

Time 611

Chapter 611: Faction wars' rules (1)

Seeing the 'Arctic blue bird' fly towards the Holy mountain in the distance, Jiang Tianfang looked at Shun Long and the rest and smiled before he said

"Since we have already arrived at the Holy sect, it's time for me to leave."

"Father, where are you planning to go?" Jiang Chen asked curiously as he stared at his father's face who had already changed drastically in the last 1 month. Ever since Shun Long's treatment had shown some results, Jiang Tianfang's face could no longer hide the joy he felt.

This was even more so in the last 2 days that he had managed to regrow his right arm back.

Jiang Chen could remember his father missing his right arm for his whole life, forcing him to wield his saber with his left arm instead.

However, now that he had regrown his arm back and had the corrosive power inside his body fully suppressed, Jiang Tianfang looked forward roaming around the central region once again.

With a smile on his face, Jiang Tianfang then said

"I will first go to the headquarters of the 'White tiger chamber of commerce' in 'White Tiger city' and see if I can find a 'Golden light flower'.

After all, the 'White tiger chamber of commerce' is the biggest trading company in the entire northern part of the central region. If even they don't have a rank 7 'Golden light flower' in stock, then I can only try to look for it elsewhere."

Liu Mei and the rest nodded their heads as they looked at the determined Dao Emperor in front of them.

It was obvious that Jiang Tianfang still hadn't given up on getting his dantian fully healed before Shun Long became a Dao Emperor if he could actually do so.

Nodding his head, Shun Long looked at Jiang Tianfang and said seriously

"Uncle Jiang, if you find a rank 7 'Golden light flower' bring it to me. I will do my best to help you by then."

Jiang Tianfang smiled nodded his head warmly before he said

"Then, I will see you again after I find it. Until then, make sure to stay safe."

After he finished speaking, Jiang Tianfang looked at Shun Long's group with that same smile on his face, before he patted the peak rank 6 'Flame eagle's' back the next moment, causing the gigantic eagle to surpass the 'Arctic blue bird' in speed, as it flew above the Holy mountain and past into the distance.

The 2 white-robed, peak rank 9 Dao Kings that were standing guard outside the Holy sect, immediately opened their eyes the moment they sensed the aura of the peak rank 6 'Flame eagle' approaching the Holy sect, but the moment they felt the unfathomably deep aura of the middle-aged man who was riding the eagle, their faces turned pale.

Jiang Tianfang simply laughed loudly as he urged the 'Flame eagle' forward, and in less than a minute, the eagle had already flown past the Holy mountain as it slowly disappeared in the distance.

Feeling the aura of an unfamiliar late-stage Dao Emperor approaching the Holy sect, caused nearly every single one of the inner court Elders inside the sect to suddenly open their eyes and look at the sky. However, when they saw the face of the middle-aged man sitting on the 'Flame eagle's back, those Elders couldn't believe what they were seeing.

"Is that Jiang Tianfang? He is actually back in the central region?"

"The monster from the Jiang clan? He has managed to regrow his right arm? Could it be that this brat is actually healed now?"

"How is this possible? Wasn't he injured by an Elder of 'that family'? He even asked for help from star-rank alchemists in the future, but no one could really help him regrow his arm!"

The inner court Elders of the Holy sect all looked at Jiang Tianfang's disappearing figure with eyes filled with shock.

The Jiang family was also located in the northern part of the central region, so nearly every peak power of the northern part of the central region was familiar with Jiang Tianfang in the past.

Naturally, they all knew his story as well, making it even more difficult for them to believe what they were seeing!

In the depths of the Holy sect, an old man in white robes suddenly opened his eyes and looked at the sky, as he mumbled to himself with a smile on his face

"Jiang Tianfang, you little brat. It seems like you found a way to treat your right arm.? Unfortunately, your aura is still far too weak..."

Haha, I'm still curious to see if the biggest genius of the Jiang clan will shock the central region again in the future. Far too many monsters have started to appear amidst the peak powers of the central region in the last few years, causing even my own blood to start boiling.."

The old man had an extremely profound look in his eyes as he stared at the sky above the Holy sect, before he slowly stood up and disappeared from the room the next moment!

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After taking one last look at Jiang Tianfang's disappearing figure, Shun Long looked at Liu Mei, Jiang Chen, Xie Xingyi, and Bai Longtian, all of whom had excited expressions on their faces as they looked at him, and nodded his head before he had the 'Arctic blue bird' head directly inside the Holy sect.

In the 'Beast Tamer hall', the beast tamers inside the hall who were taking care of the surrounding magic beasts, all had stunned looks on their faces when they saw the 'Arctic blue bird' that had a look of terror and relief on its face after arriving back in the hall.

Normally, flying magic beasts would be excited to leave the Beast Tamer hall, since they felt trapped in this place, but the 'Arctic blue bird' only seemed happy.

Those beast tamers then all turned their gazes towards Shun Long's group a moment later.

They couldn't guess how a group of middle-stage Nascent Soul outer court disciples had managed to terrorize a middle rank 6 magic beast like the 'Arctic blue bird'.

Unfortunately for them, Shun Long didn't seem to want to explain anything, and after lightly patting the gigantic blue bird's back, he was the last one to get off its back, as he led his group out of the Beast Tamer hall.

Of course, how could the 'Arctic blue bird' not be feeling afraid, when it had spent the last month flying side by side next to a peak rank 6 magic beast like the 'Flame eagle'.

After all, the 'Flame eagle' was an extremely aggressive magic beast, and one of the strongest flying peak rank 6 magic beasts as well, making the 'Arctic blue bird' want to fly at its highest speed and escape as far away from the eagle as possible!

Unfortunately, neither its speed nor its strength could match that of the 'Flame eagle', forcing the 'Arctic blue bird' to spend a month filled with terror next to the huge eagle that was almost double its size.

Leaving the 'Beast Tamer hall', Shun Long's group headed directly towards the 'Assignment Hall' to hand in their missions.

After everyone handed in their missions, their faction would finally be eligible to join the faction wars of the Holy sect!

Chapter 612: Faction wars' rules (2)

Entering inside the Assignment Hall, Shun Long and the rest walked directly to the 'Exchange counter' to hand in their missions.

Just like last time, the Exchange counter in the Assignment Hall had a large line of disciples queueing up in front of it, making Shun Long and the rest join the queue as well.

Almost half an hour later, Shun Long's turn finally arrived.

"How can I help you?"

Looking at the young woman with the robes of an outer court disciple behind the Exchange counter in front of him, Shun Long took out his sect identifying token and placed it on the counter as he mentioned the names of the 2 missions that he wanted to hand in.

The young woman nodded her head calmly as she walked to the 'Mission Board' behind her and quickly found the 2 missions that Shun Long had mentioned, before she placed the 2 scrolls in front of Shun Long and asked him

"Are these the 2 missions that you want to hand in?"

"D-rank faction mission: Hunt down a middle rank 5 'Poison-tongued Toad' from the 'Giant crane Forest' 3000 miles away from the Holy city, and bring back its magic beast core.

Reward: 7000 sect points"

"C-rank faction mission: Travel to Tang city of the 'Blue star continent' in the Northern region and infiltrate the royal palace of the Tang dynasty to assassinate the crown prince. This mission requires extreme caution as there is at least one early-stage Dao King who is protecting the crown prince in secret at all times.

Reward: 10.000 sect points"

After taking a look at the 2 scrolls in front of him, Shun Long nodded his head in confirmation, before the young woman in yellow robes took his sect identifying token and placed it on a specific spot on the counter.

The formations etched on the counter were activated one after the other, before the scenes recorded inside Shun Long's sect identifying token started to replay in front of Shun Long's and the young woman's eyes.

The young woman was surprised when she saw Shun Long venturing inside the 'Giant Crane forest' by himself, since this was obviously a D-rank faction mission and not a personal mission, causing her to throw a curious look at Shun Long.

After all, a middle rank 6 magic beast was strong enough that it needed at least an entire group of outer court disciples led by an early rank 6 in the Nascent Soul to work together if they wanted to kill it.

Additionally, the woman also knew that it wasn't too uncommon inside the Holy sect for some powerful disciples to complete faction missions by themselves.

However, the more she saw, the more surprised she became with every passing moment.

Seeing the scene of Shun Long beheading the immobilized middle rank 5 'Poison-tongued Toad' with a single sword slash made the young woman suck in a breath of cold air, as her eyes involuntarily glanced at the name on the golden-colored token a moment later.

