

War God 111

Chapter 111 - True Vermillion Bird Technique

I've always been the one at the forefront every time something happened. Now I can finally wait at the sidelines while others fight at the front. Once they have almost succeeded, all I need to do is swoop in and get my prize. Let's see how mad you will get!

Long Chen constructed his foolproof plan and waited patiently nearby. It was as if he was just a bystander this time.

No one could've imagined that there would be an expert like Long Chen just beside them, waiting for the right moment to pounce.

Under the orders of their leaders, those at the mid Human Core Realm had retreated to the sidelines. Only those at the late Human Core Realm and above were standing within the clearing.

The experts at the late Human Core Realm were more than enough to defeat the Heart Eater.

To them, killing the beast was the easy part. The hard part would be contesting for the Supreme Purity Sword.

Only then would the elite youths of the Turquoise family fight against each other.

The battle began!

Feng Wutian and Chu Yunyao did not act first. One of the youths at the late Human Core Realm launched an attack towards the Heart Eater.

Even though the martial technique he used was at the elementary Black-tier, the power it contained was immense as the youth had long since mastered it. Even the Heart Eater growled warily against the attack.

Suddenly, the Heart Eater transformed into a black shadow and charged towards the youth at a speed ten times faster than the youth!

Even Long Chen was surprised by its speed.

No wonder it's a Black-tier Category Four demonic beast. That guy is toast ...

Long Chen was just thinking this when everyone saw the Heart Eater ram into the youth. The youth's face went pale from the shock!

This was merely a normal tackle from the beast.

The others frowned when they saw what had happened. Chu Yunyao's voice suddenly came from the clearing. "Everyone, we have to attack together. That way, the beast won't know who to focus on!"

Long Chen realized how charismatic she was. A moment later, all of the late Human Core Realm experts followed her command and used their strongest attacks against the Heart Eater.

Even Long Chen would be heavily injured from those attacks if he were to meet them head-on, but the Heart Eater remained calm.

It stared at the crowd before a bizarre aura emanated from its body. It howled and let loose a stream of black smoke from its mouth.

The black smoke was like a long snake that homed in on the youths. Chu Yunyao hurriedly exclaimed, "Evade it! That's the Heart Eating Magic!"

Everyone present knew at least some baseline information about the Heart Eater. Its special technique, the Heart Eating Magic, was what made this beast extremely dangerous.

Everyone started retreating!

Chu Yunyao's voice and her innate strength had attracted the Heart Eater.

Its red eyes fixated on Chu Yunyao and shot towards her like an arrow!

Even under that immense pressure, Chu Yunyao did not panic. It was clear Liu Ling was nowhere near her level.

At the same time, the Heart Eater raised its paws and swiped at her. An ebony demonic power imbued itself into its claws, making its attacks much deadlier than a regular martial technique!

"This must be the rumored Demonic Soul Iron Claws."

Chu Yunyao remained calm. Long Chen saw a white item appear in her hand. She swung it, and numerous blades flickered through the air and towards the Heart Eater.

"Purity Sword Mirage!"

The swords crashed into the Heart Eater like a wave and blocked it from advancing further. Long Chen frowned when he saw her attack. *She's holding an elementary Black-tier spirit sword. I wonder if I can block it ...*

Long Chen had thought he was the only one who was hiding behind the trees to watch the battle, but unbeknownst to him, eight more people were observing the fight to his left.

"Miss Yunyao has almost perfected the Purity Sword Mirage. She's more or less unbeatable when facing opponents at the Human Core Realm ..."

Liu Lan was commenting while observing the battle.

The group was none other than the eight administrators who had led the teams into the Heavenly Martial Realm. They were here to supervise the training exercise and to ensure nothing happened to the youths.

"You are exaggerating, Administrator Liu. Feng Wutian from the Turquoise Sun Hall has the bloodline of the Vermillion Bird family. That's true talent. He's also older than Chu Yunyao, so he has more battle experience than her. The winner should be the Turquoise Sun Hall."

Liu Lan scoffed. The one talking to her had been staring at her voluptuous body for a very long time, and she usually ignored people like him.

"I wonder where the team from the Turquoise Vanguard Hall is? Why are they still not here?"

The administrator of the Turquoise Vanguard Hall was looking around before realizing she was talking to him. "I don't know where those brats ran off to. They are probably somewhere further away. They should arrive soon."

"Is that so? I thought the Turquoise Vanguard Hall team intended to wait till the battle was finished before ambushing them to reap the rewards."

Liu Lan's scathing allegation made him shut up.

She was more powerful than him, so all he could do was take her insults.

Everyone else continued to watch the battle at the clearing. There was a new development.

Chu Yunyao's Purity Sword Mirage and the Heart Eater's Demonic Soul Iron Claws clashed against each other, but the shockwave from it hindered the Heart Eater from advancing.

Chu Yunyao suddenly backed down and shouted, "Everyone, attack!"

The Turquoise Imperial Hall was the strongest hall of the Turquoise family. On top of that, Chu Yunyao was the strongest individual present, so everyone had to listen to her.

Some of them wanted her to get injured so they could have an upper hand in contesting for the Supreme Purity Sword later on. But there would be consequences if Chu Yunyao ended up heavily injured, so there was nothing they could do.

Everyone attacked the Heart Eater except for Feng Wutian.

Long Chen knew Feng Wutian was a prideful individual, and that he was unhappy to see Chu Yunyao take the spotlight.

Feng Wutian released his true strength, and fiery, red wings appeared behind his back.

He gently flapped his wings, and his speed surpassed everyone else. He punched the Heart Eater directly on its forehead.

Bam!

"Aroooo!"

The Heart Eater howled in pain and took a few steps back. Blood flowed down from its forehead and its black fur was burnt from Feng Wutian's attack!

This was the first time it had suffered an injury. The Heart Eater got angry and focused on Feng Wutian instead. Its blood-red eyes were now fixated on him.

Feng Wutian realized he was in danger.

Liu Ling was at the edge of the clearing and saw how Feng Wutian was the first one to injure the Heart Eater. "Senior Wutian is amazing!"

But the Heart Eater ignored everyone except Feng Wutian. It wanted to kill the person who had hurt it the most.

Feng Wutian finally realized the consequences of his action, but there was no time for regrets. He had no choice but to fight now. He clenched his teeth and charged towards the Heart Eater.

His fiery wings started to solidify. Flapping his wings, Feng Wutian flew up into the sky. While up in the air, his aura exploded and he circulated his Qi throughout his body. Fire started appearing on his body before condensing into a small, bird-like figure in his palm.

“True Vermillion Bird Technique! Spiritual Feather Congregation!”

The fire bird in his palm flew towards the Heart Eater and exploded before reaching it, raining down numerous fiery feathers towards it!

The Heart Eater roared when it saw the large-scale attack. It ran as fast as it could and avoided almost all of the feathers. While running, it exhaled another plume of black smoke towards Feng Wutian.

Feng Wutian knew he would suffer a lot even if the black smoke touched a small portion of his body. Seeing how the Heart Eater was targeting only him, he had no choice but to block the attack.

“Everyone, lend me your strength!”

While the Heart Eater was concentrating on Feng Wutian, everyone else could attack it! This was a great opportunity!

The Heart Eater was so busy attacking Feng Wutian that it would ignore the others' attacks. Everyone else could use this chance to kill it!

And so, under the lead of Chu Yunyao, everyone ran towards the Heart Eater to kill it!

But no one saw the coldness in Chu Yunyao's eyes.

There's no way you can block an intermediate Black-tier sword technique!

While the Heart Eater was busy attacking Feng Wutian with the Heart Eating Magic, everyone else aimed their strongest attacks towards the Heart Eater, with Chu Yunyao's attack being the strongest of them all!

Chapter 112 - Supreme Purity Sword Dao

Feng Wutian's attack had angered the Heart Eater, causing it to ignore everyone else and focus only on him.

The Heart Eater could afford to ignore everyone else. The only two people capable of wounding it were Chu Yunyao and Feng Wutian. As long as it killed those two, the only ones left would be small fries.

Feng Wutian dared not take on the black smoke head-on as it rolled towards him like a flood. The wings behind him burned even brighter. There were even traces of a fire coming from his eyes.

“Damned animal. You think I can't kill you?”

Feng Wutian quickly formed a seal with his hands. It was even more complex than Long Chen's Primordial Dragon Seal. Then a surge of fire surrounded Feng Wutian. There was even a faint cry of a bird coming from it.

“True Vermillion Bird Technique, Fire Spirit Seal!”

A flash of fire shot towards the Heart Eater's black smoke.

The fire transformed into a divine bird and clashed with the smoke. An explosion occurred at that moment, sending most of the smoke up into the air.

One of the administrators admired Feng Wutian. “Feng Wutian’s Fire Spirit Seal is exceptional. Even the Heart Eater’s attack was repelled by it. And look, the Heart Eater will be dying soon!”

Liu Lan stared at Feng Wutian with pride.

Wait, where is Long Chen?

She scanned the crowd and noticed that Long Chen was missing. Her prideful face became icy.

So he has indeed disappointed me. He was most probably killed by Feng Wutian as soon as they entered. Looks like I’ve wasted my efforts again.

No one but Liu Lan knew what she was thinking.

After the Heart Eater’s attack was repelled by Feng Wutian, all of the other youths’ attacks landed on the beast’s body.

They left numerous wounds, but it was not enough to distract it. It only got angrier and angrier!

It was evident that no one but Chu Yunyao and Feng Wutian were capable of hurting it. After failing to attack Feng Wutian and being attacked by everyone else at the same time, the Heart Eater still did not turn around, but it definitely got angrier.

As long as it could kill Feng Wutian, it could fight against Chu Yunyao without any distractions. The beast shrugged off the pain and continued to attack Feng Wutian.

It directed all of its anger towards him. Just then, a very strong killing intent locked onto it.

The Heart Eater finally understood that it had underestimated Chu Yunyao too much!

Even Long Chen’s eyes widened with shock.

That must be an intermediate Black-tier martial technique!

Not everyone could break past their limit and cultivate a technique beyond their realm. The more advanced the technique was, the harder it was to learn. There were extremely few people like Long Chen who could cultivate any technique they wanted.

Liu Lan frowned when she saw what was happening.

“The Grand Elder was originally from the Turquoise Imperial Hall ... Chu Yunyao is now using the first technique of the Supreme Purity Sword Dao. Looks like they have organized this exercise in a way that will allow her to get the Supreme Purity Sword no matter what. But Feng Wutian will be the one who emerges victorious here!”

After approaching the back of the Heart Eater, Chu Yunyao started glowing. Her body became as white as her sword, brilliant yet deadly.

