

## Time 671

Chapter 671: Top 2000

The fights in the arena continued, and soon, only the top 2000 were left.

At this point, there wasn't even a single weak disciple left in the tournament.

Aside from those in the top 1000 who had yet to fight in the arena even once, those left were mostly disciples at the early rank 9 of the Nascent Soul, with a few exceedingly strong disciples who were still at the peak of rank 8 in the Nascent Soul.

As for those like Shun Long, Jiang Chen, and the rest, the only one left aside from Shun Long's group was only the burly young man at the early rank 8 of the Nascent Soul, Wu Tao!

When Liu Mei stepped on the stage, her opponent was an early rank 9 Nascent Soul stage outer disciple.

However, even for Liu Mei, this fight was truly difficult.

Although she managed to win in the end, even after using the second form of the Death's Chant which augmented the power of her undead creatures even further, Liu Mei still ended up sacrificing the corpse of the black-robed old man during the fight.

The corpses of the old man and the black-robed young woman that Liu Mei possessed were 2 of her strongest trump cards.

Although their cultivation was only at the early rank 8 of the Nascent Soul, their strength exceeded the peak of rank 8 in the Nascent Soul and had even reached that of an early rank 9 Nascent Soul cultivator once their strength was increased by Liu Mei's 'Death Chant'.

However, Liu Mei's opponent was an outer court disciple that was much stronger than average early rank 9 Nascent Soul cultivators.

Even when the old man and the beautiful young woman were working together, along with Liu Mei's Death Eater, the young man that Liu Mei was facing still managed to destroy the corpse of the powerful old man before the black-robed young woman sneaked in, as she finally placed her dagger on his neck.

Sensing the cold feeling of metal and seeing the hint of blood that was coming from his neck, although the young man was unwilling to lose to someone like Liu Mei who was much weaker than him, he still had to admit defeat.

As for Xingyi and Bai Longtian who were both at the middle of rank 7 in the Nascent Soul, even after the increase in the power in their unique physique, their fights were extremely difficult.

They both had to face opponents who were at the early rank 9 of the Nascent Soul as well, and those disciples' power was barely inferior to that of Liu Mei's opponent.

However, as he watched the fights Shun Long understood that this was only natural. There were no weaklings among the outer disciples that were left, and those who won their next fights would even enter the top 1500.

After all, these were the fights between the top 2000.

It was normal that everyone would go all-out.

At the same time, Shun Long understood that the biggest weakness of Liu Mei and the rest was their low cultivation bases compared to the opponents that were left.

But this was normal as well.

Even when someone was talented enough to be born with a unique physique like Xingyi, Bai Longtian, and Jiang Chen, how could they possibly bridge the gap in cultivation between themselves and those outer disciples who had lived in the central region their entire lives?

Even when Xingyi and the rest cultivated within their masters' courtyards to make use of the extremely pure qi from the high-grade spirit stones that the Elders of the inner court used to fill their courtyards, the gap between them and the other powerful outer court disciples couldn't possibly be bridged in less than a single year.

Their rate of growth was already astonishing enough.

If it wasn't for the second 'Barrier-piercing pill' that Shun Long had refined for everyone, most likely, they would all be either at the peak of rank 6 in the Nascent Soul, trying to break through the barrier and enter the late stages, or they would be like Jun Ren, having just entered the early rank 7 of the Nascent Soul instead.

Bai Longtian's opponent was a young man who was wielding a thin long sword and had comprehended the Dao of Lightning, but after going all-out with his Golden Buddha unique physique, Bai Longtian was slightly stronger and even faster than his opponent.

His opponent was focused on speed and stabbing his opponent using his lightning-fast attacks. His Dao of Lightning even increased the speed of his stabs even further.

However, Bai Longtian's stronger trait in his Golden Buddha form was the strength of his body.

His defense was even slightly stronger than his strength and speed.

Unless the young man in front of him used more than 90 percent in every single stab, he wouldn't be able to break past Bai Longtian's defenses.

As for the young man's Dao of Lightning, Bai Longtian was able to ignore most of the lightning sparks coursing through his body.

After refining the 'five-elements awakening pill', Bai Longtian knew that the defensive ability of his body had increased even further. And yet, when the young man in front of him attacked with his full strength, even if Bai Longtian dodged or blocked the sword's attack without holding back, the lightning attacks would still injure him internally.

His body however was still tougher than his opponent's and Bai Longtian's speed was higher as well, so for every blow that he landed, his opponent had to deal with at least a single palm attack from the giant golden buddha in front of him.

Even with his cultivation at the early rank 9 of the Nascent Soul, the young man ended up coughing blood violently and collapsing on the ground less than 10 exchanges later.

As for Xingyi, her opponent was a young man who had comprehended the Dao of Water.

This person was alarmed when he saw that Xingyi was his opponent.

The concealing abilities of Xingyi's Vanishing Shadows unique physique was truly at the peak of the Nascent Soul stage.

Even most peak rank 9 Nascent Soul outer disciples would find it impossible to locate her once she merged herself in the shadows.

However, despite her assassination attacks, Xingyi found it extremely hard to break through her opponent's nearly impenetrable defense.

Xingyi's opponent had created a sphere of water and hid himself inside before he spread his soul sense around his body.

Every time that Xingyi would appear to attack him, the young man would launch countless water spears towards her.

However, in terms of attack alone, Xingyi's strength was nearly comparable to Jiang Chen's and Bai Longtian's at the same level of cultivation.

Countless shadows appeared from the ground as they stabbed at full force towards the water bubble in the center of the platform.

This was the second form of the low-grade martial skill that Xingyi had chosen to train in, Creeping Shadows.

Eventually, the young man's defense broke under Xingyi's repeated shadow attacks, but Xingyi had nearly exhausted all of her qi as well.

Once they returned by Shun Long's side, Bai Longtian healed his injured body while Xingyi sat down cross-legged and consumed a top-grade rank 5 'Qi replenishing pill'.

Although Xingyi and Bai Longtian started to recuperate after their fights and everyone understood that they most likely wouldn't challenge those in the top 1000, their results were enough to shock countless disciples who were previously not paying attention to them, attracting even the gazes of some of the geniuses among the top 1000 rankings.

They all understood that if Xingyi's and Bai Longtian's cultivation bases were just a bit higher, then perhaps even some of them would be threatened to lose their spot in the rankings.

But of course, this was only for those at the bottom of the Martial Roll of Honor rankings.

Those above the top 500 barely paid any attention to Xingyi and Bai Longtian, and even to Shun Long, Liu Mei, and Jiang Chen.

In their eyes, their true opponents were only those at the top of the rankings.

Jiang Chen's fight was instead, much easier.

His opponent was a young woman who had reached the peak of rank 8 in the Nascent Soul.

Although this woman was stronger than most other outer disciples at the peak of rank 8 in the Nascent Soul, she was still weaker than Liu Mei's, Bai Longtian's, and Xingyi's opponents.

However, Jiang Chen still used his 'Kingdom of Darkness' to trap her before the young woman finally gave up.

Naturally, this young woman was only at the same level as the previous faction leader that Shun Long and the rest had fought, Peng Chao.

Jiang Chen was confident that he was strong enough to defeat him even back then, let alone now.

Finally, the last one to step into the arena was Shun Long himself.

As for his opponent, it was a young man at the middle of rank 9 in the Nascent Soul.

However, Shun Long noticed that although this person was at the middle rank 9 of the Nascent Soul, he was barely stronger than the young man at the early rank 9 of the Nascent Soul that Liu Mei had just faced.

As the outer court Elder declared for the battle to begin, the young man in front of Shun Long took out a large saber from his spatial ring and kicked the ground, as he shot towards Shun Long at full speed without saying a word.

