

Divine King 181

Chapter 181 Trouble Arises Again

Xu Nian frantically absorbed the fresh blood of the Six-winged Ice Crystal Viper, continuously drawing on its Bloodline Power.

Inside his body, the Divine Demon Refining Body technique operated incessantly, crazily transforming the Bloodline Power of the Six-winged Ice Crystal Viper into Divine Demon Power.

As he absorbed this Bloodline Power, Xu Nian's Body Refining Cultivation also kept increasing.

Mid-stage One-star Body Sect.

Late-stage One-star Body Sect.

Early Stage of Two-star Body Sect.

Middle Stage of Two-star Body Sect.

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The Divine Demon Refining Body Cultivation kept enhancing and it continued without pause.

Meanwhile, he also extracted the Ice Frost Giant Dragon Bloodline Power from the Six-winged Ice Crystal Viper, which transformed into Dragon Energy, forming a trace of Ice Frost Giant Dragon's Dragon Energy in his body's dragon veins.

Such tremendous progress filled Xu Nian with joy.

Finally, after four two-hour sessions of absorption, Xu Nian's Divine Demon Refining Body Cultivation broke through to the realm of the Four-star Body Sect.

This was a jump by three levels, something unimaginable to ordinary people.

Not only that, but the sliver of Ice Frost Giant Dragon's Dragon Energy also gathered into strands, comparable to the Dragon Energy of the Taigu Blood Dragon.

It must be said that the Bloodline Power of the Six-winged Ice Crystal Viper is indeed dense, being able to extract so much in one go.

Furthermore, Xu Nian pried open the Six-winged Ice Crystal Viper's head and extracted a Nine-star Peak Demon Core.

The remaining flesh was given to Little Xu Yu, some of which like the snake gallbladder and snake heart were great supplements, sufficient for Little Xu Yu to stabilize his recently achieved Six-star Martial Sect Demon Beast Realm.

Although Little Xu Yu was only at the Six-star Martial Sect Demon Beast Realm, his strength was already comparable to ordinary Nine-star Martial Sect Demon Beasts.

If using his Talent Secret Technique, Thunder, even the Six-winged Ice Crystal Viper might not be able to withstand it.

After extracting the Demon Core, Xu Nian frantically began to absorb it.

Even if this Demon Beast Crystal Core was domineering, in the presence of the "Dan Sea Species Green Lotus," an extraordinary combat technique, it could only be absorbed obediently.

After another three two-hour sessions of absorption, Xu Nian's Spiritual Cultivation also greatly enhanced.

Eventually, Xu Nian's Spiritual Cultivation directly upgraded from Three-star Martial Sect to the Peak of Six-star Martial Sect.

One must know, this Demon Core contained all the power of a Nine-star Martial Sect Demon Beast, and ordinary people could advance several levels by absorbing just a third of it.

Xu Nian, having absorbed it entirely, upgraded only three realms.

This indicated the extraordinary nature of the "Dan Sea Species Green Lotus."

And yet, the energy from this Demon Core had already surpassed that of three hundred Fourth-grade Pills.

Both his Spiritual Cultivation and Body Cultivation had made great advances, filling Qin Yun's heart with joy.

This enhancement had significantly boosted Xu Nian's power, and the damage caused by Earth God Devouring Sky had also completely healed.

"Now my own strength should be comparable to the Peak of Nine-star Martial Sect," Xu Nian murmured excitedly to himself, "and with the application of momentum, defeating a Nine-star Martial Sect has become easy. But there's still a long way to go to reach Battle General level, unless my own cultivation reaches the true Nine-star Peak or I use the Earth God Devouring Sky Secret Technique to barely manage a fight."

The gap between Battle Sect and Battle General is immense and not easily bridged.

After all, Xu Nian was able to unleash such formidable attacks because he had grasped momentum and the power of secret techniques.

Understanding higher realms can sometimes compensate for differences in cultivation.

Cultivation is only the foundation; understanding realms is the real key to unleashing powerful attacks.

This is why, within the same realm, there are variations in strength.

Of course, cultivation is also critical, and both complement each other, with neither being dispensable.

Xu Nian emerged from his cultivation state, and Little Xu Yu had already swallowed the Six-winged Ice Crystal Viper completely and had begun to sleep again.

After placing Little Xu Yu into the Demon Beast Ring, Xu Nian saw Yann Xi standing alone at the edge of the boat, looking at him.

Because her eyes were too terrifying, everyone was afraid of her.

This made Xu Nian feel a surge of pity in his heart.

"Lady Empress, is there any way to lift the curse on Yann Xi?" Xu Nian couldn't help but send a message to Emperor Ye Tian.

"There is, but with your current cultivation, it's a bit too early; perhaps when you reach the Saint Realm, it might be possible," Emperor Ye Tian replied lazily.

Xu Nian frowned; he had to reach the Saint Realm to do it?

"However, I do have a method that can allow this young girl to cultivate, and if she reaches the Saint Realm herself, the Curse Power will no longer be an obstacle to her," Emperor Ye Tian's voice echoed again.

"She can cultivate? Really?" Xu Nian said excitedly.

His greatest concern was Yann Xi's safety; if Yann Xi could protect herself, he could rest easy.

"Of course, don't you know who I am? However, to allow her to cultivate, we'll need to use that Jade Seal on you to suppress the Curse Power within her temporarily using the thousand-year destiny inside it. The question is whether you're willing to part with it," Emperor Ye Tian's voice sounded again.

"What are we waiting for? Do it now!" Xu Nian immediately exclaimed excitedly.

He had already come to regard Yann Xi as his own sister; not to mention a thousand-year destiny, Xu Nian would not hesitate to give up even more precious things for her.

So, Xu Nian immediately called Yann Xi to his side.

The little girl was still grieving over the death of the old coachman.

After briefly explaining the situation to her,

joy appeared on the young girl's face, and she agreed instantly.

Using the method taught by Emperor Ye Tian, Xu Nian then channeled the Dragon Seal into Yann Xi's body to suppress the curse power.

At last, Xu Nian taught Yann Xi a Divine Technique that Emperor Ye Tian had prepared for her.

However, what surprised Xu Nian was Yann Xi's incredibly fast cultivation speed; overnight, she progressed from an ordinary person to a Four-star Warrior.

To progress four realms in one night, her cultivation speed was astonishingly defying!

Upon further investigation, Xu Nian discovered that Yann Xi actually possessed a legendary Divine-level talent.

This discovery shocked Xu Nian; considering Yann Xi was cultivating a Divine Art, it was naturally frighteningly fast.

Xu Nian dared not imagine how high Yann Xi's future achievements could be.

With Divine-level talent, although Xu Nian's Body Cultivation was Divine-level, his Spiritual Cultivation was only at Emperor Level.

The reason for her rapid cultivation was entirely because "Dan Sea Species Green Lotus" was defying heaven.

And Yann Xi's Spiritual Cultivation Talent was at a Divine-level.

This was the highest talent Xu Nian had seen so far.

However, cultivation talent was only useful in the early stages of cultivation; future achievements would still depend on personal destiny.

Xu Nian repeatedly instructed Yann Xi never to reveal her Combat Technique and talent in front of others easily, then continued to guide her in her cultivation.

The little girl was exceptionally smart and nimble; after a few hours of cultivation, her cultivation improved by two more realms.

However, Yann Xi's cultivation speed gradually slowed down, and Xu Nian understood that her rapid initial progress was due to the Curse Power within her.

Once Yann Xi reached the Saint Realm herself in the future, she could absorb the powerful Curse Power by herself.

After a long voyage, Xu Nian and the others were three hours away from arriving at Southern Wilderness County.

He had thought everything would be calm, but to his utter surprise, three Flying Demon Beasts appeared in the sky, and shockingly, three people jumped down from them.

These three were all at the Peak of Nine-star Martial Sect, giving Xu Nian a bad feeling.

Sure enough, as soon as the three of them arrived on the deck and scanned around, they fixed their gaze on Yann Xi, clearly targeting her.

Chapter 182 All Three of You, Come at Once

Xu Nian sized up the three men who had descended from the sky.

He noticed that all three were dressed in identical black attire.

Among them, two appeared to be middle-aged men, while the one in the middle looked to be in his late twenties.

From their appearance to the present, all three carried themselves with immense arrogance, as if they deemed everything beneath them.

Xu Nian stared at the three men, three Nine-star Peak Experts—definitely not easy to deal with!

However, this could be an opportunity to test his strength after his breakthrough.

At that moment, everyone on deck was watching these three men, their eyes filled with curiosity and wariness.

Little Yann Xi hid fearfully behind Xu Nian, her clever and nimble mind recognizing that these men had come for her, for she recognized the attire they wore.

Yan Tao and others also rushed over, several guards positioning themselves in front of Yann Xi, their eyes brimming with vigilance.

"Hand over the girl, your strength isn't enough to protect her. Don't force us to act, otherwise none of you will live," the leading youth sneered, looking disdainfully at Yan Tao and others' defenses.

"Are you people from the Desolate Hall?" Yan Tao asked with furrowed brows, his eyes filled with gravity.

Desolate Hall?

The people around, upon hearing this, all showed fearful expressions.

Even the woman in a white dress standing on the third floor of the cabin and Chu Lin showed looks of astonishment.

The Desolate Hall was an evil and mysterious force in the Southern Wilderness County, filled with strong individuals who committed countless atrocities. They were no weaker than their Wuji Sect.

Unexpectedly, people from the Desolate Hall had appeared here, seemingly for that little girl?

