

Divine King 1961

Chapter 1961: Tianyu Mountain

"Xu Nian, my good friend, it's already impressive that you've broken through to God Level, but it's unfathomable that your wife has reached the Peak of Divine Level too?"

On the way to Tianyu Mountain, Song Ren asked in shock.

He had already learned about Xu Nian slaughtering Chen Qing of Wuwan Mountain.

At that time, Xu Nian was only at the Peak of Divine Level.

Unexpectedly, Xu Nian now quickly broke through to Early Stage of God Level; Song Ren couldn't even imagine Xu Nian's current strength.

But Xu Nian's talent is against the heavens, coupled with the Fierce God Pill, the breakthrough was smooth and reasonable.

Yet Xu Nian's wife reached the Peak of Divine Level within a hundred years, which is indeed a world-shocking event.

Fang Yu, who was beside them, was also greatly surprised.

He's been in seclusion for a hundred years, absorbing the Fierce God Pill, and has only absorbed one-thirtieth of its power.

Luckily, he had already been at the Early Stage of God Level for a long time, now smoothly breaking through to Mid-level God.

As for Song Ren, he is still at the Mid-level God, but the breakthrough is just a step away.

But this step, to say the least, requires a thousand years.

It's one thing for Xu Nian to break through, but his wife advancing three levels in a hundred years?

Could his wife's talent be more against the heavens than his?

How could that be possible?

"Before ascending, we encountered a peculiar Divine Fruit in a relic, which my wife consumed, speeding up her advancement. However, the drug's power has dissipated. Without sufficient resources, breaking through to God Level isn't easy," Xu Nian explained.

"Peculiar Divine Fruit?" Song Ren and Fang Yu exchanged glances, their faces filled with doubt.

Yet they didn't delve deeply; everyone has their secrets.

"So that's the case. Madam truly harnessed the creation of heaven and earth. One fruit saves her decades of cultivation. As for future cultivation resources, Xu Nian, worry not. If we make it to the top ten in Tianyu Mountain, we'll receive abundant rewards," Song Ren said excitedly.

Top ten in the assessment was previously unimaginable.

But now, having Xu Nian, a master, it may not be impossible.

Xu Nian could battle Late Stage God even before breaking through to God Level. Now, at Early Stage of God Level, his power is certainly stronger.

As for the top five, Song Ren dared not even imagine.

After all, among the thirty-six forces, some formidable adversaries exist.

Xu Nian's time cultivating is ultimately too short to rival these adversaries.

"How abundant are these rewards?" Xu Nian glanced at Zhao Yanyun beside him, then smiled and asked Song Ren.

"As far as I know, the tenth place reward includes a million Low Grade Divine Stones, a hundred Low Grade Heavenly Divine Artifacts, and a hundred Low Grade Divine Pills. The ninth place reward is twice the tenth place, and eighth place twice the ninth, escalating this way. Thus, the first place reward is fifty-one million two hundred fifty thousand Low Grade Divine Stones, fifty-one thousand two hundred Low Grade Divine Swords, and fifty-one thousand two hundred Low Grade Divine Pills," Song Ren explained.

"So many?" Zhao Yanyun exclaimed.

"Indeed, it's a lot, but most forces opt to exchange for higher-level rewards. For example, Divine Stones can be exchanged to Mid-grade Divine Stones, requiring 5,120,000, or to Top-Grade Divine Stones becoming 51,200, or Top-grade Divine Stones as just 512. Heavenly Divine Artifacts and Divine Pills can also be exchanged, with the rate being one to one hundred," Song Ren laughed.

Xu Nian nodded.

Although these rewards seem numerous, exchanged for high-level treasures, they're quite scarce.

For instance, Heavenly Divine Artifacts and Divine Pills, turned into Top-Grade Heavenly Divine Artifacts is only five items, unreachable for the Top-grade.

"Of course, the rewards for the top five aren't limited to these. All top-five forces can experience once, possessing the Chaos Spiritual Treasure record from Tianyu Mountain, the Sky-reaching Record. This offers a chance to perceive the battle of super strong adversaries, a heavenly opportunity," Song Ren said, filled with limitless anticipation.

"Battle of super strong adversaries?" Xu Nian was astonished.

"Apparently, you don't know what the Sky-reaching Record is. It's a powerful Chaos Spiritual Treasure capable of recording the battle process of super adversaries. It allows souls to temporarily possess the super adversary, experiencing the battle process thoroughly," Song Ren explained.

Xu Nian's eyes lit up.

A reward like this was unheard of; possessing a super adversary in battle was an outstanding opportunity.

Witnessing the Yetian God Emperor striking greatly benefited Xu Nian. Being able to experience her sword technique execution entirely was certainly a heaven-defying opportunity.

"So, Xu Nian, are you tempted? Yet, being in the top five isn't easy; some super mighty adversaries among the thirty-six forces are exceptionally terrifying, beyond our ability to defeat," Song Ren shook his head.

The top five rewards were indeed attractive, but power is a must to vie for them.

Without adequate power, it remains a mere dream.

Xu Nian pondered silently, not responding.

His heart, however, was deeply resolved; he must obtain the experience of possessing a strong adversary.

Of course, he kept these thoughts to himself.

Uttering them would be meaningless.

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Continuing their journey, the group of four quickly arrived at the Tianyu Mountain's territory.

Tianyu Mountain floated atop a mountain range.

The floating Divine Mountain was colossal, the largest Xu Nian had seen among floating giant cities.

The city's area is likely ten times larger than the territory Black Mountain controls.

A massive entity floating above formed a powerful visual impact.

"This is Tianyu Mountain, isn't it thrilling? I was equally astounded my first visit," Song Ren said, noticing the expressions of Xu Nian and Zhao Yanyun, and laughed.

"Indeed, it's thrilling," Xu Nian nodded.

Besides its immense size, the Divine Mountain conveyed an immense fear.

The entire mountain seemed enveloped by strong celestial order.

Such formidable order instinctively stirred Xu Nian's heart with fear.

"Could such order only be established by a Divine Sovereign? Is there a Divine Sovereign in Tianyu Mountain?" Xu Nian pondered.

"No need to worry. The mountain lacks Divine Sovereign presence; the order is established through special means, not from a strong individual,"

The voice of Emperor Ye Tian suddenly echoed in Xu Nian's mind.

"Master? You're awake?" Xu Nian asked in delight.

"Yes, I made some breakthroughs in this recent retreat," Emperor Ye Tian responded.

Xu Nian listened, vibrant with joy.

Chapter 1962: Consecutive Breakthroughs

"Which force are you from?" A Divine-level maid approached Xu Nian and the others to greet them.

At this moment, Xu Nian and his companions had already ascended Tianyu Mountain, arriving at the gates of Tianyu City.

Most of Tianyu Mountain's regions are open to outsiders, except for the central city area which is the core of Tianyu Mountain.

Xu Nian and his companions stood before the imposing and majestic Divine Mountain Giant Gate.

To greet them was a beautiful maid at the Peak of Divine level.

She wore a long white dress, adorned with jade hairpins, her figure graceful.

Though not as stunning as Zhao Yanyun, she was indeed captivating.

"We come from the Black Mountain Territory." Song Ren replied with a smile.

"Ah, the three lords from the Black Mountain Territory, the Mountain Master has already arranged your accommodations, please follow me," the maid smiled respectfully.

After speaking, she turned and flew towards the city.

The four naturally followed.

The city was unlike ordinary cities, with many shops and the like, but rather had several residences.

These residences appeared to be cultivation places for Tianyu Mountain's experts, covered in powerful Divine Arrays.

On the way, Xu Nian learned a few things.

Only those above God Level are allowed inside the city of Tianyu Mountain.

At the moment, there were at least eight hundred residences with active arrays.

This means Tianyu Mountain has hundreds of God-level experts at least.

Of course, some God-level experts also recruit Divine-level subordinates and maids, so one can also see some Divine-level individuals within the city.

Like the maid before them, her status is likely such.

As the maid walked ahead, she introduced Xu Nian and the others to some basic matters within Tianyu Mountain City.

As she introduced, her gaze would intentionally or unintentionally fall on Zhao Yanyun.

Though other realm leaders would also bring maids, such beauty was truly rare.