A gust of wind billowed past her and surrounded her sword. Within the wind were numerous small blades, each one flickering under the light. Although they looked ethereal, they were extremely sharp.

Hundreds and thousands of small blades circled her sword. Then Chu Yunyao slashed down towards the Heart Eater, and the numerous blades flew towards it!

But the Heart Eater was too concentrated on killing Feng Wutian to dodge!

Chu Yunyao's timing was impeccable. Even Long Chen admired it.

"She's definitely not a foe I could make light of ..."

"Cheh. So what? You would've cried and pissed yourself if I used my sword technique on you ..."

Ling Xi pouted. She was jealous of Long Chen praising Chu Yunyao.

Long Chen ignored Ling Xi and concentrated on the battle. When Chu Yunyao unleashed her technique, even the skies started to change a little.

The blades landed on the Heart Eater's body!

"Supreme Purity Sword Dao! Clear Jade Sword!"

The Heart Eater howled in agony from being sliced up by the small blades. Still, it continued to focus on Feng Wutian and unleashed the darkest cloud of smoke yet towards him.

At the same time, Chu Yunyao saw an opening and launched another fatal attack!

An uncountable number of wounds appeared on its body, with the most severe one splitting its skull open and injuring its brain.

The Heart Eater howled and fell over. It could no longer endure all the injuries.

Although it would not die immediately, it had lost all of its fighting strength. It could only wait for death now.

As long as Chu Yunyao attacked one more time, it would die.

But instead of attacking the Heart Eater one more time, she set her sights on Feng Wutian.

Everyone gasped at what they saw.

Even though the Heart Eater was all but dead, its final attack hadn't dissipated yet and was still approaching Feng Wutian.

Feng Wutian was so busy dealing with the Heart Eating Magic that he had never thought Chu Yunyao would attack him at such a crucial time!

He winced in pain when the Purity Sword Mirage landed on his attack, and he struggled to fight back. At the same time, the Heart Eating Magic engulfed him.

"Senior Wutian!"

Liu Ling's horrified face was pale when she watched the handsome Feng Wutian get engulfed by the black smoke. She stared at Chu Yunyao murderously and ran towards her.

"You bitch! Die!"

But the other members of the Turquoise Sun Hall stopped her. Without Feng Wutian, none of them could defeat Chu Yunyao.

Chu Yunyao stood beside the Heart Eater, her icy glare sweeping past everyone. No one dared to move. The sight of her beautiful figure standing beside the beast was very imposing.

The youths at the late Human Core Realm knew that they should be fighting for the Supreme Purity Sword, but none of them moved after they saw how badly injured Feng Wutian was.

Long Chen was very surprised by the outcome too, and he reevaluated the young lady in front. "To think such a pretty lady could be so cruel. She's just my type!"

None of the administrators knew what to say.

Liu Lan stared at Chu Yunyao but relented with a sigh.

"Those who have undergone training in the Turquoise Imperial Hall are indeed elites, both physically and mentally. Looks like the Supreme Purity Sword is out of our reach."

She then looked at Feng Wutian, who was still being enveloped by the black smoke. *Even though you won't get hurt by the Heart Eating Magic, you will temporarily lose all of your rationality. I hope nothing happens ...*

She hadn't even finished her thought when the black smoke around Feng Wutian dissipated. Chu Yunyao was just about to retrieve the Supreme Purity Sword when she saw him approaching her. His body was enveloped in light black smoke. Long Chen noticed that Feng Wutian's eyes were also covered in black smoke, and he was emanating a murderous aura!

"Has he lost his rationality?"

Long Chen had intended to show himself, but after seeing Feng Wutian's condition, he decided to stay put and observe for a bit longer.

"His aura has increased in strength after losing his rationality."

Everyone else noticed this too, including Chu Yunyao.

Chu Yunyao intended to retrieve the Supreme Purity Sword, but then she saw Feng Wutian glaring at her coldly.

He has been hit by the Heart Eater Magic. If I fight him now, the others will take the opportunity to grab the Supreme Purity Sword. But if I retreat, he should fight against the others instead. He won't take the sword for himself now that he has lost all rationality, so I don't have to worry about it ...

Chu Yunyao slowly stepped backwards and feigned innocence, as if she wasn't the one who had wounded the Heart Eater.

Feng Wutian finally stopped looking at her and stared at the wounded beast.

After seeing how it had been mortally wounded, the black smoke in Feng Wutian's eyes became denser, as if the Heart Eater was his own kin. He roared in anger, as if he was a Heart Eater himself, and glared at everyone else with murderous intent.

Chapter 113 - Scheming

“The Heart Eater Magic can affect one’s mental state. Feng Wutian subconsciously thinks he’s another Heart Eater. When he saw one of his fellow Heart Eaters dying, he became angry,” Ling Xi explained after seeing Feng Wutian glaring at everyone else.

“No wonder that young lady quickly stepped away from the Heart Eater when she saw Feng Wutian glaring at her. Even though Chu Yunyao is beautiful, she has a scheming mind.”

Long Chen didn’t really like girls like her. He preferred someone like Yang Lingqing, resolute and simple, or someone like Lingxi, cute and innocent.

At the same time, Feng Wutian circled the Heart Eater and snarled from time to time. Everyone else stopped moving. Who would dare to move after seeing even Chu Yunyao stop moving?

“What if we fight as one and suppress Feng Wutian?” someone suggested.

“We can’t do that. We might accidentally kill him. Feng Wutian is the jewel of the Turquoise Sun Hall. If we accidentally kill him, we are dead meat.”

Even those at the late Human Core Realm could do nothing.

Chu Yunyao was silently observing Feng Wutian while remaining stationary even though she was supposed to lead them. *You guys can fight Feng Wutian if you want, but I won’t fight him now. Once the Heart Eating Magic wears off, Feng Wutian will be unconscious and the Supreme Purity Sword will be mine.*

Chu Yunyao slowly backed away with the others from the Turquoise Imperial Hall after she confirmed her plans. However, they continued to monitor the Heart Eater and did not leave the area.

Feng Wutian’s eyes were filled with killing intent, and he turned around to glare at the others.

“Retreat!”

The other team leaders commanded their teams to slowly back away after seeing how even Chu Yunyao had backed off.

The only team that did not back off was the Turquoise Sun Hall. Their leader was out of action and Liu Ling did not want to go. She kept crying, unwilling to leave Feng Wutian behind, while the others were already panicking.

“Miss Ling’er, we need to retreat now! Senior Wutian will recover right after the Heart Eater Magic wears off!”

But no matter what they said, she refused to leave. Her eyes were covered with tears. On the one hand, her heart ached for the one she loved, but on the other hand, she had never thought someone as strong as him would be left in such a pitiful state today.

Why is this happening? It’s all that woman’s fault!

Everyone except the Turquoise Sun Hall had retreated, making them exceptionally conspicuous to Feng Wutian. He trained his eyes with black smoke at them!

“Roar!”

In an instant, he ran towards them with explosive speed. He was aiming for his own team.

Looking at the killing intent behind his eyes, the others were so shocked that they couldn't move. Only a single person at the late Human Core Realm stepped forward to intercept him.

“You guys! Quickly, drag Liu Ling away!”

Liu Ling was the Turquoise Sun Hall's Sect Elder's daughter. They had no choice but to protect her.

After shouting his command, the late Human Core Realm cultivator ran towards Feng Wutian!

“Feng Wutian, wake up!”

He swung his fist at Feng Wutian. The strength behind his punch was enough to cause a massive draft of air to burst forward!

Feng Wutian roared upon seeing that the man actually wanted to hit him. The red, shimmering wings appeared behind his back once more. He flapped them vigorously and increased his speed even more.

A firebird appeared in Feng Wutian's hands, and a massive aura exploded forth.

It was the Spiritual Feather Congregation, one of the techniques he had used against the Heart Eater before this. The countless fiery feathers shot towards the man in front of Feng Wutian like arrows!

The difference in strength between them was clear. Everyone from the Turquoise Sun Hall despaired when they saw the man burn to death from Feng Wutian's attack.

“Senior Liu!”

The disciples cried out, but there was no time left. After Feng Wutian killed Senior Liu, he continued running towards Liu Ling and the rest.

At this point, no one else bothered with Liu Ling. They tried pulling her away, but she wouldn't budge. Fearing for their lives, they abandoned her and ran away.

It was natural for one to run away from danger, but now Liu Ling was the one closest to Feng Wutian.

“Senior Wutian ...”

Liu Ling's face was pale as she stared at him blankly. Feng Wutian, however, did not recognize her. There was only bloodlust in his eyes. Everyone except for Liu Ling had run away, so he instantly locked his killing intent onto her.

Liu Ling finally felt fear when she felt the cold killing intent from Feng Wutian.

She then realized no one else was in the clearing. It was only her and Feng Wutian. The man who used to give her a sense of security was now the very devil who would take her life.

She started trembling from Feng Wutian's bloodlust. He roared and ran towards her!

Liu Ling cried out and could do nothing but block her face with her arms ...

Liu Lan shook her head. She was about to rescue Liu Ling and announce that the Turquoise Sun Hall would forfeit the training exercise when she saw a blood-red shadow run into the clearing and stand in front of Liu Ling. The man blocked Feng Wutian's attack and even repelled it!

Liu Lan stopped and stared at the blood-red man. The speed he had exhibited was far beyond what a normal late Human Core Realm cultivator should be capable of. When she realized who it was, Liu Lan's jaw dropped from shock.

“Long Chen? Why is he here?”

Liu Lan could estimate how strong someone was based on their speed, but to think it was Long Chen!

He's not dead. Has he been hiding until now? There's no mistaking it. He's the type who would hide and only attack at the very last moment. But he shouldn't be strong enough to defeat Feng Wutian and steal my sister's heart.

Liu Lan had misunderstood—she thought that Long Chen liked Liu Ling. She thought he had rescued her to earn her love.

While it might be effective to play the hero rescuing the damsel in distress, it was not very practical.

“Administrator Liu, which hall does the Beast Warrior belong to?”

“He belongs to the Turquoise Sun Hall.”

Even though they had seen Long Chen before, none of them had seen his transformation yet. They were just making sure.

“So he's from the Turquoise Sun Hall? Hoho, did he not see that even a cultivator at the late Human Core Realm had died at Feng Wutian's hands?”

Everyone else also noticed Long Chen. Some of them didn't recognize him and were puzzled.

Chu Yunyao was surprised too. The sudden appearance of a Beast Warrior was too bizarre. She asked some of the people around her, and one of them faintly recalled who it was. “I think that the Turquoise Sun Hall had a new Beast Warrior called Long Chen. He had a grudge against Feng Wutian but was chased away at the start of the exercise. To think he would appear here again.”

