

Time 691

Chapter 691

Waving his hand, the Grand Elder lowered the protective formations around the sect, allowing the 'Hellfire crow' to enter inside, before he looked at the purple-robed Bai Liuxian and answered

"There is a tournament going on to select the top 1000 outer disciples. If you want to, you are free to come and spectate, but the tournament is nearing its end already."

The purple-robed old man, 'uncle Mo' smiled as he looked at Bai Liuxian and said

"Princess, since we are already here why don't we have a look? Perhaps there will be someone who can prove to be of use to you."

Bai Liuxian nodded in response before she stood up and patted the back of the 'Hellfire crow' gently a moment later.

The enormous bird that was more than 100 meters long let out an intimidating cry towards the Grand Elder and the disciples of the Holy sect below it, before it shot to the distance a moment later, leaving Bai Liuxian and 'uncle Mo' behind.

The 3 inner court Elders all had complicated looks on their faces when they heard that Bai Liuxian was looking for followers who would help her in the City of Immortals.

They didn't particularly mind that the disciples of the Holy sect would have a chance to follow someone from a powerful clan like Bai Liuxian.

Instead, that could prove to be a boon to some of those disciples.

The problem was the influence of the Bai clan itself.

They were afraid that the balance of the sect would be disrupted if Bai Liuxian happened to take an interest in an outer court disciple coming from the powerful families and clans around the Holy sect's territory.

After all, if one of those powerful families and clans happened to obtain the backing of the Bai clan, then they would have no reason to fear the Holy sect any longer.

Even the sect master of the Holy sect wouldn't want to offend the Bai clan and would most likely be forced to look the other way.

Seeing the Grand Elder and the 3 inner court Elders behind him escort Bai Liuxian and the purple-robed 'uncle Mo' towards the arena, the disciples in the audience seats who had already noticed the eye-catching sight of the 'Hellfire crow' arriving earlier, all started discussing in low voices

"Who are these people? Even the Grand Elder is escorting them personally..."

"That woman is so beautiful but I have never seen her before! She probably doesn't belong to a power within our Holy sect's territory. I wonder which family she belongs to."

"They definitely come from some extremely powerful family or clan. Didn't you see that the Grand Elder activated the protective formations around the sect earlier? They are probably strong enough to pose a threat even to the Grand Elder, or the Grand Elder wouldn't have activated them."

"Right! The aura coming from that black bird also made me shiver when it let out that cry earlier. Even Elder Sun Wen's aura isn't this terrifying."

It wasn't just the disciples in the audience seats who were paying attention to the 2 newcomers, but even those who had entered the top 1000 in the Martial Roll of Honor and were standing in the surrounding platforms, as they had now turned their eyes towards Bai Liuxian and the purple-robed old man in the sky.

The Grand Elder seemed to have noticed this change, as he snorted angrily and he said in a displeased tone

"What are you brats looking at? These 2 guests are here to have a look at the Martial Roll of Honor. Who told you to stop the tournament?"

The outer court disciple whose turn was to step on the fighting platform and challenge someone, as well as the outer court Elder responsible for the platform both started to sweat as they continued the fights without any delay.

They could sense the Grand Elder's anger and they didn't want to be the ones whom the Grand Elder would vent his frustration on.

The fights in the arena continued and they seemed to be even more heated than before.

Although the outer court disciples didn't know the reason behind those people's visit since they couldn't hear the conversation between the purple-robed old man and the Grand Elder just now, they could sense that this peculiar visit made this Martial Roll of Honor tournament different from the previous ones.

This, along with the increased rewards for the top 1000 made the disciples in the arena fight with even more fervor than before.

However, just as the second battle ended, Bai Liuxian seemed to have lost her interest as she said in a disappointed tone

"Is this the best that your Holy sect has to offer? This level is simply too low."

The Grand Elder didn't respond, but Sun Wen smiled gently as he looked at Bai Liuxian and said

"Miss Bai, these are only the fights for the top 1000 among the outer court. It's only natural that they won't attract your interest. However, if you wait for a while, you will fight the fights among the top 100 or the top 10 more interesting."

Bai Liuxian was displeased, but she still nodded her head and agreed, as she decided to watch the tournament until the end since she was already here.

No matter what, she had come here in hopes of finding followers but she knew that her standards were simply too high.

Aside from that person named Yang Hui that her 'uncle Mo' had mentioned, she knew that the chances of finding someone else who could attract her interest were simply too low.

Even that Yang Hui may not be good enough to be accepted by her, let alone the others.

Finally, a little more than an hour later, the fights for the top 1000 were finished as the spots for the top 1000 had all been decided.

Looking at the outer court disciples in the audience seats below him, Sun Wen took a deep breath before he said in a commanding tone

"Those who have entered the top 1000... step on the platform!"

Chapter 692: Change of plans

The disciples who had entered the top 1000 were surprised by Sun Wen's sudden order, but they still flew towards the empty fighting platform all at once.

The platform was obviously large enough to easily hold more than a few thousand people in it, let alone just a thousand of them.

Shun Long led Liu Mei and Jiang Chen and flew towards the platform as well, as they joined the rest of those disciples who were in the top 1000 in the Martial Roll of Honor.

Sun Wen nodded his head once he saw the 1000 outer court disciples gathered on the platform, before he spoke loudly a moment later, his voice entering the ears of every single disciple in the arena

"The fights between the top 1000 will start now. The rules will be the same-"

"There is no need for this."

Before the white-robed Elder Sun Wen could finish speaking, the Grand Elder's voice suddenly interrupted him, causing everyone, including Shun Long and the other disciples around him, and even the purple-robed Bai Liuxian and the old man by her side who were standing in the sky above the arena, to turn their attention towards the Grand Elder all at the same time.

The Grand Elder shook his head and turned his attention towards the outer disciples on the platform below him, before he said in a calm voice

"There is no need for that. Let's start the fights between the top 100 right away."

The disciples on the platform were all stunned when they heard this.

Skip the battles between the top 1000 and go directly to the top 100?

Forget about those disciples standing on the platform who were about to fight, even those disciples in the crowd were unwilling to see this.

After all, the fights between the top 1000 were the most exciting ones. Although the battles between the top 100 were even more exciting instead, those disciples still wanted to see who would move up and down in the rankings.

However, a single word from the Grand Elder was enough to change all of this.

"Grand Elder, are you sure?" The white-robed Sun Wen asked somewhat hesitantly as he stared at the Grand Elder, but the powerful peak Dao Emperor nodded his head calmly, and as he stared at the disciples on the platform below him, the Grand Elder said in a serious voice

"I am sure that many of you have already guessed that this Martial Roll of Honor tournament is different from the previous ones. Sun Wen was going to be the one who would explain this to you when the tournament ended, but things have changed, so listen carefully to what I have to say.

In a little more than a year from now, a mysterious city will open its entrance, attracting the attention of virtually every strong power throughout the entire central region.

This city is named the City of Immortals.

Countless treasures and legacies can be found within that place, but along with treasures, that city also holds countless dangers inside it as well.

It's not just our Holy sect that's planning to enter the City of Immortals, but virtually every single strong power throughout the central region that will have its eyes set on the city's opening!

However, not just anyone can enter this place either. If you want to enter inside, you will need to have reached the Dao King realm at the very least.

Since there are less than 2 years left until the city's opening, our Holy sect decided to increase the rewards for this Martial Roll of Honor tournament, to help those of you who will enter the 'City of Immortals' become even stronger."

The Grand Elder paused for a moment, allowing the disciples in the audience seats and those standing on the platform below him to digest this information.

"City of Immortals?" Shun Long mumbled to himself in confusion before he sent a mental message to Little Black asking him if he knew anything about this City of Immortals.

However, Little Black simply shook his head and answered uncertainly

"City of Immortals? Any city within the Immortal Dimension can be considered as a city of Immortals, but outside of the Immortal Dimension or the other powerful dimensions, it's impossible for a city of Immortals to exist."

Understanding that Shun Long was surprised, Little Black then continued

"Master, let me explain. Once someone breaks through in their cultivation to become a true immortal, the laws of the Immortal Dimension will naturally pull that person away from this mortal world and to the Immortal Dimension. This is why it's impossible for a city of Immortals to appear in this mortal world."

Shun Long had a look of realization on his face after hearing Little Black's explanation.

However, this explanation made Shun Long even more curious about this City of Immortals that the Grand Elder had just mentioned.

