

## **Divine King 471**

Chapter 471: Kun Cave Power

Kun Cave Power was activated.

Upon Xu Nian's sword, a terrifyingly immense aura instantly emanated.

The space around the Immortal Sword twisted and even showed signs of collapse.

Fortunately, Xu Nian used the Immortal Sword; had it been a Spirit Sword, it might not have withstood such terrifying Kun Cave Power.

"Not good!"

The killing Patriarch Xu's face instantly changed.

A dense aura of death enveloped his heart.

At that moment, Patriarch Xu clearly felt death approaching.

The figure rushing towards Xu Nian suddenly stopped in mid-air and rapidly retreated backward.

"Thinking of retreating now seems a bit too late," Xu Nian's lips curled into a cold smile.

The fully charged Immortal Sword, at that moment, did not hesitate to strike out.

"Buzz!"

A terrifying Flame Sword Light instantly burst from the sword.

However, within this red Flame Sword Light, there was a hint of black power.

This black power emitted a terrifying aura, several times more dreadful than the Flame Power.

"How is this possible?"

The elder was greatly shocked and lost color.

Faced with this sword, he felt a tingling sensation on his scalp.

Moreover, the sword was too fast.

He had no time to dodge, only able to block with the Water Sword in his hand.

"Break for me!"

The elder bellowed loudly, slashing out with his sword.

However, his Sword Radiance instantly shattered upon contact with Xu Nian's Sword Light.

Yet Xu Nian's Sword Light continued unabated, rapidly approaching him.

"What?"

Xu Tiangong's face drastically changed, preparing to block with his sword horizontally.

"Boom!"

The terrifying Sword Light directly bombarded the defensive shield formed by Xu Tiangong's water.

The moment the Sword Light struck the shield, it completely exploded.

The defensive shield instantly shattered.

A strand of black power blasted onto Xu Tiangong's chest.

"Spurt!"

Xu Tiangong spewed blood wildly.

His whole body was sent flying.

He finally heavily crashed down in the distance.

"Ah..."

Xu Tiangong screamed in agony.

He felt as if all his organs were shattered, the intense pain almost unbearable.

How was this possible?

He had been seriously injured by a youth?

Just now, he felt a terrifying power striking his defensive shield.

And his defensive shield had no resistance against this power.

"It's that strand of black power, that power is too terrifying, how can such a terrifying power exist?" Xu Tiangong muttered to himself.

Fear actually shone in his eyes.

Had there been slightly more of that power just now, he might already be dead.

He couldn't believe that this youth could unleash such a terrifying attack.

"Buzz!"

Just as Xu Tiangong was shocked.

Another wave that made his scalp tingle came.

Xu Tiangong's face was filled with sheer horror.

Could this guy still launch such an attack?

Bearing the severe pain, Xu Tiangong urgently mobilized the water attribute power around him.

Nine Water Dragons suddenly emerged, directly bombarding the terrifying Sword Light flying towards them.

"Boom!"

The Nine Water Dragons exploded completely upon colliding with Xu Nian's Sword Light.

Yet, that Sword Light penetrated the blockade of the Nine Dragons, heading straight for Xu Tiangong.

"Damn it!"

Xu Tiangong cursed, immediately mobilizing all his power to defend.

"Boom!"

Yet, when the Sword Light struck his Spiritual Energy, it once again sent Xu Tiangong flying.

"Pfft!"

Xu Tiangong heavily fell to the ground in the distance.

He spat out another mouthful of fresh blood.

"What?"

Inside the Xu Family Hall, everyone who saw this scene stood up from their chairs in shock.

Their patriarch was actually made to spit blood twice in a row by Xu Nian?

How was that possible?

This was a Battle Emperor Level powerhouse!

Although he had suppressed his cultivation, wasn't his strength beyond what a Battle Saint Level powerhouse could contend with?

Even Half-Emperor Senior People might not necessarily be his match.

Yet, now, such a powerful figure had been injured twice in a row by Xu Nian's sword strikes.

Had they not seen it with their own eyes, they would have never believed such a thing could happen in this world.

Currently, Xu Tianhong was also staring with eyes wide open, disbelief evident in his expression.

Was Xu Nian really this terrifying?

Could even the Third Elder, who is rarely defeated, not kill him?

Xu Tianxu and Xu Xin both looked surprised at this moment.

Xu Nian's performance had far exceeded their expectations.

Originally, it had been a miracle that Xu Nian could last this long against the patriarch.

But now, the patriarch was actually forced to spit blood by Xu Nian's consecutive strikes?

Wasn't this far too shocking?

Xiuxue also stood there in stunned silence.

Although she had said before that she believed in Xu Nian, she still felt it was impossible deep down.

But now, she was beginning to believe that what Xu Nian said was all true.

Patriarch Xu rose from the ground.

His figure was completely ragged now.

His hair was disheveled, and his clothes were torn.

Even as he stood up, his body seemed to wobble.

He, as the Patriarch of the Xu Family, a Battle Emperor Level powerhouse, had never been so humiliated.

And now, he was being forced into such a state by a junior?