Long Chen?

Chu Yunyao had never heard the name before, but that was expected. She never really bothered with others, though she looked at Long Chen with curiosity in her eyes. She was waiting to see what he could do.

But the one who was shocked the most by Long Chen's appearance was Liu Ling.

She stared at him with in disbelief her trembling eyes.

When Long Chen escaped the Turquoise Sun Hall team, he had stirred up a huge fuss and even taught her a lesson. She hated Long Chen to the core, but now he had rescued her from death ...

Liu Ling had always imagined that Feng Wutian would be the one rescuing her from Long Chen. But now they had swapped roles, and she didn't know how to react.

Long Chen turned around and smiled cheekily. “Little girl, did you enjoy the slap I gave you last time? Do you want me to do it again? Don't worry, I won't charge you much ...”

Liu Ling realized she could not get angry at the despicable youth who was staring at her cheekily.

She stared at him blankly, not knowing what to do.

But then she saw Feng Wutian running back towards Long Chen.

“Careful!”

“Relax.”

Long Chen turned around and waited for Feng Wutian to get closer to him ...

Feng Wutian, to think I would get to fight you in this scenario. I can defeat you now that I'm at the mid Human Core Realm. I wonder what kind of face that crazy bitch Liu Lan will make me when she finds out I defeated you ...

Chapter 114 - Vermillion Bird Mark

Long Chen didn't know Liu Lan was watching him.

His aura has become denser. He must be at the mid Human Core Realm at least ...

It took Long Chen less than a month to advance from the Eighth Draconic Stage to the mid Human Core Realm. No matter what the outcome of the battle was, Liu Lan would take extra special care of Long Chen going forward.

If I can raise him properly and let his inner talent blossom, he might be able to surpass Feng Wutian.

Liu Lan nodded in approval as she stared at Long Che.

At the same time, Long Chen and Feng Wutian clashed once more.

Everyone was shocked to see Long Chen used his raw physical strength to repel Feng Wutian's attack and push him away. He was pushing Feng Wutian away from Liu Ling so she wouldn't get hurt in the process.

Liu Ling naturally realized what he was doing. Her eyes started tearing up again. She thought about Long Chen and realized that he wasn't too bad, it was just that she hated him due to Feng Wutian's grudge against him.

“Peak Human Core Realm ...”

Long Chen roughly knew how strong Feng Wutian was after that clash.

The amount of Qi Feng Wutian had access to was very close to the Earthly Core Realm, granting him at least ten times more Qi than those one stage lower. Long Chen's Qi, however, was ten times more powerful, and with the addition of the Blazing Thunder Crystals, his Qi was nowhere near as weak as it was before.

There was even a thin layer of red fire and lightning covering his body.

I have an intermediate Black-tier martial technique and the Blazing Thunder Combat Body. These are my strengths, but I wonder what technique Feng Wutian has yet to reveal? Even Chu Yunyao has an intermediate Black-tier sword technique ...

Long Chen prepared the Primordial Dragon Seal and clashed once more with Feng Wutian. The shockwave this time was even larger!

Feng Wutian finally recognized Long Chen's strength and used the Fire Spirit Seal once more!

The two seal techniques collided in the air. Even though the Fire Spirit Seal was an elementary Black-tier martial technique and the Primordial Dragon Seal was a weaker advanced Yellow-tier technique, Long Chen's body was much stronger! Both of them flew backwards from the explosion.

"How is this possible?"

When Chu Yunyao saw Long Chen use an advanced Yellow-tier technique to block Feng Wutian's intermediate Black-tier technique, she was shocked and finally took Long Chen seriously. Even she herself would not dare to block Feng Wutian directly!

That man ... Has he been waiting at the sidelines for a chance to reap all the rewards when the time was right?

Chu Yunyao's eyes turned hostile at this point.

Luckily, I was smart enough to make Feng Wutian get hit by the Heart Eater Magic. If I had fought him until both of us were exhausted, he might've been able to execute his plan.

It was only now that everyone realized that Long Chen was the third elite cultivator on the same level as Feng Wutian and Chu Yunyao.

But since Long Chen hasn't attained the peak Human Core Realm, some of them had underestimated him, including Liu Ling.

She had watched Long Chen run away hurriedly before, but now he was repelling Feng Wutian's attacks. Still, the gap in cultivation levels was quite large.

"Senior Wutian ..."

Even now, Liu Ling was hoping Feng Wutian would wake up and become her prince charming once more.

As for Long Chen, he found out that he never hated Liu Ling that much, but he still didn't like her.

Liu Lan, however, was extremely surprised to see Long Chen repel Feng Wutian's Fire Spirit Seal with the Primordial Dragon Seal. She rubbed her eyes and confirmed that it was indeed the case, and her heart started beating faster.

How did he improve so much ...

The others were somewhat speechless too.

"The two youths from the Turquoise Sun Hall are too talented. Feng Wutian was given a four-star rating for his potential. Long Chen should naturally have the same rating too ..."

Unfortunately, Long Chen could not hear their conversation.

He was still wondering what was so special about Feng Wutian when the latter slowly stood up. Feng Wutian's eyes were very cold.

At the same time, Long Chen suddenly noticed a faint, red mark on Feng Wutian's forehead. The mark resembled a fire bird.

“That’s ... Is that the Vermillion Bird Mark?”

Long Chen heard the people at the edges of the clearing say that.

That mark should be what Liu Lan emphasized about Feng Wutian’s bloodline ...

He didn’t know anything about bloodlines, but he could feel Feng Wutian’s aura drastically increase in power ever since the mark appeared. Feng Wutian was getting stronger and stronger by the minute!

A blazing fire engulfed Feng Wutian and turned him into a human torch.

“Vermillion Bird Immolation. This is one of the powers from his bloodline. It doubles the output and triples the quality of his Qi. Feng Wutian is now infinitely close to the Earthly Core Realm ...”

Chu Yunyao frowned and shook her head. She was very wary of Vermillion Bird Immolation. If it wasn’t for that technique, how could a disciple from the Turquoise Sun Hall fight against someone from the Turquoise Imperial Hall?

Long Chen didn’t know the name of the technique nor the power of Feng Wutian’s bloodline. All he knew was that Feng Wutian’s Qi had increased both in quantity and quality, and that he was now weaker than his opponent!

Is the power of his bloodline this wondrous?

Long Chen then recalled that his Blood Transmutation and Dragon Soul Transformation were both obtained from the Inherited Blood Essence. *Does this mean both the techniques are bloodline techniques? They are extremely powerful techniques ...*

He had no time to ponder about it, since Feng Wutian had used Vermillion Bird Immolation. Everyone else was nervous too. If Long Chen failed to intercept Feng Wutian, they might die instead!

Chu Yunyao was surprised by Long Chen’s appearance, but she was also secretly very happy.

“If Long Chen can fight against Feng Wutian and get tired in the process, I will have an easier time later on. Long Chen appearing might turn out to be a good thing ...”

Long Chen dared not look down on Feng Wutian, who was currently engulfed in fire. Feng Wutian roared and ran towards him.

Feng Wutian’s aura was its strongest. The fire flowed around his body and became larger, emanating enough heat to affect everyone near the clearing.

Long Chen felt how much destructive force was contained within the fire.

Just then, all of the fire condensed in front of Feng Wutian and became a large fire bird. The bird’s shrill cry made Long Chen’s ears hurt.

“True Vermillion Bird Technique, Fire Bird Transformation!”

Feng Wutian disappeared. The only thing left was a massive fire bird. It flapped its wings and flew towards Long Chen, burning everything in its path into charcoal, including the stones and dirt. The trees were burnt into ashes in an instant.

So even Feng Wutian has an intermediate Black-tier martial technique? No wonder Liu Lan cherishes him and his bloodline so much ...

Liu Ling was so shocked at Feng Wutian's attack that she cried out. The others nearby thought they would die too. Even Chu Yunyao wasn't confident that she could block that attack, so shook her head. *It will all end soon ...*

But Long Chen laughed at the powerful technique.

The Burning Devil Sun Fist, Blazing Flame might not be able to block this attack. Feng Wutian is most likely almost as strong as me at this point. I have one more attack up my sleeve that I haven't used ever since I learned it ...

When Feng Wutian launched his technique, black light suddenly shot out of Long Chen's eyes. Everyone saw that Long Chen's pupils had transformed into two dark suns.

A massive black-and-red energy started swirling around Long Chen, as if he had become a black sun!

He radiated extreme heat, causing everyone to retreat further back and avoid gazing at him as it was too bright.

“What is he doing against the Fire Bird Transformation technique?”

No one knew what he was doing. Long Chen released his technique, and everyone was shocked to sense an equally strong aura coming from him. The aura exploded outwards, sending out waves of heat that filled the air with the smell of burnt wood.

Feng Wutian's fire was hot, but Long Chen's black sun was ten times hotter!

Long Chen ran towards Feng Wutian as well. He leapt up, cupped his fists together, and a sphere made of black Qi condensed in his hands. Finally, he fell like a meteorite and crashed towards Feng Wutian!

“Burning Devil Sun Fist, Devil Sun Collision!”

Chapter 115 - Devil Sun Collision

“What? An intermediate Black-tier Combat Technique!”

Chu Yunyao covered her mouth in astonishment, while Liu Ling was left stunned.

She knew how powerful Feng Wutian was, but when had Long Chen become this powerful?

As a whole, everything that had happened today felt like a dream to her.

Before everyone's shocked gazes, Long Chen unleashed the Devil Sun Collision, which was the more powerful technique of the Burning Devil Sun Fist. It fought valiantly against Feng Wutian's Fire Bird Transformation. These two were both parties' most powerful techniques, which were unleashed while both of them were in their most powerful forms. The onlookers were shocked.

The Burning Devil Sun Fist consisted of two techniques, which were the Blazing Flame and the Devil Sun Collision, and the latter was much stronger. In fact, it was stronger than the intermediate Black-tier Fire Bird Transformation Feng Wutian had used during his Vermillion Bird Immolation!

Long Chen did not hold back this time—he fully unleashed his most powerful technique. He had just acquired the Blazing Thunder Combat Body and had Dragon Soul Qi hidden within his Blazing Thunder Power. Even the Nine Heavens Dragon Step boosted the power of the Devil Sun Collision. In the beginning, the Devil Sun Collision looked like it could barely force a draw against the Fire Bird Transformation, but when they both collided, its resilience and strength were suddenly unleashed!

It was as if the sun in the sky had crashed into the ground. The Fire Bird Transformation had just lifted its head when it was shattered into pieces by the Devil Sun Collision!

