

Divine King 281

Chapter 281 Ruthless Bombardment

Xia Zhengfeng was shocked and hurriedly channeled the Purple Dragon Gang Qi toward Xu Nian, launching an attack.

Yet Xu Nian let out a cold laugh.

Blood-colored dragon scales emerged on his arms.

The Dragon King Fist that was gathering momentum now instantly erupted.

"Dragon King Fist, second style, Dragon King Splitting Sky!"

Xu Nian roared as the Azure Dragon Illusion poured into his arms.

It smashed violently into Xia Zhengfeng's chest.

Divine Demon Gang Qi exploded.

Xia Zhengfeng's entire body immediately bent like a shrimp as he was sent flying backward at high speed.

"Boom!"

A loud noise echoed.

Xia Zhengfeng's body heavily crashed into a giant rock in the distance.

The rock shattered upon impact.

Xia Zhengfeng coughed up a wisp of fresh blood.

Looking at the bright red blood,

Xia Zhengfeng's expression turned to utter horror.

He actually spat blood.

He, protected by strange metal armor, had actually spat blood from Xu Nian's fist.

Chen Wudi and others in the distance were also shocked.

Xu Nian's sudden eruption was ferociously overwhelming,

truly domineering.

"It seems your Purple Dragon Technique is nothing special after all!"

Xu Nian said with a light chuckle, his eyes filled with amusement as he looked at Xia Zhengfeng in the distance.

The Dragon King Fist was like a Gang Skill tailored for him.

This technique transcended the usual Heavenly Rank Gang Qi.

Its power was immensely vast.

Moreover, as his strength increased, the power he could unleash became even greater.

The punch he had just thrown integrated the effects of Collapse Thunder,

directly using the Gang Qi of the Dragon King Fist to penetrate the strange metal armor and injure Xia Zhengfeng's organs.

That's why Xia Zhengfeng was seen spitting blood.

Xia Zhengfeng was truly enraged, having been beaten to the point of vomiting blood by this youth.

"I will have you dead!" Xia Zhengfeng roared furiously.

In an instant, three purple dragon shadows surged from his body, and all of them eventually poured into Xia Zhengfeng.

As the dragon shadows infused him, Xia Zhengfeng's aura exploded to a terrifying level.

His eyes turned entirely purple, emitting a dazzling purple light.

A layer of Purple Dragon Illusion covered his body, his aura overwhelmingly dominant.

The ground beneath his feet even sank several feet under this dreadful aura.

The surrounding sand and stones all lifted off the ground, suspending in midair.

"This is the young Emperor Tianhen's famous signature technique, the Nine-Star Heavenly Dragon Fist. Xia Zhengfeng can actually unleash three-star power," Chen Tiansheng said with a surprised expression.

Nine-Star Heavenly Dragon Fist, nine dragons support, awe-inspiring in all directions.

Back in the day, Emperor Tianhen had used this move to kill countless mighty geniuses.

Unexpectedly, Xia Zhengfeng could also perform this technique.

Xu Nian too was taken aback.

With this move from Xia Zhengfeng, he felt a strong sense of threat.

Needless to say, at this moment, Xia Zhengfeng's aura was truly mighty.

"This technique, used by my Imperial Father to slay countless Saints, is enough for pride to die under it, lad," Xia Zhengfeng said, his voice echoing like rolling thunder, utterly domineering.

His terrifying aura was like being possessed by the Dragon God.

After speaking, he rushed towards Xu Nian like a storm.

His figure charged, shaking the surroundings.

Chen Wudi and the others looked tense.

At this moment, Xia Zhengfeng's aura was too terrifying, even Marquis Level warriors would not dare to take it lightly.

He was capable of instantly killing any Battle General Level expert.

"Hmph, your move is strong, but not enough to kill me. Today, I will let you witness what true dragon might is,"

Xu Nian snorted coldly.

The three streams of Dragon Energy within him simultaneously activated and instantly merged together.

The moment Dragon Energy merged, a terrifying roar of a dragon sounded from inside Xu Nian.

This dragon roar shook heaven and earth, as if a true giant dragon had come into being.

Everyone felt their spirit shake violently.

At the same time, dark clouds rolled in the sky as gales howled.

Xu Nian's body actually began to float gently upward, the powerful Divine Demon Gang Qi forming countless giant dragons that coiled around him.

Dragon Might!

The true majesty of the Dragon King.

"Such powerful aura... What kind of Gang Skill is this? How can a Battle General exude such a formidable presence?" Chen Tiansheng's eyes widened, showing an expression of disbelief.

Even Bai Feng and Zhou Tong, who were fighting in the sky, were shocked by the aura emanating from Xu Nian at this moment. They stopped their combat and turned to look towards Xu Nian.

"Dragon King Fist Third Style, Dragon King Destruction!"

Xu Nian's voice exploded like thunder.

Xu Nian's gaze concentrated as a brilliant light burst forth from his eyes.

Then, his entire being transformed into a giant dragon and charged towards Xia Zhengfeng.

Xia Zhengfeng, who was running at high speed, was instantly horror-stricken at this sight.

He hastily mobilized all his strength and unleashed it towards the giant dragon into which Xu Nian had transformed.

"Boom!"

However, the moment Xia Zhengfeng's fist collided with the giant dragon illusion that Xu Nian had become,

his entire arm broke with a snap.

"What?"

Xia Zhengfeng's expression was one of immense horror.

A great wave of pain swept through his brain.

But before he could even react, he was shocked to discover

that Xu Nian's figure had already appeared in front of him.

Xia Zhengfeng instantly felt a chill in his scalp and then controlled his Strange Metal Armor to defend.

However, the corners of Xu Nian's mouth curled up into a slight smile.

"Boom!"

A punch was thrown.

Like the roar of a dragon.

Xia Zhengfeng's body was instantly blown away,

hurtling nearly a hundred meters through the air.

"Puagh!"

Xia Zhengfeng spat out a mouthful of blood, staring at Xu Nian in alarm.

"Spiritual Sense Attack, you..."

Xia Zhengfeng pointed at Xu Nian, wanting to say something.

But before he could finish, he simply collapsed to the ground, completely lifeless.

A deadly silence surrounded them.

Xia Zhengfeng was dead?

This was an Imperial Prince!

He had been blown to pieces by Xu Nian.

A cold smirk played on Xu Nian's lips.

Dragon King Fist Third Style, although its power was terrifying,

Xu Nian could not unleash its true might and therefore it was not enough to kill Xia Zhengfeng.

What truly killed Xia Zhengfeng was a Spiritual Sense Attack infused with the power of ten thousand Divine Hammers by Xu Nian.

With the boost from the Heavenly Gang Pearl, Xu Nian's Spiritual Sense Attack had become incredibly formidable.

"Dare to kill an Imperial Prince, all of you must die!"

Zhou Tong in the sky, upon seeing Xia Zhengfeng killed, also showed a horrified expression.

Immediately, he tried to escape as a streak of light.

The faces of Chen Wudi and the others all changed dramatically.

If they let this Zhou Tong escape, they would attract endless pursuit and revenge from the Imperial Family.

Bai Feng also realized this and hurried to give chase.

However, Xu Nian just showed a hint of a light smile.

He beckoned with his hand and the Netherworld King Bow appeared in his grasp.

At the same time, the Xuan Ice Arrow materialized.

He drew the bow and notched the arrow.

Spiritual Energy and Gang Qi surged from within his body, and the Netherworld King Bow was instantaneously drawn to a full moon.

"It's your turn to shine, True Dragon Soul."

With a light chuckle from Xu Nian, his eyes took on a sharp glint.

The Xuan Ice Arrow in his hand immediately took flight, turning into a streak of light.

It chased after Zhou Tong.

"Aaah..."

A scream rang out.

Zhou Tong's body was pierced through in an instant.

Then, his figure fell from the sky.

Chen Wudi and Chen Tiansheng were stunned on the spot.

Even Bai Feng, who was chasing Zhou Tong, froze in mid-air.

Killing a Marquis Level expert?

How was this possible?

Xu Nian stood proudly with the Netherworld King Bow in hand.

At the same time,

a True Dragon Soul, invisible to all, returned from afar and merged back into the Netherworld King Bow.

Chapter 282 Soul Origin

Xu Nian's arrow had shocked everyone so much that it took them a while to come back to their senses.

Xu Nian, however, did not pay any attention to the crowd's amazement.

Instead, he looted all the treasures and the storage ring that belonged to Xia Zhengfeng.

The Blue Blood Jade Thunder Battle Armor was not damaged at all.

This was indeed a fine item.

Without a second word, Xu Nian proceeded to form a blood pact with it.

Soon, he was able to feel a connection between the strange metal armor and his own spirit.

Strange metal was inherently peculiar, with the ability to freely control its size and shape.

Xu Nian let the strange metal armor form a vest, clinging tightly to his skin.

Of course, while the battle armor was good, it was also important not to become overly reliant on it.

Otherwise, one could end up with a tragic fate like Xia Zhengfeng.

As for the storage ring, Xu Nian glanced through it briefly.

He discovered that it contained quite a few treasures.

The uses of these treasures would have to be slowly studied later on.

