

Apocalypse 401

Chapter 401: Not Even the Yellow River Can Wash Away This Stain

The Rat Spirit was the first to hear the rumor Kong Aotian spread, and having heard the detailed account, he was prepared to come and check the situation.

However, given that Zengzhang Heaven and his group were quite formidable in numbers, the Rat Spirit dared not appear openly.

Relying on his ability to move underground, he snuck over from beneath the earth.

By coincidence, just as the Rat Spirit arrived, he saw Guangmu Heaven pick up the Human Seed Bag from the tree branches and pocket it.

Witnessing this scene, the Rat Spirit rubbed his eyes fiercely to ensure he wasn't mistaken — the Human Seed Bag was indeed in Guangmu Heaven's hand.

"It seems the rumor is true."

"They've obtained several broken pieces of the treasure."

"No wonder we've been searching for so long and found nothing!" Thought the Rat Spirit, hidden underground.

The Rat Spirit wanted to acquire some treasure fragments, but he also knew he couldn't beat Guangmu Heaven alone, let alone face the entire group.

Fortunately, the Rat Spirit was very clever, and upon seeing Guangmu Heaven obtain the Human Seed Bag, he used the projection magic to record the scene.

The Rat Spirit understood that to force Guangmu Heaven and his group to surrender their gains, he needed to gather allies and apply pressure.

Gather the majority of strong individuals outside and press them together.

Though Guangmu Heaven and his group were numerous, they numbered just over ten, compared to the hundreds of treasure seekers outside.

The treasure fragments here should not solely be theirs.

Having first heard the rumor spread by Kong Aotian and then witnessed Guangmu Heaven collect the Human Seed Bag, the Rat Spirit had already concluded that all treasure fragments were with them.

Once he had a plan, the Rat Spirit quietly slipped away using his underground tunneling technique.

After leaving, the Rat Spirit immediately used projection magic to display the recorded scene, attracting more and more powerful figures.

Kong Aotian had just spread the news, and the treasure hunters were still skeptical.

Initially, Lin Yuan obtained the Human Seed Bag, followed by rumors that Guangmu Heaven and his group acquired all broken treasures.

These rumors were increasingly absurd and explosive, making them hard to believe.

But once the projection appeared, the effect was entirely different.

Everyone saw Guangmu Heaven tuck the Human Seed Bag into his chest firsthand.

In this way, the rumor about Lin Yuan obtaining the Human Seed Bag was naturally debunked.

"It seems that news is true."

"The Human Seed Bag indeed was taken by them."

"Hmph, what they got is certainly not limited to the Human Seed Bag."

"I was searching in that area before they arrived and drove me away, otherwise I would've gotten the treasure."

"Zengzhang Heaven and his group are too domineering, monopolizing the area and all the treasures — we toiled for nothing."

"Treasures should belong to everyone, we should confront them. At the very least, they need to share a couple of pieces."

"Right, out of the three treasures, they should keep one and give us two."

"Exactly, let's confront them, they can't keep all the treasure to themselves."

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The numerous powerhouses cried out in unison, having reached a consensus in their words.

Most of the treasure seekers were sent by their elders, and without acquiring treasures, they couldn't report back.

Others were grassroots individuals, struggling through Tier Four and Tier Five, naturally lacking treasures.

This was their closest opportunity to acquire treasures, and they were unwilling to give it up.

The projection solidified Kong Aotian's fabricated rumors, turning Zengzhang Heaven's group into targets.

At the back of the crowd, Lin Yuan and Kong Aotian mingled, watching the lively spectacle unfold.

Lin Yuan wore a sinister smile, whispering in Kong Aotian's ear, "Those bastards from Zengzhang Heaven dared to cross me; I'm going to show them the cost."

"When this group comes knocking, they'll pay dearly."

Lin Yuan foresaw that even when confronted, Zengzhang Heaven and his group wouldn't easily surrender.

Giving up grounds so easily was impossible.

Moreover, Zengzhang Heaven represented not just himself but his entire Sect.

If they surrendered when threatened, the embarrassment would spread across their sect and the World Honored's image.

The group gathered together, thirty-plus strong, marching toward Zengzhang Heaven's area.

Others were observing from afar due to various reasons, not wanting to confront Zengzhang Heaven.

Lin Yuan and Kong Aotian trailed behind the group, part to watch and part to find their opportunity.

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Meanwhile, Guangmu Heaven, after obtaining the Human Seed Bag, went to report to his elder brother Zengzhang Heaven.

"Brother, Brother."

"Look what I've found!" Guangmu Heaven said, pulling out the Human Seed Bag from his chest.

Seeing the Human Seed Bag, Zengzhang Heaven was overjoyed.

"Brother, your luck is excellent!"

"So quickly, you've found a treasure piece." Zengzhang Heaven exclaimed in excitement.

Guangmu Heaven scratched his head and replied, "Only two-thirds, still missing a part."

As the brothers conversed, nearby Lian Huasheng, Great Python God, and Garuda gathered around.

Upon seeing the Human Seed Bag, they too were thrilled.

Because, when Zengzhang Heaven invited them, he clearly mentioned the Human Seed Bag, Gold Bowl, and Mud-made Alms Bowl as the three treasures.

If they could obtain all three, Guangmu Heaven and Zengzhang Heaven would take one, and the other two would be distributed among them.

Should they find only one, Zengzhang Heaven and Guangmu Heaven would offer something to compensate them, ensuring they didn't come for nothing.

Remarkably, they found the Human Seed Bag shortly after arriving, hinting they might collect all three treasure fragments.

"Brother, which of these two treasures would you like?" Guangmu Heaven asked Zengzhang Heaven.

Guangmu Heaven believed that having obtained the Purple Gold Alms Bowl at Wu Nengsheng Dojo earlier, and now the Human Seed Bag, both brothers each deserved a piece.

Previously, Zengzhang Heaven had allowed Guangmu Heaven to keep the Purple Gold Alms Bowl close.

Having two pieces now, Guangmu Heaven wouldn't forget his elder brother.

The brotherly bond between them was undoubtedly strong.

Chapter 402: Raising Troops to Denounce, Garuda Erupts in Violence

Zengzhang Heaven and Guangmu Heaven, the two brothers, were discussing how to divide the treasures here, while a circle of people like Lian Huasheng, Great Python God, and Garuda surrounded them, eagerly watching.

Even though they're all part of the same group, seeing the two brothers dividing the treasures, you can't help but feel envious.

Zengzhang Heaven, somewhat clever, noticed their gazes and realized that the division of treasures now seemed a bit unsightly.

So, Zengzhang Heaven said to Guangmu Heaven, "Third Brother, let's leave the items with you for now. When we find the rest of the treasures, we'll divide them together."

After Guangmu Heaven put away the treasures, Zengzhang Heaven addressed everyone around, "Fellow friends of the path, our luck is not bad."

"I think there's a good chance these three items will come into our possession."

After Zengzhang Heaven finished speaking, Great Python God chimed in, "These treasures should fall into our hands. The Mud-made Alms Bowl is the World Honored's treasure, we must reclaim it and cannot let it wander outside."

"As for the Human Seed Bag and Golden Bowl, they're the belongings of Wu Nengsheng. Wu Nengsheng is a traitor of our sect. Many brothers have died because of him."

"Reclaiming the Golden Bowl and Human Seed Bag is a form of compensation."

After Great Python God's words, everyone nodded in agreement.

Everyone felt Great Python God's words made sense.

Others came to hunt for treasure; they came to retrieve their belongings.

However, at that moment, a formidable group of about thirty people had already entered the area Zengzhang Heaven designated.

Seeing this group suddenly break into their area, Zengzhang Heaven and the others were taken aback.

Especially the hot-tempered Garuda, he rushed in front of the group and shouted angrily, "Are you courting death?"

"Who allowed you to trespass into our territory?"

Garuda was furious, and someone from the other side was indignant.

A Minotaur from the Demon Race stepped out, pointing at Garuda's nose and said, "You sure marked your territory well!"