A deafening explosion echoed across the grounds, and some onlookers couldn't even keep their eyes open in the face of such piercing light. However, what they did see was that the Devil Sun Collision had defeated the Fire Bird Transformation.

After the defeat, the fierce shockwaves crashed into Feng Wutian's body. The forceful impact made blood spray out of his mouth, and he was thrown back in the air. When he crashed, his body was burned black and he was barely conscious!

Long Chen, on the other hand, landed firmly and steadily.

The battle had ended. The crowd stared at the teenager in a daze, leaving the clearing in complete silence.

Chu Yunyao didn't know how to react. She had initially thought to let Long Chen wear Feng Wutian out for a while, but he had come out on top. Feng Wutian had unleashed his most powerful attack, yet Long Chen had claimed an easy victory ...

“Is this a joke ...”

Chu Yunyao stared woodenly at Long Chen.

Liu Lan was in even more shock.

She had always maintained a goddess-like presence in front of others. Every move, every smile from Liu Lan was always filled with femininity. But right now, she was in a daze, her mouth was agape, and her eyes were filled with shock.

Long Chen's face grew clearer and clearer in her mind's eye.

She had always felt like he was an interesting person, though that notion eventually turned into contempt. Now, his performance was like a punch to her gut! “Who is he ...”

Liu Lan took a deep breath, heaving greatly, then she shook her head and couldn't hold back a bitter smile.

She had embarrassed herself big time because before this training exercise started, she had personally said that Long Chen had a ninety percent chance to die in the Heavenly Martial Realm. She had never expected for him to defeat Feng Wutian, the disciple whom she had trained for several years, one that she was very proud of.

No one would believe what had just happened if they didn't witness it personally.

“Brother Wutian ...”

Liu Ling came to her senses after recovering from the infinite shock. Her heart broke when she saw that Feng Wutian was injured, not even sure if he was alive. She took a step forward and then sprinted hysterically towards him.

The rest of the Turquoise Sun Hall disciples slowly recovered from their shock and ran after her.

At this point, Feng Wutian was completely unconscious. Liu Ling held him in her arms frantically, then someone took out some spiritual medicine to be fed to him.

But at this point, his clothes were tattered and his face was burnt black. Even his hair had been singed, leaving behind nothing but ugly patches. He was far from the handsome man he once was.

This was Liu Ling's first time seeing Feng Wutian in such a tragic state, and all of this was Long Chen's fault. However, she found that she didn't have it in her to hate Long Chen.

Today was the day that Long Chen's name truly spread across the Turquoise family.

Once news of what happened spread, Long Chen would instantly become famous, and his name would even spread to other families!

“Administrator Liu, do your best to nurture the potential in Long Chen. He might be able to participate in the qualifiers for the inner family ...” someone whispered in Liu Lan's ear. She seemed to agree, though after some thought, she shook her head with a bitter smile.

“The conditions for participating in the inner family's qualifiers are very strict. Long Chen still can't meet them.”

“That's true. But Yunyao's older brother, Yunxi, should be going to the next inner family qualifiers. It's the Eastern Azure Dragon family's turn this time, right?”

Liu Lan nodded. That name gave her a headache.

Chu Yunxi was Chu Yunyao's older brother. He was only eighteen this year, but he had already been at the Earthly Core Realm for more than a year. He had recently attained the mid Earthly Core Realm.

When he first reached the Earthly Core Realm a year ago, he was called the number one prodigy in the Turquoise family. It was best to maintain a good relationship with a person like that, but what gave Liu Lan a headache was that the brat was interested in her romantically. He had even made a declaration that she was the only woman he would ever marry.

Father has already made the preparations to agree to the marriage proposal sent by the Turquoise Imperial Hall. Will I really have to marry that brat? Will I soon become someone's wife?

Liu Lan was averse to the idea. She'd been handling matters in Turquoise Sun Hall since young, and it had shaped her personality to handle everything with flair and power. She was very unwilling to give up everything she had now. But she knew that she wasn't young anymore, and at this point, she was almost ready to accept fate.

The events that unfolded next woke Liu Lan from her worries.

Long Chen had defeated Feng Wutian but stopped at the very end and didn't kill him. Thanks to the care of other Turquoise Sun Hall members, he would live, but he wouldn't regain consciousness for the moment.

The Feng Wutian incident had come to a close, and now the most important matter was the ownership of the Supreme Purity Sword. After that terrifying display of strength from Long Chen, the other late Human Core Realm cultivators looked at each other, not daring to attack.

Except for Chu Yunyao.

She had to take the Supreme Purity Sword home today at any cost, and she would never give up just because of a dark horse like Long Chen. *That attack he used must've exhausted a lot of his strength. I'm stronger than Feng Wutian, so the Supreme Purity Sword will belong to me ...*

With that thought, Chu Yuan walked up to Long Chen without a word, gazing at him coolly.

The Heart Eater, which was struggling at the brink of death, remained between both of them.

Now that there was going to be another exciting show, all eyes were glued to them.

Looking at Long Chen, she said, "You defeated Feng Wutian—an admirable feat. However, I'm now asking you to let me take the Supreme Purity Sword. I see that you don't use a sword, so I think the Supreme Purity Sword will be useless to you anyway."

Long Chen smiled. "What a strange thing to say! Do you mean that I can't take the sword just because I don't use a sword? I can get a lot of money if I sell it."

When Chu Yunyao saw that Long Chen had no intention of backing down even after such a direct request, she was slightly irritated.

However, she had witnessed his might and didn't want to attack unless absolutely necessary.

She glared at him darkly, her mind racing for a way to beat Long Chen without using a weapon. Very soon, a person appeared in her mind. She smiled sweetly and said, "Say, do you know of Dongfang Tianyu? We're very close. If you let me have the Supreme Clarity Sword, he might be able to offer you some advice in the future."

"Dongfang Tianyu? Haven't heard of him. Hey, you don't have to convince me. Aren't we supposed to compete for the sword through battle? If you want it ... a duel will reveal the true winner. Don't worry, I don't hurt girls ..."

Although that was what Long Chen had said, he was actually worried.

The Lingwu family consisted of nine outer families and four inner families. The outer families were Red, Orange, Yellow, Green, Turquoise, Blue, Violet, Silver, and Gold while the four inner families were the Eastern Azure Dragon, Southern Vermillion Bird, Western White Tiger, and Northern Black Tortoise families.[1]

The Azure Dragon family members took on the Dongfang surname, so this Dongfang Tianyu person she had mentioned was obviously part of the Azure Dragon family.

When Chu Yunyao saw that Long Chen still hadn't made the smart decision to back off, she didn't get angry. Instead, she smiled. "I don't want to resort to fighting, as that will just sour our

relationship. Yet you think I'm afraid of you ... Fine, seeing as you're not giving up, I'll show you how big the gap between the Turquoise Imperial Hall and the Turquoise Sun Hall is!

“Oh?”

Long Chen made a show of surprise, even with a hint of confusion, then he laughed heartily. “Hey, girl, you're very good with words! I'm sure you're very good with your mouth ... Why don't you let me try it out someday?”

When he first said that, Chu Yunyao didn't understand its underlying implication at all, so she was first confused, then that sentiment turned into killing intent.

But the ones who understood all turned dark red. They were completely floored by Long Chen's boldness.

Even Liu Lan was gritting her teeth, blushing. *I can't believe this brat has the guts to tease the girl that Dongfang Tianyu likes so casually! He won't live very long with a personality like that!*

There was a sudden gust of wind. A young man clad in white brocade robes embroidered with an azure dragon appeared next to Chu Yunyao.

The man's face was strangely clean and fair, and he exuded an air of elegance. He was a rare, gorgeous specimen.

He smiled while looking at Chu Yunyao, then he said, “Yao'er, why do you look so glum? Did someone bully you? Tell me who upset you. I, your brother Tianyu, will settle it for you ...”

1. T/L Note: Just so the next few paragraphs make sense, these are the Chinese characters for the first words of each family:

[东方]青龙 (东方 Dongfang- Eastern; 青 Azure Dragon);

[南宫]朱雀 (南宫 Nangong – Southern; 朱雀 Vermillion Bird);

[西门]白虎 (西门 Ximen – Western; 白虎 White Tiger)

[北堂]玄武(北堂 Beitang – Northern; 玄武 Black Tortoise)

Note that the Xuanwu Black Tortoise is a creature from Chinese mythology which is a snake coiled around a tortoise ?

Chapter 116 - Dongfang Tianyu

Long Chen's pupils shrank the moment the young man appeared.

Although this person was roughly the same age as them, he was far above in terms of both status and capabilities.

In terms of cultivation, only a person in the Earthly Core Realm could make Long Chen as weary as he was. Being able to attain the Earthly Core Realm at his age meant he was the prodigy of prodigies.

He'd called himself “Brother Tianyu,” so he had to be Dongfang Tianyu, the one that Chu Yunyao had mentioned. He was a member of the Eastern Azure Dragon family, who were an inner family of the Lingwu family.

When these thoughts ran through Long Chen's mind, he knew that all he could do in the face of a person with such high status was suppress. Suppress all emotion!

Just like on his first meeting with Huang Feiyang and Feng Wutian—only self-control could keep him alive.

Chu Yunyao was obviously Dongfang Tianyu's romantic interest. Long Chen had chills knowing that if Dongfang Tianyu had heard what he just said, he would be dead by now.

When he first entered the Lingwu family, Gan Lin once told him that the four inner families were the true Lingwu family members. They were not people the outer families could afford to offend.

Although Long Chen was defiant, he had no choice but to admit that the Lingwu family was a gigantic organization. He was just an ant in the face of such a powerful entity, so he had no choice but to accept it all.

Therefore, he immediately transformed back into his clean, youthful human form.

Although he was more powerful post-transformation, he was also radiating killing intent. If it offended Dongfang Tianyu in any way, it would be the end of him. *This is not the right time. I'll just pretend to be weak for the moment.*

When Chu Yunyao saw Dongfang Tianyu, she was overjoyed and chirped, "Brother Tianyu! How did you know I was here?"

"I heard from your father that you were participating in the Heavenly Martial Realm's training event today, so I came. You outer families are ridiculous; isn't everything fine as it is? Why must they have training exercises like this? What if you get hurt? Right, I saw that you weren't happy just now. What happened?" Dongfang Tianyu gazed at Chu Yunyao with concern.

When she thought of Long Chen, a few tears appeared in her eyes, though only for a moment. She looked at Long Chen, then said demurely, "I'm fine, we were just competing for the Supreme Purity Sword in that Heart Eater's body. I can't blame them for trying to take it as well ..."

