

Time 861

Chapter 861 Unexpected situation

Shun Long could see that a few hundred meters away from him, the white fog had finally started to disperse, while the fog's effects in his spiritual sea had also started to diminish significantly.

Although Shun Long could barely feel any pressure from the white fog while he had been leisurely walking through the forest for the past half a day, at this moment, he could still sense quite clearly that the fog's effects had already started to become much weaker the closer he walked towards this area ahead of him.

"Master, it seems that this is the end of the first stage for this trial."

Inside the foggy space in the 'Stone of Time', Little Black said with a calm look in his bright blue eyes as he stared at the area ahead of Shun Long.

Hearing the loud hubbub of voices that were no longer being blocked by the white fog and could be heard clearly from that place, Shun Long nodded his head as he agreed with Little Black, and after taking one last look around him and making sure that there were no more white leopards for him to hunt, he began to make his way towards this area in front of him.

A few minutes later, Shun Long finally walked out of the fog-filled forest before an entirely new scene greeted his eyes.

Staring at the vast plains in front of him and the thousands of Dao Kings that were gathered here and were either chatting with each other or they were sitting on the ground with their eyes closed, Shun Long was momentarily taken aback.

After all, other than a few groups of peak rank 5 and early rank 6 Dao Kings, every single person in this place was already a peak rank 6 Dao King, while more than half of them were actually late-stage Dao Kings.

In fact, Shun Long could also sense the auras of quite a few peak rank 9 Dao King realm experts among these people, and the auras of some of them even exceeded that of the red-robed old man that Little Silver had killed back in the 'Desert mural'.

For so many middle and late-stage Dao Kings to have gathered in this place, it clearly showed how much importance these experts had placed in this trial.

Although the 'Desert mural' where Shun Long had comprehended his sword aura also had quite a large number of late-stage Dao Kings present previously, they couldn't possibly compare to the number of experts that had gathered here.

At the same time, the moment that Shun Long stepped out of the forest, quite a few of the surrounding Dao Kings who were sitting near the forest's entrance opened their eyes and turned their gazes towards him, staring at him with looks of unconcealed surprise and disbelief.

"Eh? What's going on? Who is this guy?"

"Hm? How is this possible? There is a person here who can completely conceal his aura when he is standing this close to me? What kind of cultivation technique is that guy training in?"

"That's not all! Look! He just passed the first stage of the 'Illusion oasis' and he doesn't look the slightest bit tired!"

Sensing the curious and examining gazes of the surrounding Dao Kings and hearing their discussions, Shun Long wasn't surprised by their reactions and merely shook his head in response, before he began to inspect the people around him as well.

Naturally, it was extremely rare for these people to be unable to sense someone's cultivation base when they were standing in such close proximity to them, so it was no wonder that they would be so surprised. Even most peak rank 9 Dao King realm experts wouldn't be able to completely conceal their aura to the point that not even a bit of their qi would slip out, unless they were training in some extraordinary cultivation technique.

The only people who would be able to do something like that without an immortal-grade cultivation technique would only be experts at the Dao Emperor realm and above. But of course, in the 'City of Immortals', regardless of how talented someone was, it was impossible for them to breakthrough to the Dao Emperor realm and keep that a secret.

Although nobody truly knew what would happen in that case, most of the peak rank 9 Dao Kings believed that the moment they completed their breakthroughs, they would be sucked to the second level of the 'City of Immortals' and would have to compete with monsters like Jiang Tianfang and the other late-stage and peak-stage Dao Emperors by then. This was why no one was willing to finish their breakthroughs in this place, despite the fact that the 'City of Immortals' was filled with extremely pure qi.

Besides, breaking through to the Dao Emperor realm wasn't so easy to begin with, and considering that everyone would only have around 10 years to stay in this place, most people understood that it was probably better to hoard as many treasures as they could while they were here.

"Hey, friend! What's your name and which power do you belong to? It's quite rare to see someone like you still in the first stage of the 'Illusion oasis'."

Just as Shun Long was taking a look at his surroundings, a handsome, brown-robed young man with a long white saber stranded on his back suddenly approached him and asked him with an amiable smile on his face, before he cupped his hands in a friendly manner, indicating that he didn't mean any harm.

Glancing at this brown-robed young man in front of him who had a cultivation base at the peak of rank 7 in the Dao King realm Shun Long was just about to respond, but his eyes suddenly widened when he noticed a scene that was taking place just a few hundred meters away from him.

Staring at the group of 4 people who were lying on the ground in their own blood and looked like they were about to die at any moment, an uncontrollable wave of killing intent suddenly burst out of Shun Long's body, immediately attracting everyone's attention.

Chapter 862 Magnanimous offer

In the next moment, the surrounding Dao Kings all saw Shun Long vanishing on the spot, as his body disappeared from the place he was standing on, appearing right next to the 4 young men and women who were lying on the ground.

Without even looking at the yellow-robed young man who was standing just a few meters away from Liu Mei and was holding a black sword that was still dripping with fresh blood, Shun Long waved his right hand, taking out an alchemy bottle that was filled with snow-white colored pills from the 'Stone of Time', before he began to feed the pills to Liu Mei and the others.

Indeed, the 4 people who were lying on the ground in front of him with extremely weakened auras, looking like they were about to die at any moment, were precisely Liu Mei, Xingyi, Jiang Chen, and Bai Longtian!

As for the snow-white pills that Shun Long had just taken out, these were all top-grade rank 6 healing pills that he had personally refined while he was still in seclusion back in the Northern Sovereign's estate.

Aside from injuries to a person's soul or other special types of injuries, these pills that Shun Long had just taken out could practically save even a peak rank 9 Dao King who was on the brink of death, if that person was just afflicted with physical injuries.

"You arrogant bastard, what do you think you are doing in front of me?" At the same time that Shun Long began to feed the healing pills to Liu Mei and the rest, the yellow-robed young man who was standing just a few meters away from him shouted in a cold voice as he stared at Shun Long, looking at him with a look of both incredulity and anger in his eyes.

In fact, it wasn't just this yellow-robed young man but all of the surrounding Dao Kings here who were stunned by Shun Long's presence, as they could now all sense that this person in front of them was just a peak rank 3 Dao King.

Clearly, none of them could fathom how a peak rank 3 Dao King could possibly clear the first stage of this 'Illusion oasis'!