"Shun Long... is this person a beast tamer? How come I have never heard of his name before?" The young woman thought to herself as she watched Shun Long store the body of the 'Poison-tongued Toad' inside his spatial ring before he left the toad's pond.

From the familiarity that Shun Long had searched for the 'Poison-tongued Toad' without stopping to fight any random magic beasts, the young woman naturally guessed that Shun Long was most likely a beast tamer or someone who happened to know a lot about the 'Poison-tongued Toad' itself.

Naturally, after she confirmed that Shun Long hadn't used any external help to kill the toad, she transferred 7000 sect points into Shun Long's token, before she turned her eyes towards the next scenes that started to play in front of her.

If Shun Long hunting the 'Poison-tongued Toad' had left the young woman surprised just now, then the next scenes that followed made her stare blankly at the air with a look of disbelief on her face.

The young woman saw Shun Long tear space open continuously as he infiltrated the royal palace of the Tang dynasty along with Xingyi, before he and Xingyi both hid themselves inside what seemed to be a space tear.

However, the most baffling scenes were actually the inexplicable death of the target of the mission, the crown prince of the Tang dynasty, Tang Long, whose body seemed to have suddenly turned into a corpse, as well as the entire Tang city falling silent soon after, as Shun Long and the rest had barely managed to escape from the royal palace.

Naturally, Shun Long hadn't recorded the scene of Jiang Tianfang beating the Dao Emperor of the Tang dynasty, since he was actually planning to let Little Black handle Tang Wu by himself.

Shun Long wouldn't risk capturing Little Black's image into his 'sect identifying token', so he had stopped the recording formation at that moment.

Seeing that the scene had abruptly stopped there, the young woman at the Exchange counter suddenly felt the urge to ask what had happened next, since she could guess that a peak expert from the Tang dynasty had probably appeared after they had killed the crown prince, but Shun Long was somehow still standing in front of her completely unharmed.

However, once she remembered that the mission itself only stated that they had to kill the crown prince, she suppressed her curiosity and transferred 10.000 sect points to Shun Long's sect identifying token without asking anything else.

At that moment, Shun Long's sect identifying token lit up with a bright golden light, as a series of golden letters formed a single word on the surface of his token

'Qualified'

The young woman behind the 'Exchange counter' stared at the changes in Shun Long's token for a moment, before her gaze fell back on Shun Long.

Indeed, after Liu Mei, Xie Xingyi, Bai Longtian, and Jiang Chen, had all handed in the D-rank faction missions that they had completed by themselves previously, the only one left was Shun Long.

Once the young woman behind the exchange counter had verified Shun Long's missions, Shun Long understood that his faction instantly became qualified to participate in the faction wars of the Holy sect.

"Congratulations. Your faction is now qualified to take part in the faction wars!"

Although the young woman was surprised that the young man in front of her -whom she believed to be a beast tamer- hadn't joined a big faction and instead had formed his own, she still congratulated Shun Long a moment later with a smile on her face.

"As per the sect rules, since your faction is qualified to join the faction wars, let me explain the rules of the faction wars within the sect."

Once a faction was deemed eligible to join the faction wars, the disciples from the 'Exchange counter' in the 'Assignment Hall' were the ones responsible for explaining the rules of the faction wars to anyone who wasn't familiar with them.

Thus, the yellow-robed woman looked at Shun Long before she continued

"Every month, your faction will have to compete at least once against another faction in the faction wars.

You will be notified before the matches through your sect identifying token, before you are instructed to proceed to the arena for the faction war.

No more than 10 outer disciples are allowed to be a part of your faction in every fight!

You are allowed to forfeit the match if you want to, but forfeiting in the faction wars is similar to forfeiting a fight in the 'Martial Roll of Honor' and will lower your faction's ranking.

Of course, your faction is ranked at the bottom right now, so you don't have to worry about dropping any further.

Additionally, every single faction ranked in the top 2000 within the sect will also receive resources from the sect every month, including sect points and spirit stones! However, factions below the top 2000 rankings won't receive anything.

This means that if you really want to obtain resources, you should aim for the top 2000 spots, but no faction within the top 2000 is actually weak!

Naturally, the higher your ranking, the better the rewards!"

The young woman's monotonous voice turned somewhat excited upon reaching this moment as she then continued

"The rewards that the top 1000 factions obtain are more than 10 times better than the factions ranked in the top 2000!

As for the top 100 factions... it is said that the rewards that they obtain are better than the rest of the top 2000 factions below them combined!

I have even heard that each of the top 100 factions possess their own territory within the sect as well!

Ah, but the rules to fight the top 100 factions are different from the rest of the fights among the faction wars.

Wars against the top 100 factions aren't scheduled by the sect.

Instead, only the top 1000 factions are allowed to challenge the top 100 factions, but this 'challenge' is much more brutal than the normal faction wars!

Since the top 100 factions have their own territory within the sect, any faction ranked within the top 1000 can attack their territory and challenge them at any time.

The top 100 factions have no choice but to accept the fight and start the war or they will thus lose their territory.

But of course, any faction within the top 100 rankings can only be challenged twice every day at most.

Naturally, during the faction wars, you are not allowed to kill or cripple another disciple, but everything else is allowed!"

At the same time that the young woman finished speaking, Shun Long's sect identifying token on top of the 'Exchange counter' lit up for the second time, before another series of words appeared on its surface.

Chapter 613: Entering seclusion

"Faction wars:

Shun Long's faction (rank 10824th) vs Lim Yu's faction (rank 6523)

Match will begin at noon, 10 days from now. On the day of the match, proceed to the arena in the outer court."

It wasn't just Shun Long and the young woman behind the 'Exchange counter' who noticed this, but even Liu Mei and the rest who were waiting by the side that had all turned their attention towards Shun Long's token at the same time.

Seeing that their first match was already decided, everyone had serious yet expectant looks on their faces.

This was the first time their faction was going to fight inside the sect against another faction!

At the same time, the young woman behind the 'Exchange counter' handed Shun Long's token back to him and said

"Congratulations. Your first match has already been scheduled.? Fights between factions are fairly simple in their rules. As long as you can injure the leader of the enemy faction and make him unable to fight any longer, you will automatically win the match."

Shun Long cupped his hands and thanked the young woman behind the 'Exchange counter', before he took his sect identifying token from the counter and walked towards Liu Mei and the rest.

Seeing that everyone had excited looks on their faces, Shun Long smiled and said

"Let's go back first. We still have 10 days until the match starts."

Jiang Chen and the rest all followed Shun Long as they walked out from the Assignment Hall.

They had all spent the past 2 months traveling on top of the 'Arctic blue bird's' back without a chance to cultivate, so every one of them was planning to spend the next 10 days entering seclusion and try to advance their cultivation.

After all, it was practically impossible to cultivate without a care when you were sitting on the back of a middle rank 6 magic beast that was traversing the continental sea at full speed.

Even Shun Long who was absorbing the qi in the air around him wasn't doing so to cultivate, but he was merely replenishing the qi in his qi balls after he had finished treating Jiang Tianfang.

"Then, brother Shun, I will see you again in 10 days."

Bai Longtian was the first one to bid farewell to Shun Long and the rest, before he walked back to his own courtyard.

Jiang Chen and even Xingyi did the same a moment later, as they left to return back to their own courtyards as well.

Everyone chose to go and cultivate in their own courtyards, since the qi inside Shun Long's courtyard wouldn't be enough for everyone to share.

Shun Long smiled as he and Liu Mei walked back to his own courtyard. It was obvious that everyone was planning to make the most out of these 10 days now that they had returned back to the sect.

After entering his courtyard, Shun Long first had Little Silver come out from the 'Stone of Time', before he and Liu Mei entered inside the main room.

Since he was planning to enter seclusion again, Shun Long would always let Little Silver stay outside and keep Liu Mei company while she trained.

After all, Liu Mei didn't need to cultivate normally since she was training in the 'Blood Absorption art', but she needed to use her time to get even more familiar with her undead creatures even better.

In the past 2 months, Shun Long had already told Liu Mei about what he had learned from Little Black after the black dragon had woken up.

Little Black had said that it was wrong for a cultivator who has comprehended the Dao of Death to use their soul sense and completely suppress their undead creatures or treat them as an army.

Instead, he had said that Liu Mei should allow her undead creatures to fight freely using all their negative emotions, and that Liu Mei should only suppress the killing intent that they have towards her and those around her.

Since this was the way that a powerful family from the Immortal Dimension taught its descendants who had comprehended the Dao of Death, this was naturally the best way for Liu Mei to go at it as well.