Xu Nian too was somewhat surprised; he had also heard of this Desolate Hall.

A mysterious and powerful force, its members always moved unpredictably and acted on their whims.

He had not expected that those targeting Yann Xi would be from the Desolate Hall.

"Now that you know we are from the Desolate Hall, why not hand her over? You should know that once we from the Desolate Hall take action, we spare no one, and not just you, everyone on this ship will die with you," the leading youth sneered, his eyes playful.

The people on the ship, upon hearing this, all started screaming in panic, shouting, "Quickly hand over the little girl, do you want to get us all killed?"

Xu Nian frowned deeply upon hearing this.

If it weren't for him killing the Six-winged Ice Crystal Viper, these people wouldn't have survived until now. Now faced with a threat, they immediately betrayed him.

"If you want me to hand over the young lady, you'll have to step over my dead body first," Yan Tao, a frontier warrior, his blood unyielding, not intimidated by the imposing manner of the people from the Desolate Hall.

"That won't be difficult!"

The leading youth chuckled lightly, his figure flashed, and instantly he appeared in front of Yan Tao, then a palm strike aimed at Yan Tao's heart.

If this palm struck, Yan Tao would undoubtedly die.

Yan Tao was shocked, clearly not expecting the other's speed to be so fast.

His reaction couldn't keep up with the opponent's speed, and he could only watch helplessly as the hand moved toward him.

But just at this critical moment, Yan Tao felt a massive force pulling him back from behind.

Then a pale hand met the incoming palm strike from the youth.

"Bang!"

The force of the palms caused both to step back two steps.

"Oh!" The youth uttered a light sound of surprise, then turned his gaze toward Xu Nian, who had appeared beside Yan Tao.

Originally, he hadn't paid much attention to Xu Nian, thinking he was just an ordinary youth, but Xu Nian had just saved Yan Tao from his hands, demonstrating notable combat strength.

"Are you alright?" Xu Nian did not pay attention to the youth but instead turned to Yan Tao beside him and asked.

"I'm fine, thank you, Lord Xu Nian, for your help," Yan Tao quickly expressed his gratitude.

Ever since he found out Xu Nian's true strength, he had developed immense respect for Xu Nian and had switched from calling him "Brother Xu Nian" to "Lord Xu Nian."

"Alright, take good care of Xiixii. I'll handle the rest," Xu Nian said as he patted Yan Tao on the shoulder. "You don't need to step in."

"But..." Yan Tao hesitated, but eventually held back his words.

Although Xu Nian had killed the Six-winged Ice Crystal Viper, they were now facing three powerhouses, each seemingly not weak. How could Xu Nian alone possibly stand a chance against the three of them?

However, upon realizing that they wouldn't be of much help even if they intervened, he decided not to say more.

"Kid, are you planning to stop the three of us all by yourself?" the young man jeered, having overheard Xu Nian's words.

Though the young man had demonstrated considerable strength just now, he did not believe that the youth before him was a match for him.

The two middle-aged men behind him also chuckled lightly, clearly thinking that Xu Nian was overestimating himself.

"I don't care who you are," Xu Nian said with an icy voice and an even colder gaze. "Yann Xi is my sister. If you leave now, I will not kill you. But if you try to harm her, you will face only death."

Everyone around felt a shudder through their hearts, involuntarily harboring a sense of fear.

However, the three black-robed men just laughed lightly, as if they had heard a great joke.

"Haha, a dead end? Kid, do you know that you are facing three Battle Sect Peaks?" the young man laughed.

Three Battle Sect Peaks?

Everyone around showed shocked expressions.

Unless one was a Battle General Level or higher, facing three Battle Sect Peaks was undoubtedly a sure defeat.

At that moment, everyone thought that Xu Nian had angered those he shouldn't have, potentially implicating them as well.

"Xu Nian is too arrogant," Chu Lin gloated. "Just because he killed a beast, he thinks he is invincible. Facing three Battle Sect Peaks, he is definitely doomed this time."

Xu Nian remained silent, unmoved by these opinions.

Although the three Battle Sect Peaks were challenging, they were not entirely impossible to fight.

Xu Nian's attitude angered the young man.

The young man's face darkened, and he huffed, "Don't say the three of us, even I alone can easily crush you. Prepare to die!"

With a loud yell, the young man turned into a black shadow, appearing in front of Xu Nian in the blink of an eye.

His palm gathered dark spiritual energy and struck fiercely towards Xu Nian.

"Dark attribute Spiritual Energy?"

Surprise flashed in Xu Nian's eyes, but he soon let out a cold snort.

"Thunder and Fire Tyrant Fist!"

Xu Nian punched out, Thunder Fire Power surging, instantly colliding with the young man's palm.

"Boom!"

The two forces exploded upon contact, creating a huge noise.

Xu Nian remained unmoved, but the young man stumbled back ten steps before stabilizing himself.

"How is this possible?" the black-robed young man said in amazement.

"His strength has progressed again," noted a lady in a white dress on the third floor, surprised by the pace of Xu Nian's power growth.

Chu Lin frowned deeply, jealousy flashing in his eyes.

Xu Nian, however, ignored everyone's astonished gazes and coolly said to the young man, "You three should attack together."

Though Xu Nian spoke indifferently, his words deeply shocked everyone present.

The black-robed young man's gaze grew furious. The young man before him was actually looking down on him.

"I will crush you to ashes!" the black-robed young man shouted, his black spiritual energy rising like flames.

All around, the atmosphere suddenly grew tense, and everyone instinctively felt a primal dread.

Chapter 183 Wind Blade Kill

The spiritual energy of the dark attribute is a particularly sinister type. It instinctively evokes fear and aversion in people.

However, the characteristic of this attribute is that it possesses strong attack power.

"Die! Black Origin Palm!"

The young man in the black robe yelled, sending another fearsome palm strike towards Xu Nian with terrifying fluctuations.

The fluctuations from his palm caused everyone around them to palpitate.

"What a powerful palm technique; I might not even be able to take this hit," Zhao Qingqing, the girl in the white dress, muttered to herself.

Chu Lin sneered, looking ready to see Xu Nian make a fool of himself.

Xu Nian watched the devastating palm coming towards him and a cold smirk flickered in his eyes.

"Since you seek death, don't blame me. Three-Forging Fist, Collapse Thunder!" A fierce light flashed in Xu Nian's eyes as he threw another punch.

"Crack!"

A sound of a bone breaking came from the young man in the black robe's arm as the Gang Qi in Xu Nian's punch directly broke it.

"Ah..."

The young man in the black robe screamed in agony, his entire right arm was disabled, and he staggered several steps back.

Everyone around was dumbstruck.

Is this really a Nine-star Peak Martial Sect?

How could it be so weak?

In fact, it wasn't that the young man in the black robe was weak, but that Xu Nian was just too strong.

The two middle-aged men following behind the young man in the black robe were also surprised and hurried forward to support him.

Upstairs, Zhao Qingqing was visibly moved, her heart unable to calm down.

Chu Lin's face was filled with anger and his brows tightly furrowed.

Xu Nian sneered.

His Collapse Thunder had reached total mastery.

One punch and it could unleash one hundred percent of its power.

Plus his understanding of the mountain's force, a single punch was something the young man in the black robe couldn't withstand.

"I told you three to come at me together, otherwise you have no chance," Xu Nian said coldly, his voice resounding.

"Zhao Long, Wang Han, attack together and kill him," commanded the young man in the black robe.

"Yes, Protector!" The two middle-aged men promptly responded, then each brandished a long sword and slashed towards Xu Nian.

Disappointment flashed in Xu Nian's eyes.

These two middle-aged men were weaker than he expected.

Although they were at the Nine-star Martial Sect Peak, their understanding of the sword was too low, not even reaching the realm of Man and Sword as One.

Impressive in appearance, but the attack power was still lacking.

"Truly disappointing. I had wanted to use you to practice, but you ended up being too weak," Xu Nian coldly snorted in disdain; the Xuan Iron Sword appeared in his hand.

Ling Feng Thirteen Swords, The Thirteenth Sword, Wind Shaking Heaven.

A sword strike cleaved through the air, forming a half-moon arc of Sword Radiance that was two meters long.

The two middle-aged men paled with fright and hurriedly swung their swords at the Sword Radiance.

"Boom!"

The Sword Qi and Sword Qi collided, creating a thunderous noise.

They barely managed to retreat several steps and finally blocked Xu Nian's sword.

The crowd around was immensely shocked.

They were just talking about how Xu Nian would undoubtedly lose if it were three against one.

Yet now, Xu Nian was clearly overpowering the two men, and it was obvious that he wasn't even using his full strength.

"Watch your back!"

Right at that moment, the young man in the black robe suddenly screamed.

The two Nine-star Martial Sect turned around, only to find Xu Nian had somehow appeared behind them.

However, being Nine-star Martial Sect Peak Powerhouses, they swiftly swung their swords at Xu Nian.

"So weak! It's time to end this!"

Xu Nian's eyes flashed with a trace of disappointment, ignoring the strike from the two men, his sword swung, merging the wind force with the sword radiance.

Gale Sword Technique, strike!

The sword radiance flashed past, and the two Nine-star War Sect members instantly froze in place, their faces filled with horror.

Then everyone saw the two Nine-star War Sect members' necks and battle sabers both had a fine crack that gradually widened.

"Bang!"

The battle sabers broke, and their heads rolled onto the ground.

The crowd around gasped in shock.

Killing two men with one sword?

Even cutting through battle sabers?