It was obvious that he was intending to win this fight as soon as possible.

Although he didn't know what Dao Shun Long had comprehended, he had already seen Shun Long's fight with Dong Ai.

He didn't know if Shun Long needed time or not to use that weird attack, but the thought of standing still and allowing your opponent to hit you freely was terrifying.

Thus, he had been planning to catch his opponent off-guard.

Shun Long however simply stared at the young man in front of him who was closing the distance between them extremely quickly, before he mumbled to himself

"Let's see how strong my body is right now."

#### Chapter 672: How strong?

As he finished speaking, Shun Long simply took a step forward as his body suddenly disappeared, appearing next to the young man who was running towards him.

The young man was surprised but a look of exhilaration appeared on his face in the next moment, as he hurriedly swung his long saber sideways, aiming to chop Shun Long's waist.

As long as he wasn't hit by that weird move that Shun Long had used against Dong Ai, the young man was confident in his ability to defeat Shun Long with a single strike.

After all, if it wasn't for that weird move, how could Shun Long possibly defeat Dong Ai with a single punch?

The young man believed that only because Dong Ai couldn't defend herself was Shun Long able to defeat her like that.

Shun Long's lips curved up when he saw the saber that was chopping towards his waist, as he suddenly extended his right hand, before an illusionary, purple-colored spatial blade appeared in it.

Without any hesitation, Shun Long slashed his spatial blade towards the incoming saber.

Sparks appeared the moment that the large saber met the illusionary purple-colored blade, and under the disbelieving eyes of the crowd, the young man in front of Shun Long felt a terrifying force enter his arm, as he staggered back for more than a dozen steps.

"What? How is this possible?" The young man stared at the web on his left hand that was previously holding his saber and was now torn, as blood was flying from it unceasingly. And yet, the young man didn't seem to have noticed the sharp pain as he couldn't believe that his hand was injured after a single exchange of blows.

This young man was the same as Shun Long, a dual cultivator who trained in both qi, and body refinement.

Just like Shun Long, the strength of his body had reached the middle of the fifth stage in body refinement as well... so how was the difference between them so large?

Even after using a peak rank 3 gold grade weapon and infusing his qi in his saber during his attack, the young man was still on the losing end against Shun Long who had clearly not used an ounce of his qi and had only used his physical strength instead!

Shun Long's lips curved up when he felt the power of his body as he went all-out.

Of course, how could this person in front of him know, that Shun Long had refined nearly 100 top-grade rank 5 'dragonblood tempering pills' just to reach the middle of the fifth stage in body refinement?

As soon as he broke through, Shun Long knew that the strength of his 'Monarch's Eternal body' had reached a terrifying level.

Although it couldn't compare to his qi cultivation that could easily destroy normal peak rank 9 Nascent Soul cultivators if he used his 'Time Prison', it was still extremely terrifying.

In terms of the strength of his body alone, Shun Long was confident that his body was comparable to that of most peak rank 5 magic beasts. If he fought at full strength and used his Dao of Space and conjured his spatial blade, Shun Long was even confident to slaughter most peak rank 5 magic beasts as well.

Even normal peak rank 9 Nascent Soul cultivators wouldn't dare to say that they could contend against peak rank 5 magic beasts by themselves.

After all, it was common knowledge that magic beasts were much stronger than humans at the same level.

Only those disciples who had reached the peak of rank 9 in the Nascent Soul and their comprehension had reached the peak of the Nascent Soul stage as well, or it had even exceeded that level and were just a step away from entering the Dao King realm, would dare to fight peak rank 5 magic beasts by themselves.

Of course, some exceedingly powerful early rank 9 or middle rank 9 Nascent Soul cultivators would also have the ability to fight peak rank 5 magic beasts head-on, but those people were so rare that they were practically impossible to find.

As for Shun Long, he was a freak of nature!

Even the crowd felt that this scene in front of them was too terrifying.

Although this young man in front of Shun Long wasn't at the peak of his rank, he was still someone ranked in the top 2000 in the Martial Roll of Honor rankings.

For Shun Long to send him staggering with just a single slash and without even drawing his most powerful black sword, how terrifying was that?

Even Jiang Chen and Bai Longtian stared at Shun Long with looks of surprise on their faces, while Liu Mei had a look of contentment and admiration in his eyes, while Xingyi's beautiful emerald eyes were sparkling.

Naturally, which woman didn't want their man to be powerful?

As for Jiang Chen and Bai Longtian, a single question had appeared in their minds.

"How strong is he right now?"

Indeed, after breaking through to the late stages of the Nascent Soul, no one had brought Shun Long to his current limits.

Whether it was Xingyi's senior brother Ma Ming, Dong Ai, or anyone else that Shun Long had fought after breaking through to the late stages of the Nascent Soul, all of them were destroyed by a single punch as long as Shun Long used his Dao of Time.

However, even the strength of his body was now so terrifying, that it was only inferior to his abnormal qi cultivation.

And yet, Jiang Chen and Bai Longtian only felt happy for Shun Long. After all, they had already decided to follow him, so the stronger Shun Long became, the happier they would become as well. Besides, how could they follow Shun Long if he wasn't stronger than them? This was a feeling of pride that all experts had, as no one would ever follow someone weaker than them unless that person was too talented and was bound to exceed them in the future, or if they were hired by that person.

The crowd that was previously clamoring with excitement had now fallen completely silent, as almost everyone's eyes were now on the figure of the young man with the short black hair on the platform.

Even some of the powerful experts in the top 1000 narrowed their eyes dangerously as they stared at Shun Long, finally admitting that his strength was indeed enough to threaten them.

"This kid... How strong is he? Was he hiding his strength previously or is it that no one has brought him to his current limits yet? Haha, this will be interesting." The Grand Elder mused as he stared at Shun Long's figure, while in Elder Xuan's face, a smile akin to a flower blooming had blossomed as well.

Although she had never expected that Shun Long would actually be this strong, since she already knew about Shun Long's relationship with Liu Mei, Elder Xuan only felt happy to see the young man in the arena actually be this powerful.

Chapter 673: The top 1000

Although the young man in front of Shun Long staggered after taking on the illusionary, purple-colored blade's attack, he soon regained his balance a moment later and raised his head to look at Shun Long.

Before the man could react however, Shun Long's body disappeared from the spot he was standing on, appearing next to the yellow-robed young man once again.

The young man raised his saber in reflex as he saw Shun Long bringing down his spatial blade towards his chest for the second time.

This strike was even more terrifying than the first, as the young man barely had enough time to raise his saber and block the attack from the spatial blade, before a sharp pain filled his hand.

The web on his hand finally tore apart completely a second later, unable to resist the force behind the illusionary purple blade, before the large saber was sent flying out of his hand.

At that moment, Shun Long had a rare smile on his face as he faced the young man in front of him, before he said calmly

"You lose."

The young man's lips twitched when he saw the smile on Shun Long's face, but he still shook his head a moment later as he sensed the illusionary purple blade that was still on his chest.

He knew that if this blade could deflect the attack of his peak rank 3 gold grade saber head-on, there was no way that the toughness of his body could possibly resist it. If Shun Long pushed it in just a bit more, it could effortlessly tear through his defenses and pierce through his chest, before it destroyed his heart.

With an unresigned look on his face, the young man turned around and retrieved his token from the outer court Elder before he returned back to the audience seats.

Of course, the reason behind Shun Long's good mood was that he could test the full strength of his body right now. Although it wasn't a fight against a peak rank 5 magic beast, Shun Long could still accurately judge the extent of his improvement after exchanging blows with the young man in front of him.