However, the killing intent that was coming from Shun Long's body earlier had momentarily stunned even the yellow-robed young man, which was why he had failed to react in time and had ended up allowing Shun Long to get close to Liu Mei and the others.

Turning around, Shun Long stared at this yellow-robed young man in front of him who was clearly emitting the aura of a peak rank 9 Dao King, and after throwing a single look at the black sword in his hands that was still dripping with fresh blood, Shun Long asked him in an extremely cold voice

"Why did you attack them?"

Seeing the condition that Liu Mei and the others were in and the fresh blood that was still dripping from the yellow-robed man's sword, Shun Long could naturally tell that Liu Mei's and the rest's injuries had all come from this person in front of him.

"Hahahahaha!" Hearing Shun Long's question, the yellow-robed young man started laughing loudly in a mocking manner, while many of the surrounding Dao Kings began to shake their heads in response.

"Why did I attack them? Why? Do I need a reason to attack someone in this place? Hahaha! Brat, where do you think we are right now? This is the 'City of Immortals'! Here, the strong rule and the weak must obey, understand? I don't need a reason to attack someone other than to take their treasures! However, before I kill you I don't mind answering your question.

Once these 4 fools passed the first stage of the 'Illusion oasis' and came here, I magnanimously offered them a safe place to rest before they challenge the second stage. In exchange, all they had to do was hand over half the drops of 'Immortal water' that they gathered during the first stage.

If they had agreed, I would have let them live and wouldn't have bothered with them any longer. Unfortunately for them... they refused, thinking that they had a choice. And of course, this is their punishment for refusing.

Normally, I would have given you the same offer as them... but it's too bad that I already find you an eyesore!"

As he finished speaking, the yellow-robed young man brandished his sword as he began to approach Shun Long with slow steps, while a malevolent smile had already formed itself on his lips.

Clearly, for a peak rank 9 Dao King like him, dealing with an early-stage Dao King like Shun Long was child's play.

At the same time, inside the foggy space in the 'Stone of Time', Little Black opened his bright blue eyes and stared at the yellow-robed young man in front of Shun Long with a gaze that was filled with endless killing intent, while his body had started to emit an aura that would have caused the souls of any late-stage Dao Emperors who dared to stand before the black dragon at this moment to tremble with fear, and after a moment of silence, Little Black said to Shun Long

"Master, although your talents would be considered unrivaled even in the 'Immortal Dimension', you are still a peak rank 3 Dao King right now. The gap between the two of you is too big right now. I know that master would rather deal with this yourself but let me take care of this."

At this moment, Little Black could sense Shun Long's raging emotions that were like a volcano that was about to explode.

Clearly, there was no way that Shun Long would let this matter go when the yellow-robed young man had already laid his hands on Liu Mei and the others! This was even more so since Little Black could tell how serious Liu Mei's and the rest's injuries were. Even though Shun Long had already fed them top-grade rank 6 healing pills, Little Black could tell that Jiang Chen's and the rest's vitality was still rapidly slipping away from their bodies without any signs of improving, while their breathing had already turned extremely weak and was about to stop at any moment.

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Chapter 863 Going all out (1)

However, Shun Long merely shook his head after hearing Little Black's suggestion, before he turned his cold gaze towards the yellow-robed young man who was casually approaching him and said seriously

"No need! I will deal with this by myself. No matter what happens, don't come out!"

After a moment of silence, Little Black nodded his head in a solemn manner and didn't say anything else, as he allowed Shun Long to focus on his fight with the yellow-robed young man.

Although he had said that the gap between the 2 of them was too big, Little Black understood Shun Long's strength better than anyone else.

He knew that if the current Shun Long truly decided to go all-out, then, even if he was faced with an average peak rank 9 Dao King, there was still a chance to seriously injure that person.

However, Little Black also knew that Shun Long's current objective wasn't simply to 'injure' the yellow-robed young man but to kill him. In Little Black's mind, perhaps there was a small chance of success if this yellow-robed young man didn't have a star-rank weapon, but it was plain as day that this wasn't the case here, as the black sword in his hands was clearly a 1-star weapon.

But of course, Little Black was the only one who thought that Shun Long even had a chance to survive against this yellow-robed young man, as the surrounding Dao Kings who were watching this scene either mocked Shun Long in their hearts for overestimating himself or they shook their heads in pity.

After all, for a peak rank 3 Dao King to have managed to pass the first stage of the 'Illusion oasis', this was something that had never been done before, so it was only natural that he would attract the attention of some of these stronger Dao Kings.

However, these people could now all see that Shun Long was just standing on the same spot, almost as if he was waiting for the yellow-robed young man to take his life without any resistance.

"What's wrong? Are you scared? Hahahaha! Why don't you try to beg for your life then? Who knows, perhaps I might even let you live!"

Seeing that Shun Long wasn't attacking him and was merely standing there without moving a single step, the yellow-robed young man licked his lips and said in a mocking manner while his footsteps continued to approach him unhurriedly, like a hunter who wanted to toy with his prey.

"Unfortunately for you, it's too late even if you wanted to beg for your life now since I have already decided to kill you. As for those 4 pieces of trash over there, don't worry, I can assure you that they will join you soon enough. The poison they have been inflicted with isn't something that can be expelled by a mere rank 6 healing pill!"

Shun Long could see that the smile on the yellow-robed man's face had turned even more malevolent than before when he mentioned the word 'poison', while his sinister yellow eyes stared intently at Shun Long, as if he was waiting to see a look of fear and despair color his face.

However, to the yellow-robed young man's surprise, the look on Shun Long's face didn't change at all after hearing his words, as Shun Long continued to stare at him with the same cold look that was filled with a calm yet clearly overbearing killing intent.

After all, Shun Long had already realized this from the moment he laid his eyes on their bodies and smelled an unnaturally unique scent that Jiang Chen and the others had all been inflicted by an extremely potent poison, and he also knew that they had, at most, one more hour to live before the poison took their lives.

In fact, what the yellow-robed young man didn't know was that Shun Long had already recognized the type of poison he had used with just a glance, since memories about a certain black-colored grass immediately began to appear in his mind as well.

Shun Long knew that this was an extremely rare poison that came from a rank 6 medicinal herb that was called the 'Soul tormenting grass'.

