

Divine King 261

Chapter 261 East Field County in Trouble

Over the next three days,

Xu Nian was primarily focused on absorbing the dissipating power within his body.

This power belonged to Qi Baiyu, and it would gradually diminish over time.

Xu Nian couldn't let such formidable power dissipate in vain, so he immediately activated the "Dan Sea Species Green Lotus" and "Divine Demon Refining Body Technique".

"Whoosh!"

Xu Nian exhaled a breath of turbid air, his face revealing a joyful expression.

"As expected of a Half-Emperor Senior, just one ten-thousandth of this dissipating energy has elevated both my Spirit Cultivation and Body Cultivation to the Four-star General Level." Xu Nian joyfully murmured to himself.

He absorbed for three full days, yet he had only absorbed one ten-thousandth of the dissipating energy.

Even so, this power had still increased his Spirit Body Cultivation by three stars.

If the energy dissipated slower, Xu Nian thought he could have absorbed even more.

During these three days, Xu Nian also learned from Black Hou.

That ancestor Qi Baiyu's strength had actually surpassed the Peak of Holy Level, reaching the Half-Emperor level.

That's why Xu Nian was able to suppress Black Hou with this power.

As for Black Hou, after that battle, he had a realization and returned to the Black Flame Lake to seclude himself for cultivation.

Now that Black Hou had reached the Saint Peak, if he truly made a breakthrough,

Xu Nian would have another Emperor Level spiritual pet.

An Emperor Level spiritual pet!

Even the Imperial Family might not necessarily possess one.

Of course, all of this would have to wait until Black Hou's breakthrough.

"It's time to go back, but before that, I need to solve this Heavenly Gang Pearl issue," Xu Nian murmured to himself.

He spread his palm, and the Heavenly Gang Pearl appeared in his hand.

Since that day, the Artifact Refining Sect Master had handed over the Heavenly Gang Pearl to him.

This Heavenly Gang Pearl was quite peculiar; although the previous Sect Master had possessed it, he had never been able to officially claim it through a blood pact.

It seemed that activating it required some specific conditions.

"I wonder if my blood will work," Xu Nian pondered.

He then bit his finger, dripping his blood onto the Heavenly Gang Pearl.

The moment the blood touched the Heavenly Gang Pearl, it was absorbed by it.

Then Xu Nian discovered that he had formed a slight connection with the Heavenly Gang Pearl.

"Buzz!"

Xu Nian found that after forming a connection with the Heavenly Gang Pearl,

the power of his Spiritual Sense increased tenfold when channeled through the pearl.

With a thought, the power of his Spiritual Sense rapidly expanded.

Starting from the grand hall where Xu Nian resided, it extended outward.

One hundred meters, one thousand meters, three thousand meters...

It stretched out for a full five thousand meters.

Within this range of five thousand meters, Xu Nian could easily be aware of everything.

"Ha ha, this is great, with this Heavenly Gang Pearl, Sister Yanyun can be saved,"

Xu Nian said delightedly.

Then Xu Nian prepared to retract his Spiritual Sense.

However, at that moment, his eyes widened in shock.

For he discovered that at this moment, Yann Xi and Yann Hong were in Yann Xi's room, bathing together.

The perfect figures of both women were fully displayed in Xu Nian's mind.

"Pfft!"

Xu Nian almost choked, hastily retracting his Spiritual Sense, not daring to look further.

Yet, the images of their perfect bodies still floated in his mind.

"Haha, congratulations to the Sect Master for mastering the Heavenly Gang Pearl."

At the same time, a hearty laugh came from outside the hall.

Former Sect Master Liu Mubai walked in from outside.

"Senior!" Xu Nian stood up and respectfully spoke.

He knew it must have been the Spiritual Sense Power he had just released that alarmed him.

"Haha, you don't need to call me senior, although I am the former sect master, I have already stepped down, how about we consider each other as equals?" Liu Mubai laughed heartily.

"Brother Liu!" Xu Nian did not put on airs and directly addressed him.

Liu Mubai laughed heartily again.

"It seems you are planning to leave? To go rescue that girl?" Liu Mubai looked at Xu Nian and asked.

"Yes, it's been almost two months, I can't delay any longer," Xu Nian nodded and said.

He could stay longer, but Zhao Yanyun couldn't wait.

He must return as soon as possible.

Liu Mubai nodded, then his expression suddenly became serious, "You really should go back, something has happened in East Field County."

"What happened? What kind of incident?" Xu Nian was startled and asked anxiously.

"I'm not exactly sure myself, but it is said that there has been an outbreak of chaos in the Demon Beast Forest, starting to attack human cities. Right now, I don't know the specifics," Liu Mubai explained.

Xu Nian's brow furrowed slightly.

Chaos?

This was indeed a disaster for humans.

The so-called chaos referred to unrest among the demon beasts.

Powerful demon beasts would emerge from the Demon Beast Forest and begin attacking human cities.

Even more serious situations could lead to a beast tide.

Once a beast tide occurred, a city could be slaughtered clean in an instant.

Tens of thousands of civilians would die under the sharp teeth and claws of the demon beasts.

Although Xu Nian was not a person filled with overwhelming compassion, he certainly did not want to see East Field County suffer such a disaster.

"What exactly caused the chaos?" Xu Nian asked, puzzled.

Demon beasts are intelligent; they wouldn't cause unrest without a reason.

Because they knew if unrest occurred, the imperial forces would take coercive actions, and ultimately, they would be the losers.

"It's said to be over a Demon Emperor's tomb, but the specifics still require verification," Liu Mubai said.

Xu Nian's frown deepened.

"Do you have any connection with Longyu Mountain Xu Family?" Liu Mubai asked again.

"Eh? Could it be..." Xu Nian was taken aback again.

"You guessed right, the Four Great Families and the Imperial Family have already mobilized, heading to East Field County. However, for now, no seniors have taken action; it's just some of the younger members. I see you have some connections with the Four Great Families, so I wanted to give you a heads-up," Liu Mubai explained with a smile.

He had investigated Xu Nian's background and certainly would not overlook the details of his life.

Xu Nian nodded in gratitude.

Yet his heart was full of emotion.

He didn't expect that in just over a month since he left, so many things had happened in East Field County.

The Four Great Families, the Imperial Family, all their attention was now on East Field County.

This was not good news for East Field County or for him.

Possibly, behind the scenes, more powers were secretly moving into East Field County.

The Demon Emperor's tomb that caused such a big commotion must be extraordinarily significant.

"I will also go to East Field County, but I will not show myself easily. This is my Communication Spirit Talisman, if you need to, you can contact me," Liu Mubai said.

Xu Nian received the Communication Spirit Talisman and nodded.

If Liu Mubai went to East Field County, that would be somewhat reassuring.

At least the power of the Artifact Refining Sect couldn't be brought to East Field County, and Black Hou was in retreat, so he could only rely on himself.

"Alright, I will take my leave first, see you in East Field County, haha." Liu Mubai laughed loudly, and then he ascended into the sky.

Xu Nian watched Liu Mubai's departing figure, then hurried to inform the Great Elder and prepare to set off back to East Field County.

Chapter 262: Holy Shit, It's You?

Xu Nian left the Artifact Refining Sect shortly after bidding farewell to the Great Elder and others.

Although he was now the Sect Master, virtually all of the sect's affairs were handled by the Great Elder, rendering Xu Nian's title somewhat nominal.

The Great Elder did not want Xu Nian to leave but was powerless to stop him.

Xu Nian did not say goodbye to the Yann sisters.

For one, it was somewhat awkward.

Secondly, he did not know what to say.

Given that, it was better not to say goodbye at all.

However, what surprised Xu Nian was that Bai Feng actually wanted to accompany him to East Field County.

After thinking it over, Xu Nian agreed.

After all, Bai Feng was a Marquis-Level powerhouse.

Having him along would be greatly beneficial.

Thus, Xu Nian set off towards East Field County with Bai Feng.

With the flying speeds of Little Xu Yu and Bai Feng, it only took three days to travel from the Artifact Refining Sect to East Field County.

Xu Nian and his company galloped all the way, reaching the border between East Field County and West Shu County in just two days.

"We just need to cross the mountain ahead to enter East Field County territory, let's stop and rest for a bit," Bai Feng said.

Xu Nian nodded.

They would need only half a day more to reach the county town, so there was no rush.

Besides, they had been flying for a whole day, and it was time to give Little Xu Yu a rest.

So, Xu Nian stored Little Xu Yu in the Demon Beast Ring and landed on the ground with Bai Feng.

At the foot of the mountain, there was a small town.

Being at the junction of two counties, the town was fairly populous.

Most were merchants traveling between the two counties.

Of course, there were also some Loose Cultivators traveling around the world.

One could say that the town was quite a mixed bag.

Xu Nian and the others didn't bother with that and went straight to sit down in a small tavern at the entrance of the town, ordering some wine and dishes.

However, soon Xu Nian and his companions were drawn to a conversation between two burly men at the next table.

"Hey, did you hear about the big trouble in East Field County?" a bearded burly man asked, after taking a sip of wine.