"Master, your body is now comparable to most peak rank 5 magic beasts'. Aside from some extremely powerful peak rank 5 magic beasts, only rank 6 magic beasts and above could pose a threat to master right now." Little Black's voice was filled with unconcealed pride as the black dragon had also observed Shun Long's fight just now. Naturally, Little Black was extremely happy with every advancement Shun Long made in his cultivation as well.

Shun Long nodded his head with that same satisfied smile on his face as he heard Little Black's joyous voice, before he flew towards the outer court Elder responsible for the platform and retrieved his sect identifying token.

As the crowd clamored in excitement and disbelief while they stared at Shun Long who was flying back towards Jiang Chen and the others in the audience seats, a young man with bright red hair was also staring at Shun Long's figure from a spot not too far away from Shun Long's seat, as he exclaimed in a calm but somewhat surprised voice

"This kid is extremely strong. Both he and Chen Fen are in the middle of the fifth stage in body refinement, but he managed to win without using the slightest bit of his qi. The strength of his body alone is probably comparable to some peak fifth stage body refiners..."

The young man's bright yellow eyes were staring deeply at Shun Long's figure as he gave out his evaluation.

The young woman by his side seemed to have heard this as well, as she looked at the red-haired young man next to her and smiled as she asked playfully

"Junior brother Zheng, could it be that you want that kid to join our faction? Hehe, I won't object to it."

The red-haired young man looked at the gorgeous young woman by his side whose hair were a deep blue color that were matching her bright azure eyes, but he still shook his head and said seriously

"I'm just a bit interested in his Daos, that's all. For someone who dared to set a supreme Dao like the Dao of Space as the foundational Dao for his body refinement, it will naturally attract a bit of my attention. As for the Dao that he has set for his qi foundation, although I have some guesses I am not completely certain.

However, he only qualifies to attract some of my attention, that's all. Whether he manages to breakthrough to become a Dao King in the future or not, that's a completely different story. Someone who isn't even a Dao King naturally isn't qualified to join our faction. Even if he did join, he would be nothing more than dead weight until he breaks through."

The beautiful blue-haired young woman nodded her head smilingly, while a playful glint could be seen deep in her eyes as she stared at Shun Long's figure.

Indeed, for someone who wasn't even a Dao King, he wouldn't possibly be qualified to join one of the strongest factions in the entire Holy sect.

Although Shun Long's potential was immense and he was strong enough to defeat normal peak rank 9 Nascent Soul cultivators with the strength he had revealed so far, someone like that was useless to the strongest factions of the Holy sect if he didn't manage to breakthrough to the Dao King realm.

After all, both the red-haired young man and the blue-haired young woman knew clearly, that the stronger that Dao you have comprehended and set as a foundational Dao was, the breakthrough to become a Dao King would be even more difficult instead.

As Shun Long flew out of the arena, the rest of the battles in the surrounding platforms also ended at the same time, before the white-robed head Elder, Sun Wen slowly descended from the sky as he stood right above the 8 platforms.

The buzzing arena instantly fell silent as the outer disciples all noticed this as well.

Shun Long saw Sun Wen sweeping his gaze past all of the disciples in the audience seats, before his calm voice echoed throughout the arena a moment later, as it entered Shun Long's and the rest's ears

"Most of you can probably guess that this Martial Roll of Honor tournament has a much higher significance than the previous ones. However, I won't explain this right now. All I will tell you is that you should do your best to enter the top 1000.

Now, those of you who are ranked in the Martial Roll of Honor... step forward."

As Sun Wen finished speaking, Shun Long's eyes widened slightly as he noticed 1000 yellow-robed figures who flew inside the arena like blurs, as all of them stepped on the 8 platforms.

Chapter 674: The top 1000 (2)



The surrounding outer disciples that had fallen silent just now seemed to have suddenly woken up, as they stared at the figures that had appeared in the arena at the same time before they started clamoring in excitement

"Look at that bald man in the first platform! That's Mao Lim who is ranked 7th in the Martial Roll of Honor! I heard that in the last tournament he was an early rank 3 Dao King! I wonder if he has reached the middle of rank 3 this time. Perhaps he will even be able to reach the top 5."

"Wait! The person next to him is actually Luo Zhelan who is ranked in 5th place! He is even stronger than Mao Lim and even Dong Cheng who is ranked 6th!"

"The person ranked 2nd, Goddess Qiao Min has also appeared! That red-haired man next to her... is he Zheng Zihao who is ranked 4th?"

Suddenly, the people in the crowd all turned their attention towards a stunningly beautiful blue-haired young woman and a red-haired young man who was standing close to her.

This was the same person who was talking about Shun Long just a few moments ago, the person ranked 4th in the Martial Roll of Honor, Zheng Zihao. As for the gorgeous blue-haired young woman next to him, she was the faction leader of the second strongest faction within the outer court, the person ranked 2nd in the Martial Roll of Honor, Qiao Min.

And yet, the playful look that Qiao Min had in her eyes a few moments ago had vanished, as she stared at the figure of a brown-haired young man not too far away from her.

This time, the look in Qiao Min's eyes had turned as cold as an ice block as she looked at this person, but the handsome brown-haired young man who seemed to have sensed her gaze merely smiled as he looked at her.

The disciples in the crowd who followed Qiao Min's gaze also noticed this brown-haired young man who was standing in the platform with a smile on his face, before they bursted in excitement barely a moment later

"That's the person ranked 1st in the Martial Roll of Honor, the number 1 genius of the Yang family, Yang Hui! Even goddess Qiao Min wasn't strong enough to defeat him the last time. He is truly the strongest person in the outer court. I heard that Yang Hui's power is even comparable to some of the inner court disciples."

"Yang Hui's talent is said to be even higher than the 2 inner court disciples from the Yang family. Only the strongest family in the sect's territory, the Yang family would be able to produce 2 inner court disciples and a monster like Yang Hui."

Shun Long, Jiang Chen, and the others, all heard the discussion of the crowd as well, as they stared at the outer court disciples who had appeared in the arena.

Shun Long's eyes in particular landed on the person who was rumored to be the strongest outer disciple in the entire Holy sect, Yang Hui.

This person was around 1.8meters (5.10ft) tall, with short brown hair and bright red eyes. However, what shocked Shun Long wasn't the fact that Yang Hui's aura was completely retracted, but that the pupils in his eyes were extremely peculiar. The shape of his pupils seemed to have formed a triangle, while the bright red color of his eyes gave others a peculiar feeling.? And yet, his eyes didn't seem out of place, but instead, they looked completely natural.

A moment later, Shun Long's lips curved up as he thought to himself

"No wonder this guy is ranked first in the Martial Roll of Honor. Just his eyes are enough to let him completely eclipse everyone else around him."

Shun Long was about to move his gaze from Yang Hui to the rest of the geniuses in the top 10 of the Martial Roll of Honor, when Sun Wen suddenly took a step forward and said in a serious voice

"This time the rules will be the same as the previous years. Those of you who have entered the top 1500 will be allowed to challenge those at the top 1000 and replace them in the Martial Roll of Honor if you win. However, every one of you will only have a single chance so choose wisely. Once someone has been successfully challenged, no one else can challenge that person again. Naturally, if you don't want to challenge anyone then you can simply forfeit."

Most of the disciples nodded their heads calmly since they already knew the rules.

Indeed, the previous fights were meant to choose the strongest 500 outer court disciples who would be allowed to challenge those in the top 1000.

Shun Long stared at the white-robed Elder's, Sun Wen's figure in the sky as he understood the rules, before he turned his eyes towards his sect identifying token.

The words 'Shun Long, Martial Roll of Honor ranking: 1245' had appeared on it after he had defeated the young man with the long saber.

As Sun Wen finished speaking, he threw one last look at the disciples below him, before he soared in the sky above the arena once again allowing the fights to continue.

