

## War God 51

### Chapter 51 - Mysterious Steel Token

Long Chen felt the heat of the ground dissipate rapidly now that the fire was gone.

The two men were still locked in battle. They started fighting viciously after learning that the steel token was the source of the mysterious fire.

“Chen Xiongzhou, you must be out of your mind! I’ve already told you I will share the rewards if you let me take the treasure!”

“You think I’m an idiot? You would’ve killed me the moment it was in your hands. I can tell the steel token is not an ordinary treasure just from looking at that fire just now!”

“Fine! Since you want to die so much, I will grant you a swift death! Don’t blame me for doing this.

“Evil Rushing Fist!”

The two Eighth Draconic Stage cultivators clashed and used every technique in their arsenal in their deathmatch.

Seeing their sudden shift in behavior, Long Chen recalled what the Yang patriarch had told him. *In this world where power reigns supreme, one would pay the price for trusting their comrades too much. Naturally, this does not apply to those with genuine comradeship.*

Their fight was intense. Both were at the Eighth Draconic Stage and were much more versed in combat than Bai Zhanxiong. Thankfully, they were in the Desolate Beastland, where there wasn’t much for them to destroy. Otherwise, the aftermath of their fight would be devastating!

Both of them were equally matched in terms of strength, so the victor would ultimately be decided by who had the faster reaction speed. Feng Mingyang was more agile than Chen Xiongzhou, so he became the victor after finishing his “brother” off with a punch. Though he had won, he came out of it covered in blood and severe injuries.

Feng Mingyang's eyes shone with greed when he thought back on how he had defeated Chen Xiongzhou and got the right to claim the mysterious steel token.

“Chen Xiongzhou, I told you not to compete with me for the treasure. Don’t worry, the steel token is mine now that you are dead! I will improve my cultivation and take care of your lovely wife. I remember your wife being prettier than mine.”

He spat on Chen Xiongzhou’s corpse and was surprised to see blood mixed in his saliva. He glared at his friend one more time before hobbling to the mysterious steel token.

His excitement rose when he recalled how powerful the fire emanated from the steel token was!

“He’s a human-shaped piece of garbage! Not only did he kill his sworn brother over a treasure but he even wants to humiliate his wife. Long Chen!”

Ling Xi was infuriated upon seeing Feng Mingyang's behavior, and she shot him a look filled with disgust

Even Ling Xi wanted him to get rid of Feng Mingyang. Long Chen was planning to do so in the first place, and he had already transformed into his dragon form. He disappeared like a red whirlwind, his strength higher than Feng Mingyang's. Then he suddenly reappeared in front of the traitorous man, blocking him from approaching the steel token. Feng Mingyang would have to go through him to get the treasure. "A Beast Warrior?!"

Feng Mingyang was shocked, but greed clouded his judgment. Long Chen was the only obstacle standing between him and the steel token he had fought hard to obtain. His eyes filled with frenzy, and he tried to attack Long Chen even though he was seriously injured.

"You are heavily injured and yet you think you can win against me?"

Long Chen smirked. His powerful Dragon Soul Transformation had increased his speed tremendously, making him more agile than Feng Mingyang. The latter was dragging his injured body just a few meters away and was about to use his technique before Long Chen sent him flying with a single punch.

Feng Mingyang had already sustained grave internal injuries, so Long Chen's attack almost made him collapse. He spat blood and fell onto the ground, unable to get up while his breath became ragged.

Long Chen knew Feng Mingyang was mortally wounded now, and he was sure to die on that very spot if no one came to his rescue. But the only other person around was the one who had injured him, so why would Long Chen save him?

Feng Mingyang struggled to keep his eyes open on the verge of death. He glared at Long Chen approaching him and unrelentingly said, "You... Who are you?"

Noticing the strong sense of dissatisfaction in his eyes, Long Chen thought about it. He had indeed been playing the role of a weakling for too long. He chuckled and transformed back.

Feng Mingyang was astonished when he saw Long Chen's true form, then he became unrelenting once more. He soon died from shortness of breath due to the extreme mood swings.

Long Chen stared at his corpse and smiled coldly. "You guys wanted to kill me, but I ended up killing you. Don't blame me for your misfortune."

"Hey, he gave us a Dream Lingzhi Mushroom before. Do you think it's appropriate to just kill him like that?" Ling Xi doubted herself.

"Not every good deed needs to be rewarded, especially if said deed was performed by someone like him. He tried to shoo us off by giving us a little treat so I wouldn't compete with them for the treasure. Think of it as a trade; there's nothing good nor bad about it since both parties benefit."

Ling Xi became gloomy. "Then are we making a trade? I rescued you twice and now you are helping me to search for the Dream Lingzhi Mushroom."

Long Chen was stunned and unhappily said, "Do you have a donkey brain or something?"

“No, you’re the one with the donkey brain!”

“Alright... I don’t want to argue with you, but Xiao Xi...”

Staring at his shoulder, where the miniature Ling Xi enveloped in light and mist stood, Long Chen said calmly, “If this is a trade, I hope it will go on forever and never end.”

Ling Xi understood what he meant and blushed. She didn’t know whether her cheeks were flushed from anger or embarrassment.

Long Chen was already standing near the steel token. Currently, it was not displaying any abnormal signs and looked just like a regular token. He picked up a stone and threw it at the mysterious treasure.

Seeing nothing happen, he carefully walked over and touched the steel token. He was surprised by how cold it was.

Long Chen had expected it to be scalding based on the amount of fire it had emanated before.

He carefully inspected the steel token. Other than the engraving of a burning sun, it had no interesting features.

“Ling Xi, do you know what this is? Anything strange about it?”

Ling Xi frowned and circled the steel token before she shook her head. “I’m not sure. There’s a large amount of energy contained within it, but it’s been sealed. However, it resembles the inheritance keys made by experts from the Middle Ages.”

“The Middle Ages? Do you mean the period after the Ancient Ages, where numerous experts established their sects and households? I’ve heard that they left a lot of inheritances for their descendants. Is this true?”

“It’s true, but I’m just guessing here. Also, this is most likely just a key and not the treasure itself. It doesn’t have much use yet, so it’s better to hide it and return to the Yang family estate soon.”

Long Chen nodded and threw the steel token into his Universe Pouch. He was just about to walk away when he saw Chen Xiongzhou’s and Feng Mingyang’s corpses. Both of them had just died and their blood was still fresh. Long Chen was still in his dragon form when he felt the blood in him boiling. His eyes turned red as if he had just spotted a gourmet meal in front of him.

“What’s wrong?”

Ling Xi was worried when she saw him in a daze.

“Since they are dead, it’s a waste to not consume their blood. If I were to use Blood Transmutation, my strength would increase again...”

Long Chen was straining his voice as if he was restraining himself, but he couldn’t stop himself from uttering those words.

His vision was filled with blood-red images of the dragon within him. It was howling in rage with its mouth wide open, pushing Long Chen to use Blood Transmutation ...

Sensing that something was wrong, Ling Xi suddenly pulled the Ling Xi Sword and hurt Long Chen, waking him up from the trance. She said in a serious tone, “Hey, I need you to listen to me...”

Long Chen didn't know what had happened. He had suddenly fallen into a daze when he saw the corpses, his body entering hunger mode with food in front of him. If it wasn't for Ling Xi, he might've used Blood Transmutation on both Chen Xiongzhou and Feng Mingyang!

Ever since he obtained the Blood Transmutation technique, he had always felt that it was morally wrong to use it on another person. It was a technique that killed someone while increasing his gains. The technique was too brutal!

He had used it on Bai Zhanxiong as an exception because Long Chen hated him to the core.

Morally speaking, Long Chen objected to the idea of draining someone's blood to empower himself. It would spark public outrage if it became known. However, he had no qualms about using it on beasts.

“I don't know what kind of dragon left the Inherited Blood Essence, but it must have belonged to one of the evil dragons. Only an evil dragon would use such a horrible technique. It's fine if you use it around Baiyang Town since there are no stronger experts to maintain the order, but it's best if you don't use it in public in a larger town. The cultivators over there might cripple you and tell others that they were removing the root of evil as justification. Also, I have no idea how it will affect you mentally the more you use it. Dragons related to blood are always filled with killing intent and massacre. I'm afraid you might lose yourself in the future, so please be careful...”

Ling Xi's words were like a truth bomb to Long Chen.

He was initially excited to learn the Blood Transmutation technique, and he had massacred the Underground Blood Lizards to test it out. But he had never considered the possibility of it affecting him mentally. Thinking back, if he had killed everything that crossed his path to improve himself, he might've lost his mind to the killing intent.

The path of cultivation heavily emphasized gradual improvements. Techniques that increased the user's strength in a short amount of time were usually unstable. Long Chen decided that he would use Blood Transmutation sparingly. There are many methods to improve himself, so he didn't have to rely on this one exclusively.

“I can continue growing stronger at the same pace even if I use Blood Transmutation sparingly!”

Ling Xi's worries dissipated when she saw him change his mind. “That's good. Let's go back to Baiyang Town. While I estimated that the Ascension Fruits would mature in eight days, there's always some deviation...”

Long Chen swore so loudly that his voice was heard throughout Burning Heaven Valley.

Chapter 52 - The Dragon's Reverse Scale

It took Long Chen one whole day to run from Burning Heaven Valley back to the Desolate Mountains.

He sighed in relief when he saw that no changes or strange phenomena had occurred in the Desolate Mountains. It meant that the Ascension Fruits were still unripe and the war between the Bai and Yang families hadn't started yet.

“Luckily, the Ascension Fruits are still unripe. Xiao Xi, please don't leave out important details like this again. Please just tell me if you are unsure.”

“Alright, alright. I will do so next time, so don't nag me anymore!”

My family must be worried about me for going out at this moment. The Ascension Fruit could ripen at any moment, so I need to come up with a plan with the Yang patriarch as soon as possible.

Long Chen soon entered Baiyang Town. There weren't as many people on the street as before. While it was peaceful, he knew this was the calm before the storm.

Even though the Yang family had the right to rule over Baiyang Town, the Bai family still had two Ninth Draconic Stage cultivators, making them slightly stronger than the Yang family.

The Bai family had not admitted defeat, and everyone in town knew the story of how the two sworn brothers had become sworn enemies. Now that the people from the Lingwu family were gone, the Bai family would most likely attack the Yang family.

No one dared to leave their homes at this point, leaving the entire town in calm silence.

Long Chen soon arrived at the entrance of the Yang family's estate. There were only a few dozen guards stationed at the entrance, all of whom looked very nervous. Long Chen had a bad feeling and quickly made his way inside.

One of the guards spotted him and ordered someone to relay the news of Long Chen's return to the Yang patriarch. The other guards came up to Long Chen. “Young master Chen, the patriarch has ordered for you to find him immediately upon your return.”

The guard's nervous face spawned an uneasy feeling in Long Chen's heart. He ran into the Yang family estate and soon met up with the Yang patriarch and the family members who had come to greet him. One look at the Yang patriarch's gloomy face was all Long Chen needed to know that something was wrong. He quickly scanned the crowd and realized Yang Xueqing was missing! The rest of his family members were filled with sadness too.