"Of course, I've heard. It's just the beasts causing trouble, right? Relax, the Prefectural Governor has already sent troops to suppress them. It'll be resolved soon, and even if there is a fight, we are too far from the Demon Beast Forest for it to reach us here," another long-faced burly man quickly replied.

"What you're referring to is old news. I'm talking about something recent, very recent. Just the day before yesterday, people from the Imperial Capital went to the Chen Family, killing several members. It's said that Chen Tiansheng and his children ultimately fled the county town in a panic, and now their whereabouts are unknown!" the bearded burly man said softly.

Hearing this, Xu Nian instantly furrowed his brows.

The Chen Family in trouble?

Did people from the Imperial Capital do this?

The Fang Family?

The first thing Xu Nian thought of was the Fang Family, as among the Four Great Families,

The Chen Family had only offended the Fang Family.

"Didn't the Chen Family produce a Saint? How could they be wiped out?" The long-faced burly man seemed shocked, pursuing the question with curiosity.

Xu Nian was also curious about this.

With the patriarch of the Chen Family there, they shouldn't have had too much trouble.

"The Saint of the Chen Family has died. This time the Imperial Capital sent quite a few strong figures. It is said that the Chen Family offended a super clan in the Imperial Capital, and this time they specifically came for revenge. The Saint burned his own essence blood in a battle to protect Chen Tiansheng and

others, eventually perishing above the county town," said the bearded burly man, his tone tinged with regret.

The long-faced burly man also sighed, his eyes showing astonishment.

Even a Saint, in the end, could not escape death.

Xu Nian was also shocked.

A surge of intense anger welled up in his eyes.

Chen Xuanlong died?

He had once helped Chen Xuanlong leave his ancestral land and regain his physical body.

Now, just in two months, Chen Xuanlong had perished.

The Fang Family!

"It must be the Fang Family!"

Xu Nian asserted in his heart, thinking of the formidable person who made Chen Xuanlong expend his essence blood for resistance.

Only the Fang Family from the Imperial Capital could produce such a strong individual.

Initially, it was he who had killed Fang Chen.

The Fang Family should have sought revenge on him alone.

There was simply no need to target the Chen Family, yet the Fang Family did exactly that.

A wave of killing intent surged within Xu Nian's heart.

The major families of the Imperial Capital truly were domineering.

But Chen Wudi and the others hadn't died yet.

Otherwise, Xu Nian would have gone to the Fang Family in the Imperial Capital even if it meant killing his way there, just to seek justice for them.

Bai Feng, sensing Xu Nian's killing intent, seemed to understand something.

But he said nothing, merely silently sipping his liquor.

Long before, when Xu Nian had conquered the third level of the Sky-reaching Tower.

He had already sworn to follow Xu Nian for life, having made up his mind before coming here.

No matter what dangers Xu Nian faced or what he intended to do, he would stand with him through thick and thin.

"Waiter, bring this great lord a jar of your finest white liquor and five pounds of blood-soaked beef."

Just then, a shout came from outside the tavern.

Following that, three figures walked in from outside.

Xu Nian's gaze sharpened instantly upon seeing these three.

He recognized them.

All were members of the Battle Mansion Sky Dragon Team.

One of them, Xu Nian had encountered face-to-face before.

The man seemed to be named Li Jian.

Once, he had scared him into kneeling on the street, loudly begging for mercy, calling him "Grandfather Xu Nian."

However, at that time, Xu Nian had used the Disguise Technique, so this Li Jian did not recognize him.

The other two had not seen Xu Nian before and naturally did not recognize him either.

The three seated themselves near the entrance, seemingly discussing something.

"Brother Yu, do you think Xu Nian will believe our message when we go to the Artifact Refining Sect to deliver it?" Li Jian asked.

"Why wouldn't he believe it? He has a deep bond with Chen Wudi and hearing news about Chen Wudi and Chen Yao, he surely won't ignore it," Yu Tian said with disdain.

Li Jian nodded.

Their mission this time was to go to the Artifact Refining Sect and deceive Xu Nian into coming out.

Then they would kill him and hand his head over to the Fang Family.

That way, they could earn a large bounty.

"Hmph, this Xu Nian really is courting death, daring to kill members of the Fang family and the Chen family refusing to divulge Xu Nian's whereabouts; isn't he just asking for the same fate of being slaughtered by a Saint, and a Prefectural Governor reduced to a stray dog?" another member of the Sky Dragon Team said contemptuously.

"Yes, the Fang Family is too powerful. Opposing the Fang Family is simply seeking death. As long as we can kill Xu Nian this time, we'll rise to great heights and gain the attention of the Fang Family," Yu Tian said, his eyes gleaming with anticipation.

Li Jian's eyes also shone with hope, as though he already saw a bright future awaiting him.

If they killed Xu Nian, their Sky Dragon Team would rise meteorically.

"It really is the Fang Family," a strong chill flashed through Xu Nian's eyes.

He also hadn't expected the Sky Dragon Team to stoop so low.

To curry favor with the Fang Family, they plotted every possible means to come to the Artifact Refining Sect to kill him.

Little did they dream that they would encounter Xu Nian on his return journey.

A glint of murderous intent flashed in Xu Nian's eyes.

Then with a shake, he transformed into the rugged man he had disguised himself as before and walked toward Li Jian and the others.

Xu Nian heavily patted Li Jian on the head and laughed, "What a coincidence to meet you here."

"Who is it!"

Li Jian, furious, immediately turned around.

Upon seeing Xu Nian's face, he was so frightened that he jumped up from his chair.

"Holy shit, it's you?"

Chapter 263 Look Who I Am

Li Jian truly felt as if he had seen a ghost, and he never expected to encounter this bane of his existence here.

Just thinking about how miserably he had been treated by the man sent shivers down his spine.

"Li Jian, who is he?" Zhao Xing asked.

He is the second-in-command of the Heavenly Dragon Team, and a Two-star Battle General.

Meanwhile, Yu Tian is the leader of the Heavenly Dragon Team and a Three-star Body General.

At the moment, Yu Tian also looked puzzledly at Li Jian as they were all curious about Xu Nian's identity.

"Brother Zhao, Brother Yu, he is the one I told you about before, the strongest bully from my village," Li Jian hurriedly said.

He stepped back several paces in fright.

He was truly terrified of Xu Nian, who had left an indelible impression on him last time.

Upon hearing this, Yu Tian and Zhao Xing's gaze towards Xu Nian instantly turned extremely unfriendly.

"Haha, you still remember me, what a rarity," Xu Nian laughed heartily.

"What do you want to do? Hmph, I'm telling you, this time my brothers are here, and they are all masters at the Battle General Level. If you dare do anything to me, they will not let you go."

Li Jian, realizing that his elder sect brothers were around, raised his voice a notch.

However, he had not yet thought about seeking revenge.

After all, the fear Xu Nian instilled in him was too great.

"Hmph, Li Jian, is he the one from the Battle Sect who broke your leg? You really are worthless, getting scared like this by someone from the Battle Sect. Today, your brother will kill him for you so he learns the consequences of offending our Heavenly Dragon Team," Zhao Xing snorted disdainfully, his gaze towards Xu Nian turning hostile.

"Brother, although he is from the Battle Sect, his strength is comparable to a One-star Battle General, you need to be careful," Li Jian warned.

"Even if he has the strength of a One-star Battle General, he's just an ant in front of me," Zhao Xing said contemptuously.

Hearing this, Li Jian's eyes gleamed.

He was scared senseless. His own brother was a Two-star Battle General.

This guy, even if he had the strength of a One-star Battle General, couldn't possibly be a match for his elder brother.

Looking towards Xu Nian, his eyes were filled with killing intent.

Xu Nian merely smiled upon hearing these words.

These three were already on his death list.

However, before that, he needed to extract more useful information from them.

"Wanting to avenge him? You probably aren't qualified for that. Didn't he tell you that I am the strongest in our village?" Xu Nian scoffed, looking at Zhao Xing with disdain.

"Seeking death!"

Zhao Xing was instantly enraged and swung his fist towards Xu Nian.

The might of a Two-star Battle General burst forth instantly, the powerful aura sweeping through the pub.

The patron around quickly scrambled aside, fearing to be affected.

Xu Nian, watching Zhao Xing's incoming fist, revealed a look of intense mockery.

"Too slow, too weak!"

With a light chuckle, Xu Nian also threw a punch.

His punch shot out like a dragon emerging from its cave, extremely fast.

"Boom!"

Zhao Xing's chest was struck, and his body instantly flew backward.

He crashed through the wall of the pub, flying dozens of meters before coming to a stop.

Blood spilled from his mouth.

He looked towards Xu Nian in astonishment.

Where was this the strength of a One-star Battle General?

This was clearly the strength of a Three-star Battle General!

Yu Tian also looked at Zhao Xing who had been thrown backward in shock, turning his gaze to Xu Nian with increased wariness.

Li Jian was frightened, his eyes once again filled with fear as he looked toward Xu Nian.