If this were to spread, he would probably become the laughingstock of the entire Imperial Capital.

Although he was reluctant, there was nothing he could do.

The terrifying Sword Radiance of this young man was simply too fearsome, especially that black power.

It was the most terrifying power he had ever seen, without any comparison.

If the black power used by this young man in each attack could be enhanced,

He probably wouldn't stand a chance even if he broke the seal.

"Boy, what is this power?" Patriarch Xu stared at Xu Nian and demanded.

"To kill you," Xu Nian coldly sneered in response, his eyes sharp as he immediately struck with his Immortal Sword again.

His body was nearly at its limit of resistance.

If he couldn't resolve the patriarch soon, once the time was up, he would be completely at the mercy of others.

Thus, he had to deal with the old man quickly.

"Again!"

As expected, upon seeing the terrifying Sword Radiance approaching from the sky, the old man couldn't help but curse loudly.

He was already seriously injured and simply couldn't take this third strike.

If he forced himself to take it, his cultivation foundation might be destroyed.

Thinking this, a deep reluctance flashed in the old man's eyes.

He immediately took out a Jade Token and crushed it.

Following the crushing of the Jade Token, the old man's figure was instantly sucked into a spatial vortex.

The terrifying Sword Radiance, too, drilled into the vortex the moment it vanished.

Inside the Xu Family Hall.

The figure of Xu Tiangong instantly appeared.

"Tianhong, son, save me!"

As soon as Xu Tiangong appeared, he shouted loudly.

At the same time, a terrifying Sword Radiance flew out from the Void, heading straight for Patriarch Xu.

Sitting on the throne above, Xu Tianhong, without a moment's hesitation, appeared instantly in front of Xu Tiangong.

He struck out a palm toward the incoming Sword Radiance.

"Boom!"

However, following the loud noise,

Xu Tianhong and Xu Tiangong were both sent flying by that fearsome force, crashing heavily against the walls.

Pfft! Pfft!

Both men spat out a mouthful of fresh blood, their expressions filled with utter horror.

Chapter 472: Xu Family Dispute

All members of the Xu Family were completely stunned.

They saw the Family Head Xu and the Supreme Third Elder, both spitting blood.

The Sword Radiance Xu Nian had unleashed was truly terrifying to this extent.

Even when a Half-Emperor Level expert took action, they were wounded?

Xu Tianhong was also immensely shocked at this moment.

Earlier, when he saw in the Xuantian Mirror that his ancestor couldn't withstand Xu Nian's Sword Radiance, he hadn't had a direct feeling.

But when he personally faced this sword just now, he realized how terrifying the power contained within the Sword Radiance was.

As for Xu Tiangong, there was no need to say more, he who hadn't opened the seal.

He simply couldn't withstand such a terrifying attack.

At this moment, while the members of the Xu Family were struck with fear,

Xu Nian himself also seemed like a deflated balloon, completely falling to the ground.

The flames and dragon scales on his body had dissipated.

He lay on the ground at this moment, without the strength to move even a single finger.

Let alone Battle Saint Level experts, now even a three-year-old child holding a butcher knife could kill him.

Of course, Xu Nian still had the Undying Devouring Sky Beast Avatar.

Taking advantage of the fighting by Xu Nian's original body, the avatar had already regained its strength.

Now, he picked up his original body and walked towards his mother.

He placed his original body beside the Defensive Light Shield, and the Undying Devouring Sky Beast Avatar's claw reached towards the mother's Defensive Light Shield.

"Clang!"

However, the claw of the Undying Devouring Sky Beast Avatar struck the Defensive Light Shield and failed to break it.

This made the Undying Devouring Sky Beast's brows furrow instantly.

"Kid, this light shield was set up by the Battle Emperor before he suppressed his cultivation. If you want to split it open, you'll need to use the Kun Cave Power," the figure of Emperor Ye Tian echoed in Xu Nian's mind.

However, only Xu Nian's original body could use the Kun Cave Power.

Now, to break this forbidden shield, they could only wait till Xu Nian's original body regained the ability to act.

So, the Undying Devouring Sky Beast just stood guard beside his original body, quietly waiting for his powers to recover.

Meanwhile, his original body was operating the Dan Sea Species Green Lotus, absorbing the surrounding Heaven and Earth Power.

As for Xu Xiuxue, she watched Xu Nian with tears streaming down her face, wanting to touch her severely injured son, but she couldn't reach him.

For a time, a calm fell over the ancestral land.

But inside the grand hall of the Xu Family, the situation had completely exploded.

"What should we do now?" someone among the Xu Family's senior members asked.

The Xu Family had paid a great price to kill Xu Nian.

Eighteen Holy Guards had died.

The Supreme Third Elder had been severely injured.

Yet, Xu Nian was still not dead.

Should they still make a move against Xu Nian?

Even if they wanted to kill Xu Nian, who should they send?

"Kill! Xu Nian must be killed, he has slain so many of our Saints, and his potential is so vast. If we let him leave, the future troubles will be endless!" someone proposed.