“Grandfather, where is my mother?!”

The Yang patriarch grabbed Long Chen's arm after he saw anger blooming on his face. The Yang patriarch sat him down on a stone bench and said in a serious tone, “Chen'er, don't be rash now. There is still a way to salvage the situation. You have to listen to me calmly ...”

Long Chen's eyes slowly grew red. Based on the way the Yang patriarch was acting, something had indeed happened to his mother!

It was true that he had some disagreements with her, but he didn't allow anyone to hurt her!

Hearing that there was a chance to turn things around, Long Chen calmed down. “Grandfather, please tell me. I'm not rash. Tell me everything and I will listen to your suggestions on our next course of action.”

The Yang patriarch nodded, his face filled with sadness and anger too. "Yesterday, Xueqing ran out of the town alone and was discovered by the two elders of the Bai family. She was captured and is currently in the Bai family estate! But don't worry, they didn't kill her immediately, so there's still a chance she's alive. Chen'er, I'm so useless. I went to the Bai family estate and fought with the two brothers, but I couldn't win against them alone! However, I'm sure your mother is safe at the very least."

So that's what happened

He was just about to forgive his mother and protect her from here onwards, but to think she was kidnapped the moment Long Chen left the town for a bit. This was an insult to him!

Ever since Long Chen had killed Bai Zhanxiong, Yang Xueqing started paying Long Qinglan's grave visits from time to time. Long Chen had thought it was fine, but to think she was captured while doing that!

You captured my mother, but you didn't kill her? I don't know what the Bai family is thinking, but I will kill all of them if my mother has a single scratch on her!

The anger in Long Chen's heart slowly rose when he thought about his mother. His face slowly grew red in rage, and the entire Yang family became silent when they noticed this.

No! My mother is in their hands and I detest the Bai family! Something might happen to her if I waste even a second. There's no way I could bring her back to life even if I killed the entire Bai family!

Long Chen suddenly raised his head and stared at the Yang patriarch. "Grandfather, my mother was captured because I was not here. This is my fault! Now that I'm here, let's go assault the Bai family!"

The Yang patriarch had the same idea. If they wanted to obtain the Ascension Fruits, they needed to fight with the Bai family. Even though he was worried Long Chen might not be strong enough to fight against Bai Li, he was still worried about his daughter. "Chen'er, let's go together. I want to see how they will fight back against the two of us! Qingxuan, guard the Yang estate. You will bear full responsibility if something happens to our family!"

The Yang patriarch and Long Chen were going to attack the Bai family estate. This meant that the Yang family estate was defenseless. Yang Qingxuan was afraid something would happen to them and wanted everyone to follow them, but he had to consider the bigger picture. Yang Qingxuan nodded. Long Chen and the Yang patriarch wasted no time as they ran out.

Everyone in the Yang family clutched their hands and stared at the two disappearing in the distance.

Just then, Yang Yuntian was still frowning when he bitterly said to Yang Qingxuan, "Brother, the two elders of the Bai family are sixty years older than Long Chen. That's sixty years of battle experience. Do you think he will be able to fight them? Is the Yang family truly done for this time?"

Yang Qingxuan shook his head. "I don't know. It is up to the will of the heavens now ..."

Yang Wu, Yang Lingyue, and everyone else paled at their words. All of them started discussing their plans, while some of them started sobbing.

Yang Lingqing was still staring in the direction Long Chen had run off to. Based on how nervous he was, it was clear Long Chen still cared for his mother. Yang Lingqing was naturally happy that they could mend their relationship.

She silently waited for Long Chen to bring Yang Xueqing back unharmed.

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Long Chen's blood was circulating rapidly. Even the Yang patriarch could feel the murderous intent leaking from him, which left him somewhat terrified.

“Chen'er, your mother is most likely still fine. Please calm down and don't act recklessly. You would regret it if she was harmed because of your recklessness.”

Long Chen understood this, but the anger and worry in his heart would not disappear after merely hearing a few words.

He nodded. “Don't worry, Grandfather, I'm fine. But I'm going to kill the Bai family this time!”

The Yang patriarch didn't respond, and they soon arrived at the Bai family estate. Long Chen was surprised to find no guards at the entrance. He then broke through the wooden gates and found that the estate was completely empty.

“Long Chen, there is no need to search anymore. There's no one here ...”

Long Chen had already run around the Bai family estate once when Ling Xi told him that.

The Yang patriarch was gloomy when he found no one too. “The entire Bai family has run off! Chen'er, what do you think they are planning to do?”

Long Chen forcefully suppressed his anger and attempted to calm down so he could think clearly, but every time he recalled the disgusting Bai family and how Yang Xueqing might be in danger, the killing intent in his heart continued to grow!

He had sworn to himself that he would protect her, but now he had failed! He felt extremely frustrated with himself! He grew to hate the Bai family even more!

I told them that they should never anger me, or all of them would die by my hand! Each and every one of them will have a death worse than Bai Zhanxiong's!

Sensing Long Chen's anger, the Yang patriarch didn't know if he should be happy or angry too. He was happy because the relationship between the son and mother was mended, but he was angry because the Bai family had separated them just as they were about to reconcile!

Long Chen finally calmed down enough to think. “The Bai family must've run off because they were afraid I would kill them or use them as hostages when I returned. But they would never give up the Ascension Fruit, so the strongest members of their family must've gone to the Desolate Mountains. Grandfather, we need to go there now!”

The Yang patriarch felt that the suggestion was reasonable. The two of them were about to head out when a rainbow light exploded from the mountains. Then a fragrance blanketed the entire Desolate Mountains and even the outskirts of Baiyang Town!

“Long Chen! The Ascension Fruit has ripened prematurely! Go now, it will ripen very soon after the strange phenomena!”

“The Ascension Fruit?”

Long Chen’s eyes glittered with longing.

“If my deductions are right, they are trying to use my mother as a hostage to obtain the Ascension Fruit.”

Long Chen’s words made the Yang patriarch frown. “The Bai family hate us from the bottom of their hearts. There’s indeed no reason to keep her alive. Maybe it’s as you said, they want to keep her hostage to threaten us when the Ascension Fruit has ripened ... They know Yang Xueqing is important to us ...”

“So they are using my mother as a hostage to threaten me?”

Long Chen’s killing intent almost caused him to fall into a frenzy when he thought about Yang Xieqing. Ling Xi recalled a proverb when she felt his dense killing intent seeping out: Those who touched a dragon’s reverse scale would die!

Long Chen was a Dragon Warrior, and he had even obtained the Inherited Blood Essence belonging to one of the Ancient Dragon Ancestors. The Bai family had undoubtedly touched Long Chen’s reverse scale, causing him to be more angry than ever before!

Those who touched a dragon’s reverse scale would die!

Long Chen took a deep breath and ran towards the Great Desolate Mountains.

The Yang patriarch followed behind and witnessed Long Chen’s killing intent increasing to the brink of exploding. He was happy that Long Chen cared so much for his mother. Still, the Yang patriarch was worried that the Bai family might use Yang Xueqing to threaten them. His worries increased while he frowned ...

“I’m not sure if Chen’er can defeat Bai Li, but now that the Bai family has Yang Xueqing as their hostage, the Yang family might be doomed. Is this the end for us?”

Chapter 53 – Birth of the Ascension Fruit!

Long Chen had just returned to Baiyang Town from the Desolate Mountains, but now he was heading back in once more. This time, he entered the mountains filled with killing intent. “Mother, I’m coming for you ...”

The fragrance of the Ascension Fruit had spread across the entire mountain range. People started to walk out of their rooms in Baiyang Town, sniffing the thick scent in confusion. They felt energized after merely a few breaths.

The average person would find it very difficult to identify the source of the smell, but some of the more capable ones slowly caught on.

Everyone was still gathered in the Yang residence, waiting for Long Chen and the Yang patriarch to return. However, when they saw the seven-colored light rays suddenly shooting out of the Desolate Mountains, Yang Qingxuan and Yang Yuntian both knew that the Ascension Fruit was ripening.



Yang Qingxuan turned pale.

The younger ones didn't know about the fruit, so they could only speculate among themselves. Meanwhile, Yang Qingxuan and Yang Yuntian walked over to a corner. Yang Yuntian said darkly, "The Ascension Fruit has ripened, and the two Bai geezers are probably not at home anymore. I don't think Father and Long Chen will find anyone at the residence."

Yang Qingxuan hadn't thought about this possibility, but after Yang Yuntian's reminder, he finally understood. He said bitterly, "So they didn't kill Xueqing because they wanted to threaten us during the fight for the Ascension Fruit? The Yang family is weaker than them, and we don't know how strong Chen'er is. If this goes on, the Yang family stands no chance ..."

Yang Yuntian clenched his teeth. "Big Brother, our family is now in crisis. Are we just going to wait here and do nothing? Although I'm not that strong, I don't want to wait to die without putting up a fight. From what I see, our family is done for. But we mustn't let the Yang family die. Let Wu'er take the old, the women, and the young out of Baiyang Town while we both fight. What do you think?"

Yang Qingxuan was torn. He looked at Yang Wu, Lingqing, and the rest. "You're right. We can die, but the Yang family must live on. We may be defeated today, but there will always be a chance for us to rise again if our children escape from Baiyang Town. Then they can avenge us!"

When Yang Yuntian saw that the usually mindful Yang Qingxuan had agreed to his risky idea, he knew that he was showing confidence in him. He looked at the Yang residence and sighed. "I didn't expect our family to end up losing because of the Ascension Fruit. Thank goodness Father has stored all the Yang assets in the Universe Pouch. With it, Wu'er and the rest will be able to grow quickly. They will be able to avenge us in ten years!"

Seeing that Yang Yuntian had accepted the possibility of death, Yang Qingxuan patted his shoulder and sighed. "Second Brother, it looks like I've underestimated you all these years. You're more courageous than I am. I only thought of sitting here, waiting for death to arrive. Father and Long Chen should have entered the Desolate Mountains by now, and the fight might not last long. We must move quickly! But ... I need to add on to what you said."

"What?" Yang Yuntian froze.

Yang Qingxuan looked out towards the mountains and said, "The most impressive prodigy of the Yang family isn't Wu'er, it's Chen'er. When we join the fight, our main goal will be to hold Chen'er's opponent off so he can escape and reunite with Wu'er and the rest. With him there, they will avenge us in five years!"

When Yang Yuntian heard Long Chen's name, he sighed. "I'll admit you're right. He's extraordinarily talented. It's unfortunate that he's just too young, or we wouldn't lose this battle!"

Yang Yuntian sighed while Yang Qingxuan gathered Yang Wu, Yang Lingyue, and Yang Lingqing to instruct them to leave Baiyang Town.

Yang Qingxuan teared up while looking at his son, who was slowly becoming an adult. He patted Yang Wu's shoulder, choking a little. "How time flies, Wu'er. You're already twenty-two, it's time for you to take on some responsibilities. Listen, I'm giving you an important task ..."

