

Ability 251

Chapter 251: I Play with Fire at the Volcano Crater_2

Because Lin Beichen felt that a breakthrough was imminent!

The heart had been tempered by the dense Fire Element to become even stronger. Not only that, but the limbs and blood seemed to receive a powerful enhancement as well!

Blood surged, flowing vigorously to the limbs, all thanks to the powerful heart acting as a pump.

This made Lin Beichen take a deep breath, feeling the intense, scorching wind hitting his face.

Neither avoiding nor retreating, he directly inhaled it into his body, feeling the dense Fire Element being introduced to his heart for tempering.

At this moment, helicopters occasionally flew overhead, but they were not here to fight the fire, much less to rescue Lin Beichen.

Because no one would believe that someone could be sitting and meditating at the crater of the volcano at this moment!

Spreading such news would be less believable than claiming that tomorrow was doomsday.

So the helicopters circling the crater were only monitoring the volcano's condition. But they stayed far enough to avoid the volcanic ash that could easily damage their instruments.

This made it even less likely to discover Lin Beichen's existence. Even though Lin Beichen was in a conspicuous location with bare surroundings, they could not detect him.

Of course, the helicopters circling above the crater were not just from the military; many journalists from various countries carried high-powered cameras, conducting live broadcasts over Jingli Mountain's volcano.

It was clear that the journalists were doing whatever it took to get the first perspective.

This made their live-streaming platforms go viral, even crashing the servers despite temporary increases, unable to keep up with the viewers' interest.

As it stood, billions of netizens were watching the live broadcast of the Jingli Mountain crater.

"Why hasn't the volcano erupted yet? I was hoping for a big explosion, with lava covering the Divine Light Country and burning a large area to the ground!"

"Hasn't the show started yet? We've watched two episodes of a drama, and the volcano still hasn't erupted. We're waiting for a grand show."

"Who knows, maybe Godzilla will come out when the volcano erupts!"

"Haha, the guy above is hilarious. Godzilla comes from the sea, not from a volcano!"

"You're killing me! Godzilla hahaha~~~"

"Folks above, have you lost track of the live stream's content? The Divine Light Country is streaming a volcanic crisis, and you're discussing whether Godzilla will come out...?"

"How ridiculous!"

"No Godzilla, maybe there'll be lava monsters causing havoc in the Divine Light Country!"

"What's the deal with lava monsters!?"

"You guys are getting more and more out of line. The topic's been completely derailed!"

.....

The comments on major live streaming platforms were boiling over; the previous tension had vanished, replaced by some jokes.

Since the volcano had not erupted for a long time, tourists who had gone up the mountain were gradually and completely evacuated, and residents of surrounding cities were quickly relocated.

At least at present, as long as the volcano didn't unleash monsters as discussed online, there wouldn't be a large-scale loss of life.

Those evacuated netizens were more like the main force yelling online. If the volcano erupts and damages their houses, they'll get reconstruction aid later. What's there to fear? Besides, living near the volcano is frightening every day anyway.

Some netizens even praised the Divine Light Country for its swift response and evacuation plan, earning widespread approval!

At this moment, only the staff of the tourism department remained on Jingli Mountain. Even the Special Forces had evacuated by helicopter, not wanting to stay near the potentially erupting volcano.

The staff were also preparing to evacuate. Facing Jingli Mountain, all they saw was a snowy white expanse, devoid of any human presence, already fully evacuated.

The site was strewn with garbage, abandoned clothes, phones, and discarded shoes, looking like a disaster zone. The tourism department staff couldn't manage all this; their priority was to quickly evacuate.

If it weren't for the high-power cameras in the hands of those journalists live-streaming the whole process, they wouldn't care about the tourism department's image. They'd just run and disappear faster than the tourists, not bothering with final cleanup.

This was meant to show everyone in the Divine Light Country that the tourism department didn't give up even at the last moment!

They remained steadfast in their duty!

...

...

Meanwhile, Kendia and his group, having evacuated to the base of the mountain, retreated somewhat as the faint sounds of explosion from the back of the mountain grew distant.

At the foothills of Jingli Mountain, there were no staff or tourists; the area was empty. It was the necessary route to leave Jingli Mountain. If they wanted to leave, this was the only path!

"Did any of you see Lin Beichen while coming down?" Kendia asked the few people behind him.

Helena awkwardly avoided Kendia's gaze and replied, "No, I didn't!"

She too was a bit flustered in facing the situation, not paying much attention to Lin Beichen's figure, focusing instead on evacuating.

"No, didn't see him!"

"No! I kept looking back during the entire evacuation, but didn't spot Lin Beichen."

"Others who dispersed to evacuate haven't reported back either. If they had seen Lin Beichen, they would've called us through the devices!"

The others responded.

Kendia looked up at the mountain top; besides the vast smoke and the sky reddened by the volcano, no figure was in sight.

"Could this guy really have died on the volcano?"

"That would be perfect, no need to hunt him down. He got himself killed, dead is dead!"

Kendia muttered to himself after pondering, and given the current situation, they couldn't go up the mountain to verify.

Based on the mountaintop's condition, survival was impossible!

"Lin Beichen is no ordinary person. This place, being at the foot of Jingli Mountain, is far from the crater, with a lower temperature. We will lie in ambush here. If he isn't dead, he must pass through here to descend, and we'll deliver a fatal blow!"

"We'll have an explanation when we return!"

"What do you think?"

Kendia reasoned, then looked at the group to see their response.

"That makes sense!"

"Indeed, it's the only option. We can't go up the mountain, and if the volcano erupts, we can quickly descend and take a helicopter."

The group agreed with Kendia's decision and dispersed to hide in various spots.

In their opinion, Lin Beichen's extraordinary physique might mean he was still alive and might really come down the mountain.

"Ding!"

"Ding!"

"Ding!"

At that moment, Kendia's communication device received a message for the first time!

"Something's happening!"

"Quick, look at the live broadcast! There's a figure!"

The voice in the communication device was urgent, as if the news they had been waiting for had finally come through. The speaker was almost incoherent. freēwēbñovel.com

"At this critical moment, who has time to watch the live broadcast! If you have nothing to do, come here; I'll give you a task to explore the mountain!"

Kendia snapped back, thinking they were on the brink of eruption, risking their lives to complete the mission of assassinating Lin Beichen!

Yet someone was shouting at him to watch the live broadcast!

It was better to go up the mountain to see if Lin Beichen was dead; if so, they could return home, bathe, sleep, and claim the reward money!

The person on the other end shivered at the thought of going up the mountain, equivalent to a death sentence! Hurriedly, he explained, "The live broadcast, there's a figure! It looks like Lin Beichen!"

"What!?"

Kendia exclaimed in disbelief, quickly calling his teammates to assemble.

