

## Time 501

### [Outside Of Time](#)

#### Chapter 501: Large Bird Qingqin

Lord Fifth had told Xu Qing some things about the county capital. However, after all, it wasn't as intuitive as what the Sword Holders in the county knew.

Through Chen Tinghao's description, Xu Qing gained a deeper understanding of the forces in the county capital.

For example, there were many forces who established their branches in the county capital like the Eight Sects Alliance.

These sects were overlords in their respective provinces but here, they had no choice but to lower their heads.

This was because above them were the three major sects.

These three major sects could be said to be the three strongest sects in the entire Fenghai County. That was why they could build their main sects in the county capital.

"There are many disciples from the three major sects in the Sword Holding Palace, so to a certain extent, the three major sects are almost one with the Sword Holding Palace. They fully support any decision of the Sword Holding Palace. This is also the survival way of our three major sects in Fenghai County."

"The two of us are disciples of the Primordial Lightning Lineage." Chen Tinghao smiled.

Under his explanation, Xu Qing also understood the foundation of the Yao Residence. As a powerful aristocratic family, it could be said that they were an absolute influential class.

"Although Heavenly Marquis Yao died back then, the foundation he laid still exists. Even though the Yao family has been expelled from the Grand Imperial Capital Region, it is still a towering tree in Fenghai County that is on par with the three great sects."

"However, compared to the entire county, the three major sects and the Yao family can only be considered the fourth tier."

"There are two great nonhuman races above the three sects. They are in the third tier."

Chen Tinghao had a straightforward personality, especially when he was talking to Xu Qing and the captain, who were also Sword Holders. It was as though the moment he knew that they were Sword Holders, he instinctively let down his guard against the two of them.

This was completely different from when Xu Qing was in the sect.

"The two great nonhuman races are the Holy Demon Race and the Quasi-Immortal Race!"

At the mention of the two nonhuman races, Chen Tinghao's expression turned a little gloomy.

Xu Qing and the captain's gazes also narrowed slightly. Lord Fifth clearly knew something about them. However, to the other disciples of the Eight Sects Alliance, this information was something they didn't know in the past.

"After the two fellow Daoists go to the county capital, you must be careful of these two races." Sun Liying who was sitting beside Chen Tingmao played with her hair and spoke softly.

"Among them, the members of the Holy Demon Race were born with two faces, one at the front and other at the back. They look strange but at the same time, their schemes go deep."

"As for the Quasi-Immortal Race, they are similar to the human race but are extremely arrogant. Their characteristic is that their hair and brows are white. Even their pupils are the same. They have terrifying combat strength."

Xu Qing nodded and remembered the characteristics of these two races. Chen Tinghao sighed.

"These two great nonhuman races are the strongest races in Fenghai County other than our human race. Under the balance and compromise of the county governor, we are barely able to coexist peacefully, but the conflict is gradually increasing."

"However, the situation is still manageable for now. After all, the Holy Wave Race in the Holy Wave Large Region where our Fenghai County is located is covetous of the only place in its territory that isn't under their control."

"There are internal and external troubles!" The captain suddenly spoke.

"That's right, internal troubles and external troubles." Chen Tinghao punched his leg.

"In the capital, the two great nonhuman races are filled with ambition. Outside the capital, the Holy Wave Race's intention to annex it has never been extinguished. If it wasn't for the fact that the afterglow of the human race is still there, Fenghai County would have been devoured long ago."

"Our human race only has one region and seven counties. We can't lose any more territory."

Xu Qing fell silent. He had heard of and felt the afterglow of the human race before.

"Let's not talk about these. When you reach the county capital, you can experience it yourself."

"Let's continue the talk about the forces in the county capital. In the county capital, there are three palaces that belong to the second tier. They are the Sword Holding Palace, the Observance Palace, and the Law Palace!"

"Our Sword Holding Palace controls everything related to battles; battle with foreign races and arresting criminals."

"As for the Observance Palace, it is in charge of rites, etiquette, education, announcing the emperor's imperial decree, and inspection. It also has the responsibility of recording the history of our human race."

"As for the Law Palace, they are in charge of the trial and the rules of law. They have their own law-enforcement cultivators. They have the right to monitor everything related to the rules."

"The human race has the Upper Mystic Five Ministries and the Lower Mystic Nine Ministries. However, Fenghai County has its county system, so it has only been equipped with the three ministries for many years. These three palaces are all from the Upper Mystic Ministries."

Xu Qing knew that the status of the Sword Holding Palace was definitely extremely high in the county. When he heard that the Sword Holding Palace belonged to the second tier, it matched his judgment. As for the first tier above the three palaces, he could guess who it was.

"The first tier is the county governor!" Chen Tinghao's expression was solemn.

"It's rumored in the external world that the county governor is indecisive and has an overly soft personality. He often compromises. However, in reality... in the hearts of us Sword Holders, other than the Palace Master, the person we respect the most is the county governor."

"For the past 800 years, the county governor has guarded Fenghai County. Although he didn't make any contribution to the expansion of the territory, he has balanced the situation inside and outside and is conscientious. As a result, Fenghai County is still in the hands of our human race. The 13 provinces of Fenghai County are still intact, unlike the other six counties that are gradually losing their territories."

Chen Tinghao took a deep breath and looked at Xu Qing and the captain.

"In the past 800 years, the county governor has encountered a total of 47 assassinations..."

When Xu Qing heard this, his expression changed. The captain also took a deep breath.

Chen Tinghao sighed softly and didn't continue talking about the county governor. Instead, he told Xu Qing and the captain about the many customs in the county. Just like that, time flowed by and a month and a half passed.

As the desert gradually became sparse, a green land was slowly reflected in the eyes of everyone in the flying ship.

The ground was covered in plains and there weren't many mountain ranges. Moreover, the anomalous substances here were also thin. The spiritual energy here was clearly much denser than in the other areas.

Even the sky was clearer and brighter.

Xu Qing stood at the bow of the ship and looked at all of this. A sense of transparency rose as he saw the many cities on the ground.

In a place directly below the ship, he could see the people there. They had smiles on their faces and they looked full of hope.

This was rare in the other provinces where the mortals would have to struggle to survive.

"We're here." Chen Tinghao smiled.

"Here, we can use the teleportation array of any place to head outside the county capital. There's a public teleportation point not far ahead. We can go there."

Chen Tinghao pointed into the distance. Xu Qing looked over and his eyes suddenly gleamed with a sharp light.

The captain raised his brows, and the other disciples in the surroundings also revealed solemn expressions.

In the direction Chen Tinghao was pointing at, a gray cloud suddenly appeared in the sky. The range of these clouds was extremely large, almost enough to cover a city.

At that moment, the gray cloud was moving rapidly. One could vaguely see a large bird in the clouds.

This large bird looked extremely strange. It had three heads and each of them looked sinister and savage.

Its stomach was very large and its wings were very small. The fur on its body gave off a chaotic feeling but there were astonishing divinity fluctuations being emitted by it.

Its claws seemed to be holding something that couldn't be seen clearly.

At that moment, it was approaching the flying ship. Wherever it passed, it would stir up a storm, transforming into a tornado that connected heaven and earth. Its aura was powerful and vast.

"It's Senior Qingqin!" Chen Tinghao was stunned.

"Senior Qingqin is a friend of the previous county governor. 800 years ago, when the previous county governor returned to the Imperial City, he invited him. However, he didn't go over but lived in Fenghai County and would fly out occasionally. He is a prehistoric mutant and his bloodline can be traced back to the ancient sovereign's era. It's said that his ancestor once followed the ancient sovereign."

The instant Chen Tinghao finished speaking, a mournful cry rang out from the person in the bird's claws.

"Save me, save me. I'm a Sword Holder. I got 600-foot-long light during the heart inquisition!"

The voice was tragic and filled with intense fear. Xu Qing felt that it was a little familiar, while the captain's eyes revealed a strange glint.

"Isn't this Ning Yan? Why is he being treated as food?"

Xu Qing naturally saw him as well. He chose to ignore Ning Yan, who had attacked him before. However, when Chen Tinghao heard Ning Yan's words, he hurriedly rose into the air and cupped his fists and bowed to the large bird as he spoke loudly.

"Sir Qingqin, please calm down. Can you wait for me to investigate if this person is really a member of my Sword Holder? If so, please be magnanimous..."

Xu Qing looked at Chen Tinghao strangely. It was the same for the captain. He then looked at Xu Qing.

'He doesn't know him, but wants to help just because the other said 'Sword Holder'?' The captain didn't say this but Xu Qing had already understood the meaning of his gaze. Hence, he fell into deep thought.

"You guys will be the same in the future." Sun Liying seemed to have guessed what Xu Qing and the captain were thinking and spoke softly. After that, she rose into the air and stood beside Chen Tinghao, also greeting the large bird.

The captain immediately became vigilant. He felt that perhaps the other Sword Holders were like this. However, if he encountered danger and reported ten feet of light, no one might come to save him. Hence, he didn't speak much on the way, afraid that others would ask about the length of his light.

At that moment, Purple Mystic Fairy also walked out of the cabin and stood beside Xu Qing, staring at the sky warily.

In the sky, as Chen Tinghao's Dao companion greeted, the large bird circled in the air. Its three heads and six eyes swept across the flying ship, as though it was confirming something.

After that, it released its claws.

Ning Yan let out a blood-curdling cry as his body fell. Chen Tinghao immediately caught him. When he brought him back to the flying ship, the large bird in the sky let out an unpleasant caw. After that, it spread its small wings and flapped them as it carried the gray cloud away.

"Why do I feel like it glanced at me just now?" The captain was surprised.

Wu Jianwu also nodded rapidly at the side. A hint of trance appeared in his eyes as he thought to himself.

"I feel that it's looking at me. Could it be that... it sensed the aura of the Ancient Sovereign Mystic Nether from me?"

Xu Qing was also pondering.

At that moment, Chen Tinghao grabbed Ning Yan tightly and was about to ask about his identity. Ning Yan, who was still in a state of shock, immediately saw the captain and Xu Qing.

His eyes instantly widened and his body trembled. He struggled again, as though he didn't want to step on the ship.

Chen Tinghao was a little surprised and looked at Xu Qing and the captain.

"You guys know each other?"

"I do. This little fellow is a Quasi-Sword Holder from our Yinghuang Province." The captain smiled and emphasized the word 'quasi'.

Chen Tinghao smiled and let go, tossing Ning Yan onto the ship.

Xu Qing coldly glanced at Ning Yan.

Ning Yan trembled even more. He also felt grief and indignation in his heart. It wasn't easy for him to reach this place, but as soon as he arrived, that large bird grabbed at him for no reason.

