

Time 571

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Chapter 571: Only the Pawns Reign in This World (2)

Although they had vitality, it was extremely dim. The entire plain contained a terrifying array formation that was continuously extracting their life force and cultivation base from them.

"There's another rule in this world, and that is reset."

"Other than those who are granted death by the Pawns, the other prisoners who die here will undergo a reset once a month and revive during the reset. Moreover, a portion of their memories and all recorded items are permanently erased."

"After dying many times, they became walking meat without any memories and vigor. They become the power source for the operation of the county's Taboo magic treasures."

"Do you know, Xu Qing, for a prisoner, the pain comes from having memories, because everything in those memories becomes a contrast to the present, and it's heart-wrenching."

"However, at the same time, memory is also their only private possession left. It's incomparably precious and is everything that supports them after they lose their freedom. Hence, the gradual deprivation of their memories will make them feel even more fear."

"However, if they don't fight for the alchemy pills and don't replenish their spirit energy, they'll die even faster. That's why they don't hesitate to die once in exchange for a chance to not die too many times."

"Drinking poison to quench their thirst must feel very good." Ghost Hand smiled cruelly.

Xu Qing nodded. He had understood the personality of this old Pawn back then during the secret training.

At that moment, his gaze swept over, and he suddenly looked at an area in the crowd that was a little different.

The ground there was red and different from the color of the plains. From the sky, this small area was very conspicuous.

There were more than 40 prisoners sitting cross-legged inside. They were all from the Quasi-Immortal Race.

Xu Qing had seen one of them before.

It was the specimen that Ghost Hand had brought back then when he was explaining the fatal points of the myriad races.

"The three races have an alliance, so there's nothing we can do. These Quasi-Immortal Race members can only be imprisoned for ten years at most before they are sent back." Noticing Xu Qing's gaze, Ghost Hand took another sip of wine and spoke helplessly.

"Although it's very difficult to erase too many memories in such a short period of time, it's still a little useful. However, 300 years ago, in order not to destroy our friendship with the Quasi-Immortal Race, the County Governor ordered that Quasi-Immortal Race criminals' memories shall not be erased."

"Ever since then, the Quasi-Immortal Race criminals here are only treated as short-term spirit stones."

Xu Qing nodded. He thought of the secret mission regarding the Quasi-Immortal Race's immortal puppets that the Palace Master had told him. Hence, he paid more attention.

"Senior Ghost Hand, have you fought against the immortal puppets of the Quasi-Immortal Race?" Xu Qing asked.

"Immortal puppet? I've fought it before but that thing is too strange. Its entire body is covered in anomalous substances and it's extremely difficult to damage. It can also recover on its own." After Ghost Hand finished speaking, he glanced at Xu Qing.

"Are you interested in the immortal puppet?"

Xu Qing nodded.

"Then I suggest you consult the Deputy Governor. He's very knowledgeable. I heard that he once studied the immortal puppets of the Quasi-Immortal Race."

"Let's not talk about this. Let's go. There are more such places ahead."

Ghost Hand walked forward.

Xu Qing followed behind.

The two of them flew across this plain with an astonishing range and saw the sea and the withered jungle.

With the alchemy pills that Ghost Hand occasionally threw down, Xu Qing saw many life-and-death battles erupt like before, as well as places where the array formation absorbed life force.

He also saw some Pawns of Area C on the way. These people were in charge of different areas and greeted Ghost Hand respectfully when they saw him.

Under Ghost Hand's introduction, these Pawns from Area C also swept their gazes at Xu Qing and nodded slightly. However, most of their expressions were cold.

"Later, when you can withstand the rules of this place and patrol alone, they will naturally accept you. The current you... isn't good enough."

"Also, do you know why they are respectful to me? It's not because I'm the prison leader of this world. These guys are all arrogant to the core. There are even people with higher cultivation bases than me."

Ghost Hand took a sip of wine and revealed a hint of smugness. Such an expression was rarely seen on him.

When Xu Qing heard this, a hint of curiosity appeared on his face. He then looked at Ghost Hand.

Ghost Hand laughed and tapped his forehead with his finger.

"My aptitude is average. I've been unable to break through to the Spirit Repository even after being in the Nascent Soul realm for more than 800 years, but I've never used the Emperor Sword in my life!"

"I've nurtured it for 800 years! How powerful do you think it will be once I use it?"

"800 years?" Xu Qing was moved. He knew the might of the Emperor Sword. The longer it was nurtured, the greater its might. There was once a Nascent Soul cultivator who nurtured the sword for 2,000 years and killed Nihility.

However, that was in records and he didn't see it with his own eyes.

Today was the first time he saw someone nurturing the Emperor Sword for nearly a thousand years.

This was too difficult to achieve. After all, cultivators experienced life-and-death battles frequently. At some critical moments, they had no choice but to use the sword.

If they wanted to nurture it for so long, they needed a huge opportunity and luck.

Noticing Xu Qing's expression, the smugness on Ghost Hand's face deepened.

"As a Pawn, my sword is to protect this world."

"I've thought about it. When my lifespan is about to reach the end and I'm no longer a Pawn, I'll go out and find a powerful nonhuman that I don't like, and kill it, eliminating a threat for our human race. This way, I won't have lived in vain and my death will have some value."

When Xu Qing heard this, a look of admiration appeared on his face and he bowed to Ghost hand to show his respect.

Clearly, having this sword strike that had been nurtured for 800 years was something that Ghost Hand was quite satisfied with. Seeing that Xu Qing was so respectful, he laughed and took another large gulp of wine before walking forward happily.

Just like that, several hours passed in the blink of an eye. Under the guidance of Ghost Hand, Xu Qing became increasingly familiar with this prison world. The two of them ended their trip and prepared to return to the Prison Department.

However, at this moment, Ghost Hand suddenly turned his head and looked at the ground below. His expression darkened.

What he was looking at was a withered forest. Among the large number of withered trees, there was a large tree that towered into the sky. Although its trunk was also withered, it was still thick. There was also an aged face on it.

At that moment, the eyes of this face slowly opened, revealing green eyes. It looked at the sky at Xu Qing and Ghost Hand with a hint of fear.

"Greetings, Lord Ghost Hand."

"Didn't I tell you not to leave the place you were at? You actually disobeyed and moved here." In the sky, Ghost Hand's expression was gloomy as he spoke coldly.

After that, he pointed at the tree and introduced it to Xu Qing.

"Remember this guy. It's not an ordinary treant but the only Wood Spirit Race member in the entire Prison Department."

"Although its race is ordinary now, in the past era... they were extraordinary."

Ghost Hand slowly spoke.

Xu Qing stared and sized up the Wood Spirit Race member.

"Before Ancient Sovereign Mystic Nether, Ancient Sovereign Spirit Mansion who hailed from the Ancient Spirit Race unified the Wanggu Continent. At that time, the Ancient Spirit Race was a supreme race in the Wanggu Continent and was even known as the Heavenly Fate Race."

"The five-elemental spirits under their commands had their own lineage."

Ghost Hand calmly spoke.

"However, later on, it declined. The Ancient Spirit Race's bloodline was almost extinct and the five spirits lineage under them fell apart. A remnant group of the Wood Spirit Race survived in my Fenghai County. Because they have gentle personalities, they live in peace with others."

"This is a member of this group, but its personality is different from its race. It's very bloodthirsty. 300 years ago, it caused chaos everywhere and was captured by me to be suppressed here."

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As he spoke, Ghost Hand flicked his sleeve, and bolts of lightning instantly formed and fell.

After continuously bombarding this place, he let out a cold snort and left.

Xu Qing glanced at the Wood Spirit Race member whose body was mostly shattered on the ground. He then retracted his gaze and followed him.

On the ground, the huge withered tree face revealed a bitter expression. As its body trembled and swayed, its gaze landed on Xu Qing's departing back.

"There's actually a thread of spiritual luck on his right wrist..."

Several hours later, at the end of this small world, Ghost Hand and Xu Qing ended their trip.

Before he left, Xu Qing requested Ghost Hand to let him experience the feeling of enduring the rules alone.

After all, this was something he had to complete in the future. Otherwise, he wouldn't be able to patrol alone and would have to follow others every time. If so, it would be meaningless for him to become an Area C Pawn.

"Are you sure?" Ghost Hand glanced at Xu Qing.

"Only Nascent Soul cultivators can withstand the descent of a world's laws and walk with them. Although Golden Cores can do it as well, only a few among them can achieve it. Moreover, most of them will collapse in three to five breaths of time."

Xu Qing fell silent. After that, his expression turned solemn as he nodded and bowed.

"Alright." Ghost Hand didn't say anything else and directly released the pressure that he was resisting for Xu Qing.

At the next instant, Xu Qing's entire body rumbled, as though countless mountains were pressing down on him. His body emitted cracking sounds and even his soul was trembling. An intense feeling of tearing also appeared on his body.

It was as though he would tear into pieces at any moment.

Ghost Hand shook his head and was about to retract this power when Xu Qing's Golden Crow rose at this moment. His physical strength erupted completely and he actually withstood the pressure.

However, it was still difficult. His body trembled violently but as time passed, Ghost Hand's expression gradually changed.

After a hundred breaths, Xu Qing barely lifted his head and looked at Ghost Hand.

"Senior, I should be able to withstand the descent of the laws."

Ghost Hand's expression changed and his eyes slowly revealed a bright light.

"Kid, you are quite good. Not only is your body powerful, but your soul is also astonishing. Most cultivators can't do this with your cultivation base."