He also opened his phone and clicked on the Divine Light Country's official live broadcast platform.

All he saw was a flaming red crater, glaring like the sun, with magma boiling and gushing, thick smoke rising into the sky, and the surrounding soil baked hot red.

Chapter 252: Global Live Broadcast of Lin Beichen Cultivating Immortality

All around the volcano crater, even the stones had turned to ash. At such extreme temperatures, it was impossible for any life to exist!

This was common knowledge!

Everyone gathered around Kendia, staring unblinkingly at the live broadcast on the screen.

However, the screen suddenly changed, and a figure flashed by!

He was seen sitting cross-legged on an open ground, very close to the crater, resembling a cultivator from the movies.

The scene flashed by and was distant. The sky filled with smoke and the helicopter's engine rotations caused the image to shake, resulting in a blurry broadcast.

Kendia rubbed his eyes, looked at the people around him, and asked, "Did you guys see that clearly?"

"Was that figure just now Lin Beichen!?"

Helena and the others shook their heads, "It was just a fleeting scene. We saw a human-like figure sitting cross-legged, but that doesn't necessarily mean it was Lin Beichen."

"And you can see the surroundings were barren. Even the ground was cracked from the heat, and the area near the crater was almost red hot. It's impossible for anyone to withstand such temperatures and sit calmly!"

"Lin Beichen was unharmed even after an explosion. What else isn't possible?!"

Everyone discussed, but no one was sure whether or not the person on the screen was Lin Beichen.

However, the figure on the screen did look very similar!

"Quick, find a way to contact the TV station reporters and have the camera focus back on that spot, on that figure!"

Kendia then made a decision. Since the scene was just a flash, they might as well contact Divine Light Country's main station and have the camera aim directly at the spot. This way, they could see it clearly!

"That's right! I'll contact Griffin, I'm sure with his level, directing a TV station reporter shouldn't be a problem!" Helena patted her head, realizing the solution.

She then turned around, found a relatively higher and more open area, took out a special satellite phone, and dialed a special number and frequency.

...

...

At this moment in Atlantis, in a towering skyscraper, there was a hollow interlayer that the elevator couldn't reach. In one of the rooms, dimly lit, a figure could be seen vaguely standing by the window.

He wore a suit, but his hair was white. Just then, his phone rang.

Upon seeing the number on the screen, his previously indifferent face slightly furrowed.

"Helena, you know the satellite phone can only be used during critical times!"

"Is it that Lin Beichen has been killed?"

The voice on the phone was raspy and harsh. Saying this, he extinguished the cigar he was holding. This was none other than Griffin, from the assassin group.

Helena was a bit nervous, knowing that unless absolutely necessary, cross-border communication via radio was risky due to potential eavesdropping and location tracking.

Moreover, their communication needed to be brief, with strict time limits.

Usually, communication with the Atlantis assassin group required specific locations through dedicated personnel and machines, and those contact points could not be reused.

"Group leader Griffin, we have possibly spotted Lin Beichen's trace, but there are still doubts, we need your assistance!"

"Just found his trace?"

Griffin's eyes flashed coldly. He thought the satellite call would bring good news or some urgent issue, but it was just a trace.

After sorting his thoughts, he considered there might be some difficulty and asked:

"What assistance is needed?"

Helena then briefly explained the issue encountered on Jingli Mountain, mentioning the helicopter hovering over the volcano crater and the need for the reporter to refocus the camera.

To identify if that figure was Lin Beichen.

"I'll handle the reporter issue. You all prepare to climb the mountain again."

Saying this, Griffin hung up Helena's call, thought for a moment, turned away from the window, and returned to his desk. He pressed a red communication button fixed to the right side of the desk.

Moments later, a silent projection appeared on the desk, but the other side only showed a black background.

"Minister, do you have any involvement with Global Times reporters?"

Griffin faced the black background with utmost respect. Global Times' live platform was globally renowned and authoritative, beyond his direct command.

Griffin explained the situation to the black background, requesting Global Times reporters to cooperate with Helena and others.

"I'll handle it."

The machine-like voice came from the black background, and the screen showed "no signal," indicating the video call had ended.

Helena breathed a sigh of relief, collected her thoughts, and turned to everyone, "Alright, group leader Griffin will handle the reporter's camera issue. Let's prepare to climb the mountain again!"

Chapter 253: Global Live Broadcast of Lin Beichen Cultivating Immortality_2

"What!?"

"Climb the mountain again? The volcano is about to erupt!"

"Going up now is just going to get us killed! Whether we can kill Lin Beichen is one thing, whether we can come down again is another!"

The team members, hearing Griffin's demand to prepare to climb the mountain again, all looked at each other, some of them panicking and voicing their opinions.

In fact, it's not that they fear death, but they think there might be a better way. Unless it's absolutely necessary, no one wants to rashly climb the mountain. After all, surviving to collect the bounty is the only thing that matters; everything else is empty talk.

"Enough!"

"Stop arguing. We haven't even confirmed if the figure on the mountain is Lin Beichen. What's the point in discussing the consequences of going up the mountain now?"

Kendia angrily interrupted the discussion among the team members.

Everyone finally quieted down and refocused their attention on the live broadcast screen on their phones.

Sure enough, after Griffin from the Atlantis Intelligence Group communicated, one of the television reporters in the helicopter aimed the high-powered camera at the spot where the fleeting figure had appeared.

The scene became tense, everyone stared at the screen, afraid to miss anything, even activating the phone's screen recording function so they could replay if they missed anything in real time.

The reporter adjusted the camera angle and magnified the lens continuously, while the helicopter also adjusted its angle in search of the previous sighting.

Because the sky was filled with thick smoke, visibility was greatly obstructed, and the network was also experiencing interference, making it difficult to locate the previous angle.

After a long moment, finally, a figure appeared on the screen, precisely the one that had flashed by earlier!

The figure was sitting cross-legged, motionless, resembling a monk meditating in a temple.

But the image was still not very clear and the distance was quite far.

However, the figure's physique and attire could be discerned!

"That's Lin Beichen!"

"He's still on the summit after all. We kept looking back and searching different paths on our way down, and couldn't find him. Turns out he's still up there!"

"Could he be dead already, sitting there motionless?"

"And look! The soil around him has cracked, seemingly scorched by the hot lava to the point of smoking!"

"Can he survive at such a temperature?"

Helena and the others discussed the live footage, each expressing their thoughts, but one viewpoint was shared among them.

That is, under such temperature, Lin Beichen was likely already dead, sitting on the summit!

Suddenly, the camera switched from the figure to a female reporter holding a microphone, explaining the situation of the boiling lava activity at the center of Jingli Mountain's volcano crater.

Then the footage returned to normal, and the reporter resumed the volcano commentary, no longer following their request to focus on Lin Beichen.