At the same time, it wasn't just Shun Long and his group who were confused and surprised by the Grand Elder's words.

Even geniuses who were ranked in the top 100 in the Martial Roll of Honor seemed to have been confused and surprised when they heard the Grand Elder's words.

At the same time, a few hidden glints that no one seemed to have noticed flashed inside the eyes of several disciples who were ranked in the top 10 in the Martial Roll of Honor.

Whether it was the person who was ranked 1st, the genius of the Yang family, Yang Hui, the tall young man who was standing by his side and was ranked 3rd in the Martial Roll of Honor, Zhang Jing, or the young woman who was ranked 2nd, Qiao Min, they all seemed to have excited looks in their eyes when they heard the Grand Elder's words.

The Grand Elder looked at the disciples below him, before he turned his attention towards Bai Liuxian and the purple-robed 'uncle Mo' who were standing in the sky a few meters away from him and continued a moment later

"Since we have 2 esteemed guests here today who happened to visit us from the Bai clan of Starmist city, we will start directly with the fights between the top 100."

Many of the disciples were confused when they heard the Grand Elder's explanation, not understanding what these people's visit had to do with the Martial Roll of Honor rankings.

Of course, those disciples didn't know what significance the name 'Bai clan of Starmist city' held in the central region.

It was only the disciples from the most powerful clans and families, like the Yang clan's, Yang Hui, and the other disciples of the powerful families, who stared at the purple-robed old man and the beautiful young woman by his side with gazes filled with shock.

The Bai clan? Who among them didn't know that this was one of the most ancient and powerful clans throughout the entire central region?

Those disciples who belonged to the powerful families and clans around the Holy sect's territory all knew, that even a strong sect like the Holy sect was nothing in front of an enormous entity like the Bai clan.

Many disciples however, especially those who were aiming to enter the top 500 and knew nothing about the Bai clan were indignant when they heard this sudden change.

If only the top 100 fought amongst themselves, then wouldn't that mean that those disciples in the top 1000 would lose their chance to challenge those in the top 500?

After all, the rewards between the top 500 and the top 1000 were completely different.

A young man couldn't help but grit his teeth and raise his head to look at the Grand Elder when he thought of this, before he asked after a moment of hesitation

"Grand Elder... then what about those who are ranked in the top 1000? Will they lose their chances to challenge those in the top 500?"

The Grand Elder snorted as he looked at the young man who had asked this question, before he shook his head and answered coldly a moment later

"Since I have changed the rules, the rewards for the top 1000 and the top 500 will change as well.

Everyone among the top 1000 will also obtain 1000 high-grade spirit stones."

How could the Grand Elder not understand that many of those disciples in the top 1000 would drool over the 1000 high-grade spirit stones that the top 500 would obtain?

The young man lowered his head when he heard this, but he was still satisfied in his heart.

Of course, the only thing that mattered were the rewards.

As for the ranking?

He could challenge someone at the top 500 anytime he wanted as long as he came to the arena.

Bai Liuxian who was standing next to the Grand Elder wasn't surprised when she heard that the fights between the top 1000 would be skipped and the top 100 would start directly.

She understood that the Grand Elder was most likely giving her face so she wouldn't have to watch more of those boring fights between those weaklings.

It was only natural that the most talented ones were those who were ranked the highest.

No one had managed to notice the hidden glance that the Grand Elder had shot towards a certain person in the arena below him before he came to this decision.

Chapter 693: Seen through?

Sun Wen seemed to have also realized what the Grand Elder's intentions were, but just as he was about to declare the start of the fights between the top 100, the purple-robed old man next to Bai Liuxian frowned and said coldly

"Wait!"

Sun Wen, the Grand Elder, and Liu Mei's master, all turned their gazes towards him, before Bai Liuxian asked curiously in the next moment

"Uncle Mo, what's wrong?"

The purple-robed old man threw a look at the disciples on the platform below him before he answered seriously

"Princess, you are probably thinking that no one below the top 100 is important to you. After all, those who are talented would already be ranked in the top 100, right?"

Bai Liuxian nodded her head somewhat hesitantly.

She didn't understand what 'uncle Mo' was hinting at, but she knew that there was probably a reason for him to suddenly ask this question.

Indeed, the purple-robed old man sighed when he received Bai Liuxian's answer before he shook his head and said

"Princess, you are too inexperienced. Could it be that you really think, that no one below the top 100 can be talented enough to be of help to you? Perhaps there will be a few geniuses who were only restricted by their cultivation bases and couldn't enter the top 100 just yet."

The Grand Elder's eyes twitched while Sun Wen's face turned slightly pale.

Sun Wen knew that the reason why the Grand Elder was moving up the fights, was to avoid exposing a few certain disciples like Shun Long.

However, the purple-robed old man seemed to have already seen through this plan, as he pointed directly at the crux of the matter.

A look of realization flashed past Bai Liuxian's bright green eyes as she turned her gaze towards the Grand Elder in the next moment and said coldly

"In that case, let's continue with the fights between the top 1000. It's just a few more fights left, I can afford to wait this long."

Although the Grand Elder felt angry at the commanding tone that Bai Liuxian had used when she spoke to him, almost as if she was ordering around a servant, he still didn't flare up once he remembered the Sovereign realm expert who was traveling by her side.

The disciples on the platform were all surprised when they heard these 2 newcomers ordering around the Grand Elder and even having a say in the Martial Roll of Honor tournament.

Even Yang Hui and the other high-ranking disciples from the powerful families were stunned upon seeing this scene.

They had originally thought that Bai Liuxian and the purple-robed old man just happened to come to the Holy sect today, and they were simply interested in spending some time watching the fights between the top 100 in the Martial Roll of Honor since they were here.

However, there seemed to be an even more important reason behind that instead, since the purple-robed young woman seemed to be looking for some people to help her.

After taking a deep breath to calm himself down, the Grand Elder looked at this princess of the Bai clan who was standing next to him and said calmly

"Princess, I do admit that there are some talented outer court disciples who haven't yet entered the top 100 in the Martial Roll of Honor.

However, only those who are ranked in the top 100 can possibly catch your attention. Of course, if you really want to, I don't mind having those at the top 400 and above fight as well.

You should understand that only those in the top 400 and above have entered the Dao King realm, and most of them are rank 1 Dao Kings as well.

As for those below the top 400, they are all at the Nascent Soul stage. I'm sure that the princess isn't interested in Nascent Soul stage outer disciples.

After all, no one below the Dao King realm can enter the City of Immortals in the first place."

As he said the last sentence, the Grand Elder had turned his eyes towards the purple-robed old man next to Bai Liuxian.

The old man stared at the Grand Elder seriously without responding straight away.

He could feel that something was off about all of this, but the Grand Elder's words had merit as well.

No matter what, the princess wouldn't be interested in Nascent Soul stage outer disciples whom she couldn't bring with her to the City of Immortals.

Although the purple-robed 'uncle Mo' wanted to argue, in the end, he decided to stay silent, or it would seem like a Sovereign realm expert like him was trying to steal a bunch of Nascent Soul stage outer disciples from the Holy sect.

Besides, in the last 5 months, the old man had already visited plenty of places with Bai Liuxian but the number of geniuses he had found was pitifully low.

It would already be a miracle if he could find a single person in this Holy sect who could be worthy enough to follow his princess, let alone more of them.

Seeing that the purple-robed old man didn't disagree, Bai Liuxian looked at the Grand Elder and spoke calmly

"In that case, let's start with the fights between the top 400."

The Grand Elder nodded his head, while inwardly he heaved a sigh of relief without showing any of it in his expression, afraid that the purple-robed old man would change his mind.

The Grand Elder then ordered those below the top 400 to return to the audience seats while those in the top 400 would remain in the surrounding platforms.

Shun Long had an odd look in his eyes as he looked at the Grand Elder and the purple-robed young woman in the sky next to him, before he led Liu Mei and Jiang Chen back towards the audience seats where Xingyi and Bai Longtian were waiting for him.

Shun Long was paying attention to this powerful Sovereign realm expert from the very beginning, and it wasn't hard to guess, that he and the purple-robed young woman by his side had come to the Holy sect with a certain goal in mind.

Liu Mei, Xingyi, Jiang Chen, and Bai Longtian, all understood this as well, but they decided to remain silent.

Although they were all interested in this City of Immortals as well, they knew that even reaching the Dao King realm in a couple of years when the City of Immortals opened was extremely difficult, nearly downright impossible.