After Ghost Hand finished speaking, he flicked his sleeve and the pressure on Xu Qing instantly lightened. The rules were then shared by Ghost Hand again.

From extreme pressure to instant relaxation, Xu Qing's body trembled. He clearly felt that his physical strength had increased a little in the short span of a hundred breaths.

It was as though it had been refined again.

This caused Xu Qing's spirits to be lifted.

"However, don't be complacent. Although there are very few Golden Cores who can do this, it's not like there aren't any." Ghost Hand smiled and didn't say anything else. He performed a series of hand seals and left this small world with Xu Qing.

When they reappeared, they were already outside the prison world and in the void.

Xu Qing wasn't complacent because he had persisted for a hundred breaths. He thought of the Ancient Spirit Race the other party had mentioned earlier and asked.

"Ancient Spirit Race?" Ghost Hand recalled.

"It is a strange race. From the perspective of history, I think there's a certain reason why this race is known as the Heavenly Fate Race."

"It's said that this race's innate talent is extremely astonishing and is related to luck. It can enhance one's luck and also outsiders'. I'm not too sure about the details."

"It's rumored that its Spirit Emperor borrowed the luck of the Wanggu Continent to break through the Ancient Sovereign Realm and step into a higher level but failed, causing the luck of the Wanggu Continent to be exhausted. 90% of the entire race's bloodline was wiped out overnight, ending the era that belonged to their Ancient Spirit Race."

The two of them walked out of the murals and returned to the 90th floor of the Prison Department.

"That's all for today. Since you can barely withstand the descent of the rules, continue to adapt to it. Let's see how long it will take for you to truly withstand the descent of the rules and complete your patrol."

Ghost Hand gave a few words of encouragement, drank some wine, and turned to leave.

Xu Qing cupped his fists and bowed to Ghost Hand's departing figure. After that, he left the Prison Department with mental fatigue and returned to the Sword Pavilion.

On the way, he recalled the scenes in the prison world. He was still a little shocked by the abilities of the Sword Holding Palace. At the same time, he thought of the 40-odd Quasi-Immortal Race members in the small world.

"The Quasi-Immortal Race..."

"If I want to investigate the immortal puppet, unless I can head to the Quasi-Immortal Race or the Holy Wave Race, it will be too difficult to investigate."

Xu Qing suppressed the fatigue in his mind and fell silent.

If he wanted to find out more about this matter, the obstruction would be great and it would be difficult to avoid. However, Xu Qing was very thirsty for 500,000 military contributions, especially for that second-class merit.

After all, not only did he need military contributions to go to Mount Morning Glow, but he also needed battle merits.

A deep look appeared in his eyes. After doing some mental analysis, he suddenly had a thought.

"Actually, there's another direction, and that is to start with the immortal puppet itself. This requires me to understand how the immortal puppet was made."

As he muttered inwardly, Xu Qing thought of what Ghost Hand had said about the Deputy Governor having some research into immortal puppets. Hence, he took out the Sword Holder command sword and used his military contributions to apply for an opportunity to meet the Deputy Governor to learn.

The entire county acknowledged that the Deputy Governor was knowledgeable, so when they had questions and needed help, they would usually ask him for guidance.

However, the Deputy Governor usually assisted the County Governor in managing the county and was busy with official businesses. Hence, when the application would be approved depended on the Deputy Governor's own time.

Xu Qing's luck wasn't bad. After returning to the Sword Pavilion and meditating for an hour, he received a reply from the Deputy Governor.

"Xu Qing?"

"Deputy Governor." Xu Qing took out a jade slip and respectfully greeted.

"What's the matter?" The Deputy Governor's voice carried a hint of fatigue. Clearly, he had just finished his work.

Xu Qing knew that it wasn't good to take too much time, so he simply stated his request to understand the immortal puppet.

"Immortal puppet, if you have time now, come over. I'll bring you to take a look."

Upon hearing the Deputy Governor's reply, Xu Qing's spirits were lifted. He left the Sword Pavilion and headed straight for the city.

The night was still young, and the county capital was ablaze with light. Many shops were open for business and the streets were filled with mortals. Occasionally, one could see the Sword Holders and the patrols patrolling the streets.

Xu Qing headed straight for the Deputy Governor's residence in the east of the city. When he arrived before the residence, he explained his intentions to the guards, and was led to the study room of the Deputy Governor.

"Sword Holder Xu Qing requests to see the Deputy Governor." Xu Qing's expression was solemn as he cupped his fists and bowed.

"Come in." The Deputy Governor's tired voice rang out from the study.

Xu Qing gently pushed open the door of the study. He then saw the Deputy Governor and a few of his assistants concocting medicinal liquids.

Among them was a new Sword Holder who was in the same batch as Xu Qing.

When the Sword Holder saw Xu Qing, he nodded. After that, he followed the Deputy Governor's instructions and prepared the medicinal liquid.

Xu Qing didn't disturb them. He stood at the side and swept his gaze across the study. He saw many flowers and potted plants. Some of them were medicinal herbs, and some were ordinary flowers.

The Deputy Governor's expression was filled with fatigue, but his eyes were filled with vigor. Moreover, it was obvious that they had reached a critical moment.

Under his full concentration, bottles of medicinal liquid were mixed together. When it was finally completed, he quickly walked to a basin of camphor laurel and gently poured the medicinal liquid into the soil.

However, it was obvious that there was a deviation in the medicinal liquid. The plant withered at a rapid speed.

"Sigh."

The Deputy Governor rubbed his forehead. He looked at Xu Qing and was about to speak, when his voice transmission jade slip vibrated. After he took it out to take a look, his expression became a little solemn.

"Xu Qing, the County Governor has called for me. I can't explain the immortal puppet to you today. This is some information I recorded about the immortal puppet previously. You can comprehend it yourself and ask me if there's anything you don't understand."

As though the matter was a little serious, the Deputy Governor didn't say anything. After handing Xu Qing a recording jade slip, he tidied his robe.

Before he left, he nodded apologetically at Xu Qing and instructed the assistants in the study to continue concocting the potions. After that, he hurriedly stepped into the air and left.

Xu Qing took the jade slip and cupped his fists.

Seeing that the assistants had begun to concoct the medicinal liquid again, Xu Qing knew that it wasn't convenient for him to look at it anymore. Hence, he bade farewell and left the Deputy Governor's residence.

On the way back to the Sword Pavilion, the bustle in the county gradually dissipated. Although many shops were still open, some snack stalls were closing.

Xu Qing's gaze swept over and he saw a small stall selling candied fruits packing up. Looking at the red candied fruits, he thought about it and bought a stick.

Xu Qing took a bite before glancing at the candied fruits in his hand.

The taste was quite good, and was much better than the ones found in the Seven Blood Eyes.

The sweetness and sourness mixed with the coldness made Xu Qing recall his memories of being in Peerless City when he was young.

He glanced at the stall selling candied fruits. The vendor there had already left.

"I should have bought a few more." Xu Qing mumbled and took another bite.

The taste was still there.

Just like that, under the moonlight, he ate the candied fruits while checking the information about the immortal puppet in the jade slip given by the Deputy Governor.

The records in the jade slip were very detailed and were even equipped with many pictures. Clearly, the Deputy Governor had studied this topic deeply.

Xu Qing roughly looked at the information and felt rising admiration toward the Deputy Governor's profound knowledge. Just as he was about to leave the city, his expression suddenly changed. He lifted his head and looked into the distance.

In the distance, a middle-aged cultivator in a black robe was sprinting, his speed astonishing. As he ran, he continuously waved his hand, scattering poison powder that drifted with the wind.

The poison was very powerful. When they landed on some plants, they instantly withered and emitted a stench.

There was another person chasing after him.

The pursuer was a woman in a Sword Holder Daoist robe and a mask on her face. She carried a huge evil ghost scythe. She was Qing Qiu.

The killing intent in her eyes was extremely intense and her entire body emitted a baleful aura as she chased after the middle-aged cultivator.

However, the other party had the same five palaces' combat strength as Qing Qiu. Coupled with the poison that spread out with the wind, Qing Qiu couldn't close the distance easily.

Xu Qing took a look. He had been doing missions frequently during this period of time and immediately recognized that this black-clothed man was a wanted criminal. In his memory, the other party had a nickname, Kid.

Hence, Xu Qing had some impression of it.

However, since Qing Qiu was chasing after him, he didn't plan to participate and was about to leave.

However, at the next instant, as the wind blew over, some poison floated in front of Xu Qing.

This bit of poison wasn't much to Xu Qing but after the wind blew past, the remaining half of the candied fruit in his hand turned black rapidly and emitted a foul smell.

Xu Qing's expression instantly darkened. He lifted his head and coldly glanced at the black-clothed man who had fled into the distance. He suddenly lifted his right hand and waved it; the candied fruit bamboo stick in his hand flew out.

Its speed was so fast that it created a sharp sound of air being torn apart as it headed straight for the black-clothed man.

In that instant, the bamboo stick of the candied fruit pierced through the black-clothed man's head.

As the smelly black candied fruits fell one after another, the black-clothed man's eyes widened and he fell on the ground, dead.

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Chapter 573: Those Who Call Themselves Kid, Die! (1)

Xu Qing was a little unhappy.

The candied fruit was very delicious. The similar taste evoked some of his memories of Peerless City. Hence, he didn't eat very quickly on the way and chewed and swallowed every mouthful slowly.

However, the poisonous wind spoiled the candied fruit.