The surrounding patrons also showed fearful expressions.

A Two-star War General Level master was just sent flying with a single punch.

The only calm one present was Bai Feng.

He continued drinking, enjoying the spectacle created by Xu Nian.

Xu Nian took steps forward, walking towards Zhao Xing who lay on the ground.

Zhao Xing looked at Xu Nian approaching, and his face immediately showed panic and fear.

"You have gone too far!"

Just then, Yu Tian's voice suddenly rang out.

"Too far? Where have I gone too far?" Xu Nian turned his head and asked with a cold laugh.

Yu Tian came forward slowly and looked at Xu Nian, speaking in a cold voice, "I know your real strength is that of a Three-star Body Sect, my junior brother was indeed disrespectful to you, but you've already injured him. Why be so aggressive?"

"Me, aggressive?" Xu Nian began to laugh.

Just now, Zhao Xing clearly wanted to kill him, and now that Xu Nian was defending himself, they were calling him aggressive.

"If I am being aggressive, so what? If you have the ability, then kill me!" Xu Nian said with a cold laugh.

Yu Tian was clearly a hypocrite.

Even though he wanted to fight, he still pretended to take the moral high ground.

Upon hearing Xu Nian's words, a killing intent flashed through Yu Tian's eyes.

"Since you're being unreasonable, don't blame me for being rude."

Yu Tian shouted, and a peak Three-star Body Sect aura immediately emanated from him.

Then he charged at Xu Nian like a bolt of lightning.

"Die, Heavenly Gang Fist!"

Yu Tian shouted as he employed a Heaven Rank Gang Skill.

He knew that the burly man in front of him was not weak and needed to be taken down with a single move.

So he struck with all his might right from the start.

Xu Nian watched Yu Tian charging toward him and a scornful smile appeared on his lips.

"Too weak."

Xu Nian moved. In an instant, he appeared in front of Yu Tian.

"What?"

Yu Tian's pupils dilated, and he was immediately shocked.

However, before he could react,

Xu Nian's fist had already slammed into his abdomen.

Then he felt a terrifying force emanating from his stomach.

A severe pain instantly attacked his brain, blanking out his senses.

In that moment, Yu Tian's eyes bulged as if they were about to split, and his whole body flew backward like a thrown stone, crashing dozens of meters away.

Blood spurted wildly, and his expression was one of utter shock.

"Who... who exactly are you?"

This time, Yu Tian realized that the young man in front of him was far beyond his own level.

This guy must have the strength of at least a Six-star War General or above.

Li Jian was also stunned, his expression slack.

Both of his senior brothers had been defeated?

How could this burly man suddenly become so strong?

Just then, Li Jian realized that Xu Nian was looking toward him.

Instantly, Li Jian felt an intense chill rushing from the soles of his feet to the top of his skull.

"Thump!"

Li Jian immediately knelt down, his face terrified as he pleaded, "Big brother, I was wrong. I will never seek revenge on you again. Please, spare us!"

Li Jian was truly frightened; he feared that Xu Nian would torture him like the last time.

That feeling was worse than death.

"Do you really think I'm just using my hands on you over this issue?" Xu Nian looked at the terrified Li Jian and asked with a cold laugh.

Li Jian was startled, looking puzzledly at Xu Nian.

Xu Nian smiled slightly and said, "Aren't you planning to go to the Artifact Refining Sect to kill me? How can you try to kill me without even knowing who I am?"

Having said that, Xu Nian then dispelled his Disguise Technique, reverting to his original appearance.

Upon seeing Xu Nian's face, Li Jian was petrified, his mouth agape, unable to speak.

Yu Tian and Zhao Xing were also shocked.

It was as if they had seen a ghost, their hearts seemingly missing a beat.

Chapter 264 Endless Fury

Even Li Jian couldn't have imagined he'd be killed by someone he least expected.

Initially, the burly man he encountered on the street was Xu Nian in disguise.

What's more, he never expected that on their way to assassinate Xu Nian, they'd be caught by Xu Nian himself.

Likewise, he hadn't anticipated that Xu Nian's strength was so formidable.

Now he even wished he were dead.

He had witnessed Xu Nian's methods himself.

If he really fell into the hands of this deadly Xu Nian,

it would certainly be a fate worse than death.

"I'll fight you to the death."

Zhao Xing's Spiritual Energy inside him surged dramatically, a long saber appeared in his hands, and he fiercely slashed towards Xu Nian.

His eyes turned blood-red, seemingly resolved to trade his life with Xu Nian's.

Yet a hint of mockery flashed in Xu Nian's eyes as he watched Zhao Xing charging towards him.

He simply launched a punch.

"Boom!"

A loud noise erupted.

Zhao Xing's body didn't fly backward.

But the surrounding onlookers' eyes widened in shock.

Zhao Xing's abdomen had been punched through, leaving a gaping hole.

Xu Nian's arm had pierced straight through his stomach.

All the patrons gasped and felt a churning in their stomachs, the urge to vomit overwhelming them.

Damn, a punch that penetrates a person?

What kind of terrifying strength was this?

Zhao Xing himself was stunned, mechanically lowering his head to glance at the hole in his belly.

With an expression of sheer horror, he looked at Xu Nian one last time before collapsing straight to the ground.

Xu Nian, however, showed no sign of disturbance; he simply wiped the fresh blood from his hands.

Yu Tian, witnessing this scene, lost all will to resist.

He hurriedly started to run towards the distance, attempting to escape.

But Xu Nian's mouth curled into a cold smile.

With a thought, the long saber lying on the ground transformed into a streak of light and shot out.

"Ahh..."

Yu Tian's scream was cut short.

The long saber cleaved him cleanly in two.

Blood splattered everywhere, his body split into halves.

Now, with the power of Xu Nian's Spiritual Sense, along with the enhancement of the Heavenly Gang Pearl,

slaying a Three-star Body General was as easy as a breeze.

The people in the tavern could no longer bear it.

All the alcohol they drank and food they ate were vomited out.

Their gaze towards Xu Nian turned into one of profound fear, as if they were looking upon a demon from hell.

At this moment, Li Jian was so frightened that he collapsed on the ground, not daring to entertain any thoughts of escape.

"I can spare your life, but you must answer every question I ask seriously. If I'm dissatisfied with even one answer, your fate will be worse than theirs," Xu Nian said coldly as he gazed at Li Jian.

His eyes were as chilling as a ghost's.

Li Jian, shaking with fear, nodded again and again, his teeth chattering, "I guarantee I'll tell you everything, as long as you don't kill me."

"Is it the Fang Family that sent you to kill me?" Xu Nian asked with a cold voice.

Upon hearing this, Li Jian hurriedly nodded and said, "Yes, the Fang Family issued a bounty, offering ten million Gold Coins for your... for your head."

Xu Nian narrowed his eyes, his mouth curving into a light smile.

Ten million Gold Coins—the Fang Family really valued him highly.

"And what about the Chen Family now?" Xu Nian continued to inquire.

"Most of the Chen Family's offspring have been killed. Apart from Chen Tiansheng, the Prefectural Governor, as well as Chen Wudi and Chen Yao, who escaped, there are almost no survivors left in the Chen Family," Li Jian said with his heart in his throat.

Terrified that Xu Nian might be unsatisfied and cleave him in two.

Xu Nian's eyes brimmed with intense killing intent.

How ruthless the Fang Family was.

Although the Chen Family was few in number, there were nearly a hundred servants and maids in the mansion.

Yet, they had all been killed.

"Then do you know where the three members of the Chen family are now?" Xu Nian continued to press on.

Li Jian, however, shook his head and said, "I don't know, they initially escaped with the power of the Chen Family's Saint. No one knows the direction they fled, but some say they were seen in Bingluo City."

"Bingluo City?" Xu Nian silently noted the name.

"However..." Just then, Li Jian hesitated to speak.

"However what?" Xu Nian barked.

Li Jian was startled, hurriedly speaking, "However, I've heard that Lord Governor Chen Tiansheng has been gravely injured and is likely not long for this world."

Upon hearing this, a surge of intense killing intent instantly flooded Xu Nian's face.

Chen Tiansheng had always treated him like his own nephew.

During his time in the Battle Mansion, Chen Tiansheng had often guided his cultivation.

The speed of his comprehension was, to a certain extent, also Chen Tiansheng's doing.

"Who did it?" Xu Nian asked, suppressing the anger in his heart. The emanating killing intent made Li Jian tremble all over.

"It was... the Fang Family's doing. They brought quite a few powerhouses this time, and now the entire Battle Mansion has been taken over. Most members have already defected to the Fang Family, some even volunteering eagerly to pursue and kill the Chen father and son," Li Jian said.

Xu Nian's brow furrowed deeply.

The killing intent in his heart grew even more intense.

"A bunch of ungrateful wretches." Xu Nian's eyes were chillingly dark.

The Battle Mansion was personally nurtured by Chen Tiansheng, housing not a few talented powerhouses.

However, now that Chen Tiansheng was in trouble, these talents had all turned their coats.

"My lord, I've said all I have to say. Will you truly let me go?" Li Jian asked with trepidation.

