

Battlefield 241

Chapter 241: God Defeated, Ominous Hexagram (Three-in-One) (Part 2)

"The God" hastily swung a punch in response, their fists collided, and the ground beneath them collapsed with a roar!

"Kun Character Secret—Earth Binding!"

Zhuge Yu's finger technique changed, and the ground's sand and stones suddenly transformed into giant hands, firmly gripping "The God's" feet. Simultaneously, the Eight Trigrams Array frantically extracted power from the earth veins, pouring it continuously into Yue Shenghe, causing his strength to soar!

"The God" remained calm, and the Blazing White Spiritual Energy burst forth. The Gilded Armor emitted a dazzling light, forcibly shattering the giant hands of Earth Binding underfoot! With a fierce stomp, he swung a punch, sending Yue Shenghe flying dozens of meters away, crashing into a building.

"Yue Shenghe!" Zhong Liying exclaimed in shock, her longbow in hand, firing three consecutive arrows in an attempt to restrain.

However, "The God" merely waved a hand, transforming the Blazing White Spiritual Energy into a barrier, causing the arrows to shatter before they could reach him!

He flashed, appearing before Fu Ning as if by teleportation, and unleashed a punch—

Bang!

Fu Ning blocked with his sword, the blade trembled violently, his grip split, and his entire arm went numb, almost dropping the sword!

"Tier Six power... truly terrifying!" Fu Ning gritted his teeth, forcefully steadying himself, but "The God's" second punch was already incoming!

"The secret of the word Zhen—Thunder Lock!"

At that critical moment, Zhuge Yu's finger technique changed again. The Eight Trigrams Array suddenly rotated, and a thunderous chain fell from the void, wrapping around "The God's" body. Though it only bound him for a moment, it gave Fu Ning the opportunity to retreat.

"Kun Character: Earth Dragon Flipping Over!"

Zhuge Yu's finger technique changed, and the entire street's ground suddenly moved as if alive. Countless rock spikes burst from the earth, sealing all of "The God's" retreat paths.

However, "The God" merely sneered coldly. The Blazing White Spiritual Energy transformed into a blade of light, sweeping across, collapsing the rock pillars, scattering debris and stones in all directions.

Swish, swish, swish—!

Zhong Liying's figure flashed between the ruins, firing Crimson Flame Arrows like meteors chasing the moon, each arrow precisely targeting "The God's" joint weak points. But "The God's" speed was astonishingly fast, weaving through the storm of arrows like a ghost, occasionally deflecting with a wave, causing the arrows to explode into sparks in the air.

Roar—!

Yue Shenghe charged out from the dust and smoke, his right arm's dragon mark radiating blinding golden light, launching a heavy punch straight at "The God's" chest.

"The God" neither dodged nor flinched, and he also unleashed a punch. At the instant their fists collided, a terrifying shockwave spread out in a ring, toppling the remaining buildings on both sides like paper and scraping the ground down three feet!

Pfft—! Yue Shenghe spat out a mouthful of blood, his body flew backwards, crashing through three walls before coming to a precarious stop.

Fortunately, his Panlong Battle Body had extremely strong defense and recovery capabilities. Within two breaths, he adjusted himself and stood up, charging straight at "The God" again.

Boom, boom, boom!

The battle raged from one street to another, where they passed, the ground cracked, buildings crumbled, and the entire block seemed to have experienced a natural disaster. Blazing White Spiritual Energy, the blue light of arrays, the shadow of crimson arrows, and golden Dragon Power intertwined and collided in mid-air, each clash triggering violent explosions, the dust blotting out the sky and sun.

The Tier Six "The God", his power surpassed the four.

Yet, as the strongest geniuses selected from the entire Star Realm, Fu Ning, Yue Shenghe, Zhuge Yu, and even Zhong Liying exhibited immense tenacity and breakthrough ability.

Array control

Crimson Flame Arrows for harassment

Celestial Profound Sword Qi as the main attack

Panlong Battle Body for defense

Their teamwork grew increasingly seamless, not only blocking "The God's" unparalleled offensives but also gradually gaining the upper hand.

Roar—!

Yue Shenghe suddenly roared towards the sky, golden light surged around him, muscles bulged, and dense golden dragon scales appeared on his body. His size increased by several feet, his eyes turned into vertical pupils, and his aura soared—Panlong Battle Body: Complete Liberation

Battle!

He took a step forward, the ground exploded with a roar, and the dragon-scaled heavy fist, carrying the power to shatter mountains, collided head-on with The God's blazing white fist seal!

Boom!!!

At the instant the two terrifying forces clashed, the shockwave radiated out in a ring, flattening the surrounding hundred-zhang radius of ruins in an instant.

Blood oozed from the corner of Yue Shenghe's mouth, but he didn't retreat a single step, while The God's fist power was forcibly suppressed for the first time!

In that split-second—

Celestial Profound·Dawn!

Fu Ning's sword arrived!

This sword was swift like a startled swan, its fierce sword qi tore through the air, precisely hitting the gap in The God's defense which was slightly delayed due to the clash. The Blazing White Spirit Armor was slashed open with a crack, The God grunted, and a burst of golden blood splashed from his chest.

Celestial Wheel Nine Arrows·Sun Piercing!

Zhong Liying seized this fleeting opportunity, the bowstring hummed, and nine Crimson Flame Arrows connected end to end, transforming into a flaming meteor, piercing through The God's defensive crack!

Puff—!

The sound of the arrows penetrating flesh was distinctly audible, and for the first time, The God showed a clear stagger.

Qian Character: Celestial Punishment!

Zhuge Yu's array descended!

The Eight Trigrams Array spun rapidly, a dazzling golden light fell from the nine heavens, like a sword of divine retribution, crashing heavily on The God's wounded body. The already damaged Blazing White Spirit Armor, under this power of Celestial Punishment, finally began to disintegrate extensively!

Cough... The God knelt on one knee, serrated fragments of Gilded Armor falling, revealing the scarred body underneath. This Tier Six powerhouse raised his head to gaze at the four, for the first time with a serious expression in his eyes.

The breathing of the four was somewhat irregular, but their battle intent was increasingly high. After this fierce battle, their coordination had reached the pinnacle—Zhuge Yu's array controlled the entire situation, Zhong Liying's arrows moved opportunistically, Yue Shenghe's dragon body confronted head-on, and Fu Ning's sword qi struck lethally!

Continue! Fu Ning readied his sword again, the four's aura perfectly merging, and a new wave of attack had already taken shape.

At this moment, the bullet screen also began to erupt.

Chapter 242: God Defeated, Ominous Divination (Triple Combo)

"Wow, that's amazing, truly spectacular."

"God is truly worthy of being a Tier Six powerhouse, indeed formidable, but he's facing some of the top talents of the Azure Wood Star Realm."

"Fu Ning's sword was critical. If it hadn't pierced the defense, God wouldn't have been injured."

"Hehe, if it weren't for our Holy Valley blocking the front, Fu Ning would've been knocked down by God long ago."

"Without Zhuge Yu's array suppression, even if the two teamed up, they couldn't defeat God."

"Exactly, Zhuge Yu is the soul of this squad."

"Fu Ning is!"

The argument in the bullet comments quickly turned into a fan battle.

However, the talents continued their planned strategy, launching a fierce attack on God.

Boom! Boom! Boom~

The street had long turned into ruins, floating rubble, dust filling the air. Four figures darted through the shattered battlefield, the roar of spiritual power collisions unending.

God's gilded armor was riddled with cracks from the intense battle but still exuded overwhelming momentum. With a wave of his hand, blazing white spiritual energy shot out in dozens of light blades towards the four corners.

Fu Ning continuously slashed with his sword, shattering the incoming light blades one by one, but the powerful impacts numbed his palms.

"How is his spiritual power unending?!" Zhong Liying rapidly moved through the ruins, her bowstring vibrating, nine crimson flame arrows spread out in a fan but were blocked three feet before God by an invisible barrier, exploding into fragments.

"The foundation of a Tier Six powerhouse is much deeper than ours." Zhuge Yu remained calm, fingers continuously shifting through hand techniques, launching Xun Wind Bind and Kan Water Prison in succession, but each was brutally torn apart by God.

Yue Shenghe's Dragon Scale Armor was battered, blood trickled from the corner of his mouth, but a fiercer battle spirit shone in his eyes.

"Continue!" He roared, his body erupting with golden light, charging once more towards God.

Their fists collided, the resulting shockwave vaporizing the surrounding rubble instantly.

Yue Shenghe was pushed back more than ten steps, each step leaving a deep pit in the ground, while God only retreated half a step, though his aura showed signs of disruption.

At that moment, Zhuge Yu suddenly shouted.

"Prepare!

"Four Symbols Return, Spiritual Veins Unite!"

Zhuge Yu's hands formed a seal, the Eight Trigrams Array suddenly contracted, the array patterns transformed into flowing light wrapping around the four's feet. The phantoms of Azure Dragon, White Tiger, Vermilion Bird, and Black Tortoise roared in unison, transforming into dazzling pillars of light soaring into the sky!

"Fu Ning!"