Since the Grand Elder had said that only disciples with a cultivation at the Dao King realm or above would be allowed to enter, no one doubted his words.

As for the sudden visit from this green-haired young woman from the Bai clan, naturally, it had nothing to do with any of them.

Even Shun Long who had the foggy space in the 'Stone of Time' wasn't confident in his chances of reaching the Dao King realm in just 2 years.

After all, Shun Long knew that the hardest part when breaking through wasn't the process of gathering sufficient qi to purify his qi balls, but increasing his comprehension in the Dao of Time even further.

Just to increase his Dao comprehension from the peak of the Spirit realm to the Nascent Soul stage, Shun Long had spent nearly 2 years in the 'Ten thousand beasts mountain range' in the Night star continent, and most of that time had been spent inside the foggy space in the 'Stone of Time' which equaled to almost 20 years.

As for the breakthrough to the Dao King realm, he was certain that it was going to be even more difficult.

Shun Long could sense that there would be tremendous changes in his Dao of Time once he broke through to become a Dao King.

A few minutes later, the fights between the top 400 started.

Indeed, every single disciple who stepped on the platform had reached at least the early rank 1 of the Dao King realm, and Shun Long understood that each of them was strong enough to easily fight many average Dao Kings at the same level.

At least an average early rank 1 Dao King from the powers around the Holy sect wouldn't be able to last more than a few exchanges against these outer court disciples who were ranked in the top 400.

And yet, the purple-robed princess of the Bai clan had a dark look on her face, feeling as if she had been wasting her time.

It was obvious that none of these disciples had managed to attract her attention.

Time soon flowed by and in the blink of an eye, 2 hours had passed.

Although Bai Liuxian wasn't interested in these fights, the situation among those disciples sitting in the audience seats was completely different as excitement had filled the arena.

Of course, this was only natural.

Most of the disciples in the top 400 were either at the early rank 1 or the middle rank 1 of the Dao King realm, but as the fights continued, the disciples who stepped on the platform were even stronger than those before them.

As those disciples fought, Shun Long finally found their true level of strength.

Those in the top 300 were almost all at the peak of rank 1 or the early rank 2 of the Dao King realm, while those in the top 200 were either middle rank 2 or peak rank 2 Dao Kings.

As for those at the top 100, they were all at the early rank 3 of the Dao King realm at the very least!

Even when the top 50 stepped on the platform, Bai Liuxian was still uninterested and unmoving, as if she was a block of ice.

It was only once the top 10 stepped on the platform, that Bai Liuxian finally showed a change in her expression.

Chapter 694: Top 10

The excitement in the arena had finally reached its peak as a bald young man with a burly build stepped on the platform and turned his gaze towards a red-haired young man who was standing on one of the surrounding platforms.

This bald young man was no one else other than the person ranked 7th in the Martial Roll of Honor, Mao Lim.

As for the red-haired young man whom he was staring at, he naturally attracted a lot of attention himself.

After all, not only was this red-haired young man standing right next to Qiao Min, the goddess who was ranked 2nd in the Martial Roll of Honor, but even Shun Long and the others all had heard of his name as well plenty of times.

This was the person who was ranked 4th in the Martial Roll of Honor, one of the 5 strongest outer court disciples of the Holy sect, Zheng Zihao!

"Hey! Senior brother Mao is intending to challenge Zheng Zihao again? Is he serious?"

"I knew this would happen. In the last Martial Roll of Honor tournament, Mao Lim didn't manage to make it to the top 5 only because of senior brother Zheng who defeated him with one punch! He naturally wants to take revenge!"

"How is he planning to take revenge? The last time, senior brother Mao was only an early rank 3 Dao King while Zheng Zihao had already reached the peak rank 3 in the Dao King realm."

"If I was Mao Lim I would challenge Luo Zhelan to get into the top 5 instead of challenging senior brother Zheng. It should be easier to beat the person ranked 5th than the person ranked 4th."

"Idiot, do you think senior brother Luo is weak? Even if he is weaker than Zheng Zihao, it shouldn't be by too much. It's better to challenge an opponent you are already familiar with than someone that you have never fought before."

While he listened to the discussions from the disciples in the crowd around him, Shun Long had already focused his attention towards the bald young man who was standing on the platform.

Mao Lim had his aura retracted inside his body, not leaking out even a little bit of it.

He was calmly staring at the red-haired Zheng Zihao with a gaze filled with fighting intent.

Next to Zheng Zihao, Qiao Min looked at him and smiled as she said

"Junior brother don't lose, or you will cause me to lose face as well."

Zheng Zihao looked at Qiao Min calmly and shook his head without saying anything, before he turned his gaze towards Mao Lim on the platform.

Without any hesitation, his body suddenly shot towards the arena like a red blur, crossing the distance between them and arriving right in front of Mao Lim in less than a second.

"Eh? That kid is a bit faster than most other rank 3 Dao Kings. I guess this fight may be a bit interesting after all."

For the first time in a while, the green-haired Bai Liuxian who had a sulky mood previously finally spoke, as she stared at Zheng Zihao on the platform below her.

Indeed, none of the previous fights had managed to catch her interest in the slightest.

Even those disciples in the top 50 could only be considered below average or average at best in her eyes.

As for this Zheng Zihao, it seemed that speed was his greatest strength.

The purple-robed 'uncle Mo' next to her didn't speak, as he simply stood there and looked at the fighting platform in the arena with an uncaring look on his face.

He knew that although the princess seemed to be interested, it was only because the previous fights had been too boring for her.

In the past 5 months that he had been traveling around the central region with her, he had seen plenty of talents similar to this Zheng Zihao and even stronger than him, but none of them were strong enough to attract his princess' attention.

Bai Liuxian had only chosen only 4 geniuses so far, and every single one of them was far stronger than this Zheng Zihao, whether it was in terms of talent or strength.

In 'uncle Mo's' eyes, Zheng Zihao's famed speed would only put him at the bare minimum to stand on the same stage as those geniuses.

As for his strength, it would need to be at least a few levels higher than his speed if he wanted to compete against them.

As the outer court Elder called for the battle to begin, Mao Lim didn't hide his cultivation base any longer, revealing that he had actually reached the peak of rank 3 in the Dao King realm.

Many outer disciples were surprised by this, including Dong Ai's elder brother, Dong Cheng who was ranked in 6th place, right above Mao Lim.

Dong Chen was previously certain that he could defeat Mao Lim effortlessly, since he had also reached the peak of rank 3 in the Dao King realm before the Martial Roll of Honor tournament started... but now, he felt slightly uncertain.

Dong Cheng had been confident previously that he could beat either Zheng Zihao or Luo Zhelan and earn a spot in the top 5, but now he understood that Mao Lim was most likely not any weaker than him.

"Hmph, it doesn't matter. I have a star-rank weapon while Mao Lim only has that pair of gloves at the peak of rank 3 in the gold grade. Even if we fought against each other again, I would be the one who would come out on top!"

As he remembered his biggest advantage against Mao Lim, a surge of confidence bloomed in Dong Cheng's heart before he turned his attention towards a young man who was standing a few tens of meters away from him.

This was Dong Cheng's target this time, the person ranked 5th in the Martial Roll of Honor, Luo Zhelan!

Even though Luo Zhelan also had a star-rank weapon like him, Dong Cheng was confident in his chances of winning.

In his heart, he had at least a 50 percent chance to enter the top 5 this time.

On the fighting platform, the fight between Mao Lim and Zheng Zihao was extremely heated.

Mao Lim fought with his pair of gloves while Zheng Zihao took out a large yellow hammer that was more than 2 meters(6.5ft) tall, with many mysterious runes covering it completely.

Although Mao Lim's attacks were extremely fierce and his speed was actually only a bit lower than Zheng Zihao's own speed, Zheng Zihao's hammer attacks were truly horrifying, leaving Mao Lim pale-faced against them.

Mao Lim had to dodge most of the hammer attacks, and those few that he didn't manage to avoid in time ended up sending him stumbling back, as they caused hints of blood to appear on his lips.

In the past, Zheng Zihao hadn't used his hammer when he fought against Mao Lim, using only a single fist to defeat him.

But this time, he had to go all-out.

Although Zheng Zihao had the advantage in this fight, Mao Lim's attacks weren't weak either.

Finally, a few minutes later, Mao Lim's body was sent flying from the sky as it crashed on the platform below him, creating a small crater in the process.