Xu Nian turned his head, his lips curving into a slight smile.

"Alright, I won't kill you," Xu Nian declared. After speaking, he turned and walked away.

Seeing this, Li Jian's face instantly flushed with joy.

But before his smile could fade, he saw a young man clad in a white robe approaching him.

The young man held a wine cup in hand, looking at him with a light smile on his face.

"Whoosh!"

With a flick of his finger, the young man sent the wine cup flying like a sharp sword, piercing through Li Jian's head in an instant.

In the center of Li Jian's forehead, a huge bloody hole appeared.

The surrounding patrons who had just finished vomiting at the sight, once again began to retch.

It was only now that they realized.

There had been such a powerful figure sitting in the corner all along.

"Sect Master, what should we do next?"

Bai Feng approached from behind Xu Nian to ask.

He knew that Xu Nian was truly angered now.

Upon hearing this, Xu Nian took a deep breath to suppress the rage in his heart.

"The plan remains unchanged, continue heading to the Commandery City. I want to see just how many powerhouses the Fang Family has brought," Xu Nian said coldly.

"But the Commandery City has been taken by the Fang Family. Isn't it very dangerous for the Sect Master to go there?" Bai Feng asked, frowning.

"Don't worry, I will not engage in a direct confrontation. I'm just going to the Commandery City to look around and will not fight the Fang Family unless absolutely necessary," Xu Nian said.

He had not let his anger cloud his judgment.

The reason he wanted to go to the Commandery City.

It was because Zhao Yanyun was still in the basement of the Chen Mansion.

If he was late, the Fang Family would discover her presence, and then saving Sister Yanyun would be as tough as reaching the heavens.

"Yes!" Bai Feng nodded, his eyes afire with determination.

Xu Nian instead turned to gaze at the distant mountains, his eyes flickering with murderous intent.

"Fang Family, just you wait!"

Xu Nian clenched his fist, his fingernails digging into his palm, drawing a streak of fresh red.

Chapter 265 Unaware of Life and Death

The streets of the prefectural city were still bustling with traffic, as ever.

The lives of the residents hadn't changed at all because of the ordeal at the Governor Mansion.

At most, after a good meal, they had a bit more juicy gossip to chat about.

Occasionally, they would let out a sigh.

Xu Nian, at this moment, was walking alone on the main avenue of the prefectural city.

However, he had changed his appearance.

Dressed in a white robe with a fair complexion,

At first glance, he looked like a weak scholar who couldn't even truss a chicken.

The entire Battle Mansion was currently searching for him.

He was here mainly to take away Zhao Yanyun's body.

If he tried to rescue her with his true appearance, it would undoubtedly be as difficult as reaching the sky.

As for Bai Feng, he had been stationed at the city gate, waiting to assist.

Xu Nian didn't head directly to the Governor Mansion.

Because he didn't know if there were any Saints in the Governor Mansion at the moment.

If there were Saints present, with their Spiritual Sense,

he would be detected immediately upon entering the mansion.

Then, not only would he not be able to save anyone, but he might also lose his own life.

Xu Nian had already thought it through.

If there really was a Saint at the Governor Mansion,

Then he would have no choice but to ask Liu Mubai to make a move, forcefully break in, and take Liu Yanyun's body.

Soon, Xu Nian arrived at the residential area where the members of the Battle Mansion lived.

Xu Nian used his Spiritual Sense Power to investigate.

He found that Dugu Jingcheng and Lin Xifeng were no longer at their residences.

Presumably, they had already left the prefectural city.

"Huh?"

However, when Xu Nian's Spiritual Sense reached his own residence, his face suddenly changed.

Then, a murderous intent surged in his eyes.

With a tip of his toes, he turned into a gust of wind,

Rushing towards his own residence.

At this moment, Xu Nian's residence was in complete disarray,

Clearly having just experienced a battle.

Yan Wu was kneeling on the ground, clutching his chest.

His face pale, with blood dripping from the corner of his mouth.

If someone were to observe with Spiritual Sense,

They would definitely find that the meridians inside his body were severely damaged.

He couldn't circulate Spiritual Energy or engage in battle any longer.

But his eyes were fiercely fixed on three young men in front of him, filled with endless rage.

"Release my daughter," Yan Wu roared angrily and resentfully.

"Release her? Do you think that's possible? Your daughter is so charming, how could I bear to just let her go, Yan Wu? I'll give you one last chance—tell me where Xu Nian is, or else I'll let you watch how I play with your daughter," the leading young man said with a mocking smile.

He even reached out and gently stroked Yan Ruyu's fair cheek.

Yan Ruyu struggled desperately, but it was futile.

She was firmly grasped by the arms by the other two young men, unable to move at all.

Hearing the words of the leading youth, the other two young men also showed mocking smiles.

Their eyes also carried a hint of lewdness as they looked at Yan Ruyu.

"Zhang Feng, you're despicable, I'll fight you!"

Yan Wu bellowed, madly charging at the leading youth.

"Hmph, you overestimate yourself, a mere One-star Battle General, and you want to fight me to the death?"

Zhang Feng sneered and threw a punch directly.

He was of Five-star General strength.

How could a mere One-star Battle General shake him?

"Boom!"

Before Yan Wu could get close, he was sent flying by Zhang Feng's punch.

He slammed against the stone pillar, blood spewing from his mouth.

"Father..."

Yan Ruyu urgently cried out, desperately struggling to break free from her restraints.

But with her strength, it was all in vain. Tears had already slid down her face, heartbroken.

Zhang Feng did not stop there; he walked up to Yan Wu.

He stepped on Yan Wu's chest, causing Yan Wu to cough up blood again.

"Stop... please stop, I'll do anything you want, just please stop hitting him." Yan Ruyu cried out, her voice filled with despair.

"Is that so? Then take off your clothes," Zhang Feng said with a light laugh.

Yan Ruyu's body froze, her eyes blank.

By now, the two young men behind her had already loosened their grip on her arms, looking at her with lecherous smiles.

"Fine, if I take off my clothes, will you let my father go?" Yan Ruyu said coldly, her hands trembling.

Stripping in front of all these people would leave her with no reputation.

"If you take them off and I'm satisfied, maybe I'll be in a good enough mood to let your father go," Zhang Feng said mockingly.

He enjoyed this feeling of toying with others.

Especially women.

When he saw women forced to do things against their conscience before him, he was immensely excited.

Yan Ruyu bit her red lips, which were like fresh blood—it was unclear whether it was blood or just their natural color.

"No... don't do it, Yu'er, no matter what, father would rather die than let them dishonor you... ah..." Yan Wu screamed.

But before he could finish, Zhang Feng stepped on his chest again, eliciting a painful cry.

Seeing this, Yan Ruyu hesitated no longer.

She began to reach for the belt of her dress.

Zhang Feng, seeing this, had a playful smirk on his face.

Another woman, submitting to his authority.

The feeling of conquest was indescribably satisfying.

The two lackeys' eyes also gleamed keenly, intently watching Yan Ruyu's delicate body.

Awaiting the moment her clothes would fall.

By now, Yan Ruyu had completely despaired.

Her heart was bleeding.

She knew what would happen once she took off her clothes.

But she had no choice.

For her father's sake, she could only do this.

In Yan Ruyu's mind, the image of a young boy unexpectedly surfaced, her lips curling into a tragic smile.

Perhaps when he returned and found her no longer alive.

He would kill in his anger for her!

That alone would be enough for her.

Yan Ruyu's belt slowly came undone, her dress began to slide down, revealing her smooth, snow-white shoulders.

Seeing this, the two lackeys' eyes gleamed with unspeakable greed.

Zhang Feng's smile grew even thicker, his heart feeling immensely gratified.

Yan Wu's face was filled with grief and anger, his heart bleeding.

"If you dare look at her again, I will make you regret ever coming to this world."

Just then, a loud shout suddenly rang through the courtyard.

Following that, a white figure had unexpectedly appeared beside Yan Ruyu.

This sudden turn of events left everyone stunned.

Yan Ruyu was also shocked, staring at the young man who had suddenly appeared, her eyes both excited and panicked.

However, the young man came to her side and gently draped the slipping dress back onto her.

"Your dress should only be taken off for someone you love," the young man said softly to Yan Ruyu.

Yan Ruyu could no longer hold back, covering her mouth as she sobbed uncontrollably.

Yan Wu, seeing this, was also immensely moved.

But Zhang Feng was staring fiercely at this sudden young man, asking coldly, "Who are you?"

Upon hearing this, the young man's eyes immediately grew cold. He glanced at Yan Wu lying on the ground and then at Zhang Feng, whose foot was still on Yan Wu's body, and said coldly, "Aren't you looking for Xu Nian? I am the Xu Nian you are looking for."

As soon as these words were spoken, including Zhang Feng, all three young men were taken aback.

Chapter 266: You Are Not Worthy of These Clothes

Zhang Feng had never expected this.

The young man who had suddenly appeared before him

would actually be the Xu Nian they were searching for.