After all, even Elder Xuan's master, a powerful peak rank 9 Dao Emperor, didn't know too much about the Dao of Death aside from her own comprehension.

Entering inside the room, Shun Long suddenly smiled as he walked forward and placed his hands around Liu Mei's waist, holding her tightly.

Leaning slightly forward, he then whispered into her ear in a low voice

"Mei'er, I missed you."

Liu Mei's face turned red as she Shun Long's hands removing her robes, before they started to roam around her body, but she still nodded her head gently and placed her hands around Shun Long's neck, planting a big kiss on his face.

With that same smile on his face, Shun Long removed his own robes as well, as he took Liu Mei to the shower.

With the water naturally falling above his head from the formation etched on the 'shower', Shun Long's sucked in and even bit Liu Mei's perfect, cherry-like nipples, causing moans of pleasure and ecstasy to escape from Liu Mei's mouth, while his hands explored every nook and cranny of her perfectly sculptured body.

Starting from her neck, Shun Long's right hand slowly slid downwards towards her chest, only to reach Liu Mei's secret place a few moments later.

Shun Long could feel a wet and warm sensation on his fingers, as Liu Mei placed both of her hands around his neck and let him do whatever he wanted to do.

Ragged breaths and moans filled with pleasure and excitement resounded throughout the room for the next few hours, before Shun Long finally laid down on the bed with Liu Mei lying on top of him.

A few minutes later, Shun Long stood up and gently caressed Liu Mei's stunningly beautiful face, and after putting his robes back on, he sat on his meditative cushion and closed his eyes as he entered inside the foggy space in the 'Stone of Time'.

Sitting cross-legged on his usual spot, Shun Long first patted Little Black's head that was leisurely munching a few rank 6 medicinal herbs, before he waved his right hand, causing the corpse of an enormous red bear to appear in front of him.

Chapter 614: Barrier-piercing pill

Staring at the corpse of the peak rank 5 'red-furred bear' in front of him, Shun Long's lips curved up as he waved his hand a second time, taking out a dozen medicinal herbs and an alchemy cauldron from his herb garden.

"Even though I spent 2 years with Mei'er in the 'Ten thousand beasts mountain range', I still didn't manage to gather all the medicinal herbs that I needed to refine the 'Barrier-piercing pill' back then. Thankfully, the pill shops in the Holy city had more than enough rank 5 medicinal herbs for sale." Shun Long mumbled to himself as he stared at the dozen rank 5 medicinal herbs in front of him.

Indeed, the pill that he was planning to refine this time was precisely the rank 5 'Barrier-piercing pill' that Bai Longtian, Xie Xingyi, and Jiang Chen, had all received from their masters after they were accepted by them as personal disciples.

Shun Long had actually been planning on refining this pill for a while, but even though he had spent 2 years in the 'Ten thousand beasts' mountain range' with Liu Mei, he still hadn't managed to find all the medicinal herbs that he needed.

It was only after he had taken a walk around the alchemy shops in the Holy city that he had found the rest of the medicinal herbs that he needed.

However, Shun Long's version of the rank 5 'Barrier-piercing pill' was vastly different from the Holy sect's.

Normally, the Holy sect's version of the pill would only allow a middle-stage Nascent Soul cultivator to advance a minor tier upon consuming the pill, up to the peak of rank 6 in the Nascent Soul, but Shun Long's 'Barrier-piercing pill' could allow even late-stage Nascent Soul cultivators to advance an entire minor tier instead.

The difference between the middle and the late stages of the Nascent Soul was simply enormous, making Shun Long's 'Barrier-piercing pill' many times more valuable than the Holy sect's.

If a single high-grade 'Barrier-piercing pill' was being sold for 5000 sect points in the Golden Treasures hall, then Shun Long believed that his own pills could easily be sold for 20.000 sect points for every pill.

Additionally, it was common knowledge that a Nascent Soul stage cultivator could only consume a single 'Barrier-piercing pill', while a second one wouldn't have any effects, but Shun Long knew that his 'Barrier-piercing pills' would allow Jiang Chen, Bai Longtian, and Xingyi, to breakthrough once again after consuming it!

Of course, the effect of the pill wouldn't allow them to advance an entire minor tier after consuming it for the second time, but Shun Long knew that it was going to be more than enough for them to breakthrough past the barrier of the late stages of the Nascent Soul and enter the early or even the middle of rank 7 in the Nascent Soul, if they consumed the pill once they reached the peak of rank 6 in the Nascent Soul.

Closing his eyes, Shun Long first conjured some of his qi into qi flames and started to warm his cauldron, before he placed the medicinal herbs inside it one by one. Spreading his soul sense to fully envelop the cauldron, Shun Long then started to extract the essence from the medicinal herbs inside it.

In just 15 minutes, more than a dozen rank 4 and a handful of rank 5 medicinal herbs had their essence extracted, turning into a colorful liquid that swirled inside the cauldron.

Turning his attention towards the corpse of the 'red-furred bear' next to him, Shun Long's eyes instantly turned serious as he raised his right hand and plunged it inside the bear's chest.

An illusionary, purple-colored blade appeared on his hand, before it collided with the bear's hide the next moment.

Surprisingly, even Shun Long's spatial blade was having difficulty cutting through the hide of the 'red-furred bear' even though the bear had already died long ago, but Shun Long gritted his teeth as he kept cutting the hide with his right hand, while his left hand maintained the qi flames that kept heating the cauldron.

After all, although the 'red-furred bear' was a peak rank 5 magic beast with extremely weak mental defenses, which was why it had died so easily to the poison from the 'Soul poisoning hell grass', in terms of its physical strength and the strength of its body, it was actually among the strongest peak rank 5 magic beasts! Even after its death, even late-stage Nascent Soul cultivators would find it hard to cut through its body and obtain its beast core and its heart essence.

A few moments later, Shun Long cut through the bear's hide and finally reached its heart, as he then grabbed the bear's heart with his right hand and poured its blood essence into the cauldron.

The moment that the blood essence from a peak rank 5 magic beast met with the medicinal essence inside the cauldron, a sizzling sound resounded in the air.

10 minutes later, the sizzling sound finally died down, while at the same time, an deep, fragrant scent started to waft from the cauldron, as it slowly filled the air inside the foggy space in the 'Stone of Time'.

Opening the lid of the cauldron, Shun Long saw the 5 green-colored pills inside it and heaved out a sigh of relief, as he mumbled to himself

"All 5 of them have reached the top-grade. If it wasn't for the blood essence of the 'red-furred bear' being so potent, at most, only 3 of them would have reached the top-grade!"

Compared to the time when Shun Long had refined the 'Dragonblood tempering pills', refining the 'Barrier-piercing pills' was truly much easier, but it was still a complicated process nevertheless.

With a smile on his face, Shun Long placed the 5 'Barrier-piercing pills' inside a pill bottle and stored it in his herb garden, before he turned his gaze towards the 'Heaven Swallowing vine'.

Sitting cross-legged on the ground, Shun Long then waved his hand, causing a mountain of spirit stones to appear around him, as he fed them all to the enormous vine by his side.

The Heaven Swallowing vine instantly consumed the middle-grade spirit stones, as it started to fill the air around Shun Long with its extremely pure qi.

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Like this, 10 days quickly passed in the outside world, as the day of the faction war finally arrived.

Chapter 615: Faction war (1)

Inside the foggy space in the 'Stone of Time', Shun Long inhaled deeply one last time, absorbing even the last bit of pure qi around him, before he finally opened his eyes.

Above his head, the figure of an invisible hourglass was floating, with 33 bright balls of qi that were emitting a bright silver light.

Although 10 days had passed in the outside world, more than 3 full months had passed for Shun Long inside the foggy space.

In these 3 months, Shun Long had successfully broken through the barrier of the middle stages of the Nascent Soul, becoming an early and then a middle rank 4 Nascent Soul cultivator.

Breaking through to the middle stages of the Nascent Soul wasn't easy, as Shun Long had spent more than 200.000 middle-grade spirit stones in the last 3 months.

The qi consumption of his 'Monarch's Hourglass' was truly immense, especially when it was compared to other cultivators at the same level.

Shun Long knew that a normal person would normally need around 200.000 middle-grade spirit stones to reach the late stages of the Nascent Soul from the peak of rank 3, but 200.000 middle-grade spirit stones were only enough for Shun Long to reach the middle of rank 4 in the Nascent Soul instead.

Naturally, this was the effect of an extremely high-grade cultivation technique like the 'Monarch's Hourglass'.

How could the qi required to train in a technique like his 'Monarch's Hourglass' be compared to other cultivation techniques?