At that moment, the geniuses from the top 1000 in the Martial Roll of Honor turned their attention towards the disciples in the audience seats as well, as a stifling silence soon filled the arena once again.

A moment later however, a young man with long black hair was the first one to move, as he shot out from the audience seats like a black blur, arriving at the only platform that wasn't occupied.

The disciples in the top 1000 had filled 7 of the 8 platforms, but they had left a single one of them empty.

The long-haired young man stood at the center of the platform and took out his sect identifying token that had the words 'Zhao Yun, Martial Roll of Honor ranking: 1001, before he pointed his hand towards a young man who was carrying a sword on his back and said coldly

"Feng Hao! Roll over here!"

#### Chapter 675: The Grand Elder's decision

Shun Long looked at the young man with the large sword on his back, Feng Hao, and remembered that this was the name of the person who was ranked 1000th in the Martial Roll of Honor.

As for the person who had just challenged him, his name was Zhao Yun and he was ranked 1001st.

Feng Hao snorted when he heard Zhao Yun's voice as he immediately shot to the sky, flying straight towards the empty platform where Zhao Yun was standing on.

Shun Long could sense that both Feng Hao and Zhao Yun were at the middle of rank 9 in the Nascent Soul, just like the young man he had just faced in his last battle, but compared to his previous opponent, he understood that Feng Hao and Zhao Yun were at a completely different level.

Just from the aura coming from their bodies, Shun Long could sense that both of them were most likely comparable to most normal peak rank 9 Nascent Soul cultivators that he had seen in the Night star continent or in the Holy city.

However, this was only natural.

How could those geniuses that could be ranked in the top 1000 or were just a step away from the top 1000, be at the same level as most average Nascent Soul cultivators?

As soon as Feng Hao stepped foot on the empty platform, he drew his sword without any hesitation, as his fight with Zhao Yun began.

Although none of the 2 were weak and both of them could be considered to be somewhat on par with each other, the young man with the large sword on his back, Feng Hao, still managed to win the fight in the end.

Zhao Yun had a dejected look on his face as his body was filled with countless sword wounds, but most of the pain came from the fact that he failed to enter the top 1000.

Feng Hao had an arrogant look on his face as he looked at Zhao Yun whose body had collapsed on the platform, before he turned around and flew towards one of the other 7 platforms around it.

Naturally, since Feng Hao had just won a fight, no one else from the remaining 499 disciples in the top 1500 could challenge him again, and they could only challenge those higher in the rankings than him.

Almost as if in tacit understanding, the person who stepped on the platform right after Zhao Yun had finished his challenge was the person ranked 1002nd in the Martial Roll of Honor rankings.

He actually chose to challenge a young woman who was ranked 976th and he even managed to win his fight against her, drawing out mixed cheers and boos from the crowd.

After all, the main reason he had challenged that woman and he had even managed to win his fight against her, was mainly because his abilities happened to perfectly countered that young woman's.

Of course, to get this far in the rankings, his strength was naturally not too far away from that young woman's to begin with.

As the fights in the arena continued, more and more of those disciples who were ranked in the top 1000 stepped on the platform and fought, allowing those around them to gauge their strength.

"Those ranked in the bottom 1000 are mainly at the middle rank 9 of the Nascent Soul, but there are some peak rank 9 Nascent Soul stage cultivators among them as well. However, their actual strength should be even higher than the average peak rank 9 Nascent Soul stage cultivator."

Shun Long said in a low voice while Jiang Chen and the rest all nodded as they observed those disciples seriously without speaking.

They could sense that no matter who they chose, none of those disciples who were ranked in the top 1000 were easy to defeat.

As for those who were ranked at the top 800 and above, all of them were, without question, at the peak of rank 9 in the Nascent Soul at the very least.

In the sky above the arena, the Grand Elder merely glanced at the battle that was taking place on the platform below him, before he turned his gaze towards Shun Long and said smilingly with an extremely profound look in his eyes

"Kid, I wonder if you can really enter the top 600 this time. Even this old man is curious to see how far you can go."

The head of the inner court Elders, Sun Wen, Liu Mei's master, Xuan Jiao, and the bald Cao Ling, seemed to have heard these words as well, as they all turned their eyes towards the Grand Elder, unable to hide the looks of astonishment on their faces.

A moment later, Sun Wen took a deep breath as he looked at the Grand Elder's smiling face before he said seriously

"It seems like the Grand Elder really favors Shun Long quite a bit.

However, although Shun Long's body is indeed not bad and his actual strength even surpasses that of most peak rank 9 Nascent Soul cultivators, reaching the top 600 with his cultivation that's only at the middle of rank 7 in the Nascent Soul is simply impossible!

Those disciples at the top 600 have all reached the absolute peak of the Nascent Soul long ago, both in terms of their Dao and their actual cultivation. Many of them have even comprehended their Daos even further, faintly touching the Dao King realm as well.

As for those who are at the top 500 and above, plenty of them have unique physiques as well."

As he finished speaking, Sun Wen took a look at the Grand Elder next to him, but he was surprised to see that the Grand Elder had a calm look on his face as he looked at him and said calmly

"As long as Shun Long really enters the top 600, I'm going to make him the leader of the outer court disciples that enter the City of Immortals."

The Grand Elder's voice was calm, but it was akin to a bomb exploding in the 3 inner court Elders' minds!

The 3 inner court Elders all looked at each other with looks of astonishment and disbelief in their eyes.

They all knew why this Martial Roll of Honor tournament was so much more important compared to the previous ones, and it was precisely because of this City of Immortals! But the Grand Elder had actually said that as long as Shun Long manages to enter the top 600, he would become the leader of the outer court disciples that enter the city?

"Then... Grand Elder, what about that monster of the Yang family, Yang Hui?"

The person who had just spoken was actually the bald old man, Cao Ling.

As for Sun Wen and Liu Mei's master, Elder Xuan, they both looked at the Grand Elder as they waited for his answer.

No matter what, the Grand Elder's decisions in the Holy sect were final. Even the sect master wouldn't go against the Grand Elder's choices without a good reason.

The Grand Elder snorted when he heard Cao Ling's question, and after turning his eyes to look at the short-brown-haired young man with red eyes that were forming a triangle on the platform below him, he then turned his gaze towards Cao Ling and said coldly

"Hmph, although that little bastard from the Yang family is indeed talented, he is too vile and he doesn't care about anyone else but himself. Perhaps I would have chosen him to lead the outer court disciples if I didn't have a choice, but now?"

The white-robed Sun Wen, Elder Xuan, and Cao Ling all turned to look at Yang Hui on the platform below them as well, as they suddenly fell silent.

No matter what, although the Grand Elder was right and Yang Hui was indeed considered to be cruel, he was still considered to be the biggest genius in the outer court of the Holy sect, and his talent was even above that of many inner court disciples as well.

In the outer court, Yang Hui was indeed undefeated.

It didn't matter who challenged him, Yang Hui hadn't lost a single fight so far.

As the person ranked first in the Martial Roll of Honor and the leader of the strongest faction in the outer court, how could Yang Hui not be the leader of the outer court disciples that enter the City of Immortals?!

Sun Wen took a deep breath as he looked at the Grand Elder and asked cautiously

"Grand Elder... won't the Yang family be unhappy when they learn this? The position of the leader of the outer court disciples in the City of Immortals is too important..."

#### Chapter 676: The Grand Elder's decision (2)

The Grand Elder snorted for the second time, and as he looked at Sun Wen who was standing a few meters away from him, his eyes suddenly narrowed as a cold glint flashed inside them, before he said in a domineering tone

"The Yang family will be unhappy? Then let them be unhappy! So what if they are unhappy with my arrangements? If they have a problem, then let that little bastard, Yang Tian come here so I can give him a good beating instead. Does my Holy sect have to please a family like the Yang family?"