How was that possible?

Xu Nian, however, shook his head in disappointment, clearly thinking that these two were not genuinely at the Nine-star Martial Sect Peak through their own cultivation, but had forcefully enhanced their abilities through some means; otherwise, genuine Nine-star Martial Sect Peak warriors could not be so weak.

The black-robed youth also looked down at his two subordinates on the ground with extreme shock, his eyes filled with surprise.

Although he could also defeat his own two subordinates, it would take a long time and much effort, definitely not as effortlessly as Xu Nian had done.

"Now only you are left, and if you only have the strength you just showed, then today you can only stay here," Xu Nian turned and said to the black-robed youth.

The black-robed youth's eyes blazed with anger, and a hint of madness flashed through their depths.

"It's you who forced me!" roared the black-robed youth angrily as his black robe violently tore open, revealing his bronze-colored skin.

And on his body, black, eerie patterns covered him.

With the stimulation from the black-robed youth, the black patterns began to emit a dark and brilliant light, and a powerful and evil aura burst forth from him.

Instantly, the black-robed youth's eyes ignited like black flames, his face began to distort, veins on his forehead bulged, and his aura surged wildly, transforming him into a demon god emerging from the darkness.

"A secret technique to forcibly enhance strength? Now this gets interesting," Xu Nian's lips revealed a slight smirk.

"I want you dead!" The black-robed youth bellowed, a long spear suddenly appearing in his hand, thrusting towards Xu Nian.

The tip of the spear, covered with a terrifying black radiance, tore through the void, causing the air to violently shake.

Zhao Qingqing watched this spear strike in amazement; she was certain that if it were her, she definitely could not block this attack.

Moreover, the aura of the black-robed youth had far surpassed that of a typical Nine-star Peak expert; even if not at the Battle General Level, he was not far from it.

"Good, kill him!" Chu Lin was overjoyed, shouting in his heart.

Xu Nian watched the incoming spear with a flicker of amusement in his eyes.

"Let you taste my Wind Blade Kill created from momentum!" A sharp gleam flashed in Xu Nian's eyes as he instantly swung his sword.

In an instant, a terrifyingly dreadful sword radiance burst from the sword, transforming into a wind blade to meet the black-robed youth's spear.

The sharpness on the wind blade was chilling to the bone.

"Phew!"

The black-robed youth's long spear was directly split in half, and his entire body instantly cleaved in two.

Looking around, the entire deck of the giant ship was torn into two halves, the crack extending all the way to the third-floor cabin top, nearly splitting the entire giant ship in half.

Everyone inhaled sharply, staring at the long, massive ravine on the deck and then at the black-robed youth's body split in two, their minds overwhelmed with shock.

On the third-floor cabin, Chu Lin was also incredibly shocked, his heart racing, feeling a wave of fear.

After the wind blade split the black-robed youth, it headed straight for him.

Had he not dodged in time, he would likely have also been cut in half.

That sword was too terrifying; facing it head-on, he would undoubtedly die.

He knew Xu Nian was using this moment to warn him, but he didn't dare to complain.

Zhao Qingqing also looked stunned, gazing at the figure standing below with a sword.

She suddenly felt that she would look up to this young man for the rest of her life.

Xu Nian did not pay attention to everyone else, instead summoning Little Xu Yu to pursue the three Flying Demon Beasts attempting to flee.

If the three Flying Demon Beasts flew back, they would surely expose their tracks.

Killing them would at least buy more time for Yann Xi and the others to escape.

Then everyone saw Little Xu Yu, with its terrifying claws, shred the three Flying Demon Beasts to pieces.

Chapter 184 Ambushed

Quickly, the Dragon Ao reached Southern Wilderness County.

Ever since Xu Nian had slain three Nine-star War Sect members, everyone aboard had become extremely reverent toward him.

After all, the shock Xu Nian left them with was just too intense.

A sixteen-year-old boy, possessing such a terrifying martial prowess, was indeed a matter beyond comprehension.

After arriving in Southern Wilderness County, Xu Nian also met Yann Xi's uncle who had come to pick her up.

The uncle was a burly man dressed in golden Battle Armor, whose Cultivation had even reached the Nine-star War General Level.

Seeing this, Xu Nian felt relieved in his heart.

After all, with such a powerful figure for protection, the Desolate Hall would not dare to offend lightly, and this meant he could go back to report.

The little girl was very reluctant to let Xu Nian leave, refusing to let him go no matter what.

Only after Xu Nian promised to definitely visit her in Southern Wilderness County in the future did the little girl, tearfully, follow her uncle and leave.

Before leaving, Xu Nian also cautioned her to diligently continue her Cultivation and not to reveal her talent casually.

The little girl nodded vigorously, saying that once her Cultivation had improved,

even if Xu Nian did not come looking for her, she would go to East Field County to find him.

Xu Nian felt a warmth in his heart.

Finally, he stepped onto Little Xu Yu's back and sped away.

Towards Yann Xi, Xu Nian genuinely considered her as a sister, hoping she could live a happy and carefree life.

He was reluctant to part with Yann Xi too, but he still had many things to do, and it was truly unsafe for Yann Xi to stay by his side.

Yet, as Xu Nian prepared to fly back to the county town, he encountered an ambush that he had not anticipated.

The Ding Family had come for him.

Enraged by the death of Ding Hao, the Ding Family head had sent out a Peak of One-star Body General and two Nine-star Martial Sect members.

Not only that, but to target Xu Nian's mount,

the Ding Family had also dispatched one of the family's three Battle General Level Flying Demon Beasts, a Red Blood Purple Winged Eagle.

Although the Red Blood Purple Winged Eagle did not possess a Divine Beast Bloodline, its speed in flight was incomparable to other Demon Beasts of the same level.

Little Xu Yu's Cultivation was only at the Six-star Martial Sect Level, and it was no match for the One-star Battle General Level Red Blood Purple Winged Eagle.

So when Xu Nian encountered the Ding Family's forces in the sky, he knew that today would present a great calamity.

"Xu Nian, surrender immediately and follow me back to the Ding Family to accept the family head's punishment," the short-haired middle-aged man standing on the back of the Red Blood Purple Winged Eagle loudly commanded.

The two Flying Demon Beasts faced each other from a distance of hundreds of meters.

Little Xu Yu clearly sensed the opponent's Beast's might as well, its eagle eyes exuding a fierce light.

And the Red Blood Purple Winged Eagle stared intently at Little Xu Yu. It obviously felt the powerful Golden Crow Divine Eagle Bloodline within Little Xu Yu and greed filled its eyes.

"Surrender? Do you expect me to obediently go back with you to find death?" Xu Nian chuckled coldly.

However, his eyes were deeply serious.

The two Nine-star Peak Experts were manageable, but that One-star Body General was not to be trifled with.

Even if he used the Earth God Devouring Sky, he was not confident he could kill the opponent.

After all, the opponent was a One-star Body General, at the peak no less.

If he executed Earth God Devouring Sky and the opponent didn't die, then inevitably, he would be the one to die.

Flee!

Only one option lay before him now, and that was to escape.

But with such a formidable Demon Beast mount on the enemy's side, fleeing for his life was going to be incredibly difficult.

"Hmph, you killed the second young master of our Ding family and still hope to live? Since you're not willing to give up, then we'll have to take action ourselves," the short-haired middle-aged man coldly snorted, and without further ado, ordered the Red Blood Purple Winged Eagle to charge at Xu Nian.

"Little Yu, dive down, we're heading into the forest," Xu Nian immediately transmitted to Little Xu Yu.

Little Xu Yu instantly understood Xu Nian's intention and rapidly dived towards the ground.

"Thinking of escaping? Dream on! Red Blood Purple Winged Eagle, pursue!" The short-haired middle-aged man immediately responded.

The Red Blood Purple Winged Eagle instantly transformed into a streak of purple light, closely pursuing Xu Nian and Little Xu Yu.

Just as they were a hundred meters from the ground,

Xu Nian's thoughts shifted and he took Little Xu Yu into the Demon Beast Ring while he himself leaped toward the ground.

His sleeves billowed, gliding on the wind, and with the aid of the wind force, he darted into the dense forest in an instant.

Flying high in the sky made them too visible and without cover, there was no chance they could escape.

Only by making use of the rugged terrain and dense trees for cover, did they stand a slim chance of survival.

Seeing Xu Nian dart into the forest, the short-haired man's eyebrows furrowed and he immediately ordered, "Along, Ahu, follow me in pursuit. Red Blood Purple Winged Eagle, you are responsible for patrolling the skies. Report to me immediately if you find anything."

Having said that, he jumped down from the back of the Red Blood Purple Winged Eagle along with the two Nine-star Martial Sect warriors.

The Red Blood Purple Winged Eagle then circled low above the forest, its sharp eagle eyes scanning every corner below.

The three who jumped from the eagle's back also began to chase in the direction Xu Nian had fled, at a high speed.

Xu Nian, while using the wind force to enhance his body skills and rapidly advance, pondered his next move.

Continuing to flee like this was not a solution; surely, the Red Blood Purple Winged Eagle above would soon find his trail unless he could find a way to kill the eagle or blind its eyes.

"Chirp!"

While Xu Nian was pondering what to do, a sharp cry came from above, followed by a shadow that enveloped him.

"Damn, discovered so soon," Xu Nian thought, alarmed.

He hadn't expected the eagle's eyes to be so sharp, catching sight of him so quickly.

Once the damned eagle spotted him, it meant the three powerhouses had also found his trail.