After killing the man, Xu Qing coldly looked at Qing Qiu who was walking over. Although he didn't have a good impression of this woman, she was still on a mission after all. Hence, he spoke coldly.

"I won't snatch your military contributions."

As he spoke, Xu Qing turned and left. Qing Qiu's voice also rang out coldly.

"Who cares about these military contributions!"

As her voice echoed, Qing Qiu walked over. She didn't bother with Xu Qing who had left and arrived in front of the black-clothed man in a few steps.

The first thing she did was not take out his storage bag but step on the corpse's head.

The bamboo stick only penetrated the head, but under Qing Qiu's stomp, the head shattered into pieces.

Even Xu Qing, who had walked far away, heard the loud sound. He turned his head and took a look.

Qing Qiu, who was standing beside the corpse, didn't seem to be appeased. She continued to stomp on the corpse, crushing it completely.

Xu Qing was a little surprised by this savage scene. He guessed that this person must have offended Qing Qiu deeply. He retracted his gaze and left the county capital, heading straight for the Sword Pavilion.

From the start to the end, Qing Qiu didn't even glance at Xu Qing. After crushing the black-clothed man's corpse, she picked up the storage bag from the mangled corpse and stared at the meat paste on the ground with disgust in her eyes.

"Are you worthy of calling yourself Kid? How dare you taint this word?!" Qing Qiu snorted coldly.

This wanted criminal wasn't originally her mission target. However, ever since she saw that the other party's nickname was Kid on the wanted list, she had her eyes on him and wanted to kill him.

In Qing Qiu's heart, the term 'Kid' was extremely sacred and represented beauty. Hence, she wouldn't allow anyone to taint it.

"That's right, that's right. Kill him, perish together with him!" The evil ghost only dared to speak after Xu Qing's figure was completely gone. It hooted in Qing Qiu's mind.

"Alright, have you investigated the matter I asked you to do?!" Qing Qiu said coldly in her mind.

"I've checked. Four months later, there's a high chance that the convoy from the Holy Wave Race who will come to buy mica stones will pass by the Heavenly Moon Canyon and return to their race from there. However, that location isn't very suitable for ambushing and robbery. Are you sure you want to do this?"

The evil ghost quickly spoke.

Qing Qiu didn't speak. Under the moonlight, she turned and walked into the distance.

"If you really want to do this, I think we have to be prepared to perish with them. Although I've been waiting for this day for a long time, I think you still need to consider it more."

The evil ghost was a little hesitant.

"I need enough military contributions to reduce my time in office. I have to snatch their goods and exchange them for military contributions!" Qing Qiu calmly transmitted her thoughts.

"Is it worth it? There are still three years. It's only been half a year now." The evil ghost sighed. It wanted to perish with the enemy but it didn't want to die with some ordinary people.

"Actually, the most suitable target to perish with is Mad Dog..."

Qing Qiu automatically ignored some of the evil ghost's words and spoke calmly.

"I can't wait for three years. I want to go to the Nanhuang Continent in a year."

"Have you given it some thought? Three years have already passed, so what harm could another three years do?" The evil ghost persisted in its persuasion, refusing to give up.

"No way!"

"Recently, I've been feeling quite restless. I have this constant feeling that my Brother Kid is facing a life-and-death crisis in the Nanhuang Continent. I can't just sit around."

"I now have the ability to protect him. I want to find him. I owe him my life!"

Qing Qiu, who was walking in the darkness, touched the small stone in her arms. Her eyes revealed determination as she walked further and further away.

At that moment, Xu Qing had already returned to the Sword Pavilion.

After he sat down, he took out the Deputy Governor's jade slip and studied it carefully.

Time flowed by. When the sky was about to turn bright, Xu Qing lifted his head and a look of contemplation appeared in his eyes.

"Immortal puppets have to be refined from the living beings and they have to be willing..."

He had already read the contents of this jade slip many times and studied it carefully. He now had a better understanding of the immortal puppet creation of the Quasi-Immortal Race.

However, this was a top secret of the Quasi-Immortal Race after all, so it was impossible for the Deputy Governor to reach its true core.

However, the content recorded in the jade slip was enough for Xu Qing.

"Regardless of whether it's the secret technique, the transformation method, or the Nine Refinements of the Quasi-Immortal mentioned in it, these are actually not important... What's important is how the Quasi-Immortal Race chose their clansmen as materials."

Xu Qing narrowed his eyes as the memories of those Quasi-Immortal Race members in the prison world appeared in his mind.

"Is it possible that the agreement between the three races for the prisoners to be sent back after ten years has other motives and meanings for the Quasi-Immortal Race? For example..."

"Refine the criminals who returned into immortal puppets?"

"Normally speaking, if a criminal experiences many deaths in the prison world, they will lose all their memories. This way, to a certain extent, they will satisfy the conditions of being willing."

A sharp glint flashed in Xu Qing's eyes. He thought of what Senior Ghost Hand had said about the County Governor's orders 300 years ago.

"In order not to affect the friendship with the Quasi-Immortal Race, the County Governor ordered not to erase the memories of the prisoners of the Quasi-Immortal Race? This matter..."

Xu Qing fell into deep thought. This matter seemed to be because the County Governor was kind, but according to the information Xu Qing had now, it was obvious that the County Governor knew the process of making the immortal puppet and that was why he gave this order.

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However, his justification was for the sake of the friendship between the two races. This forced the Quasi-Immortal Race to tacitly agree.

"You can't just look at the surface of things."

Xu Qing sighed with emotion. He had felt this when he was in the Seven Blood Eyes. The Eight Sects Alliance was slightly better, and in this county capital, this feeling was even more intense.

"From the looks of it, I should think of a way to leave something on the criminals of the Quasi-Immortal Race who are about to be sent back..."

Xu Qing pondered over the feasibility of this matter.

When the sky outside turned bright, a dark glint appeared in Xu Qing's eyes. He got up and went to the Prison Department. He didn't go to D132, nor did he go to Area C. He first went to the ninth floor.

There, with his identity and authority as a Pawn in Area C, he checked the information of all the prisoners in Area D and finally found a clue.

Not all the Quasi-Immortal Race members were imprisoned in Area C.

There were close to 300 Quasi-Immortal prisoners in Area D.

Among them, 17 were about to reach the ten-year deadline. Not long later, they would be sent back to the Quasi-Immortal Race.

"There must be some among the 40-odd Quasi-Immortals in the first prison world too."

"Although making an immortal puppet requires a Nascent Soul cultivation, the cultivation of these people imprisoned in Area D isn't enough. It's hard to say what the final outcome will be."

After checking the prisoners' information, Xu Qing fell into deep thought. He then turned and left. In Area D27, he found the Pawn there and greeted him before making arrangements.

Regardless of whether it was the authority of the Pawn in Area C or Xu Qing's reputation in Area D, the arrangements progressed smoothly.

In a cage in D27, Xu Qing saw the Quasi-Immortal Race he wanted to see under the lead of this cell's Pawn.

The middle-aged man's entire body was white. Even though he was in prison, he still gave off a holy feeling. Now that he was sitting cross-legged and meditating, even though he sensed the Pawns' arrival, his expression was calm. There was a sense of arrogance that seeped from his bones.

"Xu Qing, I'll leave this Quasi-Immortal to you, but don't kill him..." The Pawn from D27 had seen the blood pool in D1 before, so he reminded him.

Xu Qing nodded and cupped his fists in thanks.

"Play to your heart's content." The Pawn smiled and returned the greeting before turning to leave.

Xu Qing turned his head and opened the cage door. The moment he walked in, the Quasi-Immortal Race member lifted his head. His eyes contained a hint of disdain as he looked at Xu Qing.

"You..."

The instant the Quasi-Immortal Race member spoke, Xu Qing expressionlessly took a step forward. He raised his right hand and directly slapped the top of the Quasi-Immortal Race's head. As his palm landed, his cultivation base spread out. The Quasi-Immortal Race member's body trembled and he spat out a mouthful of blood, directly fainting.

Xu Qing didn't like to waste his breath and wasn't willing to speak too much. Hence, he knocked him out with a single palm strike.

While the other party was unconscious, Xu Qing squatted down and studied the body structure of the Quasi-Immortal Race.

After carefully investigating, a look of contemplation appeared in his eyes. As he pondered over how to attack, he continued to study the Quasi-Immortal Race. From time to time, he would slash a few times to check his flesh and bone structure.

Not long later, when Xu Qing was still analyzing, the Quasi-Immortal Race cultivator's body trembled. The continuous pain woke him up. Just as he was about to open his eyes, Xu Qing calmly spoke.

"The person you killed is my close friend!" With that, he slapped again.

With a bang, the Quasi-Immortal Race member, who had yet to open his eyes, fainted again.

Just like that, time flowed by. When the Quasi-Immortal Race cultivator woke up 12 times from the intense pain, Xu Qing finally finished studying his body.

At that moment, this Quasi-Immortal Race member was already covered in injuries.

"The best way is to let my anomalous substances exist in his body. Only then will it be the most hidden and not be discovered. As for the little black bugs... forget it. I can't underestimate the Quasi-Immortal Race."

"However, the anomalous substances shouldn't be discovered."

When Xu Qing thought of this, he waved his right hand. After the fog in the surroundings enveloped him and blocked the surrounding perception, the third palace in his body trembled. This time, it wasn't poison that spread but a trace of anomalous substances that belonged to him.

These anomalous substances could invade all things, and he would be the source of all existences that were invaded by it.