Dongfang Tianyu furrowed his brows. He turned and looked at Long Chen, asking coldly, "Is there someone brave enough to fight you? Does he not know of me, Dongfang Tianyu?" By now, he was already glaring at Long Chen with ice-cold killing intent in his eyes.

Long Chen explained hurriedly, "Miss Yunyao here wanted to experience true battle, so she requested that we fight for real. We would only dare fight her because we were obeying her orders! If not, why would we dare take anything from Miss Yunyao with you here?"

Staying alive was the top priority. He needed to pretend to be a kiss-ass now to keep himself alive. There would be future chances to take his revenge anyway, so Long Chen kept an open mind even if it disgusted other people.

"Is that so?"

Dongfang Tianyu nodded, satisfied with Long Chen's explanation.

The rest of the crowd was speechless at the speed at which Long Chen changed his attitude. Chu Yunyao's intention was to kill Long Chen indirectly by using Dongfang Tianyu. However, Long Chen's explanation had ruined all her plans.

If she pressed on and tried to stubbornly prove that Long Chen was lying, she would risk making Dongfang Tianyu think she was manipulative and vengeful. That was why she gritted her teeth and decided to let Long Chen go. *You bastard! As long as you're in the Lingwu family, I will find a way to kill you! No one who goes against me gets to live!*

By now, Dongfang Tianyu had already killed the Heart Eater. He retrieved a Universe Pouch from its body, then he took out a pale-green longsword and gave it to Chu Yunyao, mumbling, "The Supreme Purity Sword isn't bad at all! Take it back with you. Once you reach the Earthly Core Realm, I can ask my father for something else for you."

"Thank you, Brother Tianyu!"

Chu Yunyao happily took the Supreme Purity Sword, the object of her dreams, in her hand. Then she put it away in her Universe Pouch. She secretly glared at that useless man, Long Chen, with contempt. When she saw that Long Chen didn't react, still maintaining his polite expression, she felt like puking. Finally, she refocused her attention on Dongfang Tianyu. "Brother Tianyu, now that I've gotten the Supreme Clarity Sword, the training exercise has ended. Shall we leave?"

"That's perfect! There's a beautiful valley not far from Yuanling City with beautiful scenery and full of wildflowers. I was just thinking of taking you there to admire them."

They chatted amongst themselves, not even looking at the rest, and he led her out of the Heavenly Martial Realm to the aforementioned valley.

Long Chen finally heaved a sigh of relief, though everyone looked at him strangely.

They were very impressed at first, but when they saw that he had turned into a coward the moment he encountered a strong opponent, they were disgusted. "He's a coward without a backbone. We're embarrassed to be on the same team as him."

The training event in Heavenly Martial Realm had officially ended. Chu Yunyao had obtained the Supreme Clarity Sword without any effort at all; she was the final winner of the day.

Everyone accepted this fate and left the scene.

Seeing as the event had ended and Feng Wutian was still unconscious and severely injured, Liu Ling and the rest quickly left to bring him back to Turquoise Sun Hall so he could receive adequate treatment.

Very soon, Long Chen was the only remaining person. Next to him was the Heart Eater's carcass.

Long Chen was frustrated. *It put in so much effort, yet in the end, that girl still got the Supreme Clarity Sword anyway. Chu Yunyao, you may want to kill me, but it won't be easy. One day, I'll make you regret it. Also, Dongfang Tianyu ...*

The person who truly stressed him out was Dongfang Tianyu.

This was his first time witnessing the terrifying power of an inner family member. He knew that despite beating Feng Wutian, he was still at the bottom of this massive hierarchical system. *At least I still have the Heart Eater's carcass. It counts as my reward for the day's hard work.*

Chu Yunyao hadn't taken the carcass away, and since Long Chen was still standing there, the others did not dare take it themselves.

Long Chen had just used the Blood Transmutation on the Flaming Golden Lion and attained the mid Human Core Realm, so he was not in a hurry. He took out his Universe Pouch and put the Heart Eater in it.

When he was about to leave the Heavenly Martial Realm, he noticed a curvy, beautiful lady. *Isn't that Administrator Liu?*

Liu Ling had left in a hurry to look for her, so he hadn't expected her to be here.

The fact that she arrived so quickly meant that Liu Lan had been watching the event for a long time. Long Chen guessed that she had seen everything he'd done. Now, there was no fake seductiveness or deep contempt in her eyes, only calm.

"So? Have you finally fallen for my extreme handsomeness?" asked Long Chen shamelessly, walking up to her as he admired her curves.

She'd teased him twice already when he was pretending to be an innocent gentleman. Now, he finally got the chance for retaliation.

But the beautiful lady wasn't mad. She gave a small smile, then strode towards the exit of the Heavenly Martial Realm, saying, "I have known for a long time that you're a lecher. All I did was to deliberately force you to show your true self. I didn't expect to fail last time, though now you have revealed yourself."

Initially, Liu Lan thought Long Chen would be no match for Feng Wutian, but he had proven himself after defeating Feng Wutian. Long Chen knew that she was shocked by his performance and was just pretending to be calm.

At least she no longer behaved as if she was certain that he was going to die. Therefore, he knew that he had defeated at least a part of this woman.

They walked together, chatting like they had been friends for many years. "To be honest, I had indeed underestimated your strength before this. But you must not overestimate yourself either. I'm sure you felt something in the depths of your heart when you saw Dongfang Tianyu."

Long Chen indeed felt the weight on his chest when he saw Dongfang Tianyu. The memory of him pretending to be a kiss-ass for the man was branded in his mind.

"Also, based on your performance just now, I should give you a new potential value," she said, looking amused.

"How much?"

"Four stars."

He nodded. "Still not five stars? How many people have five stars in the Turquoise family?"

She smiled in exasperation. “Just one. There’s no need for you to know who it is. Long Chen, now that you have attained four stars, the Lingwu family can actually help you do one thing. Initially, I said we could help you deal with the Blood Saints, but that was vetoed by the Sect Elder, unfortunately. It was then I learned the identity of the Blood Saints’ Great Priest.”

Long Chen furrowed his brows deeply. “Who is it?”

She smiled bitterly, shaking her head. “I didn’t know it before this either, because his identity is kept hidden, so the average person doesn’t know this. You know of Yuandi City’s Beast Soul Palace, right?”

Was there a relationship between the Blood Saints and Yuandi City? Long Chen had a bad feeling. “Yuandi City is a faction whose power is almost equivalent to Lingwu City.”

She said, “The most powerful leader of the Beast Soul Palace is known as Emperor Yuan, and he has many progenies. The Great Priest of the Blood Saints is one of his grandsons!”

Chapter 117 - Black Tier Beast Soul

Long Chen shuddered when he heard the news. He stared at Liu Lan in disbelief, stuttering, “N-no way! It’s just a random Grand Priest of the Blood Saints, and his grandfather is Emperor Yuan?”

Liu Lan shook her head in exasperation, with great regret written on her face. “Such coincidences do happen in this world. That’s right, the Great Priest is the grandson of Emperor Yuan. Although Emperor Yuan has more than a hundred grandchildren and he doesn’t really pay much attention to them, due to the historical enmity between Lingwu City and Yuandi City, if we touch the Blood Saints to help you ...”

The beautiful lady looked at him. “Long Chen, I’m sure you know that Lingwu City and Yuandi City are enemies like fire and water. It took massive effort from both sides to reach the truce they’re in right now. Even a minor matter could trigger an all-out conflict.”

Liu Lan’s implication was very clear.

If the Lingwu family attacked the Blood Saints, it could trigger a retaliation from Yuandi City and lead to huge casualties. The inner families held true power in the Lingwu family, and Long Chen’s current position was nowhere near high enough for him to make the family take such a huge risk for him.

That was reality.

But at this point, Long Chen didn’t have high hopes for the Lingwu family either. He thought for a moment, smiling.

When she saw that he was nonchalant, she frowned. “Hey, are you thinking of fighting the Blood Saints yourself?”

“The Blood Saints and I are enemies. If I don’t kill them, they will kill me. Is there really a reason why I shouldn’t fight them?”

He looked up at her pale face with a burning gaze.

When she saw the determination and refusal to surrender in his eyes, the lady who was used to controlling others felt a hint of discomfort.

She took a deep breath and said coldly, "Long Chen, when the time comes, don't say I didn't warn you about this. You'll be lucky if Emperor Yuan doesn't investigate, but if he does, we will absolutely send you to him immediately."

"I know. You didn't have to tell me that," he said nonchalantly, pursing his lips.

He had always acted fearlessly, that was his style. However, fearlessness didn't equate to brainlessness. "Also, the Blood Saints have a thousand disciples, as well as eight Grand Protectors and Five Sect Elders who are at the late Human Core Realm. The Grand Priest is a master at the Earthly Core Realm. You may be peerless in the Human Core Realm right now, but you'll die if you fight an opponent at the Earthly Core Realm!"

Liu Lan could only offer him advice, seeing as he remained so stubborn. In the past, she would've been too lazy to even say this, but he had displayed great potential. Fewer than ten people could get four stars as their potential value in the Turquoise family; even Liu Lan herself had four stars.

"Is the Earthly Core Realm really that powerful?" Long Chen was a little surprised. He had defeated Feng Wutian, who was infinitely close to attaining the Earthly Core Realm. By that logic, he should be able to deal with an Earthly Core Realm opponent.

"Do you know why the Divine Core Realm is divided into the Human Core, Earthly Core, and Heavenly Core Realms? It's because the Divine Core Realm's first three, middle three, and last three substages have huge gaps between them. There is a huge canyon between the Human Core Realm and the Earthly Core Realm. Similarly, there is a massive gap between the Earthly Core Realm and the Heavenly Core Realm. You are nowhere near powerful enough to defeat an Earthly Core Realm cultivator as you are now."

Seeing as Liu Lan had given such a confident explanation, Long Chen lost his confidence.

However, this didn't mean that he was afraid. He was just under even more pressure. *This issue with the Blood Saints has dragged on for a long time. Now that the training exercise has ended, I must settle this matter quickly so it won't cause future troubles.*

Long Chen mulled over it while he followed Liu Lan on the path back to Turquoise Sun Hall.

When she saw the teenager fall silent but still remain fearless, she shook her head. *He's indeed a rare talent, but he's too loud and vengeful. I'm afraid he's going to attract problems for the family ...*

The beautiful, seductive Liu Lan walking together with Long Chen attracted much attention.

Liu Lan was well-known amongst the outer families, while Long Chen's name was slowly spreading. When others saw him walking with the beauty, they couldn't help but let their imaginations run wild.

Very soon, they returned to the Turquoise Sun Hall. The people in the hall were the same as before they left, though Long Chen was the only youth present.