The 'Soul tormenting grass' was known to be an extremely rare rank 6 medicinal herb and its poison was strong enough to kill even late-stage Dao Kings in a matter of hours.

In fact, Shun Long knew that things were just like the yellow-robed young man had said and that the pills he had fed to Xingyi and the others wouldn't be able to save them despite them being top-grade rank 6 healing pills.

After all, the 'Soul tormenting grass' was one of those extremely rare types of poisons that was almost completely unaffected by both healing and anti-toxin pills of the same rank.

One can forget about average rank 6 pills as they wouldn't have any effect, and the same went even for most high-grade rank 6 pills! Even top-grade rank 6 healing and anti-toxin pills would be unable to expel the 'Soul tormenting grass' poison inside a Dao King's body! The only thing they would be able to do would be to slightly slow down the speed that the poison spread, but it would still be insufficient to save their lives.

And the reason why Shun Long had fed the pills to Liu Mei and the others was precisely so he could slow down the spread of the poison.

Seeing that he wasn't getting the expected reactions from Shun Long, the yellow-robed young man frowned and seemed to have lost his interest to toy around with his prey, before a murderous aura immediately surrounded his body.

"How boring! Die!"

In the next moment, his figure abruptly turned into a blur as he disappeared from the spot he was standing on, appearing right in front of Shun Long, before he slashed his black sword directly towards Shun Long's head, aiming to split his head in half in a single strike!

At the same time however, Shun Long merely clenched his right fist and send it flying forward, looking like he was aiming to meet the yellow-robed young man's sword head-on!

Chapter 864 Going all out (2)

"That brat has a death wish? He wants to fight Mao Huang with his bare hands?"

"Is he crazy? Does he think he is a peak sixth stage body refiner?"

"What a fool. Even a peak sixth stage body refiner would suffer if they took on Mao Huang's sword like that!"

The surrounding Dao Kings began to mumble among themselves when they saw this scene in front of them, as their eyes were still intently focused on the 2 figures that were about to clash with each other.

At the same time, the yellow-robed young man with the black sword, Mao Huang sneered when he saw Shun Long's actions, before he said in a cold voice

"Since you are so eager to die, let me send you off-"

However, before he could actually finish his sentence, Mao Huang's words were abruptly stuck in his throat as his eyes widened in disbelief.

In fact, it wasn't just Mao Huang but every single Dao King present who couldn't believe their eyes at this moment, as they all stared at Shun Long with expressions of shock plastered on their faces.

The instant that Shun Long punched out with his right hand, pitch-black scales immediately appeared out of nowhere as they immediately covered his entire fist along with the rest of his body, stunning every single person who laid their eyes on them.

Staring at these beautiful black scales that made Shun Long look like a mix of both human and magic beast alike, the Dao Kings present were all momentarily taken aback.

However, what had surprised these Dao Kings the most wasn't just the change in Shun Long's outer appearance, but the aura that he had begun to emit the moment his body was covered in these black scales.

Sensing the terrifying aura that Shun Long was now emitting that was similar to a king of magic beasts that was slowly waking up, the surrounding Dao Kings were all stunned, while even those peak rank 9 Dao Kings who weren't interested in Shun Long's fight previously, had now all turned their gazes towards him and Mao Huang.

"This aura... is this a bloodline? How is this possible? How can a bloodline be so strong?"

"This type of pressure... don't tell me that this is an immortal-grade bloodline!"

"An immortal-grade bloodline? Who the hell is this kid?"

"Wait a moment! Didn't this guy use the Dao of Space earlier? So he has a supreme Dao AND an immortal-grade bloodline? Just who the hell is this kid? I refuse to believe that he really is a nobody!"

At the same time that the surrounding Dao Kings began to talk among themselves, one of the peak rank 9 Dao Kings who was watching this scene, whose aura was even stronger than the yellow-robed young man's that Shun Long was facing right now, stared at Shun Long for a few moments in silence before he mumbled to himself in a pondering manner

"An immortal-grade bloodline and a supreme Dao huh? Even if he is just an early-stage Dao King, the 'White tiger chamber of commerce' shouldn't have excluded his information on purpose. Since they didn't include it within their information jades it's more likely to assume that even they weren't aware of it either... How interesting!"

At this moment, Shun Long who had already activated his dragon's bloodline and was about to fight with Mao Huang was completely unaware that he had simultaneously managed to attract the attention of an even more dangerous person.

Although Mao Huang was also a peak rank 9 Dao King and was someone who was strong enough to act arrogantly in front of others without a need to care about their strength or background, in front of this black-robed young man, he actually knew that he wasn't much different from any average late-stage Dao King.

In fact, if Shun Long had noticed this black-robed young man, he would also be able to easily recognize him thanks to the information he had received from the 'White tiger chamber of commerce'. After all, according to the 'White tiger chamber of commerce', this man was one of the 100 strongest Dao Kings that had entered the 'City of Immortals'!

At this moment however, Shun Long's attention was focused completely on the black sword in front of him as his fist finally met with Mao Huang's black sword!

BOOOOOOOOOOOM!!

The moment Shun Long's fist that was covered in black scales met Mao Huang's sword, a large shockwave erupted from the center of the impact, pushing Shun Long and Mao Huang back for dozens of meters before they could finally regain their footing!

"Oh? He actually managed to take it head-on?" The black-robed young man who was leisurely watching the fight between Shun Long and Mao Huang raised his eyebrows in surprise, as he stared at Shun Long's fist with a look of clear curiosity in his eyes!

"Is this real? That kid really managed to resist Mao Huang's attack with his bare hands?"

"This isn't possible... Even if he has an immortal-grade bloodline something like this shouldn't be possible!

Mao Huang is a peak rank 9 Dao King and that black sword of his is a 1-star weapon! Even if it's not a peak 1-star weapon, it should

be able to easily cleave in half any early-stage Dao King regardless of their bloodline! No matter what, even an immortal-grade bloodline shouldn't be enough to allow this kid to bridge the gap between himself and Mao Huang!"

"Not possible? Look at his fist! Even after taking on Mao Huang's sword attack, that guy was barely harmed! Only some of his protective scales seem to have been chipped off and there isn't even any blood coming from his hand! There is definitely something special about that bloodline of his!"

At the same time that the surrounding Dao Kings erupted in discussions, the yellow-robed young man, Mao Huang stared at Shun Long's fist with a stunned look on his face, before he slowly turned his gaze towards his own sword.