He carefully controlled this trace of anomalous substances, allowing it to enter the body of the Quasi-Immortal Race and lurk at the location of his kidney.

He didn't choose the heart because in the Quasi-Immortal Race had five hearts and had powerful recovery ability. Even if he destroyed four of them, they wouldn't die.

However, back then, during the secret training, Ghost Hand had said that the kidneys were their fatal point.

Hence, after slowly hiding his anomalous substances in the kidney of the Quasi-Immortal Race, Xu Qing dispersed the fog that covered his figure and turned to leave, heading to the cell where the second Quasi-Immortal Race member was imprisoned.

After he left, the Quasi-Immortal Race member who was covered in injuries and on the verge of death woke up. His expression revealed intense anger and he even checked his body carefully. After confirming that although his injuries were serious, his life was safe, he gritted his teeth fiercely and his eyes revealed ferocity.

He recalled what the other party had said before and knew that this person had specially come to take revenge.

"I've killed many people. Which one of them is his close friend?"

"However, this isn't important. I'll be sent back to the race soon. When I get out, I'll definitely return this torture by several times!"

While the resentment in the heart of the Quasi-Immortal Race was intense, Xu Qing did the same thing to all the Quasi-Immortal Race members who were about to be sent away.

Every time, he would change his appearance. Every time, he would incriminate them with similar reasons.

All of this was to prevent these Quasi-Immortal Race members from sensing that he had tampered with their bodies.

They, who lacked information and communication, mistakenly thought that it was a personal grudge.

After doing this, Xu Qing left Area D and went to Area C.

There were two Quasi-Immortal Race members in Area C who would be released soon. However, although Xu Qing could withstand the descent of the small world's rules, it was difficult for him to move freely. Moreover, his time was limited.

Hence, he could only put the two members of the Quasi-Immortal Race aside for now.

In the following time, he used all his energy to adapt to the descent of the rules of the small world in Area C. He stepped into the small world again and again and endured the intense pain of his body collapsing again and again.

However, he could only endure for at most 300 breaths of time. It was far from enough time for him to find the Quasi-Immortal Race members and implant his anomalous substances.

"I have to withstand at least 2,000 breaths of time."

After Xu Qing made a judgment, he worked even harder.

Also, every time he came to work, he would bring a flask of wine for the old man. He knew that the other party liked to drink.

After giving wine several times, Xu Qing respectfully asked about the technique to carry the rules of the small world when the other party was drinking. He believed that there must be a similar technique.

At first, Ghost Hand didn't say anything. Later on, after drinking Xu Qing's wine several times, his admiration for Xu Qing grew, so he told him.

Xu Qing listened very seriously. After that, he tried it out in the small world, tempering himself many times.

His improvement was very fast and the time he could withstand the descent of the rules was getting longer and longer. A month later, the time he could last had increased from 300 breaths to 1,000 breaths.

During this process, something happened in Fenghai County.

There were cultivators from the Black Heaven Race who appeared in Fenghai County. They were secretly captured by experts from the Sword Holding Palace and tortured to extract a confession. In the end, they were sent to Area C to be suppressed.

This matter was a secret that outsiders didn't know about. Xu Qing only knew about it due to his identity as a Pawn in Area C.

The day they were sent over was when he was on duty. Just as he entered the 90th floor, Xu Qing saw Ghost Hand and many Pawns from the first world prison taking over the prisoners.

This was the first time he had seen the Black Heaven Race.

If the turning point that led the human race to decline was the battle with the Flame Moon Mystic Heaven Race, then the Black Heaven Race was an assassin who waited for an opportunity to ruthlessly cut down half of the human race when the human race finally regained some vitality.

It was also at that time that the Holy Wave Race chose to become a subordinate race of the Black Heaven Race.

In fact, from a historical point of view, Grand Duke Holy Wave's betrayal back then was more like a premeditated plan. However, times had changed and very few people knew the exact truth.

Xu Qing knew even less about this. All his history knowledge was given by the Deputy Governor during the Sword Holder's secret training.

However, Xu Qing knew that the Black Heaven Race didn't like sunlight. Hence, this race forcefully destroyed the sun that originally existed above them, causing it to fall.

From then on, there was only the moon in the entire Black Heaven Race's territory.

Outside Of Time

Chapter 575: Birth of the Strongest Meat Shield! (1)

From this, one could see how powerful the Black Heaven Race was.

And today, he finally saw cultivators of the Black Heaven Race.

A total of four Black Heaven cultivators were sent to Area C.

Their appearances were different from humans.

The members of the Black Heaven Race were a little small and skinny, about the same height as a twelve or thirteen-year-old human child.

Their entire body was gray, their head was very large, and they had no eyelids, as though they would never close their eyes.

Moreover, their eyes were large and pitch-black.

Their hair was like spikes standing on end like weapons.

Even on the dim 90th floor, there was a faint sharp glow emitted from these hair.

Right now, their bodies were covered in multiple layers of chains and their expressions were extremely dejected. Their bodies were riddled with torture wounds, so severe that their bones were visible.

Long black needles engraved with countless tiny runes were pierced into their heads.

While Xu Qing was observing them, the Sword Holders who escorted the Black Heaven Race prisoners completed the handover process with Ghost Hand. After noticing Xu Qing's gaze, Ghost Hand glanced at the four Black Heaven Race members and killing intent appeared in his eyes.

"The Black Heaven Race is rare in our Fenghai County."

As he spoke, he called out to the Pawns in Area C beside him and asked them to escort three Black Heaven cultivators into the small world.

When those Pawns from Area C looked at the Black Heaven Race, they revealed sinister smiles and there was even a savage glint in their eyes. Clearly, to them, such a rare item must be very fun.

"Remember not to kill them. Keep them for future people to practice with. Don't hog them all to yourself." Ghost Hand scolded. The Pawns didn't mind. They laughed and left with the three Black Heaven people.

Very soon, only Xu Qing, Ghost Hand, and a Black Heaven member were left on the 90th floor.

"Come, Xu Qing. The lesson during the secret training was lacking specimens. Let's continue your lesson today."

Ghost Hand licked his lips and looked at the dying Black Heaven. He walked over with a sinister smile and lifted him up.

"The Black Heaven Race doesn't like sunlight. This is their fatal flaw. However, don't be deceived by this saying. This doesn't mean that they can't withstand the light at all. After all, there's a moon in the Black Heaven Race."

"In reality, the sunlight must be extremely dense for it to be fatal; otherwise, it will at most make them uncomfortable."

Ghost Hand's eyes were filled with cruelty as he explained to Xu Qing in detail.

"Pay attention to the eyes of the Black Heaven Race. Countless imprints have gathered there. Most of the cultivation methods of the Black Heaven Race are related to the eyes. They are best at enslavement art."

As he spoke, he grabbed the right eye of the Black Heaven cultivator. Amidst its mournful cries, he dug out its eyeball.

As black blood splattered everywhere, Ghost Hand threw the eyeball to Xu Qing.

Xu Qing calmly caught the eyeball. After observing it carefully, he clearly saw countless runes in the black eyeball. They were densely packed, as though they were arranged into some kind of array formation.

"This thing can be used as a magic artifact. I'll give it to you as a souvenir."

Xu Qing knew that this item was definitely precious. He expressed his gratitude by bowing and cupping his fists, and carefully kept the eyeball.

"It's precisely because the Black Heaven Race's cultivation and talent are special that the divine sense of the Black Heaven Race's cultivators is ranked at the top even among the myriad races. Their divine sense is so strong that it can kill without leaving a trace, control all things, and enslave countless races."

"As for the experts of the Black Heaven Race, they can materialize things out of nothing."

Ghost Hand continued to poke around the Black Heaven Race cultivator in his hand and introduced it to Xu Qing in detail.

"Due to this, there will be brain crystals in the brains of the Black Heaven Race. Their value is even greater."

"The brain crystal is also the key for cultivators of this race to absorb anomalous substances and use them for cultivation. There were once humans who took it out and tried to fuse it into their bodies, but they all failed."

"What I'm saying is only the foundation power of this race. Black Heaven Race is extremely huge, so there are many sects and families inside with countless paths and spells of all kinds."

"In addition, there's their hair. This is also the most basic weapon of the Black Heaven Race. It contains poison that can dim and extinguish souls. If you encounter them in the future, you have to be careful."

Ghost Hand was about to continue when Xu Qing hesitated for a moment before speaking softly.

"Senior, can you give me a strand as a memento?"

Ghost Hand laughed. He directly broke off three of the Black Heaven Race's hair spikes and threw them to Xu Qing. After that, he continued to explain the Black Heaven Race to Xu Qing.

Towards the end, he simply spoke while dissecting the Black Heaven Race cultivator.

Xu Qing's expression didn't change from the start until the end. He didn't have any pity because he knew that if he was captured by the Black Heaven Race, there was a high chance that the same thing would happen to him.

The mortal feud between the two races was known by everyone in Wanggu.

However, he felt that this time, Senior Ghost Hand didn't seem to be teaching a lesson. Instead, he seemed to be using the lesson as an excuse to satisfy his hobby.

However, Xu Qing pretended not to see it and listened very carefully.

Just like that, two hours later, under Ghost Hand's unsatisfied gaze, the lesson ended.

"It's a pity that there are too few specimens. I'll explain it to you properly next time." Ghost Hand licked his lips and took out a wine flask to take a big gulp. He hummed a small tune happily and walked into the small world.

There were no longer four Black Heaven cultivators in Area C but three.

Xu Qing cupped his fists and bowed, watching as the other party left.