"All the places with treasures are marked by you. We're out there toiling away and found nothing. Meanwhile, you easily got all the treasures here!"

Upon hearing the Minotaur's words, Zengzhang Heaven and the others exchanged glances, with expressions of surprise.

After all, Guangmu Heaven had just obtained the Human Seed Bag a short while ago, how did the news spread so quickly?

"What's going on?"

"How did they find out?" Zengzhang Heaven privately transmitted to his group.

Lian Huasheng also transmitted, asking, "Guangmu Heaven, when you took the Human Seed Bag, were you seen?"

Guangmu Heaven hesitated for a moment and replied via transmission, "I don't think so."

"Either you were seen or you weren't!"

"I don't think so, what does that mean?" Great Python God looked frustrated.

At this point, all eyes were on Guangmu Heaven.

Under the gaze of so many people, Guangmu Heaven felt pressured. He carefully recalled and seriously transmitted back, "No, I was absolutely not seen."

"When I took the Human Seed Bag, I looked around purposefully."

With Guangmu Heaven's confident answer, Lian Huasheng felt relieved.

"This group might be trying to deceive us!"

"Hold steady, I'll handle them!" With that, Lian Huasheng stepped forward.

Lian Huasheng is clever, dealing with this group shouldn't be an issue.

As soon as Lian Huasheng stood out, someone questioned him, "Lian Huasheng, we heard you obtained the Human Seed Bag, Mud-made Alms Bowl, and Golden Bowl, all three treasures!"

"You're hoarding them all, making everyone's trip futile. Isn't that a bit unfair?"

Hearing this, Lian Huasheng felt a sudden shock.

Thinking, just talking about the Human Seed Bag, and now, it's claimed they got all three treasures?

Suddenly, Lian Huasheng realized something was amiss, suspecting there might be schemes involved.

"No!"

"I, Lian Huasheng, swear by the heavens, we didn't obtain the three treasures."

"If we took all three treasures, may we be struck by lightning!" Lian Huasheng vowed earnestly.

Everyone knows that in the Mysterious World, oaths are not spoken lightly.

But, Lian Huasheng wasn't speaking lightly; he spoke the truth.

His vow was that if they had all three treasures, they'd be struck by lightning. Since they didn't get three treasures, only one, it didn't count as breaking the vow.

Lian Huasheng's vow left the group attempting to challenge them momentarily stunned.

The group hesitated, wondering why Lian Huasheng dared make such a vow.

"Lian Huasheng, don't just talk your way out, we wouldn't come to you without concrete evidence."
Then someone used Magic to project the scene of Guangmu Heaven taking the Human Seed Bag, saying,
"Please watch the VCR."

Seeing the VCR, Lian Huasheng immediately broke into a cold sweat.

He realized now, Guangmu Heaven obtaining the Human Seed Bag was potentially a trap.

The one who discovered the Human Seed Bag decided not to keep it, but instead let Guangmu Heaven obtain it.

Clearly, using the Human Seed Bag as bait was a strategic move!

But Lian Huasheng knew that having denied it previously, he must continue to deny now.

Admitting they had the Human Seed Bag was akin to admitting they had all three treasures.

"Heh!" Lian Huasheng coldly laughed, and said to everyone, "With this vague projection, you claim Guangmu Heaven took the Human Seed Bag."

"If you want such films, I can fabricate a false projection myself."

As soon as Lian Huasheng finished speaking, the hot-tempered Garuda stepped forward, cursing this group, "With folks like you, you dare to come and trouble us?"

"What's the point in having numbers if you plan to fight? You're welcome to try."

Lian Huasheng used a soft approach, while Garuda used a tough approach—although the group came in challenging, their minds were not united.

Thus, they hesitated, seemingly unwilling to fight, about to withdraw.

Seeing the group hesitate, the Rat Spirit quickly stepped forward saying, "I saw with my own eyes, it was Guangmu Heaven who took the Human Seed Bag."

"We can't let them hoard it, we must call..."

Before the Rat Spirit could finish, his voice abruptly stopped.

Garuda's talons had pierced his heart, holding a still-beating heart in his palm.

"Trash like you, dare throw mud at us?" Garuda angrily said.

Garuda's sudden act of killing even startled Lian Huasheng.

But Lian Huasheng knew, they must not retreat now; if they retreat, the group would surely press on.

Chapter 403: A Chaotic Brawl

Not a step can be yielded, not a single inch.

In such a situation, once we yield, this group will surely press us further.

Lian Huasheng also wore a stern look and harshly scolded this group: "Do you really think we are easy to bully?"

"Don't say we're without the treasure. Even if we had it, there's no way we'd hand it over to you!"

"Since the World Honored created the Sect, we as the World Honored's followers have never been coerced. If we were forced by you, where is our dignity, where is the dignity of the World Honored?"

"Since you want a fight, then let's try it, let's see what you are made of."

As soon as Lian Huasheng finished speaking, Garuda immediately bragged: "With you lousy goods, I can handle ten of you alone."

"Let's see whose people die first, yours or ours."

They are all strong at the same level, Garuda claiming to handle ten is surely boastful.

However, Garuda excels in combat power and among Zengzhang Heaven's people, he is one of the strongest.

Claiming to handle ten is a boast, but if he truly fights fearlessly, Garuda can definitely take down three or four opponents before his death.

Zengzhang Heaven's crew is like a regular army, relatively trustworthy and more united.

But the group accusing them is just a ragtag bunch, not even real bandits.

Such a ragtag will never have the momentum of a regular army.

Sure enough, when Lian Huasheng and the others made a stance implying a willingness to fight,

The group accusing them hesitated, and quite a few started sneaking back a few steps.

Clearly, none were willing to be in the front, battling with Zengzhang Heaven's people, all hoping to fish in troubled waters, reaping what others sow.

The VCR footage was immediately dismissed as a fake by Lian Huasheng, and the Rat Spirit that claimed seeing Guangmu Heaven obtaining the Human Seed Bag, was killed by Garuda before finishing the words.

Now, all evidence is gone, and this group is starting to feel unsure.

At this time, Lin Yuan and Kong Aotian are hidden in the distance, quietly observing the confrontation between the two groups.

There are not just Lin Yuan and Kong Aotian watching in secret, but many other powerhouses who avoid revealing themselves.

These powerful hidden watchers either dislike causing trouble or are somewhat connected with the World Honored One Sect, not wanting to offend the World Honored.

Seeing the two groups confronting each other without initiating a fight, and showing signs of retreat.

Kong Aotian clenched his small fists, angrily saying: "Why are they so timid!"

"With numbers three to four times greater, they still hesitate to fight, truly a bunch of wastes!"

Kong Aotian loves a spectacle the most, and this delay in the fight fails to satisfy his desire for a show, thus making him anxious.

Lin Yuan designed this tactic intending to make them fight, if they don't, Lin Yuan's efforts are wasted.

Lin Yuan looked at Kong Aotian: "Don't worry, I'll add fuel to the fire."

No fight?

Today, Lin Yuan will certainly make them fight.

Lin Yuan has a way to make them fight.

As long as they see the Human Seed Bag with their own eyes, they naturally won't hold back.

Thinking of this, Lin Yuan started communicating with the ban on the Human Seed Bag, controlling it through the restriction.

The restriction is drawn with Lin Yuan's blood, and apart from the creator Wu Nengsheng, Lin Yuan is the first in line to control the bag.

Lin Yuan easily controlled the Human Seed Bag, intending to show it in front of everyone.

As he was about to proceed, he suddenly found Wu Nengsheng's Purple Gold Alms Bowl next to the Human Seed Bag.

The impact of just the Human Seed Bag pales in comparison when combined with the Purple Gold Alms Bowl.

Thinking this, Lin Yuan controlled the Human Seed Bag along with Purple Gold Alms Bowl, and they flew out with a "whoosh".

"What's that?" All eyes turned to the streak of light, faces full of shock.

At the same time, Guangmu Heaven shouted: "The treasure is gone!"

In the dark, Lin Yuan maneuvered the Human Seed Bag with the Purple Gold Alms Bowl, halting them in front of both groups.