Zheng Zihao was panting for breath as he stood in the sky above the platform looking downwards with a look that was filled with fighting intent.

Indeed, Mao Lim was weaker than him and he had won, but Zheng Zihao knew that he couldn't underestimate him any longer.

He understood that if Mao Lim had a star-rank weapon as well, Zheng Zihao would find it much more difficult to win.

Cheers filled the arena as Mao Lim stood up a few moments later and looked at Zheng Zihao in the sky unwillingly, before he carried his battered body away and left the platform.

Zheng Zihao flew back towards Qiao Min, before another fight between the top 10 started.

Dong Cheng finally challenged the person ranked 5th, Luo Zhelan.

Liu Mei and the others all stared at Dong Cheng with cold looks filled with killing intent.

After all, everyone had seen how he had suddenly stepped on the arena and attacked Shun Long after his fight with Dong Ai.

Although Dong Cheng hadn't tried to kill Shun Long since the Elders of the sect would have definitely punished him heavily and even killed him for killing another disciple openly like that, his attack had been strong enough to heavily injure any normal peak rank 9 Nascent Soul cultivator.

Luo Zhelan faced Dong Cheng calmly, before he took out a huge silver sword that he held in front of his chest with both hands.

This was Luo Zhelan's weapon, a star-rank heavy sword!

Dong Cheng had been confident that he could win the fight since he had already fought with Luo Zhelan in the last Martial Roll of Honor tournament as well, but once the fight actually started, Dong Cheng was stunned when he clashed with Luo Zhelan head-on for the first time.

The moment that his black saber collided with Luo Zhelan's heavy sword, Dong Cheng stumbled back for more than a few steps until he regained his balance.

The web on his hand that was holding his saber almost tore apart as Dong Cheng realized that Luo Zhelan's attacks were much stronger than the last time.

Dong Cheng who was most confident in his own offense finally understood that Luo Zhelan wasn't any weaker than him either in this regard.

As for his defense, it was actually much weaker than Luo Zhelan's.

Although Dong Cheng was slightly faster and could hold his own, he was unable to hold on for too long and was defeated.

Surprisingly, after this fight ended, the person ranked 3rd in the Martial Roll of Honor, Zhang Jing didn't step forward.

Instead, silence filled the arena, as a beautiful young woman with blue hair and a pair of sapphire-like eyes stepped on the empty platform, and turned her gaze towards the strongest outer disciple on the outer court, the person ranked 1st in the Martial Roll of Honor, Yang Hui.

Chapter 695: Yang Hui's strength

Yang Hui smiled as he looked at Qiao Min, and under the eager and excited gazes of the disciples in the crowd, he took a step forward as he appeared above the fighting platform almost instantly.

Many outer disciples gasped at this speed.

Even Zheng Zihao who was ranked 4th in the Martial Roll of Honor and was famed for his speed narrowed his eyes when he saw this scene.

He knew that Yang Hui was even faster than he himself was.

Yang Hui's body was engulfed in orange flames as he stood in the sky above the platform, his eyes peering down on Qiao Min who was waiting for him in silence.

"Uncle Mo, is this the kid you were talking about? Indeed his speed at least can be considered above average even among peak rank 4 Dao Kings. However, just this isn't enough to allow him to follow after me in the City of Immortals. If that's all he has then I will be disappointed by this Holy sect."

The purple-robed old man nodded his head without saying anything, while the Grand Elder's eyes twitched when he heard Bai Liuxian's words.

One of the things that the Grand Elder didn't want to see, was the Yang clan striking up a relationship with the Bai clan.

The Yang clan was already the undisputable strongest clan among the powerful families and clans in the Holy sect's territory.

If Yang Hui really followed Bai Liuxian, then once the Yang clan obtained the protection of the Bai clan, even the sect master would have to think twice about offending them.

However, the Grand Elder knew that there was nothing he could do about this either, so he could only remain silent.

With a smile on his face, Yang Hui looked at Qiao Min and said a moment later, with that same unchanging smile on his face

"Junior sister Qiao, do you really intend to challenge me again? I thought you learned your lesson the last time."

Qiao Min snorted as she looked at Yang Hui in the sky who was arrogantly looking down on her as if he was a flame god who could easily decide her life and death, before she answered coldly

"Yang Hui, you are too arrogant. Do you think that you are actually invincible? I did lose the last time but don't think that things would remain like that forever!"

As she finished speaking, Qiao Min allowed her cultivation base to surge wildly, while snakes made from water started to appear in the air around her.

However, the peculiar thing was, that these water snakes seemed to have been formed from a type of black water.

"Eh? Something is wrong with senior sister Qiao's snakes... Don't they seem too real? It's almost as if they are actual magic beasts."

"Idiot! Look at senior sister's cultivation base instead! She has broken through once again!"

Surprised exclamations filled the arena when people saw the black water snakes, while those disciples in the top 10 were actually even more surprised when they sensed Qiao Min's cultivation.

Even Yang Hui was stunned briefly before he looked at Qiao Min and said in surprise

"You broke through to the early rank 4 of the Dao King realm? Hah, how interesting.

It also seems like your water snakes are a bit different from the last time. Perhaps this will be a bit fun then."

Although Yang Hui was slightly surprised, that calm smile hadn't vanished from his face even for a single second, as he slowly descended from the sky, landing on the platform and standing opposite from Qiao Min.

Those disciples who were staring at Yang Hui suddenly thought that they saw an evil smile form itself on his lips, before Yang Hui's cultivation exploded outwards as well.

The confident smile on Qiao Min's face froze in the next moment when she sensed Yang Hui's cultivation base that was actually at the same level as hers... the early rank 4 of the Dao King realm!

"Heh, junior sister, did you think that you were the only one who managed to breakthrough? Even with your unique physique, you should understand that you are no match for me at the same cultivation level. No, it should be said that at the same cultivation level, no one in the entire sect is my match!"

Yang Hui sneered as he looked at Qiao Min contemptuously, waiting to see her surrender.

In his heart, Yang Hui truly disdained to fight against Qiao Min.

Even the inner court disciples of the Holy sect weren't enough to catch his attention.

The only people who were his match, were the few core disciples of the sect, or the peak geniuses around the central region who belonged to the superpowers that ruled the central region.

This was why Yang Hui spent most of his time inside the Dao Tower in the Holy city fighting against those geniuses, or he stayed inside his Yang clan, fighting against the Dao Emperor realm experts of his clan.

The arena that had yet to calm down from Qiao Min's surprising breakthrough before it was filled with clamor once again, as the disciples sitting in the audience seats excitedly cheered

"Senior brother Yang Hui has broken through as well! He is now a middle-stage Dao King just like senior sister Qiao!"

"Sigh. After seeing senior sister's Qiao's breakthrough, I actually thought that she would take first place in the Martial Roll of Honor this time, but who would expect that senior brother Yang would breakthrough as well? Is senior sister doomed to stay in second place forever?"

"Tsk! What do you know? Senior sister Qiao is only 40 years old and she is already a middle-stage Dao King! She even became a Dao King when she was just 35 years old! Her talent is truly at the top of the entire sect, and perhaps even when it's compared to the central region as a whole. Even if there are stronger geniuses out there, I doubt that they will be faster in their cultivation speed by much.

As for senior brother Yang, he is already 70 years old. Although he is very fast as well and he is extremely young, he is much older than senior sister Qiao herself. In the future, senior sister will definitely be the strongest person in the sect."

Some disciples nodded while others fell silent when they heard this.

There were many disciples in the sect who debated whether Yang Hui or Qiao Min was more talented.

Without a doubt, Qiao Min's cultivation speed was faster than Yang Hui's, but in the last Martial Roll of Honor tournament, both Qiao Min and Yang Hui were at the peak of rank 3 in the Dao King realm, and yet Yang Hui had effortlessly defeated her.

This time, things didn't seem to go any different, since both of them were at the same cultivation level again.

Few people believed that the result would actually change.

Shun Long shook his head when he heard the discussions of the crowd around him, while Jiang Chen simply snorted coldly when Yang Hui arrogantly said that he is invincible at the same level of cultivation.

"Just wait until we reach the middle stages of the Dao King realm as well. We will then see if that guy is really invincible at the same level of cultivation."

Xingyi then turned her bright emerald eyes towards Shun Long and asked curiously

"Brother Long, is there something special about that Yang Hui?"

Liu Mei and the others all looked at Shun Long curiously.

They could see that he had a look of interest in his eyes as he stared at Yang Hui.