After all, Shun Long clearly knew that the purity of his qi inside his qi balls couldn't be compared to the qi inside the dantian of any other outer disciple within the Holy sect, at the same level as him.

Seeing the 635.000 middle-grade spirit stones that he had now left inside his herb garden, that had been depleted by one-fourth in a single cultivation session, Shun Long felt somewhat dejected in his heart.

"At this rate, even if I robbed a Dao Emperor clean, his wealth probably wouldn't be enough to allow me to reach even the peak of the Dao King realm, let alone become the Dao Emperor realm...

Unless I start selling some pills in the Holy city, I will have trouble even reaching the late stages of the Nascent Soul as well...

Maybe I should go to Murong city earlier than I was planning to."

Remembering the treasures that Huo Wuyi, the Dao Emperor who had created the 'Dragon Lord's villa' in the Night star continent had hidden in a mountain outside Murong city, Shun Long started to consider whether he should go there sooner than he had been planning to.

The only reason why he was still hesitating, was because Shun Long now had a rough understanding of the approximate level of strength of the Murong family.

According to Huo Wuyi's memories, the Murong family wasn't any weaker than the Holy sect itself.

Since the sect master of the Holy sect was a Sovereign realm expert according to Jiang Tianfang, and there was even a powerful peak-level Dao Emperor hidden in the depths of the sect as well, Shun Long could roughly guess how strong the Murong family was.

Even with Little Black who had now reached the middle of rank 7 and was probably strong enough to fight off against late-stage Dao Emperors, Shun Long couldn't deny that the Murong family was still a behemoth that he couldn't shake just yet.

Besides, even Huo Wuyi's treasures weren't worth it for Shun Long to risk Little Black's safety just to obtain them.

Closing his eyes, Shun Long imagined himself leaving the foggy space as he appeared back in his room barely a moment later.

Seeing that the room was empty, Shun Long's lips curved up ever-so-slightly, as he opened the door and walked to the courtyard outside, where Liu Mei, Xie Xingyi, Jiang Chen, and Bai Longtian, were all there, along with a huge black panther who was lying on the ground with his eyes closed.

Shun Long had already decided to let Bai Longtian and the rest enter his courtyard when they arrived, so they could see Little Silver.

Since Shun Long was going to spend many years alongside them in the future, it was going to be a matter of time until they learned of Little Silver's existence.

After completing the C-rank mission and infiltrating the royal palace, Shun Long didn't plan to hide too many things from them any longer.

Indeed, although Xingyi, Jiang Chen, and Bai Longtian, had been surprised when they arrived in the courtyard earlier and saw a huge black panther lying on the ground, once Liu Mei explained that Little Silver was Shun Long's magic beast, everyone accepted it without too much difficulty.

In their eyes, Shun Long's secrets had already far exceeded his ability to 'smuggle' a magic beast inside the Holy sect unnoticed.

Since they had all chosen to follow Shun Long, they were only feeling more comfortable seeing that Shun Long was sharing his secret with them.

"Long-ge!"

"Brother Long!"

The moment that the door of the room opened, everyone turned their attention towards Shun Long, before Liu Mei and Xingyi excitedly spoke.

Shun Long smiled as he looked at Liu Mei and the rest, before he walked to Little Silver and patted its head, letting it return in the foggy space in the 'Stone of Time'.

Since Shun Long wasn't hiding his cultivation, Liu Mei and the rest noticed that he had broken through to the middle of rank 4 in the Nascent Soul during his seclusion this time, shocking everyone in their hearts!

At the same time, Shun Long noticed that, although neither Xingyi, Bai Longtian, or Jiang Chen, had broken through during their cultivation session, it was obvious that they were just a step away from breaking through once again.

Seeing the excited looks that they all had on their faces, Shun Long smiled and said

"Since we are all ready, let's go to the arena."

Today was the first day that their faction would be fighting as 5, facing off against another faction of the Holy sect!

Liu Mei, Jiang Chen, Xingyi, and Bai Longtian, all nodded their heads, as they walked out of the courtyard and headed towards the north of the sect.

The arena was located in the north of the court as well, less than 200 meters away from the entrance of the inner court.

...

It only took half an hour for Shun Long's faction to arrive in front of the entrance of the gigantic arena of the outer court.

Although Shun Long and the rest had yet to enter it, judging from how big the arena was, they could easily guess that the arena itself could fit more than 200.000 outer disciples inside it without any issue.

The arena didn't seem to have too many people around it, but Shun Long knew that this was only natural.

He already knew that most outer disciples wouldn't usually waste their time idling around this place, unless there was a battle between 2 powerful factions near the top 100 rankings, or a battle between 2 geniuses ranked in the Martial Roll of Honor!

After all, nobody really cared about watching the lower-ranked factions fight against each other!

However, just as Shun Long and the rest were about to step past the arena's entrance and enter inside it, 2 people dressed in yellow robes and a young man who wasn't wearing the robes of the Holy sect suddenly blocked their path, causing Shun Long to furrow his brows upon seeing this, while Jiang Chen was the first one to step forward with an annoyed look on his face.

Chapter 616: Faction war (2)

Aside from Jiang Chen who had never paid any attention to Sheng Huang, everyone else from Shun Long's faction instantly recognized this spiky-haired prince from the Shengtian dynasty and the chubby, silver-haired young lord of the 'Mercenaries' Association' who was standing next to him, along with the blue-haired young man who was also standing by their side.

Shun Long was slightly surprised when he noticed that the aura coming from Sheng Huang's body had actually reached the peak of rank 4 in the Nascent Soul!

As for Zhong Fang's aura, it was still at the middle of rank 4, while the young lord's of the Golden Exchange firm from the Night star continent, Hu Liu's aura, it was the same since the last time that Shun Long had met him in front of the Giant Crane forest 3 months ago, still at the early rank 4 of the Nascent Soul.

Shun Long narrowed his eyes when he saw that Sheng Huang was still looking at him with a cold look in his eyes that didn't hide his killing intent, but a moment later, Sheng Huang actually snorted and turned his attention away from Shun Long, looking at Xie Xingyi and Bai Longtian who were standing right behind him.

Staring at Xie Xingyi and Bai Longtian with a serious look, Sheng Huang pointed at an empty spot next to the arena's entrance and said in a commanding tone

"The 2 of you, come with me! There is something we need to discuss!"

"Scram!" Before Xingyi or Bai Longtian could even answer, Jiang Chen was the first one to speak, as he took another step forward and appeared right in front of Sheng Huang.

His cold, black eyes, looked down on Sheng Huang, while his aura that was at the peak of rank 5 of the Nascent Soul made Sheng Huang involuntarily take a few steps back, before Sheng Huang looked at Jiang Chen with a disbelieving look on his face!

Although Jiang Chen may not have given a shit about Sheng Huang, how could Sheng Huang not know about the existence of this monster who had shown his immortal-grade bloodline during the fourth test of the Holy sect?

Jiang Chen and that red-robed young man named Jun Ren who had entered the Holy sect along with him, were the 2 people that Sheng Huang didn't want to clash against at all.

Even with his Dao of Destruction, Sheng Huang knew that the chances of him beating Jiang Chen were practically zero if he used his immortal-grade bloodline!

"Sheng Huang, what do you want?" Xie Xingyi's voice didn't hold the slightest hint of politeness as she addressed this former number 1 genius of the Night star continent.

Just the fact that Sheng Huang had been staring at Shun Long with a look of killing intent in his eyes and had even 'ordered' her to follow him, made Xingyi furious in her heart.

Bai Longtian nodded his head towards Sheng Huang, but he didn't move a step from his spot either, as his eyes simply stared at Sheng Huang and Zhong Fang without saying a word, almost as if he was waiting for him to speak.? Although he was someone who wouldn't refuse to give others face, Bai Longtian wouldn't insult his own friends just to be polite to his enemies.

He already knew that Shun Long and Sheng Huang were considered enemies, but Bai Longtian didn't really care about Sheng Huang, and he knew that Shun Long didn't care too much about him either.

The truth was, that if he wanted to, Bai Longtian could have simply revealed his 'Golden Buddha unique physique' along with his 'Dao of the Buddha', and be hailed as the number 1 genius of the Night star continent instead of Sheng Huang, but Bai Longtian wasn't someone who cared about fame either.

But to have someone like Sheng Huang order him around wasn't something that he was willing to accept.

At the same time, after sensing the 4 auras coming from Liu Mei, Xie Xingyi, Jiang Chen, and Bai Longtian, Sheng Huang and Zhong Fang were unable to hide their jealousy!