Seeing the Human Seed Bag and Purple Gold Alms Bowl, both groups were stunned.

The first to react was Guangmu Heaven.

He had finally obtained these two treasures, his second brother asked him to keep them safe, if they were lost, how could he explain to his second brother?

So Guangmu Heaven's first response was to leap forward, trying to recover the treasures.

Others, upon seeing these two treasures, instinctively attempted to seize them!

"You said you didn't have the treasures, yet it flew right out of Guangmu Heaven's embrace!"

"Brothers, these treasures of heaven and earth are for anyone who seizes them, grab them!"

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Shouts echoed, everyone leapt up, trying to snatch the treasures.

The ones closest certainly reach the treasures first, those behind are outpaced.

Hence, the ones behind simply attacked, unleashing energy attacks on those in front.

A moment ago, it was a stand-off with signs of retreat.

Next, it escalated into a fierce mêlée.

At this point, it became utter chaos, no distinctions between friends and foes.

In essence, anyone approaching these two treasures met with overwhelming energy attacks like tidal waves.

Because Guangmu Heaven was so eager to reclaim the treasures, each advance made him become a target, and under massive energy attacks, he was seriously injured, his body full of scars, blood spilling from his lips.

Guangmu Heaven, heavily injured, dared not easily approach the treasures anymore.

Great Python God took his place, soaring to use his tail to reel in the treasures.

As his tail approached them, a surge of attacks hit, forcing Great Python God back, the tail scorched to the point of aroma.

"Guangmu Heaven, what's going on?"

"Aren't the treasures with you? Unable to guard two ownerless treasures?" Grumbled Great Python God.

Great Python God's tail suffered greatly this time.

Initially severed by Lin Yuan, and now roasted into a crisp.

Embarrassed, Guangmu Heaven's face flushed, "huffing and puffing" speechless.

Lian Huasheng did not blame Guangmu Heaven but instead sided with him.

"This isn't Guangmu Heaven's fault. I suspect someone is plotting against us in secret!"

"Everyone look after each other and be cautious. Defeat these people first, then seize the treasures!" said Lian Huasheng slowly.

When they arrived, Lian Huasheng sensed something amiss, and with the inexplicable emergence of treasures from Guangmu Heaven, his suspicions were confirmed.

Chapter 404: Treasure Snatching in Progress

The situation has developed to an irreparable point.

The Human Seed Bag and the Purple Gold Alms Bowl are right in front of everyone, and neither side is willing to give up these treasures within reach.

Especially Zengzhang Heaven and his followers, they can't spit out the fat meat at hand.

There is no room for retreat, and both sides clash together.

In terms of individual strength, Zengzhang Heaven's side is stronger and more united.

However, the enemy's numbers far exceed theirs.

Moreover, those who come to the Life and Death Trial Arena to seek treasure are not weak, no matter how weak.

Therefore, both sides are evenly matched for a moment and hard to distinguish a winner.

With the lessons learned from Guangmu Heaven and others, no one wants to grab the treasures first for now.

Because whoever goes for the treasures now will become the target of many.

As long as the opponent is dealt with, the treasures will eventually be theirs.

"Clap!"

"Clap! Clap!"

Kong Aotian clapped excitedly: "They're fighting, they're really fighting!"

Lin Yuan watched the battlefield intently, but remained calm.

"Don't rush, the bigger one is yet to come!" Lin Yuan said to Kong Aotian with a smile.

The bigger one is yet to come?

Kong Aotian's CPU was nearly overheated, still not understanding what Lin Yuan meant.

"What?"

"What bigger one is yet to come?" Kong Aotian asked curiously.

Lin Yuan looked around and indicated to Kong Aotian to pay attention to those hidden strongmen around them.

Due to various reasons, these people did not participate in the battle.

But do they really not want the Human Seed Bag and the Purple Gold Alms Bowl?

Of course, they do. With the treasures right in front of them, how could they not be tempted?

They haven't acted yet because the time isn't right, but once the opportunity arises, they will immediately act to claim the Human Seed Bag and the Purple Gold Alms Bowl.

Lin Yuan predicted that these people would eventually make a move.

Only when they all take action will it be the most lively.

As the battle continued, casualties gradually began to occur.

On Zengzhang Heaven's side, there were two who were already severely injured from the previous battle with Lin Yuan and couldn't endure the intensity of this fight anymore, thus were slain.

As for the opposing side, the situation was even more tragic, with as many as six or seven casualties.

The death toll was already so severe, and the injuries were indescribable.

In short, regardless of severe or minor injuries, everyone was wounded on both sides.

Up to now, the treasures seemed to have lost their importance.

Both sides were fighting with real fury, appearing to want to annihilate the other completely.

Their attention shifted away from the two treasures.

At this time, those hidden strongmen were readying to make a move.

As the instigator of this grand battle, while monitoring the situation, Lin Yuan was also keeping an eye on the situation of the two treasures.

Lin Yuan was certain that someone would seize the opportunity to snatch the treasures.

At this moment, a shadow flickered by, and in the next instant, the treasures suspended in mid-air vanished.

Those hidden in the shadows finally couldn't help but make a move.

The person who acted was extremely fast, even Lin Yuan only caught a gray afterimage.

However, Lin Yuan had a connection with the Human Seed Bag and could clearly sense its position.

The southeast direction.

As the treasures disappeared, everyone froze for a moment.

In the next second, those hidden strongmen, who reacted first, moved toward the direction where the gray shadow disappeared.

When the treasures were in the hands of Zengzhang Heaven, they were reluctant to join the struggle for various reasons.

Now that someone else had taken them, this was a good opportunity for them!

It allowed them to seize the treasures without offending the World Honored.

So, after a slight pause, they rushed toward where the gray shadow disappeared.

Once the hidden people rushed out, the two sides locked in fierce battle also reacted.

Damn it!

They fought like clams and cranes, only to let others benefit like fishermen.

Seeing the treasures taken away, the group was instantly enraged.

They had been fighting with Zengzhang Heaven and others, with so many casualties, only for someone else to take the treasures?

So, they exchanged glances, collectively abandoned their opponents, and chased after the direction where the gray shadow left.

As this group left, Zengzhang Heaven and Lian Huasheng looked at each other, and Lian Huashan said: "Chase, no matter what it takes, we can't lose the treasures!"

Thus, Zengzhang Heaven and his people also pursued.

The three groups chased for about several dozen miles before coming to a halt, looking at each other.

The one who took the treasures was too fast; they only saw a gray afterimage and had only a general direction.

By the time they chased to here, there was no trace of the gray shadow.

"Where are they?"

"Don't know?"

"Chased here, and then gone!"

"Who?"

"Who exactly?"

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Angry shouts erupted among the crowd, especially from the two groups who suffered significant casualties; how could they be content with such a high price?

Lin Yuan and Kong Aotian lingered at the back of the crowd, watching as they actually lost the trail.

"Truly a bunch of useless people, to lose a trail like that?" Lin Yuan thought to himself.

What Lin Yuan wanted was for them to fight fiercely, the fiercer, the better, so he could seize the opportunity to eliminate Lian Huasheng.

If they stopped fighting, Lin Yuan would not agree.

However, that person couldn't escape.

With Lin Yuan's restriction within the Human Seed Bag, as long as he held the treasure, Lin Yuan could sense his position.

"I see him, he's running east!" After sensing the position of the Human Seed Bag, Lin Yuan shouted and was the first to chase east.

These people were lost and without direction, but with Lin Yuan as a guide, they all followed.

Up ahead, a gray-robed, skinny old man with a sharp nose and monkey cheeks sensed the pursuers behind him, and his face changed.

He had clearly already shaken off these pursuers, so why did they stop for a moment and catch up again?

After a brief hesitation, the gray-robed skinny old man changed direction and continued running.

However, no matter how he ran, Lin Yuan could sense his position.

Along the way, the gray-robed old man changed directions several times but could not shake off the pursuers.

At this moment, the gray-robed old man's expression changed, finally realizing something was amiss.