"Hmph, let's see where you run to now!"

Sure enough, at that moment, a cold snort sounded from behind.

Then, three figures swiftly swept from behind, each landing in a different direction around Xu Nian, blocking his retreat.

Seeing this, Xu Nian's eyes instantly became solemn.

"Xu Nian, you can't escape. No one has ever survived after killing a direct descendant of the Ding family. If you don't cripple your own cultivation and come back with me to receive the Family Head's punishment, then I will have to execute you right here," the short-haired middle-aged man said with an icy gaze.

The two Nine-star Martial Sect Peak Powerhouses also had sharp looks in their eyes, firmly locking onto Xu Nian.

If Xu Nian showed any intention to escape, they would not hesitate to strike.

Xu Nian's eyebrows were tightly knitted; not to mention the Peak of One-star Body General, even these two Nine-star Martial Sect Peak Powerhouses were not easy to handle. It was clear they were not like those two who relied on drugs to boost their cultivation levels that they encountered on the boat.

"It seems I have to fight to the death today," Xu Nian's gaze also settled into a determined battle intent.

"Hmph, I killed Ding Hao entirely because he brought it upon himself. If you Ding family members want to kill me for revenge, then let's see if you have the strength," Xu Nian's eyes flashed sharply.

The Xuan Iron Sword instantly appeared in his hand, and he flashed before one of the Nine-star Martial Sect Peak fighters, his sword slashing without hesitation.

The sword light was chilling, and the sword's momentum fierce.

Infused with the wind force, the strike was both quick and ruthless.

The Nine-star Martial Sect Peak warrior was taken aback and a giant axe appeared in his hands to block the attack.

"Clang!"

However, to his surprise, Xu Nian managed to overpower his giant axe and struck his shoulder.

Blood instantly stained his clothes, and pain was evident on Ahu's face.

Along and the short-haired middle-aged man were also shocked, not expecting Xu Nian to strike so suddenly, nor did they anticipate the sheer power of his sword strike, which overwhelmed even Ahu's giant axe.

Chapter 185 Every Trick in the Book

Xu Nian felt somewhat disappointed at this, as his sword had only wounded the opponent's shoulder, clearly indicating the opponent's strength was greater than he had imagined.

"Buzz!"

A sword-cry sound came, and Xu Nian sensed a piercing aura coming from his side.

Without hesitation, Xu Nian quickly retreated backward.

"Buzz!"

A terrifying sword light nearly grazed the tip of Xu Nian's nose, ripping a long ravine in the ground in front of him.

It was an attack from another Battle Sect powerhouse named Along, whose sword technique was extremely sharp.

"Such strong Sword Intent. These two must have honed their skills through life and death battles, otherwise they would not be able to forge such a sharp Sword Intent," Xu Nian thought to himself.

Right after the attack, the one named Ahu had already recovered and swung his great axe, following up with a strike towards Xu Nian.

The great axe was covered in a layer of fierce Flame Spiritual Energy, making the entire weapon exceptionally aggressive and formidable.

Xu Nian's eyes were exceedingly intense, and he swung his Xuan Iron Sword in an instant.

Wind's Absolute Kill, Gale Dance!

In that instant, hundreds of Wind Blades surged towards the two Battle Sect powerhouses.

The two opponents clearly had their defenses ready, as Spiritual Energy Light Shields emerged from their bodies to block Xu Nian's Wind Blades.

"Clang!"

Xu Nian's sharp sword collided with the great axe, producing a trembling sound.

Both Battle Sect members were pushed back several steps, their Spiritual Energy Light Shields shattered by the Wind Blades, leaving several bloodstains on their bodies and faces, yet not striking any vital points.

The two looked at Xu Nian in surprise, not expecting the young man before them to gain the upper hand in their combined assault.

The short-haired middle-aged man at a distance had not taken action, simply watching the battle unfold silently.

When he saw that Xu Nian could hold his own against the two, his eyes suddenly darkened.

Only at that moment did he realize why the Ding Family Head had sent him to kill the young man before him.

At sixteen, to possess such formidable fighting strength.

Should he be allowed to grow further, he would undoubtedly become a major threat to the Ding Family.

"Along, Ahu, do not hold back, kill him directly," the short-haired middle-aged man ordered.

"Yes!" the two Nine-star Martial Sect Peak Powerhouses responded immediately, and once again they waved their weapons, attacking Xu Nian.

Xu Nian's eyes were electric, yet his mind was awash with thoughts.

He did not fear these two Battle Sect members; what he truly dreaded was the short-haired man who hadn't made a move yet.

Once the short-haired man stepped in, he would inevitably be unable to withstand.

"I cannot drag the battle out; I must fight swiftly to create an opening and escape," Xu Nian calculated in his mind.

So his gaze became sharply intense, not holding back any longer.

"Buzz!"

Suddenly, Xu Nian made his move, merging with the Wind Force and turning into a remnant shadow, rushing towards Ahu.

"Ahu, be careful!" Along, who spotted Xu Nian's figure, immediately cried out in alarm.

Ahu was startled too, not expecting Xu Nian to target him directly.

"Sky Creation Axe!" Ahu bellowed, his Battle Axe slashing toward Xu Nian.

Xu Nian, however, merely smirked coldly, allowing Ahu's strike to come at him.

"Buzz!"

Ahu's great axe came down, passing straight through Xu Nian's body without inflicting any harm.

"What, an afterimage?"

Ahu's pupils shrank, a sense of foreboding surged in his heart, and he swiftly activated his Spiritual Energy Light Shield for defense.

"To your death, Wind Blade Kill!"

Xu Nian appeared right behind and above Ahu, his sword slanting down in a powerful slash.

A Talent Phenomenon Map startlingly materialized behind him, bathing Xu Nian in a halo of sanctified light.

"Stop!" Along shouted in horror, rushing over to intercept Xu Nian's strike.

However, Xu Nian's sword was much too fast, so fast that it afforded no time for the two to react.

Ahu's Spiritual Energy Defense Light Shield was torn in half in an instant, and his body was bisected at the waist by that sword.

Along stood petrified, his own brother had just been killed.

The short-haired man who had not yet made a move was also shocked.

He hadn't even had time to react to the sudden burst of speed and power that Xu Nian had unleashed.

Now, using his Talent Phenomenon, Xu Nian's strength had increased by more than threefold.

Coupled with the enhancement from Wind Force, killing Ahu was not difficult.

After slaying Ahu with a sword, Xu Nian swiftly headed towards the forest.

"Where do you think you're going?" the short-haired man finally snapped to.

He transformed into an afterimage on the spot, and chased after Xu Nian.

Xu Nian stretched his movements to the limit, rapidly navigating through the forest, every step spanning over a dozen meters.

However, the short-haired man was even faster than Xu Nian, closing the gap from a hundred meters to seventy, then fifty, and then thirty.

The distance kept narrowing.

"Kid, you must die today!" the short-haired man roared in rage.

Due to a moment of negligence, he had let this youth kill one of his subordinates.

If word of this got out, where would he put his face?

Xu Nian, sensing the short-haired man drawing ever closer, also furrowed his brows.

"It seems that I can't escape; I have to fight head-on," Xu Nian resolved in his heart.

The fivefold Gravity Domain instantly spread out.

The sword in his hand was swapped for a Meteorite Iron Hammer, and he summoned all his Gang Qi and Spiritual Energy to his body, forming a Dragon Scale Arm with the Blood Dragon Qi.

He turned around and hurled a hammer blow at the short-haired man in hot pursuit.

In that hammer strike, he utilized Collapse Thunder and even infused it with the Chongyue Formation.

The hammer blow roared out, as if a giant dragon were howling, the momentum was immensely fierce.

The middle-aged man felt something was amiss the moment he stepped into the Gravity Domain.

Then he saw Xu Nian's hammer coming his way, and a hint of mockery flashed in his eyes.

Gang Qi Armor directly covered his body, and he gathered his Gang Qi to retaliate with a punch.

"Boom!"

The middle-aged man's fist collided with Xu Nian's Meteorite Iron Hammer, emitting a terrifying explosive sound, generating violent winds that swept all around.

Xu Nian was sent flying backward, his entire arm numb, and the Meteorite Iron Hammer almost slipped from his grip.

The middle-aged man was forced back dozens of steps before he stabilized his stance, looking at Xu Nian in amazement.

He had used seventy percent of his power in that punch.

Yet it was only evenly matched with the hammer strike of this youth?

What was the background of this youth and how could he be so terrifying?

Xu Nian was even more astonished in his heart; he had employed his full strength in that hammer strike, enhanced by the Chongyue Formation.

Collapse Thunder should have been able to exhibit 120 percent of its power.

Yet he still hadn't managed to injure the middle-aged man with short hair before him.

The strength of a One-star Body General was indeed stronger than he had imagined.

Xu Nian held the Meteorite Iron Hammer, his eyes sharp as he stared at the short-haired middle-aged man.

The short-haired middle-aged man's gaze was equally piercing, coldly watching Xu Nian.

Suddenly, the short-haired middle-aged man's eyes narrowed, his figure bursting forth with speed that was double what it had been before.

He reached Xu Nian in a blink of an eye and swung his Iron Fist, aiming it right at Xu Nian.

"Not good!"

Xu Nian was shocked and hastily wielded the Dragon King Fist in defense.

Dragon Energy roared as the Giant Dragon Illusion channeled into his right arm.

"Boom!"

With a loud crash, the Dragon Scale Armor on Xu Nian's arm shattered directly, and he was instantaneously flung backward, striking a large tree in the distance, coughing up a mouthful of blood.