After robbing Xia Zhengfeng clean,

Xu Nian burned his body to ashes with a fire.

Xia Zhengfeng was, after all, a prince of the Tianhen Empire.

The Imperial Family would not let things slide once they found out.

Although he knew that the Imperial Family would eventually trace it back to him, delaying them as long as possible was the goal.

"Xu Nian, you've become so powerful now. Your Spirit Body Cultivation has reached the Four-star General Level. I needed the help of the Star Tower to break through to the One-star Battle General so quickly," Chen Wudi said as he approached, unable to help but express his admiration.

Xu Nian smiled.

For the average person, his rate of cultivation progress indeed seemed abnormal.

However, the Combat Technique and Body Technique he cultivated were of the highest order.

If he couldn't surpass others, then the problem would lie with him.

"What truly surprises me is not your cultivation level, but your comprehension of power. You've already reached the second level of 'Intent', and it seems you're not far from the third level. You're the first person I've ever seen achieve this within the Battle General Realm," Chen Tiansheng also couldn't help but remark.

"Uncle Chen, you flatter me. By the way, Uncle Chen, what poison have you been afflicted with?" Xu Nian asked with concern.

"It's Emperor Scorpion Poison. The Saint who came from the Fang Family this time is not actually from the Fang Family, but a Holy Rank Demon Beast whose true form is the Emperor Scorpion. His poison is terrifyingly potent; even a Saint would struggle to resist it. That I am still alive now is a miracle," Chen Tiansheng said with a bitter smile.

Xu Nian frowned slightly, feeling incredibly astonished in his heart.

He had not expected that the Fang Family's visitor was merely their Holy Rank Spiritual Pet.

It seemed that the power of the Fang Family was far greater than he had imagined.

As for the poison in Chen Tiansheng, Xu Nian naturally had no way to cure it.

He would have to wait a while and ask the Yetian God Emperor for other possible solutions.

"Whoosh!"

Just then, Bai Feng flew in from the distance.

"Is everything taken care of?" Xu Nian asked.

"Reporting to the Sect Master, everything has been thoroughly handled without leaving a single trace," Bai Feng said respectfully.

The arrow Xu Nian had shot earlier had also left him immensely shocked.

As a One-star Marquis Level cultivator himself, he had also felt the threat of that arrow.

Now he truly admired Xu Nian from the bottom of his heart.

"Sect Master?"

When the others heard Bai Feng's address, their faces showed surprise.

"I am now the new Sect Master of the Artifact Refining Sect," Xu Nian explained with a smile.

Although he had always deliberately concealed his status as the Sect Master of the Artifact Refining Sect,

there was no need to hide it from people like Chen Wudi and the others.

Upon hearing Xu Nian's words, Chen Wudi and the others opened their mouths in astonishment.

Even though Xu Nian had mentioned he would become a candidate for Sect Master of the Artifact Refining Sect within three months,

it had only been two months, and Xu Nian had already become the Sect Master of the Artifact Refining Sect.

A seventeen-year-old Sect Master of the Artifact Refining Sect?

Thinking about it was terrifying.

Chen Tiansheng also couldn't help but feel sentimental.

The identity of the Artifact Refining Sect Master certainly carried more weight than his as a mere Prefectural Governor.

Chen Yao, however, had a somewhat dim look in her eyes.

It was obvious that the rise in Xu Nian's status made her feel inexplicably uneasy.

Although Xu Nian was a genius in the past, she was, after all, the daughter of a Prefectural Governor.

But now she had lost the status of the governor's daughter, while Xu Nian had become the master of a sect.

This vast disparity made the tender feelings that had only recently blossomed in her heart feel somewhat out of place.

Xu Nian noticed Chen Yao's thoughts, but he had no intention of comforting her.

If he couldn't offer her a future, it was best not to provoke one.

"Uncle Chen, is Sister Yanyun's physical body completely intact?" Xu Nian quickly asked.

This was a matter of great concern to him.

"Yes, we've been keeping her with us all this time. Right now, she's inside Wudi's Star Tower," replied Chen Tiansheng.

Chen Wudi also nodded in agreement.

"Quick, take me there!" Xu Nian said anxiously.

Chen Wudi nodded and with a wave of his hand, he sucked everyone into the Star Tower.

Upon arriving at the second level of the Star Tower, Xu Nian immediately felt that the concentration of spiritual energy was twenty times that of the outside world.

"Cousin is over there. She was burnt by the Refining Immortal Array before, and the Xuan Ice Coffin has already melted by more than half," Chen Wudi pointed ahead and explained.

Following the direction Chen Wudi was pointing in, Xu Nian saw Zhao Yanyun lying on a large chunk of ice.

He quickly walked over.

Then, he began to awaken Zhao Yanyun's soul using the method given to him by Emperor Ye Tian.

Spiritual Sense Power was released through the Heavenly Gang Pearl, slowly heading towards Zhao Yanyun's Mud Ball Palace.

Zhao Yanyun's Mud Ball Palace was in a closed state.

To enter, Xu Nian had to first open the Mud Ball Palace for her.

Helping someone not yet a Saint open their Mud Ball Palace was no easy task.

That's also why a spiritual artifact of spiritual sense was necessary.

Xu Nian released all of his Spiritual Sense Power directly.

With the enhancement of the Heavenly Gang Pearl, he bombarded Zhao Yanyun's Mud Ball Palace.

"Boom!"

A loud noise followed, and a crack appeared in the large doors of the Mud Ball Palace.

But it hadn't completely opened yet.

"Gotta keep pushing!"

Xu Nian shouted in his heart, once again directing all his Spiritual Sense Power at Zhao Yanyun's Mud Ball Palace.

"Boom!"

Zhao Yanyun's Mud Ball Palace doors were finally blown open by Xu Nian.

A stream of soul energy began to seep out.

Xu Nian used the power of Spiritual Sense to condense a figure of himself and slowly walked towards the inside of the Mud Ball Palace.

He had to find Zhao Yanyun's slumbering soul origin within her Mud Ball Palace and awaken it.

"Is this Sister Yanyun's Mud Ball Palace? It's so cold! Why is it this cold?"

Xu Nian's soul form walked in the vast Mud Ball Palace, feeling a terrifyingly cold aura permeating from the depths of the hall, causing his entire soul to tremble.

If it weren't for the enhancement of the Heavenly Gang Pearl, Xu Nian's soul could have very well been frozen stiff by this terrorizing coldness.

Xu Nian didn't understand why Sister Yanyun's Mud Ball Palace was so bitterly cold.

The Mud Ball Palace was vast and filled with thick mist.

Xu Nian could only grope his way, penetrating the mist towards the depth.

However, as Xu Nian crossed the mist and reached the deepest part of Zhao Yanyun's Mud Ball Palace,

The scene before him left him stunned.

A huge Ice Crystal was suspended in midair.

Within the Ice Crystal lay a stunning beauty, completely bare.

Who could it be if not Zhao Yanyun?

Chapter 283 A Different Zhao Yanyun

"Huh, is this Sister Yanyun's soul origin?"

Xu Nian looked at the beauty slumbering within the ice crystal, his face revealing an expression of astonishment.

It seemed that Zhao Yanyun's Mud Ball Palace was somewhat special.

Although general Mud Ball Palaces also have this kind of soul power mist to nurture the soul,

they would never be as coldly icy as Zhao Yanyun's.

And now, even Zhao Yanyun's soul origin had been frozen.

Mysterious!

Of course, there was also a faint golden glow on Zhao Yanyun, enveloping her.

If Xu Nian was not mistaken, that should be the memory and insights left by the Chen Family ancestor.

It was precisely because of the protection of this memory that Zhao Yanyun was not completely frozen by the ice.

"It looks like in order to rescue Sister Yanyun, I'll need to break the ice first," Xu Nian muttered to himself.

After speaking, a hammer appeared in his hand.

He had condensed it from the power of his Spiritual Sense.

He intended to use the power of his Spiritual Sense to execute the Ten Thousand Divine Hammer Technique.

"Boom!"

Xu Nian's hammer struck fiercely against the ice surrounding Zhao Yanyun.

However, the ice merely shook slightly and showed no signs of shattering at all.

"How is this possible?"

Xu Nian exhibited a look of surprise.

Such a blow from the hammer would have been unbearable even for Marquis Level mighty ones, yet now it was unable to break the ice.

"Boy, this ice is Xuanpo Heart Ice, with your Soul Power, naturally, you cannot break it."

However, just then, the voice of Emperor Ye Tian resonated in Xu Nian's mind.

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

If he couldn't break the Xuanpo Heart Ice, wasn't that tantamount to Sister Yanyun being beyond rescue?

"Can't break it, so why not absorb it?"

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

Xu Nian was taken aback, right!

This Xuanpo Heart Ice was clearly condensed from soul energy.

Since its essence was soul energy, then it should also be absorbable.

With that thought, Xu Nian immediately approached the ice block and pressed his hand against it.

"Hiss!"

The moment Xu Nian's hand touched the ice.

He felt as if his soul was about to freeze stiff, his entire soul quivering.

Nevertheless, protected by the Heavenly Gang Pearl, Xu Nian's soul did not suffer any harm.