Liu Yuan and the rest all looked at him with great emotion. None of them had taken notice of him when he had set out for the training exercise. At most, they were amused by the incident of Long Chen not showing up for the duel.

However, what had happened in the Heavenly Martial Realm had already spread across the Turquoise family, and they even knew about the tragic ending of the three late Human Core Realm prodigies of the Turquoise Vanguard Hall. “Come, come. Long Chen, right? Sit here.”

Although Long Chen had injured Feng Wutian, healing the latter was an easy task with the Turquoise Sun Hall’s wealth.

With talents like Long Chen and Feng Wutian spearheading their generation, they would be able to make a name for the Turquoise Sun Hall in a few years’ time like Liu Lan had. In turn, the Turquoise Sun Hall’s rank would rise greatly too.

Liu Yuan was looking at Long Chen. He thought the teenager held great potential.

Long Chen was three years younger than Feng Wutian, meaning he could be even more easily nurtured.

Long Chen smirked privately as he looked at the old man, though he was smart enough to be obedient when someone powerful wanted to protect him. He put on a happy face, displaying utmost reverence—just short of referring to the man as “father”—and greeted him. “Greetings, Sect Elder, Sir!”

Before this, Liu Yuan thought Long Chen was an arrogant person, but now he seemed to be quite humble. Liu Yuan smiled, squinting. “You’re not bad at all. To be honest, I underestimated you. Although you all didn’t get the Supreme Purity Sword in the end, you have given me a lot of face.”

“Uh, Sister Liu has been giving me guidance ever since I arrived in the Lingwu family. It’s only right that I show some results for it ...”

Long Chen spoke in the most natural tone, not even blushing.

Liu Lan’s face twitched when she heard him say “Sister Liu.” Long Chen had maintained a neutral expression on their walk back from the site of the battle, and she hadn’t expected him to change the moment he saw Liu Yuan.

Liu Yuan had only laid eyes on Long Chen once before this, and the teenager hadn’t even said a word, so he thought he was just an introverted, timid disciple. Now, he discovered that he had truly underestimated Long Chen. The boy respected his elders, was bold, and was a good kid through and through.

He now favored Long Chen greatly, but Long Chen was not smug about this, because Liu Yuan had blocked the operation with the Blood Saints despite knowing about his talent. This meant Liu Yuan wasn’t that kind of person.

After discussing some regular administrative matters, Liu Yuan suddenly stroked his long beard and said smilingly, “Long Chen, I wanted you to come here because I wanted to reward you.”

“Thank you so much, Sect Elder!”

Of course, he would take whatever reward they gave him. Long Chen didn't know what it was yet, but he was ready to receive it with open arms.

“Initially, I wanted to get you an intermediate Black-tier Combat Technique. But now, I have changed my mind.”

The five other administrators gasped. Long Chen's reward had already been prepared before his arrival. This last-minute change of plans only meant that Long Chen's kiss-ass behavior had appeased Liu Yuan.

“May I ask what the reward is, Sect Elder?” Long Chen asked expectantly.

Indeed, with the Burning Devil Sun Fist in his bag of tricks, Long Chen didn't really need a Black-tier Combat Technique.

Liu Yuan eyed him for a while and said, “Your Dragon Realm Primary Beast Soul is a Category Five Yellow-tier Underground Blood Lizard. You haven't found a Black-tier Primary Beast Soul after entering the Human Core Realm, have you? Coincidentally, I have a Beast Soul with me here, but it's very precious and I can't give it to you so casually. To get it, you must fulfill one condition.”

Long Chen froze, then he recalled that he was a Beast Warrior to these people.

In reality, he didn't need a Beast Soul. He had retrieved Beast Souls during exercise to be sold for contribution points later.

But Liu Yuan's next words stunned him. “It is a Category Six Black-tier demonic beast—the Beat Soul of a Violet Demonic Lizard. It's a very powerful beast amongst Category Six Black-tier demonic beasts. One of these sells for a hundred thousand divine jades at the Dawn Trading Alliance!

Long Chen couldn't breathe when he heard the price. He had gotten used to being poor, and the greatest number of divine jades he ever had was only about a hundred. One hundred thousand divine jades! Oh, the things he could buy ...

“Even Lingwu family members can't purchase this Beast Soul without ten thousand contribution points. But you've performed well this time, and this Beast Soul belongs to me. So, I will let you buy it from me for just five hundred contribution points. Consider this a test for you!”

Liu Yuan looked at him solemnly. “You haven't made any significant contributions to the Turquoise Sun Hall, so there would undoubtedly be chatter if I gave it to you directly. That is why you must work for it!”

Liu Yuan's gaze swept across the other elders and administrators, clearly implying that these people were obviously the ones who would gossip. There were already many stiff looks when he talked about the Beast Soul.

Looking at Liu Yuan, Liu Lan thought to herself, *Father is investing so much in him. I can't believe he's even offering a Category Six Black-tier Beast Soul! Even I find it difficult to defeat a Violet Demonic Lizard. But ...*

She looked at Long Chen. *A Violet Demonic Lizard indeed suits the brat. But he's going on a suicide mission to the Blood Saints, would he even get the chance to collect five hundred contribution points? Also, that many contribution points is very difficult to earn!*

On the other hand, Long Chen was thinking, *How can I get my hands on this Beast Soul so I can sell it for a hundred thousand divine jades ...*

Chapter 118 - Inner Family Qualifiers!

Now that the matter of the Violet Demonic Lizard was settled, Liu Yuan smiled when he saw the pleasant surprise on Long Chen's face, feeling proud of what he perceived as Long Chen's passion towards it.

Long Chen was a huge surprise to him. It had been a long time since he had a surprise like that, so the old man was overjoyed.

At the same time, he was also very satisfied with his daughter, because he knew that Long Chen reached this level largely due to Liu Lan's pressure. *Lan'er has already explained the matter about the Blood Saints to him. I don't need to remind him about it again. But I do need to talk to him about the other thing.*

Liu Yuan said, "Long Chen, do you know about the next inner family qualifiers?"

Inner family qualifiers?

Long Chen had only heard from Gan Lin that the inner families recruited extremely outstanding disciples from the outer families to be nurtured. However, he had also said that Long Chen had to be at the Earthly Core Realm. *Am I also involved in the inner family qualifiers?*

"The outer families have started to nominate members to be recruited. I also have the right to nominate, so I will submit your details to them in a few days' time. As long as you pass the examination, you will have a chance to participate in the qualifiers!"

Long Chen suddenly felt like he had behaved a little too well in front of Liu Yuan and hurriedly thanked the old man for his kindness. "I will repay your kindness a hundred-fold, Sect Elder!"

"Hehe ..."

Liu Yuan stroked his beard. He'd previously underestimated Long Chen and even mildly reprimanded him. Even he was a little embarrassed that his attitude had completely changed, now that he was treating Long Chen so well.

"But, Long Chen, don't celebrate too early. You're still at the Human Core Realm, which doesn't fulfill their requirements. You must work hard as soon as possible. You'll only stand a chance if you get the Violet Demonic Lizard's Beast Soul and elevate your cultivation level before the qualifiers."

"Are the inner family's qualifiers that difficult?" Long Chen probed.

Liu Yuan nodded helplessly. "They are indeed difficult. Usually, only about twenty people pass the examination, but only two of those will be recruited in the end. In fact, I only want you to

participate so you can appear in front of the other families. If you truly want to enter the inner family, all I can say is that it is very, very, very difficult.”

Although Long Chen knew that becoming an inner family member meant access to more resources, better training, and faster improvements, he was not in a hurry. Based on Liu Yuan’s words, it truly was very difficult.

Liu Yuan lamented, “The only youth in the Turquoise family with a potential value of five stars is the Turquoise Imperial family’s Chu Yunxi. He has turned eighteen this year and has already reached the mid Earthly Core Realm. He has been nominated and will enter the qualifiers.”

Liu Yuan spoke with great emotion when he mentioned Chu Yunxi, though when he saw Liu Lan glaring at him a little angrily, he froze and fell silent.

Chu Yunxi? Eighteen? Mid Earthly Core Realm?

Long Chen was stunned upon learning that all the people he met previously, like Huang Feiyang and Feng Wutian, were nothing. Chu Yunxi was the true prodigy. Once again, he realized how small his worldview was.

He thought he could truly be called a prodigy when he defeated Feng Wutian, but now, it seemed he was still quite far away from that. *There is still a long way to go ...*

Liu Yuan continued, “This is it for today. You must be exhausted after the training exercise. You may leave.”

Long Chen nodded and bade them farewell, turning to leave. Everyone was deep in thought when they watched him leave with his back proudly straight. “Lan’er, follow me.”

Liu Yuan called for Liu Lan, then exited the great hall. He only turned around when he reached the garden at the back, then he said to Liu Lan, “When you were at the Heavenly Martial Realm, the Sect Elder of the Turquoise Imperial Hall, Chu Fengqing, came looking for me again. He spoke of a marriage proposal.”

Liu Lan gasped. “Father, did you agree?”

“How could I agree without your approval? But, Lan’er, he said that he would personally come with Chu Yunxi to propose in twenty days. I didn’t decline, so ...”

“So, to prevent the relationship between both parties from souring, and to prevent us from being laughed at, I must agree to his proposal. Right?” Liu Lan was in grief when she spoke the truth aloud.

Liu Yuan’s heart ached upon seeing his daughter like this. “Lan’er, don’t overthink it. Chu Yunxi is a true prodigy and will likely enter the inner family this time. His future is bright. I will also rest easy if you’re with him.”

“Father ...” Liu Lan looked up in exasperation, “You don’t know him. He’s too aggressive and arrogant. No matter how talented he is, I can’t stand being around him ...”

Upon leaving the hall, Long Chen walked alone to the Turquoise Willow Residence. Heads turned wherever he went, passersby looking at him with curiosity and awe.

News of Long Chen's performance at the Heavenly Martial Realm had spread. "You! Don't move!"

A feminine voice suddenly called out to him. A petite, pretty girl stood behind him. It was Liu Ling.

Long Chen was amused that her eyes were slightly red. She must've been crying over Feng Wutian. But seeing as Feng Wutian himself wanted to treat Long Chen as an enemy, no one was to blame when he was injured because of Long Chen.

"Hey, are you crying over your lover? How touching. I'm tearing up myself."

Liu Ling had spotted this bastard just now and couldn't help but stop him due to the hatred in her heart. She hadn't expected to be teased at all. If she hadn't just recalled that the bastard had saved her life, she would've killed him. "Long Chen, you're a bastard! A bastard!" cussed Liu Ling, pointing at him without caring for her image.