Shun Long nodded his head and answered with a calm smile on his face

"That guy is strong. Both he and Qiao Min are at the same level of cultivation, but even though Qiao Min has consumed a 'five-elements awakening pill' to increase the strength of her unique physique even further, she still isn't a match for Yang Hui just yet."

Bai Longtian and the others were stunned briefly when they heard this, but they still regained their bearings soon after.

Although they were surprised that Shun Long would be able to see through something like Qiao Min consuming a 'five elements awakening pill', they knew that it wasn't too crazy considering his level of talent in alchemy.

In their eyes, since Shun Long was able to concoct top-grade rank 6 pills like the 'five-elements awakening pill' that even star-rank alchemists only had a 40 percent chance to concoct successfully, his level of talent probably exceeded that of a star-rank alchemist already.

If it wasn't because Shun Long was still a Nascent Soul stage cultivator, Bai Longtian and the others all believed that Shun Long would even be able to concoct rank 7 pills if his spiritual strength was strong enough.

Since Shun Long had been able to see through Jiang Chen's and Bai Longtian's unique physiques when they were intentionally hiding them, it was only natural in their eyes that he would be able to see through Qiao Min's secret of consuming as 'five elements awakening pill' as well.

With a deep look in his eyes, Shun Long stared seriously at Yang Hui and Qiao Min who were both about to fight, before he continued

"Although Qiao Min's unique physique isn't weak, it's different compared to Jiang Chen's, Xingyi's, or Longtian's unique physiques. Her unique physique is called the 'Blackwater unique physique' and it doesn't enhance her combat strength as much. Instead, it allows her to cultivate more quickly.

As for that Yang Hui, he is strong because of that pair of triangle-shaped eyes of his. After all, those eyes come from a 'mythic rank' magic beast, the Fire Qilin!"

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Chapter 696: Fire Qilin's eyes

The Fire Qilin!

Stunned looks appeared on Jiang Chen's and the rest's faces when they heard the words 'Mythic rank magic beast'.

They had already heard from Shun Long about the classification of magic beasts in the Immortal Dimension, so they all had a general idea of how rare a 'Mythic rank' magic beast was considered to be, even in the Immortal Dimension.

Virtually every single magic beast in the cultivation world was considered a 'common rank' magic beast, with an exceedingly low number of 'rare rank' beasts existing among them.

As for 'elite rank' magic beasts, these magic beasts were rare even in the Immortal Dimension, and most of them were exceedingly difficult to capture. Even high-leveled experts in the Immortal Dimension would have a hard time getting their hands on an 'elite-rank' magic beast.

As for 'Mythic rank' magic beasts... those were top-rate magic beasts at the same level as the 'Demonic Crow of Darkness' where Jiang Chen's bloodline originated from. Even an entire immortal city may perish if it was attacked by a single 'Mythic rank' magic beast.

From this fact alone, it was enough to understand how terrifying 'Mythic rank' magic beasts really were.

Although there were other disciples who possessed Immortal-grade bloodlines within the Holy sect, possessing the bloodline of a 'Mythic rank' magic beast was an entirely different matter altogether.

After all, it wasn't just the bloodlines of magic beasts that cultivators could inherit.

There were other types of immortal-grade bloodlines as well.

If one's ancestor was an extremely powerful expert who had even become an immortal and had managed to have a child in the cultivation world right before ascending to the Immortal Dimension, then that expert's bloodline would also be considered an immortal-grade bloodline.

This was the most common type of Immortal-grade bloodlines in the Immortal Dimension as well.

Of course, those situations were extremely rare in the cultivation world, but they still existed nonetheless.

A moment later, Liu Mei was the first one to reign in her surprise as she looked at Shun Long and asked curiously

"Long-ge, then, does this Yang Hui also have an immortal-grade bloodline from a 'Mythic rank' magic beast?"

Xingyi, Jiang Chen, and Bai Longtian, all looked at Shun Long as well.

The same question had appeared in their minds at the same time, while Shun Long was the only one who seemed to have any knowledge regarding those mysterious bloodlines and the powerful magic beasts from the Immortal Dimension.

From the moment that Yang Hui had shown his face, everyone had seen that those triangle-shaped red-colored eyes of his hadn't disappeared at all.

The one who was the most curious about this was actually Jiang Chen.

Jiang Chen knew that his own body and even Shun Long's body would both change when they activated their immortal-grade bloodlines, but once they stopped activating them or their blood essence ran out, their bodies would go back to normal as they needed to replenish their lost blood essence.

But Yang Hui didn't seem to have any issue like that.

Was it possible for someone to use their immortal-grade bloodline for so long?

Shun Long shook his head confidently as he looked at Liu Mei and answered

"He doesn't have the bloodline of a Mythic rank magic beast in his body but he doesn't need it either. In a certain sense, the strength that he gets from the Fire Qilin's eyes isn't any weaker than the strength that he would get from any powerful unique physique.

The Fire Qilin's eyes allow one to control the element of fire to an astonishing degree.

This is why those orange flames around Yang Hui's body are so strong. Although Qiao Min's Blackwater unique physique is also rare, it can't compare to the eyes of a Mythic rank magic beast."

Little Black nodded his head after hearing Shun Long's explanation to Liu Mei, Jiang Chen, Bai Longtian, and Xingyi, about the Fire Qilin's eyes and said calmly

"Master is right. Although the Fire Qilin isn't the strongest among other Mythic-rank magic beasts of the fire element, in terms of its control over fire, very few magic beasts can actually compare with it."

At the same time that Little Black's voice sounded inside Shun Long's mind, on the fighting platform in the arena, Qiao Min looked at Yang Hui with a frosty look in her eyes, before the outer court Elder responsible for the platform signaled for the fight to begin.

Qiao Min then waved her hands, causing a dozen of her black water snakes, each of them more than 10 meters (33ft) long, to fly towards Yang Hui who was leisurely standing there, almost as if he was waiting for her to attack first.

It wasn't until the water snakes arrived right in front of him that Yang Hui finally moved.

Yang Hui's demeanor suddenly changed at that moment, as his triangle-shaped red eyes were suddenly filled with a bloodthirsty look, almost as if he was a hungry magic beast that was craving blood.

At the same time, the orange flames around his body burned with even more intensity than before, and before Qiao Min's water snakes could even have a chance to touch his body, they were instantly evaporated.

The crowd in the audience seats was filled with excitement as they watched this fight in the arena.

This was the power of the strongest outer court disciple of the Holy sect, the person ranked 1st in the Martial Roll of Honor, Yang Hui!

Qiao Min gritted her teeth as she waved her hands, causing more and more of her water snakes to lunge themselves towards Yang Hui.

And yet, Yang Hui simply started walking forward as he approached closer towards Qiao Min, completely ignoring those water snakes that failed to even get past his flame armor.

Every time that a black snake would approach his body, Yang Hui's eyes would only stare at it for a moment, before the flames around him would attack it directly.

This was the power of the 'Fire Qilin's' eyes!

It was almost impossible to attack Yang Hui while he was covered in his flame armor!

A look of despair appeared on Qiao Min's face when she saw this scene.

She knew that each one of her water snakes that was created through her Blackwater unique physique was enough to severely injure and even kill an average early rank 4 Dao King realm cultivator, and yet a dozen of those snakes weren't enough to even break past Yang Hui's defenses.

Just as Qiao Min decided to grit her teeth and give up, Yang Hui's body suddenly blurred, arriving in front of her almost instantly, and before Qiao Min could even respond, a violent look flashed inside Yang Hui's eyes as he chopped his right arm downwards without holding back.

Blood spurted through the air like a fountain, as Qiao Min's left arm was severed from her body under her disbelieving gaze.

A deathly silence filled the arena in the next moment, as everyone watched Yang Hui clutch Qiao Min's throat and raise her in the air with his left hand, before he spoke with a bloodthirsty smile on his face that was filled with killing intent

"Junior sister, you are not qualified to stand in front of me. The first time I gave you face and simply injured you, while today, I only took an arm as a punishment. However, if you dare to fight against me again in the future... I will definitely take your life then."

Chapter 697: Bai Liuxian's offer

Qiao Min shivered while cold sweat drenched her back when she saw the cruel look inside Yang Hui's eyes.

At this moment, Yang Hui didn't look like a human but like a hungry magic beast that could barely restrain itself.