"Hum!"

Xu Nian started to invoke the soul absorption method of the Ten Thousand Divine Hammer Technique, beginning to devour the Xuanpo Heart Ice.

Indeed, as Xu Nian absorbed, a strong Soul Power flowed into his soul.

This Soul Power also carried a strong chill.

But it was still within the range Xu Nian could endure.

"What a powerful soul power, how can the soul power of Sister Yanyun's Mud Ball Palace be so strong?"

The more he absorbed, the more astonished Xu Nian became.

He could confirm that the soul power of Zhao Yanyun's Mud Ball Palace was superior to his.

Time passed, little by little.

Outside, Chen Wudi and the others showed anxious expressions.

Looking at Xu Nian and the other, who sat cross-legged, their hearts were filled with confusion.

"How can it be taking so long, it's already been close to three days," Chen Wudi said impatiently.

Chen Tiansheng and Bai Feng both shook their heads.

They were Marquis Level mighty ones and had not awakened their Spiritual Sense.

Thus, they were unclear about Xu Nian's current situation.

All they could do was wait.

Within Zhao Yanyun's Mud Ball Palace.

Finally, Xu Nian opened his eyes and exhaled in relief.

By now, the ice encasing Zhao Yanyun's surface had completely melted away.

And Xu Nian's Spiritual Sense Power had increased by a whole fold.

Xu Nian was confident that now, with the amplification of his Spiritual Sense Power by the Heavenly Gang Pearl,

even if he was not on par with a One-star Saint, the gap wouldn't be too wide.

Moreover, he discovered that as he absorbed this cold Soul Power, his Spiritual Sense Power also gained a chilling effect.

When attacking enemies, it would have unexpected results.

Xu Nian felt the changes within himself and a joyful expression appeared on his face.

But when he looked at Zhao Yanyun, he saw that she was still not awake.

"What's going on? Why hasn't she woken up yet?"

Xu Nian looked at Zhao Yanyun's Soul Origin hovering in front of him, feeling somewhat restless.

Although what was in front of him was Zhao Yanyun's Soul Origin and not her real body, it was so lifelike.

As a man, Xu Nian naturally felt moved.

"Kid, if you want to awaken her, you have to kiss her!" Emperor Ye Tian's voice rang out again.

"Kiss her?" Xu Nian was stunned for a moment.

"That's right, kiss her. Currently, her soul is completely stagnant and must be stimulated by an external influence. She had some feelings for you before, so kissing her should be able to stimulate her. Of course, if you choose another more intense method, that would also be possible. Just a reminder, Dual Soul Cultivation is much more stimulating than physical dual cultivation," Emperor Ye Tian said with a mischievous laugh.

Xu Nian was speechless.

Dual Soul Cultivation?

He couldn't help but glance at Zhao Yanyun's perfect body again, and his entire soul began to stir.

Frightened by this thought, he hastily dismissed the idea.

If he did that, wouldn't it be taking advantage of someone in a vulnerable state?

How would that be different from a beast?

"Forget it, let's just stick to a kiss!"

Xu Nian whispered to himself.

Having said that, he walked up to Zhao Yanyun, looked at those bright red lips, and gently kissed them.

The moment Xu Nian's lips touched Zhao Yanyun's, he felt his soul electrified,

as if he were experiencing an indescribable comfort.

This sensation was much more intense and stimulating than physical contact.

Now, Xu Nian fully believed Emperor Ye Tian's words.

He had only kissed her for a moment, and he was so comfortable that he couldn't stand it.

If he really did that thing, wouldn't it be like ascending to heaven?

"Buzz!"

At that moment, Zhao Yanyun suddenly opened her eyes.

Their gazes met.

Xu Nian was startled and was about to stand up.

However, Zhao Yanyun suddenly reached out an arm and hooked it around Xu Nian's neck.

She completely embraced him and ended up pressing him beneath her.

Xu Nian's entire soul instantly stiffened.

It was over; he was the one being seduced.

That was the only thought in Xu Nian's mind.

He didn't dare to think of anything else.

But Zhao Yanyun had only kissed Xu Nian briefly before she stopped moving.

She looked at Xu Nian with a charming gaze.

"Were you afraid I would really do that to you...?" Zhao Yanyun asked with a flirtatious smile.

"Ah..." Xu Nian was at a loss for words, unsure of what to say.

He always felt that Zhao Yanyun was different from before.

"Hehe, I've scared you silly, haven't I? Look at how timid you are. This is my Mud Ball Palace, after all. Even if I did something, others outside wouldn't be able to see, right?" Zhao Yanyun whispered into Xu Nian's ear.

"Well... Sister Yanyun, since you're awake, I should leave," Xu Nian dared not make the slightest movement.

Because Zhao Yanyun was currently pressing down on him.

"Ha ha, alright, I'll stop teasing you. Thank you for saving me. However, this awakening has also awakened the memories of my past life," Zhao Yanyun said with a faint smile. After saying that, a dress appeared on her body, and she climbed off Xu Nian.

"Memories of a past life?" Xu Nian was slightly taken aback.

He had previously felt that the current Zhao Yanyun was somewhat different from before.

The past Zhao Yanyun was clearly gentle and reserved.

And while the current Zhao Yanyun was still like that, there was also a hint of seductiveness mixed in with her reserve.

"I can't tell you just yet, but when the time is right, I will tell you everything. Alright, let's go out now, they have been waiting for a long time," Zhao Yanyun said with a smile.

After speaking, she waved her hand.

Xu Nian's soul flew out of Zhao Yanyun's Mud Ball Palace and returned to his own body.

Chapter 284: Undercurrents Surge

"Look, they've woken up."

Chen Yao exclaimed excitedly.

Everyone immediately gathered around.

Both Xu Nian and Zhao Yanyun had stood up.

Xu Nian couldn't help but glance at Zhao Yanyun.

She still wore a cold, graceful demeanor, nothing like her enchanting appearance in the Mud Ball Palace.

Xu Nian even almost thought he had dreamed it all.

"I've worried you all, but I'm alright now," Zhao Yanyun gratefully said to everyone.

Hearing this, everyone breathed a sigh of relief.

"Xu Nian, you're really something, actually managing to save your cousin. But why did it take so long? It's been three days since you closed your eyes," Chen Wudi couldn't help but say.

Xu Nian gave an awkward smile, not knowing how to explain.

Instead, Zhao Yanyun calmly said, "My soul was frozen. Xu Nian took a long time to dissolve the Ice Crystals on my soul's origin."

While saying this, Zhao Yanyun's face showed no signs of unusual emotion.

She didn't mention a word about how Xu Nian had awakened her soul.

Everyone didn't think too much about it and didn't doubt Zhao Yanyun's words.

However, Xu Nian felt embarrassed as Zhao Yanyun's calm demeanor made him feel rather strange.

"Uncle, were you poisoned by the Emperor Scorpion?" Zhao Yanyun suddenly looked at Chen Tiansheng and asked.

"Eh? How did you know?" Chen Tiansheng asked in surprise.

Chen Wudi and others also showed surprised expressions.

"It's like this: Sister Yanyun has activated the Mud Ball Palace and naturally possesses the ability of Spiritual Sense exploration," Xu Nian explained.

Everyone then came to a realization.

Their faces also showed envy.

Activating the Mud Ball Palace, possessing the power of Spiritual Sense, these were methods everyone dreamt of!

Zhao Yanyun glanced at Xu Nian, her eyes flashing with a clever seductiveness.

Xu Nian shuddered.

Yes, there was no mistake!

This was the real Zhao Yanyun.

However, Zhao Yanyun seemed reluctant to show her true self in front of others.

"Actually, although the Emperor Scorpion Poison is difficult to cure, it isn't incurable. There is one thing that can neutralize the Emperor Scorpion Poison," Zhao Yanyun suddenly said.

"What is it?" Both Chen Wudi and Chen Yao asked excitedly.

"Mandala Viper Gallbladder!" Zhao Yanyun answered.

"Mandala Viper Gallbladder? Aren't Mandala Vipers also highly poisonous Demon Beasts?" Bai Feng couldn't help but say.

"That's correct, the Mandala Viper is indeed a highly poisonous creature, but its gallbladder is non-toxic. Once consumed, not only does it cure the Emperor Scorpion Poison, but it also grants immunity to all poisons. However, the gallbladder must be of Holy Level," Zhao Yanyun explained.

The eyes of Chen Wudi and others brightened at first, then their brows furrowed.

A Holy Level Mandala Viper Gallbladder wasn't something easily obtainable.

Chen Tiansheng also frowned slightly, but he was more curious about the change in Zhao Yanyun.

It was clearly a surprise for him that Zhao Yanyun could mention these details.

Xu Nian, seeing the contemplative look on Chen Tiansheng, knew that experience was indeed profound.

Chen Tiansheng was beginning to be suspicious.

"Sister Yanyun, did you read about this in ancient books?" Xu Nian interjected.

Zhao Yanyun, realizing Xu Nian was helping her out, smiled and said, "Yes, I read about it in an ancient text before."

Hearing this, Chen Tiansheng no longer harbored any doubts.