"Here is your residence, there are three mansions in total, each of you may choose one. The assessment for the Thirty-Six Forces still has some time, during which you can cultivate here or visit places within the city. However, it is best not to enter the inner area, as it is where Lord Luo God resides," the maid said to Xu Nian and the others.

Xu Nian and the others nodded, fully understanding.

They were currently at the outer perimeter of Tianyu City, though this perimeter was immensely vast.

"Thank you, Goddess, we will certainly not lightly tread into Lord Luo God's residence," Song Ren responded.

The Goddess nodded, "If you need anything, just call for me, I can help solve it."

"Thank you, Goddess." Song Ren continued.

After speaking, the Goddess flew away.

Xu Nian and the others then chose their residences.

Xu Nian chose a lakeside island, while Song Ren selected a mansion atop a peak, and Fang Yu chose a plain.

Although their residences were close by, they were separated by at least dozens of miles.

After arranging their residences, Song Ren and Fang Yu reconvened at Xu Nian's manor.

"Brother Xu Nian, the assessment should start in about a month. What plans do you have during this time?" Song Ren asked with a smile.

"What plans could I have, naturally to retreat and cultivate," Xu Nian smiled.

"Constant retreat and cultivation aren't conducive to overall progress. However, I know that the Thirty-Six Forces usually hold an exchange event before their arrival, primarily for artifact trade. Perhaps Brother Xu Nian might be interested," Song Ren said.

"Artifact exchange?" Xu Nian's eyes lit up.

For some time, he had been preparing to craft a Luo God-level shield and gauntlet for himself.

Unfortunately, his stock of Luo God-level artifact refining materials was quite insufficient.

If he could acquire some artifact refining materials at this exchange, it would be quite beneficial.

Although Xu Nian had an Immortal King-level shield, Immortal King-level weapons were too enticing and could invite disaster, so unless necessary, he wouldn't easily use them.

"Alright, I'll attend the exchange, please call me when it happens, Brother Song," Xu Nian smiled.

"Haha, I knew Brother Xu Nian would be interested." Song Ren laughed.

Subsequently, Xu Nian had a brief chat with Song Ren, after which they departed.

Xu Nian then entered cultivation mode once more.

This time, he was not cultivating the Nine Infant Avatar but his true form.

Lately, Xu Nian's insight into the Gold Attribute had reached a bottleneck.

He's stuck at the Sixth-level Heavenly Dao, seeking breakthrough to the Seventh-level Heavenly Dao, yet unable to advance.

Similarly, the Divine Demon Avatar was stuck at the Seventh-level Heavenly Dao, unable to reach the Eighth-level Heavenly Dao.

In the short term, these powerful avatars could not continue to break through.

Hence, he had to let his true form cultivate the Wind Attribute Heavenly Dao.

Currently, Xu Nian's true form has achieved Sixth-level Heavenly Dao Realm in Wind Attribute insight.

He's merely one step away from the Sixth-level Heavenly Dao.

Xu Nian's true form continually swung his sword, attempting to comprehend Wind Attribute Heavenly Dao from the heavens and earth.

Every swing unleashed Heavenly Dao Power.

The resulting might was enormously terrifying.

However, Xu Nian paid no attention to this; he continued swinging his sword.

Sometimes slashing horizontally, sometimes chopping down, sometimes thrusting upward.

Each strike was swift like a hanging river from the heavens.

Every slice of Sword Qi was enough to tear apart rivers for ten thousand miles.

Fortunately, Xu Nian had set up a powerful Divine Array in the courtyard to block all the Sword Qi.

Otherwise, these Sword Qi would surely alarm the entire Tianyu City.

"No, my sword isn't fast enough, it can be faster, the instant of swinging isn't natural enough, it could clearly be smoother."

Xu Nian kept swinging his sword, continually summarizing his experience.

As Xu Nian absorbed experience, his sword grew faster, ultimately reaching a speed beyond visual clarity.

"Buzz!"

With one slash, the Sword Qi instantly soared nearly tenfold.

One sword, one thousand extremes!

Xu Nian sheathed his sword, exhaling lightly.

He finally broke through!

Just now, his Wind Attribute Heavenly Dao successfully broke through to Seventh-level Heavenly Dao.

One sword, one thousand extremes, this is currently Xu Nian's pinnacle.

This was achieved through Gold Attribute God Power, if with Wind Attribute God Power, the sword's might would be greater.

After the assessment ends, he'll find a suitable Wind Attribute avatar.

Xu Nian's true form murmured.

Thinking of this, he looked at the Sky Splitting Divine Dawn inside his Chaos Divine Palace.

This mass had absorbed Wind Attribute Heavenly Dao Power for tens of thousands of years, now significantly stronger.

Even within the Divine Dawn, a trace of Wind Attribute Chaos Mother Qi was beginning to form.

Chapter 1963: Daluo God Craftsman

"Brother Xu Nian, up ahead is where tonight's trade gathering will be held."

Song Ren pointed at a massive manor ahead as he spoke.

This should be the residence of whoever organized this trading meet.

The moment he stepped in, Xu Nian immediately sensed the auras of dozens of God-level Experts.

Among these auras, there were God Level at Early Stage, Middle Stage, Late Stage, and even Peak.

However, both Basic and Peak were rare; most were experts at the Middle Stage and Late Stage.

By the count of thirty-six factions, if each faction brought three God-level Experts, then the Gods gathered here should make up two-thirds of those taking part in this assessment.

At this moment, these God-level Experts were all chatting amongst themselves.

Among them were Demon Beasts, humans, Ancient Gods, and even some races Xu Nian had never seen before.

But regardless of race, the Divine World did not reject them.

The Divine World was highly inclusive, though of course this was limited to the Ascenders.

There was still great conflict between the Ancient Divine Clan and the Ascenders.

Xu Nian swept his gaze around and found he didn't recognize most of the people, but he did spot a few familiar figures.

One was that elder from Wuwan Valley; at this moment, the elder's cultivation had obviously already advanced to the Peak of God level.

From the instant Xu Nian entered, the elder's gaze had locked onto him.

A strong chill flickered in his eyes.

Xu Nian had expected this; after all, he had killed two Gods of Wuwan Valley—an absolutely devastating loss for them.

But it was clear this elder would not make a move here. After warning Xu Nian with his eyes, he withdrew his gaze.

Xu Nian no longer paid attention to the elder and instead turned his eyes to the three from Ice Snow Mountain.

These three were exactly the ones who had entered Split Wind Divine Gorge together with him back then.

Among the three, the young man at the Early Level of God had not improved his cultivation; that crocodile-headed freak had advanced somewhat, but still had not broken through to God Peak.

However, Lu Qiuyue's cultivation had truly and solidly broken through to the Peak of God level.

And she didn't look like someone who had just broken through, because her Peak of God level cultivation was extremely stable.

"We meet again, Mr. Xu Nian." Lu Qiuyue strode toward Xu Nian on her long, straight legs.

That peerless figure carried a heroic, valiant air.

Quite a few male Divines present had their gazes fall on Lu Qiuyue, clearly drawn by her allure.

"Yes, I didn't expect it to be such a coincidence, to see Lu Divine again so soon." Xu Nian said with a smile.

"I heard that Fellow Daoist Xu has been making quite the name for himself lately—killing a Late Stage of God expert while only at the Peak of Divine level, and now you've broken through to God level. Your strength must be even more terrifying now." Lu Qiuyue said with a smile.

Her voice wasn't loud, but everyone here was Divine-level.

So as soon as she spoke, all eyes turned toward Xu Nian.

Killing a Late Stage of God while at the Peak of Divine level?

How was that possible?

Seeing this, Xu Nian could only give a wry smile. "It was just luck. At the time, that Late Stage of God expert had just broken through as well; his strength was still very unstable."

"So he had just broken through and his strength was unstable... but even so, this person's power is anything but simple." The surrounding God-level Experts all thought to themselves.

"Fellow Daoist Xu is still as modest as ever. To be honest, I truly am looking forward to crossing swords with you one day." Lu Qiuyue said with a light laugh.

"If there's a chance, I'd also like to experience Lu Divine's Swordsmanship." Xu Nian replied with a smile.

Lu Qiuyue smiled and did not linger on this topic. Instead, she looked at Xu Nian and asked, "I wonder if Fellow Daoist Xu still remembers the agreement between us?"

"Of course I remember. What I promised Lu Divine, I have naturally already completed. Shall I fulfill that promise here?" Xu Nian asked with a smile.