This was even more so for Liu Mei, whom they had both met 4 months ago in front of the inner court's entrance.

Back then, when Sheng Huang and Zhong Fang had blocked Shun Long and Liu Mei, they clearly remembered that Liu Mei's aura was still below theirs, but now she had actually reached the early rank 5 of the Nascent Soul!

As for Xie Xingyi and Bai Longtian, when they had entered the sect, they were all peak rank 3 Nascent Soul stage cultivators, but now, Xingyi and Bai Longtian had already reached the middle of rank 5 in the Nascent Soul as well.

Of course, Sheng Huang had already heard that the 4 of them had been accepted by inner court Elders as personal disciples, so he had already heard that they had been bestowed a 'Barrier-piercing pill' from their masters.

"How can the Elders accept them as personal disciples but ignore me? HOW AM I INFERIOR TO THEM? HOW??"

When Sheng Huang had learned about this, he had actually gone in a violent fit of rage, destroying everything inside his own room.

The truth was, that Sheng Huang himself desperately wanted to purchase a 'Barrier-piercing pill' for himself, but every pill was sold for 5.000 sect points in the Golden Treasures hall.

Putting aside the fact that he didn't have enough sect points, since every personal D-rank mission only gave up to 200 sect points, even if he sold almost every single treasure of his, the 'Barrier-piercing pills' were still extremely rare to appear in the Golden Treasures hall as well!

Staring at Xie Xingyi and Bai Longtian, the prince of the Shengtian dynasty suppressed his frustration, while the look in his eyes turned solemn as he said

"Since the both of you come from the Night star continent as well, I know that you understand the true problem of the continent, so I will get to the point.

In less than 3 years, the Demon Emperor palace will invade the continent.

Don't tell me that you don't understand what those vampires will do to our continent once they arrive there.? Are you willing to see innocent people die?

Since you have been accepted by the Elders of the inner court as their personal disciples, I want you to talk to your masters and ask them to interfere.

Of course, I am not asking you to do this for free. As long as you agree, our Shengtian dynasty will give you 5 million middle-grade spirit stones."

Shun Long's lips arched upwards as a mocking smile appeared on his face when he heard this. However, he didn't interfere, as he simply waited to hear what Bai Longtian and Xingyi would say.

Although Shun Long and Liu Mei didn't come from a powerful family of the Night star continent and didn't know too many things about the secrets of the continent or the Demon Emperor palace, Xie Xingyi and Bai Longtian who came from the Xie and the Bai families already knew about this issue and they had already told everything to Shun Long.

Bai Longtian shook his head and cupped his hands in an apologetic manner as he said

"Brother Sheng, I'm afraid I won't be able to help you. I have already talked to my master about this matter, but he said that I shouldn't interfere unless I have the strength to fight against the Demon Emperor palace by myself.

The Holy sect isn't willing to interfere in this.

Master said that the Night star continent needs a Dao Emperor to preside over it, and since the Demon Emperor palace is willing to do so, the Elders of the Holy sect won't fight them unless the Demon Emperor palace kills millions of innocent people.

However, brother Sheng, you don't have to worry about this issue too much. Master said that the Demon Emperor palace won't harm the continent, and instead, they may allow it to flourish even further in the future.

Additionally, as long as your Shengtian dynasty is willing to submit to the Demon Emperor palace, you will still be fine."

Bai Longtian didn't seem to even care about Sheng Huang's offer of 5 million middle-grade spirit stones from his Shengtian dynasty, as he rejected this in a heartbeat.

"BULLSHIT! BAI LONGTIAN, YOU FUCKER!

Are you really willing to see the peak powers of the Night star continent get replaced by those blood-sucking monsters? Do you really expect us to bend the knee and submit to them? My Shengtian dynasty has ruled the continent for tens of thousands of years!"

"Bai Longtian, think about this again! Your Bai family will also be affected by something like this." said Zhong Fang as he looked at Bai Longtian with a serious look in his eyes.

At that moment, a cold smile appeared on Xingyi's face as she looked at Sheng Huang and the silver-haired Zhong Fang, before she added in

"Your Shengtian dynasty has ruled the continent for tens of thousands of years? This is precisely the reason why you don't want the Demon Emperor palace to invade the Night star continent!

It's not because you are afraid of the people who will die once the Demon Emperor palace conquers the continent, but instead, it's because you know that the peak powers in Heaven's Dome city will crumble!

It's because your Shengtian dynasty is monopolizing all the resources in the continent that you are unwilling to lose this advantage of yours, and the same goes for Zhong Fang's 'Mercenaries' Association'!

You know that the Demon Emperor palace will force you to bend the knee that you are forced to ask for help from the Holy sect.

However, both the Bai family and my Xie family wouldn't be affected too much by this to begin with.

The ones who will be affected the most, are those who monopolize the resources of the continent like your Shengtian dynasty!"

Hearing Xie Xingyi lay out the truth about his Shengtian dynasty like that made Sheng Huang furious, but he also knew that she was correct.

This was the reason why his Shengtian dynasty was willing to pay 5 million spirit stones to Xingyi and Bai Longtian to help them with this issue.

Actually, Sheng Huang could even offer a higher price, but from Xingyi's and Bai Longtian's tone, he understood that neither they nor the Holy sect was interested in meddling in this matter.

Indeed, it would be his Shengtian dynasty and the other peak powers in the Heaven's Dome city who would be affected by this the most, while powers like the Xie family and Bai Longtian's Bai family would barely be affected if the Demon Emperor palace conquered the continent.

But how could his Shengtian dynasty who was used to ruling the continent for tens of thousands of years, suddenly bend the knee and submit to the Demon Emperor palace?

This was why Sheng Huang was feeling depressed that he wasn't accepted by an Elder of the Holy sect as a personal disciple like Xie Xingyi and Bai Longtian.

"Now scram! Stop blocking the way!"

Jiang Chen stared at Sheng Huang coldly as he spoke, not caring at all about Sheng Huang's plight or the fact that his Shengtian dynasty would have to either bend the knee or disappear from the face of the Night star continent.

Sheng Huang had a look of disbelief on his face as he stared at Xie Xingyi and Bai Longtian who completely ignored him, as they followed after Shun Long and entered the arena.

...

After walking past the arena's entrance and entering inside, Shun Long, Liu Mei, and the rest, all saw a huge hallway that led directly to the audience seats and a small corridor that led to the center of the arena, as well as 3 different counters placed not too far away from each other.

Shun Long then walked directly towards the counter for the faction wars.

According to the young man behind the counter, there was less than one hour until their match started.

Although the arena itself was enormous, barely 500 outer court disciples were present today, making the place look desolate.

Finally, an hour later, a white-robed Elder who was standing in the center of the arena took out a black-colored token from his spatial ring and raised it in the air above him, before he said in an uncaring, monotonous voice

"Shun Long's faction vs Lim Yu's faction. The match will now begin!"

Chapter 617: Faction war (3)

Hearing the Elder's voice, Liu Mei's and the rest's ears all perked up, as they followed Shun Long and stepped inside the small corridor that led directly towards the center of the arena.

Entering inside the arena, Shun Long noticed that the arena was actually massive, spanning for more than 800 meters in length, with countless trees surrounding it from all sides.

The trees were blocking everyone's vision, not allowing the contestants to see for more than a few dozen meters ahead of them, but the center of the arena itself where the white-robed Elder was standing was clear from any trees.

The radius of 100 meters that the center of the arena covered, looked like a barren land that was in sharp contrast to the rest of the arena.

At the same time that Shun Long and the rest entered the arena and arrived in front of the white-robed Elder, Shun Long saw another group appearing from the other side, approaching the Elder as well.

Shun Long guessed that this group that was filled with 6 others yellow-robed outer disciples, was most likely Lim Yu's faction.

The person standing in the lead of this group was a young man who had reached the early rank 6? of the Nascent Soul, with short black hair similar to Sheng Huang's and deep black eyes, while the other 5 people standing behind him, were either early stage, middle, or late stage rank 5 Nascent Soul cultivators.

As soon as Shun Long's group appeared on stage, the few outer disciples who were lazily sitting among the crowd seats instantly had their eyes lit up, as everyone's gaze was suddenly focused either on Liu Mei or Xingyi.

"Hey, who are these 2 beauties? Did Elder Teng just say that the name of this faction is 'Shun Long's faction'?"

"Is this a new faction? How come I have never heard of it before? Hmm, but their cultivation levels aren't low... Aside from that short-haired young man in the middle, the other 4 all seem to be at the rank 5 of the Nascent Soul as well!"

