#### The Gods 61

### **Chapter 61 – Joining New Moon Profound Palace**

After leading Yun Che and Xia Yuanba into Elder's Hall, Sikong Han sat down and carefully examined Yun Che. Without the air of arrogance that a Profound Palace's Great Elder appointed by the Imperial Family should have, he instead asked with a look of concern: "You say you're Elder Brother Xiao's grandson, yet how come your family name is Yun?"

"That's right, that's right. Brother-in-law, how come you referred to yourself as Yun Che? Is it possible that after you were able to locate your biological parents after being expelled from Xiao Clan?" Xia Yuanba hurriedly asked.

Yun Che replied: "Junior is actually not Grandfather's biological grandson. However, Grandfather has raised me like one of his own for the past sixteen years. Half a year ago, I was expelled from the Xiao Clan and upon my departure, Grandfather informed me that my family name was actually Yun."

"So that's why." Sikong Han slowly nodded and said: "Actually, I had already heard about this."

Yun Che lifted his head with a face full of surprise.

Sikong Han audibly sighed and continued: "Half a year ago, the son of the Xiao Sect's Master... I remember his name was Xiao Kuangyun, was enroute from Floating Cloud City. They would after all, have to come through New Moon City; therefore, our New Moon Profound Palace had to have paid a little bit of attention to this. Afterwards, we found out a bit of information; now this small bit of information would be irrelevant to most, but as it was related to Elder Brother Xiao, I had to further investigate it. At once, I found out he had been punished by his own clan to spend fifteen years in the rear mountains, and his grandson had also been expelled as well. There were numerous times I wanted to go and help Elder Brother Xiao. It's just that as the Great Elder of New Moon Profound Palace, I couldn't just leave for a long period of time; therefore, alas..."

"There's no need for Elder Sikong to blame himself. If Grandfather knew you had this sort of intention, I believe he would've certainly appreciated it." Yun Che courteously replied. Even though Sikong Han had not been able to take any sort of action, one could see he was sincerely worried about Xiao Lie's situation.

"That said, how did Elder Sikong meet Grandfather in the past?" Yun Che asked.

"Hehe, it was seven years ago. I was on a trip to Floating Cloud City for a work related matter and brought my twelve year old son along; but an enemy of mine had found out and waited in ambush there. I was ambushed just when I was able to enter the city. I used all of my strength just to defend myself and had no time to attend to my son. Just when my son was about to be killed, Elder Brother Xiao had appeared and saved my son's life... This Sikong Han only has one son and if it wasn't for Elder Brother Xiao, my family line would have ended right there with me. After all these years, I have never forgotten this kindness, nor have I found a way to repay it."

Remembering this past event, Sikong Han sighed endlessly. He looked at Yun Che and praised: "Speaking of which, you are truly worthy of being Elder Brother Xiao's grandson; to actually have broken through the Elementary Profound Realm into the Nascent Profound Realm at such a young age. This kind of

innate ability, even in New Moon City, would be considered first-class. Your grandfather is Floating Cloud City's number one expert, and your future accomplishments would surely not lose to your grandfather's."

"What?" The Xia Yuanba to the side asked with wide eyes: "Elder Sikong, did you just say that my brother-in-law is already in the Nascent Profound Realm?" This-this...Elder Sikong, are you sure you're not mistaken? My brother-in-law had his Profound Veins crippled since childhood and had never been able to pass the first level of the Elementary Profound Realm; how could he possibly be in the Nascent Profound Realm!"

"Oh?" Sikong Han's face revealed his puzzlement; because he had sensed that Yun Che's profound aura was clearly at first level of the Nascent Profound Realm.

Yun Che gently replied: "This is actually a long story.... But I am indeed at first level of the Nascent Profound Realm. I'm wonder if my current profound strength would make me eligible to enter the Profound Department."

As he spoke, Yun Che inconspicuously poked Xia Yuanba. The Xia Yuanba who was about to speak out immediately shut his mouth, but nevertheless stared with a pair of enormous eyes as his heart cried out in alarm... Good heavens! Brother-in-law is actually already in the Nascent Profound Realm? How could that be, how is this possible!!

Seeing Yun Che and Xia Yuanba act in this way, Sikong Han knew there was more to this; but Yun Che did not want to elaborate and had deliberately avoided the subject. Sikong Han did not pry any further, but asked while chuckling: "Yun Che, how old are you?"

"Sixteen years old." Yun Che answered truthfully. At the same time, his heart took a small sigh of relief.

"Sixteen years old?" A look of surprise appeared on Sikong Han's face as he stood up from his chair: "I originally thought you were already seventeen or eighteen, but you're actually only sixteen years old! To actually be in the Nascent Profound Realm at the age of sixteen, even in the entire New Moon Profound Palace, there should not be more than ten individuals.... If you had been born in a higher level sect, you would, without a doubt, greatly exceed the current you!"

Xia Yuanba continued to listened blankly as he held back the multiple times he had wanted to speak out.

"You flatter me, Elder SiKong." Yun Che modestly replied... If Sikong Han knew that it had only taken him half a year to breakthrough into first level of the Nascent Profound Realm, he would have immediately fallen out of his chair from the shock.

"Come, let me check your innate ability. "SiKong Han waved him over.

Yun Che took two steps forward and stood in front of Sikong Han. Just as Sikong Han was about to use his hands to check his veins, he quickly held his breath and forcibly used his profound energy to block thirty eight of his fifty four Profound Entrances that were all opened; leaving only sixteen of his Profound Entrances open. However, this degree of concealment would only work against the simplest of exams; if the examiner was to probe just a little bit more, it would easily be seen through. However, for those who wanted to join New Moon Profound Palace, everyone would try to display the best of their

ability. Sikong Han never would have guessed that there would be someone who would intentionally conceal their ability; so therefore, he did not spend a great deal of energy during this examination.

Sikong Han gently placed his hand on Yun Che's wrist for a brief moment, and then admirably nodded: "No wonder! To actually have an innate amount of sixteen opened Profound Entrances, this is without a doubt, the level of a genius! This is also a talent that our Profound Department greatly desires!"

At this point, Sikong Han was already somewhat excited. Originally, he had wanted to repay Xiao Lie's kindness by accepting Yun Che into New Moon Profound Palace, to let him have a place to stay. However, now that he was aware of Yun Che's innate talent, don't even mention the relationship with Xiao Lie, even if he had to disregard his face, he would definitely try to keep Yun Che here. Inborn with sixteen Profound Entrances opened; with this kind of innate talent, one could easily ascend to the top of New Moon City and receive preferential treatment. Not only that, those high-tier sects and clan's resources and influence far outweighed that of New Moon Profound Palace. Yun Che's arrival was simply a treasure sent for New Moon Profound Palace.

As of now, there were only seven individuals in New Moon Profound Palace who had an inborn amount of sixteen opened profound entrances, and there would only be at most, an additional one or two every year. Generally, those who had this sort of innate talent would go and join those great sects or clans.

"Yun Che, do you really want to join our New Moon Profound Palace?" Sikong Han asked with luminous eyes: "If you really want to join, all entrance exams will be forgone, and I will directly admit you!"

Xia Yuanba's mouth opened wide as his brain short circuited.

".... Is it possible to join Class One?" Yun Che asked.

"Of course there's no problem!" Sikong Han slapped the table: "Given your current profound strength and your innate talent, you're completely qualified to be part of Class One!"

Yun Che pondered for a moment, and then humbly nodded: "Okay."

Sikong Han's hands frantically scrambled about on the table; this rapid action conveyed his fear that Yun Che would run away. After a little while, he slapped a silver badge on Yun Che's shoulder and said: "So, from now on, you're a disciple of my New Moon Profound Palace's Profound Department. This will identify you as so, and here's the key to your quarters."

"Today just happens to be the appointment day of the new Palace Chief. The matters of this evening's celebration for the newly-appointed currently has my hands tied, so I won't keep you guys any longer. Yuanba, take Yun Che to settle down in his quarters or perhaps even introduce him to his future senior apprentices... Oh, by the way. Yun Che, are you interested in attending the banquet this evening?" Sikong Han suddenly asked.

"I'm allowed to participate?" Yun Che asked in astonishment.

"The appointment of a new Palace Chief is considered a sensational major event in New Moon City. We've sent invitations to all sects who have sufficient enough prestige and influence in New Moon City; they'll definitely gather to give the newly-appointed Palace Chief face. When that time comes, there will be an assembly of talented individuals present. Generally speaking, for these kind of events, only the core disciples of our Profound Department would be allowed to attend. Even though you've only joined

our Profound Department today, given your innate ability, you barely qualify to attend. It'll give you the chance to become knowledgeable of the top sects of New Moon City. As you'll be staying in New Moon City, this knowledge will be quite beneficial for you."

Yun Che immediately understood. It was mainly due to the kindness owed to his grandfather that thereby gave him, a newly joined disciple, the allowance to attend this major banquet; and this special attention was also to let him quickly understand the distribution of power in New Moon City. He immediately replied with gratitude: "Thank you, Elder Sikong, I'll certainly attend... But, may I bring Yuanba along?"

Sikong Han slightly hesitated for a bit, but then smiled and nodded: "That's fine, Yuanba, you come along as well. Yun Che has just joined New Moon Profound Palace and is unfamiliar with many things; you can be his guide. I'll arrange for an extra seat for you."

After leaving the Elder's Hall, Xia Yuanba was still confused about this situation. Only when they had walked for a distance, did he take a deep breath and said with his eyes wide open: "Brother-in-law! What's going on? Are you really at the Nascent Profound Realm? B-b-but aren't your Profound Veins crippled? Even if your Profound Veins have been healed, there's no way to become this formidable so suddenly! You're even more formidable than my older sister!"

"This..." Yun Che pondered for a long time, but still did not know how he should explain it to him. Since he was unwilling to deceive him, the only option was to be vague about it: "Yuanba, this is a secret; so when the time is right in the future, I'll tell you about it. But the fact that my Profound Veins had been crippled before, it's best not to tell anyone about it; otherwise, it might invite negative inclination.

"Ah... Oooh." Xia Yuanba scratched his head in puzzlement. Then his eyes suddenly lit up and said: "Brother-in-law! I suddenly understand it now! You've been pretending this whole time, right? Otherwise, how could it be possible to all of a sudden enter the Nascent Profound Realm. This has to be it. Brother-in-law, you're so crafty; to have fooled all of us, hahahaha."

Yun Che shrugged his shoulder and let Xia Yuanba dwell on his own theory. He changed his line of sight to gaze upon New Moon Profound Palace and his heart stirred.

"How long are you planning to stay here?" Jasmine suddenly asked mentally.

"We'll see. If this place is beneficial to me, I'll stay longer, but if not, I'll leave immediately. The main reason why I'm staying here is so that I can learn some Profound Skills. After all, all the Profound Skills that you know are too high leveled and I can't learn them yet; therefore, this is the only method I can think of."

Jasmine spoke no further.

#### Chapter 62 - Lan Xuero

New Moon Profound Palace occupied a vast expanse, with a magnificent Main Hall at its center, and innumerable architecture that stretched as far as the eye could see. Yun Che followed Xia Yuanba towards his living accommodations. Along the way, he met many New Moon Profound Palace disciples, all of whom were under the age of twenty. There was the occasional fifteen and sixteen year-old, and of those in this age group, most were of the Elementary Profound Realm. Along the way, there were many

people that greeted them; after all, between his age and size, even if they wanted to ignore him it would be hard.

"How many disciples are there in New Moon Profound Palace right now?" Yun Che asked.

"The last time I checked, there were more than three thousand disciples." Xia Yuanba thoughtfully said, "New Moon Profound Palace recruits disciples within the age of fifteen to eighteen. Most of them generally stay until they reach twenty years old before departing. An awful lot of them will join Blue Wind's official force in the future.

"However, Brother-in-law, do you really plan on participating in tonight's banquet?" Xia Yuanba asked somewhat worriedly.

"To have the opportunity of possibly being able to catch a glimpse of almost all of New Moon City's top powers all in one go, of course I have to go." Yun Che took a sideways glance at him: "Yuanba, it seems as if you don't want to go to this banquet. Is there a problem?"

"Even though it's not exactly a problem, but.... but...." Xia Yuanba hesitated for a moment, and then said with a bit of indignance: "Some time ago, I heard that when last generation's Palace Chief was newly appointed, they also sent out many invitations for a banquet. During that banquet however, the invited disciples from the other sects used the excuse of exchanging pointers to challenge our disciples of the same age. There were ten matches, and we of New Moon Profound Palace lost all ten times; thus humiliating the old Palace Chief, and turning the new one into a laughingstock for a long time.

"Heh-heh, that was obviously the machinations of those sects to cause the newly-appointed Palace Chief to lose prestige, and let him know who was the real boss of New Moon City." Yun Che said while laughing.

"That's right." Xia Yuanba nodded, and helplessly said: "I heard the same thing happened to the Palace Chief from two generations ago as well. He could not avoid inviting them to the celebration, otherwise, he would've been laughed at and ridiculed, and lose every bit of face left. If we attend the banquet, chances are that we'll be challenged by them... Losing to them doesn't matter, but those people very often have malicious intent and use a heavy hand. The last time, there were two senior brothers that were beaten until they couldn't fully recover from their injuries, and the Palace Chief had no other choice but to swallow his words and endure the humiliation.

"New Moon Profound Palace attracts a numerous amount of disciples every year; is their strength really that bad?" Yun Che asked as he knitted his brow.

"Of course, it's not that our New Moon Profound Palace's strength that's lacking; it's just, just that those schools are just too strong. Even though New Moon Profound Palace has the backing of the Imperial Family, those sects possess long history, many sect secrets, resources, and techniques that have been passed down for many generations. All of these are not something that New Moon Profound Palace can compare to. Even if they're recruiting for outer sect disciples, the cutoff threshold is much more higher than ours. Furthermore, people that enter into sects with the Imperial Family's backing, generally plan on giving their lives up to the Imperial Family. After all, the establishment of the Imperial Family's sect was originally intended to attract talented people to join the Imperial Forces. However, those people with great talents are usually proud and arrogant. Their desire to join the large sects greatly overweigh

that of joining the Imperial Forces, so the average power of the New Moon Profound Palace's disciples, when compared to the small and middle-sized sects, can be considered to be better, but if compared to those large sects, can not even begin to match up to them."

The situation explained by Xia Yuanba was in fact, quite normal. Even Yun Che himself, although added into the New Moon Profound Palace for other reasons, was merely looking for opportunities and had never once thought about serving the Imperial Family. He thought for a moment, and then asked: "In New Moon City, what are the sects that have more power than New Moon Profound Palace?"

"Oh, let me think..." Xia Yuanba seriously thought for a moment, and then slowly answered: "In total there are seven; they are the Profound Heart Sect, Cloudy Sun Sect, Iron Spear Clan, Seven Deadly Sword Pavilion, and Stormy Profound Palace." After pausing for a moment, Xia Yuanba's voice became somewhat guarded: "These five sects have a history of over five hundred, or even a thousand years. In New Moon City, their influence is deeply engrained in the city and their overall strength is greater than that of New Moon Profound Palace. If not for the backing of the Imperial Family, then perhaps we may have already been suppressed and forced out. In addition to these five, there are two more giants that not even the Imperial Family would dare provoke... and they're the branches of Xiao Sect and Burning Heaven Clan that are here in New Moon City! Although they're merely branches, they still have the backing of the Xiao Sect and Burning Heaven Clan, making them the two immovable overlords of New Moon City.