The other members of the Xu Family also nodded one after another.

Xu Nian's potential—no, his strength—was truly terrifying.

At just eighteen years old, he was already able to severely injure a Battle Emperor with suppressed power.

If they really let him leave, the future troubles would indeed be endless.

"Then who should go? His original body might have no fighting strength, but as you've all seen, his Demon Beast avatar isn't weak either. Without a Battle Emperor Level expert, it's simply impossible to kill him," said someone from the Xu Family.

Upon hearing this, everyone immediately fell silent.

Indeed, who should go?

Saint Level experts had acted, but it seemed they were of no use.

If not a Saint Level expert, would they really let an esteemed ancestor suppress their realm to act?

To deal with a youngster, having an ancestor act was already embarrassing enough.

Another ancestor's involvement would probably become a laughing stock.

"Do you still not understand, even now? Is Xu Nian really someone our Xu Family can provoke? Think about it, the person who could nurture such an impressive youth—how terrifying must his master be? As far as I know, Xu Nian has a master named Bai Tianhan backing him."

While the members of the Xu Family were discussing vigorously,

Xu Tianxu finally spoke up.

Once he said this, everyone present constricted their pupils.

They had seen the intelligence on Xu Nian and knew of this Bai Tianhan.

Initially, they didn't think much of Bai Tianhan.

Even if faced with a Battle Emperor Level expert, their Xu Family would not fear.

But things were different now.

The potential and techniques displayed by Xu Nian were truly shocking.

Whether it was the secret techniques he executed or that terrifying power he utilized at the end.

And the Undying Devouring Sky Beast Avatar with its frightful defensive powers.

These were not things their millennia-old Xu Family could possess.

That an eighteen-year-old youth could have these—if not for a powerful benefactor,

even if they were beaten to death, they would not believe it.

Thus, after Xu Tianxu spoke, everyone suddenly felt that the identity of Bai Tianhan was shrouded in mystery.

If this Bai Tianhan really was a mysterious powerful entity,

the Divine River Palace might not act against their Xu Family due to lack of evidence.

But Bai Tianhan, out of slight anger, could annihilate all the Battle Emperor Experts in their Xu Family.

In that case, the Xu Family would be utterly ruined.

"Are we really going to let Xu Nian leave just because of Bai Tianhan?" someone from the Xu Family said discontentedly.

Xu Tianhong had also suppressed his injuries by now and opened his eyes.

"Xu Nian must die. Now that it has come to this, we have no other choice," declared Xu Tianhong.

Once he declared this, many in attendance nodded in agreement.

Xu Tianxu's eyebrows instantly furrowed, and intense anger surged in his eyes.

Was Xu Tianhong really going to be so adamantly obstinate?

Could it really be that the Xu Family was going to be ruined by his hands?

Xu Xin also clenched his fists, his eyes blazing with fury.

"Hmph, Xu Tianhong, if you dare lay a hand on Xu Nian today, you will have to kill me, Xu Tianxu first. I want to see who would dare harm a hair on my grandson with me around," Xu Tianxu finally couldn't restrain himself, letting out a cold snort and stepping forward.

"Tianxu, are you really going to defy the family orders?" Xu Tianhong's eyes suddenly narrowed.

Now, the Xu Family was already in dire straits, and here was Xu Tianxu openly defying him.

Wouldn't this make killing Xu Nian even harder?

"Hmph, family orders? I think they're your orders! If it wasn't for your obstinacy in wanting to kill Xu Nian from the start, how would we have ended up in this situation?" Xu Tianxu retorted coldly.

Upon hearing this, a fierce look flashed through Xu Tianhong's eyes.

This was the first time in many years that Xu Tianxu had so openly opposed him.

It seemed Xu Tianxu was determined to protect Xu Nian?

This only fueled Xu Tianhong's urge to kill.

"Hey, you guys, quickly look—the image of Xu Nian has disappeared?"

However, just then, someone from the Xu Family casually glanced at the Xuantian Mirror and exclaimed in surprise.

Upon his words, everyone immediately looked toward the Xuantian Mirror.

But by then, the mirror was empty, not a single figure in sight—not even Xu Nian's mother was visible.

Chapter 473: Divine River Palace Master (Additional Update 4)

Xu Nian slowly opened his eyes.

He found himself lying in an extremely quiet hall.

His Undying Devouring Sky Beast Avatar had also returned to his Dantian.

Sitting beside him was none other than his mother, Xu Xiuxue.

At this moment, Xu Xiuxue was looking at Xu Nian with a loving face.

"Are you awake? Are you feeling uncomfortable anywhere?" Xu Xiuxue asked with concern upon seeing Xu Nian wake up.

"Not at all! Mother, I've finally seen you, I really missed you to death." Xu Nian hugged his mother's neck excitedly.

Feeling the familiar scent of his mother, Xu Nian felt exceptionally reassured.

He had dreamed of this moment for so long.

Now, after numerous trials and challenges, he had finally met his mother.

"Silly child, mother missed you too. It's mother's fault for letting you suffer all these years." Xu Xiuxue said lovingly, her eyes quickly moistening.