"Ha ha, to think I'd find without looking, get without effort—Xu Nian, I never imagined you'd have the nerve to come back," Zhang Feng laughed heartily.

In his view, the entire Battle Mansion was now on the lookout for Xu Nian.

Xu Nian should have been scared into hiding long ago.

Yet, to his surprise, Xu Nian had not only not fled but had also returned to the county city.

The two flunky youths also wore a playful smirk on their faces.

In their eyes, Xu Nian represented ten million Gold Coins and the appreciation of the Fang Family from the Imperial Capital.

If they could kill Xu Nian, not only could they rise to prominence, but they could also enjoy endless glory and wealth.

Yan Ruyu finally snapped to her senses—these people were here for Xu Nian. Her face immediately showed an expression of concern.

Xu Nian, however, gave Zhang Feng a cold look.

Zhang Feng and the other two flunky youths wore the uniform of the Battle Mansion.

And on Zhang Feng's chest were embroidered five stars.

Signifying his status as a member of the Five-star Battle Mansion.

The other two flunkies had four stars embroidered on their chests, clearly also Four-star members.

Apart from Zhang Feng being a Five-star General, the other two flunky youths held the strength of Three-star Battle Generals.

Such strength was already quite formidable within the Battle Mansion.

And they were likely from the same team.

"You're not worthy of these uniforms," Xu Nian said coldly.

The Battle Mansion was founded by Chen Tiansheng.

But now it had become a watchdog for the Fang Family.

And it was all because of the existence of such scum within the Battle Mansion.

"Ha ha, we're not worthy of these uniforms? Do you think you are? The Chen Family's fall from grace is all due to you having killed the young master of the Fang Family. Oh Xu Nian, Xu Nian, by killing you, we are truly avenging the Chen Family. Moreover, a wise man submits to the times. The Fang Family is powerful and taking over East Field County is a blessing. We are merely going with the flow," Zhang Feng said with a light laugh, looking pleased with himself.

Upon hearing this, Xu Nian's gaze grew colder still.

To see such a fair-weather, self-serving man proclaim himself so nobly.

He really didn't know how brazen a person could get.

"Xu Nian, no matter what you say, you won't leave this courtyard alive today. I will use your head to claim a rich reward, and our Fenglin Team will become the most dazzling team in the Battle Mansion. Not only that, but your maid—I will take very good care of her. After we have our fill, we'll sell her into a brothel and make another fortune, ha ha," Zhang Feng laughed heartily.

"Senior brother, stop wasting words with him, let me just kill him," one of the flunky youths, who was slightly thinner, said with a cold snort, his gaze filled with disdain as he looked at Xu Nian.

Although they had heard from outsiders how incredible and extraordinary Xu Nian was, claiming he had killed all the experts of the Ding Family,

they believed it was all just hype.

For someone who had joined the Battle Mansion less than a year ago, how impressive could he possibly be?

Xu Nian looked at the three men, his eyes filled with deadly intent at its peak.

These three were beyond redemption, all deserving death.

"The three of you, come at me together; otherwise, you'll die a miserable death," Xu Nian said coldly, looking at them.

He instructed Yan Ruyu to step aside to avoid getting hurt in the impending fight.

Although Yan Ruyu was somewhat worried about Xu Nian, she knew standing by his side would only be a hindrance.

So she obediently moved to one side, silently praying for Xu Nian in her heart.

"Looking for death! Today, you will learn the consequences of your arrogance."

The slender Three-star Battle General was instantly enraged.

This guy, facing his death, still dared to spout such wild talk.

With a hiss, he lunged toward Xu Nian, his fists exploding with the power of Spiritual Energy.

"With that punch, he could have killed any Two-star War General."

Seeing this from a distance, Zhang Feng also revealed a hint of a smirk on his lips.

He too believed that Xu Nian stood no chance against his teammate.

In this battle, Xu Nian was bound to lose without a doubt.

However, as Xu Nian watched the Three-star War General blasting towards him, his eyes flickered with disdain.

"Hmph!"

Xu Nian let out a cold snort and directly hurled a punch, meeting the attack of the three War Generals.

"Boom!"

His fist, like a dragon emerging from the sea, exploded with terrifying Gang Qi in an instant.

The moment it clashed with the Three-star War General, the latter's arm shattered into pieces.

"Ah..."

The Three-star War General let out an immensely mournful scream, eyes filled with utter horror as he looked at his arm that had been obliterated.

Zhang Feng and another Three-star War General were both shocked, clearly not expecting this outcome.

Yan Ruyu, standing nearby, was also stunned.

She hadn't anticipated Xu Nian to be so domineering and fierce,

that even a Three-star War General's arm could be blown apart with a single punch.

"Impossible, impossible, how can you be so strong?" The Three-star War General said with a face full of fear.

Being able to burst his arm with one punch was probably something even a Four-star Body General couldn't accomplish.

"I said before, you don't deserve these robes. Today, the ones who won't leave this yard are you."

Xu Nian's voice rang in the minds of the three from the Fenglin Team like a deep bell from the Nine Nether Hell.

Subsequently, everyone saw Xu Nian turn into a lingering shadow, darting towards the skinny Three-star War General.

"Not good, stop him!" Zhang Feng immediately realized something was wrong and urgently roared.

He then rushed towards Xu Nian's direction with great speed.

The other Three-star War General also brandished a Battle Saber in his hand, slashing fiercely at Xu Nian.

The target Three-star War General was also terrified, retreating continuously in a panic.

Xu Nian, detecting the two rushing towards him from both sides, revealed a cold smile.

A Kingly Aura naturally arose from him.

"The ones Xu Nian wants to kill have never stayed in this world. You think you can stop me?" Xu Nian bellowed.

His form suddenly merged with the Wind Force, and with a light tap in the Void,

his speed increased explosively.

At the same time, a dragon claw materialized in his hand.

In an instant, he tore the Three-star War General into two halves.

Flesh flew and blood splattered.

The Three-star War General didn't even let out a scream before Xu Nian tore him into two living halves.

Zhang Feng and the other Three-star War General were both stunned, gazing at Xu Nian's towering form.

At this moment, they were somewhat bewildered, wondering if the youth before them was a human or a Demon Beast.

Tearing a person in half, this form of extreme cruelty,

even battle-hardened warriors like them felt a chill at the bottom of their hearts.

Yan Ruyi was dumbstruck.

Yan Wu, struggling to sit up, was also shocked.

Xu Nian, at this moment, was much more powerful than they had imagined.

Xu Nian turned around, his white robe stained with blood.

Those eyes, icy to the extreme, caused a fierce shiver in the hearts of Zhang Feng and the others.

A strong sense of coldness surged up from the soles of their feet to the top of the skull, causing their scalps to tingle violently!

Chapter 267: Extreme Slaughter

Xu Nian's eyes were too terrifying.

Even Zhang Feng, a Five-star General, felt a chill at the bottom of his heart.

"Hmph, your strength is somewhat beyond my expectations, having reached the Four-star Body General cultivation level, but wishing to kill us with that alone is not enough," Zhang Feng said coldly.

After speaking, he turned his head to the other Three-star Battle General beside him and whispered, "Let's attack together, don't hold back."

The Three-star Battle General nodded solemnly, clearly realizing that Xu Nian in front of them was not easy to deal with.

Xu Nian snorted lightly, his eyes filled with murderous intent.

This Zhang Feng had betrayed the Chen Family, intending to kill him.

He had also seriously injured Yan Wu and almost caused Yan Ruyun to lose her dignity.

Any one of these four mortal sins was enough to justify his death a thousand times over.

Thus, today Zhang Feng and his people were destined to die.

"Prepare to die!"

Zhang Feng let out a loud shout, producing a Long Spear in his hand.

The tip of the spear emanated a strong Gold Attribute aura.

The sharp tip seemed as though it could pierce through anything.

On the other side, the Three-star Battle General also swung his blade towards Xu Nian.

He was skilled in Wind Attribute Battle Techniques.

With one slash,

a powerful cutting force was unleashed.

The two attacked Xu Nian from different directions,

making the attack difficult to defend against.

However, Xu Nian merely sneered, watching the two men's attacks nonchalantly.

Zhang Feng and the Three-star Battle General both had smug expressions.

As if they had already seen Xu Nian being killed by their attacks.

But at the moment their attacks touched Xu Nian,

the expressions on their faces changed instantly.

"Afterimage?"

Zhang Feng and the Three-star Battle General cried out in horror, their faces showing disbelief.

Their attacks had passed through Xu Nian's body and had not caused him any harm.

"Not good... Wang Dong, be careful!"

Zhang Feng suddenly perceived something and quickly turned around to warn him.

The Three-star Battle General named Wang Dong stiffened instantly and turned his head sharply.

Then, a familiar face appeared in his sight.

"Whe... When did you..."

Wang Dong's face showed terror as he quickly tried to put distance between himself and Xu Nian.

But then he saw the corner of Xu Nian's mouth curve into a smile.

Followed by the sight of a fist covered in Blood-colored Scale Armor rapidly enlarging before his eyes.