"Branches of the Xiao Sect and Burning Heaven Clan?" Yun Che tapped his chin. He clearly knew in his heart that this was in name only. In reality, these disciples of the "Outer Sect" were those of the lowest talent that were not suitable to remain in the main sect, and nothing more. However, when all's said and done, they were still the official "Outer Sect", and were unlike the Xiao Clan who had been completely abandoned.

"However, our New Moon Profound Palace is of course, not so easily bullied." Xiao Yuanba patted his chest with a face full of unwillingness and said: "Although New Moon Profound Palace lost dignity during that banquet five years ago, however that was five years ago! Our New Moon Profound Palace now, also have quite a lot of talents; and definitely would not be below those of the other sects... Ah, Brother-in-law look, that person over there is our senior brother Li Weihao. He's seventeen this year, and has already reached the third level of the Nascent Profound Realm. I heard he'd also inherited his family's Profound Arts, and is very powerful.

"That person over there in white clothing is even more powerful. I believe he was called Xu Aoran; he's only eighteen years old, and is already at the fifth rank of the Nascent Profound Realm! Those two are in our Class One. However, the most formidable in our New Moon Profound Palace are not them, but Senior Brother Murong and Senior Sister Xueruo, who are publicly known as New Moon Profound Palace's two biggest geniuses. The Elders will definitely bring them to tonight's banquet. With them, it definitely won't be a repeat of five years ago...

As he spoke up to this point, Xia Yuanba's voice abruptly stopped, because in front of them, a young man in a white robe and a girl dressed in snow-white attire walked side by side in their direction. The man who appeared to be eighteen or nineteen had a tall build, elegant features, and a fascinating charm like that of jade. He was beautiful enough to make any sexually awakened girl who yearned for love, become completely infatuated.

And that girl beside him was even more so, beautiful enough to make one's heart tremble. She seemed to also be eighteen or nineteen, with a pair of beautiful sparkling eyes, and cherry colored lips with the luster of a smooth seashell. Her elegant eyebrows were crescent shaped as well, but the most touching was the light smile that graced her lips that was as heartwarming as the smell of incense in a gentle breeze.

The two were like a perfect couple that had just stepped out of a painting; the moment they appeared, all the brilliance between heaven and earth was taken away. The youth continuously talked about something beside the girl and constantly watched her reaction from the side of his eyes, but the girl's reaction did not change; while maintaining a constant warm smile the whole time, she did not say anything in reply. Although she was only gently striding onward, it would make one believe that they had seen a fairy dancing in a white dress. Above all, her beautiful and slender snow-white neck let her exude a noble and graceful aura that added to her charm, making one feel as if they were looking at an exalted princess that belonged in the Imperial Family.

"What a beautiful girl." Yun Che admiringly exclaimed in his heart. Although her appearance was incomparable to Xia Qingyue's, it definitely was one in ten thousand; a devastating beauty that could tip over cities and nations. Yet the noble air that wrapped around her like an indistinct haze was not something that Xia Qingyue could match. What amazed Yun Che the most was the touch of gentleness in her eyes and expression. Generally speaking, a girl that was beautiful to this extent would more or less carry a somewhat arrogant air; his wife Xia Qingyue, a prime example. Yet this girl had a gentle complexion; her gaze was as soft as water, and there wasn't even the slightest hint of arrogance between her brows. The faint smile on the corner of her lips, was sufficient enough to almost completely melt one's heart with just a single glance.

"Senior Brother Murong, Senior Sister Xueruo!"

At the same time that Yun Che was silently admiring this girl, Xia Yuanba had actually pulled him up to greet them.

Murong? Xueruo? Hm? Don't tell me that these two were the ones that Yuanba had just mentioned... Yun Che thought in his heart.

"Junior Brother Xia, are you going back to rest?" Upon seeing Xia Yuanba, the girl smiled and greeted him. When her voice sounded, Yun Che immediately felt a sort of warm current slowly flow from his ears to the center of his heart, because this sound was extremely gentle and that beautiful; just simply listening to this sound brought about a feeling of inexplicable pleasure. When coming into close proximity with her gaze, it was even more understandable how her soft gaze and smile could intoxicate one's heart.

At this point, the girl's gaze fell upon Yun Che, and she curiously asked: "This is..."

"Hehe, this is my brother-in-law, he just entered our Profound Department today. He's also in our Class One!" Xia Yuanba cheerfully said, "Brother-in-law, they're the Senior Brother Murong Ye and Senior Sister Lan Xueruo that I had just mentioned earlier. They're this generation's strongest disciples within our New Moon Profound Palace.

Yun Che walked forward a step, his face wearing a polite smile, "Greetings Senior Brother and Senior Sister. This little brother is Yun Che, who has just entered the Profound Department. I request the two Seniors to look after me in the future."

Murong slightly nodded his head, which was barely considered to be a reply. His gaze stopped on Yun Che for a moment, and then moved away as arrogance hung between his brows. There were also hidden traces of resentment, as he was obviously unhappy that they had disturbed he and Xueruo's "two person world."

"Oh? You also joined our Class One?" Lan Xueruo took a good look at Yun Che, and laughed gleefully: "You seem so young, yet you're already at the first level of the Nascent Profound Realm. No wonder Elder Sikong snatched you into Class One. If the beauties in the class find out that such a handsome little junior had just entered, they'll definitely be overjoyed. You need to be careful, little junior brother. Eh? That's not right, Junior Brother Xia seemed to have referred to you as 'brother-in-law'. Don't tell me; you're already married?"

Before Yun Che had the chance to reply, Xia Yuanba already answered before him: "That's right. My brother-in-law is only sixteen this year, but he has already married my sister half a year ago."

"Oh~~~ So little junior brother Yun is only sixteen years old. To marry this early, it seems the bride must have been really beautiful." Lan Xueruo said, smiling.

"Ah haha.... Anyway, I'll be in senior brother and senior sister's care in the future." Yun Che awkwardly smiled. Then his gaze suddenly changed as he spoke while smiling at Lan Xueruo: "I'm guessing that Senior Sister Xueruo is definitely not a native from around here, is that right?"

"Oh? How did you know?" Lan Xueruo asked as she blinked her beautiful eyes.

"Because the atmosphere in New Moon City is a bit restless and its spiritual aura is opaque. There should be no way that a graceful beauty like Senior Sister Xueruo was born here."

Lan Xueruo was slightly stunned; then her pink lips curved up and while raising her eyebrows, she said: "Not only is Junior Brother Yun good looking and talented, but is also a smooth talker too. It's a pity that you're already married; otherwise, senior sister here may... hehehe."

Lan Xueruo was clearly joking, but Murong Ye, who was standing by her side, fiercely glared at Yun Che.

However, Yun Che appeared as if he didn't see that at all, and instead smiled at Lan Xueruo and said: "It doesn't matter, my wife had guaranteed this to me before; she definitely wouldn't object to me getting another wife."

### Chapter 63 - Main Palace

As soon as Yun Che let out those words, Xia Yuanba's mouth promptly opened wide, and even his eyes had almost bulged out from shock. Murong Ye eyes narrowed; the gaze that looked at Yun Che suddenly became ice-cold and mocking, and even faintly let out a sneer. However, Lan Xueruo didn't get angry in the slightest, and sweetly smiled: "What an interesting little junior; it seems like the following days won't be that boring anymore. Then, senior sister here will stop chatting with you for now. I need to attend a banquet tonight, and there may be a difficult battle awaiting. We need to head to the Medicine Department and prepare some medicine pills that may come in handy; let's meet later, okay?"

"Good bye, Senior Sister."

Lan Xueruo playfully winked her left eye, and left with a faint smile while carrying away a receding gust of a faint fragrant wind. Although Yun Che's words had some frivolousness mixed in, it apparently didn't make Lan Xueruo feel repulsed; instead her impression of Yun Che had deepened, such that he won't be forgotten just by turning around.

Yun Che turned to cast a sidelong glance, and gazed steadily at her willowy figure seen from behind, without concealing his thoughts of admiration at all... With a complexion that could tip over the world, and a noble and elegance disposition, not only was she not arrogant, but instead, was so warm and gentle to the heart; she truly was a girl that men could hardly resist.... However, her identity and status must also not be that simple.

A hand smacked onto Yun Che's shoulder in an extremely unfriendly manner. Yun Che turned back around and saw Murong Ye looking at him coldly, and promptly said with a faint smile: "Senior Brother Murong, what do you need from me? Speaking of which, weren't you together with Senior Sister Xueruo?

Lan Xuerou had already walked pretty far away, but still did not turn around to call for Murong Ye; it was as if she completely didn't realize that he wasn't with her.... It seems, the relationship between those two were very different from what Yun Che had first thought. It was probably more or less Murong Ye's one-sided crush.

Murong Ye's eyes narrowed, exposing a sneer full of contempt and disdain; his gaze was as if looking down on an insignificant inferior human being: "Your name is Yun Che, right? Little junior Yun, although I don't know what method you used to sneak into our Class One, but as your Senior, there are a few things I need to remind you. Since you've entered Class One, then obediently learn what you should do, and what you shouldn't do, lest you blame me later for not reminding you after you've suffered the consequences. Also, remember it clearly, stay further away from Lan Xueruo hereafter; the further the better. If I see you speak with her like that again, don't forget that I have numerous ways to kick you out of New Moon Profound Palace. Hmph."

After finished speaking, his gaze bitterly swept over Yun Che and Xia Yuanba, and quickly walked toward the direction that Lan Xueruo had left in. He knew about Xia Yuanba's background, that he was only a merchant's child in a small remote city. Which meant this brother-in-law of his, would definitely be someone with a small role without much background; so of course, he naturally did not hesitate in ridiculing him.

Yun Che tilted his gaze and nonchalantly glanced behind him and coldly sneered: "This person, his eyes has almost grown to the top of his head."

(TL: eyes on top of head is a way of saying someone is so arrogant that the eyes grew even higher to look down on people..)

"He's always like this. I had already gotten used to it long ago." Xia Yuanba had a face of anger and helplessness at the same time. Normally when Murong Ye gave him different types of looks, he had never really minded; however, this time he was clearly threatening Yun Che, which made fury rise from the inside of his heart. But as he thought about the opponent's strength and family background, there

was fundamentally nothing he could do. It might have been okay if it was only him, since there was still the vice Palace Chief supporting him behind his back. But for Yun Che, it may really be impossible for him to continue to stay in New Moon Profound Palace.

"It seems, this Murong Ye — is not just any random kind of fodder." Yun Che murmured.

Seeing that Yun Che didn't appear to be angry, Xia Yuanba was slightly reassured, and said in a low voice: "His father is actually the Governor of the New Moon City! Not only that, his talent in the Profound is also astounding; while only nineteen this year, he had already reached the eighth level of Nascent Profound Realm! And rumors say that recently, he'd almost broke into the ninth level of Nascent Profound Realm. In the entirety of New Moon Profound Palace, no one would ever dared to provoke him."

"The Governor's son? Heh, I see." Yun Che faintly expelled a laugh, then suddenly said: "He's trying to court Lan Xueruo, right?"

"Mhm. Senior Sister Lan Xueruo is both beautiful and gentle, so there are a lot of senior brothers that likes her. However, she and Senior Brother Murong is the generally acknowledged pair since essentially, no one dares to compete with Senior Brother Murong. And so, the senior brothers that liked Senior Sister Xueruo never dare to get too close to her." Xia Yuanba then added on with a bizarre tone: "Brother-in-law is the first I've ever seen to dare speak to Senior Sister Xueruo like that. Definitely be careful of this Murong Ye in the future; although he's pretty formidable, he's also an extremely petty person."

"That's easy to see." Yue Che shrugged his shoulders, but appeared to have not taken the advice into his heart at all, and instead asked: "Yuanba, this Lan Xueruo, where did she come from? I can tell that her family background is definitely not common, so why would she come to New Moon Profound Palace?"

Xia Yuanba shook his head: "This, I don't know either. I only know that she seemed to be Elder Sikong's distant relative, and she entered into the Profound Department during the orientation period half a year ago, at the same time as me. About the location of her hometown, she had never mentioned it before. However, Senior Sister Xueruo is really amazing; she's only eighteen this year, yet she's already at the eighth level of Nascent Profound Realm. She's the most talented person in this New Moon Profound Palace, and is even more amazing than Senior Brother Murong."

Both were at the eighth level of Nascent Profound Realm; Murong Ye was nineteen, and Lan Xueruo was eighteen. It was obvious that Lan Xueruo surpassed Murong Ye in terms of talent.

Xiao Yulong who had reached the third level of Nascent Profound Realm at the age of twenty was already the strongest of Xiao Clan's young generation; Xia Qingyue who had reached the tenth level of Elementary Profound Realm at the age of sixteen, was already a once in a century genius in Floating Cloud City. But no matter Murong Ye or Lan Xueruo, either one of them had clearly far surpassed Xia Qingyue, let alone Xiao Yulong. Also, youths of this level should not be a rarity in those big sects of New Moon City. In comparison, Floating Cloud City was worthy to be called a forgotten small city; the level of profound strength was honestly too different. Grandfather Xiao Lie was already considered the strongest in the Floating Cloud City at the tenth level of the Spirit Profound Realm; but if he were to come to this New Moon City, he would only probably be ranked in the upper levels when compared to those of the same age, but it was impossible to be at the top..

"Yuanba." Yun Che's expressions became solemn: "There is a very serious matter that I have to discuss with you."

"Uh, what is it?" Looking at Yun Che's expression, Xia Yuanba suddenly became nervous.

"From now on, you aren't allowed to call me Brother-in-law!" Yun Che said as a matter of fact.

"Why?" Xia Yuanba's eyes widened.

Yun Che patted Xia Yuanba's shoulder as his gaze swept into the distance, and answered: "Hearing what Senior Sister Xueruo had said, there are a lot of beauties in our Class One, no?"

"About that; it seems to be true. But Senior Sister Xueruo is still the prettiest of them all."

Yun Che's eyebrows slightly shook, and said with a tone full of righteousness: "Since there are a lot of beauties in Class One, if you keep on calling me brother-in-law, wouldn't that reveal the fact that I'm already married! How would I be able to flirt with those beautiful senior and junior sisters!"

"...." Xia Yuanba opened his mouth as his brain froze for over three seconds. Then he finally spoke weakly: "But Brother-in-law, you have my sister already. If you are with another girl.... Uuu, wouldn't that be a little...."

"No no." Yun Che swung his hand and said in deadly earnest: "When I told Senior Sister Xueruo about how your sister wouldn't object me in finding another wife, that was really what your elder sister had promised me. Also.... in this life, it's unknown whether or not I can ever meet your elder sister again."

Yun Che looked to the far distance; then his gaze became deep and profound: "There are only two ultimate goals that a man pursues; one is to conquer the world, the other is to conquer women. To conquer the world is to reach a new height in life, but to conquer women, is to embellish the scenery of life. If one isn't able to conquer the women that he wants, even if he conquered the entire world, he would still be at a lonely summit, and experience loneliness everywhere. Yuanba, don't you think that what I, your brother-in-law just said is right?"

"...." Xia Yuanba didn't really understand what he had just said, but he still thought it sounded kind of amazing.