"It wasn't hard, not hard at all," Xu Nian shook his head quickly, holding his mother tightly.

Xu Xiuxue also held Xu Nian tightly.

The mother and son, who had been apart for such a long time, had finally gotten what they wished for at this moment.

After a long while, Xu Nian finally let go of his mother.

"Mother, I didn't kill Qin Yuanshan. Will you blame me? But I've already told Qin Yuanshan that his life is only spared temporarily, and as soon as you give the nod, I will take his life immediately," Xu Nian hurriedly said.

"Silly child, if mother really wanted to kill him, why would I wait until now? Perhaps initially, I resented him in my heart, but since you were born, I've had no hatred towards him. After all, he is your biological father. Mother can't let you carry the stigma of patricide, although your birth might seem lowly to others, in mother's eyes, you are the most precious person in this world. You and Xinxin are the apple of mother's eye. Mother only hopes that you can live happily and not be blinded by hatred," Xu Xiuxue spoke.

"Then, mother, do you truly not hate him at all?" Xu Nian asked with a furrowed brow.

"To say I hate him, it's only because he was unfair to you. Qin Yuanshan is a small-minded man. In fact, his targeting you was to get back at me. Now when I think about it, if I had been submissive to him, perhaps you could have been happier, and besides, my heart has long since died. For me, you and Xinxin are the reasons I continue to live," Xu Xiuxue answered.

Xu Nian nodded.

He understood his mother's meaning now.

Actually, his mother had long let go of her grievances against Qin Yuanshan.

So she did not want him to seek revenge against the Qin Family.

Of course, Xu Nian still decided to return to the Qin Family in the future.

Perhaps then he might not kill the Qin Family members, but he would definitely make Qin Yuanshan repent for his actions.

"By the way, mother, how did we end up here? Where is this?" Xu Nian asked, looking puzzled.

He only remembered his Undying Devouring Sky Beast Avatar protecting him, while his original self was healing in the ancestral land.

As for what happened later, he had no memory of it at all.

Logically speaking, since the Undying Devouring Sky Beast Avatar was conscious,

it should know why he appeared here.

How could there be no memory of it?

"I also do not know where this place is. I had passed out unconsciously before and when I woke up, I saw you lying on the bed while I was sitting by your side," Xu Xiuxue spoke.

Her eyes only held her son.

Thus, after waking up, she did not care to know exactly where they were.

Now hearing Xu Nian ask about it, she felt puzzled.

Hearing this, Xu Nian's expression instantly turned vigilant.

He could teleport them from the Xu Family Ancestral Land to another place without them even noticing.

This person's power is absolutely terrifying.

And whether this person is a friend or a foe, Xu Nian still didn't know.

"Haha, have you finally woken up?"

Just then, a hearty laugh sounded.

Following that, a young man pushed open the door and walked in.

The young man seemed to be only about twenty-seven or twenty-eight years old.

However, the aura he emitted made Xu Nian unable to help but look solemn.

The aura of the young man was very ancient, containing a flavor of returning to one's original state of purity.

Looking at this person's cultivation,

Xu Nian actually found he couldn't see through it at all, as if the young man in front of him were just an ordinary mortal.

"Who are you?" Xu Nian asked sharply.

He didn't believe that the young man in front of him was an ordinary person.

Hearing Xu Nian's question, the young man's face immediately showed a smile, and he said, "Didn't Divine River Palace say that you are second only to one, above ten thousand? Well then, I'm the one above you!"

Upon hearing this, Xu Nian's pupils suddenly contracted, "You're the Divine River Palace Master? So young?"

Xu Nian had thought the Divine River Palace Master would be a very old man, and didn't expect him to be just a twenty-seven or twenty-eight-year-old young man.

"Young? Haha, it's the first time someone has called me that; even Patriarch Xu would probably need to call me grandfather, and you're saying I'm young?" the young man laughed heartily.

Xu Nian, hearing this, immediately showed an extremely surprised expression.

Patriarch Xu would need to call him grandfather?

How old was this young man exactly?

"Kid, don't be surprised. Once cultivation reaches a certain level, one can restore their appearance, what you call 'reversing aging.' In fact, I'm already three thousand seven hundred thirty-two years old. What do you think, do I look good?" the Divine River Palace Master laughed.

"Three thousand seven hundred thirty-two years old?" Xu Nian's eyes widened.

This guy's fraction of age was older than Xu Nian himself; that was probably beyond an ancestral level, maybe even a fossil.

"Haha, kiddo, I just love your shocked expression," the Divine River Palace Master laughed heartily.

Xu Nian was speechless.

So, this was the Divine River Palace Master?

No wonder those old folks in the Divine River Palace said they had never seen this Palace Master.

This guy had actually lived for so long.

"Palace Master, was it you who rescued us from the Xu Family Ancestral Land?" Xu Nian asked.

The Divine River Palace Master nodded, "My Divine River Palace appoints an Alien Minister Elder only once in a thousand years; how come none have been killed by the Xu family? This time I simply took you away as a warning to them, and we'll settle this account with them later."