Zhao Yanyun also gratefully glanced at Xu Nian and communicated telepathically, "Thanks, little husband!"

Xu Nian was speechless.

How did he suddenly become Zhao Yanyun's little husband?

He hadn't agreed to marry her!

"No matter how difficult it is, as long as there is hope, we must try," Chen Wudi firmly said.

Chen Yao also nodded, her expression equally resolute.

Chen Tiansheng felt a sense of relief, although he didn't harbor much hope in his heart.

A Saint-Level Demon Beast could crush them all with one hand.

The thought of killing the snake to obtain its gallbladder seemed far-fetched.

"Are we setting off for the Demon Beast Forest then?" Chen Yao asked.

"There's no need. According to the intelligence held by our Artifact Refining Sect, among the Holy-Level Demon Beasts active this time in the Demon Beast Forest, one is the Mandala Viper. Currently, they are not in the Demon Beast Forest, but in Dong'an City," Bai Feng said.

Everyone was stunned.

What a coincidence?

"Since that's the case, what are we waiting for? Let's head straight to Dong'an City and see what this Demon Emperor's Tomb is all about," Chen Wudi said.

Xu Nian also nodded.

He was also curious about the matter of the Demon Emperor's Tomb.

Besides, the people from the Artifact Refining Sect had almost arrived in Dong'an City.

As the Sect Master, how could he not go?

"Alright, let's depart for Dong'an City," Xu Nian said, nodding.

Thus, Xu Nian and his group left the Star Tower and set off towards Dong'an City.

However, not long after Xu Nian's group departed,

On a hill in the Western Suburbs, two Battle Armor guards appeared.

"Are you sure this is the place?" one of the Battle Armor guards asked.

"Positive. The aura of the ninth Prince disappeared right here," another guard coldly replied.

The two looked at each other and a strange light began to emerge from their hands.

Soon, an item resembling a copper mirror appeared.

As the two activated it, images began to appear on the copper mirror.

These images were of Xu Nian and Xia Zhengfeng in battle.

At last, the image stabilized with Xu Nian's face occupying the entire frame.

"This is the man who killed the ninth Prince. Quick, take an imprint of his image and send it to the eighth Prince," one of the guards immediately ordered.

"Yes!"

The two promptly replicated Xu Nian's image using a Communication Spirit Talisman and sent it.

"Ha, daring to murder a member of the Imperial Family, truly courting death," that guard remarked coldly, his eyes brimming with intense killing intent.

His subordinate also displayed a fierce killing intent, deeply moved by their resolve.

Daring to kill a member of the Imperial Family was a grave offense.

Once captured, not only the assailant would suffer.

The force behind that person would be eradicated root and branch.

"Let's go!"

The two guards came in haste and left in haste.

Not long after the guards left, another figure landed on the hill.

This was a figure of a woman, her lips curved in a seductive light smile.

The woman stretched out her hand toward the empty space in front of her and made a pulling gesture.

Lights began to emerge around her, gradually congregating towards her palm.

The lights eventually condensed, forming a palm-sized, ethereal human figure.

And this figure was astonishingly identical to Prince Xia Zhengfeng.

"The Imperial Family's soul truly is extraordinary. To think it hasn't dissipated even after such a long time since his death, I hope it does not disappoint me."

The woman smiled seductively, then with a flick of her sleeve, she soared into the air.

If Xu Nian were here, he would undoubtedly be greatly surprised.

Because the owner of this enchanting figure was none other than Lin Ruolan, who had abandoned him and fled last time at the Heavenly Slash Gang.

Chapter 285: Bringing Disgrace Upon Oneself

Dong'an City is located in the eastern region of East Field County.

It is one of the several large cities that are closest to the Demon Beast Forest.

Xu Nian and the others rode Little Xu Yu, heading towards the direction of Dong'an City.

In fact, Xu Nian also had Xia Zhengfeng's Flying Spirit Ship in his possession.

However, that Flying Spirit Ship was too ostentatious, and it also required an enormous amount of Spirit Stones to operate.

Therefore, Xu Nian had abandoned the idea of traveling to Dong'an City on this Spiritual Ship.

The Spiritual Ship was now recognized by Xu Nian.

The Purple King Vine on it had also been forcefully subdued with the help of Emperor Ye Tian.

If one were to look carefully, they would definitely notice.

Coiling around Xu Nian's left arm was a thin purple vine, and that was the Purple King Vine.

Besides this, Xu Nian had also found quite a few good items in Xia Zhengfeng's storage ring.

Among them, two bottles of pills delighted Xu Nian greatly.

One bottle was the Battle King Pill, the other was the Body King Pill.

These two bottles of pills must have been prepared by Xia Zhengfeng for breaking through to the Marquis Level.

Now they served to benefit Xu Nian perfectly.

Xu Nian swallowed both bottles of pills in one go.

In the end, his Spiritual Cultivation soared directly to the peak of the Seven-star War General.

His Divine Demon Refining Body also stepped into the realm of the Seven-star Body General.

When Chen Wudi and the others saw Xu Nian consuming nearly twenty Battle King Pills and Body King Pills like they were beans,

they finally understood how Xu Nian's cultivation could increase so swiftly.

What the hell?

Eating pills like meals.

If his cultivation couldn't rapidly increase,

then indeed it would be a curse from the heavens.

Seeing Xu Nian's cultivation surge once again,

Chen Wudi and Chen Yao were hit with a crazy shock,

and directly went to cultivate in the Star Tower.

Even Bai Feng was severely stimulated,

and entered the Star Tower as well.

If they didn't work harder, Xu Nian would quickly surpass him.

Even now, in a head-on fight,

he wouldn't dare say he could defeat Xu Nian.

However, Zhao Yanyun's eyes were deep, revealing a hint of curiosity.

"We are about thirty li from reaching Dong'an City," Xu Nian said to himself, standing on Little Xu Yu's back.

Today's Dong'an City is a place where storm clouds gather.

All the talents from the Four Great Families, the Imperial Family, and the Three Great Sects have gathered in Dong'an City.

One could say that Dong'an City today is truly a place of hidden dragons and crouching tigers.

Of course, what Xu Nian cared about the most was the Xu Family of Longyu Mountain from the Four Great Families.

He did not know who exactly from Longyu Mountain Xu Family had come this time.

And that sister he had never met, he wondered if she had also come to East Field County.

"This time the emergence of the Demon Emperor's Tomb, you must not act rashly until the last moment," Zhao Yanyun suddenly spoke up.

"Why?" Xu Nian asked in confusion.

"Just listen to me, the Demon Emperor's Tomb is not as simple as you think, it is fraught with danger, and even Saints who enter cannot guarantee they'll come out alive," Zhao Yanyun said.

Xu Nian was astonished, even Saints couldn't guarantee their survival.

How dangerous was the Demon Emperor's Tomb?

And which Demon Emperor's tomb was it exactly?

Xu Nian felt that Zhao Yanyun seemed to know something, but she was unwilling to say.

Since Zhao Yanyun was unwilling to speak, Xu Nian did not press for an answer.

He could only suppress the curiosity in his heart.

He believed that before long, all would come to light.

"Swoosh!"

Just then, a swiftly moving arrow shot towards Xu Nian from ahead.

The arrow broke through the air, emitting a piercing whistling sound.

With terrifying wind attribute Spiritual Energy, it aimed straight for Xu Nian's glabella.

Xu Nian's gaze sharpened in an instant, as he stretched out two fingers like lightning, catching the arrow intended for the Family Head.

The arrow stopped an inch from Xu Nian's forehead.

The wind attribute Spiritual Energy attached to it was also dispersed by Xu Nian's single finger.

"Wow, actually caught the arrow. Looks like he's a tough one."

At the same time, a light laugh came from the distance.

Xu Nian's eyes became fierce as he looked forward.

He saw a huge Flying Demon Beast emerge from the clouds three hundred meters ahead of them.

And on the back of the Flying Demon Beast.

Three young men were seated right now.

The three young men were all wearing the same uniform, with playful smiles on their lips.

Clearly, they were all from the same power.

Among the three, one young man held a giant bow in his hands.

He was the one who had shot the previous arrow.

"Tianjian Sect!"

Xu Nian recognized at a glance the insignia on the three men's clothes.

It was the symbol of Tianjian Sect, one of the Three Great Sects.

And the identities of these three young men went without saying, they were surely core disciples of Tianjian Sect.

The Cultivation of these three youths was not low.

Two were Eight-star War Generals, and one was a Nine-star Body General.

And the Demon Beast they were riding was a Nine-star War General level Green-eyed Qingfeng Eagle.

It could be said that such a force was among the best in the whole East Field County.

Of course, in today's East Field County, where masters gathered, it naturally didn't count for much.

"What do you three mean by this? We have never met before and yet you attack so viciously, isn't that a bit too bullying?" Xu Nian asked coldly.

Little Xu Yu also hovered in the air, his eyes turning very unpleasant.

"Haha, too bullying? Since you know we are bullying, why ask so much? Kid, we're just bored and out hunting, it's just your bad luck to run into us," the youth holding the giant bow laughed heartily.

The two young men behind him also wore mockingly amused smiles.

Xu Nian's gaze immediately darkened.