Yue Shenghe shouted furiously, his body covered in radiant golden dragon scales, the vast Panlong Power surged along the array's veins; Zhong Liying's longbow quivered, crimson flame spiritual power turned into a stream of fire flowing into the array; Zhuge Yu's robes fluttered, the entire Eight Trigrams Array's spiritual power began to boil.

Three tremendous forces poured maniacally into Fu Ning's body through the array, his Celestial Profound Sword erupted with blinding silver light, the sword body trembling violently as if unable to bear the terrifying power.

"Slash—!"

Fu Ning leapt up, the longsword in his hand transforming into a brilliant river of light across the sky.

This sword carried the power of the Four Symbols, embodying the majesty of the heavens and earth, distorting space wherever it passed, time seemed to freeze in that moment.

God's pupils contracted sharply, blazing white spiritual energy surged frantically, constructing twelve layers of protective light shields in front of him.

However—

Screech—!

The sword light sliced through like a hot knife through wax, the layers of light shields shattering one after another. Ultimately, this peerless sword ray, imbued with the power of four, struck ruthlessly on God's chest!

Boom!!!

The gilded armor shattered completely, God spat a mouthful of golden blood, his whole body flying backwards like a meteor, crashing through over a dozen buildings, finally slamming into the ruins a thousand meters away, kicking up a cloud of dust.

As the dust settled, deep in the ruins, God knelt on one knee, a ghastly sword wound on his chest nearly split him in half, blood continuously dripping.

He looked up at the four in the distance, his eyes showing a hint of complexity, admiration mingled with a touch of respect for the emerging younger generation.

"I lost!"

A green light flickered over God's body, he stood up, gave the four a long look, tossed a small flag from his waist towards them, and walked away directly.

"A flag?"

Zhuge Yu raised his hand, the small flag flew into his hand, his thoughts probing in, a look of surprise and delight erupted in his eyes.

Wind and Thunder Soul-Annihilating Banner!

"Zhuge Yu, this is the spiritual artifact for you," Yue Shenghe said, "This one's yours, but for the items from those three teams, you need to help us seize them."

"Alright!"

Zhuge Yu nodded.

"Zhuge Yu."

At this time, Fu Ning turned to face Zhuge Yu, his voice cold:

"Where exactly is the deadly danger you mentioned?"

At those words, Zhuge Yu frowned slightly. Upon entering Shuiyue New City, he habitually performed a divination for himself, which originally indicated great fortune, but suddenly changed to a dire omen, with a level of life-threatening danger.

At that time, his communicator was already taken away, unable to contact the organizers. Besides, even though the Zhuge Clan is renowned for predicting with the Celestial Secret Bloodline, the Dongfang Clan would not halt the competition because of his augury.

If it were his grandfather, perhaps that might be possible.

Therefore, after entering Shuiyue New City, he immediately sought out the mightiest Fu Ning to form an alliance. The reason was his augury,

Fu Ning trusted the Zhuge Clan's Celestial Secret Bloodline and agreed to join, and Yue Shenghe also joined the squad for the same reason.

But so far, they had not discovered any danger or suspicious individuals.

Could it be that Zhuge Yu's divination was wrong?

"Impossible, my divination, even if not as great as my grandfather's, would never have such an obvious error."

Zhuce Yu lightly traced the edge of the Celestial Engine, his gaze flickering.

There must be something yet to happen.

Chapter 243: Blood God Cult

As expected, Zhuge Yu's team was the first to take down the A-level Examiner and return to the designated spot to await the final showdown.

But to Qin Tian's surprise, Wu Ziyang and Shangguan Lei's teams also quickly located the Demon and the Demon Examiner.

In Wu Ziyán's team was a Summoner whose summoned creatures were unusual, not the usual spirit beasts or fierce beasts, but various poisonous creatures such as venomous insects, scorpions, toads, centipedes, and snakes.

As soon as they entered Shuiyue New City, he released a large number of these poisonous insects into the environment and quickly distributed them in every corner of the city.

These poisonous insects transformed into the Summoner's eyes, allowing him to take in the whole city "at a glance."

When the team needed to find the Demon's trail, the Summoner immediately controlled the poisonous insects to fly around the city, and soon they found the Demon.

Meanwhile, Shangguan Lei's team was able to find the Demon thanks to Shangguan Lei's ability, along with a Spiritual Artifact he carried.

Shangguan Lei's bloodline, known as Star Vortex Mindweb, was a spiritual-element bloodline ability that constructed a "Consciousness Network" within a certain range using Spiritual Power, perceiving all life forms' thought tracks within as if it were a starry vortex, somewhat similar to Qin Tian's Spiritual Wisdom Divine Authority.

However, the Spiritual Wisdom Divine Authority itself lacked offensive capabilities, leaning more towards control and support.

But the Star Vortex Mindweb had impressive attack capabilities, and paired with the Shangguan Clan's various secret spiritual techniques, many would rather face a stronger Mage or Martial Artist than deal with such a strange Spiritual Mind Master.

With his strong Spiritual Power and the Guardian Artifact he carried—the Lingxi Celestial Eye, Shangguan Lei quickly led his team to find the Demon Examiner.

The two battles began one after another.

Compared to Zhuge Yu's team, which encountered a few twists and turns but managed to resolve the fight without any injuries, the battles of these two teams were far more intense, with both the Demon and the Demon showing the formidable power a Tier Six Powerhouse should possess.

In the end, both teams had to pay the price of one member getting severely injured to take down the A-level Examiner.

This result cast a shadow over the hearts of the two groups of team members.

Already not as strong as Zhuge Yu's team, now with casualties suffered, how many of them could secure a spot on the final ten-person list come the ultimate showdown?

Qin Tian observed the entire process of the two battles from the shadows, originally planning to use the same old trick to launch a surprise attack once more. However, both teams were on guard against his tactics, even setting traps, waiting for him to fall into them.

After assessing the risks, Qin Tian reluctantly abandoned his plan.

Now, only Lei Yao's team had yet to resolve the final Ghost Examiner.

...

"Damn it, where is he!!!"

Lei Yao clenched his fist, feeling extremely anxious.

The battle fluctuations within the city didn't escape his perception. Clearly, the other three teams had already dealt with their opponents, while his team was still wandering around the city like headless chickens.

Not to mention the billions of viewers watching them, this was a humiliating situation.

If they continued to drag on too long and still couldn't find the Ghost Examiner, the remaining three teams could easily disregard their agreement and seek out the Ghost Examiner themselves, eliminating him to gain the Guardian Artifact.

Or worse, if they were ruthless enough, they might even team up to eliminate Lei Yao's team first.

None of these were scenarios he wanted to see.

"Perhaps we should split up."

Another five-star genius in the team, Huang Yuhui, suggested:

"You and I will form one group, and the remaining four people will pair up into two groups, dividing into four directions, which will be much more efficient."

"However, we mustn't stray too far from each other. Maintain control of the distance, and once we spot the Ghost Examiner, send out a signal immediately. I think with everyone's abilities, holding out for a couple of face-offs should be no problem."

Lei Yao pondered for a moment and nodded:

"Alright, let's do it your way!"

He really had no other choice now. Rather than finding no target and blindly wandering around, becoming a laughingstock for the outside world, he might as well take a gamble.

Soon, Lei Yao's team of six set off according to plan along four paths, maintaining strict control over their distance from one another. At the speed of a Tier Five power, they could come to each other's aid within a minute.

Qin Tian continued to hide in the shadows, constantly monitoring Lei Yao's team's movements.

Truth be told, Lei Yao's decision was quite risky and had to do with their lack of firsthand experience with an A-level Examiner's real power.

Back then, Zhong Liying, Ao Zihong, Ji Yufei—two four-star geniuses and a three-star genius—couldn't withstand even a single face-off before the God.

The Ghost's power would certainly not be any less than the God's.

Once the Ghost revealed himself and found an opportunity, whether it was Lei Yao, Huang Yuhui, or any of the two teams, they might be knocked out before reinforcements arrived.

Of course, there's another possibility.

The Ghost might remain incognito until the arena battle.

Although it would make the Ghost seem overly cowardly, which wouldn't match an A-level Examiner's image, staying until the end meant the Ghost would receive richer rewards than the other three A-level Examiners.

"Will you show yourself!"

Qin Tian's eyes flickered with light.

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"No, no! Where could he be hiding!"

Lei Yao slammed shut a shop door with force, his fist clenched, electric light flickering around him.

Almost a day had passed since the four teams split up. The other three teams had resolved their opponents and might be boosting their strength with plundered spoils, while he was still going in circles.

Under this invisible pressure, his anxiety grew, and his patience was nearly exhausted.

Crack~

Just then, Lei Yao suddenly heard a noise behind him. He turned around, his eyes widening.

It was him!

The Ghost Examiner

The Ghost Examiner wore an Evil Ghost Mask and a pitch-black Nether Cloak, his slightly reddish eyes fixed on Lei Yao without blinking.

Lei Yao felt a chill run through his body for no reason, but at the same time, the pressure and anxiety that had been compressing in his heart finally released at that moment.

Now that the target was found, it was time to show his strength.

If the other three teams could do it, so could he.

Boom!