The three siblings looked at each other, unsure of what Yang Qingxuan was going to say.

Looking at their young, energetic faces, Yang Yuntian pursed his lips and teared up. He knew these teenagers would have a tough road ahead ...

“All three of you will take on an extremely important job today. If anything happens, you’ll be responsible!

“The task is to relocate all the old, young, and weak of the Yang family to ...”

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The seven-colored rays served as a clear beacon for Long Chen and the Yang patriarch to follow. They quickly rushed into the Desolate Mountains and made their way directly to the valley that contained the Ascension Fruit!

They didn’t know that Yang Qingxuan and Yang Yuntian were currently arranging to relocate the family, but the patriarch would be very proud if he found out.

He recognized Long Chen’s talent, but the boy was still too young. What he needed was time to grow, but he had been thrown into a bloody conflict initiated by the older generation.

The older family members should’ve been the ones fighting a risky battle like this. Long Chen needed to nurture his potential as much as possible to be able to become the ultimate master. At that point, he would get to defeat the Bai family instead of dying here.

But Long Chen was currently seething with rage, and the Yang patriarch knew he could do nothing to stop him. He could only advise in exasperation, “Chen’er, we must act according to the situation. Do not be impulsive. Being impulsive will just hurt you and more so, your mother!”

Long Chen nodded and said, “Don’t worry, Grandfather. I will keep a level head.”

By the time he finished the sentence, he had calmed down.

When the patriarch heard that Long Chen’s tone was much calmer, he sighed in relief. However, he didn’t notice the coldness in his eyes.

The Yang patriarch was moved by this stubborn but strong grandson of his, and he respected him greatly at the same time. He privately decided that if this turned out to be a fatal trap, he would be willing to sacrifice his own life for Long Chen to live on.

Very soon, they arrived at the edge of the valley. Long Chen spotted the Ascension Fruit tree, emitting colorful light within a cave deep in the valley. The rays were mainly coming from three spots on the tree, which were the three fruits. “The fruits will ripen soon. Once they are ready, the tree will wither and turn to dust. The tree is already beginning to wither, so I think it’s going to happen very soon.” Ling Xi was extremely anxious, her voice trembling.

To be honest, Ling Xi was furious when she heard that the Bai family had kidnapped Yang Xueqing. The Bai family had previously betrayed them so viciously, and now they were resorting to such lowly tactics! Ling Xi judged them with great contempt. Also, her emotions were tied to Long Chen’s by now, and she could deeply feel the coldness and rage coming from his soul. “You old bastards! Long Chen will teach you a lesson today! He’ll beat you up good!” Ling Xi clenched her fist tight inside the Ling Xi Sword.

When they walked into the valley, Long Chen could clearly see everything in the cave. The people inside saw Long Chen and the Yang patriarch too. Their gazes turned cold and they stood up.

Long Chen only saw Bai Sheng and Bai Li. The others weren't there; Long Chen wasn't sure where the Bai family had hidden them.

But this was good too. If Bai Zhanfeng and Bai Zhanlong were here, they would have two more people on their end, which would complicate matters.

But Long Chen was puzzled. *Weren't the two Bai cowards going to get help from the Blood Saints?* But they obviously hadn't. Long Chen speculated that the Bai family was confident in winning after kidnapping Yang Xueqing, and so they hadn't bothered to get the Blood Saints to avoid having to distribute the fruits.

Every Ascension Fruit was precious. The Bai family wouldn't want to give them away if it wasn't necessary.

Long Chen spotted Yang Xueqing behind the Ascension Fruit tree. Her hair was a mess and she was leaning against the cave wall. She was tied up with a metal chain made of a special material, her hands so tightly bound there were red marks underneath.

At least Yang Xueqing was still conscious. It meant she wasn't hurt too badly. When she saw Long Chen and the Yang patriarch approaching, her eyes reddened.

The two Bai brothers sneered when they spotted the duo. They hated the Yang family to the bone, especially Long Chen! They had to kill Long Chen today no matter the cost!

They had caught Yang Xueqing without killing her because it would make killing Long Chen easier!

Long Chen had foiled their detailed plan before, so this time, the Bai family was fully prepared to kill the Yang family, take over Baiyang Town, and get the ripened Ascension Fruits! *If I still can't kill you both with this much preparation, my entire life has amounted to nothing! Although the fruit ripened slightly ahead of schedule, it won't affect my plans to kill you both,* thought Bai Sheng.

When Bai Sheng saw Long Chen and the Yang patriarch making their way over, he gestured behind him and said in a low voice, "We will put an end to these two pieces of trash!"

His voice was so low that not even Ling Xi could hear him. Bai Li and Bai Sheng looked at each other and then walked towards Long Chen and the Yang patriarch. *There is no doubt that you will fall to my two-layered plan. Xiong'er, Yun'er, your father shall avenge you today! Shichen, Shiji, your grandfather will avenge you two today too!*

I didn't have to prepare this much, as Bai Li and I will be enough to beat you two, but the hatred in my heart will not allow me to risk failure!

Yang Cangqiong, die ...

Chapter 54 - Chopping Heads!

It was already noon. Although it was autumn, the sun was burning hot.

A group of people were trekking on a forest trail southeast of Baiyang Town. A few large but simple carriages carrying luggage were being pulled alongside them. Most of the people in the group were

elderly, children, or women, and all of them looked pale. “Mother, why are we leaving Baiyang Town?”

“I don’t want to go to Grandmother’s house ... Sob ...”

A few kids were throwing tantrums, but the adults dragged them on and they continued walking begrudgingly.

Then, the group stopped suddenly. The two middle-aged men with bloodshot eyes leading the group in front turned around. They were Yang Qingxuan and Yang Yuntian.

Behind them were Yang Wu, Yang Lingyue, and Yang Lingqing.

They were still on guard against the Bai family, so they hadn’t made a sound since leaving Baiyang Town.

Yang Qingxuan and Yang Yuntian looked at the three of them. Yang Yuntian clenched his teeth and said, “All three of you listen up. If you fail to keep the Yang blood alive, I will haunt you when I become a ghost!”

Yang Wu was maintaining his composure, but Yang Lingyue and Lingqing were crying uncontrollably. The two girls looked into their fathers’ bloodshot eyes, thinking about all the things they had said. They knew the two men were heading towards their deaths.

When they thought about the Yang family’s future and the responsibilities on their shoulders, their hearts instantly filled with bitterness and sorrow.

They had lived carefree lives in the Yang family since young. No one had expected such a huge misfortune to befall them all of a sudden. These three young men and women had no choice but to lead their family to escape.

All of the strongest family members had to go fight the enemy, even if it meant certain death. How could the teenagers bear such a pitiful farewell when they knew what the outcome was going to be?

Although Yang Qingxuan hadn’t said anything, the women already had some inkling about the fight between the Bai and Yang families. Many were sobbing softly as they thought about all the grave end to the conflict, though it quickly turned into heavy crying. “Why are you crying? I’ll kill you if you don’t stop!”

When Yang Yuntian saw how pitiful their morale was, his solemn gaze swept across the group. Although he was not very powerful, he was a dignified man. The women and children were very afraid of him. After this outburst, they dared not cry anymore, but they knew in their hearts that the Yang family was done for.

Compared to the Bai family, who had always been the strongest in Baiyang Town, the truth was that they were weaker.

When Yang Qingxuan saw that everyone had quietened down, he said flatly, “Don’t overthink it. We moved you all out of Baiyang Town so that you will be safer, which will allow us to fully focus on the fight. It doesn’t mean we have lost! We will come to find you as soon as we have defeated that psychotic bastard!”

“You will all listen to Yang Wu, Yang Lingqing, and Lingyue. If you do not listen to their instructions and cause any delays, you will face my wrath! I need to go now. Second Brother, let’s go!” After giving his instructions, Yang Qingxuan looked at the three siblings and nodded. He then said softly, “Wu’er, Yue’er, Qing’er, the future of the Yang family is in your hands. But I believe you will do well because you are children of the Yang family and you were all raised well!”

Yang Wu nodded tearfully. “Father, don’t worry about us. I will do my best, even if it costs me my life. But you must promise me you’ll come back alive ...”

“Father, I can’t live without you ...” Yang Lingyue was pale with grief.

Yang Lingqing looked at Yang Yuntian, then at Yang Qingxuan. Although she felt great sorrow, there was still deep confidence in her eyes. Because there was one person she knew who would never let the Yang family suffer.

Although she had no proof, she had faith. That teenager had surprised her many times, doing things she never thought possible.

As they were leaving, Yang Qingxuan suddenly turned to Yang Wu. “If Long Chen returns, listen to his instructions. But if he gets impulsive, you must stop him even if it costs you your life!”

Before Yang Wu could respond, Yang Qingxuan and Yang Yuntian disappeared. Yang Wu, Yang Lingyue, and Yang Lingqing looked at each other bitterly, feeling great fear and helplessness inside. “Let’s go. We must live on.”

Regaining his composure, Yang Wu clenched his teeth and commanded the group to proceed. Yang Lingyue and Lingqing could only clench their teeth and hold on too, despite the helplessness and pain they felt. “O heavens, please protect the Yang family. Please watch over my grandfather, my father, and my uncle. Please watch over ... him ...”

The Yang family traveled in an orderly fashion under the leadership of the three young Yangs. When they were gone, two shadows leaped down from the trees and smirked. “Is the Yang family letting their young escape? So that’s why the Bai family hired more than ten of us to guard Baiyang Town. Come, let’s report this to the Bai family. When Bai Zhanlong and the rest arrive, these people will be wiped out!”

“I heard that the Bai patriarch gave Bai Shichen and Bai Shiji the only two advanced spiritual medicines in the family inventory so Bai Shichen could fully recover and become a man again. He’s also almost at the Eighth Draconic Stage. Even Bai Shiji’s extremely severe injuries have healed ...”

“Do you see that? That’s Yang Lingqing walking with the group. Young master Bai Shichen was interested in her, I think ...”

“I wonder if he still likes her ...”

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When he saw Yang Xueqing, Long Chen forcefully suppressed his boiling temper and did his best to return his breathing to normal. He could only fully utilize his abilities in this calm state.

Both Long Chen and the Yang patriarch were facing Bai Sheng and Bai Li directly as both sides approached each other. “Chen’er, why do you think they captured Xueqing but did not hurt her? And they’re still not using her to threaten us, why?”

Long Chen had the same thought too, but he grinned when he came up with the answer. “I guess they’re just very confident in themselves. They will probably only use my mother if they lose. But with her so near, would I even give them the chance to?”

“Chen’er, can you take on Bai Li?”

Long Chen looked at the old man slowly approaching with blazing eyes. He was obviously a man who had weathered thousands of battles. Long Chen finally found an outlet for his hatred and rage in the Bai patriarch’s younger brother, Bai Li. When the Yang patriarch asked the question, Long Chen suddenly charged at Bai Li without a word!