Without waiting for a response, Yang Hui flung Qiao Min to the side, as he sent her flying, and completely ignoring his right hand that was still dripping with the blood from Qiao Min's severed arm, Yang Hui raised his head to look at the inner court Elders in the sky above the platform.

The Grand Elder snorted inwardly but he didn't say anything about Yang Hui severing Qiao Min's left arm.

According to the rules, as long as one didn't kill or cripple his opponent, the Grand Elder wouldn't say anything.

Although a severed right arm was a problem for someone like Qiao Min who wasn't a body refiner, there were plenty of pills and medicinal herbs that could allow her to regrow her right arm.

Of course, those types of pills and medicinal herbs were naturally extremely expensive, but the Grand Elder knew that this was nothing to a big clan like the Qiao clan where Qiao Min came from.

At the same time that Yang Hui raised his head to look at them, Bai Liuxian also nodded calmly, as she looked at Yang Hui and said seriously

"Your name is Yang Hui, right? Although your cultivation is weak, you barely qualify to follow me inside the City of Immortals. Come with me."

A sharp light flashed inside Yang Hui's triangle-shaped red eyes when he heard the commanding tone that Bai Liuxian used to speak to him, while the orange flames that had yet to dissipate around his body suddenly burned with even more intensity than before, as he said

"Follow you? What makes you think that I want to follow you?"

Bai Liuxian narrowed her eyes when she heard Yang Hui's arrogant tone that held no hints of respect.

At that moment, the purple-robed old man by her side, 'uncle Mo' chuckled as he looked at Yang Hui and said

"Kid, the princess naturally won't force you to follow her. You are merely qualified to do so, but whether you latch on to this chance or not is up to you."

Yang Hui toned down his arrogance when he saw that this powerful expert -that even the Grand Elder was wary of- spoke to him, but he didn't answer straight away. Instead, he simply looked at Bai Liuxian who snorted coldly and said

"Yang Hui, isn't your Yang clan nothing more than a small clan in the Holy sect's territory? In the central region as a whole, you can be considered wholly insignificant. A small clan that experts can snuff out as they please.

You should understand that as long as a clan doesn't have a Sovereign realm expert backing them, they will never be able to gain a footing for themselves in the central region or they will run the risk of being eradicated by others.

Clans like your Yang clan stand at the very bottom of the central region.

However, my Bai clan is different.

If you follow me wholeheartedly inside the City of Immortals, I will give you a chance to reach the Sovereign realm in the future.

Now, think carefully before you give me your answer."

Shun Long's eyes widened slightly when he heard Bai Liuxian's words, while the disciples around him seemed to have gone crazy when they heard the words 'chance to reach the Sovereign realm'.

The Sovereign realm was the realm above the Dao Emperor, and in the Holy sect's territory, only the sect master of the Holy sect had reached this level.

As for the others, the second strongest person was the Grand Elder, who was rumored to be stranded in the Dao Emperor realm for more than 100,000 years.

A chance to reach the Sovereign realm... forget about Yang Hui, every single one of the patriarchs and the clan leaders of the major clans and families around the Holy sect, including even Yang Hui's own father, Yang Tian, would definitely go crazy to obtain this chance.

Countless disciples, including even Qiao Min who had just lost an arm, as well as the rest of those disciples who were ranked in the top 10 in the Martial Roll of Honor, were now all staring at Bai Liuxian with disbelieving looks in their eyes.

At the same time, the Grand Elder's eyes twitched when he heard Bai Liuxian's offer, but he simply remained silent.

Nobody knew more than him, how alluring an offer to reach the Sovereign realm really was.

Everyone watched as Yang Hui stared at Bai Liuxian with a serious gaze, almost as if he was trying to verify whether she was saying the truth or not.

A moment later, Yang Hui took a deep breath to calm himself down before he asked solemnly "Are you sure about this?"

Bai Liuxian simply sneered in disdain as she looked at him and said

"Do you think I would lie to you? Although the Sovereign realm isn't easy to reach, as long as you possess the slightest bit of talent and can train in an immortal-grade cultivation technique, then it's not impossible for you to reach it.

Of course, that's only if you manage to survive the heavenly tribulation.

Your Holy sect doesn't have any immortal-grade cultivation techniques, but do you think that my Bai clan is the same?"

As she finished speaking, Bai Liuxian waved her hand, causing a golden scroll to appear in front of her.

The scroll was folded, leaving only the words at the very top visible to Yang Hui and the rest.

The moment that Yang Hui, the Grand Elder, the 3 inner court Elders, and the outer court disciples close to Bai Liuxian landed their eyes on the words on top of the golden scroll, everyone could feel their heart rates speeding up uncontrollably.

'Immortal-grade cultivation technique, Tree of Immortality'

Bai Liuxian merely smirked when she saw Yang Hui's reaction, before she placed the golden scroll back inside her spatial ring and said calmly

"Now make your choice."

Chapter 698: High-grade spirit stones

Yang Hui fell silent for a moment as he looked at Bai Liuxian, before he finally cupped his hands a few moments later and said

"Fine then. I will follow you when you enter the City of Immortals, but you better keep your promise!"

Bai Liuxian nodded her head calmly and said

"I guess this trip wasn't in vain after all. Although your Dao of Fire is just a common Dao, your strength isn't much weaker compared to someone who has comprehended a supreme Dao."

"A supreme Dao? Even those who have comprehended supreme Daos aren't my match!"

Yang Hui answered with a look of unrestrained confidence and arrogance as he stared at Bai Liuxian in the sky above him.

And yet, Bai Liuxian simply chuckled in response before she said

"Those with supreme Daos aren't your match? Hahaha! Perhaps that is so in your tiny sect but that's only because you haven't fought against a real genius who has comprehended a supreme Dao just yet.

When we enter the City of Immortals, you will find out that you are even weaker than some people who have comprehended unique Daos, let alone supreme-level ones!"

Yang Hui merely snorted inwardly but he didn't say anything to rebuke Bai Liuxian.

It was true that outside from the disciples of the Holy sect, he had yet to fight against someone who had truly comprehended a supreme Dao.

Even in the Dao Tower in the Holy city, Yang Hui knew that he would probably have to reach the top levels to fight against the strongest geniuses who had comprehended supreme Daos.

After all, supreme Daos were simply too rare.

Even unique-level Daos were rare in the Holy sect, let alone supreme-level ones.

As for those who had comprehended supreme Daos, in the entire outer court of the Holy sect, there were less than 10 of those disciples.

After all, becoming a Dao King through a supreme-level Dao was extremely difficult.

The more powerful one's Dao was, the more difficult it would be to survive the Heavenly Tribulation upon breaking through to the Dao King realm.

Bai Liuxian then turned to look at the purple-robed old man next to her and said calmly

"Uncle Mo, let's go."

"Yes, princess!"

The purple-robed old man nodded his head with a gentle expression on his face, before he turned his gaze towards Yang Hui and said coldly

"Brat, come here."

The enormous silhouette of a bird that was more than 100 meters (328ft) long blotted out the sky above the arena in the next moment, as it appeared above the Holy sect for the second time.

Sitting on the back of the peak rank 7 'Hellfire crow' with the purple-robed old man sitting next to her and Yang Hui sitting behind him, Bai Liuxian threw one last look at the Holy sect below her, before the enormous silhouette of the 'Hellfire crow' suddenly shot into the distance, as it disappeared from everyone's eyes.

The Grand Elder wasn't angry that Bai Liuxian didn't pay him any attention, and instead, he simply heaved a sigh of relief in his heart, before he shot a covert glance towards a certain group of disciples in the audience seats.

Although it was a disaster for the Holy sect to have Yang Hui strike up a relationship with Bai Liuxian, the Grand Elder knew that this wasn't something that could be avoided either way.

Instead, the Grand Elder was afraid that Bai Liuxian would also take a fancy to Shun Long and would forcefully take him from the Holy sect.

If that Sovereign realm expert intended to do something like that, even the Grand Elder would be powerless to resist him.

In the Grand Elder's eyes, Shun Long's importance was much higher than Yang Hui's.

After all, Yang Hui came from one of the vassal powers of the Holy sect, and his Yang clan would always hope to usurp power and replace the Holy sect as the strongest power in this region.

But Shun Long didn't belong to any of the powerful families and clans around the Holy sect's territory.

Additionally, the Grand Elder knew that Shun Long had comprehended 2 supreme Daos, and one of them had never been seen before in the entire central region.