Violent lightning surged around him as Lei Yao raised his hand and released a purple lightning bolt into the air as a signal, notifying his teammates of his location.

Upon seeing the lightning roar, Huang Yuhui and the other four immediately rushed over.

At this moment, the commentary in the live chat increased rapidly.

"It's finally about to start, I've been waiting forever."

"I thought the Ghost would keep hiding and not come out, but unexpectedly he took the initiative to show up. No wonder he's an A-level Examiner, he has guts far beyond that of Black Crow."

"Come quick, bring us a spectacular battle."

Lei Yao assumed a defensive stance, lightning protecting him. Before his team arrived, his task was to stay safe.

But just then, a sharp ghostly wail suddenly echoed in his mind.

His body froze abruptly, his head throbbing painfully, and the next moment, a ghostly hand pierced out from his chest, not only crushing his heart but also crushing the Qingmu jade he carried.

"How dare you kill me!!!"

Lei Yao looked at the Ghost in disbelief.

In the Azure Wood Star Realm's Genius Battle, severe injuries were allowed, but deliberate murder was forbidden.

Murderers would surely be punished by the Dongfang Clan, life for a life.

The Ghost leaned in to his ear and spoke, his eyes staring directly ahead at the camera.

A deep, hoarse voice echoed, broadcasted across the entire Azure Wood Star Realm.

"The Blood God Cult, greets you all."

Blood... God Cult

Lei Yao's pupils contracted sharply, and despair and fear instantly filled his chest.

Chapter 244: Purple Crystal Exile, Crisis Descends

Blood God Cult!!!

When hearing this name, all the viewers of the live stream felt a simultaneous shock in their hearts, extremely terrified.

The Blood God Cult, more commonly known by the public as the Blood Demon Cult, is an exceptionally evil organization.

Initially, the doctrines of the Blood Demon Cult were even recognized by some of the populace.

The Blood Demon Cult believes that in this world, Spiritual Energy is king and bloodlines are noble. All the good resources are occupied by Bloodline Martial Artists or Bloodline Families. Even if ordinary people become Spiritualists, it is difficult for them to rise up. They are viewed merely as cannon fodder, consumables that can be discarded at will.

Even though the Empire developed Bloodline Potions that allow Spiritualists to evolve into Bloodline Martial Artists, first, one must earn enough military merit to qualify for exchanging Bloodline Potions, and going to the battlefield means a high casualty rate. Second, even if enough military merit points are accumulated, one can only exchange for Bloodline Potions below the Bronze Level, merely elevating from low-level cannon fodder to high-level cannon fodder.

Against this unfair phenomenon, the Blood Demon Cult was born.

They hunt innate Bloodline Martial Artists, extract their blood, and through secret methods, infuse it into ordinary people or ordinary Spiritualists, thereby creating new Bloodline Martial Artists.

Initially, some people applauded the Blood Demon Cult, viewing them as a heroic organization resisting the nobility.

However, as the Blood Demon Cult continued to expand and grow, the conduct of this organization became increasingly bizarre and violent.

They wiped out entire Bloodline Families at the slightest provocation, leaving none alive from elders to children.

Furthermore, in order to obtain enough test subjects, the Blood Demon Cult also began to target ordinary citizens and ordinary Spiritualists, creating various tragedies.

After that, the Blood Demon Cult became recognized as an evil organization, with everyone calling for its destruction.

But it is undeniable that many people were still attracted by the doctrines of the Blood Demon Cult and actively joined.

In the past century, the Blood Demon Cult has continuously expanded, and its level of danger and secrecy even surpasses that of the Evil God Cult.

No one could have imagined, during this highly anticipated Talent Battle, that a high-ranking member of the Blood Demon Cult would infiltrate, lurking for so long and ruthlessly killing a five-star genius with one strike.

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"You scoundrel! Who let the Blood Demon Cult's people in!"

In the Elder Council, Dongfang Ke roared angrily, his terrifying and robust aura sweeping like a hurricane, while all the elders in the room glared angrily, except for one whose face turned slightly pale.

"Elder Ke, the recommender for this person is Dongfang Kun, Elder Leng's grandson."

The young man beside Dongfang Ke quickly checked the documents and spoke truthfully.

"Dongfang Leng!"

Dongfang Ke stared at Dongfang Leng, his gaze like a sharp sword piercing Dongfang Leng's chest, causing sweat to instantly appear on his forehead.

Dongfang Leng knew he was in big trouble this time.

To secure benefits for his own branch, he formed an alliance with a faction, exchanging an A-level Examiner's recommendation quota for an agency right of a trade route, considering it a sure-win deal.

The family awarded the A-level Examiner,

he profited from it.

The only trouble was he needed to navigate the relationships within the Elder Council and insert an A-level Examiner. However, the existing limit for A-level Examiners was five people, so squeezing one in was not strictly against the rules.

Originally, everything was progressing smoothly. Who would have thought the person he recommended was from the Blood Demon Cult.

The situation suddenly reversed.

The top geniuses from the whole Star Realm participated in the Talent Battle, and the Dongfang Family, due to poor gatekeeping, allowed the Blood Demon Cult to kill a five-star genius in front of trillions of people. This was a severe blow to the Dongfang Family's reputation and prestige.

On a smaller scale, the Talent Battle encountered a serious breach, and the Dongfang Family was unable to guarantee the safety of the participants. Will the Bloodline Families still let their best descendants participate in the Talent Battle in the future?

If the participating talents' strength declines, the status and excitement of the Talent Battle will no longer exist, and this enormous money-making tree will gradually withdraw from the stage.

On a deeper level, although prestige seems intangible, as the rulers of the Star Realm, once prestige is challenged, and the outside world no longer fears you, the ruling position will be shaken, leading to a series of adverse consequences.

This is absolutely intolerable for the Dongfang Family.

"Elder Ke, now is not the time to pursue accountability."

Another elder said, "We must kill the Blood Demon Cult members and halt the competition to prevent other geniuses from getting harmed as quickly as possible."

Dongfang Ke coldly replied:

"Dongfang Yue has already gone to do it."

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As the most popular annual event in the whole Star Realm, the Dongfang Family equipped the Talent Battle with top-notch venues, costly Guardian Artifacts, and several Tier Seven, even Tier Eight experts to oversee the event.

When the Blood Demon Cult appeared, these experts immediately mobilized and headed to the scene.

However, the Blood Demon Cult had long prepared for this moment.

After killing Lei Yao, the "Ghost" Examiner took out a Purple Crystal Sphere from his pocket and crushed it fiercely.

The Purple Sphere shattered upon hearing the crack, and in the blink of an eye, countless purple rays poured down like a galaxy. Those light points did not fall but instead intertwined and spiraled in the sky as if they were alive, enveloping half the city in a strange purple glow.

"What is that!!!"

On the street, the geniuses looked up, utterly stunned at the scene unfolding before them.

Zhuge Yu held the Compass, feeling his heart sink heavily into an abyss.

His divination was indeed not wrong.

The most dangerous thing had still happened.

The purple light curtain was spreading in all directions at a terrifying speed, turning the clouds on its path into magnificent purple crystals. In just three breaths, half the city was covered by a reversed crystal wall. Sunlight passed through the purple barrier, casting dappled shadows, as if the entire world was immersed in a purple crystal solution.

Ka-ka-ka

Suddenly, a grinding gear noise came from the ground, and the entire piece of land enclosed by the crystal wall began to tremble, with countless buildings disintegrating into countless purple cubes amidst the shock.

Once the last pavement slab completed crystallization, the giant crystal imprisoning all geniuses suddenly burst into blinding spatial cracks — as if shattered glass were being crushed by an invisible giant hand, spearing through the void with purple brilliance, leaving behind an unfathomably deep spherical abyss.

Swoosh swoosh swoosh~~

Shortly after the purple crystal entered the void, several figures appeared instantly.

Dongfang Yue and several experts from the Dongfang Family looked at the slowly healing spatial rift, their faces turning dark.

"Purple Crystal Exile, it's him, Sakre!"

The live broadcast signal was cut off, and the silhouettes of sixteen geniuses and the "Ghost" Examiner disappeared before the audience's eyes.

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Within the crystal wall

The "Ghost" withdrew his hand from Lei Yao's chest, followed by a blood-colored Demon Vessel appearing in his palm. The vessel unleashed a powerful suction, and in two breaths, Lei Yao's blood was drained dry, leaving only a desiccated corpse.

Thud

The body fell to the ground. The "Ghost" looked into the distance, a scarlet light flashing in his eyes.

"None of you will escape!"

In the distant shadowy corner, Qin Tian watched everything transpire, his expression becoming extremely solemn.

Chapter 245: Celestial Punishment Divine Thunder (Orange)

"What's going on here."

Huang Yuhui and the other four teammates looked up at the purple crystal wall above, their eyes filled with shock and fear.

"Run quickly and join up with Fu Ning and them!"

Huang Yuhui shouted, then the four of them, without caring about Lei Yao, rushed towards the predetermined meeting point of the four teams at the fastest speed.

Half a minute after they left, the "Ghost" examiner suddenly appeared, those scarlet eyes gazing into the distance as a cruel curve appeared at the corner of his mouth.