Long Chen remained completely nonchalant. "What is it? Why did you stop me?"

Liu Ling had the urge to rush forward and tear his face off. "You brat. I stopped you to tell you not to celebrate too early. Defeating Brother Wutian while he was possessed was nothing. He has already woken up!"

"Oh? He's awake!"

"That's right! Are you scared? Also, he actually benefited from the experience! He's going to reach the Earthly Core Realm. So you just wait till he teaches you a lesson!"

"Earthly Core Realm too?"

He thought about how brutally he had injured Feng Wutian. Now that he had woken up to find his reputation falling, he would definitely come looking for trouble. Long Chen was already anxious over the matter with the Blood Saints, and hearing that Feng Wutian was awake made him furrow his brows tightly.

"So, you *are*

afraid! You're a coward! You only attack when Brother Wutian is unconscious!" Liu Ling smirked and then left.

Long Chen shook his head and returned to his quarters. "Xiao Xi, my cultivation level has risen very fast recently, and it seems to be almost at its limits. Can I improve any further?"

"Of course ..."

Ling Xi could finally stretch her limbs out of the sword and started flying happily around the house. After frolicking happily for a while, she finally fluttered in front of Long Chen and wrinkled her nose adorably. "Your cultivation is currently at the bottom of the Dragon Continent. You are a Dragon Warrior; although you had a slow start, you start off stronger than other people."

"How much stronger?"

“Don’t worry about that. Basically, a small, quick improvement like this won’t cause any problems.”

Ling Xi came from a powerful faction and was more knowledgeable than Long Chen and the people around him, so he completely believed her. “Alright, I’ll continue to work hard, then. I need to first pull out the thorn that is the Blood Saints, then I can plan my future appropriately.”

“Mhm!”

Ling Xi nodded hard, then she held out a palm and looked at him mischievously. “I want more!”

“What?” Long Chen froze.

“Food!” exclaimed Ling Xi, seeing as Long Chen didn’t understand her.

Long Chen said in exasperation, “Oh! I need to extract the Beast Souls I collected, then head to the Treasure Pavilion to get you some herbs.”

“Good boy.” Ling Xi smiled contentedly. She looked beautiful when she smiled, squinting so her eyes became crescent moons.

Long Chen smiled bitterly. “You used up a lot of your power when you got me the Blazing Thunder Crystals, so I’d already decided to buy you more stuff after leaving the Heavenly Martial Realm. This is a good time.”

“Blazing Thunder Crystals?” Ling Xi jumped up, “Right, you’re now at the mid-Human Core Realm, so your Qi has increased by at least tenfold. You can now suppress more Blazing Thunder Crystals.”

“You mean I can absorb more crystals?” he asked, surprised.

“Of course. You can try it if you don’t believe me.”

He believed her, of course. But he was in no hurry.

He went to the underground room, unpacking his bounty. “I have six Category Two Black-tier demonic cores and Beast Souls. But these aren’t worth much. The most valuable items are the Flaming Golden Lion’s and the Heart Eater’s Beast Souls and demonic cores.”

“How much money is that?” Ling Xi’s eyes were filled with stars.

“The two items from the Flaming Golden Lion should be worth about twenty contribution points, while the Heart Eater’s soul and core should be worth more than two hundred contribution points.”

“And how much money is that?” she asked, too lazy to calculate it herself.

“That’s the equivalent of more than two thousand divine jades.”

Long Chen recalled the five hundred points Liu Yuan had mentioned. That Category Six Black-tier Beast Soul was a hundred times more valuable than Category Four, but he had asked Long Chen to buy it for only five hundred contribution points. It was basically a gift at that point.

“That means that to get that Beast Soul worth a hundred thousand divine jades, I will need to kill quite a few Category Four Black-tier beasts, each equivalent to an Earthly Core Realm cultivator!”

After some calculation, Long Chen gasped. He thought accumulating five hundred points would be easy, but after some calculation, he realized it would be difficult. “That Heart Eater appeared in the Human Core area, so it must be the weakest type among all the Category Four Black-tier beasts. That was the only reason we could kill it.”

When he mentioned a hundred thousand divine jades, Ling Xi reminded him, “Hey, don’t go daydreaming. Where are you going to get a hundred thousand divine jades for that Beast Soul? If you go to the Treasure Pavilion, that old man is going to hit the roof.”

Long Chen suddenly realized that selling it would be an issue of its own. If Liu Yuan gave Long Chen the Beast Soul but never saw him cultivate it, doubts would arise. And when that happened, Long Chen wouldn’t know how to explain himself.

“Whatever, I don’t want to think about it anymore. I need to first extract and condense the Heart Eater’s Beast Soul, then we’ll head to the Treasure Pavilion.”

Chapter 119 - Bad News!

When Long Chen arrived at the Treasure Pavilion, he was no longer the Long Chen whom no one had heard of. Everyone in the Turquoise family had started paying close attention to him after the training exercise, so the workers also knew about him.

However, he was still unfamiliar with these people, so no one went forward to greet him, though whispers were unavoidable. “He defeated Feng Wutian even though he used the Vermilion Bird Immolation. He’s so young too. Long Chen has truly shocked everyone.”

“He’s not bad indeed. Although he’s a little green, he just needs more experience. He will surely take on an important role in the Turquoise Sun Hall in the future.”

“I heard that the Turquoise Sun Hall’s Sect Elder has already submitted his name for the inner family qualifiers. Although there’s no way he’ll pass it, merely being nominated means he has a potential value of at least four stars.”

“Of course. The only reason Long Chen didn’t get the Supreme Purity Sword in the end is because Dongfang-”

“Let’s not speak about the inner family!”

Long Chen walked past the two middle-aged men who were conversing. When one of them spoke of the Supreme Purity Sword, the other hurriedly stopped him.

He understood. From their perspective, Long Chen and Chu Yunyao should have dueled to determine the winner of the sword. The appearance of an inner family member was against the rules of the outer families, but they wouldn’t dare to complain. The inner families held the true power anyway. *Are the inner families really that powerful? Looks like I’ll be stepped on forever if I don’t enter an inner family.*

Long Chen felt chills.

He soon arrived at the place where he could sell the Beast Soul and demonic cores. There was only a wall with a small opening the size of a tray used for the exchange of goods. He had no way of seeing the person inside. "Put your demonic cores and Beast Souls here. And also your identity jade token," said a deep voice from the other side of the wall.

Long Chen wasted no time and put the things on the table. A pale arm reached out and took everything.

When he took the Heart Eater's Beast Soul and demonic core, the hand paused and the person asked, "You're not cultivating this Category Four Black-tier Beast Soul?"

Long Chen immediately understood that even the people in the Treasure Pavilion knew of him.

As far as the person behind the wall knew, Long Chen was a Beast Warrior who had just attained the Human Core Realm. Therefore, he assumed that Long Chen would be cultivating another Beast Soul, yet he hadn't.

Previously, he thought Long Chen hadn't received a Beast Soul that satisfied him, but when he received the Heart Eater's Beast Soul, he wondered why Long Chen hadn't cultivated it.

"I'm not in a hurry."

"Oh ..."

The person didn't say anything else, though based on the sigh, Long Chen guessed that he was being thought of as greedy.

"Here's your identity jade token back. You'll get two hundred and fifty Contribution Points for this sale."

Long Chen was happy to hear that it was a little more than he expected. After thanking the person, he headed to the place where the Soul Nourishing Fruit was sold. Indeed, there was one on display. "I want this Soul Nourishing Fruit," he said to an elegant girl who was in charge of the area.

The pretty girl had only seen him once before, which was the last time he came. She only had a faint impression of this person who needed Soul Nourishing Fruits.

However, he was much more famous now, so her attitude was much better than before. She smiled and said, "That will be nine Contribution Points. You mentioned you still needed Soul Nourishing Fruits last time, so I guessed you'd come."

When Long Chen saw that she was all smiles and very friendly, the prodigal son in him jumped out and grinned. "I came here not only for the Soul Nourishing Fruit, but also to see you."

"Tsk, you're asking for a beating." The girl giggled, covering her mouth.

Long Chen knew not to overdo it, so he asked, "May I ask if there are other soul-nourishing herbs at the Treasure Pavilion?"

The girl thought for a while, then she answered, "No, there aren't. Headquarters replenishes lacking herbs but won't add more. But I do remember that the second floor probably has a stalk of Soul Grass. It's an intermediate Black-tier spiritual herb."

“Soul Grass?”

Ling Xi grew excited and whispered into Long Chen’s ear, “Hey, bastard, Soul Grass is infinitely stronger than the Soul Nourishing Fruit. It’s almost an advanced Black-tier spiritual herb! One stalk of Soul Grass is as good as a hundred Soul Nourishing Fruits! If you get me one, I can fight an Earthly Core Realm cultivator ...”

When he heard that Ling Xi needed it, he asked, “Sister, may I ask how much the Soul Grass is?”

The girl shook her head. “Forget about the price. Only Earthly Core Realm cultivators can go up to the second floor.”

“Huh?”

Long Chen’s expression soured. He was frustrated with the strict hierarchical system of the Lingwu family.

“But if you really need it, seeing as you called me ‘Sister,’ I can go get it for you.”

“Thank you so much, Sister!” Long Chen was overjoyed.

“Don’t celebrate too early.” The pretty girl furrowed her brows and sighed. “Soul Grass is one of the most valuable intermediate Black-tier herbs, as it is very effective in improving a person’s comprehension abilities. It’s at least three hundred Contribution Points.”

Long Chen’s face fell when he heard the number. *I have only about two hundred and forty points right now. I need to go to the Heavenly Martial Realm again to get to three hundred. But Liu Yuan wants five hundred Contribution Points, so what do I do?*

He frowned deeply. “If you don’t need it urgently, you can come buy it when you have enough Contribution Points.”

Long Chen nodded and thanked her, then he returned to the Turquoise Willow Residence.

Whatever. I don’t care what that old man says. I don’t even know what I’ll do when I get that Category six Black-tier Beast Soul, so I might as well save Ling Xi first. If I encounter a powerful opponent and she insists on helping, she might accidentally get herself killed.

When he returned to his quarters, he first let Ling Xi cultivate the Soul Nourishing Fruit, then he took out a Blazing Thunder Crystal. “The Blazing Thunder Crystals gave me a huge boost in power. I have thirty-eight of them left; what will happen if I merge with all of them? A Level One Blazing Thunder Combat Body is the equivalent of an intermediate Black-tier Body Tempering technique, so what about Level Two?”

Qi surged within his body, and he merged with the crystal once more. To his surprise, merging with his eleventh crystal was much easier than the tenth.