Chapter 186 Disappeared?

"Fuck, that hurts!"

Xu Nian clutched his swollen arm and forced out a sentence through gritted teeth, fresh blood still clinging to the corner of his mouth.

Just now, he had used the Dragon King Fist, but he was still far from being able to contend with the Body General before him.

This guy was too strong; the gap in strength simply couldn't be bridged so easily.

"To be able to unleash such formidable combat strength with the cultivation of the Six-star Martial Sect and the Three-star Body Sect, you truly are the first I've seen in my life, and you're only sixteen years old. I really can't imagine how far you will have matured by the time you reach my age. But you no longer have that chance, you shouldn't have killed the Second Young Master," the short-haired middle-aged man said as he slowly walked toward Xu Nian, his eyes radiating killing intent.

Xu Nian's exhibited talent had instinctively bred fear in the man's heart, but of course, it wasn't Xu Nian's current strength he feared, but Xu Nian's potential.

"Not kill Ding Hao? Should I just wait for him to kill me instead? You Ding Family people too..." Xu Nian replied with a cold laugh, showing complete disdain for the short-haired middle-aged man's words.

If he hadn't killed Ding Hao that day, he would still have faced Ding Hao's frenzied revenge upon returning to the county city.

Better to kill him and settle matters once and for all.

Thus, killing Ding Hao was something he had never regretted.

"Since you're so unrepentant, then I'll take your head to meet the Family Head. Prepare to die!" The short-haired middle-aged man snorted coldly and then charged toward Xu Nian once again.

His fist was covered with terrifying Gang Qi, which made Xu Nian's heart flutter with trepidation.

"It seems I have no choice but to use Earth God Devouring Sky," Xu Nian muttered to himself helplessly.

He then began to mobilize Earth God Devouring Sky.

A powerful force of the Earth surged up from beneath his feet, flowing throughout his body through the meridians in the soles of his feet.

Xu Nian's hair flew wildly behind him, and the broken trees around his body exploded on the spot, making his aura incredibly formidable.

This was already the third time he had used Earth God Devouring Sky, and by now, his mastery of the first layer of Earth God Swallowing God was impeccable.

The short-haired middle-aged man was alarmed by the sudden surge in Xu Nian's aura.

He immediately increased the power of his attack, determined to kill Xu Nian with a single blow.

"Think you can kill me? You're not qualified!" Xu Nian roared as he threw a punch in return.

The Power of Earth roiled like a roaring dragon.

"Boom!"

The two fists collided, creating a terrifying sonic boom.

The short-haired middle-aged man was sent flying back nearly twenty meters, while Xu Nian was also thrown out, his toes carving a trench nearly thirty meters long in the ground.

They were equally matched!

The short-haired middle-aged man looked at the rampaging Xu Nian with surprise in his eyes.

He knew Xu Nian must have utilized some secret technique that forcibly increased his strength; to withstand his punch, the technique's power was terrifying indeed.

Xu Nian felt just as shocked at the moment; even using Earth God Devouring Sky, he still couldn't defeat the short-haired middle-aged man.

The gap between a Martial Sect and a Battle General was indeed vast.

Continuing to fight like this, even if they remained evenly matched, he would still be the one to lose in the end.

After all, Earth God Devouring Sky could only be maintained for less than fifteen minutes.

Once the time passed, Xu Nian would be utterly powerless.

Then he could only be slaughtered at will.

"What should I do? What should I do?" Xu Nian thought anxiously.

He was now truly cornered.

"Great Emperor Ye Tian, Great Emperor Ye Tian, please come out and help..." Xu Nian called out to Emperor Ye Tian in his heart.

However, there was no response.

This made Xu Nian feel so frustrated he wanted to cough up blood.

During this crisis, Emperor Ye Tian was actually asleep.

"Damn, I can only rely on myself," Xu Nian cursed to himself.

At this moment, the short-haired youth had attacked once again, this time directly employing a Gang Skill.

With a punch, it was as though terrifying lightning was flashing.

It turned out this guy had cultivated a Thunder Attribute Gang Skill. Although it wasn't real lightning, just the transformation of Gang Qi, its power was still quite horrifying.

"Let's go for it!"

Xu Nian bellowed and used the Power of Earth to unleash Collapse Thunder.

"Boom!"

Fists collided.

Both were blown away again.

Xu Nian slammed into a tree with a one-meter diameter, vomiting blood profusely.

The short-haired youth didn't fare much better, as Xu Nian's punch had injured his heart and lungs, causing a trickle of fresh blood to spill from the corner of his mouth.

He couldn't believe he was wounded by a sixteen-year-old boy, something he never even dared to imagine.

Consequently, his killing intent towards Xu Nian grew even more intense.

Xu Nian propped himself up against the tree, slowly standing up. The Power of Earth within his body was already draining away, and his body began to shake.

Clearly, the side effects of Earth God Devouring Sky were showing, and he wouldn't be able to hold on much longer.

"Kid, your secret technique's duration must be almost up, right? Using a secret technique in front of me only allows you to live a little longer," the short-haired youth said coldly, his gaze toward Xu Nian beginning to turn playful.

Once the duration of the secret technique was over, the young man before him would have no ability left to resist.

"Am I really going to die here?" Xu Nian mused to himself.

His eyes were filled with intense unwillingness; there were still many things he hadn't done.

But the strength in his body was ebbing away more and more, and both his hands and feet were trembling.

Facing the Battle General before him, he no longer had the strength to fight.

"Kid, you're finally pushed to this point, but you lasted much longer than I expected; you're not too bad."

Just then, the voice of Emperor Ye Tian suddenly rang out in Xu Nian's mind.

"Eh, your Majesty, you haven't fallen asleep?" Xu Nian exclaimed, immediately feeling a surge of elation.

The appearance of the Emperor at this time meant there might be a way out for him.

"Don't get too excited. I am going to save you just this once, and whether you can get out of this crisis depends on your own fate," Emperor Ye Tian's voice continued.

"What do you mean?" Xu Nian asked, puzzled.

"In a moment, I will use my soul power to teleport you to another place, I can only cast it once with my current strength. After that, I will fall into a true slumber, so if you encounter danger again, you'll have to rely on yourself," Emperor Ye Tian's voice echoed in Xu Nian's mind.

Xu Nian was shocked.

Transported to another place, could this be the legendary Instant Teleportation?

"Kid, your time for the secret technique must be completely over by now, right? If that's the case, then go ahead and die!" The short-haired middle-aged man shouted as he came at Xu Nian with terrifying Gang Qi.

Facing such a dreadful Gang Qi, if hit, Xu Nian would surely die.

"Now's the moment!"

However, just then, the cool voice of Emperor Ye Tian suddenly rose up.

Following that, a mysterious pattern of black light emerged beneath Xu Nian's feet.

A Teleportation Array!

As the black light flashed, Xu Nian's entire figure vanished on the spot.

And the punch from the short-haired middle-aged man went right through where Xu Nian had been, striking the nearby tree.

"Bang!"

With a loud sound, the tree was reduced to splinters.

The middle-aged short-haired man turned back in shock, staring at the place where Xu Nian had disappeared, his face full of confusion.

Gone?

Chapter 187 Human-shaped Demonic Beast

"Where am I?"

Xu Nian opened his eyes, but what caught his sight was a dilapidated rooftop.

"You're finally awake? I thought you were a goner!"

Just then, a childish voice came from the side, and soon Xu Nian saw a teenage boy around thirteen or fourteen years old walking over with a bowl of medicinal soup.

The boy had an average appearance, dark skin, and was dressed in simple clothes, with several holes in his trousers, and he didn't have any cultivation, clearly just an ordinary villager.

"Where is this? How did I end up here?" Xu Nian asked curiously.

The boy chuckled and said, "This is Mushi Village. Three days ago, we found you at the entrance of the village, covered in wounds and unconscious. The village chief said there was no saving you. Seeing you still had a breath left, I dragged you back here. I didn't expect you to be so heavy. Normally, I can run even while carrying a pig, but I couldn't carry you. I had to drag you bit by bit from the east end of the village to the west end, and it almost killed me."

The boy rattled on and on while Xu Nian just stood there with a mind full of confused lines.

He was lucky his head hadn't bumped against any rocks or other hard objects; otherwise, he might have woken up an imbecile.

Because of his ancient cultivation of the Divine Demon Refining Body Technique, his body density was much greater than a normal person, and even heavier than an average adult, so it was normal for the boy to not be able to carry him.

"But put that aside, you really are something. You were so severely injured, yet you still came to. Last year, the pig from the neighboring house fell from a ten-meter-high hill and died on impact, but you're much stronger than it. You must be a cultivator, right?" the boy asked with a face full of curiosity.

"I suppose I am, thanks for saving me," Xu Nian said with a wry smile and a nod.

He's comparing me to a pig?

What in the world is he thinking?

"It's no big deal. Just rest up and take this medicine. I begged Uncle Wang who goes hunting in the mountains to bring it back; it's extremely effective for internal injuries." The boy set the bowl on a stand beside the bed and then scampered off.

Xu Nian felt helpless and didn't touch the medicinal soup.

Instead, he sat cross-legged on the bed and began to internally examine his injuries.

Upon inspecting, he was utterly dismayed.

His injuries were worse than the last time.

Not only were his body's cells significantly damaged, but his Dantian was completely empty too.

The Earth God Devouring Sky Secret Technique was already a heavy burden on him, and, coupled with the middle-aged man's blows, he was injured on top of injuries.