"What's going on??" Kendia asked puzzled, looking at Helena, while everyone shared the same confusion.

"It's possible the reporter isn't from our country and can only comply for a moment, not indefinitely," Helena answered awkwardly, as she wasn't sure what method Griffin used to get the reporter to agree to adjust the globally live-streamed footage to show a figure resembling a person.

Maybe only those who knew Lin Beichen would recognize the figure, others who hadn't seen him would simply think it was a place that looked like there was a person, and wouldn't think much of it.

After all, who could imagine someone meditating at the volcano crater!

"Shit! Forget about money at this point!"

"Quick, contact the Fin group for more ideas. If we are to ensure Lin Beichen is dead, we must be willing to bear the cost!"

"We need precise footage! At least we need to see the surroundings to make a plan to climb up!" Kendia said seriously to Helena, then opened up the recording playback to identify the figure's back one last time.

It was difficult for them to believe without a 100% confirmation, and asking the team to go to the volcano crater needed a strong convincing reason.

Under the team's request, Helena dialed Atlantis through the satellite phone again.

Griffin, who was connecting another call, promptly hung up due to the satellite phone's priority and chose to answer Helena's call.

Seeing Helena again, Griffin couldn't help but angrily shout: "Is the reporter issue still not resolved?! You better have new information for me!"

In his view, if the Minister intervened, nothing couldn't be resolved; even wiping out a country, Griffin suspected, was within the Minister's decision rights.

A global times reporter can't be dealt with?

Though prepared to be scolded, Helena was still somewhat nervous.

"It's resolved, but not completely! The footage was brief, we didn't expect him to switch it again, it'll take another twenty minutes to pinpoint Lin Beichen's exact position on Jingli Mountain and plan a route." Helena explained.

"Ten minutes! This is your last chance!"

"But..."

Before Helena finished, the call was hung up.

Moments later, Helena told the team: "We have just one last chance, ten minutes!"

"Enough!" Kendia replied firmly.

Sure enough, this time the global live broadcast focused again on the figure, and the helicopter descended to a dangerous low altitude, getting closer to the volcano crater!

The risk was extremely high, if the engine or instruments sucked in volcanic ash, it could lead to catastrophic failure, yet the reporter continued aiming the footage methodically at an empty spot in the volcanic terrain of Jingli Mountain.

"Hey! What's that!"

As the helicopter approached, the footage became clearer, and the reporter holding the high-powered camera was shocked, seeing a figure sitting cross-legged on the volcanic surface!

Adjusting the lens continuously, she was astonished!

"It's a person!"

The global livestream, the reporter's onsite explanation revealed there was a person sitting cross-legged at Jingli Mountain's volcano crater!

Instantly, the livestream platform attracted global attention, crashing the servers!

On various platforms, everyone was racing to re-broadcast the footage!

Simultaneously, regardless of the platform, the screen exploded with comments!

"No way! There's actually someone sitting at the volcano crater, like a sage in enlightenment!"

"Do you think he's still alive?"

"Impossible, this must be a stunt by Divine Light Country or a ploy by the broadcast platform for hype!"

"I agree with the above, the temperature around the crater can't be bearable for a person, it's clearly a setup by the reporter for popularity!"

"Wait a minute everyone!"

"This is the live feed from the Global Times, which is highly reputable worldwide, as authoritative as an announcement from the United Nations!"

"Under such authority, would they fake for little hype? It's not possible!"

"No, look, it's not just one outlet reporting, Global Times, Divine Light Country Union Report....!"

"But someone cultivating at the crater, compared to a TV channel faking it, I'd believe the latter!"

People worldwide debated the live broadcast of Jingli Mountain, causing near-standstill traffic, work stops, and school closures, everyone glued to their phones watching the live footage.

....

....

At this moment, in a conference room of Great Xia Country's security bureau.

The large projector on the wall was showing the live feed of Jingli Mountain's volcano crater, with attendees seated below, each a head or key officer of the security bureau's various departments!

Various experts were also present, covering the entire special operations command system, now gathered together, watching the live feed.

And leading the group, was Song Xiangdong!

Chapter 254: Ended up Being Struck by Lightning!

He stood on the left side of the projection screen, controlling the screen with his hand, pointing to the figure and explaining to everyone:

"Look, based on the photos of Lin Beichen before he set off to Jingli Mountain, it's not hard to determine from the attire that the figure in the live broadcast is indeed Lin Beichen!"

"Previously, He Jianhua, the president of Imperial Capital University, had explained the situation to me over the phone, confirming that Lin Beichen had indeed climbed Jingli Mountain!"

"Meanwhile, our colleagues stationed in Divine Light Country reported that a group of assassins from the Atlantis organization had recently arrived in the area, and their target is also Lin Beichen!"

"It is very likely that this assassin organization has also identified Lin Beichen from the live broadcast and might send Death Warriors to climb the mountain for an assassination!"

"It's time for us to activate the forces we have lurking in Divine Light Country!"

Song Xiangdong stated seriously, finally looking at everyone and added, "This matter is of great importance, as it falls within the borders of Divine Light Country. Without United Nations authorization, our armed personnel cannot directly enter!"

"Therefore, the forces we can mobilize within Divine Light Country must be extremely precise this time!"

"The plan and measures must be quick, decisive, and infallible!"

"Yes!"

"Yes!"

As soon as Song Xiangdong finished speaking, the group responded in unison, their voices grand and the atmosphere on-site extremely tense.

...

...

At this moment, on a piece of vacant land near the crater of Jingli Mountain.

Lin Beichen continued to arduously temper his heart, now at the most critical moment.

His body was entirely red, with red shimmer emanating from his limbs' blood vessels, as if he had absorbed magma into his physique, transforming his blood into red molten iron, circulating through his limbs.

This made his entire body appear to be steaming and roasting in a furnace, continuously emitting steam!

At this point, he couldn't care less about the dozens of helicopters hovering above him, which included reconnaissance helicopters of the local Divine Light Country military and journalists from various countries, who were risking everything to approach the crater for real-time coverage.

Now, each media outlet had noticed Lin Beichen's figure, and their common goal was to focus their cameras on his location.

Of course, Lin Beichen wouldn't be concerned about these and couldn't notice them anyway. He only felt the surrounding Fire Element intensifying!

Intensifying to an astonishing level!

This was the perfect opportunity, as the blood striving from his heart grew stronger, and it seemed the Fire Element was not only tempering his heart but also nourishing every part of his body, simultaneously enhancing him!

This was an experience he hadn't reached in his previous attempts at tempering his liver and lungs!

"It seems that the Fire Element in the heart might be more important than the last two times!"

Lin Beichen muttered to himself, then abruptly opened his eyes to see the dense Fire Element floating like bubbles, forming tangible shapes!