It wasn't just Sun Wen who shivered when he heard the Grand Elder's tone that was turning furious with every passing moment, but even Liu Mei's master, Xuan Jiao, as well as the bald Cao Ling both felt a cold feeling cover their hearts.

They knew that although the Grand Elder rarely showed this side of his, he was extremely arrogant in reality.

Although the Yang family was the strongest family among all the families and clans within the Holy sect's territory, and their family patriarch, Yang Tian was an early rank 9 Dao Emperor realm expert who could pressure most of the inner court Elders to give face to his family, he was indeed inferior when he was compared to someone like the Grand Elder who was just a step away from breaking through to the Sovereign realm.

At the same time, Sun Wen and the rest knew, that the sect master was rarely in the sect as he usually traveled around since his mind was fully focused on his own training, the Grand Elder was

actually the one who kept those powerful families and clans around the Holy sect's territory in check.

Thus, they understood.

Why would the Grand Elder care for the Yang family? Indeed, even if they were displeased, so what?

The Grand Elder's strength truly stood at the peak of the Dao Emperor realm. Even when he was compared to other powerful Dao Emperors, he was among the strongest ones. The only ones who were stronger than him were monsters like Xuan Jiao's deceased master who had also comprehended the Dao of Death.

As for early rank 9 Dao Emperors like the family patriarch of the Yang family, the Grand Elder had no reason to care about his displeasure, let alone give him any face.

The Grand Elder had turned even angrier as he stared at Cao Ling and continued speaking

"Could it be that my Holy sect has to ask for permission from the Yang family before making a decision about anything?"

Realizing that things would get out of control if the Grand Elder got truly angry, Sun Wen hurriedly bowed his head and apologized as he said

"Grand Elder, junior brother Cao didn't mean that. It's simply that the Yang family has too many geniuses within our sect.? At the same time, his words were not without merit either. Although most of the outer court disciples may agree to follow Yang Hui when they enter the City of Immortals, it's unlikely that they will agree to follow Shun Long who is just at the late stages of the Nascent Soul.

Besides... aren't the rules of the City of Immortals such, that nobody below the Dao King realm will be permitted to enter inside? Although Shun Long is extremely talented, the Daos that he has comprehended are both supreme Daos. I don't think that it's possible for him to reach even the peak of the Nascent Soul stage by then, let alone the Dao King realm."

Cao Ling hurriedly nodded his head without speaking any further, as he cast a grateful glance at Sun Wen who had spoken on his behalf.

And yet, the Grand Elder simply nodded his head at Sun Wen as he then answered

"This is why I'm planning to take Shun Long to the King's palace a year from now. As long as he manages to reach the peak of rank 9 of the Nascent Soul by then, his chances of breaking through to become a Dao King would be much better."

Sun Wen and Xuan Jiao weren't surprised when they heard this.

Although it was difficult to reach the peak of rank 9 in the Nascent Soul from the middle of rank 7 within just a year, it wasn't impossible as long as a disciple had enough resources. The biggest problem was the Dao comprehension itself, as well as the strength of the disciple's soul that needed to have also reached the peak of the Nascent Soul as well.

At the same time, although they knew that the Holy sect only had 10 spots for the outer court disciples that would enter the King's palace and those spots would go to the 10 strongest outer court disciples who had yet to breakthrough to become Dao Kings, they believed that although Shun

Long couldn't possibly match those 10 strongest disciples right now, by the time he reached the peak of the Nascent Soul, those disciples would most likely not be a match for him.

As for Shun Long defeating those disciples right now? They knew that that was pure foolishness.

Although Shun Long was extremely strong, enough to even cause those Elders to be in awe and even attract the attention of the Grand Elder who wanted to take him as his personal disciple, Sun Wen and Xuan Jiao both knew, that those 10 strongest outer court disciples could even defeat early rank 1 Dao Kings with their cultivation at the peak of rank 9 in the Nascent Soul.

However, it was only natural for the Grand Elder to look this favorably upon Shun Long. After all, once Shun Long reached the peak of rank 9 in the Nascent Soul or even the Dao King realm, Sun Wen and Xuan Jiao couldn't estimate how strong he would become by then.

"The top 100, or..?"

No, forget about the future. They didn't even know what Shun Long's current true strength was.

Meanwhile, Shun Long and the rest kept observing the fights in the arena, and more than 100 fights had quickly gone by before Liu Mei's turn finally arrived. In the past 2 hours, Shun Long had noticed, that among the disciples who were ranked in the top 1500, nearly a third of them didn't choose to keep challenging those at the top 1000 since they knew that their strength was insufficient right now, while less than half of those who issued their challenges managed to succeed.

It had to be known that for those who succeeded, they mainly did so because they could pick their opponents and their abilities mostly countered their opponents'. Very few had actually managed to win convincingly.

Surprisingly, Shun Long noticed that among those disciples who won their challenges was also the burly young man at the early rank 8 of the Nascent Soul, Wu Tao.

In his fight, Wu Tao had revealed his 'Giant Ape unique physique' that turned his body into an enormous Giant Ape more than 15 meters(49ft) tall, as he won against an outer court disciple at the middle of rank 9 in the Nascent Soul.

Finally, as Liu Mei's turn finally came, under the excited eyes of the surrounding outer court disciples in the audience seats, she flew straight towards the empty platform, before her gaze landed on the figure of a young man with long black hair who was calmly standing on one of the 7 surrounding platforms, watching the previous battles with a disinterested look in his eyes.

Chapter 677: Liu Mei's challenge

Feeling Liu Mei's gaze on his body, the long black-haired young man narrowed his eyes as he looked at her, unsure if Liu Mei was indeed planning to challenge him.

And yet, his doubt vanished into a cloud of smoke a moment later, as Liu Mei took out her sect identifying token that had the words 'Liu Mei, Martial Roll of Honor Ranking: 1202' and said in a cold voice

"Song Yahui, come here!"

Indeed, Liu Mei had challenged him without any hesitation.

Song Yahui narrowed his eyes before his cultivation at the middle of rank 9 in the Nascent Soul burst outwards, as his body turned into a blur as it shot straight towards the arena.

"So fast!"

Many of the surrounding outer disciples in the audience seats couldn't help but exclaim in their hearts when they saw Song Yahui's speed.

His speed was indeed extremely fast, even comparable to some of the peak rank 9 Nascent Soul stage outer disciples who were ranked in the top 800.

As for Song Yahui himself, Shun Long already knew that he was actually ranked 831st in the Martial Roll of Honor!

Staring at Liu Mei on the platform in front of him, Song Yahui had an extremely ugly look on his face as he narrowed his eyes into slits and said in a cautioning tone

"Junior sister Liu, are you sure you want to challenge me? I don't mind giving you some face and let you change your mind before we begin."

Although Song Yahui's words were calm, the anger in his eyes wasn't concealed at all as he looked at Liu Mei's figure in front of him.

Indeed, he had offered to take Liu Mei, Jiang Chen and the rest in his faction a month ago, when he had met Shun Long and the rest at the Golden Treasures Hall, simply because he looked at their strength and future potential favorably, and because all of them were personal disciples of the inner court Elders.

Even after they had refused, Song Yahui wasn't bothered in the slightest by it. They lost the opportunity he had offered them, so be it. But for Liu Mei to dare challenge him today was an entirely different matter.

Although Song Yahui didn't want to offend Elder Xuan and be too harsh on Liu Mei, as long as she insisted on fighting him he wasn't going to hold back.

No matter what, this was a fight for the top 1000 in the Martial Roll of Honor.