He instantly understood what hunting meant in the youth's words.

It was to hunt down strong passersby and seize the wealth of those passing through.

Presumptuous, simply too presumptuous.

"Kid, your Spiritual Pet and the woman behind you are not bad. Just hand them over obediently, and if I'm in a good mood, I might even spare your life," the youth holding the giant bow laughed heartily.

He looked at Zhao Yanyun behind Xu Nian with a lewd expression.

The two young men behind him also had playful looks in their eyes.

Their gazes roamed over Zhao Yanyun, exuding an unspoken greed.

"I've long heard that the disciples of Tianjian Sect are arrogant, but I didn't expect them to be so audacious."

Xu Nian laughed out of anger, the urge to kill already rising in his heart.

He didn't expect that he hadn't even reached East Field City yet, and already ran into such a situation.

"Oh, you even know we are from Tianjian Sect. Kid, since you know we're from Tianjian Sect, then hand over your storage ring and the beauty behind you now," the Eight-star War General holding the bow huffed again.

Xu Nian scoffed in disdain.

"Seeking death!"

The Eight-star War General immediately became furious.

"Wang Ming, why waste words with him? Just shoot to kill, and don't miss like you did just now."

The Nine-star Body General among them also spoke up at the same time.

"Don't worry, it definitely won't happen. I only used three levels of my strength for that last arrow, but this time, I will make him understand exactly who he is talking to," Wang Ming huffed coldly.

He flipped his palm.

A Meteorite Iron Arrow appeared in his hand.

He drew the bow and notched the arrow.

In an instant, the bow was drawn to a full moon.

The arrowhead pointed at Xu Nian.

Seeing this, Xu Nian's mouth lifted in a continuous cold smile.

Playing with bows and arrows in front of him was simply playing with knives before Guan Yu.

An act of self-humiliation!

Chapter 286: Xu Nian's Fierce Strength

"Face your doom, let me show you how powerful my Chasing Wind Arrow is!"

The Eight-star War General bellowed, his arrow instantly snapping from the bowstring.

The arrow pierced the air, spinning at high velocity.

The surrounding wind not only offered no resistance,

but instead it boosted its speed, making the arrow even faster.

It glowed with a green fluorescence, emitting terrifying fluctuations.

It traced a dazzling path through the air, aimed straight for Xu Nian's heart.

This arrow was so powerful that it could kill an ordinary Eight-star War General.

"Hmm, there's a hint of Wind Force, but it's not fully mastered yet,"

Xu Nian murmured to himself.

However, a faint cold smile soon spread across his lips.

"Ha ha, this guy is scared stiff."

Wang Ming saw from a distance that Xu Nian didn't react at all.

A look of triumph immediately spread across his face.

His two companions also sneered disdainfully,

as if they had already seen Xu Nian's heart being pierced.

However, the next moment, their smiles froze.

Xu Nian sharply flicked the arrow in his hand.

The arrow flew out with tremendous speed,

its force and speed even greater than the arrow Wang Ming had shot.

"Clang!"

The arrow Xu Nian flicked collided with Wang Ming's arrow.

Wang Ming's arrow was split into two and fell.

While Xu Nian's arrow continued unabated, rushing straight toward Wang Ming.

"What?"

Wang Ming was greatly shocked, he dropped the giant bow in his hands and drew a sharp sword.

He fiercely struck at the arrow Xu Nian had shot.

"Clang!"

The moment the blade met the arrowhead.

Wang Ming felt a terrifying force travel through his sword, exploding directly in his chest.

"Whoosh!"

Blood spurted wildly from Wang Ming.

His body was blown off the back of the Green-eyed Qingfeng Eagle.

"Wang Ming!"

His two companions were taken aback,

and they hurried to try to grab Wang Ming.

But at that moment, a cold voice came to their ears.

"Let me show you what real archery is!"

Then an Ice Arrow, formed from Xuan Ice, instantly pierced the void.

It went straight through Wang Ming's chest.

Wang Ming was sent flying backward by the force of the arrow,

finally crashing mightily against a distant mountaintop.

He was impaled against the wall of the mountain.

Wang Ming's eyes widened, dying with his eyes open.

Until his death, he didn't understand how the opponent had managed it,

not even giving him a slight chance to resist.

The two Tianjian Sect disciples standing on the eagle's back were utterly shocked when they saw this.

They quickly turned and stared intensely at Xu Nian, their eyes filled with immense killing intent.

Xu Nian, holding the Netherworld King Bow, wore a cold, proud smile.

From the moment Wang Ming had shot that first arrow at him, in Xu Nian's heart, he had already sentenced him to death.

Thus, Xu Nian had killed him without a trace of regret.

As for the Tianjian Sect?

He dared to kill an Imperial Prince of the Tianhen Empire, how could he hesitate to kill a disciple of the Tianjian Sect?

"Kid, how dare you kill a disciple of the Tianjian Sect? Do you realize you are courting death?" said the Nine-star Body General angrily.

"Ha ha, so he's allowed to kill me, but I'm not allowed to kill him? What's the Tianjian Sect anyway? Even if your Sect Master comes, I'll say the same thing," Xu Nian laughed loudly, his voice carrying an air of dominance.

He was the Artifact Refining Sect Master, holding a status equal to that of the Tianjian Sect Master.

Just like he said, even if the Tianjian Sect Master came, they couldn't do anything to him.

"Dare kill a disciple of the Tianjian Sect, you just wait for your death!"

The Nine-star Body General bellowed, then he rode the Green-eyed Qingfeng Eagle and turned away.

Xu Nian watched this scene unfold.

Despite everything, he found it amusing that these two were running away without a fight.

But on second thought, it made sense since neither of them had reached the Marquis Level.

In the sky, facing someone like Xu Nian who wielded a bow and arrow, they would simply serve as targets for him.

"Thinking you can escape? Not so easy," Xu Nian chuckled lightly.

He drew his bow again.

"Swoosh!"

The Xuan Ice Arrow shot out, instantly turning into a streak of light.

"Phut!"

Another Eight-star Battle General was pierced through the skull by Xu Nian's arrow, immediately falling from the back of the eagle.

The Nine-star Body General saw this happen and was instantly shocked.

This young man's archery skills were even more terrifying than he had imagined.

Being able to kill an Eight-star Battle General with one arrow, Xu Nian posed a significant threat to him as well.

"Swoosh!"

At that moment, another sound of breaking air came.

Without hesitation, the Nine-star Body General gathered his Gang Qi Armor.

At the same time, he produced a giant sword and swung it behind him.

"Clang!"

The Ice Arrow collided with the giant sword.

It rang out like struck iron.

The Ice Arrow was deflected but still pierced through the skull of the Nine-star level Demon Beast.

The Nine-star Body General then plummeted straight down from the sky.

His mind was filled with horror, wondering just what kind of monster he had provoked.

The power of that single arrow was so immense.

Even with all his might, his strike barely deflected the Ice Arrow.

More than that, his arm was now violently numb.

To think that he, a Nine-star Body General, had his arm made numb like this.

One could imagine just how terrifying the power of that arrow was.

As he neared the ground, the Nine-star Body General quickly adjusted his posture.

He rolled on the ground to offset the force upon landing.

However, before he could catch his breath,

he shockingly discovered that the archer had leaped from the sky.

"Boom!"

A massive crash sounded.

Like a meteorite hitting the earth, he struck heavily on the ground.

Two deep pits were created where he landed, yet Xu Nian stood firm.

The Nine-star Body General's pupils dilated wildly, his expression filled with shock.

To jump from such a height and remain unharmed—how terrifying must this young man's physique be?

"Who are you? I'll have you know I am a core disciple of the Tianjian Sect. If you kill me, the Tianjian Sect will never let you go," the Nine-star Body General hurriedly threatened.

"Do you think being a core disciple of the Tianjian Sect is very impressive? I am the Artifact Refining Sect Master," Xu Nian said with a smile.

The Nine-star Body General immediately became furious.

Naturally, he did not believe Xu Nian was the Sect Master of the Artifact Refining Sect.

He thought Xu Nian was mocking him.

"I'll fight you with everything I have!" the Nine-star Body General roared.

Saying this, he swung his giant sword fiercely at Xu Nian.

The giant sword, probably weighing thousands of pounds, moved with a terrifying and powerful airstream.

This strike could easily crush a stone several meters in diameter.

Yet, the corners of Xu Nian's mouth showed a slight smirk.

He did not bring out any weapon but instead threw a punch at the Nine-star Body General's giant sword with his bare hands.

"Clang!"

Xu Nian's fist collided with the giant sword, emitting a thunderous boom.

"What?"

The expression on the Nine-star Body General's face drastically changed.

The youth in front of him was countering his giant sword with bare hands!

One must know that his blow held at least three hundred thousand pounds of force!

Chapter 287 What's Wrong with This World

300,000 jin of tremendous strength.

Such immense power could crush an ordinary person into mush.

Yet Xu Nian confronted it barehanded, causing an enormous shock to the Nine-star Body General.

Lin Zhen retreated several steps in succession, the hand that was gripping the giant sword going numb with a severe tingling sensation.

Yet Xu Nian's figure did not move an inch, completely unharmed.