Lin Beichen knew this was merely an illusionary manifestation in his state of enlightenment, but it made it easier to observe and comprehend the Fire Element.

He then closed his eyes again and re-entered the state of comprehension, feeling the omnipresent Fire Element, absorbing it into his body, and sending it to his heart for the final crucial tempering!

"Just one last step!"

BOOM BOOM BOOM!

Suddenly, Jingli Mountain shook several times like an earthquake. The magma in the crater began boiling like scalding water!

It looked as if it was about to erupt, with magma surging from the crater!

Even the houses around the foot of the mountain collapsed in large areas due to the earthquake, causing cracks to appear on the surrounding peaks!

The situation was dire!

The hovering helicopters in the sky seemed to be affected by the recent volcanic tremors and ascended higher, not daring to get too close.

The smoke and ash emerging from the crater grew denser, covering the sky with a layer of gray mist!

The sky near the crater was illuminated like a blazing sun about to fall, the scene looked like the end of the world, and those watching the live broadcast around the world felt anxious.

After all, such a degree of volcanic eruption could impact global warming, and the ash ejected from the crater could influence the atmospheric quality worldwide.

The most worried were several neighboring countries close to Divine Light Country.

It seemed Divine Light Country was also aware of the concerns of various countries; their worry was if Jingli Mountain's volcano erupted, whether it could be controlled.

Additionally, they were concerned about the extent to which the volcanic eruption could be predicted.

If uncontrollable variables occur, how should they respond!

This was the primary concern of several surrounding nations and even countries worldwide.

If Divine Light Country mishandled the situation, the major powers might first consider nuclear options to level Divine Light Country's land!

To fundamentally resolve the volcanic eruption crisis!

Directly striking the volcano before the outbreak, using nuclear bombs to flatten it.

This scenario was what Divine Light Country least wanted to see, as the power of nuclear bombs is inconceivably terrifying, while Divine Light Country itself is non-nuclear.

Thus, Divine Light Country's official news platform explained the emergency response plan and measures for the Jingli Mountain volcanic eruption.

Chapter 255: Finished, Struck by Lightning! _2

Promises were made to avoid any impact on other countries or any harm to tourists, as well as issues of post-disaster compensation and reconstruction were addressed one by one.

Support for repatriation of citizens from various countries was also included, with comprehensive statements made to the global media.

Among them, the Divine Light Country was the most unfortunate.

The Jingli Mountain, which had been dormant for hundreds of years, suddenly showed signs of eruption today!

The losses after the eruption would be immeasurable, at least setting the economy of the Divine Light Country back by several years, if not decades, requiring a series of efforts to recover.

Boom boom boom!!!

Boom boom boom!!!

.....

The surface of the volcano trembled again, this time with a greater amplitude than before, causing the ground to sway a few times!

"It's going to erupt, it's going to erupt!"

"Quick, quick, the show is about to start!"

"Hurry up, live broadcast!"

"It's the end of the world~~~"

"The Divine Light Country is sinking~~~"

"What the hell are you talking about!!? What does a volcanic eruption have to do with the Divine Light Country sinking?"

"Aren't you afraid of being arrested for mocking the Divine Light Country like this?"

"Afraid of what, can the Divine Light Country really send people to the Great Xia Kingdom to arrest people?"

"Hurry up and erupt, we've been watching for so long!"

...

...

Netizens from all over the world were clamoring, sparking widespread discussions. Most were hoping for the Jingli Mountain volcano to erupt soon so they could witness the spectacle firsthand.

Some netizens were praying that this volcano would not erupt, because if such a large volcano as Jingli Mountain were to erupt, it would inevitably trigger a series of chain reactions.

At this moment, Lin Beichen could not see the comments from netizens on the live streaming platform. He was focused on the Fire Element in his heart—he was just this close to succeeding!

The recent massive tremor of Jingli Mountain also affected him.

The ground where Lin Beichen had been sitting cross-legged collapsed directly, and the surrounding soil rolled down toward the center of the crater, further expanding the volcanic crater!

If Lin Beichen were still lost in his Enlightenment earlier, he might have fallen into the lava along with the surrounding soil, turning into ashes like scattered sand!

Fortunately, he sensed the earthquake just in time and, with his super fast speed, retreated a distance at an astonishing speed, escaping this ground collapse.

"Just a little bit more, should I hold on or not?"

At this moment, Lin Beichen was a bit hesitant. The lava in the crater in front of him was increasingly unstable, as if it could explode at any moment!

But it also seemed that the crater was repeatedly on the verge of erupting without actually doing so, unpredictable!

Rumble~~

Sometime later, a thick mass of dark clouds gathered at the top of the mountain. It was hard to tell whether they were clouds formed from the volcanic ash floating up or caused by some other circumstances, but lightning seemed to flash within the clouds.

After a while, a large mass of dark clouds gathered from around, as if some force was attracting them there. It could also be due to the high temperature at the crater, creating a void in the sky that the dark clouds converged to fill.

At this moment, Lin Beichen couldn't worry about all that. Instead of worrying about the volcano's eruption, it felt more reassuring to break through to the Fire Element Third Realm.

So he found another place with relatively solid ground and sat down cross-legged again. As soon as he closed his eyes, Lin Beichen was astonished!

Here, besides sensing the Fire Element, he also sensed the Electric Element!

Of course, compared to the Fire Element, the concentration of the Fire Element here was many times higher than that of the Electric Element, perhaps due to the rare Electric Element brought by the clouds formed in the sky just now.

"Hmm!?"

"No, something's wrong!"

"Why has the Electric Element suddenly become so dense? It has multiplied!?"

Lin Beichen was astonished!

In an instant, the Electric Element around him multiplied, and it seemed to be descending from the sky!

"It's still increasing!"

"The Fire Element! The Fire Element is also becoming increasingly dense!?"

"What's going on!?"

Lin Beichen was momentarily puzzled by the changes occurring, for such a phenomenon had never occurred in the previous two times.

"Never mind, breaking through is the priority!"

"Just in time to make a final impact on the key area of the heart with the increasingly dense Fire Element."

Sensing the pervasive Fire Elements, as numerous as the stars in the sky, Lin Beichen drew them into his body as he inhaled, and they continuously flowed in.

His heart now resembled a furnace, absorbing and refining the surrounding Fire Element, with the refined essence strengthening his heart.

Although Lin Beichen was in extreme pain, he was also relishing the comfort brought by his increasingly powerful heart!

"I broke through!"

Suddenly, Lin Beichen felt the furnace-like absorption of the Fire Element in his heart reach saturation. In an instant, he broke through to the Third Realm of the Fire Element!

It was as if a narrow passage suddenly opened up wide, enabling the blood to flow more forcefully to his limbs and meridians, making each heartbeat stronger, bringing an unprecedented sense of comfort. His whole body was filled with vitality, as if he had unlimited strength and endless energy!