Now that he was out of danger, he actually encountered Xu Qing, who would seek revenge for the smallest grievance.

Just as he was feeling incomparably nervous, he saw Purple Mystic Fairy and his eyes instantly revealed an intense glint. He suddenly ran over and knelt down with a plop, speaking loudly.

"Ancestor, I've finally found you."

### Outside Of Time

#### **Chapter 502: Pawn**

Ning Yan's sudden kneeling surprised everyone.

Purple Mystic Fairy glanced at him indifferently, as though she was used to such actions.

"Mystic Nether Sect?"

"Ancestor, you're wise. I'm a cultivator of Mystic Nether Sect. When I was in the sect, I admired the sect ancestor of the 3,700 Mystic Nether Sects of the Yinghuang Province."

The captain had a strange expression. Xu Qing frowned and recalled the specialness of the Mystic Nether Sect.

Due to the Ancient Sovereign Mystic Nether, there were many Mystic Nether Sects. Sects of all sizes would call themselves the Mystic Nether Sect if they had even a slight connection to the ancient sovereign.

For example, back at the Grand Affairs Misfortune Passing Mountain, Xu Qing and the captain had seen a Mystic Nether Sect.

This Ning Yan was clearly from a similar sect. After all, Purple Mystic Fairy knew very well if he cultivated the Mystic Nether Sect's cultivation arts. Hence, thinking of the greeting, she nodded and let him travel with them.

Ning Yan panicked. He didn't want to be on the ship but he didn't dare to refuse. He could only bite the bullet and hide at the edge of the corner, not daring to look at Xu Qing. He felt uneasy, like a bird startled by the twang of a bow.

Xu Qing swept his gaze over and prepared to settle the score with the other party when there was no one around.

However, the captain's eyes revealed a strange glint. He walked over and circled the nervous Ning Yan a few times. He looked interested as he asked.

"Kid, there's something wrong with you. You were toyed with by the large bird but you didn't die. Your injuries aren't very serious either."

"Senior Brother Chen, my bloodline showed atavism when I was young and the power of my bloodline is protection," Ning Yan hurriedly explained.

When the captain heard this, he licked his lips and laughed. He went up and hugged Ning Yan's neck as he spoke in a low voice.

"There's no need to be afraid of Xu Qing. I'm his eldest senior brother. You should have heard those rumors about Xu Qing being extremely respectful to me when you were at the Absolute Beginning Separation Pillar, right? Let me tell you, that's true."

"In the future, you just have to listen to me. You're my brother, so you're Xu Qing's brother. What's the most important thing between brothers? Friendship, right?!"

Ning Yan didn't dare to say no and hurriedly nodded.

Xu Qing glanced at the captain. He felt that this scene was a little familiar, as though he had seen it on someone before. As such, he glanced at Wu Jianwu at the side.

Wu Jianwu was also stunned. He thought of his previous encounter and looked at Ning Yan sympathetically.

The captain was hoodwinking Ning Yan as the flying ship moved forward. It wasn't far from the teleportation point Chen Tinghao had suggested.

That place was actually the last teleportation location on the route of the Eight Sects Alliance.

"After this teleportation, we'll arrive at the county capital. Xu Qing, I just asked my good friends in the palace here... Only now did I know that you actually got a 100,000 feet long light!"

Chen Tinghao looked at Xu Qing in shock. Previously, he had gone out on a mission and hadn't returned for a long time, so he only learned of this when they entered the range of the county capital.

"There are still many things I don't understand. If I do anything inappropriate in the future, I hope Brother Chen can remind me." Xu Qing's expression was sincere as he cupped his fists.

"Naturally. Xu Qing, your light is unprecedented in Fenghai County. Do you know what this means?" Although there was envy in Chen Tinghao's eyes, there was no hint of jealousy.

Xu Qing shook his head.

"It means that you're the one who can be trusted the most. It means that you're very upright and it will be of great help when you take up your post." Chen Tinghao sighed with emotion.

"Post?" Xu Qing knew that he was going to be arranged to take up a post but he didn't understand the details. Hence, he asked.

"According to the rules, new Sword Holders have to serve in the county capital for three years before they can go out. You will be arranged to take up a post after you take the oath."

"The military contributions obtained from different posts are different, so they are very important."

"After all, to us Sword Holders, everything is related to military contributions!"

"Among the many posts in the Sword Holding Palace, it is the easiest to obtain military contributions in patrolling, inspection, and other related departments. There's also information and law enforcement. However, the opportunities for those in internal affairs to obtain military contributions are fewer."

"There's also a special post where you can obtain more military contributions. However, that place never recruits new Sword Holders, and veterans can't apply either. All the Sword Holders in that post are specially recruited by the Palace Master's decree."

Chen Tinghao's eyes revealed fascination.

"The person has to have an extremely clean background and a pure mind to be qualified."

Xu Qing was a little curious and looked at Chen Tinghao.

"That's a Pawn!"

"Pawn?" Xu Qing was stunned.

"That's right, a Pawn. A Pawn of the Prison Department. You'll know when you reach the county later. One of the greatest characteristics of the county capital is the Myriad Races Prison!"

Chen Tinghao smiled and there was a hint of pride on his face.

"The people imprisoned by the Prison Department are all the ferocious people of the myriad races and bizarre entities from ancient times until now. That place is the largest prison in the entire Fenghai County. Most of the prisoners there are people who have killed countless beings. They are extremely savage but even their expressions will change when they hear about the Pawns."

"Because all the people from the Prison Department claim that they are just a pawn."

"Therefore, there was the term 'Pawn'. They intimidate all evil."

At this point, the fascination in Chen Tinghao's eyes deepened and turned into desire.

"My sect's past ancestor was specially recruited by the Palace Master as a Pawn. Unfortunately, he died in the line of duty many years ago."

At this point, Chen Tinghao shook his head.

"However, Xu Qing, you can't go to the Prison Department. Although the Pawns are special, you're even more special. A Sword Holder with 100,000 feet long light will definitely be respected by everyone. Maybe the next time I see you, I'll have to give you a Sword Holder salute."

Xu Qing looked at the distant. Actually, he wasn't particularly concerned about taking up a post. After coming to the county capital, he looked at everything here and the complexity in his heart grew stronger and stronger. Hence, he spoke softly.

"Brother Chen, is Mount Morning Glow here?"

"Mount Morning Glow?" Chen Tinghao glanced at Xu Qing.

"Mount Morning Glow is in Morning Glow Province which is one of the three provinces closest to the capital. That place has long become the trial ground of my Sword Holding Palace and outsiders aren't allowed to enter. If a Sword Holder wants to go there, they have to spend a certain amount of military contributions."

"The military contributions required aren't small because that place was the resting place of an ancient sun. At the same time, it's also the place where the sun fell. From time to time, streams of light will overflow from the long river of time and shine there."

"Every stream of light before the sun fell contains Dao runes. They are also top-grade materials for refining weapons and pills. There are very few of them and every time they appear, they will be recorded."

Xu Qing's eyes narrowed. He looked calm but there were intense fluctuations in his mind. This was the first time he knew about Mount Morning Glow in such detail.

Chen Tinghao didn't ask Xu Qing why he was interested in Mount Morning Glow. Instead, he reminded him.

"If you want to go to Mount Morning Glow, you have to accumulate military contributions well."

Xu Qing nodded.

Not long later, the flying ship arrived at the location of the teleportation array. As Purple Mystic Fairy walked out and the flying ship was put away, more than a hundred cultivators landed on the ground one after another.

On the ground, there was an ancient teleportation array in the shape of an altar. Its range was very large and its entire body was grayish-black. One could see long marks intertwining and flickering with light.

There were Sword Holders guarding the surroundings. They clearly knew Chen Tinghao very well as they greeted him happily. A few of them even hugged him.

Their emotions allowed Xu Qing to have a better understanding of the Sword Holders.

Very soon, under the arrangement of these Sword Holders, the group of people from the Eight Sects Alliance walked into the teleportation array. Under the shockingly vast light, they completed the last teleportation of this trip.

When they appeared, they were already outside the county capital!

An astonishingly huge statue was reflected in everyone's eyes the moment their figures appeared.

It was a statue of Ancient Sovereign Mystic Nether. It was astonishingly vast, as though it could support the world.

Compared to it, everyone was like dust. In fact, if an ordinary person lifted their head, they wouldn't be able to see everything about the statue.

It stood on the ground with the sky above its head. The clouds only reached its waist and it required the cultivators to focus extremely before they could barely see it in its entirety from afar.

The statue's hands were raised as though it was embracing the world. Between the statue's hands was a majestic floating city.

That was the county capital.

The size of this city was several times larger than the Eight Sects Alliance's city cluster. There was endless light inside that transformed into a sea of light.

There were three smaller palaces floating around it.

Although they were smaller than the city, any one of these palaces would occupy an extremely vast area on the ground.

Xu Qing was shocked when he saw the three palaces and the city.

However, what caused even greater waves in his mind was the ground.

Directly below the floating capital, under the feet of the ancient sovereign's statue, the ground was as smooth as a mirror. Under the mirror... was a super large prison built underground.

The mirror-like ground above the prison was translucent. If one stood high in the sky and lowered their head, they would be able to see that there were many layers underground, like an abyss.

That place was the Prison Department that Chen Tinghao had mentioned earlier, the largest prison in Fenghai County!

In the air between the prison and the floating city was a huge ancient bronze sword.

This sword was vast and majestic. The sword light it emitted was resplendent and could be seen in all directions.

The character '元' was engraved on the body of the sword. It was a Sword Holder's sword.

The sword slowly rotated, emitting an indescribable terrifying pressure.

It guarded the capital while suppressing the prison!

This wasn't the end. There were some buildings on the ground that attracted the attention of everyone from the Eight Sects Alliance.

They were the pentagonal sword pavilions built around the prison!

These Sword Pavilions were arranged in circles and in an extremely orderly manner. However, their heights varied. The tall ones were almost the height of the capital city, and the short ones were only dozens of feet tall.

There were so many of them that there were probably more than 100,000 of them. Each of them was separated by 10,000 feet, forming a ring that circled dozens of times.

"Those are the Sword Pavilions. When the Sword Holders come to the capital for duty, they will put down their spirit swords here and form a Sword Pavilion. It's also where the Sword Holders usually stay!"

"As long as the Sword Holder doesn't die, the Sword Pavilion won't dissipate. If someone dies in battle, their details will be read out by the deacons in a specific ritual before the Sword Pavilion disappears."

"Welcome to the Sword Holder's headquarters in Fenghai County and the county capital!"

Chen Tinghao laughed and bowed to Xu Qing and the others. He originally planned to leave but he discovered that the Eight Sects Alliance seemed to be waiting for someone. Hence, he didn't leave but waited with them.