"Right, even if they are weaker than Lim Yu's faction, they probably aren't that much weaker."

"No, wait! I have heard about this faction! That black-haired young man with a scar on his face is Jiang Chen! He is the person who slapped Qian Tao's cousin, Qian Kun, in the Holy city a few months ago!"

A knowledgeable outer court disciple among the people in the crowd seemed to have recognized Jiang Chen, spreading his name to the rest of the disciples around him.

At the same time that the people in the crowd exploded in a feverish discussion, while Shun Long was inspecting this group in front of him, the people from that group stared at Shun Long's group as well with serious looks on their faces.

Their eyes were entirely focused on either Jiang Chen, the 2 girls, or Bai Longtian.

Although the people in the crowd may not have known enough things about Shun Long's faction, but Lim Yu's faction would always do a thorough check on their opponents before a faction war started.

Thus, they all knew that the 4 people around Shun Long had not only been accepted by the inner court Elders of the sect as personal disciples, but every single one of them were complete monsters!

In the early rank 6 Nascent Soul cultivator's, Lim Yu's eyes, although Shun Long by himself was of no threat and could be taken care of extremely easily, since he was just a peak rank 1 Nascent Soul stage cultivator 4 months ago when he entered the sect, the other 4 from his faction were an entirely different matter altogether!

This was even more so for Jiang Chen who had not only reached the peak of rank 5 in the Nascent Soul already, but he also possessed an immortal-grade bloodline as well just like Shun Long.

Among the people who had entered the Holy sect a few months ago, Jiang Chen was at the top of the list among the people whom they wanted to recruit!

As for Liu Mei and the terrifying monsters that she could summon, or Xingyi and her weird physique that allowed her to disappear, Lim Yu had already attached enough importance to them as well.

In his eyes, Bai Longtian who had simply comprehended a rare dao like the Dao of the Buddha, and Shun Long whose cultivation was still at the early-stages of the Nascent Soul, were the only people among his opponents that he didn't have to worry too much about.

Elder Teng, the white-robed Elder standing at the center of the arena, looked at Shun Long and the young man with short black hair who had reached the early rank 6 in the Nascent Soul and said

"Give me your sect identifying tokens."

With a practiced motion, Lim Yu took out his sect identifying token and handed it to him, while Shun Long nodded his head and did the same a moment later.

After taking a look at the 2 tokens in his hands, Elder Teng turned his attention towards Shun Long's group and said

"I trust you already know the rules of the faction wars. All you have to do is defeat the enemy faction leader and you will win the war."

Shun Long nodded his head in confirmation, as he turned his gaze towards the early rank 6 Nascent Soul cultivator, Lim Yu, who was staring back at him.

"Alright, take your positions."

Elder Teng spoke once more, before he floated upwards, to the sky above the arena, while his eyes stared at the 2 groups below him.

As Lim Yu's group turned around and headed deeper inside the dense 'forest' behind them, Shun Long's group did the same as well.

After they arrived deep inside the forest, Jiang Chen looked at Shun Long and asked

"Should I take care of them?"

Although their opponents consisted of a handful of rank 5 Nascent Soul stage outer disciples of the Holy sect, and their leader who had clearly reached the early rank 6, Jiang Chen was still confident that he could defeat everyone, including Lim Yu.

Shaking his head, Shun Long looked at Liu Mei and the rest, and with a smile on his face he said

"This time, you guys don't have to do anything. I will take care of this faction war myself."

Chapter 618: Faction war (4)

Liu Mei, Xingyi, Bai Longtian, and Jiang Chen, were all stunned when they heard this, but they all nodded their heads barely a moment later.

Shun Long had a confident smile on his face as he looked at them and said

"Don't worry, it won't take too long."

Turning around, Shun Long first circulated his 'Monarch's Hourglass' and spread out his soul sense, before he covered himself with his second 'Monarch's Domain' and sprinted towards the center of the arena at full speed.

By now, Shun Long's soul sense was more than enough to cover the entire arena that only spanned for 800 meters.

In the blink of an eye, he immediately located 6 figures that were hurled together and seemed to be talking to each other at the other end of the arena.

"Master really seems excited to participate in these faction wars." Little Black mused to himself as he saw Shun Long running towards the direction of Lim Yu's group at full speed with a smile on his face.

A few moments later, once the disciples among the crowd noticed that Shun Long was the only one heading towards Lim Yu's faction while Liu Mei and the rest were all standing back, a flurry of discussions instantly erupted

"What the hell?! The faction leader is heading towards the enemy faction all by himself? Doesn't that Shun Long know the rules of the faction wars?"

"Is this guy crazy? He is just a middle rank 4 Nascent Soul stage cultivator! What is he doing?"

"But look at his speed... Isn't he even faster than Lim Yu?"

The moment that Shun Long circulated his 'Monarch's Hourglass' and finally revealed his cultivation, the disciples sitting in the audience seats were instantly shocked when they sensed that Shun Long was just a middle rank 4 Nascent Soul cultivator.

After all, even the weakest member from Lim Yu's faction was at the early rank 5 of the Nascent Soul, while Lim Yu himself was an early rank 6 Nascent Soul cultivator.? The difference between him and Shun Long was almost 2 full minor ranks.

However, Shun Long's speed right now had shocked those disciples as well, since it had already far exceeded the speed of an early rank 6 Nascent Soul stage cultivator like Lim Yu! It was probably even comparable to the speed of some late-stage rank 6 Nascent Soul cultivators.

At the same time that Shun Long was heading towards the center of the arena, he also noticed through his soul sense that the 6 figures from Lim Yu's faction were doing the same, all of them heading towards the center of the arena as well.

"Oh? You are approaching me?"

Shun Long smirked as he instantly realized what Lim Yu was trying to do, causing a big smile to appear on his face.

Normally, the leader of a faction would stay far behind during the faction wars and be protected by a few of his faction members, while those who were suited to attack would try to take out the enemy leader.

However, since Lim Yu had the highest cultivation among everyone else in this faction war, he wasn't planning on waiting until Jiang Chen and the others ambushed him, and was planning to personally attack by himself!

The disciples sitting in the audience seats could also see this scene from above, causing them to be stunned.

For one faction leader to do this was already extremely rare, but for 2 of them to have the same crazy thought at the same time was something that none of these disciples had expected.

The white-robed Elder in the sky, Elder Teng looked at Shun Long with a curious look in his eyes.

Although the disciples in the audience seats had failed to sense this, but how could an experienced Elder like him not notice that Shun Long's soul sense had already encompassed the entire arena.

Sensing Lim Yu's movements and still running straight towards him made Elder Teng curious to see what Shun Long was planning to rely on to fight against him.

..

In just a few moments, Shun Long had actually crossed the first 300 meters, arriving right at the center of the arena.

Unlike the forest behind him, the center of the arena was completely clear from any trees, giving the participants clear vision for the next 100 meters in front of them.

As soon as he arrived in this place, Shun Long suddenly stopped running and turned his attention towards the forest ahead.

A few moments later, his lips finally curved up into a smile as he waved his hand, causing a pitch-black sword to appear in front of him.

At the same time, from the forest ahead of him, Shun Long saw the silhouette of a young man dressed in yellow robes, being followed by 2 other outer court disciples, all of them heading towards him at full speed.

Indeed, since the distance that the forest covered was less than 300 meters, it only took a few moments for Lim Yu to cross it and arrive at the center of the arena as well.

At that moment, Lim Yu suddenly stopped in his tracks, and stared at Shun Long who was standing leisurely at the center of the arena with unconcealed shock and suspicion in his eyes.

"Boss, what the hell is going on?"

The young man and the young woman who were following behind Lim Yu were also stunned when they saw this scene, causing the young man to exclaim loudly in disbelief.

It was one thing for Lim Yu to personally head to the enemy faction's territory since he was the strongest cultivator in this faction war, but for Shun Long to do the same was crazy!

Did this guy think he was stronger than Lim Yu?

Although Lim Yu was surprised by how Shun Long was a middle rank 4 Nascent Soul stage cultivator, he didn't care about it that much as his eyes started to survey his surroundings, wary that Jiang Chen or Liu Mei and the rest would suddenly attack him.

In his eyes, whether Shun Long was at the early stages of the Nascent Soul or at the middle of rank 4 instead made little difference to him.

After all, Lim Yu himself was an early rank 6 Nascent Soul stage cultivator!

The only one who was strong enough to match him head-on in his eyes, was only that monster Jiang Chen who was at the peak of rank 5 in the Nascent Soul.