Xu Nian, hearing this, also had a sharp gleam in his eyes.

This account with the Xu Family, he indeed needed to settle it.

However, with Battle Emperor Level powerhouses in the Xu Family, wanting to annihilate them,

was beyond his current strength.

"Alright, I specifically came back for you this time, and since you're awake, it's time I talked to you about something important," the Divine River Palace Master suddenly said seriously.

"Something important?" Xu Nian was startled, then his expression became serious as well.

Chapter 474: The Outside World

Xu Nian looked towards the Divine River Palace Master.

Previously, the Divine River Palace Master had said

that he had returned this time especially for him.

But what about himself could be worth the Divine River Palace Master's personal visit?

At this moment, Xu Xiuxue had already retreated,

leaving only Xu Nian and the Divine River Palace Master in the great hall.

"You should know that our world is bound by restrictions, as long as someone is born in this world, if they don't leave this world, they will never be able to break through the restraints of the Battle Emperor Realm," said the Divine River Palace Master.

Xu Nian nodded.

Emperor Bai had already told him about this.

It's not just the inability to break through the restraints of the Battle Emperor, even the Battle Emperor experts are bound by the Emperor's covenant.

To this day, Xu Nian hadn't figured out why their world had such restrictions,

nor could he understand who had put them in place.

It seemed that the Divine River Palace Master was looking for him precisely for this matter.

"Actually, the existence of our Divine River Palace has always been to break this restraint. We have studied it for ten thousand years, and we believe we have found the reason for this restriction," said the Divine River Palace Master.

Hearing this, Xu Nian was immediately taken aback.

This means that the Divine River Palace Master knows the reason.

"In fact, this land is a Lost Land from the Mortal World. Once a very powerful Immortal, on the verge of death, came to our continent. Before dying, he placed a restriction on this land that unless someone more powerful than him arrives, anyone who comes to this land, even if their cultivation surpasses the Battle Emperor Realm, will be suppressed at the Peak of Battle Emperor," said the Divine River Palace Master.

"So that's the case? The cultivation of outsiders who come to our land will be forcibly suppressed?" asked Xu Nian in surprise.

"That's right, so on the Tianhen Continent you will not see any masters whose cultivation exceeds the Battle Emperor Level, because their cultivation has been suppressed, and they are also restrained by the Emperor's covenant," replied the Divine River Palace Master.

Xu Nian nodded.

"By the way, Palace Master, there's a legend that there is an Immortal Treasure in the Sea of Forbidden Spells. Is that Immortal Treasure really left behind by that powerful Immortal?" asked Xu Nian.

"It seems you're quite knowledgeable, indeed, that Immortal Treasure is what the powerful Immortal left behind. It is said that he left all his possessions in the deepest part of the Sea of Forbidden Spells. He also left behind nine Token Keys; only by gathering all nine could anyone open the Immortal Treasure there. However, ten thousand years have passed, and no one has managed to collect all the Token Keys. I suspect that some may have already fallen into another continent," said the Divine River Palace Master.

"Another continent?" Xu Nian's expression instantly turned sharp.

He had long suspected that there was another continent beyond the Sea of Forbidden Spells.

And he might have already met people from that other land.

"That's right, beyond this vast and boundless Sea of Forbidden Spells, there's a continent ten times larger than the Tianhen Continent. That is the real Cultivation World. It even has Transmission Arrays to other planets, and the concentration of Spiritual Energy is tenfold compared to here," the Divine River Palace Master said, his eyes filled with deep emotion.

Surprise crossed Xu Nian's face.

Ten times larger?

He hadn't imagined that beyond the Tianhen Continent, there existed such a vast world.

And there are Transmission Arrays to other planets?

Such a world was something Xu Nian had never considered before.

It seems that the Divine River Palace Master has visited beyond the Tianhen Continent.

"Actually, you don't need to think too much about it. With your strength, within ten years, I believe you too will be able to leave this continent. After all, this world is too small for you and for many others, it's a cage," the Divine River Palace Master lamented,

his eyes filled with profound emotions.

Xu Nian too felt a wave of emotions.

Indeed, the Immortal had set the restriction.

Not only did it keep many masters from entering, but it also trapped them, preventing their development.

"By the way, Palace Master, have you ever heard of the Tiancang Sect?" Xu Nian suddenly asked.

The old crone who took Murong Xue away was from the Tiancang Sect.

At that time, Xu Nian, with his low cultivation, saw the old crone walking on air and thought she was a Marquis Level expert.

Now, thinking back, he felt that the old crone was extraordinarily powerful, possibly from another continent,

especially since Xu Nian had never heard the name Tiancang Sect on the Tianhen Continent.

"Tiancang Sect? Where did you hear that name from?" The Divine River Palace Master was taken aback, asking in surprise.

"I once met a senior who took away a friend of mine; she said she was from the Tiancang Sect," Xu Nian replied without concealment.

Upon hearing this, the Divine River Palace Master's eyebrows furrowed and then with a heavy tone he asked, "If I'm not mistaken, your friend is a female, and you wish to find her, right?"