"Then, if I don't call you brother-in-law, what should I call you?" Because Yun Che and Xia Qingyue's marriage was already decided when they were still infants, Xia Yuanba had always called him brother-in-law since childhood; other than brother-in-law, his brain that couldn't really make sharp turns, simply could not think of anything else to call him in such a short notice.

"Hm, about this.... You can call me Big Brother, Boss, Big Brother Yun, Big Brother Che, Big Brother Yun Che, or just simply call me Yun Che, Senior Brother Yun.... In short just don't call me brother-in-law anymore."

"Oh! Oh! Then I'll call you Boss from now on, is that good?"

"That's fine."

"Boss, boss, boss.... Uhm, it still feels kind of weird. Ah, right, earlier Senior Sister Xueruo said she was heading to the Medicine Department for medicinal pills in order to deal with tonight's banquet. Should

we go there too? Since Brother-in-law had just entered the Profound Department, it's possible to immediately receive a set of medicinal pills from the Medicine Department. You can get one set per month.

".... Don't call me brother-in-law."

"Ah, I forgot, I'll definitely pay attention. Then Brother-in-law, should we head to the living quarters or the Medicine Department first?"

"!#¥%....."

.....

Yun Che followed Xia Yuanba and received a set of medicinal pills, and these pellets were sure enough as Yun Che had expected... They were all the lowest levels of Profound Recovering pellets and Profound Opening pellets, and their potency were all around forty or fifty percent. With supportive medicinal pellets of this degree, they were way worse in comparison the big sects; it was not surprising as to why the New Moon Profound Palace's average strength had always remained stagnant.

The living space that Sikong Han had arranged for Yun Che was adjacent to Xia Yuanba's; although small, it was very elegant and had all the necessities, which was far better than what Yun Che had expected. Until now, Yun Che who had wandered outside for half a year, finally had a place to settle down and sleep in. Emotions tumbled inside his heart.

Laying on the small bed, Yun Che quickly fell asleep. This past half a year, he had always slept in the wilderness; never stayed in any inns, and had not enjoyed the privilege of sleeping in a bed either. This time, he slept especially comfortably and steady from noon all the way till evening, until he was woken up by Xia Yuanba who knocked on his door.

"Brother-in-law, are you awake yet? The banquet is almost about to start, are we still going?"

Xia Yuanba knew in his heart what may happen at this banquet, so he didn't really want Yun Che to attend it; this was in order for him to avoid being challenged, and the definite possibility that he would be deliberately injured by the opponent.

Yun Che opened his eyes and quickly got up from the bed: "Of course I'm going! Give me a minute, we'll go at once!"

\_\_\_\_\_

The heart of New Moon Profound Palace was a wide area of a sparse emerald-green bamboo forest, and in it, stood a huge palace that emitted a dignified atmosphere. This was the biggest and most extravagant building in the entirety of New Moon Profound Palace; it's name was very direct and was known as the "Main Palace". All the important matters inside the Palace are conducted in the Main Palace; and the banquet for the new Palace Chief's appointment, would also be conducted here

When Yun Che and Xia Yuanba walked into the Main Palace, there wasn't even half a quarter of an hour left until the start of the banquet. However, not even one-fifth of the seats were filled; not only that most of them were actually people of the Profound Department itself. It was obvious that it wasn't

because those invited sects couldn't arrive any earlier, but instead, they purposefully did not want to arrive early, as a boast about their stature.

At the same time, it was also a type of contempt against New Moon Profound Palace.

# Chapter 64 – The Battle That Shook the City

As Yun Che and Xia Yuanba walked into the main hall, and just happened to run into Murong Ye. He glanced at them and said in an unfriendly manner: "What are the two of you doing here? Do you know what kind of banquet this is? Leave at once!"

"It was Elder Sikong who allowed us to come." Xia Yuanba said whilst restraining his rage.

"Elder Sikong? Allowed you two?" Murong Ye said with a disdainful laugh: "He let you two come to disgrace us? This is no ordinary banquet; in a little while, disciples of various schools will do battle. You two pieces of trash aren't even considered to be any good; what can you two do, now that you've come here? Hmph, fine. Since the Elder has allowed you two to come, go inside. I'll be frank; if you cause our New Moon Profound Palace to lose face, don't blame this Senior for being too rough with your punishment."

He had followed behind Lan Xueruo for an entire afternoon. Even though Lan Xueruo had always smiled and spoke in a gentle voice, she had not looked directly at him even once. This made him store up an entire stomach's full of unpleasantness. When he encountered Yun Che and Xia Yuanba, it just so happened that he found an outlet for his anger.

Even if Xia Yuanba had a better temperament, suddenly being verbally abused for no apparent reason would still stir up his anger. Yun Che tugged on his arm, and spoke with an indifferent tone: "Let's enter."

As they entered the Main Palace, they saw Sikong Han waving at them, and made them seat themselves on the prearranged seating. Both of their seats were set at the very back, and very out of sight.... However, although the place where they sat wasn't very noticeable, with Xia Yuanba's figure placed there, it was impossible to not draw attention.

"Yun Che, Yuanba, should any duels occur later, I want the two of you to pay close attention. It would be best if the two of you manage to learn something from the fight. It has only been a short while since you two had joined the Profound Department, so it's unlikely that anyone would challenge you two. Just stay in the back and watch safely." Sikong Han cautioned.

"Understood, Elder Sikong." Xia Yuanba nodded, and then sat down obediently.

Yun Che also slowly nodded, he looked around and noticed that around thirty disciples of the Profound Department were present. Unsurprisingly, every one of the thirty should be the elite disciples of New Moon Profound Palace. Out of the Profound Department's three thousand disciples, only thirty came; each of them, without a doubt, were the best of the best. Soon after, Yun Che had spotted Lan Xuerou. She astonishingly sat in the center of the first row of disciples; her seating did not surprise Yun Che in the slightest. An eighteen year old at the eighth level of the Nascent Profound Realm, and was even a girl; that was considered to be a top talent even in the mid-upper level sects.

As for Yun Che, he also caught the attention of quite a few of the Profound Department's disciples. All of those who were able to participate in this gathering, were the elites of their sects, and the competition amongst them would be fierce. Those familiar with this sort of gathering were very surprised at Xia Yuanba's participation. Since Xia Yuanba's strength was only at the sixth level of the Elementary Profound Realm, he was considered to be one of the weaker members within the Profound Department and thus, did not have the qualifications to be here. And Yun Che that came together with him, was a downright unfamiliar face.

"Hmm? Are you a new disciple here? Don't think I've ever seen you around before?" A girl in a fiery-red attire who sat in front of Yun Che turned around, and asked as her eyes blinked with curiosity.

"Greeting Senior Sister. My name is Yun Che. I just joined the Profound Palace today." Yun Che slightly nodded, as his face gave off an extremely alluring and lethal smile.

For a split second, the girl felt as if she was shocked by an electric current. Her cheeks reddened somewhat, and she lightly cried out: "Wow! To have already broken into the Nascent Profound Realm at such a young age, no wonder you've been allowed to attend this banquet on the very first day you've been admitted."

"He's my brother-in-law, of course he'd be awesome!" Xia Yuanba proudly announced. He seemed to be more happy when others praised Yun Che instead of himself.

"Ah? Brother-in-law? You're already married?" asked the girl with pink lips as her eyes displayed obvious disappointment.

With great difficulty, Yun Che managed to restrain himself from strangling Xia Yuanba, and replied with a tranquil expression: "That's right. Senior Sister being so beautiful, definitely should also be married already, right?"

"Hmph, I definitely won't be getting married so early. Ah. That's right, my name is Ye Hongling, Profound Department's Class One, seventeen years old. If you have any problems in the future, just come find me!" The girl said with an air of honor.

"....The pleasure is mine, Senior Sister."

Knowing that he made a mistake, Xia Yuanba lowered his head, shrank, and did not dare to speak to Yun Che for a long time.

At this time, the lead actor of the event, the newly appointed Palace Chief of New Moon Profound Palace, Qin Wuyou, had finally arrived. Qin Wuyou looked to be about sixty in age; his face held an expression of a gentle and unflustered calm, and a deep wisdom could be seen in his clear eyes. He emanated an extraordinary aura. Qin Wuyou was originally one of the elders of the Imperial Capital's Profound Palace; he was specially assigned to New Moon Profound Palace as the Palace Chief, and his true strength was deep and unfathomable.

Qin Wuyou had already arrived in New Moon Profound Palace a month ago, and today was merely the official day of the newly-appointed's banquet. In this short month, he had already bowled over each elder and disciple, and received their deepest respects. After taking the Palace Chief's seat, all the representatives of the large sects followed at his heels, as if they had planned it beforehand.

"Hahahaha, Tie Zhancang of Iron Spear Clan, brings his son, Hengjun, to respectfully congratulate Palace Chief Qin on his appointment."

Following the voice of the hearty, clear laughter, one could see a middle-aged man and seven disciples striding in.

"That's the current Clan Master of the Iron Spear Clan." Xia Yuanba whispered into Yun Che's ear:: "The one following directly behind him is his youngest son, Tie Hengjun. Although he is young, he's also shockingly talented. According to the rumours, he's the top candidate who would become Iron Spear Clan's future Clan Master."

"Palace Chief Qin, I trust that you've been well since we last met. When I chanced upon you half a month ago, Palace Chief Qin's bearing had truly made a deep impression on me. Today I especially brought my son to come before you... This is a meagre gift, to show my respect to you.

Qin Wuyou personally rose from his seat and accepted the gift: "Iron Spear Clan's Clan Master is really too polite. You personally came to give this old man face, so there should be no need to bring any gift. Your esteemed son is extraordinarily talented, and the way he conducts himself is out of the ordinary. In the future, he will definitely be a dragon amongst men, and perhaps, he may even far surpass you, his father. Hahahaha.... Come, please take a seat."

"Yuanba, this situation seems to be overly harmonious, I can't sense any sort of fierce rivalry going on at all." Yun Che said as he rubbed his chin.

"Err... This, Iron Spear Clan's reputation has always been good; even though their overall strength and influence surpasses our Profound Palace, their relationship with us can be considered as not bad. The other clans, however..."

Before finishing his sentence, the members of the Cloudy Sun Sect had arrived.

"Cloudy Sun Sect's Head Elder Yan Zizai, congratulates Palace Chief Qin on his appointment."

Profound Heart Sect, Seven Deadly Sword Pavilion, and Stormy Profound Palace, all came one after the other, after Cloudy Sun Sect. Each clan brought along seven or eight disciples, and Qin Wuyou personally welcomed them. Only until the banquet was about to officially begin, did Burning Heaven Clan slowly arrived.

"Burning Heaven Clan's Sixth Elder, Fen Hanyan, congratulates Palace Chief Qin on his appointment."

Burning Heaven Clan.... Or to be precise, Burning Heaven Clan's outer sect located in New Moon City. The one in the lead was an old man clad entirely in red; his robe was completely embroidered in a crimson-red flame patterns. As he stepped into the Main Palace, everyone could clearly feel a blast of heat rush against their faces.

After Burning Heaven Clan's outer sect, came Xiao Sect's Branch Sect, and they were the last to arrive. The one in front who led the way was a youth who looked no older than seventeen! Behind him, was only a middle-aged man who looked to be in his forties, and six disciples no older than twenty.

"Junior Xiao Luocheng of Xiao Sect, meets Palace Chief Qin." As he entered the Main Palace, the youth calmly headed towards Qin Wuyou and followed the proper etiquette of a junior in a serene and refined

manner. It was neither servile nor overbearing.... However as a junior who has come to pay respects to the opposite party who was a Palace Chief of the Imperial Family's Profound Palace, not humbling himself was already a type of arrogance.

"It's Xiao Luocheng!" Xia Yuanba drew in a sharp breath and immediately whispered in Yun Che's ear: "Never thought he would come here! The first day I came to New Moon City, I'd already heard his name several times. He's also sixteen, the same age as brother-in-law, but he's already the Young Master of Xiao Sect's Branch Sect. Not only that, he's also publicly recognized as the number one of New Moon City's younger generation!

"Number one?" Yun Che quickly glanced a few more times at Xiao Luocheng. Indeed, he looked pretty young, but there was a prominent maturity in his demeanor, and the place between his eyebrows was full of undisguised honor and pride. Those who saw him were filled with peculiar feelings.... of either astonishment, admiration, jealous envy, or perhaps even a shameful sense of inferiority.

"Right. In regards to innate talent, he is without a doubt, number one! He's only sixteen, but has already reached the tenth level of the Nascent Profound Realm! I've heard that he's not far from breaking through into the True Profound Realm as well. Brother-in-law, do you believe that?

Sixteen years old.... Tenth level of Nascent Profound Realm!?

Yun Che's face was a fluster of emotions. He unconsciously looked at Lan Xueruo, and discovered that a deep layer of seriousness had covered her face.

"Heh-heh, Xiao Luocheng? This old man has heard of this well-known name. I didn't expect that there would be a chance to meet the number one of New Moon City's young generation. Your esteemed father did not come today?" Qin Wuyou asked as he laughed without worry.

"Palace Chief Qin's praise is too much. Even though father had very much wanted to come in person to congratulate Palace Chief Qin on his appointment, he is unwell and cannot attend today; because of this, this junior is acting as his substitute. Please do not take offense to this." Xiao Luocheng's face was all smiles as he conversed with warm words.

Qing Wuyou was one of the leaders of New Moon Profound Palace, so at his appointment banquet, each of the major sect's leaders ought to have appeared in person to show the appropriate amount of respect. If not, then they should at least send a head elder. Of the seven major sects present, Iron Spear Clan, Seven Deadly Sword Pavilion, and Stormy Profound Palace's Sect Masters had all personally arrived. As for Profound Heart Sect and Cloudy Sun Sect, they came with a Head Elder. Although Burning Heaven Clan's outer sect was arrogant, they had still sent a Sixth Elder.

However this Xiao Sect's Branch Sect, had actually sent a group of juniors!

Although Xiao Luocheng was extremely courteous, as long as one was not a fool or blind, they could see that this was obviously a kind of naked contempt.

"Hahahaha," Qin Wuyou let out a hearty laugh, as if he did not mind at all: "Young Master of Xiao Sect, what are you saying? I've heard many things about Young Master's elegant manners everyday. To finally be able to meet you today has already granted a wish of mine, so I am happy beyond words. Esteemed guests of the Xiao Sect, please be seated."

At this point, all the guests who were invited had already arrived. Xiao Sect's Branch Sect and Burning Heaven Clan's Outer Sect were naturally seated near the top. They were followed by the other five major sects, and was once again followed by New Moon City's Governor Murong Hang's seat; however, he was not even a little bit dissatisfied about the arrangement. The Murong family may stir up any amount of trouble they wanted in New Moon City, but that was only in the face of the little common sects. Even if he was New Moon City's governor, in the presence of these seven major sects, he had to obediently tuck his tail between his legs and did not dare to even slightly offend them.

As for those medium-sized clans who were invited, they even more so, trembled in fear and trepidation; very rarely did they see a gathering of the seven major sects, let alone dare to offend any one of them.