When they saw Long Chen make the first move, the tension in the air exploded into violence. Long Chen led Bai Li away while the Yang patriarch and Bai Sheng, the lifelong-brothers-turned-sworn-enemies duo, engaged in an intense battle once more!

Long Chen had only taken one hit from Bai Li, but he felt completely suppressed by his opponent’s powerful Qi and stumbled backwards from the force. Bai Shi was first shocked by Long Chen’s reaction, then he burst into laughter. “How dare you act like you’re my equal when your cultivation level is so low! You must be dreaming. I’ve got to stop you from spreading the lies that you’re some sort of prodigy, so I have no choice but to kill you today!”

The Yang patriarch lost confidence too when he saw how easily Long Chen was thrown backwards by Bai Li’s attack. But after Long Chen was forced back, he suddenly looked up and smirked. “It was just *one* good punch. What’s there to be so smug about? Looks like the cultivators of the Bai family are only as strong as common peasants. As for killing, let’s see whose head gets chopped off first!”

As he spoke, Long Chen started his Dragon Soul Transformation. They were shocked when they saw him do this at the Yang residence, but the effect was much more intense at close range. When the Bai patriarch saw the red dragon scales and bony spines on Long Chen’s body, it triggered the memory of his son’s death and the fire of rage erupted within him! “Second Brother, remember this: you must avenge my son!”

Bai Li eyed the blood-red scales that covered Long Chen’s body, first in shock, then in excitement as he licked his lips. “So it’s true that you’re a Beast Warrior. But even the most powerful Beast Warriors only get a boost of one stage after transformation. I have broken through the Heavenly Dragon Vein; you won’t believe how powerful I am ...

“Don’t worry, Big Brother! This kid is a piece of cake to me! He may have transformed, but it looks like his Beast Soul Transformation isn’t complete. I can’t even tell what beast he cultivated. If he isn’t even up to par with a true Beast Warrior, how could he escape me?”

Although the Yang patriarch still had questions about Long Chen's transformation, he was locked in an intense battle with Bai Sheng. Bai Li laughed coldly. He moved his foot, and a powerful gust of wind rushed at Long Chen. When he pointed a finger, the wind turned into a liquid vortex and attacked Long Chen like the Yellow River had materialized before his very eyes! "Kid, you can't even imagine what the Ninth Draconic Stage holds!

"Abyssal Heaven Finger, Nine Yellow Rivers! Spin, spin, spin!"

Nine Yellow Rivers. Long Chen was all too familiar with this technique. He'd seen Bai Shichen use it, then Bai Zhanxiong, and now Bai Li. Bai Li's version was several times more violent than Bai Zhanxiong's, but Long Chen was obviously not the same person who had faced Bai Zhanxiong anymore. He remained calm in the face of this surging attack.

The infinite power in his body, along with the blood-red Qi that was ten times stronger than regular Qi, gave him unwavering confidence!

This was the first time Long Chen would be using all his power in a fight to the death after reaching the Seventh Draconic Stage, and his opponent was going to be a powerful cultivator like Bai Li! "I once used the Primordial Dragon Seal to defeat Bai Zhanxiong's Nine Yellow Rivers of the Abyssal Heaven Finger. This time, I'll use the Vast Dragon Seal to defeat yours. If not, how will I show that I've improved ..."

Chapter 55 - Universe Piercing Finger

Bai Li laughed coldly when he felt the aura of the Dragon Seal.

"So you are using the Primordial Dragon Seal. I heard that Xiong'er's Yellow Nine Rivers lost to it. Let me avenge him and show you what the true Yellow Nine Rivers look like!"

"Is that so?"

Long Chen quickly formed the seal. The red aura concentrated in his palm before transforming into a dragon that coiled around his arm. The dragon looked similar to the Ancient Bloodsoul Dragon, and it was staring at the Yellow Nine Rivers with disdain.

In the midst of his fight with Bai Sheng, the Yang patriarch noticed that Long Chen was going to use the Vast Dragon Seal to counter the Yellow Nine Rivers. He was impressed by Long Chen's bravery, but that alone was not enough to win the battle. The Yang patriarch had studied the Dragon Seal for numerous years and knew the Vast Dragon Seal could never win against the Yellow Nine Rivers. This made him very anxious.

Everything happened in an instant.

Under the threat of the Yellow Nine Rivers, Long Chen tensed his entire body and placed all of his strength into the Vast Dragon Seal. The dragon resonated with him, roaring in fury.

Long Chen was a human-shaped beast. His body exploded with power and met the Yellow Nine Rivers head-on.

The red shadow of the Vast Dragon Seal turned into a solid projection of a blood-red dragon and then crashed into the Yellow Nine Rivers.

The Yellow Nine Rivers possessed an extraordinary twisting power, while the Vast Dragon Seal had an unstoppable piercing force! The two crashing techniques blew away trees and rocks.

Boom!

Both of them were blasted backward. Long Chen came out of the exchange with minor injuries. He was blown further away while his blood boiled in his body. Thankfully, his powerful physique was capable of withstanding such injuries.

Bai Li had minimal injuries from the clash, but he felt humiliated!

And the feeling of humiliation turned into anger.

“You brat! You are courting death!”

He had thought he would have an easy time killing Long Chen before helping Bai Sheng kill Yang Cangqiong, but he was mistaken.

The Yang patriarch was surprised by the outcome too. He knew Long Chen was a prodigy, but he was surprised to see his grandson remain calm in front of Bai Li. *The Yang family may survive today!*

Long Chen did not let the small victory cloud his judgment. He knew the Abyssal Heaven Fingers comprised three different techniques, with the first two being the First Finger of Devil Transformation and the Yellow Nine Rivers. If he wanted to win against Bai Li, he had to counter the final technique!

Hence, he had used the Vast Dragon Seal to counter the Yellow Nine Rivers. If he had used the Primordial Dragon Seal, Long Chen would have felt pressured because he would have had nothing to use against the final technique of the Abyssal Heaven Fingers. Using the Vast Dragon Seal had made it so Bai Li was the one who felt the pressure instead.

Bai Li snarled, and his aura steadily grew more powerful. Long Chen had a feeling Bai Li was about to use the final technique.

“The Dragon Seal of the Yang family only has two techniques, but our Abyssal Heaven Fingers have three! The Yang family will definitely perish in the hands of the Bai family today!”

Bai Li laughed coldly and gathered energy in his fingers. The energy was sharp, as if he had hidden a sword in his fingers. The sharp energy swirled between his fingers and grew stronger, to the point that even the Yang patriarch felt it from a distance.

It’s the final technique of the Bai family. That damned bastard is using it against someone much younger than him ...

The Yang patriarch was afraid for Long Chen’s safety, but he already had his hands tied from dealing with Bai Sheng, so there was nothing he could do to help Long Chen. All he could do was pray for his grandson to survive the final finger!

When Bai Li used the final technique of the Abyssal Heaven Fingers, Long Chen prepared the strongest Primordial Dragon Seal he had ever unleashed. He wasn’t able to do it last time because



he was only at the Seventh Draconic Stage. Now not only was his Qi sufficient, it was even ten times stronger than regular Qi!

The dense Qi emanating from Long Chen far exceeded everyone's expectations. Combined with his tough draconic form, the Primordial Dragon Seal that he prepared was equally as destructive as the final technique of the Abyssal Heaven Fingers.

Yang Xueqing gave Long Chen a worried look from within the cave. Her gloomy eyes had slowly regained their spark from the moment her son arrived. She even smiled in satisfaction when she saw him use the Vast Dragon Seal to counter the Yellow Nine Rivers.

The youth had started from the bottom and grown to who he was today. It was a stunning performance. Yang Xueqing felt nothing but pride in her heart.

He ... is my son. In the past, I pushed him to Long Qinglan and ignored both of them. But he is still my son ... He is now stronger than me, and even the strongest person in Baiyang Town ...

She knew that it was time to determine the winner when she saw Long Chen use the Primordial Dragon Seal to counter the final technique of the Abyssal Heaven Fingers.

It was at this moment that Yang Xueqing became very tense. She clenched her fists tightly while her arms were still bound by the chains.

Bai Li had already launched himself towards Long Chen!

A strong gust burst forth, and Long Chen felt the world shaking. Nine projections of blood-red dragons, representing nine Vast Dragon Seals, swiftly coiled around him. The powerful pressure emanating from the technique radiated outwards.

Long Chen roared and ran towards Bai Li at the same time.

Dirt flew everywhere when Long Chen stomped the ground, leaving footprints on it. Bai Li did not cower but instead pointed his fingers toward Long Chen.

Everything happened in a split second!

“The Dragon Seal is rubbish compared to the Abyssal Heaven Fingers of the Bai family!”

With a bellow, a sharp flash of white shot out of Bai Li's fingers like a giant blade towards Long Chen.

“Abyssal Heaven Fingers, Universe Piercing Finger!”

Long Chen glared at the powerful technique and did not waver. He circulated his Qi, causing the Primordial Dragon Seal to change. The more he circulated his Qi, the more lifelike the dragons looked. Their scales turned redder, as if Long Chen had infused them with his blood. All of the dragons roared, no different from true living dragons.

Long Chen almost lost control of the technique. He felt his blood boiling from just trying to control it. The third technique of the Abyssal Heaven Fingers was child's play compared to this.

Abyssal Heaven Fingers? They're nothing compared to the Dragon Seal!

A gigantic, booming sound was heard when the projections of the nine dragons condensed into a world-rending force and launched out of Long Chen's arm.

"Primordial Dragon Seal!"

Bam!

This time, the techniques that clashed were the strongest from both parties. This was their final blow against each other, and the aftermath was equally devastating.

Massive clouds of dust billowed around from the aftershock, causing the Yang patriarch and Yang Xueqing to frown. They didn't know if Long Chen survived that or not ...

"Yang Cangqiong, the Dragon Seal is worthless compared to the Abyssal Heaven Fingers of the Bai family! That little scoundrel is dead, and you are next!"

Bai Sheng laughed maniacally and ran towards Yang Cangqiong, not even bothering to find out what had happened to Bai Sheng before launching a barrage of reckless attacks.

Bai Sheng knew how much of a prodigy his brother was. Even he might not be able to win against Bai Li, much less a whelp like Long Chen.

The clash between Bai Li and Long Chen had caused a small portion of the valley to collapse. As the dust slowly cleared away, both the Yang patriarch and Yang Xueqing tried to look for Long Chen. When it completely settled, both were surprised and joyous!

"Chen'er, good job! You are the pride of our family ..."

Bai Sheng laughed at him. "You think you can distract me with that?"

Bai Sheng continued his onslaught against the Yang patriarch. He knew that he and his opponent were more or less equal in strength, so he was hoping Bai Li would come help him after dealing with Long Chen.

And at this moment, he was certain the Yang patriarch was just trying to distract him.