If it weren't for the Yetian Divine Emperor having teleported him away, he might have been a corpse by now.

"This won't do. I must recover my strength as soon as possible. I shouldn't be too far from the forest where I was before. If that middle-aged man with short hair finds me, then I really would be waiting for death," Xu Nian muttered to himself.

He then began to operate his two great techniques, starting the process to heal his injuries and recover his strength.

The Yetian God Emperor was now in a deep sleep; it was all up to him now.

Over the following three days, Xu Nian did not leave his room, focusing solely on healing.

After three days of repair, his injuries had mostly healed, and he had recovered much of his strength, roughly equal to that of a Six-star Martial Sect.

During these three days, that boy came to see Xu Nian a few times.

After chatting with him a few times, Xu Nian finally had a rough understanding of the situation in Mushi Cun and the boy's circumstances.

Mushi Village was a secluded mountain village on the outskirts of the Demon Beast Forest.

The village had just over a hundred residents who lived by hunting.

There were not many cultivators in the village, only about ten or so, with the highest cultivation level being a Nine-star Body Cultivator.

These ten cultivators were primarily Body Cultivators, entering the Demon Beast Forest every few days to hunt and provide food for the village.

There were no powerful demon beasts on the periphery of the Demon Beast Forest, so life in Mushi Village was relatively harmonious.

Although no powerful demon beasts inhabited the outskirts of the Demon Beast Forest, occasionally one or two formidable ones would stray out. For Mushi Village, a single Battle Sect Level demon beast was an overwhelming disaster.

The boy's parents tragically died under the hooves of a demon beast that had inadvertently wandered into the village shortly after his birth, leaving him an orphan raised on charity from other families in the village.

His greatest dream was to become a cultivator to hunt more demon beasts and avenge his parents. Unfortunately, he possessed no talent for cultivation.

After learning about these matters, Xu Nian couldn't help but feel sympathy for the boy.

Compared to the boy, he still had extraordinary talents for cultivation, whereas the boy had none.

However, the boy was very optimistic, introducing his friends from the village to Xu Nian and not allowing his inability to cultivate to distress him.

Xu Nian felt reassured by this and hoped the boy could continue to be happy.

...

Time flew by, and three days passed, Xu Nian's cultivation had almost fully recovered.

But just as Xu Nian was preparing to leave Mushi Village, an unexpected incident occurred.

"Boom! Boom! Boom!"

A rumbling sound came from outside the house, and the entire building trembled as if it could collapse at any moment.

Xu Nian quickly exited his cultivation state and stepped out of the cottage.

However, what he saw next took him by complete surprise.

A giant Black Scorching Dragon Rhinoceros, standing six meters tall and about ten meters long, had barged into Mushi Village, rampaging through the settlement.

The stone-built cottages couldn't withstand the massive Dragon Rhinoceros's charges, and as houses collapsed, the villagers scattered in panic.

Some villagers didn't manage to escape in time and were trampled to death under the Demon Beast's iron hooves.

The cries and screams of women, children, and the elderly were non-stop, some weeping bitterly having witnessed their loved ones perish before their eyes.

"Run, it's a Battle-Sect-Level Demon Beast," roared a towering man leading the village's hunting team, fending off the giant beast to buy time for the villagers to flee.

However, they were no match for the mighty creature; within moments, three hunters were impaled by the Dragon Rhinoceros's spikes, their bodies torn apart.

Yet, the hunting team wasn't scared and continued to desperately counter the beast's advances with their attacks.

Because if they retreated, it would be their families who would die.

Seeing this scene, Xu Nian's eyebrows furrowed tightly, and he began to sprint toward the Black Scorching Dragon Rhinoceros.

"Where did this kid come from? Get away from here, it's too dangerous! This beast is comparable to a Three-star Battle Sect," shouted one of the hunters upon noticing Xu Nian rushing over.

The fleeing villagers also turned to look at Xu Nian, who was sprinting towards them; some who had seen him before recognized him.

"Is that the youth Saved by Shi Tou? Has he gone mad, charging at that terrifying Demon Beast?" someone in the crowd exclaimed.

Shi Tou was the name of a little boy.

At this moment, the escaping Shi Tou also noticed Xu Nian, looking at him run with a face full of shock.

The Iron Tower-like man who was striving against the Dragon Rhinoceros also noticed Xu Nian, anger washed over his face as he bellowed, "Ignorant fool, get out of the way!"

This was a Battle-Sect-Level Demon Beast; even if a youth were a cultivator, how high could his cultivation be? Facing such a powerful beast was simply a death sentence.

However, Xu Nian seemed to completely ignore the shouts around him, and when he was only ten meters away from the Dragon Rhinoceros, he leaped, swinging his fist harshly at the beast.

"Roar!"

The Dragon Rhinoceros also seemed to have noticed this overconfident human youth, pointing its one-meter-long spike at him, intent on skewering the youth in midair.

"It's over!" mumbled Shi Tou to himself.

The villagers covered their eyes, not daring to watch any longer.

Especially the members of the hunting team and that towering man's brows furrowed tightly, not daring to imagine the fate of the young man before them.

But at that moment, a miracle happened.

The boy in mid-air, miraculously pivoted, dodging the spikes of the Black Scorching Dragon Rhinoceros and finally landed a punch squarely on the forehead of the Dragon Rhinoceros.

"Boom!"

With a loud noise, the entire ground trembled violently.

The enormous body of the Black Scorching Dragon Rhinoceros couldn't withstand this terrifying force, its body heavily sank to the ground and collapsed.

People all around widened their eyes, looking at the scene in disbelief.

The hunters were also stunned, unable to believe that everything before their eyes was real.

How strong must that punch have been to bring down such a huge Black Scorching Dragon Rhinoceros?

Is this youth even human?

This motherfucker is a human-shaped Demonic Beast!

But the next scene shocked them so much they could have dropped their jaws to the ground.

The boy grabbed the Black Scorching Dragon Rhinoceros's spikes, swung the beast around three times and then hurled it away.

The massive body of the Black Scorching Dragon Rhinoceros rolled dozens of times on the ground, thrown over a hundred meters before it finally stopped.

Silence fell over the scene, everyone stared at the standing youth, at a loss for words to describe their feelings.

...

Chapter 188 One Sword Kill

Such a colossal Black Scorching Dragon Rhinoceros must weigh no less than ten tons, right? With such a terrifying weight, this young man actually flung it into the air?

The members of the hunting team's mouths were agape, wide enough to fit an egg.

The man who resembled an Iron Tower was also in a daze. He had just said that the boy rushing over was courting death, yet he didn't expect this youngster before him to be so formidable.

To be able to toss a Three-star Battle Sect Level Black Scorching Dragon Rhinoceros into the air, he must have at least the strength of a Five-star Body Sect, right?

So young and yet possessing the strength of a Five-star Body Sect, how could this be?

"Awesome, well done, Xu Nian!" Shi Tou was the first to snap out of it and immediately began to cheer happily.

Following his cheers, everyone began to fill with hope for Xu Nian.

The emergence of the Black Scorching Dragon Rhinoceros was a disaster for their Mushi Village.

Just this Demon Beast alone could slaughter their entire village.

But now, with the appearance of Xu Nian, they saw a glimmer of hope for survival.

Xu Nian didn't pay attention to the shocked gazes of the crowd. Instead, he stared intently at the Black Scorching Dragon Rhinoceros as it got back up on its feet.

The skin of this Black Scorching Dragon Rhinoceros was even tougher than he imagined, and although Xu Nian's attack had penetrated it, the creature wasn't significantly wounded.

"Roar!"

From the mouth of the Black Scorching Dragon Rhinoceros came a ferocious roar, and its eyes, blood-red, fixed on Xu Nian as terrifying black flames began to emerge from its body.

The Black Scorching Dragon Rhinoceros was furious. A human had actually flung it through the air. It intended to pierce the chest of the human before it with its horn and trample him into the ground.

Xu Nian's hand clenched and the Xuan Iron Sword appeared in his grip. He watched the Black Scorching Dragon Rhinoceros as it gathered momentum, readying to charge, and proudly said, "You had the entire Demon Beast Forest to stay in, yet you chose to barge into human territory looking for death. You've killed so many people, today your blood will pay the price."

"Buzz!"

Xu Nian turned the edge of his sword, and an intense aura radiated from him.

The augmentation of the forces of heaven and earth made Xu Nian's sword incredibly sharp.

"Roar!"

The enraged Black Rock Dragon Rhinoceros pushed off with its legs, and its massive body charged furiously forward, each step shaking the earth.

Its sharp horn, aimed at Xu Nian, was still covered in black flames.

An unstoppable, fearsome might that could slay gods and Buddhas.

The people around were all moved; they estimated that the Black Scorching Dragon Rhinoceros's charge could take down city walls, unsure if the young man before them could withstand it.

The Iron Tower man and other members of the hunting team were also looking worried, for they knew better than the ordinary villagers the terrifying power contained in that charge, not to mention the black flame that could melt metal and shatter stone.

However, Xu Nian showed no intention of dodging. Holding the Xuan Iron Sword, he actually closed his eyes.

Spiritual Energy surged, and Wind Force merged into the sword.

"Wind Blade Kill!"

With a loud shout, Xu Nian slashed diagonally with the sword in his hand.

The crowd only saw a streak of Sword Radiance sweep out from the blade, instantly colliding with the body of the Black Scorching Dragon Rhinoceros.