The Grand Elder believed that if Bai Liuxian knew about this, then she would definitely do everything in her power to take Shun Long away from the Holy sect, even if she had to bribe him or use force against the Holy sect.

Even if Shun Long couldn't enter the City of Immortals with her, the Bai clan would do everything they could to steal him away from the Holy sect.

After all, even in the central region, the number of geniuses who had comprehended 2 supreme Daos was almost nonexistent.

The Grand Elder only knew of one more genius who had done so, and he belonged to one of the absolute strongest powers of the central region, a power that was even stronger than Bai Liuxian's Bai clan.

Even if there were others who had comprehended 2 supreme Daos aside from 'that person', the Grand Elder knew that those people could be counted on the fingers of 2 hands.

For a genius who had comprehended 2 supreme Daos, his talent would definitely place him in the top 10 of the younger generation throughout the entire central region.

Since his Holy sect was lucky enough to get someone like Shun Long, the Grand Elder wasn't going to hand him over to Bai Liuxian no matter what.

Of course, the Grand Elder also knew that Bai Liuxian would be extremely dissatisfied with his Holy sect as well, since it was only a matter of time until word spread about Shun Long having comprehended 2 supreme Daos.

After all, Shun Long had just fought in front of 200.000 outer disciples.

Even if the Grand Elder wanted to keep this news hidden, there was no way that he could do so.

"I hope Ye Hong comes back quickly or we will be in trouble..."

While countless thoughts flashed inside the Grand Elder's mind at this moment, Shun Long who was the main cause of those thoughts was completely oblivious to all of it, as he instead stared at the head of the inner court Elders, Sun Wen, who led Elder Xuan and Cao Ling on the platform below him.

On this platform, Qiao Min was sitting cross-legged, with her severed arm lying right next to her.

She had already consumed a healing pill the moment that her fight with Yang Hui ended, and she was now trying to absorb the pill's energy to heal herself.

However, Sun Wen didn't care too much about this young woman who was ranked 2nd in the Martial Roll of Honor.

His mood was already extremely foul after seeing Bai Liuxian take Yang Hui away.

He knew that in the near future, and perhaps even before Yang Hui returned from the City of Immortals, the Holy sect would have to suppress the Yang clan once again.

A Yang clan that had the support of the Bai clan... Sun Wen didn't know if the Holy sect would be able to deal with their clan without the sect master present.

Shun Long had also noticed the sudden change in the attitudes of the 3 inner court Elders, along with everyone else in the audience seats who had also noticed it, but Shun Long didn't care about it either.

Instead, he was looking forward to the 1000 high-grade spirit stones that he would be getting now.

Although he didn't know how much his cultivation speed would increase after he started to cultivate using high-grade spirit stones, Shun Long was certain that the effects would be incomparable to when he used middle-grade spirit stones.

Indeed, Sun Wen then called the outer court disciples who had made it to the top 1000 and started to distribute their rewards.

Shun Long noticed that Sun Wen seemed to have a peculiar look in his eyes as he looked at him, before he handed him a yellow-colored spatial ring.

Of course, Shun Long wasn't too surprised by this either. He knew that the inner court Elders would probably start paying attention to him now that he had revealed his Dao of Time along with his Dao of Space.

Sending his soul sense inside the spatial ring, Shun Long noticed the 1000 pure-white spirit stones that formed a small mound.

Each of these spirit stones was more than 10 times bigger than a normal middle-grade spirit stone.

"High-grade spirit stones!"

Shun Long could feel his heart rate rising when he saw these high-grade spirit stones.

To any Nascent Soul stage cultivator, high-grade spirit stones were priceless treasures.

After throwing a few more looks at the 1000 pure-white, high-grade spirit stones, Shun Long turned his gaze towards a golden token that was placed right next to them inside the spatial ring.

He understood that this was the token that he could use to enter the Dao Tower inside the Holy city without paying any middle-grade spirit stones.

As for the complete Saint low-grade cultivation technique or martial skill that he could also choose, Shun Long decided to wait until he visited the second floor of the Golden Treasures Hall first.

Chapter 699: The Grand Elder's visit

Shun Long was about to take Liu Mei and the rest and leave the arena, but just as he stepped past the arena's entrance, the figure of a tall, white-robed old man with long white hair suddenly appeared in front of him.

Shun Long and the others were all surprised to see the Grand Elder appear in front of them like this, but the Grand Elder simply smiled as he looked at Shun Long and said in an amiable tone

"Kid, come with me a bit."

The Grand Elder then stretched out his right hand, opening up a large space tear.

Shun Long could feel an irresistible force coming from the space tear in front of him, one that he couldn't even resist with his Dao of Time or his own Dao of Space.

"The Grand Elder's attainments in the Dao of Space don't seem to be low either."

As he reached this conclusion, Shun Long didn't try to resist this pulling force, allowing his body to step inside the space tear.

Liu Mei, Jiang Chen, Bai Longtian, and Xingyi, all closed their eyes as well, as they allowed the pulling force of the space tear to pull them inside, before their bodies all disappeared from the arena's entrance.

Surprisingly, as he opened his eyes, Shun Long found himself inside a familiar courtyard.

There were even stalks of 'dragonblood grass' on the ground that Little Silver usually ate.

Waving his hand, the Grand Elder then took out a bunch of meditative cushions from his spatial ring, and after sitting on one of them himself, he placed the rest around Shun Long, Bai Longtian and the others and said

"Have a seat."

Shun Long nodded as he sat on one of the meditative cushions as well, before he turned his gaze towards the Grand Elder.

Naturally, he wasn't surprised that the Grand Elder would be able to ignore the restrictions of the courtyards and enter Shun Long's courtyard.

Even if he wasn't the Grand Elder, Shun Long guessed that this was a piece of cake for any peak rank 9 Dao Emperor realm expert.

Instead, Shun Long was slightly surprised that the Grand Elder had also comprehended the Dao of Space.

Opening up a tiny space tear was something that even average Spirit realm cultivators could do without too much trouble, but creating a space tear and utilizing it properly were 2 completely different matters.

Shun Long could sense that the Grand Elder's attainments in the Dao of Space were much higher than his own.

Almost as if he could guess Shun Long's thoughts, the Grand Elder smiled and said

"Although I have also comprehended a bit of the Dao of Space as well, it's only a secondary Dao to me. My level of comprehension in it has barely reached the level of a peak Dao King.

It may look impressive on the outside, but it's actually useless for me to try and use the Dao of Space to fight against other Dao Emperors.

Instead, my most powerful Dao is my Dao of Ice. Unfortunately, the Dao of Ice is considered to be a rare Dao, making it much harder for me to get past the final stretch and break through to reach the Sovereign realm."

The Grand Elder sighed as he said the last sentence, while his eyes seemed to have turned slightly hazy.

"A rare Dao?" Shun Long was surprised to hear that Daos were actually classified like that. Although he had heard back in the arena the other outer court disciples saying that he had comprehended a supreme Dao, Shun Long had thought that the reason behind that was because those disciples couldn't discern what Dao he had truly comprehended.

Nodding his head, the Grand Elder looked at Shun Long and answered seriously

"Right. Every Dao is different after all, and Daos themselves also have different grades.

Certain Daos like the Dao of Water, the Dao of Fire, the Dao of Earth and the Dao of Wind are only considered to be common Daos, while Daos like my Dao of Ice, the Dao of Lightning, the Dao of Metal and others at the same level, are considered to be rare Daos.

Above rare Daos are the unique Daos, like the Dao of Destruction, the Demonic Dao, the Dao of Darkness, the Dao of Shadows and others, while even higher than the unique Daos are the Supreme-grade Daos. Supreme Daos like the Dao of Life, the Dao of Death, the Dao of Space and others, are extremely powerful Daos that very few geniuses manage to comprehend in their lives.

Of course, even unique level Daos are extremely difficult to comprehend let alone supreme-level ones.

Although supreme-level Daos are very difficult to comprehend, each of those Daos is much stronger than other Daos at the same level.

However, the more powerful a Dao is, the harder it becomes to advance further in your cultivation.

As for my Dao of Ice, it's just a rare Dao, and yet I have been stuck to the peak of the Dao Emperor realm because of it, for almost 100.000 years.

This is why cultivation techniques that belong to the same element as one's foundational Dao are important.

If only I had an immortal-grade cultivation technique, especially one that used the Dao of Ice, this old man would have been able to breakthrough to the Sovereign realm long ago..."

The Grand Elder was vexed as he said the last words.