His attacks made the Yang patriarch take a few steps back. Bai Sheng turned around and called out, "Brother, come help me after you deal with Long Chen-"

When he turned, he saw what had truly happened. He had a clear visual on both fighters since the dust had settled. One of them was completely fine, while the other was vomiting blood after being launched into the cave. The bloodied man had a pale face while he lay on the ground twitching. It was clear he had suffered grave injuries. How could Bai Sheng not recognize it was his very own brother?

Long Chen ran for Yang Xueqing the moment he defeated Bai Li.

Bai Sheng was at a loss when he saw the unexpected outcome. But when he saw what Long Chen was doing, he immediately shouted, "Senior Xue Yuanzi, help us!"

Chapter 56 - Xue Yuanzi

Long Chen realized that something was wrong the moment Bai Sheng called for Xue Yuanzi.

He had thought everything would go according to plan. All he needed to do was defeat Bai Li, rescue his mother, and obtain the Ascension Fruit. But now it was clear that an unexpected factor had been thrown into the mix.

Long Chen was curious as to why the Bai family hadn't used his mother as a hostage after going through the trouble of capturing her. Now he knew why. One more person was hiding in the cave. The man was powerful, and the Bai siblings had invited him to come over in case of an emergency. Now was the time to show himself.

The Bai siblings had thought that they would be able to kill Long Chen without any hiccups, but to think Bai Li would lose to him!

Bai Li was lying on the ground after being defeated by Long Chen's Primordial Dragon Seal, but he was still conscious. He snarled at Long Chen while his face paled from loss, "I never thought you would be able to defeat me, you brat. Even though we underestimated you, we still managed to prepare one last contingency plan. Xue Yuanzi will show you what despair looks like ..."

Bai Li had just finished talking when Long Chen sensed a strong aura in the depths of the cave. Even Ling Xi and Yang Xueqing had failed to detect the man!

Yang Xueqing was initially very ecstatic when Long Chen defeated Bai Li, but now her face paled when she felt the suffocating presence. "Long Chen, run! You can't win against this man! Quickly, take my father and run!"

But Long Chen ignored her.

Xue Yuanzi should be from the Blood Saints. I wonder how strong he is.

Long Chen wasn't sure. In his mind, his new enemy could be at the Ninth Draconic Stage or even above!

If he's above the Ninth Draconic Stage, then we are all dead! My mother and the Ascension Fruits will fall into their hands!

Long Chen knew he was up against a strong opponent, but now was not the time to back off. Even though Yang Xueqing was feverishly trying to urge him to run away, his stubbornness and his sense of responsibility didn't allow him to take even a step back!

Long Chen was still glaring at the man walking out of the cave while he shouted at Yang Xueqing, "Stop talking! I'm not a coward who will turn tail and run!"

All of Yang Xueqing's urgency dissipated when she saw Long Chen's resolute stare. She suddenly felt like her son had grown far beyond her expectations and became someone she didn't recognize.

At the same time, Xue Yuanzi walked out of the cave. He looked at Bai Li and Long Chen. "You are indeed strong enough to be able to defeat Bai Li. While many at Yuanling City could do the same, you are still considered a prodigy in this backwater place."

His praise affirmed Long Chen's strength. He looked at Long Chen once more and nodded approvingly. "Your Primary Beast Soul is an excellent one too. It seems to be the Underground Blood Lizard. Unfortunately, you've hurt my men today and you intend to steal my Ascension Fruit. The grudge has been set, so I can't let you live ..."

Long Chen was glaring at the man too.

The man was skinny and tall. He wore a black robe and looked young, roughly thirty or so, but his eyes were venomous. The red dot on his forehead denoted that he was from the Blood Saints. Long Chen also noticed that his hair and eyebrows were slightly reddish.

Xue Yuanzi was sizing Long Chen up but not taking him seriously.

Long Chen, however, was not discouraged.

He knew that Xue Yuanzi was much stronger than Bai Li and Bai Sheng. He wasn't at all surprised after witnessing the younger Long Chen defeating the older Bai Li, a sign showing that Xue Yuanzi had seen more of the world.

Someone who has traveled beyond Baiyang Town. He must be very strong. He should be above the Ninth Draconic Stage ...

Long Chen felt powerless.

But the scornful gaze from Xue Yuanzi made him very unrelenting.

My mother is right in front of me, and the Ascension Fruit is just within my grasp. I've already defeated Bai Li, so how could I lose here?

Long Chen clenched his fist as he stared at Xue Yuanzi, his eyes cold with determination.

Xue Yuanzi noticed how headstrong Long Chen was and laughed. He fixed his messy hair and snorted. "You are fearless. Do you think you are powerful just because you defeated an idiot like Bai Li? You are a bumpkin who knows nothing about the world."

Xue Yuanzi turned around and laid his eyes on Yang Xueqing, lust growing from within their depths. "Is this your mother? She is beautiful. Just how I like it ..."

He turned around to look at Long Chen once more. "Your mother is really pretty, and you have potential. How about coming to Yuan Ling City with me and your mother? I promise I won't kill you."

Everyone saw through his lustful intentions.

Both Bai Li and Bai Sheng were infuriated. Bai Sheng was still fighting against the Yang patriarch, while Bai Li was staring at Xue Yuanzi incredulously. "Xue Yuanzi, you promised you would kill all of them. What is the meaning of this?"

Xue Yuanzi scoffed at Bai Li. "What else would I mean? I will do what I want, whenever and wherever I want. I don't have to obey a piece of garbage like you. Bai Li, you and I stopped being equals the moment I ascended to the Human Dan Realm. Did you really think I would still help you? You must be an idiot."

Bai Li took a sharp breath. "Xue Yuanzi, to think you would say something like that after all these years. You-"

"What? The heavens are going to punish me? Stop joking around. I truly wonder how you've maintained that naivety for so long."

Long Chen never thought Xue Yuanzi would be around the same age as Bai Li even though he looked thirty.

But ...

Long Chen squinted.

You damned old geezer. You not only want my mother, you also want take me in as a stepson?

Long Chen felt pain in his heart when he saw Yang Xueqing panicking. He thought that she was feeling that way because she knew he wasn't strong enough to deal with Xue Yuanzi. Maybe she was thinking about all the torture she would have to go through. Long Chen even realized that she had the intention to commit suicide.

If she were to go down that route, no one would be able to stop her due to her strength.

Even though Xue Yuanzi was imposing heavy pressure on him, Long Chen knew he couldn't back down after seeing how panicked his mother was.

Long Qinglan was supposed to protect her in situations like these, but he was already dead. Long Chen had to pick up the responsibility from here.

Father, this old geezer wants your girl. He's too strong for me to beat with my current strength. If you can still hear me, please protect us from wherever you are ...

Long Chen's resolute voice was heard between Xue Yuanzi's laughter and Bai Li's angry shouting. While he sounded slightly immature, Xue Yuanzi perfectly heard the coldness in it.

"You old geezer. You want to become my father? Just look at you! Someone your age is too old to even be my grandfather! How about becoming my great grandfather instead?!"

Long Chen's taunt stunned Xue Yuanzi, and the latter's gaze grew so cold that it could freeze water.

"I thought you were a smart boy, but you are equally idiotic too. Idiots do not have the right to live in this world. I will send you down to hell, but don't worry, I will show your mother lots of affection..."

Bai Li and Bai Sheng had thought Long Chen would follow his suggestion to go to a better place, but to think he would fight him instead! Bai Li chuckled. "Although I have a grudge against him, I have to admit that this kid from the Yang family has guts. But guts alone cannot make up for the difference in strength. He would still perish in the hands of a Human Dan Realm cultivator. Xue Yuanzi is ten times stronger than a Ninth Draconic Stage cultivator!"

After swearing he would kill Long Chen, Xue Yuanzi did not attack him immediately but approached Yang Xueqing. Even though she was afraid, her eyes were still firm with hope after what Long Chen had said

Xue Yuanzi gently lifted her chin with his fingertips. Staring into her angry eyes, he chuckled. "What a pretty little girl. I heard you've been a widow for quite some time, so you must be craving some, right? I'm sorry I've appeared far too late!"

He then turned and shook his head at Long Chen. "I wanted to keep both of you alive, but to think your son would not heed my advice. I have no choice but to kill him so that I can sleep in peace ..."

Just then, Long Chen slowly approached Xue Yuanzi, his pulsating, red Qi circulating vigorously in his body. His eyes slowly became red and the anger in his heart grew.

“Old man, let her go ...”

Xue Yuanzi laughed. “Haha! What did you just say?”

“I said ...”

Feeling the billions of dragons roaring within his body, Long Chen suddenly raised his head and bellowed, “LET HER GO!”

Chapter 57 - Revolving Dream Immortal Sword Technique

Xue Yuanzi squinted when he saw how Long Chen didn't seem to fear death.

He wrung his hand hard. Yang Xueqing, whom he was caressing with his finger, slammed into the rock wall instantly. Although she could protect herself with her Eighth Draconic Stage Qi, she still ended up with some blood dripping from her forehead!

The bright, red drop of blood lit the fire of rage within Long Chen! “Xue Yuanzi, how dare you hurt her?!”

Xue Yuanzi smirked. “She's just some abandoned woman, so what if I hurt her? What can you do about it? Are you going to kill me? You look like you're about to attack. Fine. I'll show you just how big the gap between the Human Core Realm and the Draconic Realm is!”

When Xue Yuanzi finished, the powerful Qi radiating from his body exploded instantly. Long Chen felt as if this man was no longer human, but a demonic beast powerful enough to block out the sun. Just his aura alone was suffocating! *He's so powerful! I'm afraid I won't stand a chance even if I use up all my strength!*

Xue Yuanzi was only releasing his aura, but it was suffocating enough to paralyze Long Chen. Violence flashed in Long Chen's eyes. The powerful surge of energy was a reminder for him to escape immediately if he didn't want to die, but when he thought of how Yang Xueqing was still next to Xue Yuanzi and how he had caused her forehead to bleed, his blood boiled! “I don't care if you're at the Human Core Realm! When you face me, you will die!”

Ling Xi was already panicking. The man at the Human Core Realm was about to attack, and all she could do was remind Long Chen frantically, “Long Chen, I'm begging you not to be so stubborn! You're not strong enough to face him now! If you remain so stubborn, you aren't the only one who'll die! All of us will die!”

“Shut up!”

Long Chen glared coldly at Xue Yuanzi, then he continued, “My mother is still over there, so how could I take even half a step away? Ling Xi, you may leave if you want. I think five Dream Lingzhi Mushrooms are enough to last you until you figure out a way to live on!”

Ling Xi paled instantly, staring at Long Chen in disbelief. She never thought he would say such a thing, and his words left her in tears. “You ... You bastard! I'm not a coward who fears death! I-”

“Then shut your mouth!”

Long Chen was only being so stern towards Ling Xi due to the frustration in him. He didn't actually harbor any malice towards her.

It was at this point that Xue Yuanzi realized that Long Chen still hadn't fled after witnessing his strength. He was initially slightly impressed, but that feeling quickly turned into boiling rage. He eyed Yang Xueqing, who was glaring at him, and said, "I'll be back to have some fun with you after I kill your son!"