This made Lin Beichen very pleasantly surprised. Breaking through to the Third Realm of the Fire Element seemed to give him a new understanding of the path of cultivation. He discovered that as his heart broke through to a new realm through this tempering, his entire constitution also improved.

It's not surprising since the heart is the main organ connecting the limbs and meridians, and its breakthrough would naturally lead to an overall improvement of other parts.

At this moment, Lin Beichen opened his eyes and looked around.

The scorching lava resembled molten metal, and the central area of the crater looked like a blazing sun sunk into the ground, dazzling and hard to look at.

The surrounding surface was scorched red, and even the thick rock under Lin Beichen's feet was cracking with fissures.

"Having reached the Third Realm of the Fire Element, my ability to resist high temperatures has also improved. When I first stepped onto the crater, the wind felt like a pot of boiling water hitting me!"

"Now, it's different. It seems I can slowly adapt and accept it!"

Lin Beichen muttered to himself, standing up quietly to feel the changes in himself.

In reality, what he didn't know was that the temperature around him had already doubled or tripled compared to before. Only because of his improved resistance to high temperatures upon reaching the Third Realm of the Fire Element did he not feel the surrounding heat.

If it were an ordinary person standing there, their contact area would have been burnt to a crisp in an instant!

Bang bang!!

Suddenly, before Lin Beichen could react, a bolt of lightning struck down from the dark clouds above, directly aimed at Lin Beichen!

The entire sky was illuminated for a moment by that lightning!

That lightning struck just a meter in front of Lin Beichen, leaving a deep hole in the ground!

"Thunder Tribulation!?"

Lin Beichen stared at the sky in shock. The thick dark clouds covered the sky, blocking out the sunlight. Lightning flashed within the clouds continuously, illuminating the sky repeatedly!

Coupled with the crimson light from the crater below shining upwards into the clouds, it looked like the beginning of the world!

"The temperature around the crater should have already evaporated any low clouds. How can clouds still gather here!? This doesn't make sense!"

"Hmm!? No way!"

Lin Beichen looked up at the sky, and another bright flash of lightning seemed to be gathering power.

He instinctively moved away from his previous spot, just in time to avoid another bolt of lightning that struck right where he had been standing.

"Is this Thunder Tribulation meant for me?"

"No wonder I felt the Electric Element multiplying as I was about to break through!"

"But it also seems like the volcano is helping me resist something!"

"The dried-out ground can't conduct electricity, and the surging high temperatures of the volcano peak, like a sun, seem to have reduced the scale of the clouds!"

What Lin Beichen didn't notice was that the scene of the successive lightning strikes was perfectly captured by the reporters in the helicopter circling the volcano.

Chapter 256: Volcanic Eruption!

The footage captured was broadcasted live in real-time on the Global Times Livestream Platform, accessible to the entire world.

In other words, billions of netizens around the world witnessed this scene at this moment: that man, he's standing up!

Not only did he stand up, but he was also struck by lightning!

Moreover, it seemed as if a faint and faintly discernible light curtain appeared around his body, the curtain was crimson red, emitting a weak glow.

And just now, the light curtain around this figure suddenly became visible around that figure.

It appeared to form a natural barrier, and the figure encased within the barrier seemed immune to all harm, as if even the searing lava could do nothing to him!

Even though the temperature near the crater was soaring higher, reaching hundreds to thousands of degrees even from a distance, if it weren't for this protective barrier, this figure would have been roasted by the heat long ago.

If it were an ordinary person, even a gust of wind blowing from the crater would be enough to char their skin! Yet this figure remained completely unscathed, seemingly unbothered by the raging crater, ready to erupt at any moment, but that figure remained composed and unhurried.

The netizens watching the livestream were all astonished by this scene, and every livestreaming platform's comment section was flooded, the density of comments directly obscured the screen, forcing major platforms to turn off the comment function.

But this did not dampen the enthusiasm of the netizens to discuss. Whether they were at work or sleeping, friends were spreading it through other means.

One to ten, ten to a hundred!

Compared to when the person sitting cross-legged at the crater was first discovered, the number of viewers had doubled!

Shocking the entire internet!

"This person, this person! He actually didn't die!"

"He actually stood up!"

"Not only stood up, he was struck by lightning!"

"Trying to act cool and got struck by lightning!"

"Is he undergoing a tribulation here?"

"The halo around his body, such a divine miracle! I can't believe I had the luck to witness it with my own eyes!"

"Oh my god, there are actually people cultivating immortals in this world!"

"Is this something we mere mortals are supposed to see!?"

"I support the comment above, I thought the governments would suppress this first, but I didn't expect it to be broadcasted live to the world directly!"

"Heavens, I actually got to see an immortal today!"

"Who is this person!?"

"Who is cultivating immortality at the crater!?"

"Which country is he from?"

"He must be from the Great Xia Kingdom! Just look at the sitting posture, it's clearly Daoist! And the clothing style, definitely a citizen of Great Xia!"

"Yes, cultivating immortality to return and annihilate those neighboring troublemaking countries with a snap of a finger!"

"Will this directly open the era of high martial arts!"

.....

.....

As the internet was swept up in a storm, meanwhile at Imperial Capital University, dormitory 207, this moment was no less explosive than the news of the sinking of Divine Light Country!

"This is defying the heavens! Look, isn't that Beichen!" Han Yuan held his phone, the screen displaying a screenshot of the livestream, and handed it to Liang Dong.

"Oh my god, it really looks like him! Look at that back figure, although the picture is a bit blurry, I think it's Beichen, very similar! Just a coincidence that Beichen went to Jingli Mountain. What do you think?"

Liang Dong glanced at the screenshot on Han Yuan's phone and then looked at his own tablet's livestream, zooming in repeatedly, trying to see the clothing clearly.

But the three were somewhat disappointed, the live broadcast was too blurry, the camera kept shaking, and there was a screen full of volcanic ash blocking the view.

"Quick, give him a call! As long as the call goes through, we can confirm it's Beichen!"

"Yes! I want to call him in front of the whole world!"

Han Yuan, with a flash of inspiration, immediately got excited, Liang Dong and Wu You chiming in.

"Hurry, call him!"

The two urged in unison, thinking that they could confirm this globally watched silhouette was their college mate and dorm inhabitant, their vanity swelled at the thought.

It ignited the passion of everyone in dorm 207!

Han Yuan didn't hesitate, immediately dialing Lin Beichen's number.

"Doot~"

"Doot~"

"The number you have dialed is temporarily unavailable, please try again later...."

While dialing, Han Yuan kept his eyes on the live stream on Liang Dong's phone, thinking how exciting it would be to see that figure pull out a phone and answer his call simultaneously!