Even Elder Xuan wouldn't be able to say anything, even if he ended up seriously injuring Liu Mei.

Liu Mei simply shook her head coldly as she looked at Song Yahui, directly rejecting his proposal to change her mind as she said calmly

"Change my mind? There is no need." Liu Mei then turned her attention towards the outer court Elder responsible for this platform, indicating for him to start the fight.

Shun Long shook his head with a smile on his face when he saw Liu Mei choosing Song Yahui as her opponent, while Jiang Chen calmly nodded his head with a cold look in his eyes, his gaze focused on Song Yahui's body as well.

Jiang Chen was planning to challenge Song Yahui himself once his turn to fight came, but unfortunately, Liu Mei's ranking was higher than his in the Martial Roll of Honor since she had defeated the person who was previously ranked 1202nd.

Xingyi who was standing next to Shun Long and was absorbing another top-grade rank 5 'Qi replenishing pill', as well as Bai Longtian who was still healing the wounds on his body, both opened their eyes when they heard Liu Mei's voice, turning their attention to the fighting platform as well.



The outer court Elder looked at Liu Mei seriously for a moment, before he nodded his head and declared the start of the fight

"Begin!"

As soon as the outer court Elder's voice sounded in her ears, Liu Mei gathered her qi in her hands, creating a large ball of black qi that was hovering in front of her chest.

The black ball of qi was oozing with a terrifying aura of death, and a moment later, it slowly fell on the floor of the platform in front of Liu Mei, opening a black hole that was emitting endless amounts of death qi.

The black hole wasn't too big in size, but tens of jade-white skeletons stepped out from it with every passing moment, quickly filling the area around Liu Mei.

However, Song Yahui wasn't going to wait for Liu Mei to summon her entire undead army before he fought her.

He already knew what Liu Mei was capable of.

Although he was confident that he could defeat Liu Mei relatively easily, he knew that it would take some time if he had to get past the figure of that black-robed young woman and the enormous monster that Liu Mei had summoned the last time, whose strength was actually comparable to an early rank 9 Nascent Soul cultivator.

Besides, Song Yahui knew that he could end this fight in the blink of an eye.

After all, he could simply beat Liu Mei before she could summon her undead army.

The reason why nobody had done this before him, was because they weren't fast enough to close the distance between themselves and Liu Mei.

But he, Song Yahui, was completely different!

Without holding back, the moment that Liu Mei started to condense the black ball of death qi in her hands, Song Yahui kicked the ground, as he suddenly shot forward.

His entire body was covered with a gust of wind, enhancing his speed even further, as Song Yahui turned into a blur, quickly crossing half the distance between himself and Liu Mei.

In just a few moments, just as the first batches of jade white skeletons started to appear from the black hole on the ground, Song Yahui smashed through their group that was blocking his way, as he arrived in front of Liu Mei in the blink of an eye.

With a cold smile on his face, Song Yahui clenched his right fist, punching Liu Mei on her stomach without holding back. His cultivation at the middle of rank 9 in the Nascent Soul exploded outwards, as his fist was covered with a layer of wind before it fell on Liu Mei's stomach.

BOOOOM!

Chapter 678: Liu Mei vs Song Yahui

Liu Mei was surprised by Song Yahui's speed, but even after seeing his sudden attack that was about to hit her stomach, she didn't attempt to defend and instead she closed her eyes, as she kept her full focus on maintaining the black hole open so more of her undead creatures would arrive.

Liu Mei knew that if she lost focus even for a while, the black hole would close and her undead creatures would stop pouring out.

Of course, it wasn't that Liu Mei didn't want to defend or that she thought that Song Yahui was weak, but Song Yahui was simply too fast, causing her to not have enough time to defend.

Less than 200 skeletons had come out from the black hole by now, and they had barely managed to slow down Song Yahui for a single moment before he effortlessly tore through their defenses and arrived in front of Liu Mei to land his attack.

Of course, Liu Mei wasn't entirely to blame for this either.

After all, this was the first time that someone had managed to cross the distance between them so quickly and manage to land a hit on her ever since she had started training in her Dao of Death.

In her previous fights in the Martial Roll of Honor, no one was as fast as Song Yahui who seemed to specialize on speed.

As for the personal missions that she had completed in the past 5 months, every time that Liu Mei had a target that she wanted to fight, she would summon her undead army before she began the fight.

BOOOOM!

Shun Long's eyes flashed with a dangerous light the moment he saw Song Yahui's attack landing on Liu Mei.

The moment that Song Yahui's punch landed on Liu Mei's stomach, a bright light suddenly covered Liu Mei's entire body, before the faint outline of a translucent armor appeared on her body.

Runes and patterns lit up as they covered the entire area of the translucent armor in the blink of an eye, before Liu Mei's body was sent flying backwards like a cannonball.

Liu Mei could feel a sharp pain on her stomach, but surprisingly, there was no visible wound on her body nor did she cough out any blood.

Although the pain was indeed intense, it was still within the limits of what Liu Mei could bear.

Shun Long heaved out a sigh of relief when he saw this scene and realized that Liu Mei was truly uninjured, while Liu Mei had a surprised look on her face.

She had nearly forgotten about this translucent armor that she was wearing.

She remembered that this was the same armor that Shun Long had snatched back from the core region of the 'Dragon Lord's villa' in the Night star continent, a peak 1-star rank armor!

At that moment, it wasn't just Song Yahui who was staring at Liu Mei with a gaze mixed with incredulousness and disbelief, but the rest of the outer court disciples in the top 1000 as well, including even those monsters who were ranked in the top 100.

They could clearly see that Liu Mei was wearing a star-rank armor, but none of them could actually believe their eyes.

But this was understandable.

Although most of those disciples who were ranked in the top 10 possessed star-rank weapons, there was not a single outer disciple who had a star-rank armor.

After all, star-rank armors were simply too rare and valuable.

A piece of star-rank armor was simply much more rare than a star-rank weapon at the same level.

Even Liu Mei's master was staring at her disciple with wide-open eyes. She had never given Liu Mei a star-rank armor, which meant that she had most likely obtained it from someone else.

However, Liu Mei was only a rogue cultivator prior to coming to the Holy sect. How could she possibly obtain a piece of star-rank armor?

"Oh? This little girl actually has a star-rank armor? And it's even at the peak of 1-star. How interesting."

The Grand Elder rested his hand on his beard as he stared at the translucent armor on Liu Mei's body that had managed to negate most of the power behind Song Yahui's attack.

Of course, to someone like the Grand Elder, procuring a piece of a 1-star armor, even a peak 1-star like Liu Mei's armor was practically effortless.

After all, star-rank weapons and armor could only be made by powerful formation masters who were at least rank 6 Dao Emperors.

However, although it was easy for the Grand Elder who had lived for countless years and knew many powerful Dao Emperors, for the families in the Holy sect's territory it was an extremely difficult task.

After all, in the central region, star-rank formation masters were at the same level as the powerful star-rank alchemists and star-rank beast tamers.

Asking those formation masters to create a piece of a star-rank armor, especially a peak 1-star, was at the same level as asking a powerful star-rank alchemist to create a high-grade or even a top-grade rank 7 pill, and an exceedingly difficult rank 7 pill at that.

High-grade and top-grade rank 7 pills were simply too difficult to produce, and the same went for star-rank armors.

Song Yahui stared disbelievingly at his right fist that was now bloodied. The moment that his punch had landed on the translucent armor covering Liu Mei's body, Song Yahui felt more than half of his energy being negated by the toughness of the armor, while the mysterious runes and patterns on the armor's surface had somehow made 30 percent of his attack to be directed back to him.

Of course, this was the special effect of the translucent armor that Liu Mei was wearing.