Then he disappeared right before Yang Xueqing's eyes.

"Chen'er, careful!"

Yang Xueqing's shrill voice had just sounded when Long Chen realized that there was a person in front of him. He was ready with a Primordial Dragon Seal more powerful than the one he had used against Bai Li, and he charged straight towards Xue Yuanzi!

Xue Yuanzi remained unfazed and stone-faced after taking Long Chen's powerful strike. He then threw out a punch of his own, and a ray of blood-red light shot towards Long Chen!

The light looked normal, but it was filled with destructive power. When the Primordial Dragon Seal and Xue Yuanzi's blood-red light collided, Long Chen realized to his dismay that although the Primordial Dragon Seal had flair, it could not hold up against the red light's corrosive properties backed by the immense Qi from a Human Core Realm fighter. The Primordial Dragon Seal shattered, then the powerful light shot into Long Chen's body, throwing him back into the air!

"Chen'er!

"Chen'er!"

"Long Chen!"

Several panicked exclamations rang out. The Yang patriarch and Yang Xueqing paled instantly. Yang Xueqing could not move, while the Yang patriarch was still being suppressed by Bai Sheng and could not break free from battle. All he could do was watch as Long Chen was slammed into the air!

One of the cries came from Ling Xi. When she saw that Long Chen was hurt with blood spraying out of his mouth, she felt her own rage rise to a boiling point!

She had been nearing the end of her life when she encountered Long Chen. But ever since their meeting, not only had she survived, they had even experienced many things together, both joyful and sad. She had actually started to rely on the teenager at some point!

She was completely bonded to Long Chen, so when she saw him being beaten to the brink of death by Xue Yuanzi over his mother, who didn't even care for him as a child, her heart shattered.

Her panic reached its peak as she fretted over what to do. Xue Yuanzi's icy laughter echoed as he approached Long Chen slowly with a smirk on his face. "People who become too bold after making some sort of small achievement usually die horrible deaths. You're not the first, kid, nor will you be the last. But I've never met a prodigy of your level. At least I have the honor of ending your life; one that was supposed to be glorious."

The bloody scent radiating from his body made Ling Xi, whose cultivation had been reduced to almost zero, tremble. But when she recalled Long Chen's injured state and looked at the man's smugness, the fire within her burned! "You bullied him ... You deserve to die!"

As she glared at Xue Yuanzi, Ling Xi slowly forgot herself. It was as if Xue Yuanzi had hurt her, not Long Chen.

At this moment, Long Chen felt a gust of power rush into his body, destroying his flesh. The sheer force made him lose consciousness for a moment. Looking at the fragile state of his body, he was going to die here!

If he died, then Yang Xueqing, the Yang patriarch, and Ling Xi all would die here too. And if they died, the rest of the Yang family probably wouldn't survive either!

There was such a huge responsibility sitting on his shoulders, but he wasn't strong enough to retaliate at all. He had grown so much stronger at record-breaking speeds recently, but that was meaningless right now! *Only a truly powerful master can protect the people he wants to protect. And I, Long Chen, am far from that!*

I have too many matters left unfinished. I will not die willingly like this. I ... I must become stronger!

Long Chen roared in his heart, but the power radiating from Xue Yuanzi's body had entered his internal organs. That was when a powerful vacuum spontaneously appeared in his body, swallowing Xue Yuanzi's peculiar attack!

But Long Chen's face paled even further.

That was because at that moment, he suddenly felt as if a gigantic stomach was hidden in his body, a stomach a million times larger than his body. The power he was receiving was not enough to satiate it at all!

Long Chen knew that this stomach belonged to him. He was suddenly overcome with extreme hunger, and he needed an unfathomable amount of energy to truly become the pinnacle of beings in this world: a dragon!

I can't believe Xue Yuanzi's Qi also contains blood energy like mine. However, it's merely two times stronger than regular Qi, which is weaker than me before the Dragon Soul Transformation!

He then suddenly recalled that Xue Yuanzi was one of the Blood Saints and that he had once seen Bai Zhanxiong selling girls from the Jade Palace Brothel to them. His brows became deeply furrowed. *If they also cultivate this pale-red Qi ... It might be related to the Jade Palace Brothel girls!*

When his body finished swallowing all the power that had entered from Xue Yuanzi, he woke from his unconscious state. He was puzzled for a moment, wondering why he hadn't been killed yet. But when he opened his eyes, he saw the Ling Xi Sword expanding in front of him once again!

To everyone's shock, white mist swirled before their eyes and Ling Xi appeared once more with her beautiful figure; her long, white dress; her waterfall-like, silky hair; and seductive fragrance!

Her back was towards Long Chen once again, so he couldn't get a good look at her. Just like the other times, every move she made was filled with resolve. There was not a hint of hesitation!



A wave of emotion surged through Long Chen. He knew that Ling Xi only had five Dream Lingzhi Mushrooms left to maintain her life force. He didn't even know how long she had left to live, but he did know that using her power was extremely risky. If Xue Yuanzi was too powerful and she spent too much of her energy, she could disintegrate into dust!

With tears in his eyes, Long Chen roared, "Xiao Xi, no! Get back here!"

Ling Xi moved but did not look back, so Long Chen couldn't see her beautiful face clearly. As the Yang patriarch and the others stared in shock, a cold glint flashed in Ling Xi's eyes!

Xue Yuanzi was currently approaching Long Chen, but he was equally stunned to see a strange girl suddenly standing in his way. However, the tsunami-like power he wielded in his hand did not stop! "Blood Oath Fist!"

A blood-red fist seal that seemed to split the heavens charged towards Ling Xi. Long Chen's panic rose to its peak, but everything happened in just one second. The moment Xue Yuanzi unleashed his Blood Oath Fist, a bright voice echoed. "Revolving Dream Immortal Sword Technique ... Dancing Blades, Turning Clouds ..."

Long Chen felt his vision blur, and the mist around Ling Xi started to vibrate. Very quickly, silhouettes of swords appeared in the mist, all moving manically like countless girls dancing. Long Chen was left in a daze by the chaos; all he knew was that the pure-white silhouettes gently flew past Xue Yuanzi. Afterwards, everything was calm once again.

Everyone was stunned.

Long Chen stared at Ling Xi in a daze. By now, she had turned into a small ball of mist and melted back into the Ling Xi Sword. Under her control, it turned back into an ear stud and returned to Long Chen's ear. Long Chen was panicking when he heard her weak voice ...

"Don't worry, I'll be fine after I take a nap. But this simple move cost me the medicinal power of three Dream Lingzhi Mushrooms. It'll be more difficult for me to help you in the future ... But, you bastard, I'm not a coward who's afraid of death ... Mmmph ..."

"You silly girl ..."

She had just risked her life to save his. He understood this deeply.

Long Chen also knew that what he had said before had hurt her.

But ...

He looked towards Xue Yuanzi, who was standing there in a daze.

Chapter 58 Eight Grand Protectors!

The battle between Bai Sheng and the Yang patriarch ceased after Ling Xi's appearance.

When she disappeared, the Yang patriarch and Bai Sheng started looking at Long Chen differently.

Their gazes only held approval for the young genius in the past, but now they were filled with curiosity for the mysterious teenager. And admiration.

Ling Xi had already made an appearance at the Family Meeting, but the Yang patriarch never expected this mysterious object to be so powerful. He looked at Long Chen in a daze with pride and

contentment in his heart. *Look at this kid! If I am defeated today, I can leave this world without regrets knowing I have a grandson like him. But Xueqing and the rest don't deserve to die ...*

This was not a good thing for Bai Sheng.

Losing confidence, he looked at Xue Yuanzi hurriedly. "Senior Xue Yuanzi ..."

Xue Yuanzi stood there, not moving. No one knew what was happening with him either, but there were no visible injuries on his body. Bai Sheng thought that he was just curious and surprised by Ling Xi's appearance.

So he continued, "Senior Xue Yuanzi, we're open to negotiation. I promised you one Ascension Fruit already, so I won't give you anything less than that. If you're looking for women, the girls of the Bai family are better than the Yang family! Senior Brother, forget about this abandoned woman that is Yang Xueqing. If you're looking for talent, this Long Chen kid hates you to the bone. No matter how you raise him, he'll just turn around and bite you in the end ..."

The Yang patriarch's brows furrowed tightly once more when he heard Bai Sheng. Seeing that Xue Yuanzi hadn't objected, Bai Sheng turned to look at the Yang patriarch with contempt.

Looks like he's going to destroy the Yang family today. It's a pity ... Chen'er is only sixteen ...

The Yang patriarch sighed.

He looked at Xue Yuanzi, who didn't move, then at Long Chen. When he thought of the gulf between their cultivation levels, he knew that there was no hope. *The mysterious girl that appeared in front of Long Chen just now seemed to have used a very powerful sword technique. Yet she didn't harm Xue Yuanzi at all ...*

He was also completely in the dark regarding Ying Xi.

Xue Yuanzi looked unscathed and seemed to be moved by Bai Sheng's words, so Bai Sheng turned to Long Chen and the Yang patriarch smugly. "Senior Xue Yuanzi, if you agree, I humbly request your help in killing this brat ... Huh?"

Bai Sheng suddenly saw a fresh drop of blood drip from between Xue Yuanzi's eyebrows. Having sharp vision, he quickly noticed a tiny wound there. And then he quickly saw another drop of blood on the back of Xue Yuanzi's head!

He was so shocked that he was speechless!

Just from this, he knew that Xue Yuanzi wasn't speaking not because he didn't want to, but because his brain had just been punctured! Although the wound was extremely small, it was enough to kill a man!

Xue Yuanzi is dead?

This unfathomable thought had just crossed Bai Sheng's mind when Xue Yuanzi's body crashed into the ground.

Long Chen had long sensed that the old man had lost his life force. When he saw the body fall, he was even more impressed by Ling Xi's mysterious powers. *I have a feeling that Xiao Xi is extremely powerful ...*

Long Chen looked at Bai Sheng, who was visibly shaken by Xue Yuanzi's death. Bai Sheng looked back and shook his head, saying, "That's impossible. Xue Yuanzi is a master at the Human Core Realm. How could you have possibly killed him? Even that strange girl ... That's impossible ..."

But when he looked at Xue Yuanzi's corpse, he had a sudden thought. His face shone with manic glee as he turned to Long Chen and the Yang patriarch, laughing. "Xue Yuanzi's dead! And the Yang family is done for! Xue Yuanzi is one of the Eight Grand Protectors of the Blood Saints! You just killed one of their Grand Protectors! There's no way the Blood Saints will let you live! Haha! You people are so dead!"

Long Chen indeed had not expected Xue Yuanzi to have a high position in the Blood Saints, but the deed had been done. All he could do was accept fate! "We'll deal with the Blood Saints later. The most pressing matter now is to kill these two animals from the Bai family!"

The Yang patriarch finally came back to his senses too. He was well aware of the terrifying consequences of killing someone from the Blood Saints, but the man was already dead. There were more pressing matters before them, like saving Yang Xueqing, killing the Bai brothers, and getting the Ascension Fruits!