But things didn't go as planned. Han Yuan then used Wu You's phone to dial Lin Beichen's number, yet the prompt still said the user was temporarily unavailable!

"We should have crowdfunded to get Beichen a new phone from Wahua earlier!"

"Always failing to connect at crucial moments!"

Han Yuan, fuming, smashed his tightly gripped phone against the bed frame!

Liang Dong and Wu You, seeing this, were also a bit disheartened. They had hoped to confirm that the globally sensational figure undergoing immortal cultivation and struck by lightning was their college roommate, but were unable to do so.

"Keep a calm heart, Han. We'll know everything once Beichen comes back, and besides, the idea of immortal cultivation is a bit too far-fetched. I don't think Beichen would be involved in such things. Beichen achieving something through Traditional Martial Arts isn't that exaggerated either, we might have overthought it!"

Wu You patted Han Yuan on the shoulder to comfort him, while also sharing his own viewpoint.

Chapter 257: Volcanic Eruption!_2

This series of global broadcasts, one explosive news after another, were all about the mysterious figure resembling Lin Beichen meditating at the crater of Jingli Mountain volcano, making it feel like a dream.

It still felt like a dream, somewhat unreal!

Or perhaps the leap was too great, making it hard to accept all at once!

This kind of news might be comparable to aliens landing on Earth, or the discovery of extraterrestrial civilization, a brand new unknown world, causing such a huge shock.

Meanwhile, at Imperial Capital University, it wasn't just dormitory 207 that was unusually restless; there was also a principal's office. At this moment, Hao Jianhua was pacing back and forth in his office, hands clasped behind his back.

The series of recent events had given Hao Jianhua a massive headache: Lin Beichen had gone to Jingli Mountain and still hadn't been contacted, and now a cultivator appeared at the crater. Could this person be him?

At this moment, he was restless, unable to alleviate his worries even by standing!

Due to the highest level of secrecy agreement, Hao Jianhua had to bottle up all his worries, unable to share or discuss them with anyone, not even having someone to complain to.

Having climbed to the position of the principal of Imperial Capital University after years of hard work, experiencing countless storms and trials, Hao Jianhua thought he could handle it. However, the incident with Lin Beichen still gave him a massive headache.

"Has the Safety Bureau made a move or not!?"

"The volcano is about to erupt, where on earth is that kid?!"

"Every time he takes time off, he stirs up earth-shattering news, each time bigger than the last. I won't approve your leave again when you come back this time!"

Hao Jianhua muttered complaints to himself, pacing the office for more than half an hour until he was tired, returning to his seat for a sip of tea.

After thinking it over, he decided to call Song Xiangdong from the Safety Bureau again. After all, it was his Imperial Capital University that sent Lin Beichen to Jingli Mountain, and if an accident occurred, he couldn't shirk the responsibility as the principal.

He took out his phone and dialed Song Xiangdong of the Safety Bureau.

But the phone at the other end kept being busy, and despite Hao Jianhua's repeated dialing, it remained unreachable.

"Why can't I reach anyone at such a critical moment!"

Hao Jianhua tightly gripped his phone, frowning as he sat on his chair. After a long sigh, he finally let out a deep breath.

"Well, at least I did what I could, leaving the rest to fate!"

"If even the Safety Bureau can't save you, then that kid's fate is sealed."

Hao Jianhua finally let go, putting everything aside, and chose to return to his room, ignoring the outside world.

...

...

At the foot of Jingli Mountain, Kendia and his team watched the live broadcast intently, wondering if that figure was really Lin Beichen. Given that the figure was a cultivator, even if it wasn't Lin Beichen, dealing with a cultivator wouldn't be easy.

"Dong!"

"Dong!"

"Dong!"

Just as everyone was at a loss, Helena's satellite phone rang.

Everyone immediately stopped watching and looked at Helena in confusion. She answered the phone, and the voice on the other end said, "The identity has been confirmed, it's Lin Beichen. Have you formulated your plan and route?"

The speaker on the phone was Griffin, the leader of the assassin group. Earlier, they had analyzed a clearer image obtained through the military broadcast platform of the Divine Light Country compared to the journalists' footage and made a judgment based on Lin Beichen's last known outfit.

Kendia grabbed the satellite phone from Helena and said, "Respectable Griffin, we will immediately draft a plan. Please await our good news!"

After hanging up, Kendia took out binoculars to observe the situation on the mountain top, while simultaneously identifying the best route up the mountain. He made his decision.

"Up the mountain!"

"We'll take advantage of the empty mountain top to kill him and throw his body into the volcano, making sure no one can trace it."

As soon as Kendia finished speaking, a teammate responsible for route planning said, "The route has been finalized!"

They shared the route map with everyone, which would avoid the journalists' cameras and reach the top quickly.

"GOGOGO!"

With Kendia's command, the group nodded in agreement.

The fact that the figure was still alive was compelling evidence enough!

So, the group, led by Kendia, began their ascent to the mountain top.

At this moment, the top of the mountain was shrouded in dark clouds, as if the sky was about to collapse. The dark clouds hung low, almost within reach, also due to the altitude of the mountain top.

The sight made Lin Beichen uneasy. Just after breaking through to the Fire Element, the sky was filled with clouds, and within them were flashes of lightning and thunder, indicating imminent danger!

The helicopters hovering around the crater also sensed the impending storm, or perhaps were intimidated by the dark clouds, making the scene even more eerie.

Even the military helicopters of Divine Light Country decided to keep their distance from the area. Although journalists on civilian helicopters wanted the best footage, they had to avoid the area.

The crater grew increasingly restless, with flashes of lightning and thunder becoming more frequent in the sky, as if a thunderstorm could strike at any moment.

Chapter 258: Volcanic Eruption! _3

This scene made all of Lin Beichen's pores stand on end, as if his body was issuing a warning, making him feel uneasy and vigilant of his surroundings.

He even directly summoned the light curtain, tightly wrapping his body within it to cope with any sudden change that might occur at any moment.

"Such an anomaly seems to be targeting me. I suppose there's no avoiding it!"

Boom! Boom!!!

Bam!

The turbulent clouds were flashing and thundering, seemingly unable to suppress their roaring fury any longer. In an instant, two bolts of lightning struck down directly!

In the dim Jingli Mountain, it was as bright as day at this moment. The lightning tore through the sky with a deafening thunderclap, as if it was happening right next to Lin Beichen's ears.

This scene was just captured by a distant reporter.

"My God, the lightning is raging!"

"No, the lightning didn't hit that figure! Instead, it's..."

The entire network held its breath and stared intently at the live broadcast, afraid to miss the most thrilling moment. What was happening before their eyes shocked the entire network!

"The lightning struck the mountain body near the volcano's crater!"

"Look, the volcano's ruptured!"

"It's over, the magma is flowing out!"