Xu Nian hesitated for a moment then nodded.

The Divine River Palace Master sighed and said, "I advise you to give up. The Tiancang Sect is one of the Three Great Sects of the Cultivation Realm. Their sect occupies a Star Domain, and their presence isn't limited to the Mortal World but extends to the Immortal Realm as well. If you just want to see your

friend, that is perhaps possible, but if you wish to take her away, I fear the entire Tiancang Sect would not consent," said the Divine River Palace Master.

Xu Nian showed a look of surprise.

He hadn't expected the Tiancang Sect's influence to be so vast.

A sect that occupies a Star Domain?

Without the influence of the Yetian God Emperor, Xu Nian truly couldn't imagine what a sect occupying a Star Domain would be like.

Now thinking back to the old crone's words.

She said that Murong Xue would belong to a different world than him.

It seems that she was entirely right.

If it weren't for meeting his Master, if it weren't for the Yetian God Emperor.

The gap between him and Murong Xue would only grow wider, and their paths would never cross in their lifetimes.

However, to ask him to give up now, Xu Nian would definitely not agree.

Even if the Tiancang Sect were stronger, he would still personally visit the Tiancang Sect to see Murong Xue.

Seeing Xu Nian's resolute eyes, the Divine River Palace Master knew that the young man before him hadn't given up.

He just felt that Xu Nian had yet to witness the vastness of the Tiancang Sect; once he truly entered that land, he would understand how minuscule he was in front of the Tiancang Sect.

"Actually, I came to find you this time for the affairs of the Divine River Palace. I plan to leave Tianhen Continent for good and never return, so I intend to hand over the Divine River Palace completely to you," said the Divine River Palace Master, as a Token appeared in his hand.

"Hand it over to me completely?" Xu Nian was stunned.

He hadn't expected the Divine River Palace Master to say this suddenly.

Did that mean the Divine River Palace Master wanted him to become the new Divine River Palace Master?

What kind of joke was that?

Chapter 475: The Road is Long and Far Away

Xu Nian was startled by the words of the Divine River Palace Master.

The Divine River Palace Master seemed to want to dump this mess onto him!

"I know you might not care about the position of Divine River Palace Master, and I know you will leave this continent sooner or later, but I still hope you can take up this position. You don't need to manage anything regarding the Divine River Palace; even if you go to that continent in the future, holding the title of Palace Master will still be of help to you. You will understand this later," the Divine River Palace Master said with a smile.

"But..." Xu Nian wanted to refuse.

However, he was interrupted by the Divine River Palace Master.

"No buts, you just need to hold the title, you don't need to handle anything else. Here is the Immortal Treasure Token we possess; you should take it first," the Divine River Palace Master said with a smile.

Xu Nian was speechless.

Was this what the Divine River Palace Master referred to as important matters?

First, he inexplicably became the Alien Minister Elder of the Divine River Palace.

Now, he had inexplicably become the Palace Master of the Divine River Palace.

It felt like someone was passing the buck to him.

Xu Nian looked at the token shoved into his hands by the Divine River Palace Master, and after a moment of hesitation, he finally nodded and agreed, "All right then, I'll assume the position of Divine River Palace Master for now."

Seeing Xu Nian agree, a brilliant smile spread across the face of the Divine River Palace Master.

Xu Nian felt like he had been tricked.

"By the way, you probably don't know what the realms above Battle Emperor are, do you?" the Divine River Palace Master suddenly spoke.

Xu Nian nodded.

This was a question he had wanted to ask as well.

It was said that above Battle Emperor there were Sixth Level Realms, but he was still not clear on what they actually were.

"Actually, the realms above Battle Emperor, like those below, are also divided into Body Cultivation and Spirit Cultivator, only Spirit Cultivator is no longer simply called Spirit Cultivator but Taoist Practice, while Body Cultivation remains the same," the Divine River Palace Master explained.

Xu Nian did not speak, still listening intently.

"Taoist Practice is divided into six realms, which are Zifu, Cave Void, Harmonization, Wanxiang, Tribulation Crossing, and Earth Immortal, while Body Cultivation includes Diamond, Heavenly Phenomenon, Heavenly Gang, Heavenly King, Gang Tribulation, and Gang Immortal, with each realm also divided into four stages: early, middle, late, and perfect," the Divine River Palace Master continued.

Xu Nian muttered these realms to himself.

He silently memorized each of these realms one by one.

"Perhaps you've already noticed that in the later stages, Body Cultivation progresses much slower than Spirit Cultivation," the Divine River Palace Master said with a smile.

Xu Nian nodded.

Indeed, Body Cultivation in the later stages.

It became increasingly difficult to enhance one's physical body.

Although both absorbed Heaven and Earth Spiritual Energy, the breakthrough in Body Cultivation was obviously much slower than in Spirit Cultivation.