Perfect, I'll catch you all in one net.

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On the pitch-black street, a withered corpse lay amidst the shattered bricks.

From the shadows came the rustling sound of footsteps, a tall figure slowly emerged from behind a broken wall.

Qin Tian stepped over the scattered bricks and debris and stopped in front of the corpse.

He lowered his gaze to look at the unrecognizable body on the ground—once a five-star genius, Lei Yao, now lay dead in such a tragic state.

Qin Tian sighed softly, knelt on one knee, and brushed his fingers over that twisted visage, finally resting on the bulging eyes. A cold sensation came from his fingertips as he gently closed the eyes that refused to shut in death.

Swish~ Swish~

An orange light ball flew towards him, merging into his body.

This was Lei Yao's Golden Bloodline—Destructive Celestial Thunder.

Seizing the moment when the Destructive Celestial Thunder was merging into his body, Qin Tian directly fused it with the Purple Sky Thunder Body. Soon, a new talent emerged.

[Name]Celestial Punishment Divine Thunder (Orange)

[Type]Composite Talent

[Introduction]The Celestial Punishment Divine Thunder contains supreme divine power that exterminates evil and demons. When unleashed, all evils are dispelled, all demons subdued, embodying a force of righteous judgment in the world, possessing the following abilities:

1. Extermination of Evil: Deals 1000% extra damage to dark element enemies such as wraiths, demons, and ghost spirits.
2. Celestial Punishment Judgment: When lightning hits an enemy, it applies a layer of[Celestial Punishment Mark]. When the mark accumulates to five layers, it can be detonated, causing true damage equal to 30% of the target's lost life value.
3. Invulnerability to Thunder: Lightning resistance increased to 1200%, complete immunity to negative thunder element states; other elemental resistances increased by 60%, greatly reducing elemental damage received, with a 30% chance to trigger[Divine Thunder Protection]upon being attacked, offsetting 50% of the damage and reflecting 70% of it back to the attacker.

Crackle~ Crackle~

Qin Tian's whole body skeleton suddenly emitted a sound akin to popping beans, with each vertebra unraveling into dazzling purple-gold thunder patterns. His pupils transformed into two spinning vortexes of lightning storms, his hair standing on end, intertwined with crackling purple-gold electricity.

The skin's surface manifested intricate thunder patterns, dancing like living entities upon the body. Each breath aroused a myriad of thunder serpents leaping around him.

Most astonishingly, at the heart region, a fist-sized lightning core had formed, pulsating and releasing liquid-like lightning essence with each beat.

The "Nine Nether Thunder Brilliance Technique" operated automatically, with the spiritual energy in his body surging like kindled lightning fire throughout the meridians.

Within the Dantian Qi Sea, the previously calm spirit liquid had morphed into a violent vortex of thunderous liquid, each rotation unleashing deafening thunderclaps. His seven orifices erupted with tangible purple-gold spirit flames, distorting the air saturated with energy within a radius of three zhang.

"Boom——"

When the first spiritual energy torrent broke through the barrier, fine thunder sparks sprayed from every pore in Qin Tian's body, his aura escalating continuously, spiritual energy rapidly swelling, with the three hundred and sixty major acupuncture points lighting up successively, sketching a complete Zhoutian star Map across the surface.

When the energy accumulated to a critical point, Qin Tian looked up and roared, a ten-meter diameter thunder pillar soaring skyward, striking the purple crystal wall. His spiritual ability level forcefully broke through the barrier, finally halting steadily at Tier Four Five Stars.

.....

At this moment, the "Ghost" suddenly turned back, gazing at the distant thunder pillar, a slight frown forming beneath his mask.

That location...

He paused, pondered for a moment, then proceeded with the original plan.

As for the person behind, he would eventually die at his hands sooner or later.

.....

"Celestial Punishment Divine Thunder."

Qin Tian clenched his fist, and a dark purple lightning suddenly erupted.

The Celestial Punishment Divine Thunder was far more formidable than the previous Purple Sky Divine Thunder, representing a massive leap in rank, reflected in aspects like damage, explosive power, lightning control, and resistance.

Compared to the Night Demon King and Desolate Battle Body talents, which are focused on physique, the Celestial Punishment Divine Thunder zeroes in on the path of attack, with extreme lightning destructiveness and the real damage of the Celestial Punishment Mark raising his attack ceiling to a new level.

When the Seventh-Layer Dominating Blade Intent combines with the Fifth-Layer Celestial Punishment Mark and the Celestial Destiny Critical Strike, this damage is enough to pose a threat to Tier Six masters.

The current color of [Celestial Punishment Divine Thunder] is Medium Orange, even deeper than the color of the [Desolate Battle Body], making it the fifth orange talent he's mastered.

With lightning absorbed into his body, Qin Tian looked into the distance.

Blood God Cult, or rather Blood Demon Cult.

He had heard rumors about this organization.

However, he didn't expect the Blood Demon Cult to infiltrate the genius competition, disguised as an examiner. It must be said that this time the Dongfang Clan was really too careless.

Now, most of the city was enveloped in the purple crystal wall and exiled into the void. Rescue from the Dongfang Clan could not be depended on for the moment.

Since "Ghost" dared to face off against a dozen geniuses alone, it indicates he must have hidden his strength, or had made thorough preparations, confident in taking down these geniuses.

Regarding this matter, Qin Tian could not stand by idly.

Publicly, the Blood Demon Cult was the Empire's archenemy, wanted across the entire Empire, and as a Colonel officer, he had the responsibility to eliminate members of this evil organization.

Privately, if the Blood Demon Cult successfully slaughtered the geniuses, with only himself left in the city, he would not escape death either.

Snap~

Shadowstrike was withdrawn from space, landing in his palm.

Qin Tian gripped the gun hilt tightly, that familiar sense of control surging back into his heart.

Handling a gun is indeed more convenient~

Wings unfolded from his back, just about to take flight.

Suddenly, an excited consciousness came from the Jie La on his wrist.

Swish~~

The vine emitted a glowing green light. Jie La detached from his wrist, grew rapidly, and instantly transformed into a kilometer-long vine, slithering like a serpent straight to the purple crystal wall.

Crack

The top of Jie La touched the purple crystal wall, and in the next moment, the top turned into a drill, easily penetrating the purple crystal wall, then crazily devouring the energy within.

"So refreshing! So refreshing!"

Jie La conveyed a sense of joy and exhilaration to Qin Tian.

It can absorb this too?

Qin Tian raised an eyebrow slightly, absorbing the energy from the purple crystal wall was certainly a good thing for Jie La, but if the purple crystal wall were destroyed, could this city still exist in the spatial turbulence?

However, Qin Tian couldn't think much about it at this moment, as intense battle waves were already emanating from a corner of the city, with the geniuses engaged against the "Ghost," he needed to hurry there and contribute a part.

Qin Tian instructed Jie La, then his wings trembled, flying swiftly towards the distance.

Chapter 246: Stars Return to Their Positions, Ghost King

A few minutes ago

Crackle crackle crackle

The Purple Crystal Wall appeared amidst the clouds, the earth tore apart, and the entire city began to shake, disappearing into the void.

At this moment, Yue Shenghe, Fu Ning, and Zhong Liying all looked at Zhuge Yu, feeling a shocking unease inside.

Zhuce Yu was indeed correct; the crisis concerning life and death had arrived.

Zhuce Yu's brows were tightly furrowed; he would rather have miscalculated, than witness the current scene unfold.

Uprooting an entire city and exiling it into the chaotic flow of the void is the work of at least a Tier Nine powerhouse.

However, the Dongfang Clan oversees the Genius Battle with extreme diligence; even a Tier Nine powerhouse couldn't sneak into Shuiyue New City on Yingmu Star unnoticed.

Therefore, the creator of this disaster is most likely one of the participants.

The one with the highest suspicion is none other than the never-seen A-level Examiner—Ghost.

Lei Yao's squad is in danger.

"Wu Ziyan, Shangguan Lei!"

Zhuce Yu called out to the two panicked teams nearby.

"Come over here."

The sudden change caused panic among the two groups, so when Zhuce Yu called for them to gather, they immediately rallied around him, feeling as if they found their anchor.

"Zhuge Yu, what's going on?" Wu Ziyang asked nervously.

"I'm not sure either."

Zhuge Yu shook his head, saying: "But this is definitely a conspiracy against us and the Dongfang Clan. When entering Shuiyue New City, I divined an augury for myself, and the sign was extremely ominous, indicating that myself and everyone present would face a life-or-death crisis. Now, it appears the crisis has arrived."

What!!!

Upon hearing this, the young talents became even more anxious. The Celestial Secret Bloodline of the Zhuge Clan is well-known, and their divinations rarely go wrong.

"I suspect all of this is caused by that Ghost Examiner, and his target is everyone."

Zhuge Yu said in a heavy tone: "Everyone, we must unite and hold out for as long as possible. I believe the Dongfang Clan will do everything they can to rescue us."

"Alright, what do you suggest?"

In crucial moments, everyone was willing to follow Zhuge Yu's lead and listen to his commands.

"Deploy the array, I will be the array center, and each of you as array nodes."