[Outside Of Time](#)

Chapter 576: Birth of the Strongest Meat Shield! (2)

Xu Qing's life didn't change because of the arrival of the criminals from the Black Heaven Race. Everything was as usual. Every day, other than occasionally going to D132, he spent the vast majority of his time going to the World Prison to withstand the rules.

The time he lasted also increased from 1,000 breaths to more than 1,500 breaths. Just as he was getting closer and closer to the target he had set for himself, the captain, who had disappeared for a long time, suddenly transmitted his voice.

"Junior Brother, are you in the Sword Pavilion?"

At that moment, Xu Qing had just returned to the Sword Pavilion. When he heard the way the captain addressed him, he knew that there were either outsiders or something happened. Hence, he sent a voice transmission to reply.

After about fifteen minutes, the captain brought Ning Yan who had an apprehensive expression on his face.

As soon as they entered Xu Qing's Sword Pavilion, the captain pushed Ning Yan and shot Xu Qing a look as he laughed.

"Junior Brother, this kid has something to tell you but he didn't dare to come himself, so he begged me to be the middleman."

Xu Qing stood up and cupped his fists and bowed to the captain. After that, he coldly looked at Ning Yan.

Being swept by Xu Qing's gaze, Ning Yan instinctively shivered and his face turned a little pale. In reality, he had no choice but to look for Chen Erniu and get him to help contact Xu Qing.

"Senior Brother Xu Qing..." Ning Yan hurriedly greeted.

Xu Qing didn't bother with him. Instead, he looked at the captain.

The captain once again sighed inwardly that it was really comfortable to be with Xu Qing. With just a sentence from him, the other party knew what he was thinking. That bow earlier was clearly to give him face in front of outsiders.

"Didn't this kid get Quasi-Sword Holder status in the Yinghuang Province? Hence, he has to take the assessment again in the county capital. He has passed all the tests, but the last segment requires a Sword Holder from the province to recommend him."

"His social skills are mediocre, and Qing Qiu ignored him. Initially, I intended to recommend him due to us being from the Yinghuang Province, but he rejected me."

"Do you want to help him?" The captain winked at Xu Qing.

Xu Qing knew at a glance that the captain had either taken benefits or had something he needed Ning Yan to do. Otherwise, the captain wouldn't take on this matter without benefits.

Xu Qing thought about it. If it was just Ning Yan coming here, he would naturally reject him. However, since his senior brother had already spoken, he fell silent for a moment before nodding.

Seeing that Xu Qing had agreed, Ning Yan was instantly pleasantly surprised. He realized that the rumors about Chen Erniu being unreliable were false. Today, he witnessed firsthand how impressive Chen Erniu was since he was able to convince Xu Qing to agree.

He hurriedly thanked him, and they decided to meet at the Sword Holding Palace's records office in seven days. He then bowed and left.

The captain didn't leave. After Ning Yan left, he sat opposite Xu Qing and took out an apple to eat as he smiled.

"Little Qing, this Ning Yan's character is alright. There's no big problem. Don't worry and recommend him."

"Captain, do you need him?" Xu Qing asked.

"His cultivation art is special. Back then, when he was played by Qingqin for so long, he was actually unscathed..." A strange glint appeared in the captain's eyes as he spoke in a low voice.

"I secretly bit him but I actually couldn't bite through his skin, so there must be something wrong with him!"

Xu Qing had a strange expression as he glanced at the captain.

The captain pretended not to see and continued to speak.

"He said that his bloodline went through atavism, but I don't believe him. This Ning Yan must have a secret, but I'm not very concerned about the details. However, if we use his advantage of having thick skin and thick flesh well, it will be really useful when we do big things in the future."

"Think about it. In the past, when we encountered danger, we could only flee for our lives. If we encountered area bombardment, we wouldn't even be able to hide. This Ning Yan... is very resistant!"

The captain blinked.

Xu Qing also blinked.

"Believe me, Little Qing, I won't be wrong. This Ning Yan is a talent, so we have to make arrangements in advance. We can't wait until we need the other party to express goodwill."

The captain had a look of strategic planning on his face. When Xu Qing heard this, he replied.

"Wu Jianwu too?"

"Don't mention him..." The captain fiercely took a bite of the apple and spoke gloomily. After that, he changed the topic and put on a mysterious expression.

"Little Qing, have a few Black Heaven cultivators been locked up in your Prison Department recently?"

After asking, the captain's eyes lit up as he looked at Xu Qing with anticipation.

Although he knew that the captain had always been well-informed, this matter was a secret to begin with. Xu Qing only knew about it due to his identity as a Pawn. Hence, he glanced at the captain in surprise.

"Think of a way to observe those few Black Heaven cultivators. It's best if you can record their way of speaking, actions, physical appearance, and everything else. The more detailed the better."

"Give it to me after you're done recording it. I have great use for it!" Noticing Xu Qing's expression, the captain knew that he was right. The glint in his eyes intensified as he licked his lips and spoke softly.

"Little Qing, it's almost time for us to do something big."

Xu Qing's eyes narrowed.

Right now, he yearned for military contributions. Over the years, although the captain's actions were usually unreliable, every time he did something big... the gains were quite good. Of course, the risks were equally high.

However, Xu Qing felt that living in this world was actually a risk in itself.

Since that was the case... as long as the gains were good enough, the risk was worth it.

This was especially so since he had invested a lot of spirit stones this time.

"Is it related to the Black Heaven Race?" Xu Qing fell into deep thought and looked at the captain.

The captain put on an unfathomable expression and sat there eating an apple as he smiled proudly at Xu Qing.

"Little Qing, I told you before that the Sword Holding Palace thinks highly of me. Otherwise, they wouldn't have given me this important position."

"During this period of time, I've long studied the Office of Merit Records thoroughly. I know the mobilization and arrangements of any Sword Holder like the back of my hand."

"Unless this person doesn't record his military contributions, under my eyes that can see through everything, there's nothing that can be hidden."

The captain was arrogant, as though he was guiding everything.

Xu Qing sighed with emotion and some admiration rose in his heart. He really admired the captain. After all... such an inconspicuous civilian job could actually be of so much use in the captain's hands.

To be able to do this, it was enough to show that the captain was much more of a talent compared to Ning Yan.

"Little Qing, you're still too inexperienced. You have to learn more from me, understand? Don't think about going out to adventure with those bad kids every day. What's the use?"

"You work yourself to death on a trip, and still can't get much military contributions."

"Speaking of this, I have no choice but to scold you. After all, I had to take care of everything alone during this period of time."

Xu Qing blinked and could hear the captain's dissatisfaction. This was the third time the captain had expressed such emotions during this period of time.

Hence, Xu Qing's expression revealed the admiration that had risen in his heart earlier.

At the same time, he took out a large apple and handed it to the captain.

The captain originally didn't want to take it but he instinctively received it. He glanced at Xu Qing and was about to speak when Xu Qing softly spoke.

"Eldest Senior Brother, some time ago, Fairy Zi Xuan brought me to see a few of her best friends in the county capital. One of them is called Li Shitao. She..."

Outside Of Time

Chapter 577: If I Don't Enter Hell, Who Will? (1)

"Hmm?" The captain was stunned, not understanding the meaning of Xu Qing's sudden words.

"What has it got to do with me? What's going on? Little Qing, are you showing off to me? If it wasn't for my letter..."

Xu Qing glanced at the captain.

The captain coughed.

"If it wasn't for that letter..."

His expression turned serious and he spoke solemnly.

"I've actually wanted to tell you for a long time. We cultivators need to be alone. Only then can we have an iron-like will to complete our beliefs. Only then can we calmly face all difficulties!"

"Woman, heh, is it as delicious as an apple?" The captain fiercely took a bite of the apple and revealed a hint of disdain.

"They are the peaks and boulders that block our way. They are shackles that affect the speed of drawing our swords and are a hell. You have to be careful about this. Don't learn from Old Third. Previously, when I advised you to follow Fairy Zi Xuan, it was mostly a joke."

Xu Qing's expression changed when he heard this. He thought about it carefully and felt that what the captain said made sense. He nodded in agreement.

"Eldest Senior Brother is right. In that case, I won't introduce you to Fairy Zi Xuan's best friend."

The captain was stunned. His eyes widened and he stopped eating the apple.

"What did you say? Introduce me?"

Xu Qing nodded, looking a little embarrassed.

"Eldest Senior Brother, I was wrong. Originally, Senior Li Shitao of Observance Palace asked me to introduce her to someone. I was too narrow-minded, and didn't think of it affecting your will and beliefs, Eldest Senior Brother."

"Li Shitao? It doesn't sound bad. Um... is she good-looking?" the captain suddenly asked.

"Quite okay." Xu Qing was surprised and nodded.

The captain perked up but tried his best to control himself. He stood up and placed his hands behind his back. He then let out a long sigh.

"Junior Brother... Your Eldest Senior Brother has been alone for 26 years. It's a little too long."

The captain turned his head and looked at Xu Qing.

"We cultivators need to be alone." Xu Qing hesitated.

"In a cultivator's life, there is companionship, magic, wealth, and land. Among them, companionship is ranked first!" The captain said solemnly.

"The peaks and boulders that block the way forward." Xu Qing hesitated.

"If we don't understand the mountain, how can we cross it!" The captain said righteously.

"They are shackles that will affect the speed of drawing our sword and are a hell?" Xu Qing looked at the captain.

The captain's expression was sorrowful. He looked at the world outside the window of the Sword Pavilion and sighed softly.