"Most likely, these two treasures have a problem!"

"This?"

"Is this bait?" The gray-robed old man muttered to himself.

The identity of this gray-robed old man was unknown, but he was very decisive.

Realizing that these two treasures were bait, he immediately left them behind and hid alone in the shadows.

Since the two treasures were bait, to obtain them, he needed to deal with whoever set the bait first.

By hiding, he intended to determine the identity of the one who set the bait.

Chapter 405: The Mysterious Gray-Robed Elder

"Something's not right!"

Suddenly, Lin Yuan seemed to realize something, his eyebrows furrowing.

Inside the Human Seed Bag, there was a restriction placed by Lin Yuan, so he could clearly sense the location of the Human Seed Bag.

Previously, the Human Seed Bag had been moving swiftly.

However, at this moment, the Human Seed Bag suddenly stopped, remaining motionless in place.

The Human Seed Bag coming to a halt could mean only one thing.

First, the person who seized the Human Seed Bag stopped running and wants to fight to the death with everyone.

Second, that's the person realized there was something wrong with the Human Seed Bag and discarded it to evade pursuit.

Lin Yuan thought the first possibility was very unlikely, almost impossible.

A great person once said, "Lose treasures to save people, and both people and treasures are lost. Save people and lose treasures, and both people and treasures are preserved."

Lin Yuan believed that the person who took the Human Seed Bag should understand this principle.

He himself couldn't possibly defeat hundreds, or even several hundred, opponents of the same tier.

Standing foolishly with the treasure waiting for the enemies to converge is something only a fool would do.

Lin Yuan surmised that the second possibility was more likely.

Therefore, when he was not far from the Human Seed Bag, he concealed himself.

The gray-robed, emaciated old man also hid, observing from a distance. He thought whoever came first must be the one setting the bait.

Only by dealing with the one setting the bait could he seize the opportunity to take the treasure; otherwise, he would remain trapped in this pursuit and could never take the treasure away.

However, though the gray-robed old man was cunning, Lin Yuan was also strategic.

Realizing this, Lin Yuan approached while hiding his form, so the gray-robed, skinny old man did not notice Lin Yuan's arrival.

Lin Yuan's gaze was fixed ahead, and he saw the Human Seed Bag and Purple Gold Alms Bowl casually tossed on the ground in the clearing ahead.

Lin Yuan: "?????"

"Damn it?"

"You've abandoned both?"

"Did that bastard get clean from addiction? Actually willing to leave behind these two treasures?" Lin Yuan muttered in his heart.

However, on second thought, it made some sense.

The person who took these two treasures didn't know which treasure had the problem.

So, discarding both treasures wasn't unreasonable.

At this moment, Lin Yuan had a premonition; that person who just took the treasure was definitely extraordinary.

Previously, he decisively seized the treasure and left; if Lin Yuan hadn't left a restriction in the Human Seed Bag, he would have succeeded.

Upon realizing a problem with the treasures, he could also discard the treasures immediately.

There are indeed not many people who act so decisively!

While Lin Yuan pondered, the group behind had already caught up.

At this moment, Lin Yuan remained hidden, with no intention of seizing the treasure.

After they caught up, they didn't give much thought to where the guy leading them went.

Therefore, their attention was already drawn to the two treasures on the ground.

The Human Seed Bag and Purple Gold Alms Bowl they longed for were so casually tossed on the ground.

Everyone showed a face of shock and exchanged glances.

And then...

In the next second, everyone simultaneously struck, rushing toward the Purple Gold Alms Bowl and Human Seed Bag.

"Grab them!"

"Seize them! Kill them!"

The scene descended into chaos, and in this melee, there was no longer a distinction between friend and foe!

In any case, whoever held those two treasures would be the enemy of everyone.

Whoever was closest to the two treasures posed the greatest threat.

"They've started fighting again!"

"Lin Yuan, who do you think will get those two treasures this time?" Kong Aotian asked excitedly.

Lin Yuan stood at the edge of the battlefield, his gaze fixed on the center, and calmly said, "I don't know, but right now, those two treasures are like Death Sentences. Whoever holds them will die."

The battlefield had become completely chaotic, far more brutal than the first great battle.

Previously, the two treasures were in the hands of Guangmu Heaven, and some people wouldn't easily make a move to grab them.

But now, with the treasures lying on the ground as unclaimed objects, there were no more scruples.

Almost everyone joined the struggle.

At this moment, Lin Yuan and Kong Aotian were the only ones not yet drawn into the fight.

No!

There was another, the gray-robed, emaciated old man still hidden in the shadows.

The gray-robed, thin old man squatted there, intending to see who came first.

Unexpectedly, a whole swarm of people rushed forward.

At this moment, the gray-robed, skinny old man also concealed himself, observing quietly.

The battle intensified, with more and more powerful warriors falling.

The surrounding land was stained red with blood.

The fight continued for about half an hour, with twenty to thirty Tier Four and Tier Five experts falling here.

Initially, when Zengzhang Heaven ambushed Lin Yuan, there were ten of them.

But now, only six remained of Zengzhang Heaven's group.

Garuda, Great Python God, Guangmu Heaven, Zengzhang Heaven, Lian Huasheng, and Dragon Tree Vajra.

In terms of power alone, Garuda was the strongest among this group.

Moreover, Garuda was extremely fast.

As the battle went on, Garuda finally found an opportunity. Taking advantage of a moment of neglect, he transformed back into his true form, descended from the sky, and seized one treasure in each of his eagle claws.

At this moment, he intended to emulate the previous black-clad old man and slip away.

However, having learned from experience, everyone's reaction was swift this time.

Just as Garuda was about to run, the crowd behind surged toward him, leaving him no time to react.

Furthermore, many people began chanting incantations, preparing to attack Garuda.

Seeing this, Lian Huasheng knew it would be impossible to take both treasures away.

"Garuda, toss one treasure away!"

"Throw it in the opposite direction!" Lian Huasheng shouted to Garuda.

Garuda felt a chill run through him as the energy attack brewed behind him.

Therefore, he did not stubbornly insist on taking away both treasures.

Instead, he heeded Lian Huasheng's suggestion.

"Take it!"

"Whoever wants it, grab it!" Garuda used all his strength to throw the Purple Gold Alms Bowl in the opposite direction.

Though the Purple Gold Alms Bowl was shattered, the pieces remained intact.

As for the Human Seed Bag, only about two-thirds remained.

Yet, even so, given the choice, Garuda chose the Human Seed Bag.

As a member of the Sect, they were once colleagues of Wu Nengsheng.

He knew Wu Nengsheng's three Magical Treasures very well.

The Human Seed Bag was Wu Nengsheng's primary Magical Treasure, even two-thirds of it was more precious than the Purple Gold Alms Bowl.

Garuda held onto the Human Seed Bag, spread his wings, and flew away to escape into the distance.

Chapter 406: Ambush on Lian Huasheng

After Garuda tossed out the Purple Gold Alms Bowl, those who were originally going to attack him all halted their actions.

After all, attacking Garuda was not the goal; seizing the treasure was key.

Thus, most of the strong individuals pursued in the direction of the Purple Gold Alms Bowl.

However, a small portion of them still focused on the direction Garuda had left.

Clearly, these people knew that the Human Seed Bag was superior to the Purple Gold Alms Bowl.

Their target was clear, it was the Human Seed Bag; they had no interest in the Purple Gold Alms Bowl.

Seeing there were still people focused on the Human Seed Bag, Lian Huasheng's expression changed.

It seems just tossing one treasure was not enough!

Next, they might still have to fight.

Yet once fighting starts, there inevitably will be casualties.

Their casualties have already been significant this time.

Lian Huasheng led Zengzhang Heaven and others, blocking those targeting the Human Seed Bag, and solemnly said, "Everyone, these two treasures originally belonged to our sect's traitor Wu Nengsheng!"

"Retrieving the treasure is only right for us!"

"Now, we take just one while sharing the other with you all, which is already quite benevolent!"