"Let's do it here." Lu Qiuyue said. There was a trace of excitement and surprise in her eyes.

Had Xu Nian really completed it?

How could that be?

How much time had passed, really?

Off to the side, Song Ren and Fang Yu were both full of doubt. Xu Nian and Lu Qiuyue had an agreement?

What agreement?

Seeing this, Xu Nian could only shake his head helplessly. He had originally planned to hand this item to Lu Qiuyue in private.

Since Lu Qiuyue insisted on doing it here, then here it would be.

With that, Xu Nian flicked his hand, and an incomparably exquisite Divine Sword appeared before him.

This Divine Sword was extremely beautiful, and from it emanated an unimaginably powerful Ice Attribute aura.

The instant the Divine Sword appeared, the temperature of the entire manor plummeted to a terrifying degree.

Everything around was instantly coated with a layer of frost.

"This... this is the Divine Sword you're giving me?" Lu Qiuyue stared in shock at the sword in front of her.

From the moment it appeared, her entire mind had been drawn to it.

She could feel how perfectly this Divine Sword's aura meshed with her own—it could be said to have reached an unprecedented level.

It was no exaggeration to say that this Divine Sword had been tailor-made for her.

Of course, none of that was what shocked her the most. What truly stunned her was this Divine Sword's grade.

"A Daluo God Artifact? It might only be Low Grade, but it really is a Daluo God Artifact." All the God-level Experts around had their gazes fixed on this Divine Sword.

You had to know, even a Top-Grade Heavenly Divine Artifact was already a treasure to them; a Daluo God Artifact was nothing short of a Treasure in their eyes.

In an instant, every God-level Expert was looking at the sword with scorching hot eyes.

Even Song Ren and Fang Yu were both utterly stunned.

Of course, the one most shocked was Lu Qiuyue herself. She had originally thought that what Xu Nian would hand over at most would be a Top-Grade Heavenly Divine Artifact.

A Top-Grade Heavenly Divine Artifact was precious, but not to the point of provoking open covetousness.

Yet she truly had not expected Xu Nian to take out a Daluo God Artifact.

"Didn't we agree on a Top-Grade Heavenly Divine Artifact? Why are you giving me a Daluo God Artifact?" Lu Qiuyue asked in astonishment.

"Originally, I could only forge a Top-Grade Heavenly Divine Artifact, but later, during one Artifact Refining session, I accidentally broke through. So I simply forged a Daluo God Artifact for the Goddess. Besides, the Artifact Refining Materials Lu Divine gave me are more than enough to be worth a Daluo God Artifact, so I'm not really losing out." Xu Nian said with a smile.

"You're saying this Daluo God Artifact was forged by you?" Lu Qiuyue asked in shock.

Every God-level Expert present was completely stunned by Xu Nian's words.

A Divine Craftsman at Daluo God Level?

How was that possible?

"He hasn't even broken through to Daluo God Level yet; he doesn't have Daluo God Level Divine Power at all—how could he forge a Daluo God Artifact? What's more, to reach the Artifact Refining level for Daluo God Artifacts takes an extremely long process." Someone voiced their doubt.

"Exactly. How exalted is the status of a Divine Craftsman at Daluo God Artifact Level? Even Tianyu Mountain would treat such a person as an honored guest, wouldn't they?" another chimed in.

Everyone around looked at Xu Nian with suspicion.

Hearing this, Xu Nian just smiled and explained, "You're right, my cultivation has certainly not reached Daluo God Level. But my Artifact Refining level has. As for Daluo God Level Divine Power, that's something I obtained from a senior in the past—just a single wisp. So at the moment, I don't truly possess the full ability to forge Daluo God Artifact Level items."

With those words, everyone understood the situation, yet their hearts were still filled with shock.

Artifact Refining at Daluo God Level?

Didn't that mean he'd already reached Quasi-Daluo God Level Divine Craftsman?

Seeing the doubt in everyone's eyes, Xu Nian smiled faintly, then let his Soul Power explode forth.

In the next instant, a nearly tangible pressure slammed down on everyone present.

The moment this pressure appeared, every God felt their body tremble, as if they had the urge to kneel.

"Daluo God Level Soul Power? This..."

Everyone stared, dumbfounded, at Xu Nian; in that moment, all their doubts shattered into dust.

Chapter 1964: The Trade Fair

Xu Nian's soul pressure spread out, truly stunning everyone around into speechlessness.

They all knew that Artifact Refining required a powerful soul level.

So Xu Nian revealing a Daluo God Level soul level at this moment also proved that Xu Nian at least possessed the ability to forge Daluo God Level Divine Artifacts.

In an instant, everyone's gaze toward Xu Nian changed.

The status of a Daluo God Craftsman was absolutely far nobler than that of a Daluo God Level Expert.

The elder from Wuwan Valley stood within the crowd, his brows tightly knitted into the shape of the character "川".

The thought of taking revenge on Xu Nian, which he'd originally planned, completely vanished in this instant.

After all, provoking a genius might still leave some chance—there is no shortage of geniuses in the Divine World, and only those who survive can truly be called geniuses.

But provoking a Divine Craftsman was definitely an extremely unwise choice.

Especially when it was a Daluo God Craftsman.

"Brother Xu Nian, you're a Divine Craftsman, and a Daluo God Craftsman at that—why have you never told us?" Song Ren and Fang Yu looked at Xu Nian with faces full of shock.

It was as if a giant Buddha had suddenly walked out of the tiny temple they were in—how could they not be shocked?

"Sorry, Brother Song, my Artifact Refining level wasn't this high before; I only broke through recently," Xu Nian said.

"Even so, that's already incredible. Just being a Divine Craftsman alone gives you a supreme status," Song Ren said excitedly.

Xu Nian had actually become a Great God Craftsman; if he'd known earlier, he absolutely wouldn't have let this news leak out so casually.

Once it spread, wanting to keep Xu Nian in Black Mountain Territory would be very difficult.

Xu Nian chuckled and didn't respond.

He naturally understood what Song Ren was thinking.

"Goddess Lu, are you satisfied with this Divine Sword?" Xu Nian turned to look at Lu Qiuyue, steering the topic back to the Divine Sword itself.

"Satisfied. This sword far surpasses my expectations. Thank you," Lu Qiuyue said excitedly.

To be honest, Xu Nian fulfilling his promise to her was an enormous pleasant surprise.

With this sword, her combat strength would definitely rise another level.

"As long as you're satisfied." Xu Nian nodded with a smile.

Next, quite a few God Strongmen came over to greet Xu Nian one by one and try to get close to him.

After all, if they didn't befriend a future Daluo God Craftsman now, they might not have another chance in the future.

"Hello, my name is Guste, and I'm the founder of this trading gathering."

After a while, a middle-aged man with golden hair walked toward Xu Nian, a gentle smile on his face.

"Guste? That's a really strange name," Xu Nian said with a smile.

"Haha, I also ascended from the Lower Realm. That's just how names are where I come from," the golden-haired man said with a laugh.

Xu Nian nodded, a playful expression appearing on his face.

He didn't look down on the man in front of him at all; on the contrary, this man's strength was very formidable.

The Peak of God level aura on him had clearly already reached its limit, and the way he simply stood there gave Xu Nian a faint sense of danger.

This showed that the other party's Insight Cultivation was clearly not low either.

"Guste is the number one expert of Giant Dragon Island, ranked third among the Thirty-Six Forces. His strength is very strong. As early as a hundred thousand years ago, he'd already reached the Sixth-level Heavenly Dao, and at that time he was only in the Late Stage of God," Song Ren explained at the side.

Xu Nian was stunned.

He had already been at the Sixth-level Heavenly Dao a hundred thousand years ago; now he was likely at least at the Seventh level, Eighth Level, or even a Ninth Level existence.

If he really was at the Ninth Level, his strength would definitely surpass Xu Nian's.

"It seems there are plenty of experts in this assessment. In that case, this assessment will also be a chance for me to temper myself. I might even find a direction for a breakthrough." Xu Nian muttered in his heart.

"Haha, that's all just outsiders exaggerating me, but it is true that I've been cultivating for a very long time," Guste said with a laugh.

"Only those with strength deserve to be praised, and Brother Gu truly lives up to your reputation," Xu Nian said with a smile.