"Ha..haha..hahahahaha!" After a brief moment of silence, Mao Huang suddenly started laughing like a madman, before an evil smile that was akin to a devil's eventually appeared on his lips, as he stared at Shun Long who was standing a few meters away from him and said mockingly

"Who knew that today, I, Mao Huang would actually get to kill not just one, but two pieces of trash with immortal-grade bloodlines. Hahahahaha! It must be my lucky day!"

Mao Huang then pointed at Shun Long's right fist that was now missing some of its protective scales after clashing with his black sword and continued

"Although your bloodline seems to be different from that bastard's, it's too bad that it wasn't enough to save you either! Hahahaha!"

Without any hesitation Mao Huang then kicked the ground, as he thrust his black sword forward for the second time, aiming to pierce through Shun Long's chest!

Of course, at this point, Shun Long understood that the person that Mao Huang was referring to as a bastard was clearly Jiang Chen who must have already used his bloodline during his fight with Mao Huang previously!

However, even though Jiang Chen's bloodline originated from a 'mythic-rank' magic beast, the 'Demonic Crow of Darkness', the purity of his bloodline was nowhere near close to Shun Long's and was naturally not enough to let him stand against a peak rank 9 Dao King like Mao Huang.

And yet, contrary to Mao Huang's expectations, instead of falling back, Shun Long just glanced at his 'injured' right fist that was only missing some of its protective scales, before he mumbled to himself in a calm voice

"Time Reversal!"

The protective scales around his fist seemed to have regenerated almost immediately, before Shun Long clenched his right fist for the second time, allowing it to meet with Mao Huang's sword directly!

BOOOOOOOOOOOOOOM!!

BOOOOOOOOOOOOOOM!!

BOOOOOOOOOOOOOOM!!

Under the eyes of the surrounding Dao Kings, Shun Long's fist that was covered in dragonic scales collided with Mao Huang's sword time and time again, matching Mao Huang's attacks blow for blow!

After the first attack, Mao Huang had already begun to infuse his Dao of Fire into his every slash, and yet the advantage he gained against Shun Long had barely increased and wasn't enough to take his life.

However, after exchanging more than 100 blows in the span of a few minutes, everyone began to notice that the damage on Shun Long's body had started to accumulate, while even the speed at which his black scales were regenerating had slowed down significantly.

Naturally, Mao Huang had also noticed this detail and he wasn't going to leave any leeway for Shun Long to survive!

He could already feel that although this person in front of him was just an early rank 3 Dao King, he was actually strong enough to pose a threat even to a peak rank 9 Dao King like him!

Raising his black sword above his head, Mao Huang slashed it forward using all of his strength as he shouted in a cold voice

"Brat, it's time for you to die!"

Saint high-grade martial skill, 'Flame Emperor's sword'!"

Chapter 865 Shun Long's death?

Mao Huang's black sword was immediately surrounded by a burst of orange flames while the aura around his body seemed to have also turned much fiercer than before, as he slashed his sword directly towards Shun Long's head.

"What? 'Flame Emperor's sword'? Mao Huang is really going to use a Saint high-grade martial skill here?"

"Is he crazy? Isn't the 'Flame Emperor's sword' the strongest martial skill from his 'Flame Emperor Palace? He is really willing to reveal one of his trump cards just to kill a mere early-stage Dao King?"

"Fall back! Quickly fall back or you will get caught in their fight!"

The moment that they saw this scene, the surrounding Dao Kings who were watching Mao Huang's fight with Shun Long were instantly stunned, before they hurried to open up the distance between themselves and Shun Long and Mao Huang, afraid that if they remained too close they would end up getting swept in their fight.

No matter what, a peak rank 9 Dao King using a Saint high-grade martial skill wasn't something that any of these Dao Kings would dare to take lightly!

However, there were still a handful of individuals who didn't seem to be scared of Mao Huang's attack at all, as they continued to watch his fight with Shun Long with looks of interest on their faces.

"Heh, a mere early-stage Dao King you say? Are you fools blind? Haven't you noticed that even after going all-out for a while now, Mao Huang was still unable to actually injure that brat? Even the poison in his black sword doesn't seem to be working against him. Naturally, he doesn't have any other option, other than to use his strongest martial skill to kill him. Otherwise, if he fails to do that and that brat ends up escaping somehow, Mao Huang knows that he is really going to suffer in the future. Hehehe!"

One of the surrounding Dao Kings who didn't seem to be afraid of Mao Huang's martial skill suddenly said with a mocking smile on his face, while his cold eyes were glued on Shun Long's figure like a viper that was staring at its prey.

Indeed, just like this person had said, although Mao Huang's attacks were enough to pressure Shun Long to the point where he didn't even have enough time to use 'Time Reversal' and heal himself, it wasn't enough to actually give him any serious injuries either.

After igniting his blood essence and activating the dragon's bloodline inside his body, despite his cultivation base being only at the peak of rank 3 in the Dao King realm, Shun Long's strength had grown to the point where his power was nearly comparable to that of a peak rank 9 Dao King!

And yet, even after igniting his blood essence to activate his dragon's bloodline, Shun Long knew that his strength still wasn't enough to actually allow him to overpower a peak rank 9 Dao King like Mao Huang, as he was gradually pushed back every time they clashed!

However, this was only natural as well. After all, the gap in strength between an early-stage Dao King and a peak-stage one like Mao Huang, an expert who was just a few steps away from breaking through to become a Dao Emperor realm expert wasn't that easy to bridge, regardless of how talented someone was.

The fact that an early-stage Dao King could not only take on a few of Mao Huang's attacks, but he could actually clash with him head-on and exchange more than a dozen blows with him directly had already stunned all the experts present here, including the black-robed young man who was ranked in the top 100 and no longer looked as indifferent as before.

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At the same time, staring at the black sword that was descending towards him and was now just a few meters away from him, Shun Long who had stayed silent during his entire fight with Mao Huang finally nodded his head, before he said in a calm manner

"A Saint high-grade martial skill, huh? It won't be enough to save you!"

As soon as he finished speaking, Shun Long tightly clenched his right fist, before he punched the air in front of him without holding back!

At that moment, the space around Shun Long's hand started to ripple as a burst of terrifying pitch-black flames that looked like they could burn every single thing in existence suddenly covered Shun Long's hand, before they started to churn and coalesce together, turning into a ball of flames that moved straight towards Mao Huang!