Lian Huasheng didn't want more casualties, so he first spoke nicely, trying to persuade these people to give up on the Human Seed Bag and join in the pursuit of the Purple Gold Alms Bowl.

However, since their target was so clear, they naturally wouldn't give up easily.

They ignored Lian Huasheng, directly bypassing him and his people, scattering to chase in the direction Garuda left.

"Split up and stop them!" Lian Huasheng decisively ordered.

They had already lost four comrades, so naturally they could not gain nothing; Garuda's Human Seed Bag had to be obtained at all costs.

The rest wanted to pursue Garuda, but Lian Huasheng and his group aimed to block them, giving Garuda time to escape.

All at once, everyone scattered in pursuit.

Seeing this scene, Lin Yuan couldn't help but feel pleased internally.

Lin Yuan orchestrated this whole drama to take down Lian Huasheng, the mastermind.

Now they were acting separately, which was the best opportunity for Lin Yuan.

"Lin Yuan, who shall we pursue?" Kong Aotian asked Lin Yuan.

Without any hesitation, Lin Yuan answered, "Of course Lian Huasheng, that cunning bastard, let's deal with him first."

Having said this, Lin Yuan pursued in the direction Lian Huasheng disappeared, with Kong Aotian following closely.

Several miles away from this location, Lian Huasheng deployed an array to trap a Tiger Demon within it.

Lian Huasheng's combat strength wasn't strong, but he excelled at arrays, so holding off this Tiger Demon wasn't a big problem.

"Boom!"

As Lian Huasheng relaxed his guard, a blood-red giant sword descended from the sky, directly piercing through his lotus array.

Seeing this, not only Lian Huasheng but even the trapped Tiger Demon was startled.

Lian Huasheng looked at the blood-colored giant sword that broke his lotus array, feeling that this sword seemed somewhat familiar.

What if this blood-colored giant sword was shrunk countless times?

Then...

Is it Lin Yuan's Zhong Kui's Ghost-Slaying Sword?

Thinking this, cold sweat instantly began to drip down Lian Huasheng's forehead.

If it really is Lin Yuan, then he is in grave danger today.

Back then, even with ten people joining forces, they couldn't handle Lin Yuan; now he was alone.

Whatever you fear, it comes.

Lian Huasheng feared it would be Lin Yuan, and it truly was.

Moreover, not only Lin Yuan himself but also the one who saved Lin Yuan...

"Brother Hu, you go ahead and pursue Garuda; we'll help you detain Lian Huasheng!" Lin Yuan shouted to the Tiger Demon.

Tiger Demon: "?????"

The Tiger Demon looked puzzled, scanning Lin Yuan up and down, pondering that he didn't recognize either of them?

These two aren't chasing Garuda for the treasure but helping to detain Lian Huasheng, who barely offers any gains—is there something wrong with their heads?

Lin Yuan said this so the Tiger Demon wouldn't see him take down Lian Huasheng.

"Brother Hu, hurry up and chase!"

"If you don't chase now, and Garuda is caught by others, then the treasure will belong to someone else!" Seeing the Tiger Demon hesitating, Lin Yuan urged.

Upon hearing this, the Tiger Demon finally reacted.

The Tiger Demon thought, having fools help him detain Lian Huasheng couldn't be a bad thing!

"Thank you, two brothers, you're really nice!" Leaving a sentence behind, the Tiger Demon transformed into a black smoke and flew away.

Once the Tiger Demon left, it was time for Lin Yuan and Lian Huasheng to settle the score.

"Lian Huasheng, when you ambushed me, did you foresee this scene!"

"But today you don't have my good luck, today you will certainly die!" Lin Yuan coldly stated.

Lian Huasheng also felt the cold murderous intent from Lin Yuan, knowing his power was far inferior to Lin Yuan.

To escape, he needed to strike first to gain the upper hand.

"Boom! Boom! Boom!"

Lian Huasheng waved his hand, causing dozens of white lotuses to appear out of thin air, flying toward Lin Yuan.

When these lotuses neared Lin Yuan, they all exploded.

Taking advantage of the lotuses' explosion's giant shock wave hindering Lin Yuan, Lian Huasheng turned into a shadow and fled toward the distance.

However, unexpectedly for Lian Huasheng, facing the shock wave from the lotus explosions, Lin Yuan did not dodge but charged through.

His intent for killing Lian Huasheng was irrevocable.

He braved the shock wave and charged out, wielding Zhong Kui's Ghost-Slaying Sword, delivering a fierce strike.

This strike seemed to cleave through space, sending a blood-red sword energy straight to Lian Huasheng's back.

"Slash!"

The sword energy sliced into Lian Huasheng's back, immediately creating a gaping wound about twenty centimeters deep, revealing the bone.

This strike seemed to cut through a major artery on Lian Huasheng's back, his blood gushing out.

Struck by this blow, Lian Huasheng staggered and fell to the ground, covered in blood.

Lin Yuan's speed was much faster than Lian Huasheng's; with a few leaps, he stood in front of Lian Huasheng.

"I thought this would be a great battle, but you only know how to run, lacking the courage to even fight me!" Lin Yuan shook his head, disdainfully said.

Lian Huasheng was never a combat talent; his fighting spirit was naturally weak.

Plus, Lin Yuan had left a deep impression from the previous ten-on-one engagement.

Thus, encountering Lin Yuan alone now, he didn't even have the courage to fight.

During his battle with the Tiger Demon, he used arrays to trap it, focusing on containment, avoiding direct confrontation.

Regarding Lin Yuan's disdain, Lian Huasheng wasn't bothered; he cherished his life, knowing he couldn't win, why force a fight?

Lian Huasheng looked at Kong Aotian beside Lin Yuan; knowing the real identity of the so-called Kong Aotian.

Whether he could live depended on whether this person would plead for him.

Thinking this, Lian Huasheng opened his mouth and said, "Fellow Daoist Kong, please, for your father's great..."

Chapter 407: Beheading—Lian Huasheng Is Dead

Lian Huasheng originally wanted to say to Kong Aotian, "Spare my life for the sake of your father, Peacock Great Ming King."

However, as soon as he spoke, Kong Aotian panicked.

Kong Aotian thought to himself, "I spent so much effort coming up with a fake name to deceive Lin Yuan."

"You're about to blow my cover!"

Without a doubt, once Lian Huasheng mentioned Peacock Great Ming King's name, his identity would be exposed.

When people are nervous, their potential is limitless.

At that moment, and in the blink of an eye.

Just as Lian Huasheng was about to utter the words Peacock Great Ming King, Kong Aotian summoned his green tail feather.

This green tail feather, like a feather duster, ferociously whipped the back of Lian Huasheng's head.

Kong Aotian's tail feather was crafted using the method Peacock Great Ming King used to refine the Five-Colored Divine Light.

Kong Aotian made a bold move, and Lian Huasheng was completely unprepared.

With one strike, Lian Huasheng's eyelids flipped, and he fell directly to the ground, convulsing uncontrollably.

Soon after, he passed out.

Lin Yuan was no fool; he naturally realized that Kong Aotian didn't want his identity exposed.

It seems this Kong Aotian is probably a fake name.

However, even so, Lin Yuan did not expect Kong Aotian to actually be Kong Mengmeng.

After all, when Lin Yuan last fought with her, she was still in the Real World.

Lin Yuan hadn't expected that upon entering the Mysterious World, she would also come back.

"Thanks for lending a hand, Brother Aotian!"

"I'll handle killing this person myself!" Lin Yuan said to Kong Aotian.

Since Lian Huasheng knew Kong Aotian and even his father,

it wouldn't be appropriate for him to kill Lian Huasheng.

Moreover, this was originally Lin Yuan's own matter, so dragging Kong Aotian into it wouldn't be right.

Thinking of this, Lin Yuan approached the unconscious Lian Huasheng, raised Zhong Kui's Ghost-Slaying Sword, and hacked toward his head.

In his prime, Lian Huasheng already couldn't fight back against Lin Yuan, let alone now, when he was unconscious.