"If I don't enter hell, who will?"

Xu Qing silently looked at the captain. The captain didn't feel awkward at all and shamelessly looked at Xu Qing.

A long time later, Xu Qing sighed and nodded.

"Captain, you should eat more pomelos."

The captain was extremely excited and didn't mind Xu Qing mentioning the pomelos again. He ran to Xu Qing's side and took out three large apples. He handed them to Xu Qing with a radiant expression.

"Junior Brother, Eldest Senior Brother didn't dote on you for nothing. Ahem, I'll wait for your good news." With that, the captain left happily.

Looking at his eldest senior brother's departing back view, Xu Qing's eyes revealed contemplation. Although his eldest senior brother's words were inconsistent, Xu Qing still felt that the other party's previous words made sense.

"Only with a calm mind can one be steadfast." Xu Qing mumbled. He then closed his eyes and focused on meditation.

In the blink of an eye, four days passed.

During these four days, Xu Qing dispersed all his distracting thoughts and calmed the waves that had once risen in his heart. He recovered his state of mind from back then in the Yinghuang Province and completely immersed himself in adapting to the descent of the rules of the small world.

Finally, on the late night of the fourth day, he successfully increased his endurance to 2,000 breaths of time.

"I can try now."

After a short rest, Xu Qing's eyes gleamed. He didn't go off duty immediately but entered the mural world again on the 90th floor.

Walking in the void, Xu Qing arrived outside the eggshell-like light barrier with great familiarity. He rushed forward and shuttled through, appearing above the small world in the clouds.

A huge pressure instantly descended. It was as though mountains had fallen and an invisible feeling of shackles rose in his heart.

Xu Qing's body trembled and cracking sounds rang out from it. However, his expression didn't change at all.

This was the place he usually used to temper himself.

He was already familiar with the feeling of being suppressed by the mountains.

In the past, he would stop here. However, today, he didn't stop at all and took a step forward.

With every step he took, a loud bang rang out between the heavens and the earth. It was as though a mountain rock had fallen to the ground. The commotion was huge and the color of the sky changed as wind and clouds surged.

This scene looked astonishing but in reality, it was because Xu Qing couldn't lift something heavy as though it was light. He was enduring the rules of a world, so every step he took caused a drastic change in the world.

Wherever he passed, lightning flashed and thunder rumbled. The surrounding clouds churned, looking extremely astonishing.

As Xu Qing continued to move, the expressions of the hidden nonhumans on the ground changed when they saw Xu Qing.

Although they also knew that Xu Qing's performance hadn't reached the state where he could walk around freely, they understood that the more it was like this, the more dangerous it was.

This was because he couldn't completely control the rules, so it was inevitable that the rules would be messed up...

This was indeed the case. Just as Xu Qing's body descended a little, seven to eight climatic changes appeared around him. Sometimes, it was acid rain, sometimes it was thunderstorms, and sometimes it was violent winds...

The ground under his feet was also affected. The plains transformed into mountains and the mountains transformed into lakes that kept changing and couldn't be stabilized. It would only be settled after he left.

During this process, the criminals there... suffered great misfortune.

Hence, when Xu Qing lowered his head, the first thing he saw was a large number of criminals rushing out from hiding places on the ground and fleeing in fear.

[Outside Of Time](#)

Chapter 578: If I Don't Enter Hell, Who Will? (2)

Of course, there were also some criminals who had died too many times and were about to completely lose their memories. Their eyes shone as they headed straight for Xu Qing, wanting to borrow the power of the uncontrolled rules to commit suicide.

If they died from the rules, they wouldn't be reset. It could be considered a form of relief.

Xu Qing frowned. He lifted his right hand and pressed down as he calmly spoke.

"Space is restricted around me and no one can approach me!"

As soon as he finished speaking, the invisible rules of this world on his body suddenly trembled. At the next instant, cracking sounds rang out from the world and invisible threads spread out from all living beings, spreading out from everything in the world and finally gathering beside Xu Qing.

New rules were established.

Those criminals who wanted to commit suicide were immediately expelled just as their bodies were about to approach. It was difficult for them to get close at all, let alone fly.

They had to wait for Xu Qing to leave before they could fly again.

After doing all this, Xu Qing calculated the time and knew that he couldn't delay for too long. He gritted his teeth and rushed forward.

On the way, his body kept cracking. He even circulated the rules, causing the ground to seem to shrink under his feet, exchanging for an even faster speed.

Finally, he arrived at the plain where the group of Quasi-Immortal Race prisoners were.

This was the first thing he had to do.

After arriving at the place, he immediately changed the rules. He raised his right hand and grabbed. Immediately, two criminals from the Quasi-Immortal Race rose into the air and were swept away by Xu Qing.

When he arrived at a place with no one around, he did the same thing he did to the Quasi-Immortal criminals from Area D. After successfully planting his anomalous substances in these two Nascent Soul cultivators, Xu Qing fell silent.

"If their memories aren't erased, the possibility of them becoming immortal puppets would also be reduced... However, the Quasi-Immortal Race isn't stupid. They will definitely suspect something if there were suddenly those with their memories erased. Therefore, I can't be too extreme."

Xu Qing thought about it and decided to send one of the two unconscious Quasi-Immortal Race members back to his original location while leaving the other outside.

"I'll come here often to observe during this period of time. Before this Quasi-Immortal Race member outside completely loses his memory, I will send him back and only let a portion of his memory be erased."

Xu Qing had just finished doing it and left the Quasi-Immortal Race in the wilderness. Just as he was about to do the second thing, his expression changed and he suddenly turned his head.

A person had appeared 5000 feet behind him at some point in time!

This person was also wearing a Pawn's Daoist robe and was one of the Pawns from Area C. He was coldly staring at Xu Qing and then at the Quasi-Immortal Race cultivator in the wilderness. A dark glint appeared in his eyes.

"What are you doing?"

Xu Qing looked at the guard from Area C and sensed the fluctuations of his Nascent Soul cultivation.

He had seen the other party before but they hadn't exchanged any words.

Facing this person's question, Xu Qing fell into deep thought. He looked at this area and revealed an apologetic expression.

"I'm doing an experiment."

The Pawn coldly looked at Xu Qing and then glanced at the Quasi-Immortal Race member who was about to wake up on the ground.

"This is the place I'm guarding. You should have told me in advance. The County Governor has ordered that the prisoners of the Quasi-Immortal Race shall be spared the pain of losing their memories... Today's matter will only happen once."

With that, he turned and left this place without stopping Xu Qing.

After all, everyone was a Pawn. Although Xu Qing's cultivation wasn't in the Nascent Soul realm, he still had the right to deal with criminals. Although this matter was a little against the rules, they didn't have any grudges against each other. The other party also revealed an apologetic expression, so he couldn't be bothered to take it seriously.

Xu Qing also knew that he had been careless. His actions were inappropriate and unreasonable.

Actually, he wouldn't have made this mistake. After all, this was what he did in Area D.

However, he had just attempted to patrol today and the area and time hadn't been assigned to him yet, so he didn't know who was in charge of this area. It was inevitable that he would be careless.

"I apologize." Xu Qing's expression was solemn. He cupped his fists and bowed to the Pawn who had left.

The Pawn who had left waved his hand with his back facing Xu Qing. Most of the displeasure in his heart dissipated.

When the other party's figure couldn't be seen anymore, Xu Qing turned and left. He originally had a second thing to do and that was to find the three Black Heaven cultivators and leave marks on their bodies to observe.

However, at this moment, he changed his mind and didn't search. Instead, his body rose into the air and left this small world.

As the feeling of the laws descending on him dissipated, Xu Qing let out a long breath and returned to the Prison Department.

After appearing in the Prison Department, Xu Qing immediately found Ghost Hand and told him that he could withstand the laws and patrol independently.

In a corner of the 90th floor, Ghost Hand, who was lying on a rocking chair and drinking, lifted his head and sized up Xu Qing.

"So fast?" Ghost Hand's expression was one of surprise. He performed a series of hand seals and pointed at the mural. Immediately, the mural emitted a gentle light. The original picture inside was blurry, forming a new scene.

The scene was of Xu Qing patrolling inside. However, it only revealed Xu Qing descending on the world and didn't reveal his subsequent actions.

"Kid, you're not bad, not bad." Ghost Hand didn't look anymore. He waved his hand and dispersed the scene, tossing a token to Xu Qing.

"You're in charge of guarding the East 13 area."

Xu Qing took the token and solemnly nodded. After that, he thought about it and spoke softly.

"I put a member of the Quasi-Immortal Race outside their assigned area for an experiment..."

"It's a small matter." Ghost Hand chuckled. He was naturally well aware of this matter. As the Prison Lord, he was very clear about the things in the Prison World. He also understood that all the Pawns under him were actually dishonest and did all kinds of things related to their private matters.

However, at the end of the day, they were all Sword Holders with no ill intentions. At most, they would just make things convenient for themselves.

He turned a blind eye to such a thing.

After all, even he would occasionally do this.

Xu Qing taking the initiative to say this made him very happy.

Seeing this, Xu Qing knew that he had done the right thing.

There was no point in hiding some things. Instead, it would cause unnecessary suspicion. Hence, after pondering, he spoke again.

"Senior, I want to take a look at those few Black Heaven cultivators."

Ghost Hand laughed and pointed at the jade slip in Xu Qing's hand.

"When I explained it to you last time, I could tell that you're quite interested. You can take a look at the place you're guarding."

Xu Qing was stunned when he heard that. He then bowed deeply to Ghost Hand and turned to leave.