# Chapter 65 – The Battle That Shook the City (2)

All the guests had finally arrived, and it was time for the banquet to begin. Qin Wuyou returned to his seat, held a cup of wine in his hands, and announced in a clear voice: "Just for the sake of this Qin's appointment matter, our esteemed guests have taken time out of their busy schedule in order to grace this Qin with their presence; this Qin is truly fortunate. Since it is this Qin's first time in New Moon City, this Qin's knowledge regarding the affairs of New Moon City is quite poor. From now on, this Qin hopes that all who are present will not be too stingy in bestowing this Qin with their assistance. This wine cup, is this Qin's first toast to you all!"

As he finished his speech, Qin Wuyou raised his wine cup and downed it in one gulp.

One after another, the guests had also raised their cups to toast as well. Every kind of spoken blessing had also continuously came, one after the other:

"Haha, Palace Chief Qin is too polite, if you ever need our Azure Dragon Group's assistance for anything in the future, please do not hesitate to call upon us."

"Hearing that Palace Chief Qin was formerly from the Imperial City's Blue Wind Profound Palace, really incites feelings of aspiration in our hearts! With the appointment of Palace Chief Qin, I believe New Moon Profound Palace is definitely on the road to remarkable success."

"Palace Chief Qin's profound strength is deep and unmeasurable; I'm afraid he may already be over the fifth level of the Earth Profound Realm or even higher. It really makes us feel great respect for him and ashamed of ourselves."

The atmosphere had become lively all of a sudden, and those who were sucking up to curry favor with the new Palace Chief were naturally from the medium and small sects. Members of the seven major sects had remained aloof, and only occasionally said some words out of courtesy.

As they continuously toasted, the gazes of the disciples of the seven major sects had been aimed in the direction of the disciples of New Moon Profound Palace. They were clearly selecting their opponents for the upcoming challenge battle. The disciples of New Moon Profound Palace each wore a heavy expression, yet upheld an imposing manner that did not betray the slightest trace of weakness. A few Great Elders had repeatedly evaluated the average strength of the disciples of the seven major sects, and could only sigh in succession in their hearts.... Although each major sect had only a small number of disciples, it was clear that they had gone through a meticulous selection process. Each of them had astonishing innate talent, and greatly surpassed the Palace's elites of the same age. They originally

thought that these years of growth in New Moon Profound Palace had already closed the gap in between, but when faced with the current situation, that sort of thinking had really just been an overindulgence of a fantasy.

Even if New Moon Profound Palace had Lan Xueruo, she alone, was not enough to turn this situation around. It seems that this time, they had no choice but to follow the disastrous conclusion they faced five years ago. Ah, that's also something that couldn't be helped; the background and resources of the Profound Palace simply was incapable of being on par with the several hundred years of heritage that the great sects possessed.

"This atmosphere is indeed quite subtle. It seems like this princess will soon have a good show to watch." Jasmine said.

"What do think the outcome would be, when New Moon Profound Palace's elite disciples spars with the seven major sects?" Yun Che probingly asked.

"In regards to those in the same age group, disciples of the seven major sects on average, are higher by two to three levels than disciples of the New Moon Profound Palace; does this princess still need to tell you what the outcome will be?" Jasmine replied in an indifferent tone.

"That drastic of a difference?" Yun Che's eyebrows slightly sank. It was still possible to compete against those whose cultivation was higher by half a level, but it was fundamentally hopeless, when against someone who was a level higher on average. As for those higher by two to three levels.... If it were really like this; New Moon Profound Palace's desire to not repeat a past disastrous event was completely just a dream. It seemed that the newly appointed Palace Chief could only watch this show of power, and see how much he could endure.

"Hmph, if only considering that Burning Heaven Clan and Xiao Sect, the average difference is closer to four or five levels!" added Jasmine.

".... I want to know, how many levels higher are you in comparison to them." Yun Che asked pensively.

"Compared to them? Are you insulting this princess?" Jasmine's voice held a faint sound of anger.

\*Coughcough\* "There was completely no intention of that, I was merely asking on a whim."

A thirteen year old super-monster of a loli who could rapidly dispatch a Dragon of the Emperor Profound! What sect geniuses, what New Moon's number one of the young generation; in her presence, they couldn't even be regarded as poop. Even Yun Che himself felt that comparing Jasmine to them was indeed the same as insulting her honor....

Qin Wuyou clearly had the ability to control large occasions; the wine had gone through three rounds, and the entire banquet's bustling atmosphere was extraordinary as all kinds of cheers, laughter, and talk unceasingly continued. Even Yun Che who did not drink, was heartily enjoying himself on the feast that accompanied the wine. There was a long lasting exchange of glances that passed between the disciples of the Profound Palace and disciples of the other sects. Following this exchange of glances, the atmosphere became increasingly hostile; even a random spark could happen any moment and trigger an explosive reaction.

At that moment, Profound Heart Sect's Head Elder Xuan Duanao stood up, with his wine cup in hand, and loudly announced: "This cup, is this old man's toast to Palace Chief Qin, on behalf of Profound Heart Sect's wish that he may soon lead New Moon Profond Palace, to send tremors throughout the four oceans." After finishing, Xuan Ao drained his cup in one gulp, put the cup down, and continued: "However, the banquet up till now, even though there are many esteemed guests present, still feels as if it's lacking something; it just isn't lively enough. Since Palace Chief Qin has only been newly appointed, he ought to have not yet become familiar with New Moon Profound Palace, and in all likelihood, would want to know the current strength of the palace's disciples. Actually, this old man has a suggestion; why don't we let a few of our younger disciples of the same age range exchange pointers? It may even liven things up, deepen the relationship amongst them, and Palace Chief Qin would get to gauge the current strength of the palace's disciples. Wouldn't it be like getting three birds with one stone?"

"Right! Elder Xuan's suggestion is wonderful!"

"What a great three birds with one stone!"

"What a great idea! Then what are we waiting for, let's begin right away; I believe Palace Chief Qin would certainly not be opposed to this."

As Xuan Ao's voice was about to drop, loud applause and cheers unceasingly came ,one after another, from the seven sects side. As for the Great Elders of New Moon Profound Palace, they sighed in their hearts..... What is to come, nevertheless must come. A new Palace Chief was appointed in New Moon Profound Palace every five years, and every time this took place, the seven sects would come to display their strength; it has already gotten to the point that this became the typical norm.

The seven great sects all responded alike as their disciples all stood up while rubbing their hands, eager for battle. Even if Qin Wuyou wanted to oppose, there was no way he could. However, he was clearly calm and collected; He stood up to smile, and nodded: "Elder Xuan's suggestion is not bad. Then, how should we go about in exchanging pointers?"

"That's simple!" Xuan Ao laughed out loud and said: "Our little juniors are different from us as they are in the initial stages where a person's age determines their step towards heaven; therefore, it's only fair to use age as the factor in these exchanging of pointers. Of course, a younger person may challenge an older person; winning this way will only be even more brilliant, hahahaha."

Xuan Ao's last statement coupled with his laughter clearly meant one thing: Even if our side is younger, we will still be able to beat those who are older on your side.

"Since this idea was proposed by this old man, then we'll start with my Profound Heart Sect... Xuan Yu, you're up! Don't forget to state your age."

"Yes, Elder!"

The youngster who was called out from the Profound Heart Sect appeared to be sixteen or seventeen years old, and he was actually the youngest of the lot of Profound Heart Sect disciples that came; he had a thin, but well-toned body. With a rush of energy, he leapt high from his seat onto the center of the hall. With both hands cupped behind his back, he then swept his defiant eyes towards the seated New Moon Profound Palace disciples: "This one is Profound Heart Sect's useless disciple Xuan Yu, sixteen years old. Who will come up and advise me?"

Once Xuan Yu entered stepped onto the stage, all the elders from New Moon Profound Palace became silent.... This Xuan Yu was only really only sixteen years old, but he was already at second level of the Nascent Profound Realm! Being Elders, of course they knew of their own internal strength; in New Moon Profound Palace, the most powerful of the sixteen year olds were only at the first level of the Nascent Profound Realm. Moreover, these disciples from the seven sects had their own sect's profound arts. Even if they were of the same rank, New Moon Profound Palace's disciples basically had no chance of winning at all; therefore, don't even bother to mention going against one with a lower rank.

What was even harder to accept, was that this Xuan Yu, amongst all the seven sects' disciples here today, would only be considered mid-tier and absolutely not their top-tier.

Xuan Yu stood there for quite a while, but there was no response from New Moon Profound Palace's side at all. The smile on Xuan Yu's face had already changed into a sneer. The people from the seven sects also looked on with contempt. If the situation was to go on like this, there would not be even "exchanging of pointers", but instead, New Moon Profound Palace would lose face to the utmost degree. Sikong Han waved his hand: "Li Hao, you're up!"

"Yes!"

Li Hao, who was called out to action, leaped from the disciple seating area to stand in front of Xuan Yu, resolutely said: "New Moon Profound Palace Class One's Li Hao, please advise me!"

"Hehe, needless to say, I'll properly give you some advice." Xuan Yu laughed as he replied with obvious sarcasm. Since New Moon Profound Palace was oppressed by them, the disciples of the seven sects always felt superior than the disciples of New Moon Profound Palace. In turn, disciples of New Moon Profound Palace were able to be cocky in front of mid-tier sects, but in front of the seven sects, they could not even lift their heads.

"Humph!" The contempt in Xuan Yu's eyes angered Li Hao as he roared; he concentrated profound energy into his right arm and smashed towards Xuan Yu's face with an ear-piercing sound.

"Hehe, only at this level?"

Xuan Yu smirked as he brought up his right hand, which suddenly flashed with a layer of purple light.

"It's Profound Heart Sect's Profound Art —— Purple Sun Art!" One of the Elders of New Moon Profound Palace growled.

New Moon Profound Palace and the seven sects did not just have a disparity in profound strength, but also in profound arts! The major sects spent centuries refining their profound arts, which have also been passed down through the generations. These profound arts were all secrets of their respective sects, and they would never be taught to an outsider. If the New Moon Profound Palace wanted to teach their disciples profound arts, they would have to create it first. In addition, New Moon Profound Palace's profound skills were for the most part, low-tier, definitely inferior to those of the seven sects'.

The purple energy in Xuan Yu's palm boiled like hot water as he clasped his hand into a fist and struck straight towards Li Hao's fist..... two simple fists, with no one using a profound skill.

As the two fists collided, a purple light burst forth and there was only a sound of \*ka-cha\* as Li Hao's fist became dislocated. He revealed a painful expression as his upper body was pushed back from the force.

Xuan Yu let out an insidious laugh as his left fist suddenly stuck out; it had the same purple layer of light and ruthlessly smashed towards Li Hao's abdomen; but this time, it was not just a simple fist, but rather, Profound Heart Sect's most powerful profound skill...

"Purple Cloud Palm!"

\*BANG!\* The purple colored fist severely smashed deep into Li Hao's abdomen. Li Hao's complexion immediately became incomparably pale, barely letting out a groan as he was sent flying; he flipped several times in the air and violently crashed onto the floor. The blood in his chest rolled about and with a \*pu\* sound, he finally vomited out an arrow of blood. He laid face down on the floor with both hands clutching his stomach, and was already unable to stand back up.

"Li Hao!"

"Junior Brother Li!!"

Two disciples from the New Moon Profound Palace quickly rushed out to help support the defeated Li Hao back. All the disciples from the New Moon Profound Palace felt perturbed in their hearts. Li Hao and Xuan Yu were of similar ages; their profound strengths only differed by one rank. Even if he could not win, he should have at least been able to hold out for a while. However, just after the two faced off, Li Hao had been utterly crushed.

When they heard what happened five years ago; when the disciples of the seven sects had beaten their senior brothers and sisters ten times in a row, they were discontent and refused to accept it in their hearts. But after the end of this first "exchange of pointers", they all felt a chill in their hearts.

"You let me win." Xuan Yu smiled. In that earlier fight; from start to finish, he had not wasted a single bit of energy. Moreover, he still had not left the stage, but rather, just stood where he originally was. As he looked towards the disciples of the New Moon Profound Palace and said: "I wonder who would be the next friend from New Moon Profound Palace that's coming to exchange some pointers?"

"Tch, this kid seems like he's addicted to being in the limelight." A disciple of the Seven Deadly Sword Pavilion scoffed.

"Alas, there's no meaning in oppressing these rookies, this is just playing around." Another person sneered.

To be defeated this fiercely with only two maneuvers, it made all the sixteen years old disciples of New Moon Profound Palace nervous in their hearts; none of them dared to take the stage. This was because Li Hao was considered the most powerful out of the sixteen year olds in New Moon Profound Palace; if any other sixteen year old were to go up, they would only be inviting humiliation.

"Huh? What's going on? Don't tell me friends from the New Moon Profound Palace are all a bunch of turtles?" Xuan Yu jeered, but had a sudden change in his facial expression and lightly slapped his own face: "Look at this mouth of mine, it really doesn't know what it's saying. This is the Profound Palace appointed by the magnificent Imperial Family; the disciples are supposed to be the best, how can they be turtles. It must be that it's beneath them to advise this little brother? Now how should we handle this? Little brother here is going to be bold and pick someone to challenge. If I win, it's naturally due to

luck, but if I lose, I will immediately leave this stage, and everyone present won't have to hear my jokes anymore."

The people from the seven sects' side immediately all bursted into laughter.

Without even waiting for a response from New Moon Profound Palace's side, Xuan Yu extended his hand to point at a single person: "That big-framed senior brother over there, from the looks of it, you must be quite powerful. Please advise this little brother here for a bit.

The person he had pointed to.... was none other than Xia Yuanba!

### Chapter 66 – The Battle That Shook the City (3)

As Li Hao, the strongest sixteen year old in the Profound Department got so easily beaten by an opponent of the same age, Xia Yuanba vigorously gritted his teeth in secret. He hated how his profound strength was meager; let alone recover face for Li Hao and New Moon Profound Palace, he didn't even have the qualifications to challenge Xuan Yu. But he had never thought that Xuan Yu would actually direct the spear head at him. Looking at Xuan Yu's fingertips, Xia Yuanba's eyes widened, and instantly became stupefied.

Also, this Xuan Yu actually called him "Big-framed Senior Brother"!

All the gazes concentrated onto Yuanba's body at once. All the elders in New Moon Profound Palace suddenly knitted their brows greatly, and the disciples were also struck dumb. None of them had expected that Xuan Yu would challenge Xia Yuanba, who was actually only fifteen years old, and only came to to spectate! Although, with that astonishing figure of Xia Yuanba, it really was impossible for people who wasn't familiar with him to know that he was only fifteen. Even mistaking him as being eighteen or nineteen would be normal.

Sikong Han spoke up: "This is my Palace disciple Xia Yuanba. However, you shouldn't call him Senior Brother. Although his build is excessively burly, he's still only fifteen this year, and is the youngest in my Palace."

"Fifteen... years old?" Many people from the seven profound sects almost sprayed out the tea in their mouth. Xuan Yu had also immediately became flabbergasted.

"Yuanba, since this Profound Heart Sect disciple wants to spar with you, you should calmly accept the challenge." Sikong Han turned around and said: "You are younger in age, so there is no need to be ashamed even if you lose, just do your best."

"Yes, Elder." Xia Yuanba nodded and stood up. As the huge body that neared two meters and thirty centimeters stood up, many people in the palace were immediately taken aback. Yun Che tapped him once, and said in a low voice: "Be careful, don't get injured."