The Eight Sects Alliance was indeed waiting.

They were waiting for the people from the branch sect. On one hand, Purple Mystic Fairy had come personally. On the other hand, they could not enter the county capital casually, and needed someone to guide them.

Originally, according to the agreement, the people from the branch sect should have arrived long ago. However, after waiting for a while, they still didn't see any branch sect disciples.

A dark glint appeared in Purple Mystic Fairy's eyes. She had already used the jade slip to transmit her message but she didn't receive any response.

"There should be a problem," Lord Fifth, who was standing beside Purple Mystic Fairy, said in a low voice.

The person guarding the branch sect wasn't an ancestor-level cultivator, so it was impossible for them to neglect Purple Mystic Fairy. They also didn't have the guts to do it, but they didn't appear.

There was only one explanation for this.

Something had happened to the branch sect.

Xu Qing's eyes narrowed. Such a thing had happened just after they arrived. This matter clearly couldn't be explained by coincidence.

"Are they targeting us?" Xu Qing narrowed his eyes. The captain's eyes also shone with a cold glint. The two of them looked at each other.

### Outside Of Time

#### **Chapter 503: Showing Off Before an Expert**

However, one couldn't rely on guesses and judgment to determine something. There could be other reasons for why the branch sect didn't come to welcome them.

As for what the reason was, it could be known easily. They just had to make a trip to the branch sect.

Purple Mystic Fairy lifted her head and looked at the capital in the sky.

Although the branch sect didn't appear and couldn't guide them, it wasn't difficult for her to resolve this matter.

The eyes of Lord Fifth also revealed a hint of coldness. As for the others, most of them were deep in thought. Many of them secretly glanced at Xu Qing and the captain.

Chen Tinghao and Sun Liying also sensed that something was amiss. After asking politely, Chen Tinghao immediately spoke.

"Senior Zi Xuan, Fellow Daoist Xu Qing, Fellow Daoist Erniu, I'll ask later if something happened to your Eight Sect Alliance's branch sect. However, if it's just guiding you into the city, we can help."

As he spoke, he immediately took out a jade slip and transmitted his voice.

When Xu Qing and the captain heard this, they bowed to Chen Tinghao to express their gratitude.

Purple Mystic Fairy nodded slightly. If there was no need, she didn't want to use her connections in the county capital on her first day here, especially on such a small matter like entering the city.

Moreover, the most important thing was that this was the county capital and there were many experts here. She couldn't be as fearless as she was in the Yinghuang Province.

Here, she had to be more cautious.

This was especially so when they had just arrived.

Hence, she first needed to figure out what had happened to the branch sect of the Eight Sect Alliance.

With Chen Tinghao's help, three beams of light quickly flew out of the county capital above and transformed into three people.

These three people wore brownish-black standard-issue robes and their bodies were surrounded by lightning. Clearly, they were from the same sect as Chen Tinghao.

However, they didn't look like a Sword Holder.

After they arrived, they exchanged pleasantries. Under Chen Tinghao's introduction, Xu Qing knew that these three people were Primordial Lightning Lineage disciples who were on patrol duty in the city.

When the three of them heard Chen Tinghao introduce Xu Qing and the captain as new Sword Holders, they were clearly even more polite. Their expressions were filled with respect as they escorted the group of people from the Eight Sects Alliance into the county capital.

This scene caused Xu Qing, who was good at observing, to gain another understanding of the status of the Sword Holder.

At the same time, he instinctively looked at the city that was getting closer and closer.

This city looked circular from afar and was incomparably vast. There were high walls surrounding it and countless rune marks flickered inside, forming waves of terrifying pressure.

This was especially so when they got close. This pressure was extremely astonishing. When it swept past them, it seemed to be verifying their identities.

With Chen Tinghao and the three patrols as guarantors, Xu Qing and the others didn't encounter any obstacles during the verification of their qualifications to enter the city. They successfully stepped into the county capital.

As he stepped in, a majestic city was reflected in Xu Qing's eyes.

Although the capital was large, it was orderly. There were many buildings on the long streets and most of them were made of green jade with purple and red roofs. It looked imposing but at the same time, there was a natural sense of solemnity.

Also, because the city was filled with spirit plants and trees, this solemn atmosphere also carried a hint of elegance.

Dense spirit qi was constantly emitted from every brick, tile, blade of grass, and tree, enveloping the surroundings, causing the entire capital city to be filled with vitality.

There were many mortals and cultivators inside, and the streets were bustling with activity.

The buildings looked imposing from afar. Up close, there was no lack of aesthetic beauty. There were many courtyard houses with large doors and small houses that exuded exquisiteness.

Regardless of scale or appearance, they weren't something the Eight Sects Alliance's city cluster could compare to. The difference in foundation between the two sides was obvious.

What shocked Xu Qing the most were two places.

Firstly, because the capital city floated on the chest of the Ancient Sovereign Mystic Nether's statue, the first thing one saw when they lifted their heads was not the god's fragmented-face or the sun and moon, but the head of the Ancient Sovereign Mystic Nether's statue.

Its holy intent, its gaze that looked at all living beings, and the hint of pity for all living beings in its expression were clearly expressed.

Secondly, after stepping into the city, Xu Qing had a feeling that he was standing at the peak of Fenghai County. His body, soul, and everything seemed to have faintly fused with Fenghai County the moment he entered this city.

This feeling was incomparably strange. Xu Qing had never felt a similar feeling in any city he had gone to before.

This place was clearly not the tallest building in Fenghai County.

"That's the power of luck," Purple Mystic Fairy said softly.

"As the capital of a county and the core of the entire Fenghai County, the luck of Fenghai County is gathered here. Although luck is illusory, it does exist."

"However, most of them are gathered above the orthodoxy of the various races. It's difficult for sects and other forces to have them."

Xu Qing fell into deep thought.

As they moved forward, Chen Tinghao introduced the county capital.

"The entire county is divided into the 9 rings and 77 districts. As for the details, you'll naturally know later, so I won't say much."

Because they had to rush to the branch sect as soon as possible, Chen Tinghao didn't explain it in detail. Instead, after knowing the address of the branch sect, he brought them there as quickly as possible.

The branch sect of the Eight Sects Alliance was located in the southwest direction of the capital, in District 59.

The location couldn't be said to be remote, but it wasn't close to the core either. However, from the outside, it could be considered a good courtyard residence. One could faintly see fake mountains and flowing water inside, bringing with it some elegance.

However, there wasn't a single branch sect disciple here now. Moreover, the gate of the courtyard was also sealed by black talismans.

Looking at the seal, the expressions of the Eight Sects Alliance's disciples turned unsightly. Purple Mystic Fairy's gaze swept across the seal and she expressionlessly took out a jade slip and began to ask her acquaintances in the county capital.

This seal already explained everything.

Something had indeed happened to the branch sect.

"Zhang Siyun?" After Xu Qing's gaze swept past the seal, he looked at the captain. The captain and Xu Qing looked at each other and their eyes slowly narrowed.

He and Xu Qing were both from the Homicide Department. Not only had they seen seals, but they had also used similar items.

Hence, they knew that generally speaking, sealing a residence meant that the matter hadn't been thoroughly investigated. Hence, outsiders weren't allowed to step in and destroy it. They had to wait for the corresponding department to deal with it.

Moreover, they had encountered such a thing on their very first time in the county capital. The possibility of them being targeted was extremely high. As for who did it... Xu Qing thought about it and deduced Zhang Siyun had the motive and the ability.

After all, Zhang Siyun was recruited directly. It was enough to show his background in the county capital.

Chen Tinghao also frowned when he saw this seal. He took out a jade slip and inquired about it. His three fellow sect members also asked around.

The capital was too large, so unless it was a matter within one's jurisdiction, it was impossible for everyone to know about the matters in other areas.

However, as the local heads of the county capital, they soon obtained an answer.

"Seven days ago, the branch sect here was taken away by the Law Palace on suspicion of overstepping their bounds. They are currently being interrogated." Chen Tinghao raised his brows and looked at Xu Qing and the others.

At that moment, Purple Mystic Fairy also learned the answer from an acquaintance but it was more detailed.

"The order was sent by the director of the Third Department of the Law Palace, Yao Yunhui. Overstepping one's authority can be serious or a small matter. This is clearly intentional. Xu Qing, among the new Sword Holders of the Sword Holding Court this time, what's the surname of that person from the Grand Affairs Immortal Sect?"

"His surname is Zhang, Zhang Siyun!" Xu Qing said in a low voice.

"Do you guys have any conflicts?" Purple Mystic Fairy asked.

"Yes." Xu Qing nodded.

"Then, it should be him. I found out from my good friend that this Yao Yunhui is a member of the Yao family. Back then, she married into the Grand Affairs Immortal Sect which caused the Yao family to be unhappy. Her Dao companion's surname was Zhang who passed away early. The two of them had a son." A cold glint flashed in Purple Mystic Fairy's eyes.

"From the looks of it, the goal of overstepping the authority isn't the branch sect but Xu Qing!" Lord Fifth said hoarsely.

"The other party is a little impatient. Seven days is an awkward time period for interrogation. Little Qing, if we were preparing to do something similar in the Homicide Department back then, what would we do?"

The captain spoke softly from the side. Xu Qing lifted his head and looked into the distance as he calmly spoke.

"Set up a trap and kill the target in one strike."

"That's right. If we were strong, there would be no need for such a plan. We would just capture them directly. We would only do this if we were wary. However, we wouldn't be so anxious. We would set up more traps and not alert the enemy. We would wait for an opportunity to deal a fatal blow and not give the other party the possibility of counterattacking."

The captain licked his lips.

"If you're in such a hurry, there's only one goal - slander. So, capture a group of people first and wait for the target to appear before taking him away with the excuse of cooperating with the investigation. At the same time, be more arrogant. It's best if you make the other party angry and arrest him. The Homicide Department doesn't do such a thing often because it's too crude."

"Why?" Wu Jianwu didn't understand and asked blankly. When Ning Yan heard this, he secretly glanced at him disdainfully.

"This is an opportunity for a small matter to become bigger. After wrapping the matter up a little, we can directly put the target on the wanted list. Otherwise, we can only deal with it slowly." The captain's voice was cold as he looked at Xu Qing.

"Little Qing, how do you plan to resolve this matter?"

"This matter is very easy to resolve," Xu Qing calmly said.

"That's right. Resolving it is very simple. We just have to think about how to counterattack."

"Just modify the method of the Pilotage Department."

"Interesting. How dare they scheme against us two old members of the Homicide Department!" The captain laughed.

The conversation between the two caused everyone in the surroundings to take a deep breath.