"It's over, the volcano has finally erupted!"

...

In space, two dazzling bolts of lightning cut through the sky one after another, descending straight down, not only making Lin Beichen's hair stand on end but also leaving him fearful of the previous thrilling scene!

Luckily, the lightning did not directly hit him!

The two bolts of lightning just now were destructive, far beyond what he could currently withstand in his Realm!

It was like a warning from the heavens, warning Lin Beichen not to continue breaking the norms and pursuing an unconventional path in cultivation!

So this time, the strike hit a piece of the mountain body at the top of the crater!

"No good!"

The part of the mountain body struck by the lightning collapsed directly, and the red magma gushed out like floodwaters!

Lin Beichen didn't think and immediately unleashed all his potential, stimulating the Fire Element of the Third Realm to its strongest state. The red light curtain outside his body became more solid, forming a barrier to protect himself.

In the next step, he directly pushed his physical body to the limit, with speed, strength, and agility enhanced, then turned and ran swiftly towards the other side of the breached area.

This was an instinctive reaction, with no time to think.

Even so, he could still feel the intense heat getting closer and closer!

At the same time, the helicopters circling in the sky all moved back a considerable distance, and the photography reporters nervously adjusted the lens magnification, trying to capture the current state.

Because they were also shocked!

That volcano, dormant for hundreds of years, erupted today!

They were witnessing a volcanic eruption that happens once in a century!

Who wouldn't be excited?

Meanwhile, internet users were crashing servers all over the world, yet it didn't dampen their enthusiasm for watching the live broadcast.

Perhaps what caught the entire network's attention was not just the volcanic breach.

But that figure!

That figure, suspected to be a proven cultivator!

He was evading the magma at this moment, but the magma was too quick!

"Oh my God! That figure is being chased by the magma!"

"It's over, it's over! The cultivator is finished!"

"Just appeared, and it's already over?"

"The magma engulfed him; he can't possibly survive!"

"It's over; there's nothing more to see. Let's go!"

"Yeah, what's with the cultivator nonsense? Can it defy the forces of nature?"

At this moment, netizens on all major platforms seemed to unanimously hold their breath, staring intently at the live broadcast.

The path of the flowing magma left nothing behind. The thick snow, towering trees, and massive rocks could not block the flow of magma!

Chapter 259: It's the Volcano He Ignited Through Cultivation!

In the Volcano Research Institute of Divine Light Country, a hall was packed with over a hundred people. They were all experts in volcano studies from various regions of Divine Light Country, as well as leaders from departments such as emergency response management and special security groups, who had gathered here today.

The atmosphere was extraordinarily tense. Everyone stood up, eyes fixed unblinkingly on the large screen showing real-time footage of the Jingli Mountain volcanic crater. This footage was provided by the military of Divine Light Country, featuring higher magnification lenses and more stable military helicopters compared to the ordinary journalists' equipment.

At this moment, the one looking most severe was Kan Taidao, the group leader of the Volcano Research Institute. He knew that the eruption of Jingli Mountain would cause incalculable damage!

After centuries of silence, Jingli Mountain erupted today.

In the center of the hall sat the director of the Volcano Research Institute, Yashiro Yamakawa!

He was staring at the screen, appearing somewhat lost in thought, as the initial images replayed in his mind.

After a moment, he finally spoke, breaking the silence that had filled the hall!

"Replay the footage from the beginning!"

It seemed everyone was so immersed in the live footage that they did not immediately react. After Yashiro Yamakawa repeated the command, the staff responsible for adjusting the footage followed his instructions.

"Move it further back!"

"Move it further back!"

"Yes, there. Zoom in!"

"Zoom in more!"

"Play at 0.5x speed!"

Yashiro Yamakawa pointed at the screen, not moving an inch, while Kan Taidao was still puzzled, not understanding the director's actions.

At this moment, they should be focusing on the live broadcast and making emergency response decisions accordingly. Why watch a replay now?

Until the footage returned to the moment right before the crater of Jingli Mountain burst, Kan Taidao was stunned!

It was not just him; everyone in the room, including Yashiro Yamakawa, was utterly silent, you could hear a pin drop!

You could even hear the footsteps of an ant passing by.

The footage revealed that the eruption of Jingli Mountain was not triggered by an internal volcanic explosion. The lava did not seem to erupt upwards. Rather, the mountainside surrounding the crater was struck by lightning, causing a breach!

The lava then flowed through the breached area down the mountain!

"Replay the moment the lightning struck!" Yashiro Yamakawa shouted, pointing at the screen.

"Zoom in more!"

"Zoom in more!"

....

As the footage played, everyone stared intently, rendered speechless!

"Why did two lightning bolts strike the same place consecutively! And right near the volcanic crater?!"

"No, how could there be clouds gathering around the volcano?!"

"With the heat near the crater, shouldn't all the rainwater in the sky have been evaporated already?!"

Kan Taidao exclaimed.

"In the cultivation novels of the Great Xia Kingdom, there's a concept called 'Thunder Tribulation'!"

.....

Seeing the footage, everyone present drew a sharp breath. The scene seemed to transcend their knowledge and was more shocking than anything they had seen before.

"Thunder Tribulation!!?" Yashiro Yamakawa looked gravely at Kan Taidao, signaling him to continue.

Kan Taidao did not dare to put on airs. He had become a group leader in the top institution of Divine Light Country at a relatively young age because of his extensive knowledge.

He had delved into various disciplines, not limited to those within their own country, but including genres such as fantasy cultivation novels of the Great Xia Kingdom, and legends of ancient traditional martial arts and high-level martial arts.

Kan Taidao had explored them all.

From the live footage earlier, seeing the figure sitting cross-legged, he had a preliminary judgment. However, such things he had only seen in novels or heard in tales. He had never encountered it in reality.

He dared not be sure, and therefore refrained from making claims in public.

But now it was different. He was one hundred percent sure that the figure was a legendary cultivator!

At the very least, it could not be explained why someone could sit cross-legged on the scorching ground under such high heat, considering all the strange things they had seen recently.

For instance, the cloud layers appearing where they shouldn't, seemingly hovering right above the figure.

How could this be explained by common science?

Kan Taidao felt it was time to voice his speculation. Compared to his guess, the concept of cultivation seemed to perfectly explain the scene before them.

"In the cultivation tales from Great Xia, Thunder Tribulation commonly occurs when a cultivator is advancing in realm, as the heavens test or punish the intruder breaking through human limitations. It usually manifests as descending thunder, commonly known as Thunder Tribulation!"

"Surviving the Thunder Tribulation often means the cultivator's realm will be elevated further, passing through it to face no further obstacles!"

"The formation of Thunder Tribulation, as seen in the current situation, where clouds gather in an unexplained location, is consistent with the phenomenon!"