Zhuge Yu commanded sternly: "Make sure to follow my instructions. When I give a command, don't hesitate for even a moment."

"Alright, no problem."

Everyone nodded in agreement.

"Shangguan Lei, activate your Heart Net and connect everyone." Zhuge Yu issued the first command.

"Alright!"

Shangguan Lei's eyes flashed, and an invisible spiritual power expanded outward, linking everyone's souls together to form a network where each pair is interconnected.

"Next, Fu Ning and Zhong Liying, stand at the Life Gate."

"Yue Shenghe, you stand at the Death Gate."

"Wu Ziyang, you stand at the Xiu Gate."

"Shangguan Lei, you stand at the Jing Gate."

Zhuce Yu assigned each person to different array nodes within the Eight Trigrams Array based on their capabilities. At this moment, Huang Yuhui and the remaining four also hurriedly arrived, yet Lei Yao was nowhere to be seen.

Everyone assumed that Lei Yao was likely in grave danger.

"You five, enter the array!"

Zhuce Yu quickly instructed them to stand on different array nodes without time for explanation.

The arrival of these five wouldn't disrupt his array plan; in fact, under the current circumstances, the more people involved, the better.

The Wuhou Eight Trigrams Array is unpredictable; not only a mere dozen people, but even with tens of thousands of individuals, the Eight Trigrams Array has ways to accommodate them.

Everyone took their positions, and the Eight Trigrams Array was activated.

In an instant, the entire world transformed dramatically!

Buzz—

A brilliant golden pillar of light shot upward from under Zhuge Yu's feet, piercing straight into the skies.

Following that, eight differently colored pillars of light rose from the array nodes where Fu Ning, Zhong Liying, Yue Shenghe, and others stood, interweaving in the air to form a massive Eight Trigrams Diagram.

"Qian Sanlian, Earth in sixfold breaks!" Zhuge Yu formed seals with his hands, and his robe fluttered despite no wind.

The Eight Trigrams Diagram suspended in the air began to slowly rotate, dropping layers of faint golden light screens over everyone.

At that moment, footsteps were heard from afar.

A figure appeared at the end of the street, draped in a pitch-black Nether Cloak and wearing an Evil Ghost Mask, as if a fierce ghost had walked out of Hell, staring at everyone with crimson eyes.

"Wuhou Eight Trigrams Array."

Ghost stared directly at Zhuge Yu, who was the center of the massive formation.

The Wuhou Eight Trigrams Array, famous across the world.

This legendary array is recorded in the annals of history, profound and mysterious, with the power to change the heavens and the earth.

Even though he had come well-prepared, his brows furrowed involuntarily upon witnessing the Wuhou Eight Trigrams Array.

"The Wuhou Eight Trigrams Array... is indeed extraordinary."

Ghost's voice was raspy and deep, like the whispering of countless souls. He slowly raised his hand, and his sleeve billowed as an intensely cold aura erupted!

"But unfortunately, you can't stop me."

Before his voice faded, his five fingers suddenly clenched—

"Ten Thousand Ghosts Devouring Heaven!"

Boom—!

In a split second, the entire world seemed to fall into the Underworld! Numerous terrifying ghostly howls rang from all directions, black mist churned, and grotesque Evil Ghosts crawled out of the void, their crimson eyes fixed on those within the Eight Trigrams Array.

Some appeared skeletal, some were entirely decayed, while others morphed into twisted shadows, crazily lunging toward the formation!

"Here they come!" Zhuge Yu's pupils contracted, shouting sternly: "Eight Trigrams Rotation, Yin Yang Exorcism!"

Buzz—!

The Eight Trigrams Diagram suddenly accelerated its rotation, the eight pillars of light dazzling and resplendent. As the array patterns flowed, layers of golden screens expanded outward like tides. When the Evil Ghosts collided with the screens, they screeched piercingly before being incinerated into ashes.

However, the ghostly tide seemed endless, relentlessly assaulting the formation, and the screens began to tremble violently!

"Everyone, maintain the array nodes with all your might!" Zhuge Yu's forehead was beaded with sweat, his hands continued forming seals, while the spiritual power within him furiously poured into the array center.

"Understood!" everyone responded loudly, each activating their own powers.

Fu Ning and Zhong Liying stood at the Life Gate, their spiritual powers blending to form a vibrant barrier resisting ghostly influence; Yue Shenghe held the Death Gate, radiating killing intent, his Panlong Fist Intent sweeping out, shredding any approaching Evil Ghosts; Shangguan Lei was at the Jing Gate, the Heart Net fully open, precisely capturing every weak spot and helping direct others to patch defenses; Wu Ziyang stood at the Xiu Gate, continually supplying spiritual power to sustain the array's operation!

Ghost sneered at the sight: "Struggling in vain!"

He suddenly raised his hand, a dark talisman appearing in his palm, which he then pressed harshly onto the ground—

"Nine Nether Ghost King, rise!"

Rumble! The ground collapsed, and a giant ghostly hand burst from the earth, followed by a Ghost King over a hundred meters tall, slowly climbing out, its crimson eyes surveying everyone, spewing a torrent of black flames!

"Not good!" Zhuge Yu's face shifted slightly, yelling sternly: "Eight Trigrams Unification, Heaven and Earth reversal!"

The Eight Trigrams Diagram quickly contracted, the eight pillars of light converging at the center, transforming into a radiant golden sword that slashed towards the Ghost King!

Boom—!!!

The earth shook, as the golden light and black flames collided fiercely, a violent energy storm sweeping in all directions!

Ghost's figure flickered within the storm, the corners of his mouth curling into a mocking smile beneath the mask: "Interesting... But, how long can you endure?"

Zhuge Yu clenched his teeth, blood faintly oozing from his mouth.

Tier Six Nine Stars

This is a Tier Six Nine Stars Bloodline Martial Artist.

Chapter 247: Divine Thunder Destroys the Ghost, Jie La Awakens (Double Chapter)

Level Six Nine Stars

This is a powerhouse very close to Tier Seven. Although the "Ghost's" bloodline level may not have reached the Gold level, it definitely ranks at the Silver Level.

Zhuge Yu's face was solemn. A Level Six Nine Stars powerhouse, its Explosive Power is enough to shatter anyone's defensive limit, even the physically strongest Yue Shenghe couldn't withstand a strike from the "Ghost."

If it weren't for the Wuhou Eight Trigrams Array combining everyone's strength, they would have been individually pierced through by the "Ghost" by now.

However, the situation is still not optimistic for them.

The "Ghost" is not only strong himself, but he can also summon the Tier Six Nine Nether Ghost King, along with countless little ghosts.

The Ghost King and little ghosts continuously assaulted the pivotal points of the Eight Trigrams Array. If they can't mount an effective counterattack, the array will eventually be breached.

Seeing the black flame breath of the Nine Nether Ghost King being blocked, a sinister gleam flashed in the "Ghost's" eyes. He let out a low roar, his hands suddenly clenched together, and sinister incantations spewed from his mouth—

"Ten Thousand Ghosts—Wailing!"

In an instant, the air was filled with countless piercing shrieks, and an invisible spiritual assault surged forth like a cataclysmic wave.

This is not an ordinary attack, but a terrifying killer move that acts directly on the soul. If hit, one could face mental collapse at best, and soul dispersion at worst!

"It's a spiritual attack!" Zhuge Yu's pupils constricted, immediately issuing an order through the Heart Net, "Shangguan Lei, Heart Net fully open, construct a spiritual barrier!"

"Understood!" Shangguan Lei closed his eyes tight, veins popping on his forehead. The initially invisible Heart Net abruptly solidified, transforming into a semi-transparent spiritual barrier enveloping everyone within!

"Heart Net·Soul Guardian!"

Boom——!!!

The impact of the Ten Thousand Ghosts' Wailing fiercely crashed against the spiritual barrier. Everyone felt as if their minds were thunderstruck, faces turning pale instantly. Yet Shangguan Lei gritted his teeth, enduring this wave of impact!

However, before they could catch their breath, the gigantic shadow of the Ghost King was looming again! Its colossal hand, obscuring the sky, was raised high, laden with a destructive force, crashing down on the Eight Trigrams Array!

Zhuge Yu's heart sank immediately, redirecting the array, "Yue Shenghe, Death Gate Main Defense, everyone infuse Spiritual Power!"

"Leave it to me!" Yue Shenghe roared, his muscles swelling dramatically, dark golden patterns reappearing. The remaining Spiritual Power of the group surged crazily into his body, making his aura soar to its peak momentarily!

"Dragon Immortal Panlong—Hold on for me!!!"

Boom——!!!

The ghostly hand slammed down heavily, a violent shockwave sweeping in all directions, fracturing the ground! Yue Shenghe's legs sank deep into the earth, his arm muscles knotted, standing firm against this world-destroying strike!

But blood trickled from the corner of his mouth, evidently bearing immense pressure!

"Now's the time!" Zhuge Yu shouted fiercely, "Fu Ning, Life Gate Sword Transformation!"

The Eight Trigrams Array rotated instantly, all Spiritual Power like rivers converging into Fu Ning's body! His sword blade radiated blinding golden light, a supremely sharp Sword Intent piercing the heavens!