Chen Tinghao was the same. The gaze he used to look at Xu Qing and the captain contained a deeper meaning.

Purple Mystic Fairy's eyes revealed admiration. Lord Fifth also smiled.

"Zhang Siyun's mother should be sending someone over soon." Xu Qing looked into the distance. After his voice rang out, two figures whistled out from the streets he was looking at.

Even before they arrived, their murderous intent spread out intensely, enveloping this place.

"They're here." A dark glint flashed in the captain's eyes as the two figures approached rapidly.

They instantly appeared in front of everyone.

These two people wore blue Daoist robes and had a black cape on their backs. They were similar to the Daoist robes of the Sword Holding Palace but with a greater emphasis on uniformity. Their expressions were gloomy. They ignored Purple Mystic Fairy's existence and looked around before focusing on Xu Qing.

"You're Xu Qing?"

"We disciples of the Law Palace have interrogated the Eight Sects Alliance's branch sect and found out that Xu Qing is suspected of overstepping his authority. Therefore, the Law Palace has summoned Xu Qing for investigation."

"If you resist, the Law Palace has the right to kill. If you refuse the investigation, the Law Palace has the right to use force."

"If an outsider interferes with the law enforcement of the Law Palace, they will be suppressed."

The two of them were at six palaces Golden Core Realm. Their voices deliberately spread in all directions, causing many passersby in the surroundings to hear them.

After that, the two of them didn't capture Xu Qing immediately. Instead, their gazes landed on the other disciples of the Eight Sects Alliance, especially Purple Mystic Fairy. They glanced at her a few more times, as though they were giving them time to react.

At that moment, Chen Tinghao and the disciples of the Eight Sects Alliance looked at Xu Qing and the captain. This scene was really... exactly the same as what they had said earlier.

Xu Qing had worked in the Homicide Department for three years. From an ordinary member of the Homicide Department, he had become the director of the Seventh Peak's Homicide Department. He was extremely familiar with these tricks.

The captain was even more experienced.

Upon seeing the other party speak like this, Xu Qing cupped his fists toward Purple Mystic Fairy.

"Senior, I can handle this matter. It's fine."

Xu Qing then cupped his fists toward Lord Fifth and Chen Tinghao. Finally, he glanced at the captain and walked toward the two Law Palace disciples.

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### Outside Of Time

#### **Chapter 504: Xu Qing's Counterattack (1)**

"Lead the way," Xu Qing calmly said.

His actions caused the eyes of the two Law Palace disciples to narrow slightly. They sized up Xu Qing and hesitation rose in their minds. After looking at each other, they gritted their teeth and took out their torture instruments before walking toward Xu Qing.

Xu Qing fell into deep thought and the captain raised his brows.

At this moment, the two of them completely confirmed the other party's motive from this illogical scene.

The captain smiled sinisterly.

Xu Qing didn't resist. He allowed the two people from the Law Palace to put the torture instruments on him and walked forward.

Because he walked too slowly, a disciple of the Law Palace berated him.

Xu Qing turned his head and cast a deep glance at him. He didn't speak and followed the two of them into the distance.

Purple Mystic Fairy looked at all of this. She chose to believe that Xu Qing could handle it. However, she still took out a jade slip and contacted her good friend in the county capital. She used her own method to add another guarantee to this matter.

Chen Tinghao was the same. He wasn't a warm-hearted person. He was just warm-hearted toward the Sword Holders. At this moment, he immediately contacted the Sword Holding Palace and reported this matter.

"Everyone, there's no need to panic. It's obvious that the other party wants to slander Little Qing. The motive is too obvious and their methods are crude."

"If such a crude method can still be effective on Junior Brother, then our many years of work in the Homicide Department will be in vain."

"This matter will be resolved in three to five days at most. At that time, you guys just have to believe me and do as I say." The captain looked in the direction Xu Qing had left in and felt anger rising in his heart.

This was the first time he had seen his junior brother being taken away like this in front of him.

At that moment, outside the city, in one of the side halls of the three floating huge palaces where the Law Palace was located, Zhang Siyun was standing carefully at the side with a nervous expression.

No outsider had ever seen him like this.

Zhang Siyun, who was usually gloomy, ruthless, and cold, would only have such an expression in front of someone. That was his mother.

Right now, his mother was sitting at a chair not far away, flipping through the archives of the Law Palace.

She was clearly a human, but her long pitch-black hair, snow-white skin that looked fragile, and that beautiful little face made her look like a fairy in paintings.

She was so beautiful that she seemed to be untainted by mortality.

She didn't look like Zhang Siyun's mother at all. She looked more like his elder sister.

She sat there upright, revealing her beautiful curves and her ample chest.

Zhang Siyun didn't dare to breathe loudly. He lowered his head and waited silently.

After a long time, there was a knock on the door outside the side hall. As the woman's light voice rang out, the door opened.

The two cultivators who had taken Xu Qing away earlier respectfully walked in and knelt down to the woman.

"Greetings, Lord."

"Lord, Xu Qing has been sent to prison. Unfortunately, the other party's sect didn't resist at all during the process and Xu Qing didn't resist arrest either... I wonder how we should deal with this next?"

"This small sect isn't brainless. There's no need to do anything more. Just lock him up." The woman put down the dossier and lifted her head. She looked at her two subordinates and calmly spoke.

The two cultivators' minds stirred uncontrollably when they looked at the woman. Although they saw her often, every time they saw her, they couldn't help but feel restless.

This superior's beauty carried a fatal temptation, but they also knew how ruthless the other party was. Hence, they shivered and hurriedly lowered their heads to agree, choosing to leave.

Seeing that his mother's two subordinates had left, Zhang Siyun couldn't hide the emotions in his heart. He looked at his mother expectantly.

The origin of this matter was that after he arrived, he told his mother the reason for the defeat in the Yinghuang Province's Sword Holding Court. This led to the capture of the Eight Sects Alliance's branch sect.

The entire thing was arranged by his mother. She first captured the branch sect and interrogated them to find out some things that seemed related but weren't, before she locked onto Xu Qing.

Now that they had captured Xu Qing, Zhang Siyun's thoughts became lively.

"Mother, Xu Qing has two life lanterns on him..."

"Shut up!" Zhang Siyun's mother calmly said.

Zhang Siyun's mind shook and he didn't dare to speak.

"Your father was a piece of trash. I originally thought that you would be better, but I didn't expect you to be a piece of trash as well. You can't even get a Sword Holder Command. In the end, your Grandmaster still had to recruit you directly."

Zhang Siyun lowered his head, feeling bitter.

Looking at her son, Yao Yunhui sighed softly inwardly. She was indeed a little disappointed in Zhang Siyun.

"Yun'er, you have to take things one step at a time. Xu Qing achieved 100,000 feet long light. The emperor personally chose him and even the Dao bell of the Sword Holding Palace in Fenghai County rang once for him. He is the center of attention. He even holds the prestige of the Yinghuang Province. Do you really think he can be touched casually?"

"Mother, are you going to fish?" Zhang Siyun fell into deep thought.

"At least you're not fully stupid. That's right. The first reason I locked him up was to see who would speak up to stop the imprisonment and who would coldly watch. After all, he got boundless light. I don't believe no one is willing to stand up for him."

"We can only make a move on Xu Qing right now, when he has just arrived and hasn't grown his wings yet. Once he really reports for duty, who would dare to rashly provoke him?"

"You can't be too anxious when doing things."

"Besides, this matter can't convict him at all. My second goal in capturing him isn't to convict him!"

"In three days at most, I'll let him go on the grounds that the investigation needs more time, and I will release their branch sect people as well."

"However, because the investigation isn't over, there will be a stain on his resume that he is suspected of overstepping his bounds."

## [Outside Of Time](#)

### **Chapter 505: Xu Qing's Counterattack (2)**

"This stain can cover the glory of his 100,000 feet light, but it's still not enough. This matter still needs to be recorded several times in different ways. After many times, his boundless radiance will dim in the eyes of the world. We can then make arrangements against him."

"No one will be able to say anything at that time. As for his life lanterns, you can't take them directly even if you want them. Change the method. After you hand them over, exchange for them with your contributions. Only then will you obtain them properly."

"When doing things, it's not all about fighting and killing. You still need more experience."

Zhang Siyun's mother spoke softly. Her voice was like a clear spring, but this spring was pitch-black and contained venom.

Zhang Siyun took a deep breath and bowed deeply to his mother.

At the same time, in the prison of the Law Palace, Xu Qing sat cross-legged in the cage and looked around calmly.

The cage here wasn't the prison of the county capital but a temporary place of imprisonment of the Law Palace. There were such cells in the Homicide Department too.

There weren't many prisoners here, but because there was no ventilation, stench and humidity permeated the air.

Xu Qing's cultivation base was also completely suppressed under the effect of the torture tools. However, this was only on the surface. He had too many ways to recover his cultivation.

Regardless of whether it was the shadow, the Poison Restriction in his body, or the power of the purple moon, they could all allow him to do this.

However, he wasn't in a hurry.

He had already verified his safety. This matter was targeted at him, but the effect of 100,000 feet light was also displayed at this moment.

After he put himself in the other party's shoes, everything became clearer.

"They are deliberately smearing my reputation and leaving a stain to remove the invisible protection granted by the 100,000 feet light."

"Not a bad idea, but the method is very crude."

Xu Qing shook his head.

In his judgment, the other party would probably release him in a few days with the excuse of delaying the investigation. However, the matter hadn't been resolved, so there would definitely be a mark on his resume.

To the human orthodoxy who paid attention to the resumes, his resume would not be clean anymore.

Other than the 100,000 feet light, there would also be a doubt of overstepping his authority.

Although it was only suspicion, the other party would probably follow up with some other arrangements to complete their goal.

This matter seemed ingenious but in reality, the other party didn't have any higher-level schemes.

A cold glint appeared in Xu Qing's eyes. It was very easy to resolve this matter but what he wanted wasn't just to resolve it. That wasn't his personality, what he wanted was to counterattack.

Just like back in the slums, if he couldn't immediately kill someone who revealed hostility, he would think of a way to make them feel pain.

Back then, when the Diamond Sect's ancestor chased after him, he could clearly have escaped but he still chose to return and burn the Diamond Sect. It was because of his personality.

However, the method of counterattack was naturally different in different environments.

Xu Qing closed his eyes.

He had already thought of a way to counterattack.

Time flowed by and very soon, three days passed.

The disciples of the Eight Sects Alliance's branch sect who had been imprisoned for ten days were all released by the Law Palace.

In these ten days, although they were interrogated, the questions they were asked were all random and didn't have any specific topic. As a result, even now, they didn't know the reason for their imprisonment.