"Actually, after reaching the Battle Emperor, it becomes even more difficult to cultivate in Body Cultivation, which is why there are fewer and fewer strong practitioners in Body Cultivation on that continent; most of them are Spirit Cultivators. However, the power of Body Cultivation is indubitably strong because, after Battle Emperor, there is a qualitative sharp transformation in Body Cultivation. You practice Dual Cultivation of Spirit and Body, and I think if possible, you should absolutely not give up

Body Cultivation. Many who practice Dual Cultivation abandon Body Cultivation once they reach the Battle Emperor realm," the Divine River Palace Master said with a smile.

Xu Nian nodded.

He would definitely not give up Body Cultivation.

The difficulty of Body Cultivation.

He had heard about it from his master, Bai Tianhan.

Indeed, because Cultivation was arduous, the lineage of Body Cultivation was increasingly declining.

Divine Demon Refining Body had even become extinct because the Cultivation process was too difficult.

However, for his master, his cultivation in Body Cultivation was something he would definitely not give up.

He had even promised Bai Tianhan that he would restore the splendor of the Divine Demon Sect.

Thus, no matter how difficult, he would continue to cultivate.

"Alright, now that you have a basic understanding of these Cultivation Realms, I told you all this just in hopes that you can go further on the path of Cultivation in the future. By the way, my name is Zhang Tiansheng, and this is my Communication Spirit Talisman. When you go to that continent, feel free to come and find me," Zhang Tiansheng said with a smile.

Xu Nian nodded after receiving the Communication Spirit Talisman.

"Ha ha, little guy, I'll be waiting for you in the Heavenly Demon Continent," laughed Zhang Tiansheng heartily.

After saying this, his figure turned into a streak of light and disappeared into the horizon.

Xu Nian watched Zhang Tiansheng's departing figure, his gaze becoming ever more resolute.

Zhang Tiansheng's words made his next goals crystal clear.

He wanted to see Murong Xue again, but the road ahead was still long.

"Murong Xue, wait for me. Once I've dealt with the matters of this continent, I'll come to find you."

Xu Nian clenched his fist, his eyes unwaveringly determined.

Currently, his cultivation was far from being able to contend with the Tiancang Sect.

Therefore, to face the powerful Tiancang Sect in the future without being powerless, he had to speed up his cultivation.

With that thought, Xu Nian hesitated no longer.

He immediately sat down cross-legged on the futon inside the great hall.

The recent great battle with the Patriarch Xu had brought him considerable gains.

Both his Body Cultivation and Spirit Cultivation showed signs of breaking through to the Three-star Saint Realm.

...

In the following three days,

Xu Nian alternated between healing and cultivating.

In the end, he truly didn't disappoint.

Both his Spirit Cultivation and Body Cultivation broke through to the Three-star Realm.

Now, Xu Nian's combat power was comparable to the peak of the Nine-star Battle Saint.

Meanwhile, during these three days,

the Bull Demon King and the three from the Xu Yu, previously detained by the Xu Family, were also returned under the pressure of the Divine River Palace.

Helpless, Zhang Tiansheng had personally visited the Xu Family before he left.

The three elders of the Xu Family were so frightened they welcomed him personally and didn't dare utter a word in Zhang Tiansheng's presence.

Zhang Tiansheng had only one sentence: "Xu Nian is now the Divine River Palace Master. Anyone who harms my Divine River Palace Master will be killed without mercy."

The three elders from the Xu Family were no match for Zhang Tiansheng, repeatedly nodding in agreement, ensuring they wouldn't trouble Xu Nian again.

The Divine River Palace was feared because of the presence of superbly powerful individuals like Zhang Tiansheng.

Even warriors of the Battle Emperor Level were no match for him.

Thus, the Xu Family dared not trouble Xu Nian any longer and quickly released the detained.

They even sent Xu Tianxu to try and mend relations with Xu Nian.

In the end, Xu Nian decided not to hold a grudge against the Xu Family for the time being, in consideration of Xu Tianxu and his own mother.

He had killed their Eighteen Holy Guards and the future head of the Family.

The Xu Family was already severely weakened.

Moreover, since his own mother was safe and unharmed, Xu Nian saw no need to cling to the matter.

Most importantly, Xu Nian feared that pushing the three ancestor-level elders of the Xu Family too far might lead them to harm his mother.

After all, they were Battle Emperor Level cultivators. If they truly became desperate, Xu Nian would not be able to stop them.

In the end, Xu Nian left his mother and sister in the Divine River Palace.

After visiting a few times, his grandfather returned to the Xu Family.

Xu Nian had wanted to keep him as well.

But he refused.

Xu Nian knew that Xu Tianxu was protecting the Xu Family.

Chapter 476: Leng Yanran Visits

Xu Nian's appointment as the Divine River Palace Master quickly spread throughout the entire Imperial Capital.

This caused a great sensation across the Imperial Capital.

Various powers sent gifts, seeking an audience.

However, Xu Nian rejected all of them.

Xu Nian knew that these powers were flattering him not to win him over or because of the Divine River Palace, but to curry favor with Zhang Tiansheng behind the scenes.

What these people didn't know was that Zhang Tiansheng had already left this continent and would never return.

If they had known, they probably wouldn't have been so eager to court Xu Nian.