Then the Black Scorching Dragon Rhinoceros collapsed to the ground, its huge body stopping only when it slid to Xu Nian's feet due to inertia.

And at this moment, the massive body of the Black Scorching Dragon Rhinoceros was split in half right down the middle.

"Two... two halves?"

The crowd gasped in shock, staring at Xu Nian as if looking at a monster.

The supposedly invincible Black Scorching Dragon Rhinoceros that was thought to be indestructible was actually cleaved into two by the young man's sword?

The Iron Tower man and the members of the hunting team exchanged glances, unwilling to believe what they had just seen.

They had attacked the Black Scorching Dragon Rhinoceros with spears and arrows before, yet none had pierced its thick hide. How could it be that in this youth's hands, it was as easy as chopping vegetables, directly cleaving it in two?

They couldn't figure it out, but were amazed to the point of admiration.

Xu Nian looked at the Black Scorching Dragon Rhinoceros split in half, but his eyes did not reveal much fluctuation.

Wind Blade Kill was a move he created after comprehending the Wind Force, and then blending it into the attack.

Both its speed and sharpness were far beyond what ordinary attacks could compare to.

However, Forces were divided into three levels, Borrowing Force, Gathering Momentum, and Transformation Force.

Xu Nian had just entered the beginner stage of Borrowing Force and had a long way to go in understanding Forces.

There were many Forces between heaven and earth, such as Wind Force, Earth Force, Water Force, and Mountain Force, which could all be utilized, including gravity, which was also a type of Force.

Right now, Xu Nian could only use Wind Force, Water Force, and Mountain Force, with the Wind Force being the one he was most adept at.

However, the second hammer of the Three-Forging Hammer, Meteor, was an application of Force, so once Xu Nian integrated his understanding of the Mountain Force into it, it could be used to unleash an exceptionally powerful attack.

Xu Nian took out the Crystal Core and tossed the remaining corpse of the Black Scorching Dragon Rhinoceros into the Demon Beast Ring.

Although the Black Scorching Dragon Rhinoceros had the word 'dragon' in its name, it was not a descendant of the Dragon Clan, so its flesh and blood were not of significant benefit to Xu Nian. It was better given to Little Xu Yu, while he kept the Crystal Core for himself.

With this Crystal Core, he should be able to break through to the Seven-star Martial Sect.

"Sir, I am Wang Long, and on behalf of what happened before, I apologize to you and thank you for saving our Mushi Village," said the man built like an Iron Tower, kneeling on one knee before Xu Nian.

The seven surviving hunting party members all knelt down in front of Xu Nian.

"Since Shi Tou calls you Uncle Wang, then I shall also call you Uncle Wang. I know Uncle Wang was only concerned for my safety, and there was no disrespect in your actions. Please stand up, Uncle Wang.

After all, I saved everyone, but Shi Tou has also saved me before, so if you want to thank anyone, thank Shi Tou," Xu Nian said with a wave of his hand to Wang Long and the others.

Wang Long's face immediately showed joy as he happily stood up.

Everyone turned their eyes towards Shi Tou, with looks of praise on their faces.

Shi Tou was beaming with pride, acting like a hero as if he were the one who had killed the Demon Beast instead of Xu Nian.

With a slight smile, Xu Nian also felt a warmth in his heart.

An eye for an eye, Xu Nian always repaid kindness and sought revenge for grievances.

Therefore, since the Ding Family had caused him such harm, he swore to make them pay it back later on.

"Sir, I saw you fighting the Black Scorching Dragon Rhinoceros with your bare hands. May I ask, are you practicing Spirit Body Dual Cultivation?" Wang Long suddenly spoke up.

"Um," Xu Nian nodded without concealing anything.

Wang Long, although he had expected the answer, was still surprised in his heart.

Such a young age, practicing Dual Cultivation, yet possessing such formidable Cultivation, how heaven-defying must this youth be.

"Wang Long, are you trying to..."

At this moment, an old man with a cane stepped out from the crowd.

This person was the village head of Mushi Village.

"That's right, village elder. That item has been in our village for hundreds of years. For us, it is ultimately a hidden danger. Since the sir has saved our lives, we should present that item to him," Wang Long said.

After pondering for a moment, the village elder nodded, "An innocent man bears no sin, but he who possesses jade commits a crime. When our ancestors obtained this item, it was meant to one day await someone with destiny. If sir can indeed take it, it would be a blessing for our Mushi Village, and it would also be a way to continue a good karma."

"I share the same sentiment," Wang Long immediately said.

Xu Nian, however, looked curious. According to Wang Long's words, it seemed they were going to give him some kind of treasure.

"Come, sir, let me take you to see it, and you'll understand," Wang Long said to Xu Nian with a smile, seemingly noticing his curiosity.

He then walked towards the eastern part of the village.

Xu Nian curiously followed.

He wanted to see for himself what was the treasure that Wang Long and the others were talking about.

Chapter 189 Netherworld King Bow

Soon, Xu Nian was led to a very hidden cave.

The entrance of the cave was covered with dense vines, making it almost impossible to notice without close inspection.

Upon entering the cave, it was very dark and damp inside, and the space was not very big, only the size of a single room.

Besides a huge boulder placed in the middle, there was nothing else in the cave.

However, Xu Nian's face changed, as his Spiritual Sense had already felt the fluctuations within the stone.

It was powerful, so powerful that it made him feel a strong sense of threat.

Through his Spiritual Sense, Xu Nian discovered that there was a giant bow buried within the boulder.

"Bow?" Xu Nian looked at Wang Long in surprise.

Wang Long was also surprised. He hadn't even spoken yet, and Xu Nian already knew what was hidden in the stone.

"That's right, it is indeed a giant bow named 'Netherworld King.' It is an extremely lethal Divine Artifact that our ancestors accidentally discovered," Wang Long said solemnly.

"Divine Artifact?" Xu Nian was astonished.

In fact, the so-called divine artifact Wang Long referred to was not a true Divine Artifact but a weapon forged from the legendary Divine Iron.

Such weapons had exceeded the category of ordinary weapons and possessed powerful energy on their own.

However, this Divine Artifact was different from his Divine Artifact, the Gravity Ring.

The Gravity Ring was a true Divine Artifact, whereas the bow before him was merely a pseudo-Divine Artifact.

In the Tianhen Continent, it was customary to call any weapon that exceeded the category of ordinary weapons a Divine Artifact, but this was technically incorrect.

According to Xu Nian's understanding, there were many levels above ordinary weapons.

For instance, weapons forged from Divine Iron were called Spiritual Artifacts.

So, the bow before him was not a real Divine Artifact but a Spiritual Artifact.

Of course, Spiritual Artifact level weapons were also priceless treasures in the Tianhen Continent.

After all, a weapon made from an exotic metal could fetch an astronomical price, let alone a Spiritual Artifact forged from Divine Iron.

"This Netherworld King Bow has been in Mushi Village for hundreds of years, passed down from generation to generation. However, no one in Mushi Village has been able to wield this bow. If you, sir, can gain the approval of the Netherworld King Bow, feel free to take it," Wang Long said.

Xu Nian nodded, a glint flashing in his eyes.

He had been worried about how to deal with the Red Blood Purple Winged Eagle. With the Netherworld King Bow, things would be much easier.

"Let me try." Xu Nian walked up to the boulder and punched it.

The boulder instantly cracked open, revealing a giant bow.

The bow was completely black, emitting a dark luster, with strange patterns engraved on its surface, giving it a chillingly authoritative aura akin to the Netherworld King himself.

"Great bow!" Xu Nian couldn't help but exclaim.

Just the aura it emitted was so formidable; the arrows it shot must be even more powerful.

Xu Nian couldn't resist reaching out for the Netherworld King Bow, and the moment he touched it, a bone-chilling cold enveloped his entire body.

"The cold is strong, truly worthy of the name Netherworld King, probably inspired by the concept of Nine Nether Hell," Xu Nian praised again.

Wang Long was somewhat surprised. He had tried to touch the Netherworld King Bow before, but before his hand could even make contact, the powerful energy emanating from the bow had flung him away.

But now, Xu Nian was holding the Netherworld King Bow, and it showed no reaction at all.

"Could it really be successful?" Wang Long murmured to himself.

At this moment, all of Xu Nian's attention was focused on the Netherworld King Bow, and he found himself liking the giant bow more and more.

However, when Xu Nian tried to lift the bow, he found it incredibly heavy.

"This bow weighs nearly sixteen thousand, impossible for ordinary people to move," Wang Long said.

"Sixteen thousand pounds, three times the weight of my Meteorite Iron Hammer?" Xu Nian was also somewhat surprised; he hadn't expected the Netherworld King Bow to be so heavy.

However, sixteen thousand pounds was not a challenge for him.

"Buzz!"

Xu Nian exerted force with one hand, the veins in his arm bulging, and he surprisingly pulled the Netherworld King Bow out of the pit with one hand.

Wang Long was amazed, having witnessed Xu Nian's strength before, but still found himself overwhelmed by surprise.

"No way, even if I can lift such a heavy bow, how would I possibly shoot arrows with it?" Xu Nian muttered to himself.

Suddenly, he slapped his forehead, bit his finger, and dripped blood onto the Netherworld King Bow.

Indeed, Spiritual Artifacts needed blood recognition.

Sure enough, after the Netherworld King Bow absorbed Xu Nian's blood,

Xu Nian found that he had a new connection with the bow, and the weight in his hand also felt much lighter.

"That's more like it!" Thinking quickly, Xu Nian stored the Netherworld King Bow inside his Dantian.