The moment they walked out of the Law Palace, they saw Purple Mystic Fairy and the others waiting outside after receiving the news.

"Greetings, Fairy!" The sect master of the branch sect was from the Third Peak. The instant he saw Purple Mystic Fairy, he felt ashamed and hurriedly walked out. He then cupped his fists and bowed.

Looking at the people from the branch sect, Purple Mystic Fairy nodded. She fell into deep thought when she didn't see Xu Qing in the crowd.

Lord Fifth was the same.

Only the captain put on a nervous expression and gestured at Wu Jianwu.

Wu Jianwu hurriedly took out a recording jade slip.

Other than them, Chen Tinghao also came to pick Xu Qing up. This time, he didn't come alone but called over ten Sword Holders who were on good terms with him.

"Where's Xu Qing?"

While everyone was surprised, Xu Qing's figure slowly walked out of the Law Palace under the push of the two Law Palace cultivators.

"Having 100,000 feet long light and you're actually suspected of overstepping your bounds. You're lucky this time."

"When you return, I hope you'll think about it carefully. Your matter has not concluded yet."

The two Law Palace cultivators spoke coldly. After bringing the expressionless Xu Qing out, they were about to untie his torture tools.

However, at that moment, Xu Qing's body trembled and his gaze dimmed as he spat out a large mouthful of blood.

When this mouthful of blood landed on the ground, it was a shocking sight. At the same time, Xu Qing's entire body erupted with blood mist. One could see wounds appearing on his body.

Any one of these wounds was a shocking sight. They were so deep that even his bones could be seen. Moreover, they seemed to have been covered by a spell, so they wouldn't have been exposed. However, they were extremely clear at this moment.

Countless wounds appeared on Xu Qing's face, neck, and exposed skin. One could imagine that there were definitely more under his clothes.

This was because blood had already spread and soaked his entire robe.

All of this gave people the feeling that during the three days Xu Qing was imprisoned, he had suffered inhuman torture. The people who tortured him almost skinned him alive.

Even his internal organs burst at this moment. The bones in his body also fractured on a large scale and he fell limply.

He was on the verge of death!

### [Outside Of Time](#)

#### **Chapter 506: Xu Qing's Counterattack (3)**

This was Xu Qing's counterattack.

It was like hitting a snake at its weak point. The logic behind this counterattack was the same. He was going to create the scene that the other party didn't want to see happen, and turn the small matter into a big matter.

Just like back then, he saw how Huang Yan had blown up the matter of the Pilotage Department.

This time around, Xu Qing was doing the same. However, he needed the captain's cooperation. He had no worries about this. He believed that the captain would perform exceptionally well.

"Xu Qing!!" The captain let out a loud shout and rushed out, hugging Xu Qing's falling body.

Xu Qing's gaze was dim as he spat out another mouthful of blood. More blood flowed out of his body and his eyes were turning dim.

They were true injuries, not fake ones.

Be it the wounds on his flesh or the injuries in his organs, they were all real. The cultivation base in his body was also in chaos and cracks appeared in the Heavenly Palaces.

As for the torture tools on his body, they possessed the power to seal cultivation base.

Under these instruments of torture, it was impossible for him to cause inflict such injuries to himself. In that case, there was clearly only one answer...

"Law Palace!"

"What monstrous crime did my junior brother commit for you guys to torture him to such extent?!"

The captain's hair was disheveled as he screamed in fury.

"Law Palace! Tell me, what crime did my junior brother commit?!"

"He's just an ordinary new Sword Holder. He's here to report for duty and was taken away by you on the first day he arrived. You placed torture tools on him, sealing his cultivation in front of us. It's been three days. It's only been three days but he's already in such an inhuman state!!"

The captain was extremely indignant, and Purple Mystic Fairy was also overflowing with anger. At this moment, the anger of all the disciples of the Eight Sects Alliance was earth-shattering. Even Chen Tinghao and the Sword Holders' eyes were filled with intense anger as they stepped forward in unison.

This scene instantly caused a commotion in the Law Palace. The minds of the two Law Palace cultivators who brought Xu Qing out also rumbled and they were filled with confusion. They didn't attack Xu Qing. In these three days, no one touched Xu Qing.

However, those injuries were as real as they could get.

As everyone's anger shook the surroundings, Xu Qing's shadow trembled slightly...

The captain, who was hugging Xu Qing, had veins bulging on his neck. His eyes were red as he laughed crazily.

"Junior Brother, why aren't you breathing? We agreed that we would protect the human race together and hold the sword for the human race together!"

"Junior Brother, who tortured you like this? Why did they do this? Could it be because of jealousy and hatred toward your 100,000 feet light, or because you offended Zhang Siyun?"

"Why are you so stupid? Zhang Siyun's mother is a member of the Law Palace. I already said that you shouldn't have come here, but you said that you believe in the fairness of the human race and the light of the Sword Holder!"

"We used eight months to come here just to face such slander and murder?!"

"Junior Brother, what's the use of your 100,000 feet light when it couldn't even protect you from these petty people?!"

"What's the use of being chosen by the emperor when it couldn't even protect you from being tortured?!!"

"So a Sword Holder can be bullied like this?"

"Junior Brother, today, Eldest Senior Brother will give up his identity as a Sword Holder to seek justice for you!"

"Law Palace, if my junior brother is really guilty, take out the evidence and I won't say anything. However, if my junior brother is clearly innocent but he was harmed and abused by you guys, then this matter... will not end here!"

"The heavens won't tolerate this!"

"This matter cannot be tolerated by the 100,000 feet light!"

"The emperor's appointment decrees that this matter won't be tolerated!"

The captain roared crazily. His voice was so loud that it spread throughout the Law Palace and even further away.

It was unknown who performed the seals, but thunder rumbled in the sky at this instant, shaking the heavens and the earth. As lightning flashed, it illuminated the face of the statue of the Ancient Sovereign Mystic Nether, making it even more dignified.

The sky was angry and so was the ancient sovereign.

### Outside Of Time

#### **Chapter 507: Six Words of the Sword Holding Palace (1)**

Seeing this scene, the expressions of the two Law Palace cultivators who were escorting Xu Qing changed drastically. Endless shock and anger rose in their hearts. They were very sure that they hadn't tortured Xu Qing.

Not only did they not do it, but no one in the Third Department did it.

During these three days in prison, they didn't even go to see Xu Qing.

At that moment, in their anger, they spoke one after the other.

"That's impossible. We didn't torture him!"

"This is clearly fabricated by you guys. Don't you know what kind of place the Law Palace is? You actually dare to slander the Law Palace!"

Seeing that the captain's acting was already in place, Zi Xuan knew that it was her time to act. She took a step forward. With this step, the Nihilism cultivation base instantly erupted from her body.

Thousands of Dao threads flowed in her eyes, and her terrifying energy fluctuations caused the sky and earth to change color as rumbling sounds rang out in all directions.

Even in the county capital, Nihilism was still Nihilism. Their anger alone could shake the surroundings. Her expression was gloomy and furious. She didn't bother with the two nameless pawns who were trying to defend themselves but looked into the depths of the Law Palace.

"Zi Xuan, a human sect cultivator from the Yinghuang Province, escorted my Alliance's boundless light holder. The emperor personally appointed the new Sword Holder, Xu Qing, to enter the county. I hope the Law Palace can give me an explanation for this. Is my Alliance's Dao Child Xu Qing being framed due to jealousy or is he really guilty?!"

The Law Palace was very large and the location of the Third Department was only a small portion of it. However, regardless of whether it was the captain or Zi Xuan, their voices were loud and spread in all directions.

Many cultivators from the Law Palace heard it from their respective locations. Originally, when they heard the captain's shout, some experts from the Law Palace were dissatisfied and prepared to go over to stop the commotion.

After all, causing such trouble in the Law Palace would in itself arouse the disgust of the Law Palace.

However, after hearing that the matter involved jealousy, some of them stopped.

The word 'jealousy' clearly revealed personal grudges. It had nothing to do with official matters or with them, so there was naturally no reason for them to interfere.

Even those who still had a dignified expression on their faces and wanted to stop the captain stopped one after another after hearing the captain mention the great emperor.

After all, there weren't many stupid people here.

Even the colleagues who were close to the Third Department's director, Yao Yunhui, hesitated when they saw Zi Xuan stepping forward.

Other than Zi Xuan's attitude, the dozens of indignant Sword Holders also made them hesitate.

No one came to stop the situation, so this matter naturally became bigger and bigger. The Sword Holders even sent messages to summon their colleagues. Seeing that the situation had changed, Zhang Siyun's mother couldn't sit still anymore.

She realized how difficult Xu Qing was. She also understood that she couldn't let this matter continue like this. Otherwise, it would be extremely disadvantageous to her.

After all, this matter didn't make sense to begin with. It would have been fine if she had followed her original plan, but now, the other party's counterattack was too swift and sharp, and it directly hit the critical point.

Hence, she walked out of her office with a gloomy expression. With a step, she arrived outside the prison of the Third Department and appeared in front of everyone.

Her arrival immediately made the two disciples of the Law Palace heave a sigh of relief and they hurriedly ran to greet her.

At the same time, everyone from the Eight Sects Alliance and the Sword Holders also looked at Yao Yunhui.

This was especially so for Zi Xuan. Her aura fluctuated, causing the weather to change. Her beautiful eyes were cold as she looked at the peerless beauty in front of her who was on par with her in terms of appearance.

Yao Yunhui fell silent. Her cultivation wasn't at Nihility but only at the Spirit Repository. If she was in a place with no one around, she would naturally be afraid of Zi Xuan. However, in the Law Palace, she wasn't afraid.

However, she came to deal with a problem. Hence, she took a deep breath and bowed to Purple Mystic Fairy. When she turned to look at Xu Qing, her eyes revealed apologies as she spoke softly.

"Xu Qing, this matter is due to my Third Department's negligence. As the director, I will definitely investigate thoroughly and give you an explanation. The Eight Sects Alliance's branch sect and you, Xu Qing, are only here to cooperate with the investigation. Now that all the investigation is finished, you guys have been found to not have committed the crime of overstepping your authority."

"That's why I ordered your release. However, now that such a problem has happened, no matter what the reason is, it's not important. There's no need to look at the prison's recording. This is my responsibility."

Yao Yunhui spoke sincerely. After she finished speaking, she even took out a jade slip, as though she was really investigating this matter.

Her words were filled with deep meaning. She seemed to be apologizing but in reality, she was using her identity as the director of the Third Department.

As such, it naturally implied that she didn't know anything. It was as though everything was a random act by her subordinates. At the same time, she stood up and said that it was her responsibility.

She also mentioned that everything was an investigation and using release as evidence that this matter wasn't caused by personal grudges.