Although it didn't empower Liu Mei's strength directly, once Liu Mei was struck by a physical attack, it reflected back more than 30 percent of the attacker's strength back to him. Just this effect was enough for it to be called a peak 1-star armor.

Caught completely unprepared, Song Yahui felt a powerful force assaulting him, especially his attacking right arm that was jerked back violently and was now dripping with blood as it was clearly wounded.

And yet, the remaining 20 percent of his power was still more than enough to send Liu Mei flying back like a cannonball.

At that moment, the silence in the arena was suddenly broken, as a furious roar could be heard from the black hole on the floor of the platform, before the figure of an enormous, hideous magic beast more than 30 meters(100ft) tall emerged from it, followed by the silhouette of a beautiful young woman in black robes.

Chapter 679: Liu Mei's full strength

The black-robed young woman who was clearly at the early rank 8 of the Nascent Soul stood in front of Liu Mei and looked at Song Yahui with her emotionless eyes, while the Death Eater was emitting an aura of unrestrained hunger and killing intent as it faced the only enemy it could sense on the platform.

Liu Mei understood that the Death Eater and her powerful reanimated corpses should be the first ones to come out from the black hole when she summoned her undead creatures from now on.

After all, she may not necessarily be fast enough to summon her entire undead army in the future if she summoned her skeletons first, since her opponent may specialize in speed like Song Yahui and launch a sudden attack right from the start.

After the roar of the Death Eater had broken the silence in the arena, the outer court disciples in the audience seats who were previously watching the battle calmly, finally exploded in excitement

"Is this really a star-rank armor? Don't tell me that Elder Xuan gave her disciple a star-rank armor!"

"Of course! Who else aside from an inner court Elder would be able to obtain this? How many millions of spirit stones would one have to spend to buy something like this? Although some star-rank weapons could occasionally appear in the auctions of the Holy city, I haven't heard of a single star-rank armor appearing in any of the auctions."

"Look! Song Yahui is actually injured. His hand is dripping with blood even though he was the one who attacked!"

At the same time that the crowd burst in discussions, Song Yahui had a cold look on his face as he stared at his injured right fist, before he took out a high-grade rank 5 healing pill from his spatial ring and placed it in his mouth.

He had actually been injured!

The wound on his hand started to slowly heal, but it still seemed like it would need some time to heal the internal injuries as well.

And yet, Song Yahui didn't seem to be in a hurry, as he stared at Liu Mei, allowing her to keep summoning more of her undead creatures while he focused on healing the wound on his arm instead.

In his eyes, Liu Mei's undead creatures were nothing to him. Healing his injured right fist was much more important. At most, he would need to spend a few more seconds destroying those useless things that blocked his way.

Even the Death Eater and the black-robed woman who were comparable to early rank 9 Nascent Soul stage cultivators in strength when their power was increased by Liu Mei's Death Chant, could

only slightly delay Song Yahui for a while, but he would only need a bit more time to take care of them.

"Hahaha, I didn't expect that you would have a piece of star-rank armor on you, especially one so peculiar as this. It even managed to redirect some of the power behind my attack back to me. It seems that Elder Xuan favors you quite a bit." Song Yahui said calmly as he focused on fully healing his arm, seemingly not in a hurry to make a move right away.

Liu Mei stared at the young man in front of her coldly without responding.

Although Song Yahui's tone was calm, Liu Mei could clearly sense the hints of envy in his voice as he stared at her translucent armor.

Even the top 10 disciples in the Martial Roll of Honor were now moved by a treasure like this and were staring at Liu Mei seriously, let alone someone like Song Yahui who was ranked in the bottom of the top 1000.

Of course, Liu Mei had no reason to explain to Song Yahui that this translucent armor was something that Shun Long had snatched by himself under the noses of 2 peak stage Dao Kings.

In just a few moments, an army of 1000 jade white skeletons that were wielding their bony swords and 60 black-armored undead knights who were holding their gigantic black greatswords had appeared in front of Liu Mei, while the Death Eater had gone all the way to the back of the undead army as Liu Mei sat on its back.

And yet, this didn't seem to be the end just yet, as the black hole on the floor of the platform had yet to disappear.

Surprised, Song Yahui turned his attention towards the black hole, before the figure of a middle-man dressed in a silver armor slowly emerged from it.

A smile appeared on Shun Long's face when he saw this scene, while Xingyi, Jiang Chen, and Bai Longtian weren't surprised either as they looked at the figure of the stout middle-aged man who had appeared from the black hole.

They knew that Liu Mei had another powerful puppet that she had yet to reveal.

The reason why Liu Mei had decided to sacrifice the corpse of the black-robed old man at the early rank 8 of the Nascent Soul during her previous battle, was because she was unwilling to reveal this trump card of hers and keep it for this battle.

This was the most powerful puppet that Liu Mei had managed to obtain during the past 5 months, the corpse of a middle rank 8 Nascent Soul cultivator.

Indeed, the look on Song Yahui's face changed in the next moment as he stared at the silver-armored middle-aged man with an extremely solemn look.

Although Song Yahui hadn't paid any attention to Liu Mei's undead army previously, this was because he knew that even when the black-robed young woman combined her strength with the Death Eater, she still wouldn't pose a threat to him.

Song Yahui had also paid attention to Liu Mei's black-armored undead knights previously, but he knew that even when Liu Mei used her Death's Chant to strengthen them as well, the strength of the 60 undead knights combined would barely be at the same level as the Death Eater.

Naturally, Song Yahui had no reason to fear them.

In his eyes, they would just be a bit more troublesome to deal with, which was why he decided to take Liu Mei out in the very beginning.

However, Song Yahui now knew, that this corpse of the middle-aged man who had just appeared was an entirely different matter.

If Liu Mei used her Death Chant on him, the silver-armored middle-aged man would probably be comparable to a middle rank 9 Nascent Soul cultivator.

Although that wasn't strong enough to threaten Song Yahui by itself, when it was combined with the black-robed young woman, the 60 undead knights, and even the hideous Death Eater, Song Yahui's face couldn't help but turn pale.

Chapter 680

Shun Long stared at Song Yahui calmly, while in his heart he couldn't help but laugh when he saw his face turn pale.

The arrogant look had disappeared from his face as he looked at the army in front of him with a face that couldn't hide his dread.

He knew that this battle had suddenly turned extremely difficult for him.

What Song Yahui didn't know, was that a couple of months ago, when Jiang Chen had sparred with Liu Mei inside Shun Long's courtyard, he was unable to even touch Liu Mei who was protected by this middle-aged man and the rest of her undead army.

Of course, back then, Jiang Chen had yet to consume the 'five-elements awakening pill' and it was only a spar between them, so neither he nor Liu Mei went all-out. However, even after consuming the 'five-elements awakening pill', Jiang Chen wouldn't say for certain that he could defeat Liu Mei's undead army inside his Kingdom of Darkness.

Although it was uncertain whether he was stronger or whether Liu Mei was stronger when they both went all-out, Jiang Chen was confident that Song Yahui's chances of winning were extremely minuscule.

At the same time, Xingyi and Bai Longtian both felt resigned that they had yet to breakthrough to the peak of rank 7 in the Nascent Soul.

In the next moment, the Death Eater was the first one to move, as it suddenly ran towards Song Yahui who was only a few dozen meters away from it, causing the platform to start trembling in the process.

Covered in a dense aura of death that came from Liu Mei's Death Chant, the Death Eater that was now comparable to an early rank 9 Nascent Soul stage cultivator in strength caused the entire platform to start trembling, as it moved towards Song Yahui in front of it, while the aura of hunger and killing intent that came from its body intensified greatly.