"No..."

Wang Dong barely had time to let out a miserable scream.

Then his head exploded upon the force of Xu Nian's fist.

With his head shattered,

Wang Dong's body fell straight down,

dead beyond any doubt.

A deathly silence surrounded them.

Not only was Zhang Feng dumbfounded, but even Yan Ruyu and her father Yan Wu were utterly stunned.

They had seen killings before.

But they had never seen someone's head get blown apart by a punch.

The intense visual impact instinctively sparked extreme fear in their hearts.

How immense was the strength behind that punch to create such an effect?

Xu Nian didn't feel the slightest bit proud of the shock he had caused.

In his view, with his Divine Demon Refining Body cultivation,

combined with the Nine Dragons Supreme Physique and the enhancements from two types of Dragon Energy,

every punch embodied the effect of Collapse Thunder.

If he couldn't easily kill a Three-star Battle General,

then his cultivation would have been in vain.

Nowadays, not to mention a Five-star General, even a Six-star War General could be slain without fail.

A Seven-star War General, if at a higher realm, would at most be able to fight him to a draw.

If their realm was lacking, they would also just be overpowered.

After all, the later stages of cultivation saw a greater gap between each level,

and the difficulty of challenging across levels would also increase.

In the realm of Battle Generals, being able to surpass one level was already a sign of genius, surpassing two levels was that of a supreme genius.

Someone like Xu Nian, able to surpass three or even four levels, was nothing short of a monstrous genius.

At this moment, Zhang Feng truly felt fear; he finally realized just how terrifying Xu Nian was.

What the hell kind of person is this?

This was clearly a human-shaped fierce beast.

Escape!

If he didn't escape now, he would surely die.

Zhang Feng cursed in his heart.

Having said that, he continued to leap towards the outside of the courtyard.

Xu Nian watched the fleeing Zhang Feng, a glint of cold light flashing in his eyes.

He took a step forward, and his figure turned into an afterimage.

Zhang Feng had already reached the edge of the courtyard.

In the next moment, he was about to cross over the courtyard wall and escape.

However, just as he was about to jump, he felt someone grab his ankle.

Then his whole body was uncontrollably smashed to the ground.

"Boom!"

The ground cracked open.

Zhang Feng was left dizzy and confused.

When he looked up at that moment, he saw Xu Nian's eyes, cold and devoid of emotion.

An extreme fear welled up from the depths of his heart.

"Don't... don't kill me, please, I beg you, I can slave for you, do whatever you ask!" Zhang Feng quickly fell to his knees, begging for mercy.

"Really do anything?" Xu Nian asked coldly.

Zhang Feng nodded hastily, although a hint of cunning flashed in the depths of his eyes.

"Fine, start by castrating yourself," Xu Nian said with a cold laugh.

Zhang Feng's smile instantly froze on his face.

Castrate himself?

That meant becoming a eunuch?

How could he tolerate that?

"Okay, I'll castrate myself," Zhang Feng agreed, nodding, with a dagger suddenly appearing in his hand.

Xu Nian responded with a cold laugh, quietly watching.

"You go to hell!"

Zhang Feng's figure sprang up in an instant, thrusting the dagger in his hands straight at Xu Nian.

"Be careful!"

From a distance, Yan Ruyu's face changed dramatically, urgently warning.

The distance between Xu Nian and Zhang Feng was too close.

At such a distance,

Zhang Feng's sneak attack seemed undefendable to anyone else.

However, Xu Nian's body stopped the dagger when it was only an inch away, and it couldn't advance an inch further.

No matter how hard Zhang Feng tried, he couldn't push the dagger in any further.

"What... What's going on?"

Zhang Feng was stunned.

At this moment, Xu Nian had not used a Spiritual Energy Light Shield, so why couldn't his dagger penetrate?

"Go ask King Yan!"

Xu Nian snorted with laughter and threw a punch.

"Boom!"

Zhang Feng's body instantly flew backward, his entire body embedding into the wall.

His chest caved in severely, a mess of blood and flesh.

Zhang Feng was not dead yet, but he wasn't far from it.

And the dagger hung suspended in front of Xu Nian.

With a thought, the dagger flew in front of Yan Ruyu.

"Do it. However he treated your father, treat him the same," Xu Nian spoke.

Yan Ruyu hesitated for a moment, her arms trembling.

But soon, her gaze became resolute.

She gripped the dagger tightly and walked towards Zhang Feng.

Zhang Feng's expression was one of terror, but he couldn't make a sound.

Yan Ruyu looked at the dying Zhang Feng, clutched the dagger with both hands, and fiercely plunged it into Zhang Feng's heart.

Zhang Feng's pupils constricted, and he breathed his last.

Yan Ruyu looked at Zhang Feng, whom she had just killed with her own hands, and instinctively stepped back a few steps.

However, her eyes were not at all in a panic.

This was her first time killing someone!

Xu Nian nodded slightly seeing this.

The reason he had let Yan Ruyu take action was to teach her to resist.

Mere compliance with the enemy would only lead to being toyed with by the enemy.

Especially for a woman.

In fact, he did not know that today's action

would give rise to a Female Killing Emperor on this continent.

A woman of mediocre talent, who ascended to the position of Battle Emperor through slaughter.

And this empress always remembered one thing that person had said: "Your dress is only for the one you love to undress!"

Chapter 268: Night Visit to the Governor Mansion

Following that, Xu Nian fed Yan Wu some of the healing holy medicine brought by the Artifact Refining Sect.

Only then did Yan Wu's injuries begin to improve.

Although he had not fully recovered, at least it wouldn't lead to lingering issues.

"Thank you for saving our lives, young master. If you had not arrived in time, I can't imagine what would have happened to Yu'er and me," Yan Wu said gratefully.

Yan Ruyu also looked at Xu Nian with a face full of gratitude.

Xu Nian waved his hand and said, "The troubles you encountered were because of me, so you don't need to thank me. However, why didn't you leave the commandery city?"

Upon hearing this, Yan Ruyu's face immediately turned red.

Yan Wu smiled and said, "We were worried that the young master would return and not find us, so we stayed in the commandery city."

What he didn't say was that it was Yan Ruyu who had insisted on staying.

Xu Nian glanced at Yan Ruyu and instantly understood the situation.

"You should leave the commandery city as soon as possible. The Fang Family has issued a warrant for my arrest. Being associated with me, you will inevitably be implicated. Leave this place, and I will figure out a way to find you later," Xu Nian said.

"Won't the young master leave with us?" Yan Ruyu hurriedly asked upon hearing Xu Nian's words.

Xu Nian shook his head and said, "I have more important matters to attend to and can't leave for now."

Disappointment instantly flooded Yan Ruyu's face when she heard this.

Xu Nian knew what Yan Ruyu was thinking, but he didn't want to give her any illusions.

After all, he had no intentions concerning Yan Ruyu.

"By the way, do you know who from the Fang Family is currently at the Governor Mansion? Are there any Saint-level masters around?" Xu Nian suddenly asked.

Yan Wu thought for a moment and said, "The Fang Family Saint who killed the Chen Family ancestor left the Governor Mansion shortly after staying, and most of the Fang Family left the city in a hurry yesterday. Currently, the Governor Mansion should only have some guards and subordinates left by the Fang Family. As for the presence of any Saint-level experts, it's unclear, but I guess there aren't any since the Fang Family's main goal seemed to lie with the Demon Emperor's Tomb."

Xu Nian nodded.

Just as he had guessed.

The Fang Family didn't intend to stay long, only seeking revenge on their way.

As for the Governor Mansion, it was likely only some servants or collateral family members keeping watch.

"Is there any news about the Demon Emperor's Tomb?" Xu Nian asked.

Yan Wu shook his head, "I don't know much about the Demon Emperor's Tomb, but I've heard that it should be around Dong'an City because many powers have gathered there, and it seems the Fang Family has also gone to Dong'an City."

Xu Nian nodded.

Yan Wu, after all, was but one man; collecting so much intelligence was already quite an achievement.

"Uncle Yan, here is a storage ring containing three million gold coins and several heavenly rank cultivation techniques and combat skills. Take it for your expenses. Find a place to recuperate and grow your strength. You know I have much to shoulder, and perhaps one day in the future, I will need your help," Xu Nian said.

Yan Wu was stunned.

Three million gold coins and several heavenly rank cultivation techniques and combat skills?

What a vast fortune.

But he understood Xu Nian's meaning. Accepting the storage ring, he said earnestly, "Young master, rest assured, Yan Wu will certainly fulfill the mission."

Xu Nian nodded.

After speaking with Yan Wu and his daughter for a few more moments, he sent the two of them out of the city.

Yan Ruyu was reluctant to leave, but she knew staying with Xu Nian would only hold him back.

With no choice, she had to leave with her father.

Yet in her heart, she became more determined to grow stronger,

hoping that one day she could become Xu Nian's right-hand woman.

Even if she had to be a maid, she had to keep up with Xu Nian's pace.

Otherwise, she wouldn't even qualify to be a maid by his side.