"In the previous live footage, there were two bolts of lightning striking the figure, each time narrowly missing the same spot!"

Chapter 260: It's the Volcano He Ignited Through Cultivation!_2

"Thinking carefully, two bolts of lightning striking the same place at the same time, causing the volcanic crater to burst, the probability is no less than one in a billion, unless it's the heavens wanting to destroy the Divine Light Country!"

"It's that figure causing this!"

"Although there is no scientific theory to explain it, it cannot be ignored as a current research direction!"

Inside the hall, the atmosphere was extremely tense. The eyes of dozens of people were fixed on the just-turned-around man. As his voice fell, everyone was lost in thought over what he had said.

...

...

Jingli Mountain, mid-mountain area.

Helena and her group were heading towards the summit. As they reached the dense forest at mid-mountain, to speed up, everyone was holding a pistol and some special kinds of lightweight weapons.

Heavy weapons were left at the mountain base, to conserve energy. With twelve people surrounding Lin Beichen, it should be enough.

Just a short time after they emerged from the dense forest, the sky turned red from the light at the summit.

In the gradually darkening sky, it was like a bright scarlet sun making the summit exceptionally bright.

"God! Lava is flowing down!"

"Oh my god!"

Helena and others almost simultaneously stopped advancing, staring at the lava rolling down from the summit like a stream!

Everyone was petrified. Who had ever seen such a scene!

This was a volcano eruption!

Usually seen only in movies, lava bursting from a volcano and covering the entire mountain with sparks like the end of the world, unimaginable!

At this moment, what did they think!

"Run!!"

"Down the mountain!"

The group immediately turned and ran without thinking, not caring about Lin Beichen anymore. First save their own lives, at least under the current circumstances, Lin Beichen at the summit might not survive!

"Wait! It doesn't seem to be a full eruption!"

"Right!"

"Only one side! The other side is unaffected! Let's go to the other side!"

Helena carefully observed the current situation and decisively made a decision.

At this moment, if they go directly down the mountain, they might be quickly overtaken by the flowing lava, at that time no chance of surviving.

Moreover, there was an important task, which was to kill Lin Beichen.

Lin Beichen was at the very top of the mountain. If he wasn't dead, he could observe the lava's situation first-hand and with his physique, he would naturally flee towards the other side of the volcanic crater.

Thinking about this, Helena also headed towards the other side, perhaps they could encounter Lin Beichen.

Upon hearing Helena's words, everyone paused, looked at the summit, and without hesitation followed her steps.

...

...

Great Xia Kingdom, safety bureau meeting room.

Song Xiangdong pondered repeatedly, finally made a decision, turned and left the meeting room, arriving at the deepest part of a dark, unlit corridor guarded by armed guards outside.

Seeing Song Xiangdong approaching, they no longer obstructed.

Arriving at a door labeled "Top Secret," he underwent corneal recognition to unlock it, and the door finally opened.

Entering the room, he turned on the side lamp. This was a windowless room with only a chair, a row of telephones, and a few locked switch buttons.

Song Xiangdong walked straight to a phone labeled "Shadow Special Operations Team," underwent corneal recognition again, and unlocked the communication device.

Without hesitation, he took out the communication device, which was similar to a satellite phone but required connecting to a special frequency for communication.

"Boom!"

"Boom boom!"

"Boom boom boom!!"

...

After a few continuous rings, someone finally responded.

"Password!"

"9227!"

Song Xiangdong answered precisely, then continued: "I am from the safety bureau, Song Xiangdong, connecting to Divine Light Country Shadow Special Operations, Old Zou!"

The person on the other end hesitated for a while, as this phone hadn't been used for over a decade and few knew about the Shadow Special Operations Team, a top secret unit.

Shadow Special Operations Team was a covert unit stationed in Divine Light Country, sent early by the Great Xia Kingdom, trained specifically for protection and intelligence gathering.

But not a team for assassination missions, rather secretly protecting Great Xia's officials in Divine Light Country and gathering intelligence.

Soon, a response came from the other end.

"Xiangdong!"

"Hearing from you surprises me greatly. State your business directly, let me see what kind of event warrants using this phone!"

The person on the other end was a slender, well-dressed man, appearing very capable, with piercing eyes. Although he had gray hair and was over sixty, he seemed exceptionally spirited.

He was Zou Ming, commander of the Shadow Special Operations Team!

"Old friend, long time no see!"

Song Xiangdong exchanged brief pleasantries with Zou Ming, after almost a decade without contact, each had their own missions, thus breaking off communication.

Then he succinctly explained the situation Lin Beichen faced in Divine Light Country's Jingli Mountain and requested assistance.

"I will coordinate the naval special forces to send a destroyer to Divine Light Country's near seas for support. The rest is up to you. Remember, Old Zou, do not reveal your identities! Remember your mission!"

Song Xiangdong spoke firmly and resolutely.

His words shocked Zou Ming. A young man in his twenties attracting such attention from Song Xiangdong.

Who was he? The Director of the Safety Bureau!

A vital role in a nation's security department!

Moreover, dispatching a destroyer for his rescue in Divine Light Country!

Zou Ming felt unprecedented gravity, realizing the importance from Song Xiangdong's serious tone.

Even without these details, the mere use of this secret phone was significant enough.

"Rest assured, I will handle it properly."

With that, he hung up the phone.

Song Xiangdong finally breathed a sigh of relief, entrusting it to Zou Ming, whom he trusted immensely.

He shook his head in amazement thinking, "This guy really knows how to stir things up!"

Mumbling, not in blame but feeling apprehensive, it had been a long time since he felt so on edge.

Because of a young man in his twenties!

In Song Xiangdong's view, this young man might change Great Xia's international status.

Perhaps affecting a century's future!

Too distant to predict even for Song Xiangdong.

...

...

Divine Light Country, Jingli Mountain volcanic crater.

Various media reporters focused their cameras on the lava flowing down from the crater, broadcasting real-time images to billions of viewers globally.

Everyone was hoping for a miracle.

Throughout human civilization, there was never a verified cultivator, mostly swindlers and frauds.

During the Qin Dynasty, the First Emperor spent a nation's resources seeking immortality but his wish didn't come true.

Similarly, the Ming Dynasty also had a cultivating Emperor, gathering all capable individuals across the land. But did he achieve his goal?

Not even records of their miracles, let alone successful cultivation.

Thus, modern understanding dismissed the idea of cultivation; at most, maximizing human potential without surpassing human limits!

This was scientific basis, fundamental theory, common knowledge!

This sight, that figure sitting near the burning lava, lightning descending upon him, the mountain collapsing, even forming a protective light screen around him!

This absolutely surpassed human limits!

The light screen itself was a symbol of miracles!

In this era, almost everyone witnessed it simultaneously!

But, a moment later, he was buried by the lava, is he still alive?