The 1000 jade-white skeletons that were no longer restrained by Liu Mei's soul sense followed after the gigantic, hideous beast as well, as they rushed towards Song Yahui from all sides.

The army of jade-white skeletons looked like a skeletal wave of white bones that was taking over the platform, as it swarmed Song Yahui from all sides.

The terrifying sight of 1000 skeletons at the middle of rank 7 in the Nascent Soul attacking him all at the same time, was enough to make Song Yahui feel all of the hair on his body stand up, before an enormous tornado of wind suddenly appeared around him, completely covering his entire body.

Many of the disciples in the audience seats shivered when they saw this ghastly scene that looked like a wave of death descending on Song Yahui, while only those in the top 1000 could keep the calm and uncaring looks on their faces.

Song Yahui stood at the center of the tornado as he watched the skeletons jump on the tornado one by one.

Although they were repelled and their bones were slowly ground to dust, the skeletons had no fear of death, as they kept jumping into the tornado without stop.

Thankfully, Song Yahui knew that those skeletons only had the strength of an extremely weak middle rank 7 Nascent Soul cultivator and they had no Dao comprehension, which made their strength inferior to any normal cultivator at the same level.

However, even if their strength was inferior to cultivators at the same level, just their sheer numbers alone were enough to force Song Yahui to expend a large amount of qi to defend against them.

Previously, Song Yahui would have simply ignored the skeletons and rush straight towards Liu Mei, but now, he wasn't confident enough to do so.

If he failed to defeat Liu Mei quickly and was surrounded by the skeletons on top of the Death Eater, the silver-armored middle-aged man, the 60 undead knights, and the black-robed young woman, he was guaranteed to lose.

He knew that since Liu Mei had summoned her entire army, his only choice was to let her attack him and try to defend while he looked for an opportunity to counter-attack.

Song Yahui was confident that as long as there was a single opening, then with his current speed he could definitely strike Liu Mei for the second time.

However, along with the skeletons, Song Yahui saw the gigantic body of the Death Eater soon enter his tornado as well.

The Death Eater was even bigger than the tornado itself that was only 20 meters(66ft) tall and 10 meters(33ft) wide, causing Liu Mei who was standing on its back to be completely unaffected by it. The wind blades inside the tornado constantly attacked the Death Eater, but all they managed to do was merely to slow down its speed.

As for the countless cuts on its body, the Death Eater didn't seem to mind, as it kept rushing towards Song Yahui at the heart of the tornado.

Those cuts were nothing more than child's play, barely scratching through the surface of the Death Eater's body.

At the same time, the figure of the middle-aged man in silver armor, the black-robed young woman, and the 60 undead knights, all entered the tornado as well, as they moved towards Song Yahui, while a dense aura of death qi had covered their bodies.

Song Yahui's face turned cold as he raised his right hand, causing a massive sword made from wind to slowly appear in the sky above his head.

Hovering in the sky at the center of the tornado where he was completely unaffected, Song Yahui looked like an ant holding a massive wind sword, before he focused his eyes on Liu Mei on the Death Eater's back.

Staring at Liu Mei with his cold narrowed eyes that were now filled with killing intent, Song Yahui spat hatefully

"Fine then! If you want to die, go ahead! Saint low-grade martial skill, Sword of Wind!"

As he finished speaking Song Yahui swung his hand downwards without holding back, causing the enormous wind sword to move towards Liu Mei on the Death Eater's back at full speed.

This was Song Yahui's strongest Saint low-grade martial skill, the Sword of Wind.

The air howled as the Sword of Wind descended towards Liu Mei's head at full strength.

And yet, Liu Mei only raised her head to look at the enormous wind sword, before 60 figures covered in black armor raised their huge greatswords and swung them to meet the Sword of Wind head-on.

The 60 undead knights were extremely strong and their combined attack temporarily managed to stop Song Yahui's wind sword into place, completely shocking Song Yahui.

However, although the undead knights were working together, their strength was only comparable to an early rank 9 Nascent Soul cultivator.

There weren't strong enough to resist Song Yahui's all-out attack.

The bodies of the undead knights were either bisected by the Sword of Wind or they were blasted backwards, as the sword continued descending towards Liu Mei a moment later.

However, it was obvious that a large part of the wind sword's strength had been expended as well.

At that moment, the figures of the black-robed young woman and the silver-armored middle-aged man both appeared above the Death Eater as well.

The middle-aged man didn't hold a weapon and instead, he punched the incoming Sword of Wind with his bare hands, while the black-robed young woman took out her dagger and attacked at the same time.

As their attacks both landed on Song Yahui's Sword of Wind, the black-robed young woman's body trembled, before she was sent flying back to the ground barely a moment later.

As for the silver-armored middle-aged man, he managed to last even longer than the black-robed young woman, but under Song Yahui's attack, he was sent flying as well.

After all, this was a powerful Saint low-grade martial skill!

However, after taking on the attacks of the undead knights, the black-robed young woman and the silver-armored middle-aged man, the gigantic Sword of Wind seemed to have lost all of its power as well, as it finally dispersed.

Song Yahui couldn't believe that his strongest attack hadn't even managed to touch Liu Mei.

However, at that moment, he felt like a hungry beast had suddenly locked its eyes on him.



The Death Eater that was just a few meters away from him just now, suddenly appeared in front of him in a single moment.

Song Yahui suddenly felt a bone-chilling sensation in his heart, almost as if a hungry beast had suddenly set its sights on him.

However, before he could turn around and flee, Song Yahui saw the Death Eater that was right in front of him raise its enormous leg that looked like a gigantic horse hoove, before it mercilessly stomped on him.

The crowd watched in disbelief as a genius in the top 1000 in the Martial Roll of Honor rankings was mercilessly stomped by the terrifying black beast, as the sounds of bones breaking resounded throughout the arena.

Song Yahui's cries quickly died down as he lost consciousness before the Death Eater could stomp on him a second time.

The outer court Elder responsible for the platform heaved out a sigh of relief. He believed that if Liu Mei's beast stepped on Song Yahui a second time, Song Yahui would most likely not survive.

Liu Mei only threw one last look at Song Yahui's body, before she had the Death Eater and the rest of her skeletons return back to the black hole, as she then walked towards the outer court Elder to receive her sect identifying token.

In the sky above the arena, the head of the inner court Elders, Sun Wen had an easy-going smile on his face as he looked at Liu Mei's figure on the platform, before he said calmly

"Haha, Xuan Jiao, your disciple really doesn't show any mercy. I wonder if there is some enmity between her and that Song Yahui kid."

Elder Xuan shook her head and said calmly

"Senior brother, I'm actually surprised that Mei managed to win. As for showing mercy in this fight, I would be the first to scold her if she did so. However, there were even easier opponents for her to choose from aside from that Song Yahui, so there is probably some enmity between them.

Regardless, of why she chose him, it's alright as long as she won. Even if she had lost, it wouldn't have mattered too much either."

Sun Wen nodded his head calmly as he agreed with her.

At the same time, in the audience seats, Shun Long pulled Liu Mei into a hug who was happy to be praised after winning her fight.

Half an hour later, it was Jiang Chen's turn to fight.

He chose a young man at the middle of rank 9 in the Nascent Soul, who was roughly at the same level as Song Yahui.

Shun Long saw that Jiang Chen's fight wasn't easy either, but he still managed to win once his opponent was dragged in his 'Kingdom of Darkness'.

After Jiang Chen's fight ended, Xingyi's and Bai Longtian's turn to step on the platform quickly arrived, but after some serious thought, they didn't challenge anyone in the top 1000. Shun Long

knew that this was only normal. After all, they weren't in their peak condition yet and were still recuperating.

2 hours later, Shun Long's turn to step on the platform finally arrived.