After sending Yan Wu and his daughter away, Xu Nian returned to his residence.

He was waiting for nightfall.

After dark,

he would investigate the Governor Mansion's actual situation.

To see if, as he suspected, most of the Fang Family had already left the Governor Mansion.

...

The night soon fell.

Clouds densely veiled the night sky, and there was no moonlight.

Xu Nian changed into a set of black garments suited for night treks and hurried towards the Governor Mansion.

Xu Nian's Wind Force Realm had reached the level of Transformation Force.

Moving rapidly above the rooftops, it was impossible to make even the slightest sound.

His movements, moreover, were like those of a sly spirit cat, agile and seamless.

Soon, he arrived near the Governor Mansion.

Xu Nian noticed that the guards at the Governor Mansion were considerably more vigilant than in the past.

However, these guards were mostly of Warrior Level cultivation, with Battle Sect members rarely seen.

Naturally, they couldn't possibly detect Xu Nian's presence.

Xu Nian easily avoided the guards and slipped into the Governor Mansion.

Each step of the way, Xu Nian would first use his Spiritual Sense Power to scout the surroundings.

Only when he discovered no danger would he move forward.

In fact, with Xu Nian's current Spiritual Sense Power, aided by the Heavenly Gang Pearl, he could cover the entire Governor Mansion.

But Xu Nian couldn't guarantee that there were no Saint Level masters inside the Governor Mansion.

Therefore, just to be safe, he didn't.

Before long, Xu Nian arrived at the main hall of the Governor Mansion,

which was also the entry point to the underground chambers of the Governor Mansion.

However, Xu Nian found that there were quite a few people in the main hall at the moment.

On the high platform, a young man and a middle-aged man were seated.

The two were drinking and chatting merrily.

Inside the hall, several singers were dancing and playing music.

The young man's cultivation was not low; he had already reached the Six-star War General Realm.

If Xu Nian's guess was correct, he was the person the Fang Family had left in charge at the Governor Mansion.

As for the middle-aged man, Xu Nian had seen him once before.

He was a general from East Field County named Zhao Chong, a Nine-star War General Level expert.

At the moment, Zhao Chong was still wearing his Battle Armor.

However, his face bore a freely joyful smile.

It was clear he had defected to the Fang Family and become their lapdog.

"Haha, General Zhao truly knows how to enjoy life, these singers do indeed have exceptional looks," Fang Qing laughed heartily, draining his cup in one gulp.

"Haha, Mr. Fang is too kind. I spent a good amount of Gold Coins to select these singers. If Mr. Fang doesn't mind, pick a couple to take back and have a good time with, wouldn't that make life even more joyous?" Zhao Chong laughed heartily.

"Then I must first thank General Zhao," Fang Qing said with a lecherous smile.

Hearing this, Zhao Chong's face also beamed with a brilliant smile.

In fact, he was clearer than anyone else.

This Fang Qing was merely a collateral relative of the Fang Family.

Otherwise, why would most of the Fang Family members have left,

only to leave him behind, staying in this Commandery City?

However, although Fang Qing was a collateral relative, he was after all from the Fang Family.

Even if he wanted to ingratiate himself with the direct descendants, they wouldn't give him a second glance.

Hence, to curry favor with the Fang Family, he could only start with Fang Qing.

Fang Qing also knew this and wanted to build a closer relationship with Zhao Chong to develop his own network.

The two were birds of a feather and found mutual benefit in their arrangement.

However, Xu Nian, standing on the roof and observing the scene with his Spiritual Sense, felt a surge of coldness in his eyes.

Zhao Chong was someone whom Chen Tiansheng had supported with his own hands.

Now, at the time of his adversity, he had defected to the Fang Family, which was utterly deserving of death.

But soon, Xu Nian's attention was once again captured by the conversation between the two men,

because their dialogue touched upon the news of the Chen Family members, which he had been concerned about all along.

Chapter 269: Cunning Fang Qing

"Ah, Mr. Fang, where on earth could the Chen Family father and his two sons have gone? I've sent out men to search for them, why is there still no news of them?" Zhao Chong asked, perplexed.

"You don't know? Chen Wudi obtained a spatial object. They are hiding within it, and that object can shrink to the size of dust. No matter how many people you send out, unless they come out themselves, you can't hope to find them," Fang Qing explained.

Being descendants of a great family,

though he was from a collateral branch, his knowledge far exceeded that of Zhao Chong.

If it hadn't been for the treasure in Chen Wudi's hands,

how could the three members of the Chen family have easily escaped from the Saint of the Fang family?

Upon hearing this, Zhao Chong also came to a realization.

He decided to call back all the men he had sent out.

Xu Nian, standing on the roof, also sighed in relief upon hearing this.

It was then he remembered—

Chen Wudi had a Star Tower in his possession.

As long as they had the Star Tower,

there wouldn't be any danger to them.

Knowing that the Chen family father and sons were temporarily safe, Xu Nian's mind relaxed even more.

However, the subsequent conversation between Fang Qing and Zhao Chong stirred up a strong killing intent in him.

"Alas, it's such a pity about Chen Yao. I heard she's the number one beauty in the county. If I could have her to toy with for a few days, that would be real pleasure," Fang Qing sighed as he drank.

"Ha ha, don't worry, Mr. Fang. If those three from the Chen family dare to show up, I'll definitely capture that Chen Yao for you. And let me tell you, Chen Yao is indeed very beautiful. Every time I see her, I feel the urge. I used to just think about it, but now maybe I'll get to "eat some meat, drink some soup," Zhao Chong laughed loudly.

With these words, a cunning smile appeared on Fang Qing's face.

However, Xu Nian on the roof had eyes full of murderous intent.

He had firmly added these two men to his kill list.

But it wasn't time to act just yet.

He could kill Fang Qing without alerting the guards,

but he wasn't sure he could kill Zhao Chong.

After all, Zhao Chong was a Nine-star War General Level expert. Even with the Black Gold Puppet in hand,

if he stirred the guards, he wouldn't be able to leave with Yanyun.

"Wait, I can only wait!"

Xu Nian reminded himself.

Hence, Xu Nian laid low on the roof for two hours.

Finally, Zhao Chong left with two singing girls.

And Fang Qing, bleary-eyed, was about to play out a ménage à trois in the great hall with two singing girls.

However, just as Fang Qing was about to strip the clothes off the singing girls,

a black figure eerily appeared behind him.

Fang Qing, being a Six-star War General, was highly vigilant.

As soon as Xu Nian appeared, he immediately noticed him.

His drunken eyes instantly sobered up.

He unsheathed his sword and slashed at the person behind him.

However, the figure behind him let out a cold snort, and a dragon claw instantly reached out.

It grabbed his neck and lifted him off the ground.

His whole body was suspended in midair.

With a palm strike to his Dantian,

his Dantian was instantly shattered.

The two singing girls next to him got scared by the sudden appearance of the black figure and were just about to scream,

but then they saw a powerful green light emanate from the eyes of the man in black, and they fainted.

Gray Dragon Eye, with its mesmerizing effect.

It was naturally easy to handle two Human-level singing girls.

And when they woke up, they would remember nothing.

"You... who are you?" Fang Qing, seeing this scene, said in a terrified voice.

At that moment, his neck was clutched, making it impossible for him to cry out for help.

Hearing this, disdain flashed in Xu Nian's eyes.

"You might have heard of my name, I'm Xu Nian," Xu Nian said with a cold laugh.

"Xu Nian? You are Xu Nian?" Fang Qing trembled in his spirit upon hearing this.

He had not expected the young man in black before him to be the one who audaciously killed Fang Chen, a direct descendant of the Fang Family.

Nor had he expected that Xu Nian would be so powerful.

He had no power to resist and his Dantian had been directly crippled by Xu Nian.

"Xu Nian, what do you want to do? I haven't offended you, and the order to hunt you down wasn't issued by me, but by the direct descendants of the Fang Family. If you want revenge, find them, not me," Fang Qing hurriedly said.

He was no fool.

Xu Nian's audacity to appear here alone was enough to show that he was a ruthless person.

And if he dared to kill Fang Chen, how could he not dare to kill him?

"No grievances, you really think there are no grievances between us? From the moment you coveted Chen Yao earlier, your life was no longer your own," Xu Nian sneered.

Hearing this, Fang Qing looked startled.

He had not expected Xu Nian to have overheard their conversation.

Nor had he expected Xu Nian to have been here since that moment.

Hiding for a full four hours.

"Do you have any last words now?" Xu Nian looked at Fang Qing with a sneer.

Fang Qing's face turned ashen, never expecting to fall into the hands of Xu Nian.

"Xu Nian, don't you want to know about the Demon Emperor's Tomb? If you let me go, I can tell you everything I know," Fang Qing hurriedly said.

Clearly, he was afraid.

"Sorry, I'm not interested in the Demon Emperor's Tomb," Xu Nian sneered.

Actually, he was a little interested, but only slightly.

What mattered most to him now was finding Yanyun's body and bringing her back to life.

Fang Qing, not expecting Xu Nian to be disinterested in the Demon Emperor's Tomb, wore a pale face.