This removed herself from this matter.

In the end, she even pointed out the recording with a hint of warning.

This scene caused Xu Qing's eyes to narrow slightly. As for the captain, he raised his brows and glanced at Yao Yunhui.

Although the other party's plan was rough, her methods of dealing with problems were not bad.

"I'm investigating the cause and effect of this matter and will provide an answer very soon. Xu Qing's injuries are very serious. I have a Spirit Accumulation Pill here. Please accept it and treat your injuries first."

Yao Yunhui took out a pill with an apologetic expression.

This pill shone with a gentle light. One look and one could tell that it was definitely extraordinary.

"Don't worry, not to mention you who was personally appointed by the emperor, even mortals are treated equally in the eyes of our Law Palace. It's our duty to enforce the law impartially."

As Yao Yunhui spoke, she placed the pill to the side. After that, the jade slip in her hand flickered. After she focused her attention and checked it, a dignified expression instantly appeared on her face. She looked at the two disciples of the Law Palace beside her.

### [Outside Of Time](#)

#### **Chapter 508: Six Words of the Sword Holding Palace (2)**

"So it's you two. I've already found out that the two of you did this illegally."

Before the two disciples could speak, Yao Yunhui waved her hand.

At the next instant, the two of them let out mournful cries. Their bodies rumbled and they spat out a large mouthful of blood as they were directly swept into the distance.

"Arrest them."

Immediately, disciples from the Third Department flew out and carried away the two people whose life and death were unknown.

Yao Yunhui dealt with the scene extremely quickly and directly. Of course, this was also because she received information that the prison recordings were destroyed by someone and couldn't be used as evidence.

After dealing with her two subordinates, she bowed to Xu Qing and Zi Xuan with a guilty expression.

"I neglected to manage this matter and caused Xu Qing to suffer. I think Xu Qing's injuries are very serious. You should go back and rest first. This matter has been investigated. I'll personally give you an explanation later."

A cold glint flashed in Xu Qing's eyes. The other party's various actions instantly resolved most of this situation. If he continued to pester about his injuries, the situation would change, giving off an overbearing feeling.

Xu Qing pondered. Although there wouldn't be a problem with his resume now, he felt that it wasn't enough if it ended like this. Hence, he opened his mouth slightly, as though he wanted to say something.

However, his injuries were too serious and he was extremely weak. His divine sense and voice couldn't be transmitted. When the captain saw this, he moved his ear closer to listen. Very soon, the anger on his face turned into disbelief and he cried out involuntarily.

"What, Junior Brother, those two b\*stards whose fate is unknown took 30 million spirit stones from you?"

Yao Yunhui's beautiful eyes narrowed slightly and her mood couldn't help but fluctuate. She once again realized how troublesome Xu Qing was. Even though she had neutralized the other party's counterattack, the other party instantly changed his method and continued to create difficulties for her.

30 million spirit stones wasn't a small sum to her either. This feeling of extortion made her feel as though she had eaten dog shit and had no choice but to swallow it.

However, she couldn't get angry. She took a deep breath and suppressed her emotions. After casting a deep glance at the captain and Xu Qing, she squeezed out a smile and slowly nodded.

"I'll investigate this matter. If..."

Before she could finish speaking, Xu Qing spat out another mouthful of blood. The aura of his body became even weaker. The captain had a look of grief and indignation on his face and immediately fed Xu Qing medicinal pills. He even laughed bitterly as he fed him.

"Is this still the Law Palace? They can beat us up at will and rob us openly. Junior Brother, did we really come to the human race's capital?!"

"The heavens won't tolerate this. This matter..."

Seeing that the situation was about to change again, the veins on Yao Yunhui's forehead twitched and anger rose in her heart. However, she knew that she couldn't continue delaying, so she gritted her teeth and spoke.

"It will take time to investigate this matter, but the Third Department can pay 30 million spirit stones first!"

Her heart was bleeding when she said this.

When the captain heard this, his head started to heat and his heartbeat sped up a little. After licking his lips, he hurriedly moved closer to Xu Qing again. This time, Xu Qing didn't speak...

However, the captain clenched his right hand into a fist and punched the tiles ruthlessly. As the tiles shattered and exploded, his eyes were bloodshot and his voice became hoarse as he spoke loudly.

"What, they won't let go of the 17 sets of killing array formations and 57 magic artifacts I lent you?"

The captain's heart seemed to be torn apart and his eyes were completely red.

Xu Qing looked at the captain and felt the heat in the other's heart. He nodded.

Yao Yunhui's breathing was unprecedentedly hurried and her emotions were fluctuating intensely. She stared fixedly at the captain. Her disgust for this person had already surpassed her hatred for Xu Qing.

Just as she was about to speak, a terrifying divine sense spread out from the depths of the Law Palace, enveloping this place as though it was examining it.

After sensing this divine sense, Yao Yunhui's mind shook. She knew that what she had done had already caused the higher-ups to be unhappy. Hence, she could only grit her teeth again and put on a calm expression.

However, she had underestimated the captain. Just as her calmness surfaced, the captain wailed.

"The three magic treasure fragments Master gave were also taken away?"

"The fellow Daoists of the Sword Holder spent over ten million spirit stones to buy the specialties of my Seven Blood Eyes, but they actually took that money as well? That's the hard-earned money of the Sword Holders."

"Ah, and the three Heavenly Palace Pills Purple Mystic Fairy gave you. They actually dared to take them away?"

Zi Xuan's expression darkened as she coldly looked at Yao Yunhui.

At the side, the Sword Holders, including Chen Tinghao, looked at the captain with a strange gaze and nodded one after another.

This scene made Yao Yunhui unable to suppress the monstrous anger and hatred in her heart. This blatant blackmail that had turned into a collective blackmailing made her feel extremely aggrieved.

Seeing this, Xu Qing's fingers moved, indicating that it was about time and they should stop now.

He felt that if the captain continued, this would backfire.

The captain was a little unwilling. Just as he was about to continue, Xu Qing spat out another mouthful of blood.

Only then did the captain shut up. With an expression of grief and indignation, he carried Xu Qing and walked toward Purple Mystic Fairy. Finally, under Yao Yunhui's gaze, everyone from the Eight Sects Alliance quickly left.

As they left, this place fell silent. The terrifying divine sense that came from the depths of the Law Palace transformed into a calm voice.

"Director Yao, this is the Law Palace, the Palace of Justice of the human race. The right given to you is to uphold justice for the human race, not a place for you to resolve your private grudges. You have overstepped your bounds in this matter."

Yao Yunhui's mind shook and she lowered her head.

"The Sword Holding Palace sent an official document just now. There's only one sentence with seven words in it."

"Yao Yunhui, are you courting death?"

Yao Yunhui took a deep breath and fell silent for a long time before speaking in a low voice.

"Palace Master, I know my mistake."

"Conduct yourself well." The terrifying divine sense dissipated after speaking these three words.

Yao Yunhui stood silently on the spot. After a long time, she expressionlessly walked into her office.

As soon as she entered, she saw Zhang Siyun waiting there with a concerned expression.

"Mother..."

"Yun'er, those two colleagues of yours aren't simple." Yao Yunhui walked up to her son and spoke expressionlessly.

Zhang Siyun's mind shook. Just as he was thinking of what to say, Yao Yunhui ruthlessly slapped him.

This slap was very strong. Zhang Siyun crashed into the wall and bled. When he landed, half of his face was already bulging, his internal organs were churning and he spat out blood again.

"Trash!"

"Your father is trash. The Grand Affairs Immortal Sect is trash. You're also trash!"

Yao Yunhui gritted her teeth and vented the anger in her heart in this slap.

Faced with his mother's scolding, Zhang Siyun didn't dare to refute. He didn't even dare to wipe the blood flowing out of his mouth. He could only lower his head. He had experienced this scene countless times since he was young.

After scolding Zhang Siyun, Yao Yunhui sat on her chair and took a deep breath. After calming her emotions again, she picked up the bowl of white fungus soup at the side and took a sip before lifting her head.

That pair of gem-like eyes on her flawless face looked in the direction of the Eight Sects Alliance's branch sect. The corners of her small mouth curled up slightly, revealing a beautiful arc.

"Warning me? This is more interesting."

## Outside Of Time

### **Chapter 509: Purple Moon Heavenly Palace**

The matter of the Eight Sects Alliance was successfully resolved.

In the courtyard residence, the branch sect held a welcoming banquet for Xu Qing and the others.

During this time, the captain was extremely smug and exchanged toasts with others, becoming quite familiar with those Sword Holders.

Most of these people had also heard that there was someone among the Sword Holders in the Yinghuang Province who had gotten 10 feet light.

From the captain's performance today, they could guess who it was. However, they were all people who were experienced in the ways of the world. With the spirit stones and Chen Tinghao's enthusiastic introduction, they naturally wouldn't take the initiative to expose it and got along quite well.

Zi Xuan didn't participate in the banquet but got someone to send some pills to Xu Qing.

Each of these pills was her personal item and was extraordinarily precious.

When Xu Qing received the pills, although he didn't say anything, there were still some waves in his mind.

However, he wasn't good with words and didn't know what to say. He could only thank her through voice transmission.

"Kid, when did you become so polite?"

In the voice transmission jade slip, Zi Xuan's voice carried some temptation. When it landed in his mind, it was like tickling an itch.

"I'm in the first building. If you have any cultivation problems, you can secretly look for me."

The last sentence in the jade slip caused Xu Qing's heart to skip a beat. He silently kept the jade slip and calmed his emotions.

Although his injuries were serious, he recovered very quickly. After all, he was the one who got the shadow to inflict those injuries. He knew his limits.

Moreover, compared to the many life-and-death crises in the past, his current injuries could only be considered light injuries.

Hence, he naturally participated in the banquet. Seeing the captain toasting the others, Xu Qing asked Chen Tinghao about Yao Yunhui.

"In the past, the nobility ranks of the human race could be inherited. However, after this generation's Human Emperor ascended the throne, the hereditary system was abolished. Hence, the current head of the Dao Residence isn't a heavenly marquis nobility."

"However, his ancestor contributed to the human race after all, so regardless of whether it's the county governor or the Palace Master, they will call the head of the Yao family the marquis. This marquis has three children - two sons and a daughter. Yao Yunhui is the daughter of the marquis."

"Yao Yunhui was once an influential figure in the county capital. Back then, she married into the Grand Affairs Immortal Sect of your Yinghuang Province, causing many discussions to arise in the capital. To the Dao Residence, the difference in status between the two sides was too great. After that, I heard that her Dao companion passed away early. She left her son in the Grand Affairs Immortal Sect and returned to the Yao residence."

