leisurely voice.

“You? Ha... with just you alone?” In a fit of anger, Venerable Hidden Sword suddenly sensed that something was not right... Under the pressure of his power, a mere woman of the Divine Spirit Realm should have broken down due to the immense fear. But she was actually this calm!

“That’s right, just me alone.” Nanhuang Chanyi remained relaxed and she slowly raised her finger. A pitch-black ring appeared in the Venerable Hidden Sword’s sight.

Venerable Hidden Sword grew even more enraged and he was just about let out a cold laugh... when his eyes suddenly felt as if they had been pierced by countless silver needles, completely widening in the next instant.

He fixed his gaze on the black ring on Nanhuang Chanyi’s finger, and his eyes that were originally full of anger started to tremble violently. Following that, his hands, his feet and even his entire body started to shake like mad. Every expression, every part of his body was filled with extreme fear.

“You... You are...” He opened his mouth but his voice had become completely distorted.

“This princess killed Beihan Chu and Lu Bubai? Have you come to denounce me?” Nanhuang Chanyi asked, her voice still as gentle and soft as before.

But when those words fell on Venerable Hidden Sword’s ears, it sounded like a sinister demonic sound which would steal one’s life away.

He shook his head violently, like a madman. His eyes turned so wide that it looked like they were about to burst out of their sockets. His mouth opened and closed repeatedly without emitting a single sound and he knelt down as his body had turned limp, “No... no... I wouldn’t dare... please... please... spare my life...”

“Go back and tell your Chief Palace Master that in the next hundred years, the members of the Nine Lights Heavenly Palace are not to come close to the Five Nether Ruins.” Nanhuang Chanyi spoke calmly, “Also, our ‘shadow’ is not to be made known to others. If any information is leaked, the entire Nine Lights Heavenly Palace will be completely eradicated.”

She did not explain why she killed Beihan Chu... because she did not have to.

“Mn...” Venerable Hidden Sword could hardly believe that he was still alive. He nodded and kowtowed... Under the immense shock and fear, it seemed that he did not know of anything else other than these two actions.