The move easily chopped off Lian Huasheng's head, blood spurted, and Lian Huasheng was thus easily dealt with.

Now, Lin Yuan could slay Tier Four experts with such ease.

After killing the man, Lin Yuan, holding Zhong Kui's Ghost-Slaying Sword, left several characters on the ground.

The killer, Lin Yuan.

"Hmph!" Kong Aotian snorted coldly, then grumbled irritably, "Such a big-mouthed idiot, deserved to die!"

From Kong Aotian's attitude, it was clear he held no good sentiments toward the World Honored or the sect he founded.

In fact, it wasn't just Kong Aotian who held this attitude; even Peacock Great Ming King had the same attitude.

Peacock Great Ming King, although second only to the World Honored within the sect, standing shoulder to shoulder with Wu Nengsheng,

didn't join the sect willingly.

He joined because he lost a duel to the World Honored, a choice made out of helplessness.

His service to the World Honored was simply fulfilling an old bet.

Over the years, Peacock Great Ming King had been coasting by, indifferent to the sect's matters.

Kong Aotian's attitude toward the World Honored and the sect was entirely shaped by Peacock Great Ming King.

With Lian Huasheng dead, Lin Yuan's plan was complete.

He eliminated the mastermind from the World Honored One Sect, leaving only a bunch of simpletons who would be much easier to deal with.

After dealing with Lian Huasheng, Lin Yuan did not forget to take his Power of Rules and quickly left the scene with Kong Aotian.

All cultivators have something like a Life Plate; Lin Yuan worried Lian Huasheng might have left similar measures.

With these measures, people like Zengzhang Heaven could easily find Lian Huasheng's corpse.

Though Lin Yuan was formidable, he didn't want to fall into the madness of being surrounded by these people.

At this time, Zengzhang Heaven, Guangmu Heaven, Dragon Tree Bodhisattva, and Great Python God were battling their opponents fiercely, when suddenly they felt a scorching heat from the jade tokens on their chests.

Upon coming to the Life and Death Trial Arena, Zengzhang Heaven and his comrades each made a jade token, leaving their own aura within.

Once a person dies, the aura within the jade token changes from gold to black.

Moreover, these jade tokens also have guiding properties, allowing one to find the fallen person's corpse based on its direction.

The scorching jade token signifies that someone has fallen.

Though aware a comrade has fallen, everyone was locked in life-or-death battles and couldn't spare time to look.

After some fierce fighting, those who were blocking them seemed to realize chasing Garuda further was hopeless.

Their goal was to secure treasure; since chasing Garuda seemed futile, continuing the fight held little meaning.

Life-and-death struggles hinge on benefits.

Without benefits, there's no need to continue fighting.

Gradually, their opponents began retreating.

As their opponents retreated, Zengzhang Heaven and his comrades didn't chase.

Especially Zengzhang Heaven and Guangmu Heaven; after sensing the heat from their jade tokens, they worried that the one who died might be each other.

Among their four brothers, only the two of them were left; if one more died, they would be truly alone.

Guangmu Heaven pulled out the jade token from his chest, and upon seeing the gray aura, he let out a sigh of relief and said, "It's Lian Huasheng; thankfully, it's not my second brother."

In Guangmu Heaven's eyes, anyone else could die, but his second brother absolutely could not.

Guangmu Heaven was a simpleton, believing Lian Huasheng had the weakest combat power among the group, a waste.

If he truly had to choose among the survivors, he would pick Lian Huasheng to die.

Meanwhile, on the other side, Zengzhang Heaven also pulled out his jade token, and upon seeing who had died, his face darkened.

Now, Zengzhang Heaven faced two pieces of news: one good and one bad.

The good news was, the one who died wasn't his brother Guangmu Heaven.

The bad news was, the one who died was Lian Huasheng!

Zengzhang Heaven was not like Guangmu Heaven; he wasn't just a simpleton; he had some smarts.

In Zengzhang Heaven's opinion, except for their two brothers, anyone else's death would not impact the overall situation, but not Lian Huasheng!

In terms of combat power, there was Garuda and Great Python God.

In terms of defense, there was Dragon Tree Vajra.

Their brothers were fully balanced fighters in many aspects.

Among their small team, the remaining members still had strong combat power.

However, now the brains of the small team had died.

Thinking of this, Zengzhang Heaven's heart couldn't help but sink.

"Why is the one who died Lian Huasheng, not anyone else?" Zengzhang Heaven thought to himself.

Anyone else's death could be replaced; Lian Huasheng, however, was irreplaceable.

Chapter 408: Garuda's Crisis

Although Zengzhang Heaven thought this way, in the face of Lian Huasheng's death, he had not the slightest solution.

Death cannot be reversed, and Zengzhang Heaven does not possess the ability to bring someone back to life.

After ten minutes, Zengzhang Heaven, Guangmu Heaven, Great Python God, and Dragon Tree Vajra simultaneously appeared at the crime scene where Lian Huasheng was killed.

At this moment, Lian Huasheng's corpse lay before them, his head and body separated, blood splattered everywhere.

When the eyes of Zengzhang Heaven and the others shifted from Lian Huasheng's corpse to the ground, where they saw the bold characters left by Lin Yuan, they were nearly incandescent with rage.

The murderer, Lin Yuan.

"Ah!"

"It infuriates me! It's that Lin Yuan again. Next time we meet, I will surely cut him into a thousand pieces!" Great Python God was filled with wrath.

Previously, Great Python God had little interaction with Lin Yuan, but this encounter caused him significant loss, especially his severed tail. Every time he saw his broken tail, Great Python God was reminded of Lin Yuan.

Anger?

However, what use is anger?

Originally, Zengzhang Heaven thought the death of Lian Huasheng was already bad news.

Now, seeing that Lian Huasheng was killed by Lin Yuan, this is even worse news.

If Lian Huasheng had been killed while blocking other powerhouses in pursuit of Garuda, that would have been fine.

But, unfortunately, he was killed by Lin Yuan.

What does this indicate? It indicates that Lin Yuan is hiding in the shadows, seeking opportunities to slay them.

As the saying goes, what is truly feared is not a thief stealing, but a thief plotting.

Now, they are in the light, while Lin Yuan is in the dark, and they are defenseless against such assassinations!

Today, Lin Yuan was able to kill Lian Huasheng, who can guarantee that tomorrow Lin Yuan won't kill someone else among them?

After thinking this, Zengzhang Heaven's face turned solemn, and he said, "From now on, all our actions must be together, we cannot separate."

"Lin Yuan is hiding in the shadows, and may even be quietly watching us right now; if we split up, the likelihood is high that we'll repeat Lian Huasheng's fate."

"We've sacrificed enough people this time, none of us can afford to sacrifice anyone else."

After Zengzhang Heaven finished speaking, Dragon Tree Vajra looked at him and asked, "What about Garuda?"

"He's alone now. Is it possible that Lin Yuan has gone to kill him?"

Hearing this, Zengzhang Heaven couldn't help but be startled.

This is indeed very possible!

The four of them gathered together, making it hard for Lin Yuan to strike.

Garuda is alone now, making it much easier to kill him, and with the Human Seed Bag in his hands, the reward is greater.

Upon realizing this, Zengzhang Heaven quickly took out the Jade Token from his bosom to check on Garuda's situation.

On the Jade Token, the golden light representing Garuda still existed, which means Garuda was still alive.

Looking at the Jade Token, Zengzhang Heaven's expression showed some emotion.

Before entering here, the golden light on this Jade Token was plentiful, no less than ten.

And now, only half remain.

"We must find him and regroup with him before discussing anything else!" Zengzhang Heaven finished speaking and looked at the others to seek their opinions.

"I agree!" Dragon Tree Vajra responded.

"I also agree!" Great Python God nodded.

As for Guangmu Heaven, there was no need to ask; the brothers shared one heart and their strength cut through gold.

Having reached a consensus, they proceeded according to the Jade Token's guidance, heading toward Garuda's location to regroup.

...

...

As for Garuda, after obtaining the Human Seed Bag and fleeing, the powerhouses pursuing him were partly blocked by Zengzhang Heaven and his companions.