"Hehe, don't worry. Even though my profound strength is no good, my body is still really tough." Xia Yuanba tapped his chest with confidence and walked to the center of the Main Palace. He stood in front of Xuan Yu and spoke: "My name is Xia Yuanba, from Profound Department Class One, fifteen this year, please give me your guidance."

Xuan Yu clearly had wanted to challenge someone older to show off, but didn't expect the "giant" he chose that looked eighteen, was actually only fifteen years old! A sixteen year old fighting against a fifteen year old, there wouldn't be any glory to talk about even if he had won. As he arbitrarily measured the opponent's profound power, the corner of his mouth instantly twitched a bit.... Only the sixth level of the Elementary Profound Realm! Choosing an opponent like this, it was virtually degrading his social status.

"That fool! I knew something would happen if he attended this banquet! If we let others know about that even someone at the sixth level of Elementary Profound Realm could enter as an elite disciple, wouldn't we become a huge laughing stock! Hmph, what a disgrace!"

A low disdainful sneer filled with contempt slowly traveled into Yun Che's ears. Yun Che's gaze peered off to the side, apathetically glanced at Murong Ye, then he retracted his gaze and concentrated onto Xia Yuanba's figure.

Murong Ye who had just shut his trap suddenly felt a chill, and his entire body violently shook a bit. He panickly turned around and checked the surroundings while his heart palpitated like crazy.... Just a moment ago, he felt as if he suddenly dropped into a extremely cold ice hole?, and also felt as if a terrifying viper had locked him down with its eyes. But no matter where he looked, he couldn't find any abnormalities in his surroundings. The flash of that frightening feeling had also started to die down. Murong Ye touched the cold sweat on his forehead, that had been formed who knows when, and genuinely thought that he was just being paranoid.

"HAAH! Cutting Mountains Splitting Boulders!

Xia Yuanba struck first; with both of his hands clenched into fists, his enormous body leaped up and violently crashed down. Adding his body together with that intangible sense of pressure, it really had some kind of resemblance to "Cutting Mountains Splitting Boulders.".

"He actually had the face to show off such a trashy Profound Skill. If Xuan Yu lets him use more than three moves before defeating him, he'll never have the face to meet anyone outside again!" Sneered a senior disciple of Profound Heart Sect.

When faced with the enormous force of Xia Yuanba's attack, Xuan Yu didn't attempt to dodge at all, and didn't even assume a Profound Skill's pose. He simply raised his right arm horizontally while standing in place, and plainly blocked toward Xia Yuanba's heavy strike that appeared to be extremely ferocious. The corner of his lips revealed a faint smile of disdain....

With a dull sound, both of Xia Yuanba's fists violently smashed onto Xuan Yu's arm. Xuan Yu's forearm sank a little, then suddenly flipped upwards like a snake that just had awoken, and immediately locked both of Xia Yuanba's robust arms between his forearm and upper arm. Then, his profound energy abruptly flared up.

\*Ka-Cha!!\*

"UWAAAA!!"

"Yuanba!" Yun Che immediately stood up.

In the wake of Xia Yuanba's scream of agony, both of his arms were dislocated in an instant. Xuan Yu swung out his arm, and actually managed to throw Xia Yuanba's body that weighed over one hundred seventy-five kilos upwards, for over a meter.

Normally, a "spar" should have ended here. Xia Yuanba's defeat after a single move, was a result that wasn't out of anyone's expectations. A powerful foundation, profound arts, and profound skills, allowed Xuan Yu to defeat someone who was only one level lower with just two maneuvers; not to mention Xia Yuanba who was only at the sixth level of Elementary Profound Realm. However, when Xia Yuanba's body was still in the air and about to heavily fall to the ground, the corner of Xuan Yu's mouth suddenly formed into a shady grin, as his right fist flashed with a purple light.

Yun Che immediately detected Xuan Yu's intent, and promptly shouted: "Stop!!"

But how would Xuan Yu listen to him; an unrestrained Purple Cloud Palm violently smashed onto Xia Yuanba's body that was just about to hit the ground.

The sound of at least three ribs breaking clearly resounded.

"Yuanba!!!!"

Not caring about anything else, Yun Che jumped over next to Yuanba's body with a single leap, and supported his falling body. As Xia Yuanba touched the ground, his complexion had already become ghastly white; blood flowed out from the corner of his mouth, and his face was twisted because of the intense pain. Although Xia Yuanba's body appeared to be robust, his protective profound energy was still too weak; it was impossible for him to endure Xuan Yu's heavy strike.

Yun Che looked at Xuan Yu; his eyes filled with rage, as he spoke with a livid face: "This competition is only a sparring session, the match is finished when the victor is obvious. The victor was clear just now, why would you still strike him that heavily!"

"Heh!" Xuan Yu made a sneer of disdain: "It's true that it was a spar, but swords are without eyes, and fists are hard to restrain; this is a principle that anyone would know. There are even occasions where lives are lost because of the difficulty of holding back during spars; it's normal to receive a little bit of injury. How could I have known that your New Moon Profound Palace's elite disciples were this fragile; bones broke and spewing blood just from one or two moves. You guys aren't blaming yourselves for your uselessness, but instead criticize me?"

"Haha, what Junior Brother Xuan Yu said is too right."

"During spars between our fellow apprentices, breaking a few bones is only a common occurrence; that's what you call a real spar. New Moon Profound Palace can't even handle a little injury; no wonder it had always been incompetent, tsktsk..."

"If I were to say, little brother Xuan Yu was already merciful enough. If little brother Xuan Yu had used all of his strength, with just that sixth level of Elementary Profound Realm's protective profound energy, would that brat even be alive right now?"

Ear-piercing voices of mockery came from the seven sects' side. New Moon Profound Palace's elders could only shake their head and sigh helplessly. Yun Che's deep rage made him reveal a smile instead;

he carried Xia Yuanba next to Lan Xueruo who was the closest to him: "Senior Sister Xueruo, may I trouble you to look after Yuanba."

"Okay!" Lan Xueruo hastily walked down, took out a pearl-white medicinal pellet and fed it into Xia Yuanba's mouth. As she raised her head, she discovered that Yun Che had already stood up and walked toward Xuan Yu.

"What a great 'swords are without eyes, and fists are hard to restrain'." Yun Che stood in front of Xuan Yu, and his face had already become impeccably calm. He stared at this person who dared to maliciously injure Xia Yuanba in front of him, and spoke with an indifferent tone: "You better remember this sentence you had just said... Next, I'll be your opponent! Yun Che, Profound Department Class One, sixteen years old!

"Who is this youth? While only sixteen, he's already at first level of the Nascent Profound Realm, and the thickness of his profound energy is even a little higher than Li Hao. Why haven't I seen him before?"

"There's no need to think too much, he's definitely a disciple in our Profound Department. He is my old friend's grandson, and had just joined us today at noon." Sikong Han explained to the other elders. However his expression was full of concern. Although Yun Che's profound energy was slightly stronger than Li Hao, it was only by a little bit, and wouldn't make much of a difference. Li Hao was heavily wounded facing Xuan Yu, which meant that there shouldn't be a different result with Yun Che; at most, he would be able to endure a few more rounds. If he let Yun Che be injured right as he joined the Profound Department, he wouldn't be able to face Xiao Lie. However, in this kind of situation, the person being challenged must accept the challenge, and it's even harder to stop the challenger that stood out. He could only watch with open eyes, and pray that Yun Che doesn't get too severe of an injury.

"Brother-in-law.... Be careful! He... He's too strong...." Xia Yuanba said in a painful voice as he held onto his chest.

Xuan Yu froze for a bit when he heard Yun Che's statement, and then started laughing as if he had heard the funniest joke in the world: "Ahahahaha, don't tell me that you're trying to warn me? Threaten me? An eye for an eye? Haha... Hahahaha! With just you? Hahahaha..."

Although Xuan Yu's laugh was unbridled and harsh to the ear, there were no one that felt his laugh was presumptuous and baseless. Only after laughing for a long while, did he finally say with contempt: "Tsk tsk, I didn't expect that in New Moon Profound Palace's sixteen year-olds, there is actually someone that can be matched with Li Hao. This kind of level in New Moon City is actually quite good, but it's too bad that you've met me today. Since you had the guts to challenge me, how about I give you an advantage?"

Xuan Yu slowly extended five fingers and shook them in front of Yun Che: "Five moves! If you can cross five moves with me, you'll be considered as the winner of this spar, how about it?"

"Hahahaha, Junior Brother Xuan Yu, you're thinking too highly of him." A wave of laughter erupted from the side of Profound Heart Sect.

The main seat of this banquet, Qin Wuyou who didn't speak at all since the beginning of the "Exchange of Pointers" finally had some shifts in expression. He silently looked at Yun Che's gaze that didn't waver

in the slightest under Xuan Yu's laughter and mocking, and exclaimed in his heart: This little fellow, is not simple by any means.

"Are you finished with your nonsense?" Yun Che coldly spoke.

"Oh! Your name was.... Uh, Yun Che, right? Don't just stand there; if you want to start, then come attack me any time, at least you'll get to attack once that way. If I strike first, you may not even have a chance to strike anymore." Xuan Yu said with a grin as he crossed his arms in front of his chest.

"Heh," Yun Che also laughed. He didn't say a word more; all of a sudden, his body lunged forward as his left hand extended forward, and grabbed straight for Xuan Yu's neck.

"What? You don't even have any profound skills?" Xuan Yu's laugh became even more mocking. His eyes half-narrowed, and only until Yun Che's arm was just two feet away from his face, did he start to move; his right hand shot out like a lightning, grabbed toward Yun Che's left wrist, and precisely caught his left hand in the palm of his hand....

A trace of a shady grin flashed in the corner of Xuan Yu's mouth. Just as he was about to channel his profound energy to snap Yun Che's wrist, the palm of his hand that had clearly caught Yun Che's wrist instead felt empty.... His five fingers passed through Yun Che's wrist, and fiercely grabbed the empty space! As for Yun Che's body, it had also disappeared, as if turned into mist.

At the same time, a strong gust of wind came from his right side. With his mind still boggled, how could he even react....

"PAA!!"

A incomparably loud sound of a slap to the face resounded throughout every corner of the Main Palace. Everyone had clearly heard it; the sound was so distinctive, it was as if their own face had been slapped. The entirety of Xuan Yu was sent flying, and finally heavily crashed onto the ground after spinning a full one thousand four hundred and forty degrees in midair.

For this slap, Yun Che didn't holding back a single ounce of his strength. He rubbed the back of his hand that became a little red on his clothes with disgust, and spoke indifferently: "First move."

# Chapter 67 – The Battle That Shook the City (4)

This merciless slap to the face, straight up dumbfounded Xuan Yu, as well as everyone present. At first, they had expected that Yun Che would suffer a disastrous defeat, or even get severely injured in just a few moves; none of them had thought that, in their first round of exchange, Yun Che actually gave Xuan Yu a merciless slap to the face.... And the sound of the slap couldn't be any louder either!

All of the people from the seven major sects were completely stupefied. New Moon Profound Palace's disciples and elders were also collectively flabbergasted. For a moment, their brain promptly froze, and couldn't make any turns for a long time. Only until the words "First Move" exited indifferently from Yun Che's mouth, did they finally wake up, as if they had been in a deep dream. After finally confirming what had happened was actually real, everyone of them opened their eyes wide....

Both Li Hao and Xia Yuanba suffered a crushing defeat; this together with Xuan Yu's endless provocation and mockery, made New Moon Profound Palace disciples hold a bellyful of anger and humiliation, but

they couldn't do anything at all to regain their face. Seeing this ruthless slap to the face by Yun Che, soothed their entire body all the way down to their bone marrows. The delightfulness they experienced from head to toe couldn't even be described in words; if not out of concern of this banquet, they would've straight up shouted out to cheer.

One after the other, the seven sects, especially the Profound Heart Clan, looked at each other's faces in dismay. Xuan Yu, who was impressively at the second level of Nascent Profound Realm, who also carried the sect's profound arts and skills, actually had gotten fiercely slapped in the face by a first ranker of the Nascent Profound Realm who had absolutely no traces of any profound art on his body.... Was this a joke?

"Earlier that was.... a profound movement skill? Elder Sikong, did you see his movements clearly?" An elder of New Moon Profound Palace asked in a low voice.

"Completely did not! Moreover, I've never seen that movement skill before either." Sikong Han spoke with a quiet voice; his gaze that looked at Yun Che was now far different from before.

Xuan Yu crawled back up from the ground while floundering; the entire right side of his face had already swelled up high, and became as red as a monkey's buttocks. Just earlier, he was talking big, but in a blink of an eye, he was slapped in the face by someone during this kind of occasion; this could be said as a humiliation Xuan Yu had never received in his entire lifetime. He furiously stared at Yun Che, his gaze impeccably pernicious; however, he managed to suppress it and didn't lose The basics of his demeanor. While forcing himself to smile, he said: "Good, very good! I had deliberately left you an opening at first, so you could at least exchange a few moves and not lose too much face. But since you couldn't tell what's good for you at all, get ready to face the consequences of angering me!!"

Yun Che shook his right hand, apathetically glanced at him, and said with disdain: "Moron!"

"You're... courting death!" Xuan Yu was completely enraged; with a low roar, he raised both of his hands, and took the initiative to charge at Yun Che. At the same time, purple light flashed above both his left and right palm. Then, both fists simultaneously extended and smashed toward Yun Che; under the Purple Sun Profound Art, Xuan Yu's two hands contained a force of at least five hundred kilos.

"Junior Brother Yun, be careful!" Lan Xueruo subconsciously cried out in shock. Since she sat in the front-most row, it was enough for her to clearly feel how enormous of a power had been concentrated onto Xuan Yu's hands at this moment. At the same time, the hearts of New Moon Profound Palace's elders and disciple had also suspended.... Xuan Yu's true strength was obvious; about that round just a moment ago, it was extremely possible that Xuan Yu had only been underestimating enemy and got careless. Against the Xuan Yu who was now enraged; was it even possible for Yun Che to still handle him?

"Die!" Xuan Yu's eyes glinted with maliciousness. The earlier humiliation made the intention to kill Yun Che rise from his heart. Although he didn't really dare to kill someone within New Moon Profound Palace, he still had the confidence that this strike was enough to cripple Yun Che for life!

Under the enormous pressure, it was as if Yun Che couldn't move at all from the suppression, and there weren't any signs of a defensive posture. Xuan Yu's two fists directly smashed onto Yun Che's chest without difficulty, and then.... passed right through his body!

#### Wh....at!?

Xuan Yu's eyes suddenly bulged wide open as his body also tilted forward from the inertia. At this time, a sharp sound of wind came breaking through the air from his left side.....

### "PAA!!!"

Another deafening slap to the face that couldn't be any louder, clearly resounded throughout the entire Main Palace yet again. Xuan Yu's body once more, flew; after magnificently spinning four rotations in the air, he face-planted onto the ground jaw first, like a poop eating dog. The left side of his face had also increasingly swelled and became as red as blood.

"Second Move." Yun Che leisurely said as he gently blew on the back of his left hand.

All of New Moon Profound Palace's disciples opened their eyes wide, and two words collectively sounded in their heart: "Holy shit!"

If the first time was said to be because of carelessness, luck, or coincidence; then the second time definitely could not be explained using words like careless, luck, or coincidence.