"DIE!" Mao Huang shouted loudly when he saw this scene, and instead of slowing down he actually increased his own speed even further, arriving right in front of the ball of black flames in the next moment.

Without any hesitation, Mao Huang then slashed his black sword horizontally, as he intended to cut through the black flames directly before he took Shun Long's life!

And yet, the scene that followed was completely different from what Mao Huang or anyone else had actually expected!

The moment that Mao Huang's sword came in contact with the black flames, the orange flames that had been created from the Saint high-grade martial skill, the 'Flame Emperor's sword' were almost immediately devoured, while Shun Long's black flames seemed to grow even more in size!

Before Mao Huang could even respond, the ball of black flames enveloped not just his black sword but also his entire body, burning through his own robes before they finally came in contact with his bare skin.

"AAAAAAHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHHH!"

A miserable, blood-curdling scream that brought shivers to anyone who heard it left Mao Huang's mouth the moment his body came in contact with the black flames, but surprisingly, this scream only lasted for a single second before it immediately died down.

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The surrounding Dao Kings all stared at the scene in front of them with eyes filled with disbelief, before they slowly turned their incredulous gazes towards Shun Long who was still standing a few meters away from Mao Huang's corpse and was practically unharmed.

No. In reality, Mao Huang didn't even have a corpse anymore, as his entire body had instantly turned into ashes the moment he came in contact with the black flames!

Even a peak rank 9 Dao King like him, an expert who had used a Saint high-grade and was wielding a 1-star weapon had turned into nothing but ashes once he came in contact with the unique skill of a black dragon, the 'Flames of Destruction'!

"This... this isn't possible! Mao Huang died? A peak rank 9 Dao King has died in the hands of a mere peak rank 3 Dao King?"

"If news of this starts to spread, even the top powers of the central region won't be able to sit still any longer!"

At this very moment however, at the same time that the surrounding Dao Kings burst into fervent discussions, the figure of a black-robed young man holding a dagger seemed to have appeared

behind Shun Long without any prior warning, before the black-robed man thrust the dagger in his hands straight into Shun Long's back!

Shun Long's golden eyes widened when he sensed the danger coming from behind him, but even with his speed that was augmented thanks to the boost from the second 'Monarch's Domain', Shun Long could still sense that he wasn't fast to evade the black-robed young man's sneak attack.

Knowing that he didn't have enough qi remaining to use blink and try to avoid this either, Shun Long knew that there was no way for him to escape this situation!

"Pffftt!"

In the next moment, under the astounded eyes of the Dao Kings present, the black-robed young man's dagger effortlessly pierced through Shun Long's black scales before it was plunged directly into his back!

Shun Long could clearly feel a sharp sensation of pain coming from his back the moment the dagger entered his body, but despite the pain, he still gritted his teeth and turned around to look at the person who had attacked him just now, only to see the cold unfeeling eyes of an unfamiliar black-robed young man staring back at him.

Shaking his head, the black-robed young man stared at Shun Long silently for a few moments, before he said in a calm voice

"This is nothing personal. You are simply too dangerous to be left alive! If you can kill someone like Mao Huang now, I can't guess what you will do once you can do once you become a peak Dao King. Although I don't know why the 'White tiger chamber of commerce' didn't have your information, it's better for me to kill you before you get a chance to grow!"

Chapter 866 Shun Long's new ability

"Senior brother Guo Chen... he actually made a move personally against an early-stage Dao King? Am I hallucinating?"

"That's to be expected! A peak rank 3 Dao King who is able to jump levels and kill a peak-stage Dao King like Mao Huang isn't someone who can be ignored! Even someone like Guo Chen would probably feel somewhat afraid if he has to face such a monster later on! Clearly, it's better for him to kill him now instead of giving him a chance to grow and letting him become a threat to him in the future!"

"What? You think that senior brother Guo would be afraid? Who do you think that senior brother Guo is? You actually think that a genius ranked in the top 100 among all the Dao Kings who have entered the 'City of Immortals' would be afraid of a small early-stage Dao King? Are you stupid?"

"Stupid? Clearly you are the stupid one here! Perhaps Guo Chen isn't afraid right now but there are still 8 more years until the 'City of Immortals' closes! Although that guy may not have been a threat to the current Guo Chen, he was still strong enough to kill Mao Huang after he burned his blood essence and activated his immortal-grade bloodline! Do you really think that Guo Chen would have an easy time killing such a person if he was allowed to breakthrough and become a late-stage or even a peak-stage Dao King in the future?"

"Kill him? Why would senior brother Guo have to kill him in the first place? It's not like every single person who has entered the 'City of Immortals' will have to fight with each other!"

Besides, just like you said, there are only 8 years left until the 'City of Immortals' closes. Forget about the peak of rank 9, it would be impossible for an early-stage Dao King to reach even the late stages of the Dao King realm in a mere 8 years!"

At that moment however, the black-robed young man who was standing behind Shun Long, Guo Chen, suddenly pulled his dagger from Shun Long's back, causing a fountain of blood to spurt from it in the process, before he turned his attention towards the surrounding Dao Kings and said calmly

"Afraid? Do you think that I killed this kid because I was afraid? You are wrong! I, Guo Chen, am not afraid of anyone within the 'City of Immortals'! Forget about this brat... even those who are ranked in the top 10 aren't enough to make me feel afraid of them! However, this doesn't mean that I am blind either.

Someone who can kill a peak rank 9 Dao King like Mao Huang when they are just a peak rank 3 Dao King can indeed become a threat to me in the future. Although it's unlikely that this kid would have managed to become a peak-stage Dao King within the next 7 years, in the end, this is still the 'City of Immortals' and nothing is really impossible. The treasures that are hidden in this place are innumerable after all.

Although I am not afraid, I have to admit that if this brat was a peak rank 9 Dao King, I would probably have to exhaust quite a few of my trump cards if I really wanted to kill him! Since that's the case, it's better for me to kill him now instead of waiting to do so in the future."

The surrounding Dao Kings immediately fell silent when they heard Guo Chen's response. Although many of them weren't satisfied with it, as that didn't explain why Guo Chen killed someone that he had no enmity with, in the end, nobody dared to refute his words either.