The other part was outrun by Garuda's superior speed.

After all, this time there was no Lin Yuan to sense locations and guide the pursuers, so after running in circles for a while, Garuda was temporarily safe.

Although Garuda was reckless, he was not stupid.

He knew this area was sizable, but if he stayed here indefinitely, he would eventually be discovered by others.

So, after shaking off the pursuers, Garuda thought of taking the Human Seed Bag and leaving the Life and Death Trial Arena first.

However, someone was even smarter than Garuda.

After Garuda fled with the Human Seed Bag, someone didn't bother to chase him but instead stood guard at the entrance of the Life and Death Trial Arena, waiting.

It must be known that the Life and Death Trial Arena only had one exit. Whether entering or leaving, one had to pass through here.

Other areas were completely restricted by barriers imposed by Tier Two Peak Powerhouses; those inside lacked the strength to exit through other places.

When Garuda arrived here, a sense of crisis surged in his heart, leading him to become vigilant.

He didn't rashly rush out but instead hid in the clouds to observe.

Upon observing, he was terrified.

Ambushes were everywhere.

Without saying a word, Garuda quickly fled.

After running far away, Garuda found a secluded cave and temporarily hid inside.

After hiding, Garuda checked the Jade Token and learned of Lian Huasheng's death.

"Damn it!"

"This thing is truly a hot potato; even Lian Huasheng died for it!" Inside the cave, Garuda cursed while holding the Human Seed Bag.

Garuda decided to stay hidden here for now, knowing that the surviving companions like Zengzhang Heaven would surely come looking for him.

When the five of them regroup, only through collective effort would they have a chance to break out of the Life and Death Trial Arena.

As for the Purple Gold Alms Bowl, and even the still-missing Golden Bowl and Mud-made Alms Bowl, Garuda dared not think of them anymore.

This journey through the Life and Death Trial Arena was fraught with dangers.

Having obtained just one Human Seed Bag, five people had died; if they pursued other things, they might not expect to leave alive.

As Garuda stared at the Human Seed Bag in his hands, lost in thought, a hoarse, elderly voice sounding like the scraping of sandpaper against him.

"This is not something you should be holding."

Hearing these words, Garuda suddenly raised his head, looking in the direction of the sound.

Not far away stood a petite, emaciated old man in gray robes.

This was the very person who first seized the Human Seed Bag and Purple Gold Alms Bowl.

At that time, he voluntarily left the Human Seed Bag and Purple Gold Alms Bowl due to sensing an unknown threat.

But now, having understood the situation, he naturally wanted to retrieve the items he once discarded.

"Old man, it's you?"

"I recognize you; you're the one who first struck to seize the treasure!" Garuda said, his eyes fixed on the gray-robed, emaciated old man.

Garuda was not only fast, but his eyesight was exceptionally keen.

When the gray-robed, emaciated old man first struck to seize the treasure, most only saw a gray blur fly by.

But Garuda was among the few who saw the general appearance of the treasure snatcher.

"Young man, you do have sharp eyes."

"Give me the item, and considering we're both kindred spirits in the world of flying beasts, I can spare your life," the gray-robed, emaciated old man said, his tone calm, appearing to hold an assured victory.

Chapter 409: The Fierce Battle in the Cave

"So it turns out he reached enlightenment through avian transformation, no wonder he's so fast," Garuda thought as he recalled the speed of the gray-robed, emaciated elder when he fled during the treasure snatch.

Nevertheless, Garuda swiftly reconsidered: "You may be fast, but I am no slouch either!"

"And deciding the victor isn't just about speed."

The Life and Death Trial Arena, fortified by many Tier Two powerhouses, only permits entry to those of Tier Four strength and below.

Undoubtedly, the gray-robed, emaciated elder's strength is at best on par with Garuda's, also Tier Four.

Among Tier Fours, Garuda confidently feels unmatched by most.

Except, of course, for the abnormal Lin Yuan.

To Garuda, Lin Yuan is a freak; even when faced with an assault from ten equally skilled opponents, he still managed to escape.

Admittedly, with Kong Aotian's assistance.

However, the fact remains that despite their prolonged assault, they couldn't capture Lin Yuan—it was they who lost.

Garuda doesn't believe this gray-robed, emaciated elder could be another abnormal like Lin Yuan.

Thinking along these lines, Garuda scoffed, "Spare my life? Such arrogance?"

"If you want the Human Seed Bag, then try taking it yourself!"

Upon hearing this, the gray-robed, emaciated elder's once calm expression changed suddenly, and in the next moment, his entire demeanor turned violent.

"Refusing the toast only to drink the penalty!"

"Since you wish to die, I'll grant you that wish!" the gray-robed, emaciated elder rebuked solemnly.

As the elder's expression shifted, Garuda sensed an impending crisis, even a threat of death.

Bear in mind, Garuda is considered the strongest fighter among the ten from Zengzhang Heaven.

Even Zengzhang Heaven, Guangmu Heaven, and others pale in comparison to Garuda in combat prowess.

Garuda's strength is among the best within Tier Four.

Yet, the gray-robed elder hadn't even attacked, and solely by his aura, Garuda felt the threat of death.

"Tier Three?"

Suddenly, a terrifying thought sprang into Garuda's mind.

Quickly dismissing it right after.

Impossible!

Absolutely impossible!

The external restrictions of the Life and Death Trial Arena weren't set by merely one Tier Two Peak powerhouses but were jointly devised by all Tier Two powerhouses of the Ten Thousand Mountains.

Powerhouses exceeding Tier Four cannot silently and effortlessly bypass the restrictions set by over a dozen Tier Two Peak powerhouses.

Even the World Honored couldn't stealthily infiltrate here.

Hence, this individual is undoubtedly no more than a Tier Four.

This aura?

This murderous intent?

Could it all be deceptive?

With this thought, Garuda snorted coldly, "Trying to scare me?"

With that in mind, Garuda was the first to make a move against the gray-robed, emaciated elder; he intended to teach the elder a lesson.

Garuda's speed was astonishing; with one step, he appeared before the gray-robed, emaciated elder.

Soon after, Garuda's hands transformed into eagle talons, striking at the elder's temples.

Garuda didn't use weapons; his eagle talons were his sharpest weapons.

Should Garuda's strike land, the gray-robed elder's head would be split by Garuda.

Garuda's prowess had been previously displayed during the melee.

He himself had taken down several equally skilled opponents.

The gray-robed elder, knowing Garuda's power, dared to pursue him, proving one thing.

That he held absolute confidence in his strength, believing he could take Garuda down.

As Garuda's talons were about to crush the elder's head, the gray-robed elder refused Garuda's lethal strike.

"Dang!"

"Dang! Dang!"

In that critical moment, the elder swiftly produced a dimly lit short spear.

The short spear blocked Garuda's talons, countering repeatedly.

The short spear clashed against the eagle talons, resonating with the intense sound of metal.

Within the cave, with its confined space, the two constantly parried each other's attacks.

Despite this, neither chose to leave the cave to fight more openly outside.

Both understood that fighting inside the cave meant their battle was solely amongst themselves.

No matter who wins, the Human Seed Bag would belong to one of them.

If they fought outside, drawing attention, it would likely turn into an intense melee.

The odds of obtaining the Human Seed Bag are fifty percent inside the cave.

But outside, they could diminish to a fraction—just a chance among many.

The cave's tight space made close-quarters combat more perilous.

All their strength focused on each other's body, one careless move could lead to severe injury or death.

To put it plainly, this battle style had a low margin for error.

After exchanging hundreds of moves, Garuda began to fall behind.

Pushed back significantly, frustration surged within him.

Blood oozed from a hole on Garuda's eagle talon.

A careless moment had him struck by the elder's short spear, causing a quick blood flow.

"What a sharp short spear!" Garuda marveled.

This blow shocked Garuda.

His eagle talons were no match for the elder's spear; he could be nearing defeat if this continued.

Interestingly, Garuda showed rare cleverness this time.