The Li Hao who was defeated by Xuan Yu had not left, and was only carried to the back for treatment. As he watched Xuan Yu get slapped flying once more with open eyes, his entire face became thoroughly red from excitement, to the point that he couldn't even feel the intense pain on his body anymore. He yelled out uncontrollably: "What a great hit! That hit was f\*cking refreshing!! How stress relieving!"

"Hehe!" The person currently treating Li Hao's injuries was Li Hao's cousin, Li Haoran. As he heard Li Hao's speech, he laughed gleefully, and leisurely spoke: "Little Hao, I can tell with just one glance that you're still lacking. Junior Brother Yun's hit was not only great, refreshing, stress relieving, but also extremely clever! Look at that Xuan Yu's face. First slap, his right cheek became a monkey's butt; second hit, his left cheek became another monkey's butt. That color, that swollen shape, that position, and that height; it's exactly identical to the right side, and that's what you call symmetry! Look at Xuan Yu's face again; it all of a sudden, feels much more balanced than before! These are not a mere two slaps to the face, but a perfected art of face slapping; the strength, position, and angle all requires extreme precision. It's definitely not something that just anyone could slap out; it really is too marvelous to express with words!"

#### "PFFT...."

Li Haoran's voice was not quiet at all, and more than half the people present within the Palace heard it clearly. Many had lost it on the spot, and some Profound Department disciples held their stomach, trying hard not to laugh out loud as they raised their thumbs at Li Haoran.

"Ha.... Haha...." Although his innards pained whenever he laughed, Li Hao was laughing with extraordinary glee: "Heh, as expected, cousin's level really is much higher.... In any case, it doesn't matter whether Junior Brother Yun wins or loses; I'll definitely become friends with him!"

Xuan Yu awkwardly stumbled back up again, and forcibly swallowed down three of his teeth along with his blood. He fixed his bulging eyes at Yun Che, wishing that he could rip him apart just by his gaze alone. At the same time, he was also astonished inside his heart.... Just now, how did he appear on my left? His

body was obviously still at that original spot! Twice, I had clearly struck him, yet how did I hit empty space instead? Did something go wrong with my eyes?

Or was it a Profound Movement Skill? But how could such a Profound Movement Skill exist!!

Jasmine had told Yun Che before; if "Star God's Broken Shadow" was only cultivated to the first realm, he could already hold his ground against two opponents of the same level simultaneously. When cultivated to the third realm, even if he was facing against an opponent that's five levels higher, he would still be able to retreat uninjured. "Star God's Broken Shadows" had eight realms in total; Jasmine has currently cultivated it to the sixth realm, and could break into six phantoms that were difficult to distinguish real from fake. The current Yun Che had mastered the first realm, and could only break into one afterimage. However, although it was only the first realm, it's still a Profound Skill that came from Jasmine! How could it be compared to normal movement profound skills. Let alone Xuan Yu who was at the Nascent Profound Realm, even the Palace Chiefs at the Spirit Profound Realm and Earth Profound Realm, was basically unable to clearly see Yun Che's movement. The bewilderment in their heart, far surpassed those of the young disciples.

"How do your teeth taste?" Yun Che narrowed his eyes, and mercilessly ridiculed him.

"He.... Hehe...." Xuan Yu wiped the corner of his mouth, and instead laughed: "Yun Che, to force me into such an embarrassed state, you can be considered the first. And so, you will die miserably, very miserably..."

Before Xuan Yu had even finished speaking his malicious words, Yun Che's silhouette suddenly swayed in his vision and already dashed in his direction. Xuan Yu's expression sank as both of his arms abruptly drew a half circle toward his front; this time he had learned his lesson, and directly used the Purple Sun Arts to envelop the three directions of the front, left and right side. No matter which position Yun Che suddenly moved to, if he touched the Purple Sun Profound Energy, he would instantly receive his powerful counter attack. He was confident in that one move.... With just a single move, he would be able to pound Yun Che onto the ground, to the point of not even being able to crawl back up.

Yun Che's silhouette disappeared just like before as he came in contact with the Purple Sun Profound Energy in front of him. Xuan Yu's complexion darkened, and instantly focused his concentration to his left and right side.... However this time, the strong gust of wind, actually whistled from above.

#### Bang!!

Yun Che, who Broken Shadowed into the air, ruthlessly kicked at Xuan Yu's right eye; his body backflipped in place, and he once more, landed jaw first onto the ground, as a bloody tooth flew out right away. When Yun Che landed on his feet, he nearly stepped on his head. As his vision swept downwards, he spoke languidly: "Third Move!"

"You bastard.... AHH!!"

### Bang!!

Just as Xuan Yu was about to crawl back up, Yun Che's feet abruptly flew out, and kicked Xuan Yu's left eye. His body that was half raised splendidly performed a backflip again, as both his eyes suddenly became like that of a panda's.

"Did your master not teach you to stay concentrated in any situation.... Fourth move!"

"UWAAA.... I'LL KILL YOU!!"

His entire face was impeccably red and swollen. Both of his eye sockets became black and blue. Xuan Yu's face that originally brimmed with heroic spirit, had now become neither like a human nor a demon; it was miserable to the max. As he stood up, his face that was already terrifying, became even more sinister. All of his profound energy frantically flowed out, and it was as if his entire person stood on the brink of insanity.

"Purple Sun Thousand Phantom Hands!!"

Xuan Yu hoarsely roared and rushed at Yun Che; under the Purple Sun Arts, both of his arms had almost become completely purple.

"It's one of Profound Heart Sect's ultimate moves.... Purple Sun Thousand Phantom Hands! Yun Che beware!" Sikong Han instantly stood up as he yelled in shock

Xuan Yu's arms swung out quickly, and launched countless purple shades of light that wildly enveloped in Yun Che's direction. Yun Che didn't retreat nor dodge; his eyes narrowed down into a slit as his right hand extended through the lines of purple light, and smashed the place above Xuan Yu's elbow with just the right amount of force.

"This Profound Heart Sect's Purple Sun Art uses the three Veins 'Purple Sun', 'Fu Zhong', and 'Tian Tan' to consolidate energy, while using the Purple Sun Vein as core. If the Purple Sun vein is shaken, the Purple Sun Art would immediately disintegrate, and all the profound energy in the entire body would temporarily be in disorder. At the same time when the Purple Sun Art is activated, the position two inches above his chest that connects to the Purple Sun vein, would flood all the protective profound energy into the Purple Sun Vein; that place then can be considered as completely defenseless!"

This was what Jasmine had informed him just a moment ago.

The place that Yuan Che heavily smashed, was exactly Xuan Yu's Purple Sun Vein.

Immediately, Xuan Yu's entire arm was paralyzed. All of the purple energy instantaneously vanished as the profound energy in his entire body went into a state of chaos, making Xuan Yu's body freeze for a brief period of time. And in this exact brief moment, that Yun Che stepped forward, and fiercely smashed his elbow onto the location slightly above the center of his chest.

### \*Crack!!\*

Xuan Yu's sternum was instantly shattered and dislocated; his entire body flew into the air like a dead leaf in the wind. As he flew backwards, he violently vomited a bloody arrow out from his mouth. After that, he fell onto the ground like a sandbag; his entire body convulsed twice, and became incapable of getting back up.

"Fifth move.... Tsk tsk, this Profound Heart Sect's Brother Xuan Yu really kept to his words. He previously said that he'd let me win after five moves, and it really took five moves for me to win; not one more and not one less. Brother Xuan Yu's promises are truly admirable."

"You....." Xuan Yu extended his hand and pointed at Yun Che as his entire body trembled. But after just saying the one word "you", his eyes rolled backwards until only the whites of the eyes could be seen; his head tilted at an angle and he immediately passed out. No one knew whether he had fainted due to the injury or due to anger.

#### "Xuan Yu!"

Profound Heart Sect disciples were all startled; two people hastily stepped up to pick up Xuan Yu's body that fell to the ground and consecutively fed him three medicinal pellets into his mouth. One of them looked up, glared at Yun Che, and furiously spoke: "During this exchange of pointers amongst those of the same age, you actually acted this viciously! If anything happens to Xuan Yu, my Profound Heart Sect will definitely not let you off."

"Oh, I don't understand what you're saying." Yun Che replied with a sneer: "Yes, we were exchanging pointers, but swords are without eyes, and fists are hard to restrain. While exchanging pointers, there are even occasions where lives are lost because of the difficulty of holding back during spars; it's normal to receive a little bit of injury. How was I supposed to know that your Profound Heart Sect's disciple was this fragile? Bones breaking and coughing up blood just from five moves; why aren't you blaming your useless disciple, instead of trying to criticize me?"

The arrogant words that Xuan Yu had originally said after inflicting wounds upon Li Hao and Xia Yuanba earlier, Yun Che sent them back word by word.... And not only was it merely his words that were returned, but it was even more so a resounding slap to the face.

### Chapter 68 – The Battle That Shook the City (5)

Yun Che's words made the hearts of New Moon Profound Palace disciples feel incomparably refreshed. Li Hao's injuries had already stabilized as he straightened his back, clenched his fist tightly, and watched the pitiful scenery of Xuan Yu that passed out on the floor. Never in his life had he vented so much anger. He felt extremely grateful towards Yun Che because he knew that if it wasn't for Yun Che, he would never, in this lifetime, have the chance to payback this debt to Xuan Yu..... Let alone pay it back in folds.

Five moves to win; the first two were two slaps on the face, the second two was a pair of panda eyes, and the final one was an immediate knock-out.... How was this an exchange of pointers; this was a humiliation comparable to being skinned alive! When cursing, one shouldn't pinpoint shortcomings, and when striking, one shouldn't strike the face; however, Yun Che took it all out on Xuan Yu's face. It was not because Yun Che had vicious intentions; it was due to Xuan Yu's malicious intentions which severely injured Xia Yuanba, that stirred his true fury.

As disciples of the Profound Heart Sect, how could they still keep a steady face, when their hearts overflowed with rage; when they've been ridiculed by a disciple of New Moon Profound Palace, whom they had always looked down upon? One amongst them abruptly stood up and spoke while facing Qin Wuyou: "Palace Chief Qin, today is your appointment date and us Profound Heart Sect came here in good faith to sincerely congratulate you. Our disciples exchanging pointers was also just to liven things up, but not only did your disciple act viciously, he even insulted my Profound Heart Sect's disciples.... if I may ask, is this how your New Moon Profound Palace shows hospitality?"

"Hahahaha....." Qin Wuyou had not even replied, yet Yun Che had actually started to laugh heartily: "I really don't know how thick the skin on your face has to be, to actually dare say such a thing. Your Profound Heart Sect disciple Xuan Yu seriously injured two of our New Moon Profound Palace disciples in a row. You'd have to be blind to not have seen him maliciously injure them on purpose. Furthermore, he even mocked and ridiculed our New Moon Profound Palace, but no one from your sect stopped him, and instead laughed and jeered on. So is this the sincerity your Profound Heart Sect was talking about? Such a joke is even worse than a load of bull!"

Qin Wuyou intended to get up, but after hearing Yun Che's retort, he sat back down with a smile; he sat as motionless as a mountain, but was secretly surprised, this kid....

"You!!" The person from Profound Heart Sect never would have thought that a young disciple from New Moon Profound Palace would actually dare to point at his nose and condemn him; in addition, every single sentence hit the vitals and left him with no rebuttal.

"At the moment, I've only just injured one of your disciples, and you guys started to jumped out to question our Palace Chief Qin. In that case, when Xuan Yu injured our disciples earlier, where were you guys then? Were your eyes all blind? Or is it..... that this is your Profound Heart Sect's style all along?" Yun Che insidiously continued, and didn't stop as he was ahead.

For a long time now, New Moon Profound Palace disciples had always felt a sense of inferiority when confronted with the seven sects. Even if the seven sects openly or covertly suppressed them, they had no choice but to endure; because they were unwilling to spark conflict with any one of the seven sects. Not mentioning the disciples, even the elders would not dare to berate the seven sects in this way.

But Yun Che had just joined the Profound Palace, and was only a sixteen year old disciple; nevertheless, in the presence of Profound Heart Sect's Head Elder, he had pointed at the Profound Heart Sect's disciple and scolded him until his entire body trembled all over. The rest of the people from Profound Heart Sect were livid.

Satisfaction!! Genuine satisfaction..... The people from Profound Heart Sect had unsightly looks as if they had just eaten a pile of dung. Whereas the New Moon Profound Palace disciples' hearts were satisfied to the point that their bodies had almost floated away. New Moon Profound Palace was completely reasonable in this matter. Xuan Yu maliciously injuring people was plain for all to see. Even though it was so, excluding Yun Che, no one else dared to berate and mock Profound Heart Sect in this way. But Yun Che dared to..... He had yelled out what they had not dared to yell out, and he had condemned the people they had not dared to condemn.

"Ah, it really is a new born calf who's not afraid of a tiger." Stated a middle-aged man from the Xiao Sect's Outer Sect.

"His imposing manner is not bad and his innate ability is passable, for New Moon Profound Palace to produce a disciple like this is rather rare." Xiao Luocheng held onto a cup of wine as he squinted his eyes to appreciate the small ripples at the center and appeared, as if he wasn't concerned about what had just happened in the Main Palace: "Unfortunately, he is a little insolent and foolish. To dare to offend Profound Heart Sect in this way; does he really believe that New Moon Profound Palace is capable of protecting him?"

The complexion of New Moon Profound Palace elders fluctuated. Yun Che defeating Xuan Yu allowed New Moon Profound Palace to let out a huge breath of relief. What he had said after that had let them feel even more refreshed at heart, but this had put Profound Heart Sect on the spot. Profound Heart Sect was one of the seven major sects of New Moon City, and for them, a colossus in this city, to be offended by a mere sixteen years old this way..... Even New Moon Profound Palace may not be able to guarantee his safety.

The gaze of the Profound Heart Sect that looked toward Yun Che became solemn, yet Yun Che appeared as if he was oblivious to this. He slightly turned his body, looked at everyone present, and proudly stated: "Our New Moon Profound Palace is appointed by the Imperial Family, but naturally cannot compare to the resources and heritage of your long standing sects. However, our New Moon Profound Palace disciples will never consider themselves inferior to anyone whatsoever, and definitely will not stand being bullied or humiliated! One that humiliates, will in turn be humiliated! For Profound Heart Sect's Xuan Yu to maliciously injure my senior and junior in front of my eyes, as a New Moon Profound Palace disciple, there's no reason for me to treat him with courtesy. Otherwise, wouldn't New Moon City ridicule New Moon Profound Palace disciples as cowards who can only submit, even after being bullied and humiliated? If you're discontent and is incapable of accepting this, you can come up and give me some guidance. I've heard that there are quite a number of talents in New Moon City's seven major sects; since I am just an ordinary disciple from New Moon Profound Palace, I really want to know.... How many people would you need to make me.... step down from here!"

These words violently stirred the expressions of everyone in the Main Palace.

If the preceding parts of this statement was an impassioned speech, then the last sentence was complete arrogance! Complete arrogance to the extreme! Because hidden meaning within these words, meant that an ordinary disciple of New Moon Profound Palace, was unexpectedly challenging the seven major sects.... in contempt!

"What a complete fool!" Murong Ye snorted from his nose, and said while sneering.