The Yang patriarch looked at the teenager. His grandson had grown so much more powerful in the past month. He could barely react to Long Chen's immense improvement. "Chen'er, you've given me such a huge surprise. Twice now you've displayed your prowess, basically single-handedly saving the Yang family. How will an old man like me return your kindness?"

Now that Xue Yuanzi was dead, the Yang patriarch and Long Chen knew to end the matter as quickly as possible.

The Yang patriarch kept Bai Sheng occupied while Long Chen prepared to save Yang Xueqing. But to Long Chen's surprise, Bai Li, who had been lying on the ground severely injured, suddenly got up and rushed over to Yang Xueqing. He arrived before Long Chen could, and his two bloodied hands were already clutching Yang Xueqing's head! "You brat! If you dare take one more step, I'll squeeze this woman's head into a pulp!"

Bai Li's violent threat made Long Chen stop immediately. Bai Sheng and Bai Li reunited once more, while the furious Yang patriarch stood with Long Chen.

It was just one crisis after another.

Long Chen looked at them both with his fists clenched tight.

Like they say, the oldest gingers are the spiciest. Bai Li wasn't as injured as I thought he was; he was only pretending to be severely hurt. Looks like he was biding his time to hold my mother hostage! I can't believe I didn't notice this!

Long Chen blamed himself for this. He had placed all his attention on the powerful Xue Yuanzi and forgot about Bai Li. But he never would've expected the man to fake an injury! *I will never show mercy in battle again. I must destroy my enemies completely, because if I show any weakness, it will only end up like this!*

Yang Xueqing was a hostage once more. If Long Chen moved, Bai Li would kill her immediately. Even if Long Chen killed the Bai brothers and got the Ascension Fruits afterwards, the pain in his heart would probably last for the rest of his life!

If that happened, he would never forgive himself!

Long Chen's rage had hit its peak when Xue Yuanzi touched Yang Xueqing. Then, it slowly started fading after Xue Yuanzi was finally killed. Now, Bai Li's actions triggered the tsunami of rage within him once more!

Sensing the anger from Long Chen, the Yang patriarch gripped his arm tight. "Chen'er, don't move. Hold it in. Let me deal with these sly foxes!"

He then looked at the two Bai brothers and said, "Bai Li, Bai Sheng, don't do anything yet. Just tell me what your terms are. As long as they are reasonable, we will oblige!"

Bai Sheng and Bai Li locked eyes. Knowing they had successfully targeted the Yang family's weakness, they each smirked and knew what the other was thinking.

Bai Li's palm spun slowly on Yang Xueqing's head, smearing blood across her hair. Ignoring Long Chen's glare, Bai Li said nonchalantly, "It's simple. The three Ascension Fruits belong to the Bai family. And that brat needs to lose one arm."

The Yang patriarch and Long Chen froze. They would never agree to give away three of the Ascension Fruits. And asking Long Chen to cut off one of his arms was even more impossible.

The Bai family was in an extremely advantageous position. If they came out of this with three Ascension Fruits, the Bai brothers would soon reach the Divine Pill Realm. However, they were afraid of being killed by Long Chen before that happened, so they needed to see him lose one arm for them to sleep well. And when they reached the Divine Pill Realm, the Yang family would be destroyed!

The Yang patriarch replied coldly, "What is the meaning of this? Those are preposterous terms! You two lack a shred of sincerity. We've known each other for many years, so you know me well, Bai Sheng. I can only give you two Ascension Fruits at most, or mark my words, I, Yang Cangqiong, will fight the Bai family to the death no matter the cost! Then we shall see if there are more deaths on your side, or my side!"

Since Long Chen was more powerful than Bai Li, the Yang family had surpassed the Bai family. Bai Sheng and Bai Li knew exactly what that entailed.

Therefore, the Bai brothers locked eyes again, and Bai Sheng said solemnly, "Fine, two Ascension Fruits it is, then. But we have one more condition. Yang Xueqing shall stay in the Bai residence until we reach the Divine Pill Realm. She has married my son, so she's considered a Bai family member now anyway."

This was Bai Sheng and Bai Li's final condition. Even with two Ascension Fruits in hand, they were sure to be defeated without Yang Xueqing as a hostage. That was why they needed to keep her close.

Yang Xueqing was both anxious and furious that she had burdened her family. To her dismay, the metal chain was tied too tightly and she could not escape Bai Li at all!

"Father! Don't listen to him! Just leave me! These two Bai scum will only take more and more! If you let them both enter the Divine Pill Realm, the Yang family will die!"

Yang Xueqing gazed at the Yang patriarch with tears in her eyes, then she took one longing look at Long Chen. The suffering and warring emotions within her eyes broke the Yang patriarch's eyes. As a father, he knew very well how much pain his daughter had endured. "Father, I have not been a filial daughter. I can only repay your love in the next lifetime!"

"Chen'er ..."

When she gazed at Long Chen, Yang Xueqing could no longer hold her tears back. Tears flowed freely down her pale cheeks as she cried, "I'm sorry ... If there's an afterlife, I swear I will love you better ... Farewell!"

After she spoke, Yang Xueqing smiled like she was breaking free from the suffering. Bai Sheng and Bai Li's faces changed instantly. They knew Yang Xueqing was about to kill herself.

Chapter 59 - Eighth Draconic Stage

The Yang patriarch understood what Yang Xueqing meant.

He wanted to negotiate with the Bai family, but it was clear that neither party wanted to reconcile. Yang Xueqing, knowing that her family was on the verge of destruction, wanted to kill herself to save the situation. Her heart ached with regret when she thought back to how she had treated Long Chen.

"Xueqing! Stop! I have a method to deal with them, so don't do stupid things!"

Yang Xueqing stopped when she heard the Yang patriarch.

Both Bai Li and Bai Sheng, who wanted to use her as a hostage, sighed in relief. But Yang Xueqing still smiled.

"Dad, don't lie to me. I know what kind of assets the Yang family has, and we have nothing to offer here. Since these two worthless cowards from the Bai family want to use me as a hostage, I will just kill myself so they will have nothing left to bargain with you ..."

Yang Xueqing's eyes were adamant when she looked at Long Chen one last time. But Long Chen's strange demeanor caught her off guard and made her stop what she was doing.

Both Bai Sheng and Bai Li, and even the Yang patriarch, also looked at Long Chen.

Long Chen approached Xue Yuanzi's corpse.

He knew that the Yang family would be done for if he didn't do this. This was his only choice!

"Xue Yuanzi ... Ling Xi told me to not use Blood Transmutation on humans, but I'm afraid I have no choice."

Staring at Xue Yuanzi's corpse, a primal hunger crept up on him.

He knew that the Bai elders wouldn't harm Yang Xueqing as long as he didn't make a move here. She was their hostage, and no good would come from harming her.

Long Chen could use Blood Transmutation on Xue Yuanzi and improve his cultivation!

With a goal in mind, he acted. Even though he shouldn't use Blood Transmutation on humans excessively, he needed to act now because he wasn't strong enough.

Long Chen used Blood Transmutation, emanating the aura of bloodshed and massacre as he did so. The intense pressure he exuded made everyone take a deep breath.

They soon saw countless blood drops extracted from Xue Yuanzi's skin. The drops almost looked sentient as they exited the corpse in a cheerful manner and integrated into Long Chen's blood-red scales.

The Blood Transmutation technique slowly absorbed Xue Yuanzi's Blood Essence. He was once an indomitable foe and also the strongest person Long Chen had ever fought. As a cultivator beyond the Ninth Draconic Stage, Xue Yuanzi's Blood Essence contained ten times more power than Bai Zhanxiong's!

Blood Transmutation expelled all the waste from Xue Yuanzi's blood, leaving behind only the pure Blood Essence. It transformed into blood-red Qi after Long Chen absorbed it, which then condensed and collected in his dantian. As the amount of Qi grew, his dantian expanded. This went on until his dantian was about to rupture.

The Blood Essence from a Human Core Realm cultivator is immense!

The massive amount of blood-red Qi circulated within him like a roaring dragon. Long Chen felt like his body had been transformed into the home of billions of dragons, all of them roaring and absorbing the Qi.

Xue Yuanzi became a mummy when all of his Blood Essence had been drained. The bloody aura Long Chen was exuding magnified and the power within him rampaged, almost causing him to lose control of his body.

There's too much Qi! It's time to break into the Eight Draconic Stage!

Long Chen acted immediately.

But Bai Sheng and Bai Li thought Long Chen was being reckless yet brave.

Fortunately, Bai Li had suffered grave injuries. If he hadn't, he would've been able to team up with his brother to take down the Yang patriarch and stop Long Chen from breaking through. The two Bai brothers were very wary of Long Chen, not knowing how much more strength he had.

"Brother, he's already this strong, and yet he is advancing into the Eighth Draconic Stage ..."

"Don't worry, Big Brother. As long as his mother is in our hands, there's nothing he can do. The Yang family is done for once the Blood Saints receive the news. We will get the Ascension Fruits in the end!"

Bai Sheng nodded.

Even the Yang patriarch had not expected Long Chen to attempt a breakthrough here. Thankfully, the Bai brothers did not take action. Yang Cangqiong was relieved when he noticed this, and he was excited to see Long Chen become stronger.

Just then, two sounds were heard from the sky. Everyone looked up and saw that Yang Qingxuan and Yang Yuntian had arrived.

After escorting the youths of the Yang family to safety, they had rushed into the Desolate Mountains, but to think the situation had reached such a critical juncture in just fifteen minutes!

Bai Sheng and Bai Li were still holding Yang Xueqing hostage while they stared at the iridescent Ascension Fruits. The tree's leaves had dried up, a sign that the fruits were almost completely matured. Both the Yang patriarch and the Bai brothers were locked in a stalemate while Long Chen was cultivating further back. Both Yang Qingxuan and Yang Yuntian were surprised to see Long Chen cultivating at this point.

There was a dried-up body on the ground, but neither of them knew who it was. The situation they were met with was very different from what they had imagined.

Both of them had come here to fight to their deaths, but the battle had completely stopped.

Yang Yuntian and Yang Qingxuan shook their heads when they saw Long Chen cultivating.

“Bai Li is hurt, must've been our father who did it. Thankfully, Chen'er is still alright. Let's protect him and send him away with the rest of the Yang family's youths!”

They approached their father, but the Yang patriarch glared at them. “What are you doing here? What happened with the rest of the family?”

Yang Qingxuan explained, “We asked Wu'er to lead them to safety. We are here to help Long Chen escape so that our family can rise again one day!”

The Yang patriarch first nodded and then shook his head. “I knew you would do this, but you're underestimating Long Chen ...”

Both Yang Qingxuan and Yang Yuntian were shocked as they stared at Long Chen cultivating. “Father, do you mean he was the one who injured Bai Li?”

The Yang patriarch nodded. “Help me think of a strategy, you two. Yang Xueqing is still in their hands. It will be difficult to leave without suffering losses, especially if we want the Ascension Fruits.”