His surging Qi suppressed the crystal, and after more than an hour of pain, he merged with his eleventh crystal without incident.

“Next, number twelve ...”

Time passed as he merged with the Blazing Thunder Crystals, and he no longer had any concept of night and day. By the time he merged with the fifteenth crystal, he didn't know how much time had passed.

It was getting more difficult now, so he had no choice but to activate the Dragon Soul Transformation. *After I merge with these crystals, I'll enter the Heavenly Martial Realm again and get Ling Xi the Soul Grass. When that's done, I'll go out and search for the Blood Saints.*

Long Chen had a clear goal in mind.

But when he was preparing to merge with the sixteenth crystal, there was a frantic knocking on his door. He opened it to find an anxious Gan Lin.

Long Chen had always thought of him as a calm, composed person, so he was shocked to see him so worried and asked hurriedly, "Senior Gan, what happened?"

Gan Lin quickly explained, "Long Chen, you have family here to see you. Get to the Martial Hall, quick."

"Family?"

Long Chen was shocked. He had to be referring to his family in Baiyang Town, and if the Yang family had come to Lingwu City, it had to be something serious!

Long Chen had a bad feeling and rushed to the Martial Hall. Soon, he saw a man who was already starting to approach old age—Yang Yuntian.

"Second Uncle, what happened?"

Yang Yuntian's heart ached. When he saw Long Chen, he said anxiously, "Chen'er, Lingqing was kidnapped by the Blood Saints!"

Chapter 120 - Shock

"What?!"

Long Chen froze. His breathing quickened and grew haggard, his eyes turning bloodshot.

"Chen'er, don't be brash! Wait for me to explain!"

Yang Yuntian was also anxious, but he knew that he needed Long Chen to keep his sanity.

Long Chen and Yang Lingqing were as close as siblings, so how was it possible for him to be calm when she was in trouble?

He was almost about to rush out the door.

Suppressing the killing intent in his heart and deep self-blame, Long Chen knew that he had to remain calm at a moment like this.

However, when he recalled the memories he shared with Yang Lingqing and thought about the animals that the Blood Saints were, his knuckles crackled and he clenched his fists.

Is it because of the Sanguine Sacrificial Ceremony ...

Violence flashed in his eyes.

Yang Yuntian felt a bit more reassured when he saw that Long Chen was calmer. His eyes were filled with pain when he said, "It's all my fault. I'm a useless father! I couldn't even protect my daughter ..."

Yang Yuntian had already lost a son, and when he thought about how he might lose his daughter, his mind went blank.

"Second Uncle, don't blame yourself. Tell me what happened in detail!" said Long Chen, biting his lip.

"Long Chen, were you involved in the killing of another two Grand Protectors?" asked Yang Yuntian, looking up.

Long Chen froze, thinking of Protector Qin and Protector Shi. Puzzled, he asked, "How did you know about that?"

Yang Yuntian shook his head. "That kidnapper said that two Grand Protectors died at Yanluo Town, and they discovered that it was done by the Lingwu family. Your name was involved, so he investigated your background and found that you were from Baiyang Town. As revenge, one of the Grand Protectors came to Baiyang Town, and he heard that Xue Yuanzi was also killed by you! So he attacked the Yang family!"

Long Chen didn't expect to be the cause of them finding out about Xue Yuanzi. Three Grand Protectors had died, and all three deaths were tied to Long Chen. It was no wonder they would target him!

He blamed himself even more now, and the only thing he wanted to do was rush to the Blood Saints immediately. But he knew he couldn't do that now. "Why did he kidnap Lingqing?"

Yang Yuntian lamented bitterly, "Father attained the Divine Core Realm with the help of the Ascension Fruit, so he just barely managed to fight the kidnapper, though he didn't have the upper hand. However, Lingqing was collateral damage during the fight. When the kidnapper saw that there were traces of green in her blood, he declared that Lingqing had a Dark Yin Body, something that's only seen once in a century, and took her away. Your grandfather had only just attained the Divine Core Realm, so he couldn't stop him ..."

"Dark Yin Body?!" Gan Lin felt a chill when he heard the phrase.

Long Chen hurriedly asked, "Has the person gone back to the Blood Saints?"

Yang Yuntian nodded, his face pale. "He said that Lingqing's Dark Yin Body was extremely important to their Sanguine Sacrificial Ceremony. Father has been active in the Southern Ling District these few days and has already gotten wind that the Sanguine Sacrificial Ceremony will happen the day after tomorrow!"

Long Chen's world collapsed! "Two days? The Sanguine Sacrificial Ceremony ..."

Fury and hatred surged within him as he glared daggers. He clenched his fists and gritted his teeth. "If anything happens to Lingqing, everyone in the whole Blood Saints will go down with her!"

Yang Yuntian panicked when he saw the sudden eruption of Qi, and he said hurriedly, “Chen’er, I didn’t here come here to see you act brashly and kill yourself by going to the Blood Saints. You’re now a member of the Lingwu family, so I wanted to ask if we could get help from them.”

The Great Priest of the Blood Saints was the grandson of Emperor Yuan, and Long Chen wasn’t even an inner family member. Who would take this risk to help him?

At least Liu Lan wouldn’t. Liu Yuan definitely wouldn’t!

“Second Uncle, let’s not talk about that. Ask Grandfather to come here. I’ll go to the Blood Saints now. I promise Lingqing will be back here, unharmed, in a day’s time!”

Long Chen’s tone was cold but filled with determination. *Dark Yin Body ... The Sanguine Sacrificial Ceremony requires virgin blood. If Lingqing really has the Dark Yin Body, she’ll definitely be drained of all her blood ...*

If that happened, Long Chen would go hysterical!

Even now, he could barely contain his rage.

Knowing of Long Chen’s temper and impulsive tendencies, Yang Yuntian had a bad feeling and scolded him sternly, “Chen’er, I didn’t come here to ask you to risk your life! You have a bright future, and it is your time to shine now that you’ve entered the Lingwu family. I don’t want to see you hurt because of Lingqing. It’s hell there with the Blood Saints. It’s not a place for a young teenager like you!”

Based on Yang Yuntian’s impression of him, Long Chen wasn’t even at the Human Core Realm yet, and the Blood Saints was filled with Earthly Core Realm masters. “Long Chen! Listen to me. Go ask the Lingwu family for help. We might stand a chance!”

While Yang Yuntian was speaking, Liu Lan had coincidentally entered. She walked in with an icy expression, and Gan Lin quickly bowed to her. “Madam Administrator!”

When Yang Yuntian heard her title, he was shocked.

He knew that an administrator was the head of the Turquoise Willow Residence and that she was at least at the Earthly Core Realm. He quickly suppressed his surging emotions and greeted Liu Lan respectfully. “Greetings, Madam Administrator. I am Yang Yuntian.”

Liu Lan merely nodded and turned to Long Chen. By now, Long Chen was already glaring at her with huge killing intent.

Yang Yuntian panicked when he saw the huge disrespect in Long Chen’s eyes, and he wanted to tell the boy to cease. To his surprise, Long Chen asked her coldly, “Administrator Liu, didn’t you say you’d keep tabs on the Blood Saints? That you’d keep me updated on their activities?”

The dissatisfaction in his tone was very clear, and even an outsider like Yang Yuntian could hear it. He quickly pulled Long Chen back and said apologetically, “Madam Administrator, my nephew is young and doesn’t know better. I hope you won’t take it to heart!”

Liu Lan’s gaze remained calm. She didn’t even look at Yang Yuntian—her eyes remained on Long Chen. She was surprised by this incident too.

She said flatly, “It was only a Grand Protector visiting Baiyang Town. I’ve been busy with the Heaven Martial Realm training exercise, so of course I didn’t notice it. Also, Long Chen, didn’t I already ask you to give up on fighting the Blood Saints? Don’t you know it’ll only get you killed? If you don’t deal with it well, it’ll cause your entire family to die tragic deaths!”

Long Chen was not intimidated. He merely smirked and said, “Alright, I don’t want to talk to you about the matter of responsibility. I only have one question: my cousin has been kidnapped and I’m going to go there. Are you guys going to help or not?”

There was not a hint of respect in his tone.

Based on Yang Yuntian’s understanding, Administrator Liu should have killed Long Chen immediately for speaking like that. But to his surprise, based on how she had responded, she seemed to take him seriously?

Yang Yuntian watched their conflict in a daze, fear slowly creeping into him. He really wanted to know how powerful Long Chen was right now.

Unless ... Has he already attained the Human Core Realm in just a little over a month?

Recalling that Long Chen had an Ascension Fruit, he felt that it was very much possible.

Liu Lan hesitated for a moment, then she shook her head. “Forget about me; even my father would not agree to let the Turquoise Sun Hall undertake such a huge risk over your private matters! Also, Long Chen, you are no match for the Blood Saints. I forbid you from going!”

“What right do you have to stop me?!”

Long Chen’s hopes for the Lingwu family had mostly disappeared by now. When he heard that Liu Lan was now forbidding him, he smirked.

“You!”

Despite her composure, her temper flared when she was challenged by Long Chen. She shuddered lightly and glared fiercely.

Yang Yuntian panicked. Long Chen had angered Administrator Liu! Long Chen might die here before they could go to the Blood Saints to save Yang Lingqing.

He subtly gestured to Long Chen, then said as if to flatter Administrator Liu, “Madam Administrator, Chen’er doesn’t know any better and speaks without thinking. Please do not take it to heart. We’ll deal with the Blood Saints ourselves, and we’ll leave right now. Will that be alright?”

Long Chen was extremely irritated by Yang Yuntian’s words. He quickly pulled Yang Yuntian behind him and said, “You don’t have to flatter her. What has she done to deserve such treatment?”

Glaring coldly at Administrator Liu and ignoring Yang Yuntian’s astonished glare, he said darkly, “My cousin is in enemy hands right now, and you want me to hide here. Let me ask you this: how am I any different from an animal if I do that? And if you’re the kind of person that allows your family to die, what makes you any different from an animal?!”

“Long Chen, don’t you be ridiculous!”

Liu Lan reddened with rage when she heard him say the word “animal.” However, everything he had said made sense and she couldn’t refute him.

“How am I being ridiculous?” Long Chen smirked, then he gestured to Yang Yuntian. “If the Lingwu family will chase me out for going to rescue my cousin, then I’m not staying! Second Uncle, let’s go!”

Then, under Liu Lan’s furious glare, he circled around her and left through the door.

“Long Chen, don’t blame me if you die!”

“My death is none of your business!”

Yang Yuntian’s mind was in a muddle when he heard the conversation.

Did he really just speak to an administrator like that ... How powerful is Chen’er ...