"Her background is extraordinary and she has a lot of connections in the county capital. I heard that she has some connections with Deacon Sima from the Sword Holding Palace who came from the Grand Affairs Immortal Sect. He's also a director of the Third Department of the Law Palace."

Chen Tinghao introduced Yao Yunhui to Xu Qing earnestly.

"However, our Sword Holding Palace isn't afraid of the Law Palace. Deacon Sima is also not the kind of person who likes to play favorites. You don't have to worry about that. Also... actually, no one likes the Yao Residence."

Chen Tinghao was about to pick up the wine glass when his Dao companion glanced at him. He felt a little awkward and wanted to drink but didn't dare to. Hence, he coughed and continued to speak to Xu Qing.

"Our Sword Holding Palace and the Yao Residence's ideals don't match."

"In terms of intimidation against the two major nonhuman races and the Holy Wave Race in the county, our Sword Holding Palace advocates intimidation and doesn't hesitate to fight. The Palace Master has proposed many times to purge Fenghai County and suppress the Holy Demon Race and the Quasi-Immortal Race."

"As for the Yao family, they strongly oppose it. They feel that killing wouldn't solve the problem and advocate a deeper integration with the nonhuman races. Hence, in the entire county, the Yao family has the most interaction with the Holy Demon and Quasi-Immortal. There are even intermarriages. They also visited the Holy Wave Race many times and acted like slaves to them."

Chen Tinghao's expression revealed disdain.

"I really wonder if the Heavenly Marquis would crawl out of his coffin and slap these spineless descendants to death if he knew about this."

At this point, Chen Tinghao couldn't help but pick up the wine flask and take a big gulp.

When his Dao companion saw this, she shook her head helplessly. However, the gentleness in her eyes was clearly visible.

The banquet didn't last long. Xu Qing and the captain saw them off and walked in the courtyard.

The bright moonlight scattered under the two of them. A breeze blew over, lifting Xu Qing and the captain's hair and scattering the smell of alcohol on their bodies in all directions.

"Little Qing, we've finally arrived at the county capital!" The captain was clearly filled with joy as he smiled and spoke. He took out an apple and took a big bite.

Xu Qing lifted his head and looked at the statue of the Ancient Sovereign Mystic Nether. He then nodded.

"Do you still remember what I said to you back then? In this life, we'll travel together!"

"The county capital isn't our end point. It's just our starting point."

"We now have to gain a foothold in the Sword Holding Palace. Junior Brother, after I'm done familiarizing myself with this place, I'll bring you to continue doing big things!"

"We have to stir up the wind and clouds in Fenghai County. We will make the large domain of Holy Wave change its name because of our arrival!" The captain showed a rare moment of ambition and heroism. He finished the apple in one bite and took out a tangerine.

Xu Qing instinctively became vigilant and looked at the captain who was different from usual.

"We also have to let everyone know that when we join forces, our light will exceed 100,000 feet!"

"We have to let everyone understand that we are good brothers who can do anything for each other!" As the captain spoke, he secretly sized up Xu Qing.

Xu Qing nodded calmly.

"Therefore, the report in half a month will be especially important. This concerns the choice of our posts. Different departments have different military contributions and responsibilities. Whether we can change the Holy Wave in the future and let the human race rise will depend on our starting point."

The captain continued to speak. His words were very exaggerated, as though this post would determine the fate of the human race.

"And then?" Xu Qing asked calmly. He had heard from Chen Tinghao that the reporting date for the new Sword Holders was in half a month.

"Then, we need to work. Junior Brother, we have to spend money. Moreover, when we do big things in the future, we have to spend money to buy information. So... the compensation that the old demonic woman will give us later, cough, how about we split it equally?"

"Just this?" Xu Qing was surprised. He thought it was a big deal.

"No problem."

Seeing that Xu Qing agreed so readily and acted like it was a small matter, the captain instantly became vigilant.

He felt that Xu Qing's situation seemed to be a little better than his. This made him wake up and he thought to himself that he had to pay attention and be more broad minded.

He waved his hand.

"Junior Brother, I'll give you a 10% discount on the eight million spirit stones you owe me!"

Xu Qing ignored him and walked toward his residence.

The captain laughed happily and bade farewell to Xu Qing before returning to his residence. The place he lived in was specially chosen by him. It was covered by a rockery and trees, so the sunlight couldn't shine directly into his room.

The captain felt that places that couldn't even be looked at by the sun were more suitable for his identity as a Sword Holder.

Xu Qing didn't care about these. After he returned, he instinctively made arrangements in the surroundings. Only then did he enter and sit down cross-legged, recalling the things that had happened in the past few days since he came to the county capital.

After that, he took out the bamboo slip and engraved Yao Yunhui's name on it, lining it up with Zhang Siyun.

Yao Yunhui's matter was just a small interlude.

After carving it, Xu Qing thought about finding an opportunity to silently kill the mother and son.

"There's also the red woman and that Ning Yan." Xu Qing glanced at the bamboo slip and frowned.

"There are a lot of names that haven't been crossed out."

Looking at so many names that hadn't been crossed out, Xu Qing felt a little uneasy. Hence, he lifted his head and looked at the dark night outside, pondering for a moment.

"I have to increase my cultivation base as soon as possible and get rid of them one by one."

Xu Qing closed his eyes and began to cultivate.

Time flowed by. Four days later, the Law Palace sent over spirit stones, pills, three magic treasure fragments, and array formations and magic artifacts. This marked the end of this matter.

Xu Qing didn't take them alone. Regardless of whether it was the captain or the disciples who went to the Law Palace to pick him up back then, the compensation was distributed to all of them.

He even gave some to Lord Fifth and Purple Mystic Fairy.

He kept the rest, including the Heavenly Palace Pills.

This pill had powerful effects. After eating three of them, the fourth Heavenly Palace in his body finally materialized.

As the rumbling sound in his body echoed, Xu Qing looked at the Fourth Heavenly Palace that was shining in his sea of consciousness. Anticipation rose in his heart and he fell silent.

"The intrinsic mosasaur or... the purple moon?" Xu Qing didn't think for too long before a determined glint appeared in his eyes.

"The intrinsic mosasaur will have to go back again."

When Xu Qing thought of this, he immediately used all his strength to guide the purple moon in his sea of consciousness, allowing it to slowly fuse into the Fourth Heavenly Palace. Finally, it sat in the depths of the Heavenly Palace.

At the next moment, an incomparably tight connection appeared in his mind.

Before this, he already had control over the purple moon. However, the purple moon's power was too vast, so it was difficult for him to use it. It was like a kid pushing a carriage.

However, with the help of the connection with the Fourth Heavenly Palace, this control became a little easier than before.

Xu Qing didn't attempt it immediately. Instead, he closed his eyes and nurtured it. It was only ten days later when his Fourth Heavenly Palace completely stabilized that he opened his eyes.

The instant he opened his eyes, an intense purple light bloomed from them, causing everything in the surroundings to sink into a sea of purple.

The Fourth Heavenly Palace also shone with a resplendent purple light.

Looking at the purple moon flickering continuously inside, Xu Qing had a feeling that if he activated it fully, his entire body would instantly be filled with the god's aura that belonged to him.

In other words, anomalous substances!

These anomalous substances could invade and affect all cultivators.

If he added the enhancement of the Poison Restriction Pill, the might of these anomalous substances with him as the source would be even greater. The density would also increase, and the speed at which they invaded everything would become astonishing.

"What I cultivate now is the Dao or the god..." Xu Qing looked at his third and fourth Heavenly Palaces and then at the intrinsic mosasaur that was constantly being moved over as he mumbled.

"The current me, coupled with an emperor-level cultivation art, already possess the combat strength of five palaces."

"After fusing with the shadow, I can unleash the pure physical strength of the six palaces!"

"If I include the Poison Restriction and the purple moon, I can also fight against seven palaces. Moreover, I should definitely win!" A sharp glint appeared in Xu Qing's eyes. His current combat strength was already at the extreme peak among ordinary Golden Cores.

"No matter what I cultivate, the most important thing is to increase my combat strength!"

Xu Qing mumbled. He calculated the time and realized that there was only one night left before he had to report for duty.

Tomorrow morning was the day of reporting.

"I wonder where my post will be after I report?"

Xu Qing thought of Mount Morning Glow and Chen Tinghao telling him that he needed a large number of military contributions to go to Mount Morning Glow.

"Military contributions!" A sharp glint appeared in Xu Qing's eyes. After a long time, he closed his eyes and concealed this sharpness, silently waiting for time to pass.

The night passed.

The next day, the moment the sun rose, Xu Qing stood up and calmly changed into the white Daoist robe of the Sword Holder and put on a cape.

He took a deep breath and pushed the door open.

The sunlight from outside cascaded over and shuttled past Xu Qing's surroundings, as though merging his figure into the light. The ones that passed through his hair seemed to shine with colorful lights.

From afar, there seemed to be a bright fire rising from his body.

All the passing disciples cast sidelong glances at him.

Purple Mystic Fairy stood on the second floor of her residence and looked at Xu Qing. A strange expression couldn't help but appear in her eyes.

In another part of the branch sect's courtyard, not far from Xu Qing's place. In a residence where the rocky and trees blocked the sunlight, the captain pushed open the door.

He stretched and was about to walk out when he saw Xu Qing in the light and was stunned.

"You can do that?"

The captain turned his head and looked at his house before looking at Xu Qing. He suddenly felt that his house wasn't worthy of his status as a Sword Holder.

## Outside Of Time

### **Chapter 510: The Strongest Combat Power of the New Generation**

The county capital in the morning was filled with gentle sunlight. Different from the Seven Blood Eyes, the people here smiled more.

It was also different from the Eight Sects Alliance. There were fewer anomalous substances in the county capital. Moreover, there was no humidity, coldness, or fishy smell from the Forbidden Sea.

It was the same for people's clothes.

Regardless of whether it was the commoners who woke up early for work or the shopkeepers, they wore much better clothes.

The main thing was color.

In the cities of the Nanhuang Continent, the clothes of the mortals were monotonous. There was not much change even in the Eight Sects Alliance.

In this county capital, however, everyone wore colorful clothes which gave off a feeling of liveliness.

Because it was still early to report, Xu Qing and the captain didn't choose to fly. Instead, they walked at a moderate pace.

Xu Qing had been in closed-door cultivation for half a month and didn't go out. He planned to take this opportunity to familiarize himself with the environment.

He looked at the long street that was gradually becoming lively in the surroundings. After a long time, he looked at the sky.

At that moment, there were many Sword Holders heading to the Sword Holding Palace. Their clothes were uniform, so it was hard to tell if they were the new batch. However, the energy fluctuations from each of them were extraordinary.