"Haha, I don't care about other people's flattery, but having a Great God Craftsman like you compliment me feels extremely satisfying," Guste laughed boisterously.

Xu Nian laughed along with him.

"Thank you for coming to my trading gathering. If you ever need anything in the future, feel free to come to me. Of course, if I have Artifact Refining needs, I'll also come find you. I hope when that time comes, Brother Xu Nian won't turn me down," Guste said with a smile.

"I definitely won't refuse," Xu Nian replied with a smile.

"Then I'll thank Brother Xu Nian in advance," Guste said, laughing.

Xu Nian also smiled.

Guste then went off to entertain other guests.

After that, several God Peak Experts came over to chat with Xu Nian.

Time passed quickly, and the trading gathering finally began.

"Everyone, most people are here, so let's start the trading gathering. The rules are simple—if you want to trade, just walk up to the platform in the middle, take out the item you want to exchange, and state what you want in return. If someone has it, the trade is done. If not, others can also state what they're willing to exchange and see if the trader is willing to make the swap," Guste said.

Everyone around nodded.

The trading method was actually very simple, just bartering.

As long as both sides agreed, the transaction was considered successful.

"In that case, I'll go first and warm up the field," a young man said.

With that, he walked directly onto the platform.

Everyone around was curious about what he planned to bring out for trade.

The young man smiled faintly, waved his hand, and a bottle of pills appeared in his hand.

"This pill is a Top-Grade Heavenly God Pill called the Yun Shen Pill. It doesn't help with cultivation improvement, but it greatly benefits the提升 of the soul," the young man said.

"Top-Grade Heavenly God Pill? Yun Shen Pill?" The crowd around all showed looks of surprise at his words.

Xu Nian was also somewhat astonished.

Starting off with a Top-Grade Heavenly God Pill?

The quality of this trading gathering truly wasn't ordinary.

Of course, Xu Nian understood after thinking about it. This kind of trading gathering was only open to God-level Experts.

And since no one wanted to waste such an opportunity, everyone would naturally bring out their most valuable items to exchange for what they wanted.

"I wonder what you want in exchange, brother?" Guste asked with a smile.

"I want to exchange for a set of Top-Grade Heavenly Divine Artifact Battle Armor. If there isn't any armor, a shield will do," the young man said.

As he spoke, he intentionally or unintentionally glanced at Xu Nian.

It was obvious he was here for Xu Nian.

After all, everyone present knew that Xu Nian was a Divine Craftsman.

He should have the most Heavenly Divine Artifacts on him.

However, using one Top-Grade Heavenly God Pill to exchange for one Top-Grade Heavenly Divine Artifact, he was clearly at a disadvantage.

Xu Nian wasn't stupid.

"I do have a set of Top-Grade Heavenly Divine Artifact Battle Armor, but your Top-Grade Heavenly God Pill clearly isn't enough," Xu Nian said.

The people around nodded one after another.

The young man's expression brightened at his words, and he immediately said, "If you're willing to trade, sir, I'm willing to add another Yun Shen Pill."

"One isn't enough—add four more," Xu Nian said at once.

As soon as he spoke, the whole place erupted in an uproar.

The young man's face also changed.

He clearly hadn't expected Xu Nian to open his mouth like a lion.

"Can I take a look at your Battle Armor?" the young man asked.

"You can!" Xu Nian waved his hand, and an Earth Attribute Battle Armor appeared before the young man.

The young man was immediately stunned when he saw the armor.

Such a perfectly crafted Top-Grade Heavenly Divine Artifact Battle Armor—its quality was definitely far superior to ordinary Top-Grade Heavenly Divine Artifacts.

Most importantly, he also cultivated the Earth Attribute.

Those around had obviously noticed this as well and were all astonished.

Their belief in Xu Nian's identity as a Divine Craftsman grew even firmer.

"Alright, I'll trade for it. Here are five Yun Shen Pills," the young man said.

Xu Nian immediately waved his hand, passed the Battle Armor over, and took the pills.

Chapter 1965: Mysterious Shield Technique

The God-level expert received the battle armor with a delighted expression.

Such a perfect Top-grade Heavenly God-level battle armor can play a significant life-saving role at critical moments.

It is equivalent to having an extra life.

As for the Yun Shen Pill, although it is also a treasure, to him, the Top-grade Heavenly God Armor is priceless.

Xu Nian looked at the five Yun Shen Pills in his hand, with a faint smile on his face.

With these five Yun Shen Pills, if he splits off a Wind Attribute Avatar later, the damage to his soul can be repaired.

The first round of trading ended, and all felt the value of this trade event.

After all, the treasures in the first round were shocking enough.

As a result, everyone became more expectant of this trade event.

"Next, we proceed to the second round of trading," Guste continued.

"I'll go!" A female deity immediately stood up.

Then, the female deity walked up to the platform with a crimson flower in her hand. This flower was very peculiar, yet it emitted an incredibly powerful energy fluctuation.

"Is this the Mandala Emperor Divine Flower?" someone exclaimed.

Of course, some look bewildered.

Like Xu Nian, he had never seen this flower.

"That's right, this is indeed the Mandala Emperor Divine Flower, which grows in the extremely cold Mandala Cave and blooms once every million years. This flower has a very strong effect of enhancing the physical body, allowing it to reach a very high realm," the female deity explained.

The surrounding crowd was surprised.

Enhancing the physical body?

This is a rare treasure medicine.

"To what extent can the physical body be enhanced? You need to make this clear," someone immediately asked.

Others nodded in agreement.

Upon hearing this, the female deity smiled and said, "The extent to which the physical body can reach actually depends on the strength of the consumer's physical body itself. It is said that someone who consumed this flower can be comparable to a Top-grade Heavenly Divine Artifact."

"Comparable to a Top-grade Heavenly Divine Artifact?" Many people around gasped.

Isn't that saying your skin is equivalent to a Top-grade Heavenly God-level battle armor?

Xu Nian was also a bit surprised.

His true self and Divine Demon Avatar's physical bodies are already very strong, but they are at most at the mid-grade Heavenly Divine Artifact level.

Consuming this flower and reaching Top-grade Heavenly Divine Artifact?

Isn't this enhancement effect too terrifying?

If he consumes it, to what extent would he reach?

"What does this female deity want to trade for?" Someone asked.

"What I want is simple, a God King Level Gold Attribute Technique," said the female deity.

"God King Level?" Many people around frowned.

The God King Level technique is very precious even in the Divine World.

Not to mention it must be of a specific attribute.

Regarding enhancing the physical body, many Divine-level experts believe that divine power and Heavenly Dao power are fundamental; physical body strength is ultimately a small avenue.

For a moment, many shook their heads.

The woman saw this, frowned slightly, a trace of disappointment showing in her eyes.

But this was roughly what she expected.

"Can other items be used for exchange?" Someone suggested.

The woman shook her head, indicating she only wanted God King Level techniques.

The proposer could only give up helplessly.

Just as the woman was about to give up completely, a voice sounded.

"I have a God King Level Gold Attribute Technique, but it's not the original; it's a copy," Xu Nian said.

"A copy will work too," the woman's eyes lit up immediately.

"Here's the technique for you to inspect." She handed over a Cultivation Technique Jade Scroll.

"I trust the character of the Divine Craftsman," the woman said immediately, then handed the red flower directly to Xu Nian.

Xu Nian smiled slightly and bowed slightly to the woman.

After returning the courtesy, the woman walked directly off the platform, and after inspecting the contents of the jade scroll, she was pleasantly surprised.

Xu Nian chuckled; this technique was from the inheritance memory of his Nine Infant Avatar.

Such Gold Attribute techniques are numerous in his inheritance memory, and he didn't need to ask Emperor Ye Tian for them.

After receiving the Duo-Datura Emperor Divine Flower, Xu Nian handed it directly to his true self in the Chaos Divine Palace.

The true self consumed it without hesitation and began absorbing the flower's power.

"Boom!"

After Xu Nian consumed the flower, a vast force like ten thousand stars exploded within Xu Nian.

Xu Nian crazily absorbed this power, and every cell in his body seemed to turn into black holes, frantically devouring this energy.

Although Xu Nian's true self's cultivation is already at Immortal Emperor Perfection, his physical body has reached a terrifying level.

The toughness of his skin has already reached the level of a Top-grade Heavenly Divine Artifact, and the energy absorbed is less than one ten-thousandth.