Spiritual Artifacts could be directly stored within the Dantian and nourished with Spiritual Energy, then summoned directly during fights.

Witnessing Xu Nian's successful blood recognition, Wang Long's face displayed surprise again.

Although he had been mentally prepared, the moment he saw Xu Nian succeed, he was still taken aback.

Hundreds of years this bow had been here, many had tried to claim it through blood recognition, but the Netherworld King Bow had never absorbed blood, hence nobody had succeeded before.

But Xu Nian had succeeded immediately, how could he not be astonished?

"Let's go, let's go out and test this Netherworld King Bow," Xu Nian said excitedly, then walked out of the cave.

Wang Long immediately followed, curious about the power of the Netherworld King Bow.

"Here!" Wang Long handed over the Xuan Iron Arrows he had prepared earlier.

Xu Nian glanced at the Xuan Iron Arrows, but just smiled and shook his head.

With a thought, an Ice Sword fully formed from Xuan Ice appeared in his hand, containing a strong fluctuation, much more powerful than the Xuan Iron Arrows.

Indeed, this was the ability Xu Nian had gained after absorbing the Dragon Energy of the Ice Frost Giant Dragon, Condensing Water into Ice.

Xu Nian set the bow and drew the arrow, his body like a profound bow.

Gang Qi covered his arm, while Spiritual Energy was infused into the Ice Arrow.

Despite using all his strength, Xu Nian could only draw the bowstring to the Half Moon Arc.

"Buzz!"

Releasing his hand, the Ice Sword shot out, swiftly turning into a streak of light, heading straight for a hill three thousand meters away.

"Boom!"

The twenty-meter-high hill exploded violently and was instantly leveled.

"So...so powerful!" Wang Long, with wide eyes, even stammered a bit when he spoke.

He couldn't imagine what would happen if this arrow hit a person.

Xu Nian was also amazed, not expecting the arrow to have such devastating power.

"This arrow is capable of threatening a Battle General Level master, and this is just at Half Moon Arc; if pulled to a full moon, I can't imagine how powerful it might be. Perhaps with my Talent Divine Ability and Dragon Scale Arm, I could barely manage a full draw," Xu Nian pondered.

His eyes shone like stars, his heart filled with immense joy.

"Hmph, with this giant bow, if that Red Blood Purple Winged Eagle dares to come again, I'll ensure it won't return," Xu Nian said with a slight smirk, feeling increasingly confident about the Ding Family's subsequent pursuits.

Chapter 190 A Warning to the Ding Family

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In the following three days, Xu Nian spent his time practicing archery.

Through three days of intensive training, Xu Nian's archery skills had greatly improved.

He could hit a thumb-sized pebble from three kilometers away with unerring accuracy.

Such rapid progression astonished Wang Long, who was responsible for coaching him.

It was only at this moment that he understood why the young man before him possessed such terrifying combat power at such a young age.

This fellow was simply a monster.

While practicing archery, Xu Nian also ventured into the Demon Beast Forest to hunt high-level Demon Beasts of Battle Sect.

Relying on his archery, in just three days, he had slain two Nine-star War Sect Level Demon Beasts and five Eight-star Battle Sect level Demon Beasts.

Xu Nian consumed all of these Demon Beasts' crystal cores, and his cultivation soared from the peak of the Six-star Martial Sect to the peak of the Eight-star Martial Sect.

His Talent Divine Ability also grew stronger, instantly enhancing his strength by fourfold.

Now, without using his Talent Divine Ability, Xu Nian's strength could barely compete with a One-star Battle General.

Once his Talent Divine Ability was activated, he possessed strength comparable to the peak of a One-star Battle Sect.

If he were to use the Earth God Devouring Sky, he would be unbeatable under a Two-star War General.

Such tremendous progress left Xu Nian overjoyed.

Now, even if that short-haired middle-aged man were to seek him out again, he would not be afraid in the slightest.

In addition, Little Xu Yu's strength had also greatly improved.

It had eaten all the flesh of the slain Demon Beasts, and its strength had risen from the Six-star Realm to Eight-star, possessing the combat power of a Battle General-level Demon Beast.

Together, this man and beast were a monstrous duo, growing at an unattainable rate.

Indeed, on the fourth day,

the Red Blood Purple Winged Eagle appeared in the sky above Mushi Village and began circling upon spotting Xu Nian.

Xu Nian did not hide his presence, instead he went alone to an open area outside the village, waiting for the short-haired man to arrive.

He felt it was time to send a warning to the Ding Family, to let them know that he, Xu Nian, was not to be trifled with.

"Swoosh!"

Indeed, before long, two figures burst out of the mountain forest.

These two figures were the short-haired man and the Battle Sect member named Along who had previously pursued Xu Nian.

Over these six days, they had been scouring the forest for Xu Nian's whereabouts.

But they had found nothing until just moments ago, when they received a message from the Red Blood Purple Winged Eagle and quickly rushed over.

"Xu Nian, let's see where you can run to this time!" the short-haired man bellowed upon seeing Xu Nian.

He had been suppressing his frustration for six days, furious that Xu Nian had slipped away right under his nose, causing him to run around in the Demon Beast Forest for so long.

He swore that upon seeing Xu Nian, he would flay him and break his legs to vent his pent-up anger.

"Do I look like I intend to run?" Xu Nian asked with a light laugh.

The short-haired man's expression faltered, and a flicker of doubt crossed his mind.

Why wasn't Xu Nian running this time?

Could there be a trap?

However, he quickly dismissed all these thoughts.

In his view, even if Xu Nian had set a trap, how could it possibly harm him?

"Putting on a mysterious air, I want to see where you get your confidence from. Even if you have set a trap, it won't withstand a single blow in the face of absolute power," the short-haired man said with a cold snort, disdain filling his eyes.

Xu Nian smiled and said mischievously, "Do I need a trap to deal with you? I stayed here specifically to send a message to the Ding Family."

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"What message are you delivering?" the short-haired man coldly asked.

"Consider this a warning to the Ding Family. As a Battle General, you must hold a significant position among them. Surely, they have preserved your Life Stone. Once I kill you, the Ding Family will realize they've provoked someone they shouldn't have," Xu Nian said with a cold smile, speaking loudly and with an authoritative tone.

"You're seeking death!" The short-haired man glared in fury, bellowing as he charged toward Xu Nian.

How could he tolerate such insolence from a defeated subordinate who dared to threaten his life?

Leaping up, his fist enveloped in terrifying Gang Qi, he struck directly at Xu Nian.

Xu Nian's eyes sharpened instantly as he executed the Dragon King Fist to meet the assault.

"Boom!"

A loud noise followed, and Xu Nian was instantly sent flying dozens of meters.

His arm tingled intensely.

"Haha, and here I thought you had some skills. Turns out, you're just all talk," the short-haired man laughed heartily with a mocking look in his eyes.

Xu Nian rubbed his swollen arm, yet a faint smile still lingered on his lips.

He had only used his Body Cultivation prowess just now. Although his Body Cultivation had improved over time, the progress wasn't substantial. His real reliance was on Spirit Cultivation.

By this time, quite a crowd had gathered around the village entrance, clearly drawn by the commotion.

When they saw the confrontation between Xu Nian and the short-haired man, expressions of surprise and concern spread across their faces.

"Uncle Wang, this middle-aged man seems very powerful. Can big brother Xu Nian really handle him?" Shi Tou asked, blinking as he stood next to Wang Long.

"It's hard to say. This middle-aged man clearly has reached the Body General Level. His strength is profound and unfathomable. Although Mr. Xu Nian is talented, he is still just at the level of a War Sect. The gap is quite significant," Wang Long shook his head and said, his heart full of shock.

This was the first time he had ever encountered a master at the Body General Level.

"No, big brother Xu Nian can definitely win. So what if he is a Battle General? My big brother Xu Nian is invincible," Shi Tou stubbornly declared.

The surrounding villagers nodded and echoed in agreement.

However, Wang Long and the members of the hunting team shook their heads. They, as cultivators, knew the huge gap between a Battle General and a War Sect.

Could such a vast chasm be easily crossed?

"Xu Nian, you are certainly going to die today," the short-haired man said with a sneer.

He then dashed forward again, striking out toward Xu Nian.

Gang Qi surged violently, like a giant wave ready to obliterate everything.

Yet, the corners of Xu Nian's mouth curled into a cold smirk as the Xuan Iron Sword appeared in his hand.

"You really think I'm the same as I was six days ago? Take this!" Xu Nian stepped forward as the aura of a Peak of Eight-star Martial Sect instantly radiated from him.

With his sword in hand, he unleashed a strike, transforming the sword radiance into a crescent moon that ferociously slashed toward the short-haired man.

"Boom!"

A loud noise.

The Gang Qi around the middle-aged short-haired man's fist was instantly shattered, and his body retreated three steps continuously.

"What? Peak of Eight-star Martial Sect? How is that possible?" The middle-aged short-haired man's eyes widened in disbelief as he looked at Xu Nian.

A long, who had been watching all of this from a distance, also couldn't help but reveal a look of surprise.

Just six days ago, Xu Nian's Cultivation was at the Six-star Peak.

In just a few days, had Xu Nian advanced two levels?

Was this really Cultivation or was he on drugs?

And could someone at the Peak of Eight-star withstand his punch while still at the War Sect stage?

Not only were they shocked, but Wang Long and others were also immensely astonished.

Could an Eight-star Martial Sect hold its own against a One-star Body General without falling short?

How incredibly defying was that?