Xu Qing wasn't surprised. After all, this was the county capital. The outstanding talents from the various provinces were gathered here, so there were naturally many experts.

"Master said that a great era has arrived, so heaven's chosens are appearing frequently. The number of new Sword Holders from the various provinces this time are different from usual." The captain was beside Xu Qing, eating an apple as he looked at the sky.

"However, Little Qing, you don't have to worry about being unfamiliar. I, your eldest senior brother, am extremely reliable in my actions. During this period of time, I've already spent a lot of money to buy information and know the new heaven's chosens from the various provinces like the back of my hand. I even know a lot about the three sects, one family, and the two major nonhuman races."

The captain's expression was smug, as though his spirit stones were all spent on good information.

Xu Qing nodded. Just like how he liked to observe the environment in a new place, the captain liked to obtain information about the new place.

"It's a pity that the Sword Holding Palace isn't selling posts." At the thought of the posts, the captain sighed with some regret.

Xu Qing glanced at the captain but remained quiet.

The captain looked depressed as he fiercely took a bite of the apple.

"This Sword Holding Palace is good in everything but it's a little unreasonable."

Due to the fact that he only got ten feet light, the captain wasn't confident about getting a good post.

During this period of time when Xu Qing was cultivating, he had gone out many times to find Chen Tinghao to inquire about any hidden things about this. He originally wanted to give him some gifts for a good post.

However, after asking around, he discovered that such a thing was impossible. The Sword Holding Palace was different from other places and was extremely strict about this. All posts were appointed by the higher-ups and there were also assessments.

Seeing that the captain was depressed, Xu Qing was about to say something. However, at that moment, he suddenly looked into the distance and his expression changed slightly.

The captain also looked over.

In the sky, a group of special cultivators was whistling over.

Their clothes were different from the human race's. Although they were still Daoist robes, they weren't loose but were tight fitting.

Moreover, the upper part of the robe was woven with golden threads and the lower part was wrapped in silver threads.

It looked a little strange. The energy fluctuations these people gave off were astonishing and their appearances were even more special.

There were men and women among them, but regardless of which of them it was, their exposed skin was snow-white. Moreover, it was the same for their brows and hair. Even their pupils were the same, giving off a feeling of holiness.

The sunlight shone on their gold and silver Daoist robes, refracting a resplendent light, adding a hint of splendor and arrogance to them.

"Quasi-Immortal Race?" The captain revealed a curious expression. This was also the first time he had seen cultivators of this race.

Xu Qing sized them up.

These cultivators were indeed not humans. This was because other than their white hair and eyes, they also had white wings on their backs. Their features were exactly the same as the Quasi-Immortal Race of the two great nonhuman races in Fenghai County that Chen Tinghao had introduced back then.

What made Xu Qing solemn was an extremely special existence among these Quasi-Immortal cultivators.

It was a figure in black armor.

The other party also had wings but they were black. Their face was covered by a mask so their appearance couldn't be seen clearly. Their drifting hair was also black.

The aura on their body clearly surpassed that of other Quasi-Immortals. Moreover, they even emitted anomalous substances.

There was no liveliness in their eyes, like a puppet.

"That black-colored one should be the famous immortal puppet of the Quasi-Immortal Race." The information the captain bought was useful at this moment.

"Immortal puppet?" Xu Qing asked.

"That's right. This Quasi-Immortal Race is good at making puppets, especially the black immortal puppet. It's a battle puppet unique to their race. The method of making it is unknown but I heard that it's quite powerful."

The captain spoke in a low voice.

Xu Qing fell into deep thought as he watched the group of Quasi-Immortals head to the core area of the capital, gradually disappearing without a trace.

The feeling that the immortal puppet gave him was similar to that of a deviant ghost but also somewhat different.

Xu Qing was a little far away, so he couldn't make a proper judgment.

The two of them retracted their gazes and continued forward. They observed their surroundings along the way and saw some disciples from the three major sects. They also saw many cultivators of the Holy Demon Race.

The Quasi-Immortal Race liked to stay in their ancestral lands in the county capital and rarely went out to interact with other races.

As for the Holy Demon Race, they liked doing business.

More than 40% of the shops in the county capital were opened by the Holy Demon Race.

The Holy Demon Race's body was burly and was more than 20 feet tall, like a small giant.

Other than the normal face, there was also a face at the back of their heads. When they spoke, their faces would occasionally rotate and change. Those who weren't familiar with them would feel very uncomfortable when they saw it.

This was especially when some of the Holy Demon Race had both male and female faces. There were no obvious gender characteristics on their bodies, so it was very difficult to distinguish their gender.

Xu Qing couldn't help but take a few more glances at this strange race.

It was only when it was close to the reporting time that the two of them flew toward the Sword Holding Palace.

When they arrived, there were already some people waiting outside the Sword Holding Palace.

These were all new Sword Holders from the various provinces. There were young men and women, and most of them had arrived at the county capital very early.

The number of new Sword Holders from the various provinces of Fenghai County varied. The highest number a province gave out was seven to eight spots, and the lowest was three spots like the Yinghuang Province.

At that moment, there were more than 30 people here. They spread out and some were in groups of three to five. They were all waiting.

Xu Qing even saw Qing Qiu in the crowd.

The other party wasn't alone. Beside her was an ordinary-looking young girl who was holding something.

"I almost didn't recognize you without the red clothes. Isn't this Qing Qiu? I think you can wear the red clothes inside. Only then will you match that large scythe."

The captain smiled and greeted her. His gaze swept past the young girl beside Qing Qiu and took a few more glances at the item in her hand.

Qing Qiu had set off earlier than the Eight Sects Alliance and arrived at the county capital a few months earlier than Xu Qing and the others. Hence, she made some acquaintances.

The young girl standing beside her was one of them.

The two of them had some similarities. One had an aura that forbade living to get close and had cold eyes under the mask.

The other one was holding some melon seeds in her hand. Every one of the seeds emitted divine fluctuations. Upon closer inspection, they seemed to be formed from flesh.

She kept eating, her mouth filled with blood and her expression cold.

After hearing the captain's words, the young girl lifted her head and glanced at the captain.

"Sister Qing Qiu, you know them. One of them is Xu Qing, right?" the young girl asked.

"That's right, two fools," Qing Qiu said calmly. The evil ghost on the scythe on her shoulder was rapidly chanting in her mind.

'Mad Dog is here. For some reason, he's clearly talking normally but I can't help but want to beat him up. The others are all Sword Holders and this one is a b\*stard. We can find an opportunity to perish together with him and eliminate the evil for the Sword Holders!'

'As for Ghost Hand, let's not provoke him. He's not easy to deal with. Perishing together with him isn't a good choice...'

'Don't be rash.'

Qing Qiu was already used to the babbling of the evil ghost. At this moment, she was expressionless and allowed the other party to nag.

At the same time, the captain also transmitted his voice to Xu Qing.

"Do you see the person beside Qing Qiu?"

"This woman isn't simple. She doesn't have a name and everyone calls her Night Spirit. It's said that the melon seeds in her hand are a type of divine flesh that is extremely beneficial to the nourishment of the body. However, it seems like she can never finish eating them. Some people suspect that this item might be a part of her body!"

"The information introduced a lot of things about this woman. She lived in an abyss in the forbidden zone since she was young. Many years ago, an ancestor of the Great Void Demon Transformation Sect

encountered her and brought her back to the sect to nurture her. This woman has a cold personality. It's said that she can transform into a greater demon!"

Xu Qing listened to the captain's words and glanced at the young girl eating the fleshy melon seeds. After that, he shifted his gaze to a corner in the distance where a youth was meditating with his eyes closed.

When he arrived earlier, he had looked around. Other than the bizarre aura of the young girl, this youth also gave him a sense of danger.

"That person's name is Shan He." The captain noticed Xu Qing's gaze and introduced.

"This is also an extraordinary heaven's chosen. He comes from the Blood Frost Sect of the three great sects. His family is a large force in the Blood Frost Sect. I heard that as soon as he was born, he had a birthmark with the pattern of mountains and rivers on his body, so he was given the Dao name 'Shan He' by Blood Frost's ancestor."

"This person has astonishing talents and possesses two emperor-level cultivation arts!"

As the captain spoke, the youth who was meditating opened his eyes and coldly looked at Xu Qing.

Clearly, when Xu Qing sensed these people, they also sensed the pressure from Xu Qing.

Both sides looked at each other. The moment they retracted their gazes, something flew over from the distant sky.

It was a black wooden coffin.

On it lay a youth wearing the Sword Holder's Daoist robe but it was covered in wrinkles.

His eyes were hazy as he yawned, looking like he hadn't woken up yet.

However, his appearance caused most of the Sword Holders here to be vigilant. Xu Qing also sensed danger.

"This person should be Wang Chen, who is said to be the closest to having Primordial Lightning Physique in this generation of Primordial Lightning Lineage."

"Interesting. I can sense some aura of a seal from him. Little Qing, that one outside isn't this person's main body. It's the one in the coffin."

Xu Qing nodded as a dark glint appeared in his eyes. He could sense the fluctuations of a life lantern from the coffin.

After walking out of the Nanhuang Continent, experiencing the Yinghuang Province, and coming all the way to the county capital, he had gained more experience and knowledge. He also saw more life lanterns.

Although life lanterns were rare, it was only relatively speaking. The stronger one was and the more powerful they were, the more impossible it was for them to lack life lanterns.

"There are many experts." Xu Qing mumbled inwardly. Regardless of whether it was Night Spirit, Shan He, or this Wang Chen, they all gave a feeling of power.

Although the auras of the other new Sword Holders in the surroundings weren't as strong as these three, all of them were extraordinary.

Xu Qing knew that he couldn't underestimate them just because their auras were a little weak. He wasn't the only one in this world who understood the principle of hiding his trump cards.

Anyone who had experienced life and death knew how to use their trump cards. Unless it was a critical moment, they would rarely take the initiative to reveal them.

"Although these three are strong, Little Qing, there's a monster among the new Sword Holders this time!" The captain sighed and Xu Qing was moved.

To be able to make the captain say the term 'monster', this person... must not be simple.

Just as he was about to ask, an astonishing aura rumbled over from afar.

The strength of the aura caused the expressions of everyone here to change.

Night Spirit stopped eating the melon seeds and quickly wiped the blood from the corners of her mouth. The coldness on her face turned into obedience and admiration.

Shan He stood up from his cross-legged position with a fanatical expression.

Wang Chen immediately got up from the coffin and instinctively tidied his clothes, looking ingratiatingly at the source of the aura.

At the same time, as the aura arrived, a heroic voice rang out from the sky.

"Who is Xu Qing?"

,"