"Celestial Sword—Demon Slayer!"

Clang——!

A brilliant sword beam tore through the sky, descending like heavenly retribution, piercing through the colossal body of the Ghost King in an instant! The Ghost King emitted a distressing wail, its body fracturing inch by inch, finally dissolving into misty black fog!

With the combined might of sixteen top talents, a single sword decimated the Ghost King.

"We did it!" Everyone was uplifted in spirit.

However, just as they were catching their breath, Zhuge Yu's face suddenly turned pale—their auras were rapidly declining! Forcibly wielding power beyond their limits came at the cost of near depletion of their Spiritual Power!

The "Ghost" stood at a distance, the corners of his mouth lifting slowly under his mask: "Impressive, to vanquish my Ghost King... but do you still have strength left?"

He raised his hand slowly, his cold voice resonating across the heavens and earth—

"Then, how will you handle the second Ghost King?"

Rumble——!

The ground trembled again, and the shadow of the second Ghost King was slowly emerging from the void.

What!

At this sight, everyone's faces instantly paled, many with eyes reflecting despair.

"The secret of the word Zhen—Vitality Circulation..."

Zhuge Yu's hands abruptly formed a seal, and a verdant Spirit Pattern burst out from between his fingers, spreading like vines across the entire array. His eyes shone brightly, and he shouted fiercely:

"Earth Vein as the guide, all things thriving, turn!"

Boom—!

A dull rumble emanated from deep within the earth, countless sparkling green light points rose up from the cracked ground, surging into everyone's body like starlight. The previously depleted meridians, nourished by this pure vitality, began to recover rapidly.

"Is this... Earth Vein Spiritual Qi?" Fu Ning was shocked, staring at the verdant glow wrapped around the sword edge. The Celestial Sword, once dim, was now revived with a fierce Sword Intent.

Everyone's eyes lit up, rekindling their fighting spirit.

The "Ghost's" silhouette wavered slightly in the distance, his brows under the mask furrowing once more: "Zhuge Family's secret of the word Zhen?"

Boom!

The second Ghost King had fully solidified.

This Ghost King was entirely purple-black, with a single horn on its forehead, its body enveloped in suffocating Netherworld flames. It roared deafeningly to the sky, the ruins of Shuiyue New City shuddering from the sound waves.

"It's useless." The "Ghost" raised his hand slowly, "Netherworld Ghost King, tear them apart."

Boom!

At the moment the Ghost King stepped forward, the ground within a hundred feet around it simultaneously sank. It swung its enormous claw, entangled with chains, crashing towards the array with the momentum to sever mountains and valleys.

This attack was several times more terrifying than before!

"Yue Shenghe!"

"Understood!"

Having recovered seventy percent of his Spiritual Power, Yue Shenghe faced it again, maximizing the Panlong Battle Body. At the moment of collision, the bones in his arms emitted a brittle snap under the weight, yet he forced himself to withstand this fatal strike.

"Now!" Zhuge Yu's eyes flashed with determination, "Fu Ning, Celestial Sword Triple! Shangguan Lei, Heart Net Soul Lock! Wu Ziyang, Celestial Fire Burning!"

Chapter 248: Divine Thunder Destroys the Ghost, Jie La Awakens (Double Chapter)

Three deadly moves erupted simultaneously!

Fu Ning's Celestial Sword transformed into three intersecting arcs of light, Shangguan Lei's Heart Net firmly restrained the Ghost King's actions, and Wu Ziyang wielded her Magic Staff as countless stars fell from the sky.

Rumble—!

The second Ghost King disintegrated amidst the dazzling sword light and raging fire.

But this time, even before the ghostly mist dispersed, the figure of the "Ghost" had already ghosted into the air above the array.

In his hand appeared a Bone Saber wrapped in vengeful spirits, its blade pointing straight at the array's core, Zhuge Yu.

"It's over."

At the moment the Bone Saber sliced down, fine cracks appeared on the light curtain of the entire Eight Trigrams Array!

Simultaneously, countless small ghosts surged against the Eight Trigrams Array like a tide, further burdening the array and making it falter.

Pfft~

As the core of the Eight Trigrams Array, Zhuge Yu bore the greatest pressure among everyone and couldn't help but spit out a mouthful of blood.

The "Ghost" was too powerful, not only was he himself a Tier Six Nine Stars expert, but he also summoned two more Tier Six Ghost Kings, meaning they were fighting against three Tier Six masters, and being able to hold on until now was already a miracle.

Seeing Zhuge Yu's pale face and the blood spouting from his mouth, everyone's hearts sank once more. If Zhuge Yu couldn't hold on, there was no way they could withstand the "Ghost's" violent assault.

Just when they were on the brink of despair, suddenly, dark purple light flickered above their heads as thunderclouds gathered, and then—

Boom boom boom!!!

Thousands of purple lightning bolts struck down like a wrathful deity, each bolt precisely targeting the surging ghost tide.

The blinding lightning lit up the entire world as if it were daylight, the grotesque little ghosts howled miserably in the purple thunder and turned to ashes in an instant!

"Is this... Destructive Celestial Thunder?"

Zhuge Yu suddenly looked up. Could Lei Yao still be alive?

No, this doesn't feel like Lei Yao's Destructive Celestial Thunder.

Compared to the Destructive Celestial Thunder, the current lightning is pure and virtuous, carrying immense righteousness and dealing great damage to ghost souls, a feature not inherent in Destructive Celestial Thunder.

Who is he?

Amidst the endless lightning, a slender figure stood skyward, surrounded by rampant purple thunder, and a pair of dark wings slowly unfolded behind him, like a Demon King descending to the mortal world.

The emblematic Black Crow mask on his face glinted with a cold metallic sheen under the lightning, mysterious and dangerous.

"Black Crow!"

"It's actually him!"

On the ground, everyone's eyes were shocked, hardly believing what they saw. The man they always regarded as cunning and tricky had actually come forth at the critical moment!

The "Ghost" suddenly retreated several dozen yards, the eyes beneath the mask extremely grim. He stared intently at the figure in the sky, voice hoarse: "You... courting death!"

Those little ghosts he had nurtured with painstaking effort were now annihilated in one strike, an enormous loss that made his heart bleed!

Qin Tian ignored the "Ghost's" anger, slightly bowed his head to glance at the devastated street below.

Celestial Punishment Divine Thunder—capable of dealing 1000% extra damage to dark element enemies like malevolent spirits, demons, and ghost souls!

The recent strike directly obliterated ghosts below Tier Five, and even Tier Five Ghost Generals turned to ashes under the lightning.

If it weren't for the "Ghost's" own formidable strength, he'd have suffered a severe loss!

Without pausing, Qin Tian raised his hand again—

Sovereign of the Verdant Wilds - Life Domain!

Buzz—!

Brilliant green light rapidly expanded from his position, instantly enveloping the entire ruined city!

The earth trembled, and countless remaining plants and Spirit Plants seemed summoned, swaying in response.

Strands of pure Life Energy rose from them, gathering like fireflies towards Qin Tian, who then precisely directed it into the Eight Trigrams Array below!

"This is..." Zhuge Yu's pupils shrank abruptly.

The next second, the surging Life Energy erupted within everyone!

The near-depleted Spiritual Energy began to restore frantically!

The fatigued bodies were re-energized!

The depleted Spiritual Power surged back like a tide!

"Hahaha! Awesome!" Yue Shenghe laughed heartily, suddenly standing straight as his muscles swelled, dark golden patterns reappearing, with an aura stronger by threefold than at his peak!

Fu Ning clenched his Longsword tighter, the golden light on the blade becoming ever more brilliant, the fierce Sword Intent soaring into the clouds!

Shangguan Lei's Spiritual Power also returned to its peak, the Heart Net expanded once more, perfectly linking everyone's states!

The "Ghost's" expression changed completely.

He never imagined that the covert "Black Crow" could possess such terrifying auxiliary abilities!

"Courting death!"

The "Ghost" roared furiously, black mist surging madly around him, and the terrifying aura of a Tier Six Nine Stars erupted fully! He suddenly raised his hand, and endless Ghost Qi consolidated in the void, instantly forming a giant ghostly hand that blotted out the sun!

The giant hand was pitch black, with palm lines resembling countless wailing vengeful spirits. The mere pressure it emitted caused the entire Eight Trigrams Array to tremble violently!

"Die!"

The "Ghost" shouted angrily, the ghostly hand slamming towards the sky!

The dreadful oppression distorted the space itself. If this strike landed, no one would survive!

On the ground, everyone's pupils contracted fiercely, their hearts almost stopped beating!

"Black Crow, watch out!" Wu Ziyang shouted in alarm.

However—

Just as the ghostly hand was about to strike Qin Tian, he suddenly twisted his body, the Black Wings behind him gave a fierce flap, transforming him into a streak of lightning...

He fled!

"???"

Everyone was instantly stunned!

Even the "Ghost" was taken aback, clearly not expecting his opponent to outright flee, and with such speed.

"As expected of him."

Everyone's lips twitched.

"Bastard!!"

The "Ghost" was furious, the ghostly hand abruptly changed direction, slamming fiercely in the direction Qin Tian was escaping!