"Even if Junior Brother Yun was bathing in the limelight just now, this is too arrogant and reckless...." That was what the majority of New Moon Profound Palace disciples thought in their hearts. Especially the disciples who have been in New Moon City for a long time; they clearly knew the astonishing strength the seven major sects possessed. Although Yun Che defeated Xuan Yu, he was still only at the first level of the Nascent Profound Realm. Any one talent from the seven major sects of the same age group could completely oppress him. Not only were his words ridiculing, it also.... humiliated himself.

"This-this-this......" Sikong Han's face was full of anxiety as his body trembled; he could not help himself from wanting to get up to stop Yun Che. But in this kind of situation, it was fundamentally impossible for him to say something to stop him.

"Apparently, calling him foolish is still thinking too highly of him.... He's a total moron." Xiao Luocheng put down the cup of wine as he laughed in disdain. A sixteen year old breaking into the first level of the Nascent Profound of Realm was indeed considered a pretty good innate talent; even in the seven major sects, he would be classified as top-tier. However, to lean on this one fact and dare be this arrogant, it was practically the same as a little clown's animated performance.

While also at the age of sixteen, Xiao Luocheng was already the number one in this generation of youths in New Moon City, and this was because he was already at the tenth level of the Nascent Profound Realm! He nearly surpassed Yun Che by an entire realm! Considering his level, when faced with Yun Che's current attitude and words, it indeed was like a genuinely strong practitioner looking at an arrogant little clown.

"Hahahaha! You're killing me! The fact that a loser at the first level of the Nascent Profound Realm, who luckily defeated Profound Heart Sect's Xuan Yu with a Profound Movement Skill, would actually dare be this arrogant; he truly can't tell the differences between heaven and earth. Watch your daddy come teach you a lesson!"

Following this voice full of ridicule, a lone person leapt high in the air and landed in front of Yun Che. A youngster provocatively stared at him with disdain. Once he appeared, quite a few people from New Moon Profound Palace immediately yelled out his name.

"It's Cloudy Sun Sect's Yan Ming! It's said that his innate talent is ranked in the top five of Cloudy Sun Sect's younger generation! Only sixteen years old, and is already a third ranker of the Nascent Profound Realm, who has even mastered a bit of the Burning Sun Art!

Yan Ming raised his palm, and after a \*poof\* sounded from the hollow of his palm, a red-colored flame rose to about half a foot high: "Yan Ming, Cloudy Sun Sect, sixteen years and seven months old. Remember this uncle's name because this uncle is about to teach you how to behave!"

"Heh, really?" Faced with Yan Ming's Fire Attribute Profound Art, Yun Che undauntingly sneered: "I'm afraid that in the end, you're the one who's going to be taught how to behave."

He thought to himself: Playing with fire in front of me? That's simply dying without even knowing how you died!

"Seems like you're only full of words. Hey, properly use that Profound Movement Skill from earlier, because that'll only let you hold out for a little while longer. Come, run along in the wake of my flame, and let all these people see your fleeting figure, hahahaha..... Cloudy Sun Chain!"

Amidst his wild laughter, both of Yan Ming's hands suddenly lashed out. Within a split second, two waves of scorching energy with the thickness of an arm each shot out from his palms; as two flaming chains ferociously crossed a few meters to wrap toward Yun Che's body.

"Cloudy Sun Chain! He actually used Cloudy Sun Sect's signature skill! Yan Ming is only at the third level of the Nascent Profound Realm, yet he's already able to use such a frightening Fire Attribute Profound Skill! That's simply unbelievable!" New Moon Profound Palace's Class Two Elder said in alarm.

"With this level of Cloudy Sun Chain, it would even be hard for those in the sixth level of the Nascent Profound Realm to resist; Yun Che this time..... I hope his Profound Movement Skill will be able to keep him from getting a severe injury." Sighed another elder.

"Using Cloudy Sun Chain to deal with an arrogant kid at the first level of the Nascent Profound Realm; that's as overkill as killing a chicken with a butcher knife meant for bulls." An eighteen year old disciple from Cloudy Sun Sect said as he curled his lips.

Two whips of Cloudy Sun Chains danced about like ferocious flame dragons as they emitted a temperature that could make one suffocate. Yun Che quickly dodged by moving three paces to the side, but it was as if the two chains had eyes; they suddenly changed directions and coiled towards Yun Che with an even faster speed. It appeared as if Yun Che couldn't dodge it anymore, for he actually reached out with his hands, and directly grabbed at the chains.

"F\*ck! Does he not want his hands anymore?"

"Tch, he must have been scared silly, and completely lost his mind. With this, unless Yan Ming lets him go, the meridians in his arms will burn, and he could be considered to be crippled for life."

Seeing Yun Che's course of action, Yan Ming laughed in his heart: To actually attempt to grab my Cloudy Sun Chains with your right hand? Hahahaha, everyone can clearly see that this was what you've brought upon yourself, and when your hand is crippled, it wouldn't be my fault at all!"

Many from New Moon Profound Palace's side cried out in shock; but in this brief flash of time, it was simply impossible for anyone to react, as Yun Che's hand had already tightly grabbed onto the two Cloudy Sun Chains.....

Everyone from New Moon Profound Palace collectively held their breaths, and some of the female disciples had already shut their eyes, unable to bear to watch what was about to unfold. However, there was no sound of being burnt; nor did Yun Che's palm emit any smoke; nor did his palm catch on fire. In the instant Yun Che had seized the two chains, the Cloudy Sun Chains were like two noodles that could snap with just a slight tug, and immediately broke apart in Yun Che's hands.

# **Chapter 69 – The Battle That Shook the City (6)**

"Wh... What!!"

As they watched the terrifying Cloudy Sun Chains unexpectedly break just like that in Yun Che's hands, everyone's face had an expression of shock. Yan Ming's eyes opened even wider, as he simply didn't dare to believe his own eyes.

"How... How is that possible? That was one of Cloudy Sun Sect's ultimate moves! The chain of fire that was consolidated using profound energy has a temperature that even surpasses real flames; and it also possesses a strong devouring nature. How did it break just from one touch of Yun Che's hands!" An elder of the New Moon Profound Palace said in bewilderment.

The elders on Cloudy Sun Sect's side were even more so blown away, that they turned pale and lost their composure. Head Elder Yan Zizai abruptly stood up, and almost believed that something went wrong with his own eyes. The disciple by his side quickly stated: "Elder, there is no need to panic. After all, Junior Brother Yan Ming is only at the third level of Nascent Profound Realm; it's still a little bit farfetched for him to control the Cloudy Sun Chain. Therefore, the chain may have snapped because of insufficient profound strength."

"Hmph! Purposefully showing off while not even having sufficient profound energy; it's as if he's asking to be scoffed at!" Yan Zizai coldly snorted. The situation before his eyes could only be explained in this way. It was impossible for him to believe that Yun Che, who was only at the first level of Nascent

Profound Realm, could sever the Cloudy Sun Chains with his bare hands, and furthermore, have his entire hand remain unscathed.

Yun Che clapped his hands, and spoke while laughing heartily: "Brother Yan Ming is really impressive at circus acts. With your skills from earlier, tsk tsk, it's really a waste to not go perform on the streets."

"This.... This is impossible!" Yan Ming's heart was filled dismay. Others couldn't tell, but he clearly understood that his Cloudy Sun Chain from before was released and executed with great success; it should have been completely enough to burn Yun Che's palm into a crisp, as soon as it got in contact with his hands. There shouldn't be any reason for it to break so abruptly.

Yun Che's mockery drove Yan Ming into a fit of rage; he spoke with a menacing expression: "Don't get full of yourself! Just now, I was simply just casually probing your strength; I'll let you experience the real Cloudy Sun Chain from my Cloudy Sun Sect right this instant!"

Although firm words came out of his mouth, the previous "failure" made him lose his confidence. He no longer dared to simultaneously channel two Cloudy Sun Chains in both hands; but rather, growled lowly as a thick and strong chain of fire abruptly swung out from his right palm towards Yun Che, like a dancing fire snake.

This time, Yun Che didn't even move. The Cloudy Sun Chain quickly approached, and then wrapped around his body in a flash.... Yan Ming immediately felt a wave of joy in his heart. Just as he was about to detonate the fire profound energy, he suddenly saw the wrapped Cloudy Sun Chain break apart into several segments like a rotten hemp rope, under Yun Che's incredibly nonchalant tug. Afterwards, it completely extinguished.

Yun Che had already become angry. He patted his clothes that were touched by the Cloudy Sun Chain, and furiously spoke: "We came here to exchange pointers, but you're actually showing me circus tricks! This is simply a waste of everyone's time! I should just kick you off this stage sooner!"

With a low shout, Yun Che instantly appeared at Yan Ming's right with a Star God's Broken Shadow, and struck straight for his face with a fist concentrated in profound energy. Yan Ming whose Cloudy Sun Chain broke once again, was helplessly overwhelmed with shock and dismay. Due to his mind that was in state of panic, his reaction speed slowed down by half a beat; he didn't have enough time to counter or block, and could only hastily retreat backwards. However, he was still struck solidly on the center of his chest by Yun Che's fist.

Yan Ming's protective profound energy wavered; although Yun Che's profound strength was two ranks below him, getting hit by a heavy frontal strike all of a sudden was definitely unpleasant. Rage and embarrassment mingled in his heart, and with a shout of "Scorching Fire Fist", both his fists became concentrated in fire as he punched towards Yun Che.

Yun Che slightly tilted his body and dodged Yan Ming's fists that burned with fire. He then suddenly raised his right hand, and pressed onto Yan Ming's right arm that had swung out. The corner of his mouth drew back, and faintly formed a cold smile...

"AHHHH!!!!!"

A dying pig's scream of agony resounded through the Main Palace. The Yan Ming who had just swung out the Scorching Fire Fists kneeled on the ground amidst his blood-curdling screech. As his left and right arms frantically lashed about, the flames on both of his hands had already vanished. However, there were actually wisps of rising black smoke above his five fingers, and a pungent burnt smell gradually spread inside the palace.

Yan Zizai was greatly startled; in a flash, he dashed in front of Yan Ming. As if they were lightning, both his hands pinched Yan Ming's pair of hands, and quickly guided out the flame energy that permeated inside his hands.

Yan Ming's expression of agony had finally somewhat lessened, but both of his hands were already less than half burnt. His five fingers exaggeratedly spread out, and were twisted to such an extent that it would scare a person. Lines of black smoke still slowly permeated out of the burnt flesh on his hands.

"To actually let the flame energy rebound back to yourself! Did your cultivation during these few years all turn to dog shit!!" Yan Zizai looked at Yan Ming, and furiously bellowed with a livid face, with not a care for where they were at this current occasion. As a disciple with a talent that ranked in the top five of the Cloudy Sun Sect's younger generation, not only did his Cloudy Sun Chains break twice, he actually exhibited such a low level and laughable mistake in front of everyone; he had virtually lost, all of Cloudy Sun Sect's prestige.

Fire attribute Profound Arts could enable profound practitioners to consolidate fire using profound energy, but by no means did it mean that they, themselves, were invulnerable to fire. For instance, when Yan Ming condensed fire onto his hands earlier, there was also a layer of protective profound energy in between his hand and the flame.

The embarrassing state that Yan Ming showed after using the Scorching Flame Fist, clearly seemed as if he wasn't able to adequately control the flame energy. The flame energy consolidated by profound energy was not entirely released outside; a part of it formed into the flames on his hands, and another portion directly exploded inside his palms, and scorched himself! But this kind of mistake, would usually only happen within the first half year of practicing this fire attribute profound art. Also, the power of this fire was weak during this period of time, so even if there was a mistake, it wouldn't do too much harm. After some time, controlling fire using profound energy would become as easy as controlling one's own hands and feet; this kind of joke-like mistake should, fundamentally, not occur.

Of course, it was impossible for Yan Zizai to expect that during the split second Yun Che touched Yan Ming's arm, he had guided the fire from his hands into the interior of his palm. Even if Yun Che openly declared the truth right now, Yi Zizai still wouldn't have believed him.

"Elder, I...."

"Shut the hell up. Haven't you lost enough face! Why haven't you already gone off for treatment!" Yan Zizai said with an angry tone of voice.

Yan Ming obediently shut his mouth, drooped both his burnt hands, and walked back with his head down. He glanced at Yun Che and violently clenched his teeth.... He instinctively felt that the shattering of Cloudy Sun Chain and the rebounding of his profound fire had something to do with Yun Che; since it was impossible for him to make this kind of mistake otherwise. But even if he assumed that it had

something to do with Yun Che, he simply couldn't find any justification for his reasoning. Yun Che was only at the first level of Nascent Profound Realm, how was it possible for him to have broken his Cloudy Sun Chain with only bare hands; and it was even more impossible for him to cause the rebound of the profound fire.

"Heh. This brat, his luck isn't too bad. He actually met such an idiot; I had thought he'd already be paying the price for his arrogance from before." A middle aged man in Xiao sect snorted.

"He wouldn't be able to pass the next person." Xiao Luocheng dispassionately smiled.

New Moon Profound Palace's elders and disciples had also let out a long breath of relief. They had thought that Yun Che would definitely suffer a miserable defeat, and may even be covered in burn injuries; they didn't expect that the opponent would make such a low level mistake when using his sect's profound art, which instead, made it Yun Che's victory. Like this, Yun Che with his profound strength at the first level of the Nascent Profound Realm, had now consecutively defeated one at the second level of the Nascent Profound Realm, and another at the third level of the Nascent Profound Realm!!

This was definitely an impressive achievement that New Moon Profound Palace could be proud of.

Yun Che crossed his arms in front of his chest. His face, that seeped with a hint of immature aura, currently had pride written all over it: "That's already two, who will be the third!"

This arrogant tone, instigated a wave of sneers from disciples of the seven sects. This moron who has no idea about the differences between heaven and earth, and thinks too highly of his own abilities; couldn't he see that the previous victory was only due to Yan Ming's low level mistake that injured himself?

Just as Yun Che's figure landed, directly to his front, the disciple that appeared to be the youngest stood up from the Stormy Profound Palace's seats.

"Feng Guangyi! From Stormy Profound Palace, sixteen years old!" This youth's build was not that tall, and his features were nothing special to look at either. He was also only sixteen, and of course, he also possessed the lofty aura that naturally came from being sought after by countless people while being only sixteen. He looked at Yun Che with an extremely disdainful gaze, and said in an indifferent manner: "I originally didn't want to bother with you because you're not even worthy to be my opponent; it's just that I simply couldn't stand your arrogance anymore. You only won by luck against a second rate Xuan Yu, and even more luckily won against a joke of the Cloudy Sun Sect. Do you seriously think that you're someone important now? Unfortunately, in my eyes, you're also just a joke!"

"Nicely said! Kick him off!"

"Did he really think that our seven sects don't have anyone else!"

"Mn, although this Feng Guangyi had just become sixteen, he has already reached the third level of Nascent Profound Realm a few months ago. Rumors say that he's about to break through to the fourth level of Nascent Profound Realm; his innate talent definitely surpasses Yan Ming. It has also been said that his sense of perception is extremely high, and he has already cultivated his sect's Profound Art "Storm Piercing Arts" to its third stage, which even shocked the Grand Elders who had underwent closed-door training for many years.... I would guess that this arrogant Yun Che wouldn't even be able to cross ten moves with him."