"Are you human or a Demon Beast?"

At this very moment, Lin Zhen truly suspected that the youth before him was a Demon Beast who had entered the Saint Realm and transformed into a human.

Otherwise, how could he possibly confront his giant sword barehanded?

"Of course I'm human. Do you really think only Demon Beasts can possess such a powerful body?" Xu Nian let out a cold laugh.

He then stepped forward, and the peak cultivation of a Seven-star Body General burst forth in an instant.

"Seven... Seven-star Body General?" Lin Zhen was stunned.

This was completely different from what he had expected.

In his view, this youth who could confront his giant sword had to be at least a Marquis Level Body King.

However, he now found out that the youth was merely a Seven-star Body General.

Lower than his own cultivation level?

How could that be possible?

Lin Zhen felt as if his worldview had been turned upside down.

Seeing the shock on Lin Zhen's face, Xu Nian knew what he was thinking.

"Realm does not represent everything, strength is the fundamental," Xu Nian said proudly.

Divine Demon Refining Body far surpassed the cellular development of an ordinary body cultivation power.

Therefore, as a Seven-star War General, he had already exceeded the strength of a peak Body General in both physical toughness and the reserve of Divine Demon Gang Qi.

"Hmph, even if your cultivation is somewhat special, I don't believe you can kill me. As a core disciple of the Tianjian Sect, I'm not unworthy of my reputation," Lin Zhen snorted coldly.

Regaining his composure, he looked at Xu Nian with eyes filled with fighting spirit.

A powerful Sword Force emanated from him, and in an instant, his entire aura became extremely profound.

"Sword Force?" A look of surprise appeared on Xu Nian's face.

This Tianjian Sect is not lacking in their understanding of the Sword Dao!

By comparison, not a single one of the elite disciples of the Artifact Refining Sect has grasped the Force.

Naturally, the disciples of the Artifact Refining Sect prioritized Artifact Refining.

In the realm of comprehension, they were naturally far inferior to the disciples of the Tianjian Sect.

"Hmph, I don't believe you can withstand my sword attack, Sky Piercing Sword!"

With a loud shout, Lin Zhen leaped up and cleaved down with his sword mid-air.

In an instant, the giant sword shone brightly and seemed to swell threefold.

This single strike could split mountains and sever rivers!

"Interesting, you've managed to bring the Chongyue Sword Formation to such a level, quite impressive indeed," said Xu Nian with a slight smile.

Although Lin Zhen was only at the First Level of Sword Force Realm, his integration of the Sword Force was quite good.

The power of this move was truly terrifying.

"But that's all it is, just impressive!" A hint of a light smirk crossed Xu Nian's eyes.

Divine Demon Gang Qi was released instantly, and the Chongyue Mountain Formation erupted in a flash.

Then, Xu Nian's entire being became like a majestic mountain.

The Meteorite Iron Hammer appeared in his hand.

"Three-Forging Hammer, Collapse Thunder!"

Xu Nian roared, and the hammer in his hand thundered out.

"Boom!"

A loud boom rang out.

Lin Zhen's giant sword shattered instantly.

The terrifying hammer did not stop and struck directly onto his chest.

"Boom!"

Lin Zhen's eyes bulged as his body flew backward at high speed.

He crashed for hundreds of meters before coming to a halt, dragging a long mark on the ground.

"No... impossible, you're actually... in the Transformation Force Realm."

Lin Zhen lifted his head and struggled to utter these words.

He struggled to stand, but was powerless to do so.

...

Until this moment, Lin Zhen finally realized exactly what kind of ruthless character they had provoked.

In the Tianjian Sect, among the core disciples, there was only one person in the Transformation Force Realm.

And that person was their Tianjian Sect's number one genius, already twenty-eight years old.

"Sect Master, what happened?"

Just then, Chen Wudi and the others heard the commotion and walked out of the Star Tower.

Bai Feng glanced at Lin Zhen lying on the ground and instantly recognized him as a disciple of the Tianjian Sect.

Lin Zhen also recognized Bai Feng.

After all, Bai Feng was once the most dazzling disciple of the Artifact Refining Sect.

"Sect... Sect Master? How is this possible?" Lin Zhen stared, his eyes wide with disbelief.

The shock in his heart was far greater than the shock from Xu Nian unleashing an attack at the Transformation Force Realm.

"Do you know him?" Xu Nian asked Bai Feng upon seeing the surprise on his face.

"I've met him once, but we're not really acquainted," Bai Feng answered.

Xu Nian nodded slightly, speaking indifferently, "Then finish him off!"

"Yes, Sect Master!" Bai Feng replied, then walked towards Lin Zhen.

Lin Zhen watched Bai Feng approach and after being stupefied for a long while, finally asked, "Is he really the Artifact Refining Sect Master?"

"Yes!" Bai Feng answered coldly.

Lin Zhen, upon hearing Xu Nian's response, was astonished.

The Sect Master of the Artifact Refining Sect, the leader of the Three Great Sects, was this young man before him?

What was happening to this world?

However, before Lin Zhen could come to his senses, Bai Feng's palm struck his chest.

His heart was shattered!

Lin Zhen's pupils constricted, and he lost consciousness, completely passing out.

"We should continue on our way!" Xu Nian said to everyone.

He then led the group on foot towards the direction of Dong'an City.

By now, they were not far from Dong'an City, and walking there would be more inconspicuous.

As for the bodies of Lin Zhen and the others, Xu Nian didn't even think about destroying them.

If the Tianjian Sect were to eventually trace it back to him, they likely wouldn't have much to say.

...

Xu Nian and his group traveled on foot and soon arrived at the gates of Dong'an City.

Dong'an City was originally just a small city on the border.

But now it was bustling with people, overcrowded with a constant stream of visitors.

When Xu Nian and his group arrived at the city gates, they saw many people rushing towards Dong'an City.

Among these people, most were cultivators.

Most of them were loose cultivators, probably attracted by the news to fish in troubled waters.

Of course, there were also some individuals from various forces.

These people were not showy either.

Because they all knew that in this small city,

It was very possible that the person you passed by could be a Marquis-level powerhouse,

or even a Saint-level master.

So without a solid backing and strength,

being arrogant here was undoubtedly seeking death.

Xu Nian and his companions also slowly walked into the city.

"Let's find a place to stay first!" Xu Nian suggested.

Although the Great Elder of the Artifact Refining Sect and the others had already arrived in Dong'an City,

Xu Nian did not plan to meet up with the Great Elder and his group just yet.

As the leader of the Three Great Sects, the Artifact Refining Sect's every move was being watched by all the major powers.

If Xu Nian stood out at this time, it would be equivalent to exposing himself to all the major powers.

"Let's stay at this inn!" Xu Nian suggested, pointing to an inn by the roadside.

Everyone agreed.

They had been hiding and rushing about, not having had a good meal for a while,

and it was a good opportunity to rest properly.

But when Xu Nian and his company entered the inn, they encountered two unexpected acquaintances.

...

Chapter 288 Encountering an Acquaintance

Xu Nian had not expected that he had just entered Dong'an City.

and encountered the two Wuji Sect disciples he had met on the giant ship at Ice Dust Lake.

Indeed, the ones Xu Nian saw now were Wuji Sect's Chu Lin and Zhao Qingqing.

Xu Nian discovered that both Chu Lin and Zhao Qingqing had already broken through to the Battle General Level and become One-star Battle Generals.

Of course, a One-star Battle General,

in the current Xu Nian's presence,

was merely an opponent not worth mentioning.

Aside from Chu Lin and Zhao Qingqing,

there was also an elder with them.

This person was probably around sixty years old.

However, his cultivation was not low, having already reached Two-star Marquis Level.

Without guessing, one could tell that this person was either Chu Lin and Zhao Qingqing's Master or another Elder from their Sect.

Chu Lin and Zhao Qingqing also spotted Xu Nian.

Surprise could be seen on their faces.

They, too, had not expected Xu Nian to appear here.

Especially Chu Lin, whose eyes revealed a trace of malice.

Xu Nian did not pay attention to Chu Lin and Zhao Qingqing but directly approached the innkeeper.

"Innkeeper, we need five rooms and a table of food and drinks," Xu Nian instructed.

"Apologies, honored guest, we only have one room left, as so many people have come to Dong'an City. All the inns are full, and in the entire city, only our inn still has a room, just this last one," the innkeeper said with much regret.

His tone was very polite, as he knew that all who came here for accommodation were Cultivators, whom they could not afford to offend.

Xu Nian nodded, "Then it'll have to be this one room!"

At these words, the innkeeper immediately cheered up.

He feared encountering unreasonable guests the most.

Actually, staying at an inn didn't matter much since Chen Wudi possessed the Star Tower.

The reason for choosing to stay at an inn was that it was the richest source of information.

One could gather quite a lot of intelligence here.

"Honored guest, here is your room key, in room Jia on the third floor. Please have a seat over here; I will prepare your food and drink right away," the innkeeper politely offered.

Normally, these duties were performed by the waitstaff.

But fearing that the waitstaff might accidentally offend someone with their clumsy speech, he personally took charge.

Xu Nian and others nodded, asking the innkeeper to bring all the signature dishes.