After all, Guo Chen was indeed the strongest person in this place right now, and it was also true that he was someone whose combat skills were still considered first-rate among all the Dao Kings who had entered the 'City of Immortals'!

In fact, only those monsters who were ranked in the top 30 in the rankings of the 'White tiger chamber of commerce' would be able to overpower someone like him!

At the same time, inside the foggy space in the 'Stone of Time', Little Black whose massive body was now emitting an extremely bloodthirsty and murderous aura, an aura that would cause even most peak Dao Emperors to start trembling in front of it, continued to stare at Guo Chen for a few more moments, before the black dragon said to Shun Long in a worried manner

"Master! You have already exhausted all the blood essence in your body and your dragon form is about to disappear!"

After a moment of silence, Shun Long who could still feel that the wound on his back was having trouble healing for some reason finally nodded his head, before he turned to look at Guo Chen who was still standing behind him and said calmly

"Guo Chen, huh? Even if you somehow manage to leave the 'City of Immortals' alive, I will definitely take your life once we get out of here!"

"Oh? You are still breathing?" Hearing Shun Long's voice, Guo Chen turned around and stared at him in a surprised manner, before his cold eyes narrowed into two threatening slits.

In Guo Chen's eyes, since he had been stabbed by his dagger, Shun Long was doomed to die no matter what.

However, for some reason, the last sentence that Shun Long had said, had actually made Guo Chen start feeling both angry and uneasy.

Although he had killed an uncountable number of people in his life and had heard plenty of rumblings and curses before his victims died, Guo Chen could tell that Shun Long's words weren't the desperate rumblings of a dead person.

Hearing the cold tone that was full of certainty in his voice, Guo Chen clenched the dagger in his hands tightly, before he looked at Shun Long and said in a voice that seemed to be lacking even the slightest hint of emotion

"Fine. I was planning to let you live for a bit more but since you are so eager to die, so be it then!"

At that moment however, Shun Long completely ignored Guo Chen who was about to make his move and closed his eyes as he placed his entire attention inside his spiritual sea, before he said in a calm but extremely serious voice

"World... Zero."

Chapter 867 World Zero

"World... Zero."

...

The moment that those words left his mouth, Shun Long's spiritual sea that was previously calm like an ocean that wouldn't be moved regardless of what it faced, suddenly started to churn, looking like a volcano that was about to explode!

At this moment, Guo Chen who was about to stab Shun Long with his dagger for the second time suddenly halted his movements, while his eyes widened in disbelief as his body involuntarily started to tremble.

Sensing the terrifying aura that was coming from Shun Long's body, Guo Chen immediately abandoned all thoughts of continuing his attack, and without any hesitation, he flew backwards at full speed as he hurriedly opened up the distance between himself and Shun Long!

However, Guo Chen wasn't the only one who had sensed this overbearing aura that was coming from Shun Long's body!

Every single one of the surrounding Dao Kings, regardless of what they were doing previously, all turned their attention towards the source of this disturbance the moment they sensed it, as they stared at Shun Long with disbelieving looks on their faces.

"What? The spiritual strength of a Dao Emperor? How is that possible?"

"What is going on? How is that kid emitting the spiritual strength of a Dao Emperor? Weren't talismans and similar items all ineffective while we are inside the 'City of Immortals'?"

"No, talismans are definitely restricted in this place. Besides, this doesn't seem to be the effect of a talisman in the first place!"

But this spiritual strength... this is too strong! This isn't simply the level of an early-stage Dao Emperor! This is at least at the same level as that of a middle-stage Dao Emperor! How is this possible?"

The surrounding Dao Kings could no longer hide their shock as they immediately burst into discussions while they stared at Shun Long, before many of them hurried to open up the distance between themselves and Shun Long who was now clearly emitting a spiritual strength equal to a middle-stage Dao Emperor!

In reality however, it wasn't just the Dao Kings around Shun Long but even the magic beasts stationed outside the 'Illusion oasis' that had also sensed the horrifyingly powerful spiritual strength that had suddenly appeared inside the 'Illusion oasis', which far exceeded what any peak-stage Dao King could possibly muster!

And yet, Shun Long wasn't aware of any of this, as his entire attention was fully placed in his spiritual sea that was now rumbling violently and looked to be on the verge of exploding.

After breaking through to the Dao King realm, Shun Long had already sensed that his spiritual sea had been affected by the 'Stone of time' and had changed in a certain way. Although he didn't know exactly what kind of change it was, he could tell that his affinity with the Dao of Time had risen even further due to it. It was also thanks to this change, as well as his abnormal level of spiritual strength along with the quality of his soul, that he could possibly comprehend such a 'heaven-defying skill' like 'World Zero' upon breaking through to the Dao King realm.

...

At the same time, the moment that Shun Long's spiritual strength inside his spiritual sea began to surge, in the center of his spiritual sea, the 'Stone of Time' that had stayed dormant for so long suddenly started to vibrate intensely, before it began to emit a blinding blue and golden-colored light that was quickly seeping into Shun Long's spiritual sea.

At this moment, Shun Long could feel his spiritual strength along with what little qi he had remaining in his 27 qi balls being sapped at an extremely rapid rate, as his body began to emit a bright blue and golden light that was nearly identical to the light that the 'Stone of Time' was emitting in his spiritual sea!

The instant the last bit of his spiritual strength was sucked away from his spiritual sea, Shun Long could feel an indescribable, soul-splitting pain assaulting every single part of his body, similar to that of a thousand sharp needles being inserted into his every single pore simultaneously.

In fact, this pain was so intense, that being stabbed by Guo Chen's star-rank dagger moments ago was nothing in comparison.

And yet, along with this indescribable pain, Shun Long could also feel the flow of time around his body changing in an extremely peculiar manner, as his surroundings immediately started to turn blurry.

A moment later, Shun Long could feel the flow of time around him quickly getting distorted, as if it was being affected by the blue and golden light that his body was now emitting, while the 'Stone of Time' in the center of his spiritual sea was vibrating with even more intensity than before!

Crack!

Crack!!

Crack!!!

However, the scene that followed next was so abnormal, that it would have left even peak-stage Sovereign realm experts like the Northern Sovereign utterly dumbfounded from sheer shock and disbelief if she could somehow see this!

The blue and golden light around Shun Long's body abruptly started to spread outwards, completely enveloping the rest of his surroundings in the blink of an eye.