This terrifying energy greatly surprised Xu Nian.

This trade was definitely worthwhile.

As Xu Nian felt the changes in his true self's physical body, the third trader came on stage.

This time, the trader brought out a Sword Dao secret technique to exchange for a Top-grade Heavenly God Pill.

Of course, Xu Nian didn't have it, so he didn't participate.

The fourth and fifth traders, Xu Nian still didn't participate.

Because they were either secret techniques or some herbs.

But the sixth trade intrigued Xu Nian.

"This item I obtained from a relic, it is a bronze plate about one meter long missing a corner, with densely packed Ancient Divine Texts on it, recording a supreme expert's insights on Earth Attribute Shield Technique," said the Late Stage God expert.

"Shield Technique? To what extent?" someone curiously asked.

"It should have reached Luo God Heavenly Dao Third Level, but an incomplete part in the middle makes it incomplete," said the Late Stage God expert.

"Luo God Heavenly Dao Third Level? Even though it's incomplete, it's still a highly valuable treasure—pity it's just the shield technique application," someone sighed.

If it were swordsmanship, saber technique, spear techniques, its value might multiply tenfold or a hundredfold.

Xu Nian's eyes brightened.

His shield technique currently faces bottlenecks, stuck at Heavenly Dao Sixth Level.

This shield technique secret book comes at the right time.

"What does the gentleman wish to trade for?" someone asked.

"I want to trade for a Daluo God Artifact," the person said.

Upon hearing this, the entire audience was in an uproar.

A Daluo God Artifact, that really is quite an ask.

Xu Nian was surprised but secretly breathed a sigh of relief.

Fortunately, it was a Daluo God Artifact, as he didn't have anything else.

"Fine, I am willing to trade. Here is a Daluo God Artifact dagger I crafted, I presume its value matches your bronze fragments," Xu Nian said directly.

With that, an Ice Attribute dagger appeared before him.

The dagger emitted a terrifying cold energy.

The Late Stage God expert frowned, apparently disappointed by a dagger.

But seeing that no one else presented a better Daluo God Artifact around, he grudgingly agreed.

"Fine, this bronze fragment is yours," the Late Stage God expert said.

Xu Nian handed over the dagger.

Chapter 1966: The Trade Fair Ends

Xu Nian received the bronze board and tossed it to the Divine Demon Avatar within the Chaos Divine Palace.

The Divine Demon Avatar merely glanced at it, and immediately, the blood within him began to boil.

This was unquestionably an extremely profound and powerful shield technique, containing earth attribute heavenly dao rules that even Xu Nian found endless.

If he could comprehend and utilize this shield technique, his power would definitely surge to a terrifying level.

This discovery sent Xu Nian's Divine Demon Avatar into a state of obsession and frenzy.

It was as if he was not holding a bronze board but a stunning, world-shaking beauty, completely unclothed.

Just based on this, the exchange Xu Nian made this time was immensely worthwhile.

However, Xu Nian did not gain much from the subsequent transactions.

He was not disappointed.

Considering such a significant gain from this trading event was already very lucky.

Of course, he still had one more opportunity, which was his own stage to conduct the transaction.

Initially, Xu Nian intended to exchange for Daluo God Artifact refining materials to practice crafting Daluo God Artifacts in the future.

But now he suddenly changed his mind.

"Brother Xu, it's your turn, I wonder what you plan to exchange?" Guste said with a smile to Xu Nian.

Everyone turned their attention towards Xu Nian.

Through the earlier trade event, they had noticed Xu Nian's considerable wealth.

Especially the Heavenly Divine Artifacts, which were numerous, and perhaps he even possessed Daluo God Artifacts.

Xu Nian smiled and walked onto the stage.

The people around were all curious, wondering what kind of item Xu Nian would present for the exchange.

Top-grade Heavenly Divine Artifact?

Or perhaps he might even present another Daluo God Artifact?

This would be excessively shocking, wouldn't it?

After all, Daluo God Artifacts are immensely valuable to many Daluo Gods.

Xu Nian smiled, he did not present any top-grade Divine Artifact, nor did he bring out a Daluo God Artifact.

For if he brought out another Daluo God Artifact, it would easily attract the attention of Daluo God Level Experts.

At that time, if a Daluo God Strong People wanted to kill him for the treasure, it would be a big trouble.

As for top-grade Divine Artifacts, they were ultimately a bit too light in weight.

"This is a beast skin I once acquired, which records a Concealing Breath Technique called 'Divine Breath Technique,' when performed, not even a Daluo God Level Expert can detect you, unless their soul level reaches God King Level." Xu Nian said with a smile.

This Divine Breath Technique was naturally something he obtained in the Netherworld God Temple.

The secrets written on this item had been fully mastered by him, leaving it in his possession was of little use.

Better to take it out and exchange it for some useful treasures.

After all, being able to evade detection from Daluo God Level Experts makes this concealing breath technique an invaluable treasure for experts below God King Level.

Such a secret technique could be life-saving at critical moments.

However, this secret technique has a fatal flaw — it cannot mobilize any of one's power when applied; otherwise, the concealing breath technique will fail.

This inadvertently lowers the value of the concealing breath technique.

Yet, even so, it remains an extremely precious treasure.

Sure enough, upon hearing this, everyone's eyes lit up.

A concealing breath technique this powerful is absolutely crucial for survival.

"I wonder what Brother Xu intends to exchange for? To be honest, I am also quite tempted by this treasure." Guste laughed.

Many present nodded, expressing their eagerness for this treasure.

"I wonder if anyone has artifact refining materials such as Black Nether Gold, if so, I'm willing to trade this item." Xu Nian said.

"Black Nether Gold?"

Upon hearing this, many people were stunned and shook their heads.

They had certainly heard of Black Nether Gold, known as the hardest metal in the Divine World.

It's also the material for crafting God King Level Weapons.

But such treasures, how could they possibly have them?

Thus, the atmosphere turned silent.

After a long pause, Guste finally spoke: "Brother Xu, none of us have artifact refining materials like Black Nether Gold, how about you set another requirement?"

Xu Nian nodded upon hearing this.

He had expected this.

The rarity of Black Nether Gold even in the Divine World made it incredibly scarce.

Such artifact refining materials are extremely precious, so it's only normal that no one present has it.

He was merely hoping to give it a try.

"If there's none, then you might use cultivation enhancement items for the exchange, whoever offers the highest value will receive the Divine Breath Technique." Xu Nian said.

Upon hearing this, many present were eager to give it a try.

There are plenty of treasures that enhance cultivation.

"I am willing to offer one million Low Grade Divine Stones for the exchange," said a God-level Expert.

Xu Nian was slightly stunned.

One million Low Grade Divine Stones was equivalent to one Top-Grade Heavenly God Stone, which, for many God-level Experts, was considered significant wealth.

Yet, Xu Nian merely smiled without speaking.

For he knew that the Divine Breath Technique was worth more than just a single Top-Grade Heavenly God Stone, even thirty could be exchanged for it.

"Offering just one million Low Grade Divine Stones, can you really make a dent? I offer ten million." Someone retorted with a scoff.

Hearing this, the person who offered one million Low Grade Divine Stones blushed fiercely.

Indeed, one million was quite meager.

Ten million was not an insignificant amount.

Still, Xu Nian remained silent.

"I offer ten Top-Grade Heavenly God Pills 'Dragon Transformation Pill,'" someone promptly stated.

Ten Top-Grade Heavenly God Pills?

Upon hearing this, Xu Nian was taken aback.

The ten Top-Grade Heavenly God Pills were valued at the equivalent of twenty Top-Grade Heavenly God Stones.

But this had not yet reached Xu Nian's expectation.

"I offer one Top-grade Heavenly God Pill 'Heaven and Earth Pill,'" someone interjected.

Top-grade Heavenly God Pill?

Many around inhaled sharply.

A single Top-grade Heavenly God Pill was valued at no less than thirty Top-Grade Heavenly God Stones.

This almost matched Xu Nian's expectation.

"I am willing to offer three Top-grade Heavenly God Pill 'Star Pill.'"

At this moment, Guste, who had been silent, suddenly spoke with a smile.

Upon hearing this, everyone took a collective sharp breath.

Three Top-grade Heavenly God Pills?

The value was extremely shocking.

"Alright, I'm willing to exchange." Xu Nian said with a smile.

Three Star Pills, this had already far exceeded his expectations.