Bai Longtian simply had no way to threaten him, despite the extraordinarily powerful defense that he had through his Dao of the Buddha.

As for Liu Mei, even if she summoned her entire army of undeads, she was still just an early rank 5 Nascent Soul cultivator right now. Although she could prove to be a bit problematic since she could summon thousands of undead skeletons at the Nascent Soul stage, Lim Yu was still confident that there was no chance for him to lose.

At the same time, although Xingyi was said to have a rare unique physique and was suited extremely well for assassinations, as long as he was on his guard Lim Yu believed that he would still be fine.

But Shun Long? If Lim Yu didn't count his immortal-grade bloodline, he believed that Shun Long was truly the weakest among everyone else in his faction.

Shun Long simply smiled when he noticed the look of disdain in Lim Yu's eyes, as Lim Yu kept staring at his surroundings vigilantly.

In just a few moments, the other 3 member from Lim Yu's faction also emerge from the forest as they appeared behind him, all of them staring at the young man who was standing by himself at the center of the arena with curious looks in their eyes.

"Will you come by yourself or do I have to come to you instead?" Shun Long looked at the 6 people in front of him and spoke a moment later.

Shun Long's voice was calm as he stared at the 6 people in front of him with his deep golden eyes, but the hint of mockery in his tone it made Lim Yu's face turn red from anger.

Indeed, what did he have to fear? Even if Jiang Chen and the rest were laying an ambush, Lim Yu knew that his entire faction was already here.

He didn't think that he would lose against a newly-created faction.

"Attack! Take down this kid!"

Lim Yu took out a small black dagger from his robes and held it tightly in his hand, as he was the first one to charge towards Shun Long.

The 5 outer disciples behind him immediately followed after him, as they took out their weapons and chased after him.

"Come! I'm curious to see how strong an early rank 6 Nascent Soul outer disciple of the sect is as well."

Taking a step forward, Shun Long suddenly disappeared from the spot he was standing on, as he blinked right in front of the young man who was standing behind Lim Yu.

Lim Yu and the rest were all startled when they saw Shun Long suddenly appear in their midst. Although Lim Yu already knew about Shun Long's Dao of Space, he hadn't expected that Shun Long would really dare to appear in the midst of his entire faction.

Shun Long simply smiled as he looked at the young man in front of him, as he raised his left hand that wasn't holding the black sword, and pointing at the chest of the young man he mumbled in a low voice

"Thunderbolt finger"

Chapter 619: Thrasing

A sudden bolt of lightning emerged from Shun Long's finger, heading straight towards the young man's chest.

The young man at the early rank 5 of the Nascent Soul behind Lim Yu didn't even have enough time to raise his sword and defend against it, before the powerful thunderbolt struck his chest.

The man collapsed on the ground barely a moment later, as the charred smell of flesh burning instantly filled the air.

"Junior brother Zhen!" A young man at the peak of rank 5 in the Nascent Soul shouted in fear when he saw the body of 'junior brother Zhen' collapsing on the ground.

Thankfully, his body was still twitching, despite the sparks of lightning that were still present on his chest which had yet to disappear.

It was obvious that although he was seriously injured, the young man was still alive.

Shun Long simply smiled, and without taking another look at 'junior brother Zhen', he turned his attention towards the young man at the peak of rank 5 in the Nascent Soul who flew straight towards him.

During his attack, Shun Long had consciously reduced the power of his 'Thunderbolt finger' to just 40 percent of the original. Although the 'Thunderbolt finger' was just a Mystic high-grade martial skill, Shun Long knew that if he hadn't held back, it was very likely that it would have taken this 'junior brother Zhen's' life.

After all, even 40 percent of the original had been enough to immediately take out an early rank 5 Nascent Soul stage cultivator like this 'junior brother Zhen'. As for the full power? It was very likely that it would have truly killed any early rank 5 Nascent Soul stage cultivator.

Lim Yu narrowed his eyes when he saw this scene, but he ignored the young man on the ground after seeing that he was still breathing, as Lim Yu turned his attention towards Shun Long and flew straight towards him.

Shun Long's golden eyes flashed continuously with every passing second, his movements stunning not just the disciples sitting in the audience seats, but even the white-robed Elder Teng in the sky.

"Who the hell is this guy? How can he fight against 5 people from Lim Yu's faction all by himself?"

"Is he really just a middle rank 4 Nascent Soul stage cultivator? How is he so fast? Even Lim Yu can't seem to match him!"

The 5 people from Lim Yu's faction, including Lim Yu himself, unleashed attack after attack at Shun Long, but Shun Long seemed to have known where every single attack would come from, and he either avoided them or blocked them with his black sword.

Even Lim Yu's lightning-fast dagger attacks that could take any normal early rank 6 Nascent Soul stage cultivator by surprise had actually been blocked by Shun Long!

Even with his strength as an early rank 6 Nascent Soul stage cultivator, Lim Yu realized that he was actually unable to overpower Shun Long!

As for Shun Long's speed, that was even more terrifying. Even with his lightning-fast attacks, Lim Yu was actually having trouble even keeping up with him!

At the same time that Shun Long fought against the 5 people from Lim Yu's faction, Liu Mei and the others were all waiting leisurely inside the forest, not even bothering to go and spectate the faction war.

Bai Longtian stared at the trees in the distance with a smile on his face as he said

"I wonder how long it will take care for brother Shun to finish this faction war."

"Hmph, that guy named Lim Yu was really arrogant. He didn't even bother to take a look at Shun Long before the fight started. Wait until Shun Long trashes his entire faction all by himself!" Jiang Chen snorted coldly as he spoke with a cold look in his eyes.

As for Liu Mei and Xie Xingyi, they simply nodded their heads as they waited for the faction war to come to an end.

Since Shun Long had said that he would fight this by himself, none of them would intervene.

Besides, in their eyes, although Lim Yu would definitely be much stronger than average early rank 6 Nascent Soul stage cultivators, even an early rank 6 Nascent Soul outer disciple of the Holy sect wouldn't be enough to force Shun Long to go all-out.

...? BOOOM!!

A violent crash resounded throughout the entire arena, as a peak rank 5 Nascent Soul stage young man from Lim Yu's group was buried to the ground, creating a human-shaped hole.

If it wasn't for his limbs that were still twitching lightly, everyone would have assumed that this young man had died after taking on Shun Long's punch head-on!

Whether it was the white-robed Elder Teng in the sky or the disciples sitting in the audience seats in the crowd, everyone stared at the black-haired, golden-eyed young man who was holding a black sword at the center of the arena with eyes filled with shock, as their excitement instantly filled the arena barely a moment later.

"Are you serious? How strong is this guy?"

"He is a monster! His body cultivation has barely entered the fifth stage, and yet it only took a single punch for him to defeat a peak rank 5 Nascent Soul stage cultivator like Ming Bo!"

The disciples among the crowd were almost unable to believe their eyes.

After all, most of them were at the rank 5 or rank 6 in the Nascent Soul, with less than a handful of them having reached the rank 7.

And yet they knew that for an early fifth stage body refiner to use only his physical strength to break past the qi defenses of a peak rank 5 Nascent Soul stage cultivator and knock him out in one punch was practically impossible!

Of course, although Shun Long's 'Monarch's Eternal body' was still at the early fifth stage, Shun Long knew that his physical strength alone was enough for him to destroy almost any middle fifth stage body refinement cultivators without any trouble!

After all, Shun Long had yet to find someone who could match his strength at the same level, even in terms of body refinement, to say nothing of his qi cultivation.

Even if he didn't use his qi or his Dao of Space and his Dao of Time, Shun Long knew that there was almost no rank 5 Nascent Soul stage cultivator who would be able to stand in front of him, and the same went even for most outer disciples of the Holy sect at this level.

If Shun Long went all out using his Dao and his qi cultivation that was at the middle of rank 4 in the Nascent Soul as well, he was confident to fight against even a late-stage Nascent Soul cultivator, to say nothing of the people in Lim Yu's faction.

Seeing that all 5 members of his faction were defeated and were lying on the ground unconscious while he was the only one left, made Lim Yu stare at the golden-eyed monster in front of him with a look filled with disbelief.

Lim Yu had originally thought that in this faction war, the only one he would have to pay some attention to would be Jiang Chen and perhaps Liu Mei, while he would simply have to be wary of Xingyi's assassination attacks.

Although Bai Longtian was a middle rank 5 Nascent Soul stage cultivator who had comprehended a rare Dao, Lim Yu believed that he wouldn't be a threat either.

As for Shun Long? He was definitely the weakest one among his faction, someone whom Lim Yu didn't even need to pay any attention to.