Then, they sat in the main hall.

Meanwhile, Chu Lin and Zhao Qingqing's group began discussing.

"Master, this is the genius youth I told you about, the one from the Three-star Battle Sect who slew the Six-winged Ice Crystal Viper at the Nine-star Martial Sect Peak," Zhao Qingqing said.

"Oh? This youth?" the elder couldn't help but scrutinize Xu Nian.

So young, he must be not yet eighteen!

"Psh, he merely relied on some special means," Chu Lin said somewhat resentfully.

He had always been pursuing Zhao Qingqing.

Ever since he last saw Xu Nian,

Zhao Qingqing had frequently mentioned Xu Nian's name before their Master.

This ignited a strong jealousy in his heart.

Moreover, on the giant ship, Xu Nian's final sword strike had nearly killed him.

Therefore, not only did he lack any fondness for Xu Nian, but his disdain had also intensified.

"But he has grasped the essence, while you, I fear, haven't even mastered the Man and Spear as One Third Level yet," Zhao Qingqing couldn't help but snipe at Chu Lin.

Chu Lin just curled his lip but did not retort.

He had only recently broken through to the second level realm of Man and Spear as One, how could he possibly breakthrough to the third level so quickly?

However, Zhao Qingqing's praise of Xu Nian only made him even more displeased.

"Oh, you say he has grasped the momentum? To grasp the momentum at such a young age is truly a rare talent, even among the elite disciples of the Wuji Sect, only three have accomplished this," The Elder's eyes suddenly lit up.

"Therefore, I suggest that Master recruit him. We have already investigated him; he is merely a member of the Battle Mansion. Now that the entire East Field County has disintegrated, the Battle Mansion naturally no longer exists—this moment is the perfect opportunity to take him in," Zhao Qingqing suggested.

In her view, now was the chance to take a talent like Xu Nian into Wuji Sect.

Then, the accomplishments of their Wuji Sect could only rise higher in the future.

The Elder nodded his head, feeling more and more that Zhao Qingqing's words made sense.

As for Chu Lin, he was full of disdain.

Although he had initially lost to Xu Nian, he did not believe he was inferior to Xu Nian now.

After all, he had already broken through to become a Battle General.

And the gap between a Battle General and a War Sect was undoubtedly huge.

Even if Xu Nian's cultivation progressed rapidly, in a few months' time, he would at most reach the Seven or Eight Star Battle Sect.

Plus, his spear technique had improved another level; he was confident he could defeat Xu Nian.

However, now that his Master was tempted, he could not really object.

Thinking that once Xu Nian was taken in by his Master,

He could then properly teach this new junior fellow-disciple a lesson.

While Chu Lin was plotting how to deal with this new junior fellow-disciple,

The Elder had already stood up and walked towards Xu Nian's table.

With the power of his Spiritual Sense, Xu Nian had heard all their previous conversation.

And he knew the purpose of the Elder coming over.

A laugh escaped his lips internally.

Himself, the Sect Master of the Artifact Refining Sect,

Would he join the Wuji Sect as a mere disciple?

Thus, this Elder was destined to return empty-handed.

"This young man, I am Zhao Gang, a core elder of Wuji Sect. I see that you and our Wuji Sect are quite fated!" the Elder said with a smile as he approached Xu Nian.

"Oh? Senior, what makes you say so?" Xu Nian asked, feigning surprise.

In his heart, however, he was amused.

This Elder was still playing tricks before him.

He was trying to get closer before revealing his true intentions and taking him under his wing in one fell swoop!

If it were anyone else, they might easily fall for his gambit, but unfortunately for him, it was Xu Nian.

Chen Wudi and the others curiously looked towards the Elder, unaware of his purpose.

"You see, those two are my disciples. You must know them by now, right? Now that you have all gathered here again, wouldn't you say it's fate?" the Elder pointed to Chu Lin and Zhao Qingqing at the next table.

"Fate, indeed quite fated," Xu Nian said with a smile.

The Elder saw Xu Nian take the bait in the first step, and continued, "You see, my female disciple has been praising you in front of me, saying you are talented and strong. I believe she might have a liking for you."

Upon hearing this, Xu Nian nearly burst out laughing.

The Elder was even resorting to using a beauty trap.

Xu Nian was not so vain as to believe that after meeting Zhao Qingqing just once, she would have taken a liking to him.

However, he did not interrupt the Elder, but instead acted very surprised and excited, saying, "Really?"

"Of course it's true! Let me tell you, if you join our Wuji Sect, you'll surely win her over. Maybe she'll even fall for you," the Elder continued with his blarney.

Now, the puzzled crowd, upon hearing the Elder's words, also realized his purpose.

Seeing the exaggerated expression on Xu Nian's face, they knew Xu Nian was merely playing along with the Elder.

One by one, they laughed without speaking.

They all knew Xu Nian's true identity,

Therefore, naturally, they knew this Elder was inevitably destined to return without success.

Chapter 289 Playing the Old Man

Zhao Qingqing chasing after me?

Xu Nian truly wanted to laugh at this moment but had to forcefully hold it back.

He really wanted to walk up to Zhao Qingqing and ask her a question.

"Zhao Qingqing, do you know that your Master is a goof?"

"Really, you don't believe me? If you don't, I can call Zhao Qingqing over for you," the old man hastily said.

"No, no, no, I believe you, but I already have a wife. Senior, please tell Zhao Qingqing to forget about me," Xu Nian said with a face that showed no shame.

The people around them were about to burst into laughter.

This Xu Nian and the old man were clearly deceiving each other!

"A wife? I don't believe it, how old are you even?" the old man said, shaking his head.

"Senior, it's true, and I have more than one wife. Look, these two are my wives, one is the third, and the other is the seventh, and there are several more at home," Xu Nian said, pointing to Zhao Yanyun and Chen Yao.

"Huh?" The old man was stunned, only then noticing the two beauties sitting beside Xu Nian.

Zhao Yanyun and Chen Yao were both feeling embarrassed.

But they knew Xu Nian was messing with the old man and still played along with a smile.

The third wife?

The seventh wife?

He came up with some crazy stuff.

Seeing that the two women did not object, the old man started to believe it.

He was, however, a bit surprised.

How young was this kid, and he already had at least seven wives?

"No, I must take him as my disciple." The old man, realizing that his beauty trap did not work, quickly cleared his throat and struck a pose of an expert.

"Young lad, even if you're not interested in Zhao Qingqing, it would be best for you to join our Wuji Sect," the old man said, not giving up.

"Oh? And why is that?" Xu Nian again pretended to be perplexed.

This old man really did not get discouraged.

When one trick didn't work, he switched to another.

The dishes and drinks hadn't arrived yet, so he might as well continue to tease him.

"To tell you the truth, I am a Marquis Level powerhouse. If you become my disciple, I can cover for you, and that way you can be sure nobody would dare to bully you when you go out," the old man said proudly.

Xu Nian found it amusing inside; this old man was really something.

A Two-star Marquis Level, and he's making it sound like he's the Battle Emperor.

"Marquis Level powerhouse? Senior, there's no need, I have a lot of enemies, and these enemies are all very formidable. I think it's best not to cause trouble for Wuji Sect. You see, this is one of my subordinates, also a Marquis Level, but he was beaten into a pig's head just a few days ago and almost lost his life," Xu Nian said, pointing to Bai Feng.

The old man was taken aback and turned to look at Bai Feng.

Bai Feng very cooperatively released his One-star Marquis Level aura.

The old man's face twitched.

This is his subordinate?

And he was beaten into a pig's head?

A One-star Marquis Level was just one level lower than himself.

Who exactly was this kid?

Was he really just a member of the Battle Mansion?

"No worries, even if I can't protect you, I can ask for a powerhouse from the Sect to protect you. If you stay in our Wuji Sect, nobody would dare to harm you," the old man said quickly again.

"Really? That's great."

Xu Nian put on an excited expression.

The old man's face finally showed joy upon seeing this.

He thought he had finally dealt with this kid.

"By the way, you mentioned you have enemies; who are they exactly?" the old man seemed to recall something and asked.

"Oh, just the Four Great Families and the Imperial Family of the Imperial Capital," Xu Nian replied very directly.

"What?" The old man couldn't help but exclaim in shock.

His face turned completely dark.

Xu Nian found it amusing inside.

Even if the Wuji Sect were strong, they couldn't compare with the Four Great Families, let alone the Imperial Family.

So even if the old man wanted to take him in, the higher-ups of the Wuji Sect definitely wouldn't offend the Four Great Families and the Imperial Family just for the sake of taking in a talented disciple.

"What's wrong, elder? Is it not possible? If not, then never mind," Xu Nian pretended to look disappointed as he spoke.

Chen Yao and the others were rendered speechless.

This was truly the first time they had discovered how exquisite Xu Nian's acting was.

"No, no, it's not that it's not possible, just..." The old man started to ramble, at a loss for words.

"The enemies you mentioned before... are they one of the Four Great Families or...?" The old man still didn't want to give up and continued to ask.

"It's the Four Great Families. I have more or less grudges with all of them, and my grievances with the Imperial Family are irreconcilable," Xu Nian answered earnestly.