The people hearing this were somewhat disappointed.

Following this, Xu Nian completed the transaction with Guste.

Afterwards, Xu Nian stepped down from the platform.

With this, the trade event was nearing its conclusion.

However, Xu Nian made several transactions with a few God-level Experts at the end.

By trading approximately five Heavenly Divine Artifacts, he received a vast amount of God Stones.

This way, Zhao Yanyun's cultivation resources were secured.

After all, the Star Pill's energy was too tremendous for her at present to fully withstand.

Chapter 1967: The Assessment Begins

The transaction concluded quickly.

Xu Nian returned to his residence.

After returning, Xu Nian entered the Chaos Divine Palace.

On the third level of the Chaos Divine Palace, there was a towering peak.

At this moment, Xu Nian's true self was undergoing an unprecedented transformation, with his muscles, bloodline, and bones being washed by an incredibly strong force.

This process had already lasted for more than a year and was still accumulating.

Each wash further strengthened the physical power of Xu Nian's true self.

Currently, the physical strength of Xu Nian's true self had reached the Top-Grade Heavenly Divine Artifact level, and it was far from reaching its limit, progressing towards the Top-Grade Heavenly Divine Artifact Level.

Moreover, Xu Nian's flesh seemed filled with an endless power.

This power was even stronger than the force Xu Nian could summon using the Fifth-level Heavenly Dao Power.

Xu Nian had never felt anything like this before, he couldn't believe that a person's physical power could reach such a terrifying degree.

It seemed that under the scour of this terrifying power, his body repeatedly broke through the shackles of flesh, reaching a dreadful level.

The Nine Infant Avatar of Xu Nian, having the same soul, could closely feel the changes of the true self.

He could feel that after the true self's transformation, its own power would surpass his Nine Infant Avatar and Earth Attribute God Demon Avatar.

Even stronger.

Seeing the true self evolve, the Nine Infant Avatar did not interrupt and with a flicker.

Again, arrived at a vast and boundless plain.

Here, a Xu Nian wearing an earth-yellow robe was standing barefoot on the ground, constantly waving a God King Level shield in hand.

This low-grade God King Level shield erupted terrifying forces in his motions.

Each shock and blow sounded like the earth's roar, capable of shattering everything.

The ability to crush everything in the world.

The surrounding Earth Attribute Heavenly Dao kept trembling, and the terrifying Heavenly Dao Power transformed into dragons continuously winding around the God Demon Avatar.

Surging with Xu Nian's attack.

Originally, the shackles of the Seventh-level Heavenly Dao began loosening at this moment.

This discovery made Xu Nian feel thrilled, growing even more obsessive over the metal fragment suspended not far away.

Currently, the God Demon Avatar was continuously attempting based on the insights from the metal fragment, experiencing the Heavenly Dao flow within the shield technique, never turning it into his own shield technique.

The Nine Infant Avatar smiled in satisfaction.

This time, the transaction had truly yielded massive rewards.

Once the God Demon Avatar and the true self break through, his power will likely soar to a new level.

Subsequently, the Nine Infant Avatar went to Zhao Yanyun's residence.

The latter was also continuously cultivating using the God Stone, trying to break through to the God Level.

Xu Nian did not disturb but took out a Star Pill and swallowed it.

The power of this Star Pill could not be underestimated; it was terrifying, much stronger than the Fierce God Pill he had taken before.

At this moment, Xu Nian's Nine Infant Avatar absorbed the release of energy from the Star Pill that seemed beyond reach.

Consequently, Xu Nian could only immerse his whole being into cultivation.

The time passed unknowingly, and Xu Nian frantically absorbed the terrifying energy.

However, he had merely absorbed one percent of the Star Pill's power.

Just as Xu Nian was about to continue his cultivation, his Communication Sound Talisman rang.

The caller turned out to be Song Ren.

"It has been eighteen days outside? Today is the assessment day?"

Xu Nian was surprised.

He quickly exited the cultivation state and appeared outside.

At the moment, he hadn't broken through to the Middle Stage of God, but his strength had improved significantly compared to before.

The sea of God Power within him was twice as large as before.

"I've absorbed for about fifty years and only absorbed one-thousandth; clearly, the Star Pill requires a lengthy process to be fully absorbed, no wonder it's difficult for those gods to enhance cultivation, even with a Top-grade Heavenly God Pill's help, it takes this long."

Xu Nian mused.

This implies he needs at least five thousand years to fully absorb this Star Pill, requiring at least five years in the outside world.

Nonetheless, this Star Pill can undoubtedly help him break through to the Middle Stage of God.

This means, within five years, Xu Nian can completely disregard cultivation issues, only slowly consuming this pill.

"Xu Nian, you finally came out, I thought you went into seclusion again." Song Ren breathed a sigh of relief upon seeing Xu Nian emerge from his residence.

"Indeed, I was in seclusion but came out halfway upon seeing your message; is the assessment about to start?" Xu Nian asked.

"Indeed, let's go, this assessment is held in the Star Temple, an area only accessible by Daluo God Level experts; we are exceptionally allowed to enter this time." Song Ren explained.

"Oh? Star Temple?" Xu Nian showed a hint of surprise.

Unexpectedly, this assessment was held at a place for Daluo God Level experts.

Before, he heard from Song Ren and others that without permission from Daluo God Level experts, they could never access that area.

Otherwise, they'd face execution.

Now, the assessment is being held on a Daluo God Level territory; this is extremely rare.

"Why is this assessment so special?" Xu Nian questioned.

Usually, the assessment wouldn't be so exceptional.

There's always something odd about unusual circumstances.

"We aren't sure, reportedly the assessment is tied to something significant, seemingly important to Tianyu Mountain." Song Ren couldn't clarify.

Xu Nian pondered upon hearing this.

Even Song Ren didn't know; naturally, he couldn't figure out the exact reason.

Only upon arrival could they uncover the truth.

"Let's go!"

Song Ren suggested.

Xu Nian nodded, then followed Song Ren and Fang Yu towards Tianyu Mountain's interior.

Upon entering Tianyu Mountain's interior, Xu Nian felt powerful Divine Senses scanning over them.

All these senses were without exception Daluo God Level.

But these senses didn't harbor malice, disappearing after a brief inspection.

Clearly, their entry was permitted.

Yet, Xu Nian felt chills down his spine as those Divine Senses swept over.

He was sure the owners of these senses were extremely powerful.

Killing him would be an extremely easy task.

This made Xu Nian extra cautious regarding the upcoming assessment.

Even with a Divine-level Puppet, facing Daluo God Level experts still required caution.

Chapter 1968: A New Battle Format

The Star Temple is located near the central area of Tianyu City, an extremely grand construction.

The size of this building has reached a terrifying extent.

Take the main hall, for instance, standing inside it feels like being beneath a sea of stars.

The hall ceiling reaches a thousand meters high, filled with star-like light spots.

Inside the hall, everything is paved with extremely hard Yellow Dragon Divine Stone, even a Daluo God Artifact cannot easily break it.

The entire hall covers an area of several million square meters, magnificence is an understatement.

Xu Nian entered the hall with Song Ren and others.

At this moment, many God-level experts had already arrived inside the hall.

They were all marveling at the grandeur of this hall.

After all, it doesn't resemble a hall; it looks more like a city?

Xu Nian was also surprised, but his attention was more drawn to the aura exuded by the hall.

He could clearly feel a more distinctive understanding of the Heavenly Dao within this hall.

Cultivating in this hall might be five times faster than outside.

A cultivation speed of five times proves this hall is extraordinary.

"Buzz!"

At this time, several rays of light appeared like phantoms within the hall.

These were people wearing white attire, all with cultivation at the Daluo God Level.

Especially the leading woman, whose sharp eyes and strong killing aura sent chills down one's spine.

"What a terrifying woman, just standing there makes my back feel cold, my whole body tremble. I can feel her strength is about the same as when I met the Fengtian Pavilion Master Baili Xiaoxue," Xu Nian thought.

This is the strongest person he has seen since entering the Divine World.

Unable to help himself, Xu Nian took another look at the woman.

He found her appearance exceedingly cold, her figure captivating, her snow-white skin like white snow, and her sharp eyes emitting a terrifying edge like a blade.

Seemingly sensing Xu Nian's gaze, she immediately looked his way.

Xu Nian was startled, quickly looking away.