Even when he had found out that Shun Long had broken through to the middle stages of the Nascent Soul, even becoming a middle rank 4 Nascent Soul cultivator, Lim Yu himself was a powerful early rank 6 Nascent Soul stage expert and he naturally wouldn't put this in his eyes.

However, seeing everyone in his faction having fallen unconscious while Shun Long was now staring back at him with a smile on his face and those terrifying golden eyes of his, made Lim Yu involuntarily take a step backward.

"No! I refuse to lose like this!" Lim Yu shouted angrily as he placed his small black dagger back in his spatial ring.

With his eyes staring at the calm, golden-eyed young man who was leisurely standing in the sky, Lim Yu placed both of his hands in front of his chest and shouted angrily

"Take this! Saint low-grade martial skill, Water spear!"

A large spear more than 10 meters long slowly started to take form in front of Lim Yu, before Lim Yu grabbed it with both hands and sent it threw it towards Shun Long using all of his strength.

The spear itself made the air around it tremble, as it flew towards Shun Long at a terrifying speed, aiming to pierce through his chest.

Even the white-robed Elder in the sky, Elder Teng narrowed his eyes as he looked at this, ready to interfere at any moment.

After all, it wasn't uncommon for a Saint-grade martial skill to accidentally kill another disciple during a faction war.

And yet, Shun Long simply stared at the large, 10 meters long spear that was flying towards him with a serious look in his eyes, before he mumbled in a low voice

"Disappear"

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Staring at the 10 meters long water spear in front of him, a bright blue light suddenly appeared from Shun Long's eyes in the next moment.

The blue light from Shun Long's 'Eternal Banishment' completely enveloped Lim Yu's water spear in a single instant, and under Lim Yu's disbelieving eyes, as soon as his water spear was touched by this blue light, the tip of the spear started to fade into nothingness.

"How is this possible?? What kind of martial skill is this?"

Lim Yu watched with eyes filled with shock, as his strongest attack, the first form of a Saint low-grade martial skill, didn't even manage to approach Shun Long before it finally disappeared in front of his eyes.

Even Elder Teng in the sky couldn't believe what he was seeing, as his eyes stared solemnly at the bright blue light coming from Shun Long's golden eyes that was slowly turning dimmer and dimmer.

Naturally, to deal with a Saint low-grade martial skill like this, was something that even Elder Teng, an Elder who had been overseeing the battles in the arena had never seen before.

The Holy sect has thousands of geniuses, especially those monsters in the top 1000 rankings in the Martial Roll of Honor as well as the inner court disciples and the even more terrifying core disciples, but in his eyes, none of them had such a bizarre skill like Shun Long's 'Eternal Banishment'.

Elder Teng could even accept that Shun Long had comprehended an extremely rare Dao like the Dao of Space, but as a peak Dao King, how could he not sense that the blue light coming from Shun Long's eyes had nothing to do with his Dao of Space?

"What kind of Dao has this kid really comprehended? This is definitely not the Dao of Space!"

Shun Long was completely unaware of the shock he had caused to the white-robed Elder of the sect in the sky, as he simply stared at Lim Yu seriously with his bright golden eyes.

Although he had successfully used his 'Eternal Banishment' to deal with Lim Yu's 'Water spear', Shun Long had used more than 60 percent of his qi this time.

Of course, the mental shock that this had caused to Lim Yu after seeing his strongest Saint-grade martial skill disappear into nothingness, was much more shocking than Shun Long simply expending more than half of his qi for it!

In the past, Shun Long knew that he would have been hard-pressed to deal with a martial skill like Lim Yu's 'Water spear' using his Eternal Banishment since Lim Yu's cultivation was actually much higher than his.

If Shun Long was still at the peak of rank 3 in the Nascent Soul like he was 10 days ago, he would only be able to fight against Lim Yu's water spear using his 'Thundergod's slash', and it still wouldn't be that easy to deal with it.

But now, with his cultivation that had entered the middle stages of the Nascent Soul and his comprehension of his Dao of Time that had reached the late-stages of the Nascent Soul as well, Shun Long knew that unless Lim Yu's comprehension of his own Dao had reached the peak of the Nascent Soul already, it was actually possible to deal with the first form of a Saint low-grade martial skill like Lim Yu's 'Water spear'.

Holding the black, star-rank sword in his hand, Shun Long didn't give a chance for Lim Yu to prepare another attack as he infused his qi into the sword, causing the mysterious runes and patterns on its surface to instantly lit up.

"A star-rank weapon! That sword is definitely a star-rank weapon!"

"Are you serious? Even among the disciples in the top 100 factions, how many of them have star-rank weapons?"

The disciples in the crowd immediately clamored in shock and excitement when they realized that Shun Long's sword was really a star-rank weapon.

Even among the disciples in the top 100 factions, those who owned star-rank weapons were still rare.

After all, star-rank weapons were usually wielded by Dao Emperors, so for a few Nascent Soul stage outer disciples to possess such weapons, unless they came from an extremely powerful background or they had somehow stumbled upon such a fortuitous opportunity, it would be practically impossible for them to get their hands on a star-rank weapon.

As the runes and patterns on the black sword lit up, Shun Long slashed it forward without any hesitation as he said in a cold voice

"Thundergod's slash!"

An enormous, black-colored slash, with sparks of lightning crackling around it emerged from the black sword's edge, flying straight towards the still stunned Lim Yu.

Lim Yu instantly shivered the moment he felt the terrifying aura that was coming towards him.

He could feel that he was already exhausted after using his 'Water spear' and his speed wasn't enough for him to dodge.

Holding the small black dagger in his hand, Lim Yu's aura at the early rank 6 of the Nascent Soul exploded outwards, as he gathered all of his qi in his dagger and thrust it forward!

BOOOOM!

The moment that the black-colored slash collided with Lim Yu's dagger Lim Yu's eyes widened in horror, before his body was sent flying back uncontrollably barely a moment later.

The disciples in the crowd watched with mouths agape as Lim Yu's body flew for more than 100 meters, until it reached the forest behind him, smashing on more than a dozen trees before the early rank 6 Nascent Soul Lim Yu finally collapsed on the ground.

The web on his right hand was torn open with blood flowing from it unceasingly, but the most horrifying thing was the large wound on Lim Yu's chest.

It was obvious that even after going all-out, Lim Yu hadn't managed to resist the power from the black-colored slash, causing it to strike his chest directly, creating a terrifying wound.

"WHOAH!"

"He really won! He defeated Lim Yu's entire faction!"

The crowd instantly exploded with cheers of excitement barely a moment later, as everyone's eyes had been completely captured by the terrifying sword slash just now.

Even the few rank 7 Nascent Soul outer disciples who were sitting in the audience seats, were now staring at Shun Long seriously upon feeling the power of his 'Thundergod's slash'.

No matter what, whether it was the bizarreness of his 'Eternal Banishment' that had managed to erase Lim Yu's 'Water spear' or the raw power of his 'Thundergod's slash' paired with his star-rank sword, each of them was enough to make even these rank 7 Nascent Soul stage cultivators look at Shun Long somewhat seriously.

Seeing that Lim Yu's body was still twitching, the white-robed Elder Teng heaved out in relief, before he turned his attention towards the yellow-robed young man with golden eyes at the center of the arena and stared at him with a complicated look in his eyes.

For a middle rank 4 Nascent Soul stage cultivator to defeat someone at the early rank 6 like Lim Yu, this faction war was definitely going to spread throughout the entire sect.

With a smile on his face, Elder Teng waved his hand a moment later as he declared in a loud voice

"Faction war:

Winner, Shun Long's faction!"

Hearing the cheers from the crowd, Shun Long simply smiled, as he turned around and walked towards Liu Mei's and the rest's location in the forest behind him.

Although the outer disciples in the crowd were all geniuses themselves, for someone who could battle above his level and defeat an entire faction by himself, they were definitely going to cheer for him.

After all, although all of them were geniuses, the reason they were in the arena was to enjoy themselves and see an interesting battle!

A few moments later, Shun Long arrived at the place where Liu Mei and the others were waiting for him, all of them staring at him with smiles on their faces.

They had all heard Elder Teng's voice just now, but to Jiang Chen and the rest, this was only natural.

There was no way that Shun Long was going to lose this faction war.

With the same smile on his face, Shun Long led everyone out of the arena as he walked back towards his own courtyard.

Although he had won the first faction war today, this was only the beginning.

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In the blink of an eye, 5 months quickly passed, and less than a month was now left until the Martial Roll of Honor tournament.