In reality, most of what he said was true, but at that moment, it sounded utterly ridiculous to the listeners.

The old man wiped the cold sweat from his forehead, once again uncertain of what to say.

"Elder, I think it's better to forget about it. I know it's tough for you, and I wouldn't want to drag the Wuji Sect into this," Xu Nian said with a look of great sorrow.

"Don't lose heart. Your situation is indeed a bit special. In a few days, when the Sect leaders arrive, I will consult with them," the old man hurried to console him.

Having said that, he prepared to leave.

"Hey, elder, do you think I have any destiny with the Wuji Sect?" Suddenly, Chen Wudi butted in.

The old man gave Chen Wudi a look and declared, "No fate!"

"Then what about your female disciple? If I join your Sect, could I possibly win her affection? Don't worry, I have no wife and no enemies," Chen Wudi joked with a smile.

The old man shot Chen Wudi a glance and then dejectedly returned to his own table.

Everyone burst into laughter.

Chen Wudi looked helplessly; he had intended to tease the old man.

He didn't expect the old man to dismiss him outright.

Of course, if he were to reveal the secret of his Star Battle Body, the old man would probably come begging to him.

"How did it go, Master? Were you successful?" Zhao Qingqing looked at her Master returning and asked with some surprise.

The old man let out a sigh and shook his head.

Instantly, Zhao Qingqing understood that her Master had failed.

Her brows knit slightly as she thought to herself, "Could he really be that proud, looking down on our Wuji Sect?".

Chu Lin, standing nearby, let out a cold snort, disdainfully saying, "Hmph, he has a bit of talent, and he dares to look down on our Wuji Sect? I really want to see what's so great about him that makes him so arrogant."

After that, Chu Lin stood up and started walking towards Xu Nian's table.

"Chu Lin, come back!" the old man quickly shouted sternly.

But Chu Lin had no intention of listening and continued towards Xu Nian, full of anger.

Xu Nian, hearing this, could only helplessly shake his head.

He came up with these lies, first, because it was fun to tease the old man.

Secondly, he wanted to let the old man back off gracefully, rather than outright rejecting him and causing offense.

However, he didn't expect Chu Lin to have such resentment against him, intent on picking a fight.

"Xu Nian, get out here! I want to fight you one-on-one; I want to see what makes you so arrogant that you dare to look down on our Wuji Sect," Chu Lin arrived at Xu Nian's table and roared with fury.

Chapter 290 You Are Nothing But Trash

Chu Lin's roar instantly startled all the patrons in the tavern.

People turned their gazes towards Xu Nian's direction, curiosity shining in their eyes.

Wuji Sect?

Isn't that one of the Three Great Sects?

The crowd around erupted in surprise.

Daring to provoke someone from Wuji Sect and not even taking Wuji Sect into account?

But why does the name Xu Nian sound so familiar?

It seems I've heard it somewhere before!

However, Xu Nian just looked at Chu Lin indifferently.

He really couldn't summon the slightest interest in a fight with this Chu Lin.

A One-star Battle General, he could crush him with just one hand.

"Master, won't you stop Brother Chu Lin?" Zhao Qingqing looked at her own Master who, after yelling once, went silent and couldn't help but feel puzzled.

"There's no hurry, it's good to let Chu Lin teach this kid a lesson. Just now this kid was playing tricks on me, causing me to suffer a dark loss. We need to let him know our strength, and also take this opportunity to see how much potential this kid really has," the elder replied with some annoyance.

After returning to his seat just now, he carefully reconsidered his conversation with Xu Nian.

That's when he realized that he'd been played by Xu Nian.

Who else could offend the Four Great Families and the Imperial Family and still live to tell the tale?

When he came to this realization, his first reaction was anger.

So now that Chu Lin was making a move, he naturally adopted a watch-from-the-sidelines attitude.

As for the Marquis Level powerhouse at Xu Nian's table, with himself overseeing the situation, he wasn't worried that the other party would bully the weak.

The elder's words naturally reached Xu Nian's ears.

Xu Nian found it amusing in his heart; the elder wasn't too foolish.

At the very least, he was quick to react.

But letting Chu Lin come to test himself was as foolish as it got.

"Xu Nian, I challenge you. Will you accept or not, or could it be that you're scared?" Chu Lin coldly called out once more.

Seeing Xu Nian silent, he thought Xu Nian was afraid.

He became even more certain that Xu Nian's strength was inferior to his.

His tone grew even more arrogant.

"It's not that I'm scared, but that I disdain. Your strength isn't worthy of challenging me."

Xu Nian picked up his cup and took a nonchalant sip.

The fragrance of the wine lingered in his throat, echoing and resonant.

Chu Lin was immediately enraged.

Not worthy?

He, Chu Lin, had now been promoted to a core disciple of the Wuji Sect, how was he not worthy to challenge you?

"Xu Nian, aren't you being a little too arrogant? Yes, in the past, I was not your match, but now I've been promoted to the Battle General Realm and am among the best of my peers. How can you, a member of the Battle Sect, say I'm not worthy? Don't you know the gap between the Battle Sect and the Battle General?" Chu Lin said angrily.

Xu Nian actually looked down on him like this.

Especially in front of Zhao Qingqing.

How could he let this go?

"Battle Sect?" Xu Nian sneered.

Chu Lin actually thought he was at the Battle Sect realm.

Truly, his talent limited his imagination.

Chen Wudi and others nearby were also a bit exasperated.

Still thinking of the Battle Sect?

Chu Lin was truly ignorant to the extreme.

"I'll fight you then, it's been quite some time since I've last exercised," Chen Wudi said with a smile.

"What are you? You're not even worthy to spar with me," Chu Lin scorned after sizing up Chen Wudi.

Chen Wudi was taken aback before laughing in anger.

Chu Lin really was ignorant to the extreme.

"You think I'm not worthy to be your opponent, so how about we make a bet?" Chen Wudi sneered as he looked towards Chu Lin.

The crowd around them witnessed this scene.

They knew that Chen Wudi was truly angry.

However, they had no intention of stopping him.

They all knew that Chen Wudi had been harboring a surge of anger for some time and could now take this opportunity to vent.

"What's the bet?" Chu Lin snorted coldly.

"I have a Divinity Transformation Pill here. If you can defeat me, I'll give it to you."

Chen Wudi beckoned with his palm, and a pill appeared in his hand.

Divinity Transformation Pill?

Chu Lin's eyes suddenly lit up.

That was an extremely precious pill, even in the Battle Mansion's grading system; it was of Seven-star quality.

Even the Battle King Pill and Body King Pill that Xu Nian took before were only of Six-star grade.

"And what if I lose?" Chu Lin was already tempted.

If he got that Divinity Transformation Pill, his cultivation would skyrocket.

"If you lose, then you'll give me that girl behind you," Chen Wudi said with a cold smile, clearly referring to Zhao Qingqing.

Chu Lin was stunned; he hadn't expected Chen Wudi to set his sights on Zhao Qingqing.

"Fine, I agree!" Chu Lin agreed without hesitation.

He didn't think he would lose; the boy in front of him was no older than Xu Nian, so how advanced could his cultivation be?

And he didn't believe this guy could also possess a profound level of comprehension like Xu Nian.

Zhao Qingqing was furious on the side.

What right did Chu Lin have to use her as a betting stake?

But no matter the outcome,

Just the fact that Chu Lin used her as a bet had completely disappointed her in him.

Seeing that Chu Lin agreed, a smile spread across Chen Wudi's face.

The reason he made such a demand wasn't that he truly wanted Zhao Qingqing.

His goal was to drive a wedge between Zhao Qingqing and Chu Lin.

So, even before the match had started, Chu Lin had already lost.

"This place is too small; let's go outside to fight, so you can see just how powerful this young master is," Chu Lin snorted coldly, then headed outside.

Everyone followed suit.

Ultimately, they stood their ground on the open space outside the inn.

Their fight naturally attracted many onlookers.

Seeing this, Chu Lin smirked slightly; once this battle was over, he would not only gain a Divine Pill but also a sizeable reputation.

For him, it was like killing two birds with one stone.

"Boy, I really admire your courage to dare challenge me. Let me show you my true strength," Chu Lin laughed heartily and then took a step forward.

The aura of a One-star Battle General exploded out in an instant.

The onlookers immediately showed signs of surprise.

"He's a Battle General, isn't he only twenty-four or twenty-five years old? Truly a genius of the Wuji Sect!"

"Indeed, a Battle General so young is quite rare."

The crowd buzzed with various comments, all of them full of admiration for the cultivation level displayed.

An elder nearby heard this and immediately showed a proud smile on his face.

He was extremely satisfied with his disciple.

Chu Lin was enjoying the admiration of everyone, his sneer becoming more pronounced as he looked towards Chen Wudi and said, "Are you scared now?"

Chen Wudi smiled faintly and said, "Do you really think it's amazing to become a Battle General at twenty-five? In my eyes, it's simply trash."

After speaking, Chen Wudi also took a step forward.

A powerful aura burst forth from his body.

And that aura was unmistakably that of a One-star Battle General Level.

"What?"

The onlookers immediately widened their eyes, showing expressions of astonishment.