Her eyes were cold, indifferent, and she shifted her gaze elsewhere.

"Such a terrifying gaze," Xu Nian sighed in relief internally.

Even though he avoided the gaze quickly, for a moment, their eyes met, and he felt suffocated.

He was sure that someone who exuded such terrifying aura must have taken many lives.

"Looks like everyone is here. If so, this assessment shall begin. However, this time the assessment might differ from usual, let me briefly explain,"

At that moment, an elder looked at the woman, and upon her nodding, he stepped forward to speak.

His words caused a stir among everyone present.

Different from usual?

Have the rules of this assessment not always remained unchanged?

Why suddenly change the rules this time?

Xu Nian also found it surprising.

The previous rules he knew involved drawing lots for elimination matches between factions.

Two factions would duel, each sending out one person at a time; the winner stays, the loser sends out another until three from one side all lose, resulting in a loss, with the winning faction advancing to the next round.

Xu Nian initially thought it would be the same this year, didn't expect the rules to change.

But these are not decisions for Xu Nian to make, he can only accept the situation.

"This time, the assessment changes to a three-on-three battle, but not in the real world, rather in the Daluo God Artifact Sealing Heaven Map. You all know it is a space artifact; if killed inside it, you'll automatically transfer outside, thus this battle will be a life and death duel," the elder said.

His words surprised everyone.

No wonder they said the battle format would change, it's to let them fight inside the Sealing Heaven Map.

Moreover, the battle lineup changed to three-on-three.

Xu Nian also found it surprising, didn't expect such a space divine artifact.

However, this way, it allows fighters to experience life and death battles without ultimately losing their lives.

As for the three-on-three team battle format, Xu Nian wasn't too surprised.

After the elder mentioned the format change, he had already guessed it.

"Besides this format change, the reward will also change. The faction ranking first gets, in addition to past rewards, an extra opportunity to cultivate in the Wentian Tower of Tianyu Divine Mountain," the elder continued.

"Wentian Tower?" Those experts were shocked at this, all eyes becoming fervently excited.

Originally thinking gaining the Sky-reaching Record's insight cultivation was already insane enough.

Unexpectedly, this time the first place even includes entry to Wentian Tower to cultivate.

How could this not excite them?

"Brother Song, what's this Wentian Tower?" Xu Nian asked puzzled.

"The Wentian Tower is an Ancient Ruin discovered in the Tianyu Divine Mountain, recording insights from numerous ancient super experts, including God Kings and even Divine Sovereign levels. Entering to

cultivate, even core disciples from Tianyu Mountain rarely get a chance, yet this time the first place gets such a reward," Song Ren explained with emotion.

The Wentian Tower, for God-level experts, is an enormous fortune.

Xu Nian immediately understood.

This Wentian Tower is a huge Treasure Pavilion of insight cultivation, allowing entry to gain the cultivation experiences of many experts.

Not to say others, even for himself, it would be immensely helpful.

After all, if he could comprehend the insights of numerous experts, it would be greatly beneficial for his own insight cultivation.

But obtaining first place is definitely not easy.

Given the people present, Xu Nian sensed several formidable opponents.

Not to mention others, even Lu Qiuyue is a strong foe.

According to Xu Nian's estimation, Lu Qiuyue's comprehension should also have reached the seventh level by now.

"Everyone heard clearly, right? If so, let's draw lots. Factions drawing the same number will start battling, with matches beginning in order of numbers," the elder said.

With a wave of his hand, thirty-six tokens appeared over the hall.

Experts from surrounding factions grabbed tokens fervently.

Song Ren didn't hesitate, choosing a token directly.

It read number nine!

Chapter 1969: Factions

Song Ren drew number nine, which means they would come out ninth.

There were eighteen groups in total, and Xu Nian was scheduled to appear in the middle segment.

But that's fine, it's a great opportunity to observe the level of these forces.

"Let's begin the first round, the force drawing number one, step forward." The elder said.

As soon as he spoke, six people stepped forward.

"It's the Black Dragon Nest and the Tianlun River forces." Song Ren said in surprise.

"Brother Song, is there something special about these two forces?" Xu Nian asked curiously.

"The gap between these two forces is truly vast. Black Dragon Nest ranked ninth in the last assessment, while Tianlun River could only rank thirty-fourth." Song Ren explained.

Xu Nian nodded.

He actually noticed it too.

The Black Dragon Nest force consisted of two God Peak Experts and one Late Stage God.

As for the Tianlun River force, there was one Mid-level God, and two Early Stage of God.

The power gap was huge, and the outcome was never in doubt.

"Alright, now don't resist. I'll send you into the Sealing Heaven Map. Once inside, the battle begins and continues until all three members on one side are killed." The elder said.

He then waved his hand, placing all six into a golden scroll.

Xu Nian and the others could clearly see the six people in the scroll world.

The scroll world was simple, a desert with nothing to hide behind.

Soon, the six began to fight fiercely.

However, the outcome was exactly as Xu Nian and the others expected; the Tianlun River force was no match for the Black Dragon Nest force.

The Black Dragon Nest was overwhelming, with just the Late Stage of God able to slaughter all three, while the other two didn't even have to act.

The three from Tianlun River appeared outside, shaking their heads secretly.

They encountered a strong opponent right away, without even a chance to advance.

Meanwhile, the three from Black Dragon Nest wore expressions of arrogance, their eyes full of pride.

The second match was between Tie Lianshan and Wind Demon Cave.

These two forces had comparable strength; each had one God Peak Expert, one Late Stage God, and one Mid-level God.

The battle between the two forces lasted a long time, ultimately with Wind Demon Cave defeating Tie Lianshan.

The next three matches were also disparities in strength, with the battles resolved relatively effortlessly.

Initially, Xu Nian wanted to observe their strengths, but found these early matches revealed nothing at all.

Unless there were battles between evenly matched forces, those experts hardly had the chance to act.

The sixth match was between Ice Snow Mountain and Fiery Fire Cliff.

In the last assessment, Fiery Fire Cliff ranked twelfth.

At that time, Ice Snow Mountain was only ranked twenty-sixth.

So this match was also seen as no contest to outsiders.

However, Xu Nian disagreed.

Especially upon seeing both sides' lineup, he realized their differences were minimal.

Both had a God Peak Expert and one Late Stage God; the only difference was Fiery Fire Cliff had a Mid-level God, while Ice Snow Mountain had one Early Stage of God.

But in Xu Nian's view, that wasn't a gap at all.

Indeed, as the battle began, the young Early Stage of God from Ice Snow Mountain was the first to be eliminated.

However, the divine crocodile-headed beast from Ice Snow Mountain was quite powerful, holding its ground against a peer and a Mid-level God expert.

And Lu Qiuyue showcased astounding strength.

Using wind attribute swordsmanship at the Seventh-level Heavenly Dao, she left the opposing God Peak Expert defenseless.

In just three moves, she dispatched her opponent.

Then Lu Qiuyue struck again, slaying the other two with a single sword, instantly clinching the victory.

This battle left everyone astonished.

The level of swordsmanship demonstrated by Lu Qiuyue had many God Strongmen quietly noting her.

No one expected Ice Snow Mountain to turn the tables.

Xu Nian wasn't surprised by this outcome.

Lu Qiuyue's strength was truly formidable.

In such team battles, what truly counts is the top-level strength.

So far, Xu Nian hadn't yet seen a battle overturned through cooperation.

Next was the seventh match between Wuwan Mountain and Feitian Valley.

Initially, these two forces were evenly matched, but Wuwan Mountain only had one God Peak Expert.

The rest were Peak Divine-level.

The opposing side also had one God Peak Expert and two Mid-level God experts.

Wuwan Mountain's two Peak Divine-level experts were swiftly slaughtered, despite the elder reaching the Sixth-level Heavenly Dao, one level higher than Feitian Valley.

In the end, the elder from Wuwan Mountain lost against the combined attack of three.

This left the elder from Wuwan Mountain furious, but with nowhere to vent.

Song Ren and Fang Yu saw this scene, chuckling lightly, finding it amusing.

Xu Nian also chuckled lightly.

However, deep down, he was planning how to find the right opportunity to get rid of this elder.

Even though he didn't fear the elder's revenge, if he ever left the Black Mountain Ridge, this elder surely wouldn't let the Black Mountain Territory go.