Perhaps by fate, amid mortal peril, Garuda had a sudden insight.

He pulled out the Human Seed Bag, wrapping it around his eagle talon, using it as a glove.

Understand, the Human Seed Bag was crafted from the hide of Tier Two powerhouses, and not just one.

Using it as a glove, it was arguably the toughest glove imaginable.

"Die!"

Garuda roared, his punch like thunder, striking at the gray-robed elder.

"A bit clever!"

"But it's far from enough!" The elder seemed unfazed, maintaining total confidence.

"Wind of Annihilation."

As Garuda threw his punch, he suddenly released a sinister wind from his mouth.

The wind enveloped the elder swiftly upon approach, beginning its erosion.

The punch was a mere cover—the true killing move was this exhaled wind.

The sinister wind, brewed by Garuda for centuries, wasn't used unless at the brink of life and death.

The gray-robed elder could only return to his original form to fend off the wind.

Seeing the elder's true form, Garuda was utterly shocked.

"It's you?"

Chapter 410: Six-Winged Nether Mosquito

Garuda's physical body is incredibly formidable; most of the time, he fights using his powerful physique.

But, few know that Garuda can brew a sinister wind within his chest.

This sinister wind is a one-time kill technique; the longer it's brewed, the stronger its power.

Once used, it requires time to brew again.

Garuda generally doesn't use this sinister wind unless he's in a life-or-death crisis; once he does, it's time for a desperate fight.

Since Garuda's birth, the withered old man in gray is the third person who could force him to use the sinister wind.

The previous two have already perished under Garuda's sinister wind, completely turned to dust.

This time, Garuda's sinister wind has been brewing for several hundred years, almost a thousand.

Garuda is confident that under this sinister wind, the withered old man in gray won't survive.

Everything seems to be developing in the direction Garuda anticipated.

Under this sinister wind, the withered old man in gray revealed his true form to resist.

That is...

That is a giant mosquito, over a meter long, slender body, with six gray wings, and a pointed mouth.

"Six-Winged Yin Mosquito, it's you!" Garuda's face was full of disbelief, it seemed as if even his heart was pounding heavily.

The name of the Six-Winged Yin Mosquito is indeed too famous.

Not just Garuda but even a small minion in the sect knows the great name of the Six-Winged Yin Mosquito.

Because it is a demon beast recorded in the sect's scriptures.

Even the World Honored has suffered losses because of him.

Back in the day, during the sect battle between the World Honored and the Rebirth Saint Mother, countless strong ones died.

The deaths of Tier Two and Tier Three cultivators were beyond count.

Those below Tier Four were merely cannon fodder, expendables.

In that battle, mounds of corpses and rivers of blood flowed profusely, without exaggeration.

In that battlefield where rivers of blood flowed, an anomaly arose.

That anomaly was the Six-Winged Yin Mosquito.

The Six-Winged Yin Mosquito fed on the flesh of these strong ones, gaining intelligence in a short time and even becoming a Tier Three cultivator.

Initially, the Six-Winged Yin Mosquito, due to being born shortly, had strong power but intelligence was still very naive.

After the battle between the Rebirth Saint Mother and the World Honored ended, the World Honored won but let the Rebirth Saint Mother escape.

At that time, the World Honored's servant Kanaan discovered the existence of the Six-Winged Yin Mosquito and reported to the World Honored.

After learning about the Six-Winged Yin Mosquito, the World Honored went to suppress him, originally intending to convert him into a Dharma Guardian Divine Beast of the sect.

After suppressing him, the World Honored was just about to convert him when someone reported again, saying that the Rebirth Saint Mother's traces were discovered.

Compared to dealing with the Rebirth Saint Mother, converting the Six-Winged Yin Mosquito was not considered important.

Thus, the World Honored used his treasure, the Twelve-Petal Golden Lotus, to suppress the Six-Winged Yin Mosquito within, letting his servant Kanaan guard it, intending to solve the Rebirth Saint Mother and then return to convert the Six-Winged Yin Mosquito.

However, to everyone's surprise, the Six-Winged Yin Mosquito had extraordinary talent; though at Tier Three, his pointed mosquito mouth could pierce through the World Honored's supreme treasure, the Twelve-Petal Golden Lotus.

Taking advantage of the World Honored's absence, the Twelve-Petal Golden Lotus was consumed by the Six-Winged Yin Mosquito, three petals were eaten, allowing him to escape, and he even drained Kanaan dry.

Upon returning, the World Honored found his treasure destroyed and his servant killed, which enraged him.

However, by then, the culprit had long fled, and the World Honored was unable to find the Six-Winged Yin Mosquito's whereabouts.

In a fury, the World Honored chose to cast a curse from afar, stripping the Six-Winged Yin Mosquito's cultivation, reverting him back into an ordinary mosquito.

Now, it seems, the Six-Winged Yin Mosquito, after years of cultivation, has regained the strength of Tier Four Peak.

Garuda can confirm that the Six-Winged Yin Mosquito before him is indeed the same one who consumed the World Honored's Lotus Platform back then.

Because the Six-Winged Yin Mosquito is not a species, but a product of that great war.

Thus, he is unique.

There are many mosquitoes in the world, but there is only one Six-Winged Yin Mosquito.

No wonder just now his short spear could easily pierce through Garuda's palm.

It turns out the short spear was formed from the Six-Winged Yin Mosquito's long mouth.

"Knowing it's me, you still dare to fight."

"Garuda, you really don't know your own limits!" The voice of the Six-Winged Yin Mosquito slowly echoed within the sinister wind.

Seeing the true form of the Six-Winged Yin Mosquito, Garuda indeed felt a bit panicked.

After all, the record of the Six-Winged Yin Mosquito consuming the World Honored's Lotus Platform and finishing Kanaan is too dazzling.

Nevertheless, Garuda soon realized.

The Six-Winged Yin Mosquito today is not the same as the one back then.

He was stripped of his cultivation by the World Honored and had to start anew, a fallen phoenix not superior to a chicken.

Moreover, the Six-Winged Yin Mosquito is enshrouded by Garuda's sinister wind, seemingly soon to be dissolved; why should he fear him?

With this thought, Garuda straightened his back and shouted angrily: "Six-Winged Yin Mosquito, why are you so arrogant?"

"Now that you're engulfed by my sinister wind, your demise is not far off."

"Back then, you consumed three petals of the World Honored's Twelve-Petal Golden Lotus, destroying his treasure, today I will slay you, it's a great merit."

"Speaking of which, I must thank you! You not only allowed me to seize a treasure but also to earn a merit."

Upon hearing Garuda's words, the Six-Winged Yin Mosquito within the sinister wind showed no panic, instead, he sneered, saying: "Ha-ha!"

"The subordinates of the World Honored are truly getting worse with each generation!"

"This generation of yours might be the worst the World Honored has ever led!"

"You're even worse than that Kanaan back then!"

At this point, the Six-Winged Yin Mosquito changed his tone, coldly snorting: "Young one, do you truly believe you can take my life with your so-called sinister wind?"

"Let me show you what filthy things truly are."

After the Six-Winged Yin Mosquito finished speaking, he spat out a black-red foul blood from his mouth.

Once this foul blood was expelled, it immediately transformed into red sand upon contact with air.

Where the red sand reached, thunder roared, though it was red sand, it was sharper than blades; when the red sand touched, it instantly turned into pus.

This foul blood was formed by the blood river that gathered from all who died in the sect battle between the World Honored and the Rebirth Saint Mother.

At the deepest part of the blood river bed, it formed this foul blood.

This foul blood is exceptionally poisonous, containing unimaginable ferocity and dark energy, and has been refined by the Six-Winged Yin Mosquito over the years into an extremely sinister Magical Treasure.

The Six-Winged Yin Mosquito's foul blood and Garuda's sinister wind actually have similar effects.

However, the foul blood is superior to the sinister wind in many ways.

The sinister wind is one-time use and needs to be brewed again once used.

While foul blood can be used multiple times.

Furthermore, the power of the foul blood unquestionably surpasses the sinister wind.