Boom—!!!

The ground cracked, and dust soared into the sky!

However, Qin Tian's speed was incredibly fast, with flickers of lightning he had already rushed out of the attack range, even turning back to tauntingly beckon with his finger, a nonchalant voice echoed.

"Is that all?"

Everyone: "..."

This maneuver... was way too audacious?!

Zhuge Yu's eye twitched fiercely, but quickly reacted, shouting in a low voice: "Don't just stand there! Take advantage and reorganize the formation!"

Everyone snapped back to reality and hurriedly adjusted their formation.

The "Ghost" wore a ferocious expression, now faced with two choices, either chase the annoying Black Crow or continue attacking the geniuses in the Eight Trigrams Array.

Without much hesitation, the "Ghost" chose the latter.

As long as the geniuses are dead, that annoying fellow will eventually die at his hands.

The "Ghost's" eyes flashed with viciousness, his figure suddenly flickered, completely abandoning the pursuit of Qin Tian, and instead charged violently towards the direction of the Eight Trigrams Array!

"I'll kill you all first!"

He suddenly clasped his hands together, ghostly aura surging around him, instantly condensing dozens of pitch-black ghostly claws, each exuding a suffocating oppression!

"Not good! Defend with all your might!" Zhuge Yu shouted sternly.

Boom! Boom! Boom!

The ghostly claws rained down like a storm on the Eight Trigrams Array, the light screen trembling violently, cracks spreading visibly!

"Puh—"

Yue Shenghe took the brunt of the force, blood seeping from the corners of his mouth, yet he gritted his teeth, his arm muscles knotted, stubbornly withstanding the impact!

Fu Ning's sword edge danced wildly, slicing through ghostly aura after ghostly aura, but his arm was already trembling slightly!

Zhong Liying's face was pale, the radiance of the Life Gate flickering intermittently!

The array was on the verge of collapse!

Yet—

Just as everyone was about to falter, strands of vibrant green Life Energy once again gathered from all directions, surging continuously into their bodies!

"It's the Black Crow's Life Domain!" Shangguan Lei's spirit lifted.

This pure Life Force rapidly healed their injuries, replenishing the consumed Spiritual Energy, allowing them to barely maintain the array!

The "Ghost" upon seeing this, was even more murderous: "Struggling to your last breath!"

He suddenly raised his hand, gathering a jet-black spear within his palm, the spearhead wreathed with an unsettling aura of death!

"Netherworld Soul Slaying Spear!"

Just as the Soul Slaying Spear was about to be thrown by the "Ghost," suddenly, the ghost's pupils contracted, the ghostly aura condensing into a shield.

Bang!

A bullet laced with electric charge crashed into the shield, spinning like a drill, nearly piercing through it.

The "Ghost" jerked his head around, again seeing the figure that made him grit his teeth—Black Crow standing on the ruins several kilometers away, holding a peculiarly shaped black gun.

In this brief moment, the geniuses managed to catch their breath, looking at Qin Tian with surprise and delight.

It's Black Crow again who restrained the enemy at the critical moment.

Qin Tian quickly holstered his gun, melted into the shadows, his expression still grave.

The situation is still dire.

Now everyone can barely protect themselves, but prolonged defense will lead to defeat, any slight flaw could cause an instant collapse.

What to do?

Is there any way out?

Qin Tian's mind raced frantically, against absolute power, he really had no solution to break the impasse.

Just then, a familiar consciousness suddenly entered his mind.

Qin Tian's body jolted, joy flashed vividly in his eyes.

After absorbing a massive amount of Wood Crystal and Purple Crystal Wall Energy, Jie La finally evolved successfully!

Chapter 249: The Might of Jie La

Whoosh

Suddenly, a vine flew from afar.

Qin Tian raised his hand, and the vine coiled around his wrist.

The purple leaf at the tip of the vine gently swayed, conveying a sense of excitement and joy.

"Finally, it's successfully evolved."

Qin Tian's lips curled into a faint smile.

Upon awakening, Jie La had Tier Five strength, able to easily kill a Tier Five Fierce Beast. In the past few days, after absorbing a massive amount of Wood Crystal and the energy of the Purple Crystal Wall, she smoothly broke through to Tier Six.

Moreover, the branching vines of Jie La continued to absorb the energy of the Purple Crystal Wall, while her main body rushed to provide support.

"Now, the situation is different."

Qin Tian gazed into the distance, his eyes flickering with light.

Jie La was no ordinary spirit plant, but the notorious Soul-Devouring Demon Vine. In terms of rank, it was not weaker than a Golden Level bloodline genius of the same level.

Once she broke through to Tier Six, directly restraining the 'Ghost' was not a problem.

.....

Boom!

The 'Ghost' clasped its hands into a seal, ghost qi surged wildly around it, and an immense black palm print coalesced in mid-air!

On the palm print, a sinister ghost face emerged, seemingly filled with the wails of thousands of grievances, and the pressure it emitted froze the entire space in place!

"Everyone, follow orders!" Zhuge Yu shouted sternly, his hands forming seals so quickly they almost left afterimages, "Eight Trigrams Rotation, power converge on the Death Gate!"

Hum—!

The entire Eight Trigrams Array suddenly contracted, eight light beams spun frantically, and the vast spiritual power surged like a torrent towards the Death Gate where Yue Shenghe stood!

"Yue Shenghe, it's up to you!"

"Come on!" Yue Shenghe roared, his entire body's muscles instantly swelled, and dragonsque scale patterns like rocks surfaced on his skin—the Panlong Battle Body, unmoving like a mountain!

His form inflated by a circle under the infusion of spiritual power, his feet deeply entrenched in the ground, his arms crossed in front of him, bracing his body to directly withstand this Ghost King Seal!

"Courting death."

The 'Ghost' coldly shouted, the terrifying Ghost King Seal slammed down mightily!

Boom—!!!

In a deafening explosion, the ground beneath Yue Shenghe's feet instantly collapsed by several meters! His body was covered in flickering dragon scale patterns, his bones creaked under the strain, and blood trickled from the corner of his mouth, but he steadfastly held firm!

Puff—

All within the array simultaneously spat blood, faces pale as paper. The void left by the excessive consumption of spiritual power caused a few members with slightly weaker cultivation to collapse directly to the ground.

"Hold...on..." Yue Shenghe gritted his teeth, his arms trembled violently, and the scales of the Panlong Battle Body began to splinter inch by inch!

At this critical juncture—

Rumblings of thunder!

The ground suddenly shook violently, countless green vines as thick as barrels burst from the earth, whipping towards the 'Ghost' like crazed pythons!

"What is that?!"

The 'Ghost's eyes narrowed in shock, hastily withdrew the Ghost King Seal, and retreated swiftly!

However, the vines moved faster, splitting into hundreds in an instant, each glistening with a metallic dark green sheen, their tips piercing like sharp spears!

"Get lost!"

The 'Ghost' roared angrily, his hands transformed into ghostly claws, slashing out fiercely!

Whoosh! Whoosh! Whoosh!

Dozens of vines were severed, dark green liquid spattering!

But in the next moment, to everyone's astonishment, the severed vines quickly took root and grew upon touching the ground, transforming into even thicker vines, their numbers even greater than before.

The crowd was amazed, could this be a hidden move by the Dongfang Clan?

At this moment, dark purple lightning suddenly erupted on the vine surfaces, like whips of the Thunder God, lashing ferociously at the 'Ghost'.

The 'Ghost's form moved like lightning, dodging rapidly amidst the storm of whips, tearing some of the lightning into shreds with his ghostly claws. But the vines seemed alive, with attack trajectories intricate

and unpredictable, sometimes stabbing like a lance, sometimes sweeping like an iron whip, with lightning coursing through the trails relentlessly, leaving no room for defense!

Shizz—!

Finally, a bolt of lightning pierced through the defenses, striking the 'Ghost's shoulder, the dark purple Serpent Bolt Thrust pierced through his Spiritual Energy defense, causing his movements to falter.

"Not good!" Alarm bells rang loudly in his mind.

In that fleeting moment of stiffness, three vines entwined with lightning coiled around his limbs like pythons!

Snap!

A heavy whip strike lashed firmly against his back, causing the protective Ghost Qi to disperse instantly. The 'Ghost' groaned, his whole body slammed to the ground, ploughing through the debris to carve a ditch dozens of meters long!

The dust had yet to settle when more vines pursued him like a rainstorm!

Boom! Boom! Boom—!

The ground exploded with rocks being flung asunder, the 'Ghost' rolled awkwardly to evade, his expression beneath the mask turning exceedingly grim.

This feeling of the lightning—

It was him again!

Sure enough, not far off, a figure stood calmly, releasing lightning from his palm, channeling it ceaselessly into the vines.

"Black Crow, this is his symbiotic spirit plant!"

At that moment, a genius cried out excitedly.

The other geniuses also looked at Qin Tian with eyes full of amazement.

A Tier Six Symbiotic Spirit Plant, Black Crow had hidden his abilities too well.

"The situation is even better than I expected~"

Qin Tian looked down at the disheveled, dodging figure, his lips slightly curving upwards.