Though Xu Nian felt no attachment to Black Mountain Territory, he was unwilling to watch it come to an end.

The eighth match involved two forces unknown to Xu Nian.

Both forces fought fiercely against each other.

Ultimately, a force named Qingyuan Sect had a God Peak Expert named Shou Yuan displaying exceptional combat strength.

Singlehandedly, Shou Yuan slaughtered all three opponents.

According to Xu Nian's estimation, this God Peak Expert named Shou Yuan had likely comprehended the Eighth-level Heavenly Dao.

Such fearsome combat strength immediately attracted much attention.

Even Xu Nian was shocked.

He even noticed the white-clad woman on the main seat lifting an eyebrow slightly.

This was worth noting since her expression hadn't shifted during previous battles.

If it came to fighting, Xu Nian wasn't sure he could win against her.

"Qingyuan Sect wins the eighth match, the ninth match entrants step forward." The elder announced.

As the elder's words fell, Xu Nian walked out with Song Ren and the others.

In the crowd, three God-level experts also stepped forward.

"Is it them?" Song Ren and Fang Yu noticed the other three, revealing a look of surprise.

"Who are they?" Xu Nian also scrutinized the opponents.

The opposing side wasn't weak, with one God Peak Expert and two Mid-level God experts.

While on their side, the highest was only at Mid-level God.

"They are from Black Evil Mountain, last time ranking fifteenth." Song Ren said, frowning.

Evidently not expecting the opponents to be so strong.

Xu Nian's face showed no expression.

Though the three were indeed strong, they hadn't made Xu Nian feel threatened.

At the moment, seeing Xu Nian's trio, the faces of the opposing three also showed mocking expressions.

Clearly thinking Xu Nian's side was too weak.

As for Xu Nian, he was completely ignored.

Chapter 1970: Battle Against the God Peak

"A Middle Stage God leading two Early Stage Gods? With such strength, they're definitely going to be at the bottom." A mocking voice rose from the crowd.

All around, people chuckled lightly.

They didn't even have a Late Stage God, so the gap with most of the other forces present was huge.

"The Black Mountain Territory ranked twenty-seventh last time, and who would have thought that after ten thousand years, they've still made no progress? Now, they're likely to remain firmly in the bottom three." Someone joined in the mocking.

The crowd all showed extreme disdain.

However, some did take notice of Xu Nian.

Xu Nian's status as a Great God Craftsman made people somewhat cautious, so no one said anything more insulting.

Yet artifact refining is one thing, strength is another; no matter how good you are with artifacts, it doesn't mean your strength is strong.

Apparently, in their eyes, Xu Nian was just a low-level God focused on artifact refining, not skilled in combat, and only at the Early Level of God.

Song Ren and Fang Yu were furious upon hearing these words.

But they knew it was true; with their strength, the Black Mountain Territory was bound to be at the bottom.

"Brother Xu Nian, don't worry. Even if we lose this round, it doesn't matter. We can still win in the ranking contest later as long as we're not in the bottom ten." Song Ren transmitted to Xu Nian.

Xu Nian smiled but said nothing.

The bottom ten?

That's not his aim; his goal was the top ten, even aiming for the first place.

At this point, it seemed Song Ren and the others wouldn't be reliable; the upcoming battle would have to rely on himself.

"The six of you, get ready to enter the Sealing Heaven Map," the old man said.

Immediately after, a surge of power enveloped Xu Nian and the five others.

Soon after, Xu Nian and the others vanished from the grand hall.

In no time, Xu Nian found himself in a new space.

It was a desert, with the Heavenly Order similar to that of the outside world.

"Similar to Chaos Divine Palace's Space Divine Artifact? But the grade is far inferior to Chaos Divine Palace, which can even influence time," Xu Nian mused to himself.

Feeling the space inside the Sealing Heaven Map, he noticed it was very stable, no less than the Divine World.

"You should just admit defeat and save us the trouble," a Middle Stage God from Black Evil Mountain looked at the three from Black Mountain Territory with disdain.

The other two were even more arrogant, their eyes full of contempt.

"Fight if you must, we from Black Mountain Territory will never surrender," Song Ren snorted coldly.

Surrendering would be far more disgraceful than losing a fight.

If they truly surrendered, the Black Mountain Territory would never be able to lift their heads again.

"Humph, since you don't know what's good for you, we'll oblige you." The Middle Stage God snorted coldly.

Following his words, two Middle Stage Gods charged at Xu Nian and the others.

Meanwhile, the God Peak expert didn't move, seemingly not intending to act.

Song Ren and Fang Yu simultaneously rushed forward, each confronting one, and began battling the two Middle Stage Gods.

Xu Nian also stood still, not making a move.

Soon, the battle raged on, Song Ren's side fairly evenly matched.

But Fang Yu's side was miserable due to the difference in level.

Outmatched from the beginning, and with little difference in Heavenly Dao insight, Fang Yu was soon slashed down by his opponent's Middle Stage God.

"Worthless, now it's your turn." The black-haired Middle Stage God sneered.

He looked at Xu Nian as if looking at an ant.

Xu Nian turned to the black-haired God, with no emotion on his face.

"Humph, still putting on airs, looking for death!" The black-haired God charged at Xu Nian.

The mid-grade Heavenly God Battle Blade in his hand swung down, carrying Gold Attribute's Second-level Heavenly Dao fluctuation.

Yet, this formidable Sword Light appeared weak in Xu Nian's eyes.

Without even glancing at it, Xu Nian swung his hand, and a burst of Sword Radiance exploded instantly.

It directly shattered the black-haired God's Sword Light.

Before the charging black-haired God reached Xu Nian, he flew backwards even faster.

Finally, his form shattered completely in mid-air.

"Huh?"

The white-clothed lady sitting at the main seat suddenly expressed surprise, showing a look of astonishment.

It was the first time she showed such an expression.

Even when Lu Qiuyue revealed her strength earlier, she merely raised an eyebrow.

"Investigate this young man; check his background and deeds," the lady said coldly.

Her sharp eyes stared intently at Xu Nian on the Sealing Heaven Map.

At this moment, the powerful representatives from various forces also showed signs of surprise.

"This young one's Heavenly Dao insight is quite high, at least above Fifth-level Heavenly Dao," someone said.

"Hmm, looks like Sixth-level Heavenly Dao," someone assessed.

"Early Stage of God, Sixth-level Heavenly Dao, how did this person cultivate? Isn't he also a Daluo God Craftsman?" Those who attended the trade fair questioned in amazement.

"Daluo God Craftsman? Interesting." The lady at the main seat heard the discussions, displaying a slight look of surprise.

Clearly, she hadn't expected the young man to have such an identity.

Lu Qiuyue, standing among the crowd, also showed a look of astonishment.

Though she'd suspected Xu Nian's strength was extraordinary, she hadn't imagined it was this powerful.

Sixth-level Heavenly Dao?

Only one level difference from her.

Xu Nian was unaware of the commotion he caused, currently facing off against the God Peak expert.

The God Peak expert had clearly observed Xu Nian's previous move.

The expert distinctly felt the power from Xu Nian's Hand Sword move.

"I hadn't realized you were the strongest among the three. Almost missed it; Sixth-level Heavenly Dao, you are indeed powerful." The God Peak expert said, eyes intense, with a hint of surprise and severity.

He himself was just at Fifth-level Heavenly Dao, originally deeming Black Mountain Territory no threat.

Never thought there'd be such a hidden dark horse.

Song Ren seeing this was also pleasantly surprised.

Finally, he clashed with the opposing Middle Stage God, resulting in mutual destruction.

Now, only Xu Nian and the God Peak expert were left in the Sealing Heaven Map.

"No one else remains; shall we have a full-powered duel?" The God Peak expert suggested.

"Sure," Xu Nian smiled slightly, a God Sword appearing in his hand.

This God Sword was the very God Sword infused with Shi Shanshan's Artifact Spirit.

But Xu Nian had entirely reforged it, reaching Top-grade Peak God Level.

If not for material constraints, its quality could definitely reach Daluo God Artifact Level.

"Very well, let me see how strong an Early Level God with Sixth-level Heavenly Dao is," the God Peak expert smirked lightly.

A battle saber and shield appeared in his hand.

Sword and Shield Technique?

Earth Attribute Heavenly Dao?

Xu Nian's eyes showed a hint of surprise, then he smiled helplessly.