"Ten moves? Tch, you're thinking too highly of him. Five moves maximum, and he'll be kicked off!"

Feng Guangyi's sarcastic speech was very irritating to the ear; yet Yun Che didn't get angry in the slightest, and replied to him with an even more sarcastic gaze and tone: "Who will be the real joke in the end, you'll find out very soon."

"Hmph!" Feng Guangyi sneered: "If I can't make you roll off the stage in ten moves, my name wouldn't be Feng Guangyi anymore!"

As he spoke, Feng Guangyi completely opened his half narrowed eyes all of a sudden. The clothing on his entire body started to flutter and made sounds as if they were being blown by a fierce wind.... And around his body, there indeed swirled, a powerful whirlwind.

Feng Guangyi raised up his gaze, and disdainfully spoke: "Bratty little Yun Che, remember this well; the profound skill that will make you roll off the stage, is my Stormy Profound Sect's 'Storm of Nine Forms'!!"

As his voice fell, Feng Guangyi's body ferociously charged toward Yun Che like a howling gale. During his extremely fast movements, his body was also continuously shifting directions; sometimes to the left and sometimes to the right. As the speed of his movements further increased, a large mass of an unidentifiable shadow appeared before Yun Che's eyes, along with many circles of terrifying whirlwinds.

"First Form... Fierce Wind Form!"

With a loud shout, four strands of vicious profound energy simultaneously flew toward Yun Che like were four gusts of fierce wind. As Yun Che knitted his brow, his silhouette quickly flashed, and dodged three of the four. However, he was unable to avoid the fourth; his profound energy quickly welled up and constructed protective profound energy in front of his body with full force.

## Bang!!

As Yun Che took three consecutive steps backwards, his blood churned inside the center of his chest. Directly defending against profound energy of the third level of Nascent Profound Realm with the protective profound energy of the first level of Nascent Profound Realm, was as expected, a bit too farfetched. Once was still doable; but if he was struck again, he would definitely be harmed.

"Second Form.... Wind Shadow Form!"

The whirlwind blew even more viciously, and fully filled Yun Che's ears with the howling of the wind. Feng Guangyi's speed had also increased to his limit; Yun Che's surroundings were entirely filled with Feng Guangyi's shadows. At this moment, a silhouette rushed toward his back like a violent storm.... And as for Yun Che, he also turned around at nearly the same instant.

The speed of Yun Che's reaction, was completely out of Feng Guangyi's expectations. However, he was only slightly shocked for a little bit, since he believed that even if Yun Che managed to react, it was impossible for him to dodge an attack with his maximum speed. His heavy blow violently smashed toward Yun Che's neck.

However, during the instant that Yun Che turned around, his right fist also fiercely exploded out to meet Feng Guantyi's fist in a straight trajectory.

"What! Has he gone insane! To actually go against Fen Guangyi head on!"

"If he had tried to protect himself with all of his profound energy, maybe he wouldn't get too severe of an injury. But Feng Guangyi is at the later third level of the Nascent Profound Realm! He's only at the first level of Nascent Profound Realm, yet he actually dares to go at him head on? He truly doesn't know the differences between heaven and earth!"

As the people from the palace saw this scene, they all knew that Yun Che was finished. If their fists collide, getting his wrist dislocated would be considered as getting off light; for it may even be directly shattered. Not only did Feng Guangyi's fist possess a strength that's two ranks above Yun Che's; it also carried the Stormy Profound Palace's powerful Profound Art!

But, how could Yun Che possibly be this arrogant in his actions and speech without anything to back it up!

In the instant before both Feng Guangyi's fist and his fist collided, a radiance suddenly flashed across his eyes. Inside his Profound Veins, amongst the Big Dipper shaped gates that had always been closed, the first one quietly opened....

Evil God's Seven Realms —— First Realm: Evil Soul.... Open!

# Chapter 70 – The Battle That Shook the City (7)

In the instant the first gate opened, Yun Che faintly heard a quiet muffled sound from his profound veins. Right after, the profound energy inside the profound veins all of a sudden, inflated. This inflation was not just a pure expansion; even the density dramatically surged up to an astonishing degree.... Volume and density skyrocketing up at the same time was a state that was completely against common sense, yet at this moment, the fact that this state was occurring inside Yun Che's profound veins, was the impeccable truth.

And accompanying it, was the complete berserking of Yun Che's profound energy!

Jasmine had told Yun Che before, the ability of "Evil God Arts", was precisely "Berserk"! The profound energy would become crazily berserk!

The ballistic profound energy flooded out from all Fifty Four Profound Veins, and instantly instilled into every corner of Yun Che's body. A terrifying feeling that his profound veins and body would possibly explode came to him. However, it was only "almost exploding"; not anything that his profound veins and body can't completely endure. Jasmine had said that the current him could barely activate the first realm "Evil Soul", and as expected, it was somewhat strained!

### Bang!!

Feng Guangyi and Yun Che's fists solidly clashed together, and gave out a deafening dull sound of impact. This was a direct showdown of pure profound energy, without any sort of trickery!

# Crack!!

The crisp sound of bones breaking reverberated; everyone heard it clearly, and none were surprised. Subsequently, a incomparably shrill scream of agony resounded.... Yet this scream, made everyone become as dumbfounded as wooden chickens....

Because the one shrieking miserably was actually not Yun Che, but.... Feng Guangyi!!

All four of his fingers except the thumb were shattered at the moment of the collision, and even his wrist was violently crunched backwards. However, Yun Che's fists did not stop here; after blowing away Feng Guangyi's fists, it continued onwards while carrying the berserking profound energy, and harshly pounded onto his chest.

Feng Guangyi's protective profound energy was shattered in an instant, as if it were as frail and thin as glass; he felt as if his chest was viciously smashed by a enormous boulder of over fifteen tonnes. His entire body flew backwards like a falling leaf wrapped up in a fierce gale of wind, as his back violently crashed into the supporting pillar in the center of the Main Palace. After bouncing a few meters off the pillar, he laid on the ground in a twisted posture with eyes that bulged wide open. He was incapable of standing up until quite a while.

The Main Palace instantly became absolutely silent. Everyone present opened their mouths to an enormous length, as they simply could not dare to believe the scene before their eyes....

In a head on match of pure profound power, a first ranker of Nascent Profound Realm, had unexpectedly surpassed.... had completely won against a third ranker of Nascent Profound Realm! Let alone those young disciples, even the Elders that had experienced an innumerable amount of trials and hardships during their long lives, found it hard to believe.

Yun Che slowly lowered his arms; concentrating his spirit and calming his energy, he shut the gate that was briefly opened. Instantly, the sharp swelling pain that covered his entire body and profound veins vanished along with it, and a faint feeling of exhaustion appeared. He took a few steps forward; as he looking at Feng Guangyi whose gaze was full of shock, humiliation and bewilderment, he indifferently spoke: "I'm arrogant, because I have enough strength that allows me to be arrogant. However, you acting arrogant in front of me, is only asking to be disgraced. A dignified third ranker of Nascent Profound Realm, actually lost this miserably in a battle of pure profound strength against a first ranker of Nascent Profound Realm. Heh, do you know who's the real joke now?"

"You...." Feng Guangyi clenched his teeth, and struggled to stand up; his right hand trembled under the extreme pain, and his face was ghastly white.... He knew clearly, that from the exchange just now, he had sustained internal injuries that were not light at all.

The Main Palace was still extremely quiet; the majority of the disciples of the seven sects were already thoroughly flabbergasted. Their sects had exchanged pointers often, so they were aware what kind of strength Feng Guangyi possessed. Especially his "Storm of Nine Forms", which was enough to even force opponents two levels above him to become flustered. Yet, he had only used his "Storm of Nine Forms" to its second form, and had already been utterly smashed into a battered condition by Yun Che's fist.

"Yun Che! You... Did you think you've really defeated me!" Feng Guangyi became furious from embarrassment, as his left hand tightly clenched: "Earlier, I was only careless and held back; or else, with only your first level of Nascent Profound Realm, how could you possibly be victorious against me!"

After finished speaking, he had already lifted his left hand and activated his profound art again, and circles of whirlwinds blew around his body. However, anyone could clearly see that the whirlwinds this time were nearly half as strong as before; it was evident that he had suffered some heavy injuries.

"Enough!" The Palace Chief of Stormy Profound Palace snorted coldly: "Guangyi, you've already lost. Hurry up and step down!"

Feng Guangyi's left hand tightened even more, and said while clenching his teeth: "Palace Chief, this disciple didn't lose! I was only careless and underestimated the opponent; my Storm of Nine forms had only gotten to the second form. If I had completely casted it...."

"Shut up!" Stormy Profound Palace's Palace Chief had already became furious: "That contest of pure profound strength earlier, unless one is blind, it was obvious whether or not you held back! A third ranker of Nascent Profound Realm lost against a first ranker of Nascent Profound Realm; yet you're still looking for excuses! Do you think you haven't lost enough face for our Stormy Profound Palace!"

Feng Guangyi's complexion suddenly darkened. He glared at Yun Che with eyes of hatred, and walked back with his head lowered.

Yun Che took out a low level Profound Recovering Pellet, swallowed it, and slowly recovered his profound energy. He then stood in the center of the Main Palace again; his eyes loftily swept toward the seven sect's seatings as he aloofly said: "That's already three. The next one... who will it be!?"

He stood there like an arrogant king as he emitted a king's pride, and shouted out a kingly declaration.

#### Who's next?

This was not only a prideful challenge, but also a taunt and slap to the face!! Because he, a disciple that had just joined the New Moon Profound Palace, actually had already consecutively defeated three disciples from their seven sects! Moreover, these three disciples were not just any common disciples; in the youth generation of New Moon City, they were famous, and were all publically recognized as geniuses! However, today, they had fallen under this Yun Che's hands.

Not only that, their opponent was merely at the first level of the Nascent Profound Realm!

Everyone's gazes that looked at Yun Che all changed. His win against Xuan Yu, could be because of him relying on that bizarre profound movement skill and catching the opponent off-guard; his win against Yan Ming, seemed to be because of the opponent's embarrassing beginner's mistake. However, his win against Feng Guangyi.... Everyone had witnessed clearly, that it was a honest clash of profound strength without any fancy tricks; and it was a complete victory of his, without the slightest discount!!

In order to defeat a third ranker of the Nascent Profound Realm to that degree, it would at least require the profound strength of the fifth level, or even the sixth level of the Nascent Profound Realm! Yet a first ranker of Nascent Profound Realm, actually released such a terrifying profound strength; what kind of notion was this? The only explanation, was that he had always deliberately kept himself from breaking through, and kept his rank of profound strength at a very low level; thereby allowing his profound energy to incomparably thicken under cultivation. If it's like this, even if his profound rank was only at the first level of Nascent Profound Realm, its power could perhaps even match those of the fifth, or even the sixth level of Nascent Profound Realm!

This was the only reasoning that anyone could think of!

In other words, this Yun Che.... at the age of sixteen, possessed the true strength of one at the fifth level of the Nascent Profound Realm or higher!!

As they thought about this, everyone was violently moved! This was a devil's worth of innate talent and potential! This kind of innate talent, was the finest even within the seven major sects!

Lan Xueruo's eyes were filled with wonder, as she couldn't help but exclaim: "Junior Brother Xia, your brother-in-law was actually this formidable! Is he really the same as you, who came from that Floating Cloud City in the east?"

Although her innate talent was excellent, if she was at the same age as Yun Che, it was absolutely impossible for her to reach that sort of level.

"This.... this.... ah.... Mn...."

Compared to Lan Xueruo, Xia Yuanba was shocked to the point that he even forgot about the pain from his injuries. He knew Yun Che from the base of his root; as he looked at the current Yun Che show off such power, both of his big eyes had almost bulged out from staring too hard. He didn't know how many times he had already chanted in his heart "Brother-in-law was actually this amazing.... Brother-in-law was actually this amazing....".

The New Moon Profound Palace elders, who had their heart gripped, who were worried in various ways, now smiled with joy one after another, as their eyes glinted with an odd light. To win against Feng Guangyi; what Yun Che displayed was definitely an overwhelming strength, without any kind of opportunistic tricks involved! He consecutively defeated three genius disciples that were famous throughout the entire city, deflated the pride of the seven sects, and made New Moon Profound Palace stand tall with pride. The most crucial point was that this time, such a talented disciple with powerful strength had actually emerged from New Moon Profound Palace; with Yun Che's current strength and potential that he had displayed, he may even reach the Sky Profound Realm in the future! If that day really came to existence, then at that time, the entirety of New Moon Profound Palace would bask in glory because of him.

"Elder Sikong, is he really our Profound Department's new recruit?" Asked two elders who sat beside Sikong Han, almost at the same time. Although Yun Che had the New Moon Profound Palace's insignia on his person, and even proclaimed himself as a New Moon Profound Palace disciple, even up to this moment, they still could not dare believe that this youth, who possessed such an astonishing innate talent would actually enter their New Moon Profound Palace.

Sikong Han slowly nodded. With a face that couldn't stop the upcoming laughter, he used his fingers to twirl the beard beneath his chin as he proudly spoke: "Right! He is the grandson of my longtime friend. He heard that I was here, so he came here to seek shelter. Heheheheh."

"Aiya! This time, Elder Sikong has recruited a genuine genius!" The two Elders exclaimed in succession.

The insides of the New Moon Profound Palace disciples' hearts were already seething with passion; as they watched Yun Che defeat three people consecutively and still continued his haughty taunting, for them, who had always been oppressed, bullied, and mocked by the seven sects, the excitement and satisfaction they felt in their hearts were indescribable. Yun Che's name and his figure at this time, were also deeply engraved inside their hearts. This little junior brother that had just joined the palace, allowed them to raise their heads up in front of the seven sects for the first time.

When confronted with Yun Che's challenge this time, no one who belonged in one of the seven sects jumped out.

Amongst the disciples that the seven sects had brought with them this time, excluding the extremely abnormal Xiao Luocheng, the strongest in the sixteen year old age group would be at the pinnacle of the third level of the Nascent Profound Realm, which was around Feng Guangyi's current level. Yet Feng Guangyi faced a disastrous defeat under Yun Che's hands in not even three moves; it would be difficult to expect a different result if someone with a similar strength went up. To be defeated by a New Moon Profound Palace's disciple of the same age; as disciples of the seven sects, how extreme of a humiliation was this? If word got out, it was not known how many people would mock them for it. No one would want to touch this kind of trouble.

As for those who were older, they were even more unwilling to get on stage. Winning, would be considered to be taking advantage of the weak; not only would it not be glorious, they would instead, be ridiculed by others. Losing.... now that would just be extremely ugly.

As for Xiao Luocheng, although he was also sixteen, everyone subconsciously didn't take him into consideration. As the young sect master of Xiao Sect's Branch Sect, he had stepped into the tenth level of Nascent Profound Realm at the mere age of sixteen; famous for being number one of the younger generation in this two hundred and fifty square kilometers of New Moon City, his halo was unrivaled. Although the strength and talent that Yun Che displayed was extremely astonishing, no one would compare him with Xiao Luocheng, for that would simply be an insult to Xiao Luocheng.

Xiao Luocheng calmly sat in place as his long slender fingers lightly traced around the edge of his wine cup. The corner of his mouth had a trace of an indiscernible indifferent smile, as if he had absolutely no interest in the events that were currently taking place within the Palace hall.