Suddenly, he seemed to think of something and light flashed in his eyes.

Quickly, he said, "Haha, you came here for the woman in the basement, didn't you?"

At these words, Xu Nian's expression changed drastically.

He quickly bound Fang Qing with Spiritual Energy to prevent any screams.

And he himself dashed toward the entrance of the basement.

When he entered the basement, however, he found it completely empty.

Even the Ice Coffin containing Yanyun had disappeared.

Seeing this, Xu Nian's mind buzzed.

He rushed out of the basement.

But as he burst out of the basement, a terrifying force instantly attacked him.

Xu Nian's face changed instantly.

He unleashed his inner power without reservation, fiercely counterattacking the force.

Who else could it be but Zhao Chong?

"Bang!"

Xu Nian and Zhao Chong's fists collided fiercely.

"Pfft!"

Xu Nian spat out a mouthful of blood, his body flying backward and crashing into the wall of the great hall.

Shattering the wall of the hall.

Meanwhile, Fang Qing had regained his freedom.

By his side stood a Demon Wolf.

It turned out that Fang Qing had been buying time.

Allowing the mansion's other Demon Wolf to signal Zhao Chong.

"Haha, Xu Nian, you didn't expect this! But since you are here, don't expect to leave alive."

Fang Qing burst into laughter, his eyes filling with killing intent as he gazed at Xu Nian.

Xu Nian had crippled his Dantian.

This grudge must be avenged, or he would not rest.

Xu Nian, clutching his swollen chest, glared fiercely at Fang Qing, his gaze icy cold.

"I'll ask you just one thing, where is Sister Yanyun's body?"

Xu Nian's voice was as cold as the Nine Nether Ice Spring, chilling to the bone.

Chapter 270: Hard to Believe

"Ha ha, you want to find that woman? Then you might as well search for her in hell, for I have already dismembered her corpse into pieces and fed it to the dogs," Fang Qing burst out laughing hideously.

Xu Nian had destroyed his Dantian, and the resentment in his heart was not something that could be easily extinguished.

Thus, the angrier Xu Nian got, the happier Fang Qing became.

He wanted Xu Nian to know that daring to destroy Fang Qing's Dantian would make him wish for death in torment, a wish that wouldn't be granted.

Xu Nian's gaze also turned icy, filled with intense killing intent.

Though he felt that Fang Qing's words might not be true, they had still enraged him.

"Hmph, you must be Xu Nian, since you've come, don't think about leaving alive," Zhao Chong said coldly, looking at Xu Nian.

His gaze was full of amusement.

From that punch just now.

He had almost been able to ascertain that Xu Nian's strength was inferior to his,

At best, it was between a Seven-star and an Eight-star War General.

Such strength, in front of someone battle-hardened like him, only led to a dead end.

"I originally planned to rescue Yanyun first and then come to kill you all. Now that Yanyun is not here, I'll just have to start the killing spree. Tonight, whoever dares to stop me will die," Xu Nian said coldly.

His voice was filled with strong killing intent.

"Ha ha, Whoever stops you will die? Xu Nian, haven't you realized the situation you're in yet? You have already been surrounded. Zhao Chong, the Great General, is a Nine-star War General level master, and

there's also this Demon Wolf, an Iron Armor Red-eyed Wolf, similar at an Eight-star War General level, not to mention the hundreds of guards outside. Do you really think you still have a chance to live?" Fang Qing laughed heartily.

Zhao Chong's look at Xu Nian was also full of mockery, as if he was watching a turtle in a jar.

Yet Xu Nian remained indifferent to Fang Qing's words, lightly wiping the corner of his mouth.

His kingly aura was undoubtedly apparent.

Even a Marquis Realm didn't have what it took to stop him, Xu Nian?

They really underestimated him too much.

Seeing that Xu Nian showed no fear, a strong surge of anger welled up in Fang Qing's eyes.

"General Zhao, go, cripple his cultivation. I want to see if he still dares to be defiant then," Fang Qing said to Zhao Chong beside him.

"Don't worry, I'm on it. I'll cripple him and make him realize that those who act arrogantly before me, Zhao Chong, all end up dying miserably," Zhao Chong bellowed.

He took a step forward, his body surging with powerful spiritual energy.

Then, as swiftly as a blazing thunder, he dashed rapidly towards Xu Nian.

His speed was incredibly fast, leaving behind nothing but an afterimage.

Xu Nian, upon sighting the charging Zhao Chong, had not a ripple in his eyes.

As if he had been scared silly.

"Time to die!" Zhao Chong sneered, his eyes growing more mocking.

Thinking Xu Nian was truly stunned by his assault.

From a distance, Fang Qing also sneered, as if he had already foreseen the scene of Xu Nian being ruined.

However, just when everyone thought Zhao Chong's punch was about to hit Xu Nian squarely in the chest.

A golden figure suddenly appeared in front of Xu Nian, throwing a punch directly.

Colliding head-on with Zhao Chong's attack.

"What?"

Zhao Chong's face changed drastically in an instant.

Then he felt a tremendous force coming from his arm.

And then he was uncontrollably blown backward.

The golden figure didn't hesitate for even a moment, stepping forward.

Cracking the ground beneath, shooting forward like a sharp sword.

The golden figure swept out, carrying a terrifying gust of wind.

Instantly appearing before Zhao Chong.

"Boom!"

Another punch.

The force of the punch exploded.

Zhao Chong couldn't react in time and was struck in the chest by the fist of the golden puppet.

"Pfft!"

Blood spurted out wildly.

His chest caved in instantly.

Yet his body flew like a thrown stone, covering a distance of a hundred meters.

He broke a stone pillar and fell amidst the ruins.

The people around were all dumbstruck.

This was a Nine-star War General Level master.

To be ruthlessly blown away like this?

And who is this person?

"A puppet? A Peak of Battle General puppet?"

Fang Qing also showed a shocked expression on his face.

He had never expected that Xu Nian would have a Battle General Level puppet.

Zhao Chong climbed out from the ruins.

At this moment, he was in a sorry state.

But he had not suffered severe injuries.

He tore open his own chest.

On his Meteorite Iron Armor, there clearly was a dent the size of a fist.

Zhao Chong looked incredulously at the golden puppet in front of him.

A fist had left a dent in his armor.

How terrifying must the strength be?

And how could they fight this thing made entirely of Meteorite Iron?

Zhao Chong's gaze also became extremely grave.

With such a killing machine present, he couldn't possibly kill Xu Nian.

"Black Gold, kill him!"

Xu Nian commanded.

"Yes, Master!"

Black Gold's voice rang out, then he continued to charge towards Zhao Chong.

Zhao Chong's eyes also flashed with anger, a giant sword appearing in his hands.

He went directly into battle with Black Gold.

A man and a puppet were locked in fierce combat.

"Haha, Xu Nian, you think just because you have such a puppet, you're safe? Don't forget, I also have a Demon Wolf at the Eight-star War General Level, and in terms of combat power, it's comparable to the Nine-star War General Level. So today, you're still going to die," Fang Qing said looking at Xu Nian and laughed heartily.

In his view, Xu Nian could not possibly have a second puppet of this sort.

As long as his Demon Wolf made a move, Xu Nian would still not escape being captured and killed.

The Demon Wolf took a step, emitting a strong and fierce aura.

Its pair of red eyes stared dead at Xu Nian, showing its sharp and hard teeth.

Its body hair stood up like steel needles, all bristling.

Yet, a cold smile appeared on Xu Nian's lips.

"Do you really think this Demon Wolf can stop me?" Xu Nian snorted coldly, a sharp sword appearing in his hand.

"Haha, I think you are overconfident, Chi Yan, go, let him see how powerful your wolf claws really are!" Fang Qing laughed heartily, giving the command.

The Demon Wolf named Chi Yan, upon hearing this, burst forth instantly.

Its sharp claws left several scratches on the hard floor.

The speed of the Demon Wolf was even more terrifying, faster than the Nine-star War General Level Zhao Chong.

It leapt, its sharp wolf claws fiercely clawing towards Xu Nian.

"Haha, Chi Yan's claws are even harder than Meteorite Iron, this claw will tear through Meteorite Iron Armor, you're definitely dying," Fang Qing laughed heartily.

Xu Nian looked at the cold light on the wolf's claws but his lips curled into a slight smirk.

"Since you hold it in such high regard, I will completely shatter your hopes," Xu Nian coldly said, then an immense kingly aura surged from his body.

"Boom!"

A loud sound echoed, a powerful Talent Phenomenon emerged directly behind Xu Nian.

Fang Qing's face changed drastically in the distance.

He stared at the Talent Phenomenon behind Xu Nian, his eyes revealing extreme shock.

"Two... two of them? How is this possible?"

Fang Qing's eyes were wide, his face filled with disbelief as he looked at the Talent Phenomenon behind Xu Nian.

Yes, the two Talent Phenomena that appeared behind Xu Nian were indeed two distinct ones.

Apart from the Immortal King Laurel Map, there hung an ancient giant sword in the void.