Yang Qingxuan and Yang Yuntian were still shocked by the fact that Long Chen had defeated Bai Li when their faces turned into anger after seeing their sister being held hostage.

“You accursed Bai family! Release my sister! Name your price!”

Bai Sheng scoffed at him. “So the Yang family values their people more than money. Such a heartwarming family. If you don't do as I say, I will make sure you will suffer through what I've been suffering!”

Yang Qingxuan's face was gloomy. “What is your condition?”

Bai Sheng smiled cruelly. “I've already told your father. Two Ascension Fruits. Once we enter the Human Core Realm, we will return Yang Xueqing.”

The Yang family would be destroyed if they entered the Human Core Realm. Hearing his absurd proposition made Yang Qingxuan angrier.

“Still hesitant? Yang Cangqiong, you might have the time, but I don’t. If you don’t agree, we will just retaliate! I’ve already lost two sons, so I don’t care anymore!”

The three people from the Yang family had no way to deal with his threats. However, almost everyone had forgotten about Long Chen entering the Eighth Draconic Stage.

Only Yang Xueqing was staring at him.

She had decided to commit suicide, but she saw a sliver of hope when she noticed Long Chen making a breakthrough.

Yang Qingxuan whispered to his father, “Dad, we have no choice. Bai Li might be hurt, but he is slowly recovering. Once he does, no one here will be able to stop him ...”

Just as Yang Qingxuan and Yang Yuntian were hesitating and Yang Xueqing was slowly slipping into despair, a thunderous roar rang out!

A powerful aura blanketed the region, and even Yang Qingxuan and Yang Yuntian had difficulty standing. Everyone turned and saw that Long Chen had stood up. He was at the Eighth Draconic Stage!

The blood-red scales and spikes all over his body were menacing, but his aura was downright terrifying. He opened his eyes, his red pupils striking fear into everyone’s hearts.

Long Chen smiled when he felt the power rumbling inside him.

I’m stronger than a regular Eighth Draconic Stage cultivator when I’m in my dragon form ...

With Qi ten times stronger than regular Qi, and having a powerful physical form, Long Chen was stronger than his peers.

Long Chen had two powerful techniques, Blood Transmutation and Dragon Soul Transformation. Both of these came from the Dragon Jade Pendant and the Inherited Blood Essence, two powerful relics shrouded in mystery.

Long Chen glared at Bai Li, the one holding Yang Xueqing.

The Bai brothers felt their scalps tingling when they sensed Long Chen’s aura.

“You might’ve become strong, you brat, but it’s best if you don’t move, or I can’t guarantee Yang Xueqing’s life ...”

Bai Li fumbled with his words when he saw Long Chen closing in.

Bai Sheng’s eyes started trembling when he saw Long Chen’s dragon form.

“You two animals ...”

Long Chen was like a powerful beast from ancient times. He closed in on them one step at a time before completely disappearing when his anger reached the breaking point. In the next instant, Bai Li felt his back go cold.

*Splurt.* A bony spine pierced his heart.

Chapter 60 - Everyone Must Die!



The Yang patriarch dared not stop Long Chen from approaching the Bai brothers.

He had a feeling Long Chen would give him a surprise. Both Yang Qingxuan and Yang Yuntian were stunned when they almost fell over from Long Chen's overwhelming aura.

Up till now, they were under the assumption that the only reason the Bai brothers had been forced to use Yang Xueqing as a hostage was due to the Yang patriarch fighting them off, but to think it was Long Chen!

It was clear he was at the Eighth Draconic Stage, but his bizarre transformation caused his strength to go beyond it. Yang Qingxuan and the rest thought that Long Chen had become a Beast Warrior, but they didn't know how.

There were too many things happening, and Long Chen usually wasn't at the Yang estate, so they never had a chance to ask him.

"I fear Chen'er will become much more powerful than we thought ..."

The three of them sighed. Yang Yuntian was especially surprised by Long Chen's growth.

Long Chen's current state terrified both Bai Sheng and Bai Li, but they had never thought that he would be too fast to track. Bai Li had watched Long Chen disappear and felt the chill on his back at the exact same moment.

Long Chen's bony spine stabbed into Bai Li, twisting and tearing his heart apart. Bai Li twitched from the intense pain. He lowered his head and saw the bone spine poking out of his chest, his pale face becoming paler.

"This ... Impossible ... I ..."

He couldn't believe it, but the pain made him realize that he was about to die. A moment later, his vision turned dark and his consciousness slowly faded.

Bai Li wanted to turn his head when saw the Yang family staring at him in shock, but he had no time. He felt tired, very tired.

His eyes widened when he realized that the one who had killed him was none other than Long Chen, the one he had ignored previously!

But it was too late. He felt his mind fraying apart, and he soon died before he could express his regret and anger.

Long Chen threw Bai Li away, his body landing in front of the Yang patriarch.

Everyone finally reacted to what had happened. The Yang patriarch, Yang Qingxuan, and Yang Yuntian gulped when they saw the body. They were so excited that they couldn't come up with any words.

Bai Sheng, on the other hand, was stunned when he saw Long Chen kill Bai Li. When he saw his brother's corpse, he first felt anger and then fear.

He hurriedly ran towards Yang Xueqing—she was his only way out of there. But when he turned around, a pair of cold hands grabbed his neck. Bai Sheng knew that the moment he moved was the moment he died.

He was then lifted off his feet. He stared into Long Chen's cold red eyes and recalled how Bai Li had died. Bai Sheng felt the fear of death for the first time in his long life.

His face paled. "Please spare me! I will take my family and move away from Baiyang Town! We will give you all of our treasures too!"

Long Chen smiled in disbelief.

The Yang patriarch had accepted the fact that Long Chen had killed Bai Li. They crowded over and felt satisfaction when they saw how disheveled Bai Sheng was. Many emotions ran down the Yang patriarch's face when he saw his sworn brother losing to Long Chen.

"Chen'er, do you know what to do?"

The Yang patriarch glared coldly at Bai Sheng when he said that.

His intentions were clear. Bai Sheng could not live.

Bai Sheng shouted angrily at the Yang patriarch, "Yang Cangqiong! I was your sworn brother throughout our entire lives! How dare you betray me?! I've helped you numerous times, so let me go now!"

The Yang patriarch chuckled. "The night you fed me the poison from the Nightmare Flower was the very same night I stopped thinking of you as my sworn brother. Chen'er, do it now."

Bai Sheng started crying when he felt the hand on his neck tightening. He knew there was no hope. None of them would spare him.

To think the two plots he had devised had failed to eradicate the Yang family! His plans were worthless in front of Long Chen. Staring at the prodigy, Bai Sheng felt unwilling to die! He hated himself for not killing Long Chen when the latter was still young!

Xiong'er, none of this would've happened if you were crueler. Long Qinglan was such a mysterious character back then. How could we ever think his son would be useless?

Bai Sheng lost all hope.

But he laughed maniacally when he looked at Yang Xueqing, Yang Qingxuan, and Yang Yuntian. "Kill me if you want, but I don't have the keys to the Deep Blue Chains that I tied Yang Xueqing with! There's no way you can slice them open without an advanced tier spiritual sword!"

Bai Sheng thought he could still prevent them from killing him. Being tied up for the rest of her life would be a fate worse than death for Yang Xueqing.

But the Yang family scoffed at his threat. "Looks like you still don't know that the Lingwu family gave us an advanced tier spiritual sword as a reward!"

Bai Sheng despaired even more. He was even more certain now that he would die today!

But then he remembered something and chuckled. "Kill me! Kill me, then! But the rest of the Yang family will perish! You guys will be the last remaining members of the Yang family! Hahaha! Yang Cangqiong, the Bai family still has descendants, but the Yang family will end here! I haven't lost to you!"

Everyone was shocked to hear what he had said. Even though the Yang patriarch had ordered Yang Qingxuan to escort the Yang family to safety, it seemed the Bai family had been monitoring their movements. Looking at how Bai Zhanlong and Bai Zhanfeng were absent, Long Chen frowned. Both Yang Qingxuan and Yang Yuntian were so shocked that they fell to the ground.

Staring at their heartbroken faces, Bai Sheng laughed. "With Zhanlong's speed, he should've already met the weaker members of the Yang family. They are all dead now! The Yang family still lost in the end!"

Yang Qingxuan glared at Bai Sheng before looking at the Yang patriarch. "Father ... Wu'er and the rest ..."

Long Chen had never thought Bai Sheng would do this. He immediately crushed Bai Sheng's neck, ending the life of the horrible old man.

One of the strongest cultivators in Baiyang Town was killed just like that, at the hands of a sixteen-year-old. No one could've ever foreseen this.

Long Chen was also surprised that he had become the strongest cultivator in Baiyang Town in just a little over a month. It was all thanks to the Dragon Jade Pendant and the Inherited Blood Essence!

"Grandfather, I leave the Ascension Fruits and my mother to you. Lingqing and the rest might be in trouble. I'm much faster than everyone here, so I will go and save them!"

The Yang patriarch nodded gravely.

They now trusted Long Chen more than the Yang patriarch. He had become their main pillar of strength.

If someone were to tell them this would happen a couple of months ago, the Yang family would've thought they were crazy.

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Tears welled in Yang Lingqing's eyes.

The youths, elderly, and women of the Yang family were all huddled together. Only Yang Lingqing, Yang Lingyue, and Yang Wu were strong enough to put up a fight.

Facing them were the eldest son, Bai Zhanlong; the fourth son, Bai Zhanfeng; Bai Shichen; and Bai Shiji. The latter two had completely recovered.

The four of them chuckled when they looked at Yang Lingqing and the rest. Bai Shiji said, "Lingqing, Lingyue, have you two made your decisions? Your family is completely eradicated, so the only way you can live is by following my brother and I!"

Yang Wu was already injured and lying on the ground.

Yang Lingyue was holding him in her arms. Yang Wu's face was pale and blood kept dripping from the corner of his lips. His injury was worse than before!

Yang Lingyue was crying, but she still glared at Bai Shiji spitefully. "The four of you attacked my brother at the same time! You have no honor! None of you have honor! All you can do is bully the weak and the women!"

Bai Shiji ignored her scornful remarks. “Looks like you are too stupid. The world only cares about winning or losing. No one gives a damn about the process. Your grandfather and that brat should already be dead in the hands of my grandfather and the expert from the Blood Saints. All we need to do now is kill the rest of you and celebrate back home! Who cares if you agree or not, we can just take you away by force while we kill everyone!”

Yang Lingqing knew about the expert from the Blood Saints as well as Yang Xueqing being held hostage. Her heart shattered when she learned that the entire Yang family would be eradicated along with Long Chen and the rest.

If it weren't for the orders Yang Qingxuan had given them before he left, Yang Lingqing and the rest would've broken down.

Just then, Bai Shichen and Bai Shiji approached the rest of the Yang family, causing the children and women to scream in fear. Yang Lingqing bit her lips and said to Yang Wu, “Brother, give me the Illusory Glass Sword.”