Looking at the departing Xu Qing, Ghost Hand took a sip of wine as admiration appeared in his eyes.

He indeed admired Xu Qing very much. Regardless of whether it was his method of poisoning Sick Ghost at the start, his comprehension ability later on, or his constant politeness, this was very rare.

He could even patrol independently with his Golden Core cultivation base, Everything showed that Xu Qing was extraordinary.

More importantly, he had a 100,000 feet long light and was arranged to guard D132. Ghost Hand was very clear about the meaning behind the latter.

Hence, he arranged for Xu Qing to oversee the place where those few Black Heaven cultivators were imprisoned. This was because everyone would fight over the chance to have those Black Heaven Race prisoners, after all they were rarely seen here.

However, no one could say anything if they were given to a newbie who had achieved 100,000 feet light in heart inquisition. Moreover, this would also allow Xu Qing to get familiar with his other colleagues in Area C.

"Kid, you have to work hard. That East 13 area has a good fortune today." Ghost Hand took a large chug of wine and lay on the rocking chair, humming a small tune.

Outside Of Time

Chapter 579: Original Extreme Heaven Saber

Xu Qing stepped into the mural world again and descended.

As the laws of a world pressed down on his body, he took a deep breath and took out the token. According to the guidance, he went to the East 13 area that he needed to guard in the future.

This area was very large. Ghost Hand hadn't brought him there before, so Xu Qing took a little while to reach there.

The terrain here consisted mainly of volcanoes, with red ground and surging magma.

Those three Black Heaven cultivators were suppressed in three separate volcanoes.

They were being tortured using the light and heat emitted by the volcano, which imitated the power of the sun.

Xu Qing flew over to take a look and even took out a Black Heaven cultivator to observe carefully. 500 breaths later, Xu Qing's eyes lit up.

"The aura of the red moon is much denser than that in the Holy Wave Race..." Xu Qing mumbled.

In reality, when Ghost Hand explained and dissected the Black Heaven Race in front of him back then, Xu Qing had already sensed the aura of the red moon in the Black Heaven Race's body.

This aura came from their black blood.

Now, he confirmed this.

"This is also the reason why I sensed the aura of the red moon on the Holy Wave Race's body. It's because there's a trace of the Black Heaven Race's bloodline fused into the bodies of the Holy Wave Race cultivators."

"From the looks of it, could it be that the Black Heaven Race is the same as the Divine Realm cultivator represented by the totem on the Absolute Beginning Separation Pillar in the Yinghuang Province? They both believe in the evil god who covered its eyes in the red moon?"

Xu Qing felt vigilant. He was very clear that the purple moon in the Fourth Heavenly Palace was formed by a wisp of aura he had plundered from the red moon.

"Black Heaven Race..." Xu Qing fell silent. He felt that his judgment should be correct. This also matched the saying that there was no sun but only the moon in the Black Heaven Race.

After a long time, Xu Qing suppressed his thoughts and transmitted his divine sense to the shadow, leaving shadow eyes on the three Black Heaven Race members to observe them.

At the same time, he also placed jade slips to record their actions.

After that, Xu Qing thought about it. In order to let them communicate with each other and find out more details, he simply locked these three Black Heaven cultivators in a volcano.

After doing this, Xu Qing captured another nonhuman prisoner. He wanted to try the Bizarre Nether Dao Snatching Art and see if he could devour the other party and increase his cultivation.

Unfortunately, although Xu Qing could crush these criminals with his combat strength, the difference in their cultivation realms caused the effect of Bizarre Nether Dao Snatching Art to not have good effect.

Xu Qing felt that if devouring the cores of Golden Cores were compared to eating candied fruits, no matter how hard the candied fruits were, he could still eat them. After all, there was a layer of sugar wrapped around them. They would be melted and digested once they entered his body.

As for devouring a Nascent Soul, it was as though the outer layer of the candied fruit was covered in a layer of iron. It wasn't easy to digest.

Xu Qing could understand this. After all, no matter how fragile the other party was, their realm was still that of a Nascent Soul cultivator. The difference in levels made it difficult for him to unleash his Golden Core cultivation art normally.

Of course, it wasn't that there was no solution, but it was much more troublesome. It wasn't as convenient as devouring Golden Core cultivators.

Xu Qing felt that his method might be wrong. Hence, he planned to wait until he could withstand the rules of the world for longer before trying to find a solution. He calculated the time and prepared to leave.

Today, he had arrived twice. Now that his body was carrying the rules of the small world, he was about to reach his limit.

Just as Xu Qing was about to leave, the color of the sky suddenly changed in the distance. The clouds and fog in the sky transformed on their own and became a black mass with bolts of lightning swimming in them.

It was like a heavenly tribulation.

There were also many lightning bolts that overflowed and landed on the ground. This caused the ground there to collapse and gravel to splatter in all directions. Moreover, the range was still expanding.

Xu Qing's eyes narrowed. He hadn't created this scene.

"Did other Pawns arrive?"

Xu Qing's body swayed as he moved closer. Wherever he passed, wind and clouds would stir.

From afar, it looked like a celestial body surrounded by violent power was speeding away.

The instant Xu Qing got close, a figure suddenly rushed out from the ground under the heavenly tribulation. It was a tall nonhuman with blue skin and a single horn on his head.

This nonhuman only had one eye and thick arms with nine fingers on each. At that moment, his expression was filled with anxiety and madness as he rushed toward the thunderclouds in the sky.

He was transcending the tribulation!

When Xu Qing saw this, he immediately understood that there were no other Pawns here. The reason why the world had changed was because of this nonhuman.

This person was extremely extraordinary. His cultivation was actually close to breaking through in this small world, causing the laws of the small world to transform into heavenly tribulation to suppress him.

This matter was rare in small worlds. During this period of time, as Xu Qing understood this prison world, he was very clear that... it was impossible for the other party to succeed.

If the laws of this world weren't controlled by the Sword Holding Palace, the other party might have a chance of success. However, although Xu Qing hadn't seen the suppression of the heavenly tribulation here before, according to his understanding, its might would be earth-shattering.

This place originally wasn't guarded. Presumably, this was also the reason why the nonhuman chose this place.

However, this criminal clearly didn't expect Xu Qing to arrive today.

"Senior Ghost Hand arranged for me to come here. Could it be that he knows about this?" Xu Qing came to a realization. At the same time, a shocking bang rang out from the tribulation cloud.

Thunder rumbled and the sky changed color. Bolts of lightning fell from the clouds in unison. They didn't directly bombard the nonhuman that was rushing over but quickly gathered together.

It actually formed a long saber formed by lightning under the clouds.

This saber was filled with endless lightning and was dazzling.

A supreme mighty force descended into the world. It contained the rules of the operation of this small world, the laws of the world, and the power of the Heavenly Dao.

It emitted Dao rhythms!

The saber beam was even more dazzling at this moment, causing the color of the world to change. It was as though the world had completely dimmed at this moment. Only the light of this saber became the only light in the world!

It displayed endless strength, stirring up the sound of the sky breaking as it slashed at the nonhuman!

This was the true heavenly saber!

What it killed wasn't the body but the Dao!

The saber slashed down and instantly pierced through the nonhuman's body.

The blue-skinned nonhuman's body trembled and he let out a mournful cry. As his body trembled, he coughed out blood violently.

His Nascent Soul cultivation couldn't hold on and collapsed in the blink of an eye!

The Nascent Soul in his body instantly turned gray and flew away. All his Heavenly Palaces were instantly destroyed and the Foundation Building life fires were also extinguished. His Dao foundation collapsed and all his cultivation was gone!

"I'm not willing!!"

This nonhuman's voice was incomparably miserable. However, it was obvious that he was helpless under the rules and laws of this world. He could only die with resentment. His body landed on the ground with a boom and he turned into a mortal. He lost everything and was on the verge of death.

At that moment, Xu Qing didn't care about the criminal or the other party's unwilling roars. He landed on a mountain peak and his eyes widened. Lightning echoed in his mind and monstrous waves stirred.

He stared fixedly at the heavenly saber formed by countless lightning bolts in the sky.

That saber strike kept appearing in his mind and became the only thing in it.

"That saber... that saber..." Xu Qing mumbled. His body trembled and a storm seemed to sweep through his mind.

The change in his state of mind also caused the laws of heaven and earth in the surroundings to transform. Countless clouds and mist appeared above him, sometimes turning into acid rain, sometimes into electromagnetic storm, and sometimes into lightning.

Even the surroundings of the mountain peak he was on were the same.

Everything outside the mountain was blurry. One moment, it was the sea, then the plains, then the desert, and then it returned to a volcano.

The sky changed color and the wind and clouds churned.

As for the nonhuman cultivator who had failed to transcend the tribulation, he had also disappeared without a trace under the changes in the laws of heaven and earth. He might have died or fled.

Xu Qing didn't pay attention to this person. All his attention was on the saber of heavenly tribulation.

Even though this heavenly tribulation saber was slowly dissipating in the distance, it became increasingly clear in Xu Qing's mind.

The feeling this saber strike gave him was very similar to the saber slash he had seen from the statue in the Extreme Heaven Dao Temple in the forbidden zone beside the scavenger campsite back then.

At the thought of this, Xu Qing's body trembled.

"Can it be that..."

He had a faint judgment that the peerless expert who created the Extreme Heaven Saber back then might have seen a Dao-Slaying Heavenly Saber like today.

However, upon closer inspection, there were also differences.