In the next moment, regardless of whether it was Liu Mei, Jiang Chen, Xingyi, and Bai Longtian, who were still lying on the ground in a pool of their own blood after they had been attacked by Mao Huang, or the surrounding Dao Kings like Guo Chen and the others who had already started to pull themselves away from Shun Long the moment they sensed the abnormal level of spiritual strength that he was emitting, all of them were immediately enveloped by the blue and golden light before their bodies immediately turned stiff.

It didn't matter if it was the peak rank 9 Dao Kings like Guo Chen and the others who were just a few hundred meters away from Shun Long, or the middle and late-stage Dao Kings who were spectating Shun Long's fight with Mao Huang from thousands of meters away, as their bodies were all frozen in place the moment they were touched by this blue and golden light!

And yet, this wasn't the end of it as the blue and golden light around Shun Long continued to expand even further without any signs of stopping, spreading past the borders of the 'Illusion oasis' before it moved towards the magic beasts that were stationed right outside the oasis' entrance.

In the next moment, the thousands of magic beasts that were gathered in front of the entrance of the Illusion oasis were enveloped by this palpitating blue and golden light as well, before they were also frozen in place just like Guo Chen and the Dao Kings inside, without the slightest ability to resist it.

This was a truly horrifying scene that would have left even the strongest experts of the central region completely stunned from shock, confusion... and finally, disbelief.

Thousands of rank 6 magic beasts, including even peak rank 6 magic beasts like Little Silver who were actually strong enough to destroy entire groups of late-stage Dao Kings all by themselves, were now frozen in place after they were enveloped by that blue and golden light, and all of this had been caused by a single peak rank 3 Dao King!

If news of this started to spread out, the entire central region would instantly fall into an uproar, while even those old monsters who had remained hidden for hundreds of thousands of years and were ruling the central region from the shadows would most likely make an appearance!

And yet, Little Black who was watching everything from the 'Stone of Time' with his deep azure eyes understood, that in reality, this was nothing but merely the tip of the iceberg of Shun Long's 'World Zero'!

Chapter 868 World Zero (2)

In the next moment, Little Black could see that the space around Shun Long had actually started to shatter, as countless spatial cracks had started to appear everywhere around him, immediately swallowing everything that they came in contact with.

It didn't matter if it was Liu Mei, Xingyi, Jiang Chen, and Bai Longtian who were standing just a few meters away from Shun Long, or Guo Chen and the rest of the middle and late-stage Dao Kings who were still inside the 'Illusion oasis', as they all disappeared the moment they came in contact with those space tears!

At that moment, it looked like reality itself had started to distort, as the flow of time and even the space inside the 'Illusion oasis' had turned completely chaotic after Shun Long activated his 'World Zero'!

And yet, this was nothing but merely the beginning, as more and more space tears started to appear everywhere the blue and golden light passed from.

In the next moment, the thousands of rank 6 magic beasts that were still frozen at the entrance of the 'Illusion oasis' were also subjected to the same fate, as thousands of space tears swallowed them in the blink of an eye, not giving them the slightest moment to resist.

Of course, Little Black who was observing this scene from the 'Stone of Time' knew, that since those magic beasts were bound by a force that was even stronger than Shun Long's 'Monarch's Domain', they weren't even aware of what was going on as the flow of time around them had forcibly come to a halt.

...

Meanwhile, the blue and golden light continued to expand even further, spreading far beyond what even Little Black's eyes could see.

The entire 'limitless desert' where the 'Illusion oasis' and the 'Desert mural' were located, and even the countless other places within the 'City of Immortals' that Shun Long had yet to visit... all of them were covered by this blue and golden light in the blink of an eye! In a single moment, the entire 'City of Immortals' had been engulfed by this light before everything turned still!

And yet, this wasn't the end of it, as the blue and golden light continued to expand even further, rapidly seeping out of the 'City of Immortals' and into the central region!

In fact, not a single expert in the entire central region had enough time to realize what was going on before they were engulfed by this blue and golden light as well, causing their bodies to turn still, as if they had been frozen solid in practically an instant! free(w)eb

Even experts at the Northern Sovereign's level only had enough time to raise their brows after they faintly sensed something brushing past their bodies, before the flow of time around them forcibly came to a halt!

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The northern part of the central region where the 'Holy sect' and the 'Northern Sovereign's city' were located, along with the western, the eastern, and the southern parts of the central region... and even the central part where the most powerful families and clans of the world were located... everything was engulfed by this peculiar blue and golden light in the blink of an eye, before the entire central region fell silent!

In fact, it wasn't just the central region itself but every single small and big place in the entire cultivation world that was enveloped by this blue and golden light soon after, before everything inside them turned still!

The surrounding continents around the central region, including the 3 continents in the eastern region, the 'Night star continent', the 'Sun star continent', and the 'Martial star continent', as well as the 5 continents in the northern region, the 2 continents in the western region, and the 4 continents in the southern region... all of them had been engulfed by the blue and golden light without any exception as well! Forget about places like the 'Heaven's Dome city' in the 'Night star continent' where the Shengtian dynasty, the Mercenaries' Association, the Alchemists' Guild, and the royal family of the dark elf race were located... even the remote mortal islands in the 'Desolate east' like the 'Roaring Waves Kingdom' were affected by this blue and golden light that had now covered every single inch of the cultivation world!

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Finally, once the entire world was submerged in this blue and golden light, Shun Long could feel his empty spiritual sea that was devoid of any spiritual energy tremble for a moment, before everything around him suddenly turned dark!

...

At the same time that this scene was taking place within the 'City of Immortals', in the 'Immortal Dimension', a moment after Shun Long's spiritual sea started to tremble several experts seemed to have snapped their eyes open, as they all stared at the horizon in front of them with either serious or surprised expressions on their faces!

Inside a certain majestic red palace that was thousands of meters tall, a golden-robed old man who was standing in front of a purple-colored sphere was the first one to open his eyes, and after staring at the purple sphere of light in front of him for a few seconds in silence, he eventually mumbled to himself in a surprised tone

"Has it finally been found...?"

...

At the same time, in another place in the 'Immortal Dimension', in the heart of an incredibly luxurious pavilion at the center of an extremely bustling city, a handsome middle-aged man in white robes was casually chatting with a hideous-looking old man dressed in black robes, before the 2 men both stopped what they were doing as they abruptly turned their gazes towards a certain location in the distance.