He had been looking for immortal-grade cultivation techniques for far too long, but even a power like the Holy sect didn't have immortal-grade cultivation techniques.

In the entire Holy sect, there was only a single core disciple who was said to possess an immortal-grade cultivation technique, and that disciple had only managed to obtain that technique after he obtained the legacy of a powerful expert who had died long ago.

As for that immortal-grade cultivation technique, it was one that was recorded inside a high-grade memory jade and it could only be taught to a single person before the memory jade turned to dust.

Once that disciple learned the cultivation technique, the memory jade was destroyed.

This was actually the most common way that experts used to pass down their legacies. The memory jade that Shun Long had obtained from the 'Dragon Lord's villa' that Huo Wuyi had created was the same as well.

And yet, as soon as the Grand Elder finished explaining the classification of the Daos to Shun Long, Little Black who was drinking another barrel of wine snorted before his voice sounded inside Shun Long's mind in the next moment

"Master, that old man isn't wrong, but he isn't right either. The countless Daos are much more complicated than that. In reality, every Dao can be considered just as strong as the others. Although certain Daos are inherently much more difficult to comprehend than others, this doesn't mean that those Daos are inferior to others.

Perhaps someone who has comprehended the Dao of Water will have weaker offensive abilities compared to someone who has comprehended the Dao of Ice, but this doesn't mean that the Dao of Water is inferior to the Dao of Ice. Instead, a cultivator who has comprehended the Dao of Water will have much better defensive capabilities instead.

The only thing that's important is one's own understanding of his Dao.

After all, 2 people may have comprehended the Dao of Fire, but each of them may have entirely different ways to utilize it."

Shun Long was stunned momentarily when he heard Little Black's words, while a look of realization seemed to have appeared in his eyes.

At the same time, Jiang Chen, Liu Mei, Xingyi, and Bai Longtian, all looked at the Grand Elder without interrupting him.

The fact that cultivation techniques could affect one's own understanding of the Dao and even increase their comprehension level was something that none of them knew.

Even Shun Long didn't know about this matter, but it didn't matter either.

After all, Shun Long knew that his 'Monarch's Hourglass' was a cultivation technique that came directly from the 'Stone of Time'.

Even peak-level experts from the Immortal Dimension would kill to get their hands on the 'Stone of Time'.

There was no way that other cultivation techniques could possibly compare with it.

Although Shun Long needed to spend an enormous amount of spirit stones to absorb qi and fill his qi balls every time, compared to other cultivators at the same level, Shun Long knew that his 'Monarch's Hourglass' was perhaps of an even higher grade than those immortal-grade cultivation techniques that the Grand Elder spoke of.

Even the Immortal grade cultivation technique that Bai Liuxian had taken out, the 'Tree of Immortality' couldn't possibly compare to his 'Monarch's Hourglass'.

Shaking his head, the Grand Elder looked at Shun Long and smiled as he then continued

"This old man didn't come here to explain the classifications of the different Daos. After all, most of this is already common knowledge to those disciples of the powerful families and clans. There is another reason why I came to find you today. Since you have entered the top 600 in the Martial Roll of Honor... I have decided to personally take you to the King's Palace."

Chapter 700: The secret behind the King's Palace

"The King's Palace?" Shun Long was somewhat surprised when he heard this, before a surge of interest sprouted in his heart.

He would actually be lying if he said that he wasn't interested in this 'King's Palace'.

He had already heard that the Holy sect would take 10 peak rank 9 Nascent Soul stage outer disciples when the palace opened, and those disciples would have a very high chance of breaking through to the Dao King realm inside the palace.

The Grand Elder nodded his head when he saw Shun Long's reaction before he continued

"Of course, you should try to reach the peak of the Nascent Soul stage before the King's Palace opens a year from now, or it would be pointless for you to go there."

Shun Long fell silent when he heard this as he pondered seriously over whether he could really reach the peak of the Nascent Soul stage in a year.

Although he was already at the middle of rank 7 in the Nascent Soul, and a year in the outside world would mean that 10 years would have gone by if he cultivated inside the foggy space in the 'Stone of Time', Shun Long knew by now how tough it was to progress in the late stages of the Nascent Soul.

The qi that his qi balls needed was increasing even more than before, and every subsequent ball of qi that Shun Long created was even harder to enter inside his 'Monarch's Hourglass'.

Additionally, Shun Long knew that he would also have to purify all 81 balls of qi after he reached the peak of rank 9 in the Nascent Soul.

The quality of his soul would also need to reach the absolute peak of the Nascent Soul stage by then.

At this point, Shun Long wasn't completely certain if he could reach the peak of the Nascent Soul within a year.

After taking a deep breath, Shun Long looked at the Grand Elder and asked

"Senior, what exactly is the King's Palace?"

Curious expressions appeared on Liu Mei's and the other's faces as they looked at the Grand Elder as well.

The Grand Elder had a solemn look on his face as he looked at Shun Long and answered seriously

"This is actually a secret that only Sovereign realm experts are privy to, but I guess there is not much harm in telling you. The King's Palace was actually the abode of a powerful peak expert in the past.

That expert had even surpassed the Sovereign realm and was one of the absolute top experts in the entire central region.

He was rumored to be an extreme genius who had even comprehended a supreme Dao, while his strength was unmatched!

Single-handedly, that expert could dominate even the most ancient and powerful clans like the Bai clan and the others, while even the strongest powers in the entire central region wouldn't dare to offend him.

That person could even be considered one of the strongest experts in the history of our entire Cultivation world, and he was only a step away from breaking through and becoming a true immortal!"

The Grand Elder's eyes seemed to have turned extremely deep and profound as he stared at Shun Long, before he continued

However, the Heavens are always fair, and the more powerful and talented a person is, the more difficult a tribulation he would have to face to become a true immortal and possess an unlimited lifespan.

The day that that person attempted his breakthrough to the immortal realm, the Heavens throughout the entire Cultivation world were said to have dimmed before a terrifying Heavenly Tribulation descended to his abode.

Unfortunately, that expert failed his breakthrough and eventually perished under the Heavenly Tribulation, while his residence turned into a terrifying place that was covered with terrifying lightning all year long."

The moment the Grand Elder said that such a genius who had comprehended a supreme Dao had failed his Heavenly Tribulation and had perished, everyone could feel waves of shock and even uneasiness in their hearts.

After all, they would all attempt their breakthrough to the Dao King realm soon, and everyone would have to face the Heavenly Tribulation as well.

Even Shun Long was no different.

Shun Long had yet to meet another person who had comprehended a supreme Dao aside from himself and Liu Mei who had comprehended her Dao of Death, but he already understood what it meant for one of the strongest people in the central region to have perished like that.

An expert whom even the strongest powers throughout the central region feared and showed respect to had failed his breakthrough and had died.

For someone who had comprehended a supreme Dao to have died under the Heavenly Tribulation, it obviously showed that that expert wasn't lacking in talent but probably luck.

After all, how could someone who had comprehended a supreme Dao be lacking in talent?

At this point, Shun Long was also slightly worried about his own Heavenly Tribulation when he tried to breakthrough to the Dao King realm.

After all, not only had he comprehended 2 supreme Daos, one of which was the Dao of Time, but Shun Long also had the 'Stone of Time' merged with his soul.

He didn't know what his Heavenly Tribulation would be like, but he was certain that even reaching the Dao King realm would probably be terrifying.

After all, the Grand Elder had said just now that 'the Heavens were always fair, and the more talented a person was, the more terrifying their Heavenly Tribulation would also be'.

The Grand Elder didn't seem to have noticed Shun Long's and the others' changes in their expressions, as he continued explaining a moment later

"Although that powerful expert failed in his breakthrough and perished, his palace somehow turned into a holy place for cultivation, where the existence of Daos could be sensed even better compared to the outside world.

As long as peak Nascent Soul cultivators and even Dao Kings enter the King's Palace, their chance to breakthrough will increase exponentially.

Of course, whether they will succeed in their breakthroughs or not is a completely different story.

However, it is rumored that even experts who have surpassed the Sovereign realm and are only a step away from becoming true immortals can't get past the lightning around the King's Palace and forcefully enter that expert's abode.

It is only once every 5 years that the lightning around it turns weak enough to allow experts at the Dao Emperor realm or above to get past it and enter the palace.

Of course, even ordinary Dao Emperors will have trouble getting past the lightning and entering inside.

At most, a single Dao Emperor can only carry 2 people inside the King's Palace."