The Dao Temple's Extreme Heaven Saber was a cultivator's saber, and this saber was the saber of heavenly tribulation.

The two were similar in that they came from almost the same source. The difference was that the Dao runes contained were different, so the direction of the slash was different.

The former killed the body while the latter slashed the Dao.

"If I can fuse its comprehension with the Extreme Heaven Saber..."

Xu Qing's eyes gleamed and his breathing became slightly hurried.

He instinctively raised his right hand and copied the saber strike in his mind. His right hand also waved, wanting to use the Dao Slaying Saber formed by the laws of the world.

However, even if Xu Qing's comprehension ability was astonishing, it was impossible for him to succeed with just a glance.

Hence, dozens of breaths later, as the shadow of the heavenly saber formed by the lightning in the sky slowly dissipated, the saber shadow that appeared in Xu Qing's mind gradually became blurry.

In the end, no matter how unwilling Xu Qing was, it was still difficult for him to retain it and it gradually dissipated.

He also tried to use his authority to form this saber strike in the sky again, but it was ineffective.

Clearly, the appearance of this saber of heavenly tribulation was outside his authority.

However, Xu Qing didn't give up. He immediately closed his eyes and began to meditate.

Just like how he had comprehended in front of the Ghost Emperor Mountain back then, he tried his best to slow down the dissipation of the saber shadow in his mind and tried his best to remember it.

Hundreds of breaths passed in the blink of an eye.

Xu Qing opened his bloodshot eyes. He lifted his head and looked at the sky that had returned to normal. He then sighed softly.

His comprehension... failed.

On one hand, the time when the heavenly saber appeared was too short. On the other hand, he was already reaching his limits in this small world, so his state wasn't good.

Also, this heavenly saber's level was extremely high. To a certain extent, it could be seen as the original version of the Extreme Heaven Saber.

All of this made it very difficult for him to succeed.

"I was too anxious."

Xu Qing mumbled. After analyzing the reason for his failure, he had no choice but to soar into the air and leave this small world.

The moment he went out, as his body relaxed, fatigue instantly surfaced in his entire body.

Every time he left the small world, he would have this feeling. This was because his cultivation wasn't high enough and the burden of enduring the rules of a world was extremely great.

However, he didn't care about these. A look of contemplation appeared in his eyes as he analyzed.

"If I want to comprehend this saber strike, I have to let it appear a few more times... I have to be in a state of relaxation and completely free of distractions."

"Only then will there be a possibility of comprehending this Dao Slaying Heavenly Saber."

Xu Qing fell into deep thought. He lowered his head and looked at the small world below, having a direction in his mind.

"I've grasped two saber strikes of the Extreme Heaven Saber. If I can succeed in comprehending this Dao-Slaying Heavenly Saber, this strike can be my third strike."

After Xu Qing arrived at the county capital, he didn't leave the city that much or go out to search for the Extreme Heaven Dao Temples, so the number of Extreme Heaven Saber's saber moves didn't increase.

In addition, he also understood that with the conditions for comprehension of the Extreme Heaven Saber Art, most of the Extreme Heaven Dao Temples were ruined.

After all, as long as someone succeeded once, it would lose its effect.

This also meant that the difficulty of accumulating the Extreme Heaven Saber moves was extremely great. One needed an opportunity to find a Dao temple that hadn't been successfully comprehended or kill those who had comprehended it.

Xu Qing returned to the Prison Department.

"I won't return to the Sword Pavilion for now!"

The moment he walked out of the mural world, Xu Qing turned his head and looked at the scene in the small world.

Determination appeared in his eyes. He simply found a corner on the 90th floor and sat cross-legged to cultivate.

Four hours later, when Pawns entered and exited the small world one after another, Xu Qing's body returned to normal under the circulation of the purple crystal.

He didn't hesitate at all. He stood up and stepped into the mural, enduring the descent of the laws and entering the small world again.

Outside Of Time

Chapter 580: Enlightenment, Mosasaur (1)

This time around, Xu Qing activated the power of rules and flew quickly in the area he was guarding, searching for suitable criminals. At the same time, he took out a jade slip to screen the name list.

What he was looking for were all cultivators who were at the perfected Nascent Soul Realm when they were captured. Such criminals were only a step away from the heavenly tribulation.

Very soon, Xu Qing locked onto four of them. As he performed a series of hand seals, he borrowed the power of rules to search. Not long later, he found a cultivator from the Winged Race.

This criminal was hiding in a cave underground and meditating.

At the next instant, as the cave he lived in rumbled, the ground collapsed and a huge gap exploded. Amidst the rumbling, the expression of the Winged Race prisoner changed.

Although his reaction was fast, it was useless under absolute strength.

A huge force descended from the sky and directly pulled him into the air.

It didn't allow him to refuse or struggle at all.

Due to the weakening by the power of rules, Xu Qing could crush all criminals here.

In an instant, the Nascent Soul of the Winged Race, who was all-powerful outside and could kill Xu Qing with a single hand, was grabbed by the neck by Xu Qing.

"Lord."

Although he felt aggrieved, the Winged Race cultivator still spoke carefully with a fawning expression.

Xu Qing didn't speak. His gaze was cold. After taking a closer look, he threw the Winged Race member to the side. After that, he took out a few medicinal pills and threw them over.

These pills contained dense spirit energy and were good pills in the outside world. Here, they were even more precious. When the Winged Race prisoner saw them, he was stunned. However, what appeared in his eyes wasn't joy but hesitation.

He was very clear that there must be a reason for this abnormality. Hence, he looked at Xu Qing nervously.

"Lord, this..."

"Do you want to eat them yourself, or do you want me to cripple you and stuff them in?" Xu Qing calmly asked.

Viciousness rose in the heart of the Winged Race prisoner, but he forcefully suppressed it. He knew the consequences of not complying, so he gritted his teeth and picked up the medicinal pills, swallowing them all.

However, he was careful and controlled the speed of the absorption.

Xu Qing frowned and directly slapped down. The Winged Race cultivator let out a mournful cry. His body almost collapsed and he was on the verge of death.

However, it was only because his body was weak. As the pills fused into his body, the spirit qi in his body quickly recovered. After Xu Qing checked, he felt that it wasn't enough and opened his mouth again, throwing down a few more pills.

As these pills fused into his body, an energy fluctuation near to breaking through spread out from the Winged Race cultivator.

When he was captured, he was already at the limit of the Nascent Soul realm. After so many years, he had already reached the level of breaking through. However, to advance to the Spirit Repository, he needed the Heavenly Dao. He clearly didn't have it, so he would definitely fail to break through.

However... regardless of whether it was a failure or not, it wouldn't affect the activation of the rules of heaven and earth here, forming the saber of heavenly tribulation.

This fluctuation instantly shocked the Winged Race cultivator. He knew what Xu Qing was trying to do and was about to speak, but it was too late. The sky instantly surged with clouds and tribulation clouds filled the air.

The Winged Race cultivator let out a sharp cry and suddenly jumped up, speeding into the distance. He also kept attacking himself, wanting to suppress his cultivation base and dissipate the heavenly tribulation.

However, after a few attacks, his entire body trembled and stopped. He revealed a fanatical and exaggerated expression but there was horror in his eyes.

His body seemed to be controlled as he forcefully turned around and knelt down in front of Xu Qing.

"Master... I'm willing... to... die!"

The incoherence in his words meant that the shadow's control over him was unstable. At this moment, the Winged Race member struggled even more intensely. His expression changed and his fanatical expression quickly dissipated. His expression became distorted and he was about to break free.

Thunder rumbled in the sky. The Dao Slaying Heavenly Saber formed by countless lightning suddenly landed on the Winged Race.

The moment it landed, the shadow left. The Winged Race cultivator, who had returned to normal, had no chance of dodging. He let out mournful cries and was slashed down by the heavenly saber.

A rumbling sound echoed in all directions.

Xu Qing sat cross-legged in his original location and didn't care about the Winged Race prisoner who was on the verge of death after his Dao foundation was cut off. He lifted his head and looked at the heavenly saber, comprehending again.

300 breaths of time passed in a flash.

As the tribulation clouds slowly dissipated and the heavenly saber also disappeared, Xu Qing's eyes revealed contemplation.

After a while, he stood up and walked toward another area to search for another suitable specimen.

Just like that, several days passed.

As Xu Qing attempted to comprehend Dao Slaying Saber again and again, it was time to meet Ning Yan.

On this day, at dusk, the sky was filled with orange light that formed a gorgeous light. It flowed on the ground like water and landed on the roof and plaza of the Sword Holding Palace's records office.

There were many Sword Holders lined up there.

They were all reserve candidates from the various provinces.

Some of them had anxious expressions and were waiting bitterly. Ning Yan was one of them.

From time to time, he would look into the distance. His heart was uneasy and he was worried about gains and losses. He had been waiting for half a day already.

Behind the table, there was a middle-aged Sword Holder with a solemn expression. This person was in the Golden Core realm and there was a faint flash of lightning in his eyes. Clearly, he was from the Primordial Lightning Lineage and his energy fluctuations were extraordinary.

At that moment, he lifted his head and looked at the seven to eight reserve candidates who were frequently looking into the distance.

"Most of the reserve candidate recommendation records have been completed. You're the only ones left."

"Have you guys found anyone from your same province to recommend you?"

These seven to eight substitutes all had bitter expressions. Some explained, while others remained silent.

Ning Yan hurriedly nodded and bowed to the middle-aged Sword Holder.

"Please wait a little longer. My recommender promised me that he would come."