The handsome white-robed man's expression was the first one to change and turn slightly ugly, before he turned his head to the side to look at the old man next to him, only to see a sinister smile that had now appeared on his already hideous face, a smile that would instantly creep out anyone who saw it!

"Haha, don't tell me that it has finally been found after so many years! Hahahahahaha! The heavens have really blessed me!"

The black-robed old man's disinterested expression had vanished long ago, as his ear-grating laughter sent shivers to the handsome white-robed man who was sitting by his side, and yet the white-robed middle-aged man didn't even say anything as his expression was completely different from the black-robed old man's!

After staying silent for a few moments the look on the white-robed man's face finally turned serious before he turned to look at the hideous black-robed old man by his side and muttered solemnly

"Senior Ji, if this is really the fallen King's treasure, things won't be easy even for you."

Chapter 870 Defying the will of the world! Angering the heavens!

"Heavenly Tribulation!"

In reality, it wasn't just Liu Mei and the others who were surprised by the sight of the massive black-colored thundercloud that had appeared above their heads, but so was Shun Long, who was now staring at the cloud of heavenly tribulation in the sky with an equally surprised look on his face.

Although this cloud of Heavenly Tribulation wasn't as big as the one that had appeared back in the 'King's Palace' while he was undergoing his breakthrough to the Dao King realm, it was still much bigger than the Heavenly Tribulation clouds that Jiang Chen and the others had experienced during their own breakthroughs.

At the same time, inside the foggy space in the 'Stone of Time', Little Black merely glanced at the gigantic black-colored thundercloud in the sky that was crackling with sparks of white lightning, before a solemn look appeared inside his deep azure eyes, and after a moment of silence, the black dragon said to Shun Long in a serious manner

"Master, you have to be careful. Although your body is back in peak condition, dealing with this heavenly tribulation will still be quite dangerous right now!" Since Little Black could sense Shun Long's confusion, he didn't waste a single moment as he continued explaining

"Master, you have to be careful. Although your body is back in peak condition, dealing with this heavenly tribulation will still be quite dangerous right now!" Since Little Black could sense Shun Long's confusion, he didn't waste a single moment as he continued explaining

"It is just as you are thinking, master! This cloud of Heavenly Tribulation is precisely here for you. Of course, this is only natural as well. Since master forcefully reversed the flow of time, the heavens have naturally been provoked by master's actions and will not let this go unpunished!"

Once he finished his explanation, Little Black continued to stare at the cloud of Heavenly Tribulation in the sky with a serious look on his face, while a myriad of different thoughts seemed to have coursed through his mind.

Unlike Liu Mei and the others who were still stunned and had yet to fully realize what was going on and how they had appeared back in the endless desert, Little Black knew exactly what would happen once Shun Long used his 'World Zero'.

Little Black already knew that the moment that Shun Long used the 'World Zero', the flow of time in the entire world would forcefully be reversed, essentially allowing Shun Long to reverse the state of the world back to how it was before.

It didn't matter if Liu Mei and the others were gravely injured... or even dead before that, as everything would be brought back to the state it was before. This was also the reason why Shun Long's, as well as Liu Mei's, Jiang Chen's, Xingyi's, and Bai Longtian's injuries had all disappeared the moment they opened their eyes and realized that they had appeared back in the desert.

Additionally, Little Black also knew that this was why Shun Long wasn't afraid of Sovereign realm experts like the Northern Sovereign any longer and was merely wary of them. Although Shun Long knew that he couldn't possibly fight a Sovereign realm expert head-on, he was confident that after comprehending his 'World Zero', unless there was someone who could kill him before he could even realize what was going on, it would be extremely difficult to take his life, even if his opponent was a Sovereign realm expert!

Of course, since Shun Long had forcefully reversed the flow of time, everyone who had died during this time, including even peak rank 9 Dao Kings like Mao Huang whom he had killed in the 'Illusion oasis', would still be alive as well.

...

At the same time, Shun Long was stunned inwardly after hearing Little Black's explanation before a serious look eventually appeared in his eyes.

Although he knew how heaven-defying his 'World Zero' was, he hadn't expected that he would end up angering the heavens to the point where he would summon a heavenly tribulation after using it.

What Shun Long had yet to realize however, was, that even an existence like Little Black, a black dragon who had roamed throughout the 'Immortal Dimension' for thousands of years and had experienced countless different situations in the past alongside him, was actually shaken right now, as even he had some difficulty accepting what had taken place in front of him.

After all, what Shun Long had just done was an action that went against the natural order and was no different from defying the heavens themselves!

Even in the 'Immortal Dimension', Little Black knew that those who could anger the heavens to the point where they could summon a heavenly tribulation, were only those monsters who stood at the absolute peak of the world and had enough power to shake the balance of the entire 'Immortal Dimension' itself.

In fact, Little Black had only heard of one such figure in the past, and that person was the patriarch of one of the most powerful races in the 'Immortal Dimension' and someone whose strength was rumored to be at the same level as the 9 emperors of the Dragon Realm!

"No... even when the patriarch of the fiend race angered the heavens, his situation was completely different from master's! Master is still just an early-stage Dao King! How can he face such a heavenly tribulation with his current cultivation base?!" Little Black mumbled to himself in a distressed tone as he continued to stare at the thundercloud of Heavenly Tribulation in the sky above Shun Long, while his voice had already started to emit hints of unrestrained fury.

After all, although Shun Long had already undergone one heavenly tribulation before, Little Black knew that there was one distinct difference between this heavenly tribulation and the one that Shun Long had faced back in the King's Palace!

And yet, Shun Long didn't seem to have heard any of Little Black's complaints as his entire attention was placed on the massive white-colored lightning bolt that had already formed itself in the sky above him and looked like it was about to descend on him at any moment!

Staring at the pure-white bolt of lightning that had turned almost corporeal by now, Shun Long finally narrowed his eyes before he turned his gaze towards Liu Mei and the others and said in a serious voice

"Mei'er, all of you get back!"

BOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOM!

BOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOM!!

BOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOMMM!!!

Before Liu Mei and the rest could even respond, the sky above them boomed violently, before the bolt of heavenly tribulation suddenly fell straight towards Shun Long, as if it was aiming directly for his head!