The Celestial Punishment Divine Thunder was exceedingly lethal to dark element beings like evil spirits, demons, and ghost spirits, and the 'Ghost's abilities fell into this category.

If he directly deployed the Celestial Punishment Divine Thunder himself, it would be difficult to harm a Tier Six Nine Stars 'Ghost'.

But when the Celestial Punishment Divine Thunder infused into Jie La's body, and then was unleashed for a second time through Jie La's nearly limitless energy special constitution, along with the vines' whipping and ensnaring, the ability to threaten and harm the 'Ghost' became immediate.

Zap—

With Qin Tian's palm radiating brilliant lightning, countless vines suddenly surged with more glaring purple electric currents. In an instant, the area within a few hundred meters transformed into a violent sea of thunder, with vines like the Thunder God's tendrils, madly dancing in the lightning!

"Damn it!"

The 'Ghost's expression changed drastically, his form stumbled awkwardly within the thunder net. Every sweeping vine carried lightning explosions that made one's scalp tingle. Just as he evaded a lashing whip of lightning, the ground beneath him suddenly cracked open, with three lightning-infused vines shooting out like venomous snakes!

He gritted his teeth, employing his body technique, transforming into a wisp of black smoke to escape swiftly.

Yet—

Boom!

A lightning bolt as thick as a water barrel descended from the sky, striking accurately along his escape path!

"Ah!"

A cry of pain echoed from the black smoke, forcing the 'Ghost' to reveal his form, his right arm blackened.

"Nice!"

Yue Shenghe was the first to shout, his bronze face flushed with excitement.

He wiped away the blood at the corner of his mouth, and under the healing of the Life Domain, the dragon scale patterns of the Panlong Battle Body reappeared vaguely on the surface of his skin.

Fu Ning's longsword emitted a clear humming, the brilliance of its blade brighter than ever, this ordinarily stern sword cultivator now ignited with fervent battle intent.

"Everyone!"

Zhuge Yu's voice resonated through the Heart Net, entering everyone's mind, carrying an indomitable resolve.

"The tide has turned, we must pursue the advantage!"

Upon hearing this, everyone's eyes sharpened, their intent to kill boiling over.

Chapter 250: Slaying the Ghost

Crackling~~

Lightning whips danced wildly, lashing out and carving cracks into the ground, filling every inch of the street with blazing lightning.

The "Ghost" moved like lightning, darting through the storm of whips, each swift motion accompanied by a piercing sound as he sliced through the air.

His hands transformed into pitch-black spectral claws, frantically tearing apart the vines wrapping around him, each strike severing several vine stalks as thick as columns!

"Break for me!"

He roared, his ghostly aura boiling over as he unleashed the full force of his Tier Six Nine Stars power! Scores of ghostly figures surged from his body, shredding the surrounding vines into smithereens!

However—

As soon as the severed vines hit the ground, they instantly rooted and regenerated, stronger and more resilient than before, their surfaces flickering with increasingly blinding lightning!

What's even more terrifying is that these vines are systematically shrinking the surrounding space!

Initially, there was a hundred meters of room to move, now it's compressed to less than thirty meters!

Buzz—

A lightning whip struck the "Ghost" from behind when he was off guard!

He hastily blocked it, his ghost claws clashing with the lightning whip, bursting with blinding sparks. Though he barely managed to fend off this strike, his arms numbed from the electric shock!

"Damn this thing!"

His eyes flared with ferocity, and he suddenly bit his tongue, spitting a mouthful of essence blood!

"Nine Nether Soul Devourer!"

The essence blood transformed into a vast blood mist, flooding with ghostly aura, wilting the vines wherever it passed at a visibly rapid pace!

However, this desperate move only cleared vines within ten meters or so. In an instant, even more lightning-infused purple vines surged from the periphery, replenishing the void!

It's useless~

From afar, Qin Tian's gaze carried a hint of mockery.

Jie La's energy is nearly infinite; the more the enemy struggles, the more energy they release, which in turn stimulates the vines to grow even more berserk.

It's important to know, ghost energy is also a form of energy.

As if to confirm his words, eerie black patterns started emerging on the surface of the new vines—a clear manifestation of converted ghost energy!

The "Ghost" finally panicked.

He realized he was caught in a terrifying cycle: destroying vines → consuming power → vines absorbing ghost energy to regenerate → shrinking enclosure...

At this rate, he would be exhausted to death in this thunder prison!

Boom—!

The "Ghost"'s eyes turned blood red, his body suddenly igniting with blood-red ghost flames! He burned essence blood directly, performing a forbidden technique—

Nine Nether Blood Escape

Instantly, he transformed into a blood shadow, as he passed, the lightning dissipated, and vines collapsed, forcibly tearing open a passage through the thunder prison, charging straight towards Qin Tian!

"Die for me!"

A ghost claw extended from the blood shadow, its fingertips coiling with an ominous death aura, causing the space to tremble.

However—

"Now's the time!" Zhuge Yu suddenly shouted, the Eight Trigrams Array spun furiously,

"Fu Ning, sword come!"

Hum!

The entire array's power was infused into Fu Ning, and his longsword burst forth with unprecedented dazzling golden light, its blade trembling violently, as if it could hardly bear such a terrifying force!

"Celestial Sword—Exterminate Evil!"

A calm voice resonated across heaven and earth.

A sword light traversing the heavens and earth was unleashed, quick enough to surpass the concept of time!

Psssh!

The "Ghost" in the blood shadow had no time to dodge, and his chest was instantly slashed with a deep bone-revealing wound, the golden sword intent clinging like maggots in decay, fiercely invading his organs!

"Ah!!!"

He let out a wretched scream, his figure dropping from the blood escape state, and before he could stabilize his body, several vines had already wrapped around his limbs like venomous snakes!

What's more terrifying is that the tips of these vines transformed into sharp purple crystal blades, piercing into his body mercilessly!

"Argh—!"

The "Ghost" spasmed all over, feeling acutely that his essence blood and energy were being frantically extracted, those vines piercing into his body were wriggling like living creatures, greedily devouring everything of his!

Vision began to blur, energy rapidly drained...

Just as he was about to plunge into darkness—

Bang!

A bullet wrapped in violet lightning pierced through the air, striking precisely at his forehead!

The bullet exploded within his skull, the Celestial Punishment Divine Thunder instantly extinguishing his last consciousness, his lower body stiffened for a moment, then fell back heavily to the ground.

A gentle breeze passed, leaving only the rustling sound as the vines retracted.

Qin Tian slung the Shadowstrike over his back, offering a thumbs-up to the original form of Jie La on his wrist:

"Nicely done."

At the same time, his eyes tinted slightly purple as he discreetly absorbed the remaining soul fragments left behind by the "Ghost" after death into his spiritual sea.

[Spiritual Wisdom Divine Authority]—Soul Devourer.

"Ghost...is dead?"

Wu Ziyang murmured, with a lingering glow of flame at her fingertips, she blinked, seemingly still unable to believe what had just transpired.

Just a few minutes ago, they were pushed to the brink of despair, and now—that terrifying Tier Six Nine Stars powerhouse had turned into a cold corpse.

"Hahaha! Delightful!" Yue Shenghe plopped down on the ground, the scales of his Panlong Battle Body slowly receding, his chest heavily rising and falling, yet he smiled contentedly,

"Black Crow, your combination of Rune Sniper Rifle with Symbiotic Spirit Plant is truly sinister...cough, cough, truly formidable!"

Fu Ning silently sheathed his sword, his fingertips slightly trembling. That one strike had nearly drained all his spiritual power, but at this moment, a faint smile emerged on his stern face.

This sword strike vanquished a strong enemy, making his heart clearer than ever.

"Unbelievable..." Shangguan Lei's spiritual field was still subtly trembling, through the Heart Net, he could clearly sense everyone's complex emotions after surviving the ordeal—shock, jubilation, dread, and an involuntary gratitude and respect for the man wearing the Black Crow mask.

Zhuge Yu quickly approached the corpse, cautiously examining for a moment, then spoke, "Indeed dead...soul scattered."

Wow—

This sentence was like a key, instantly unlocking a flood of emotions, several geniuses collapsed directly on the ground, some even had reddened eyes.

The pressure of being at death's door was too overwhelming, now relaxed, they realized their backs were soaked in cold sweat.

"Did we...survive?" a young girl trembled as she asked, her voice light as if afraid to disturb a nightmare.

"Not only did we survive," Zhuge Yu put away the Eight Trigrams Array Plate, a rare smile appearing on his pale face, "but we also slew a formidable enemy of Peak Tier Six."

He said while looking at Qin Tian, making a serious salute, "This time, thanks to Black Crow Examiner's strong assistance."

Others only then awoke from their dreamlike state, all saluting and expressing gratitude.

The once disdainful glances at "Black Crow" now all turned into genuine admiration.

Qin Tian waved his hand, the voice from beneath the mask carrying laziness, "Don't be so serious, I was just saving myself."

He bent down to pick up the Black Square Seal and Blood Demon Vessel dropped from the "Ghost", tossing them in his hand, "Though I'll gladly take these spoils."

The familiar mercantile demeanor, instead, lightened the mood.