Thus, Xu Nian didn't bother to involve himself too deeply with them.

These people were all driven by self-interest, and once they realized there were no benefits to be gained from Xu Nian, they would definitely turn against him immediately.

Xu Nian closed his doors to visitors.

He spent his time either with his mother and sister or on cultivation.

There were about ten days left until the Crown Prince's grand wedding.

And ten days later, there would likely be another great battle.

...

Inside a grand hall of the Divine River Palace.

Xu Nian was currently chatting with his mother and sister.

"Nian'er, you're not getting any younger, do you like any girl? Let mother arrange a marriage for you," Xu Xiuxue said adoringly as she looked at her son.

These days were some of the happiest times of her life.

Having both her daughter and son by her side, being able to sit down together to talk and eat was always her dream.

"Right, brother, do you like any girl? You are now the Divine River Palace Master and a Saint-level expert. I bet there are quite a few girls who like you," Xu Xin also joked.

Xu Nian just gave a wry smile.

His mother and sister had been asking him this question for the past few days.

He always dodged the question haphazardly.

But his sister and mother didn't believe him and kept pressing him repeatedly.

It got to the point where, every time Xu Nian heard this question,

he could only keep his eyes on his nose, and his nose on his heart, pretending he hadn't heard anything.

But the more he acted this way, the more his mother and sister sensed Xu Nian's evasion and pressed even harder.

"Brother, you wouldn't happen to like Princess Ice Spirit, would you? Princess Ice Spirit looks good and has a gentle temperament; I think she's quite suited for you," Xu Xin said with a laugh.

Xu Xiuxue also nodded in agreement.

She had met Xia Bingling and could tell from her womanly intuition that Xia Bingling also had a fondness for Xu Nian.

So, she was actually in favor of Xia Bingling becoming her daughter-in-law.

After all, her son's talents and status were certainly worthy of an Imperial Princess.

Seeing his mother and sister so in agreement, Xu Nian helplessly shook his head.

He really had no interest in Xia Bingling.

His emotions were somewhat complicated; Murong Xue wasn't here.

Leng Yanran's identity was a bit special, and he was afraid of startling his mother if he spoke out.

So on this matter, he could only choose to evade.

"Palace Master, a lady outside requests an audience with you."

Just as Xu Nian was feeling a bit troubled by this, a servant's voice came from outside the hall.

"A lady? Is she pretty? Young? Which family's girl is she?"

Before Xu Nian could even ask, Xu Xin bombarded him with a myriad of questions.

Despite appearing calm and gentle, even somewhat cold on a regular basis, in the presence of Xu Nian and Xu Xiuxue, that suppressed whimsical spirit of hers would reveal itself.

Xu Nian was rendered speechless upon hearing Xu Xin's barrage.

The attendant, aware of the relationship between Xu Xin and Xu Nian, truthfully responded, "Replying to the Hall Master, the young lady is very beautiful, probably around twenty-seven or twenty-eight years old. Judging by her Identity Token, she appears to be from the Leng Family."

"The Leng Family? A bit old at twenty-seven or twenty-eight, but for cultivators under forty there are no issues. If she's indeed quite beautiful, taking her as a concubine wouldn't be bad," Xu Xiuxue muttered.

Xu Nian's face was lined with frustration.

But soon, his expression turned serious.

Who could that woman mentioned by the attendant be, if not Leng Yanran?

It was completely unexpected for Leng Yanran to seek him out at this time.

Initially, Xu Nian had been considering looking for Leng Yanran, but unexpectedly, Leng Yanran had taken the initiative to come to him.

"Have this young lady brought to the side hall. I will go there immediately," Xu Nian hastily instructed.

"Yes!"

The attendant responded and then withdrew.

Xu Xiuxue and Xu Xin on the side started to become suspicious.

"You're not being honest. What exactly is your relationship with Leng Yanran? Don't tell me it's something as simple as a teacher-student relationship. Leng Yanran is getting married in ten days, and her coming to you now is clearly no ordinary matter," Xu Xin rapidly interrogated.

Xu Xiuxue also adopted an expression of intense interrogation.

Clearly, Xu Nian asking Leng Yanran to wait in the side hall meant he was avoiding them.

How could this not arouse their suspicions?

"Well, I'll explain to you when I get back," Xu Nian quickly said, turning on his heels and deploying the Thunderclap Flash, slipping away.

Upon reaching the side hall and making sure Xu Xin and his mother hadn't followed,

Xu Nian finally breathed a sigh of relief as he walked into the side hall.

Upon entering, Xu Nian saw a stunning figure standing inside the main hall.

At the sight of this figure, Xu Nian's heart trembled.

Since their last separation at Qinglin Academy, this woman's image had frequented his mind.

Now, they could finally meet again.

The woman turned around, facing Xu Nian; her eyes too seemed somewhat distant.

"Are you alright?"

Xu Nian and Leng Yanran spoke simultaneously, uttering the same words.

Hearing each other's questions, both faces turned awkward.

"Yanran, don't marry the Crown Prince. He cultivates the malevolent Yin Yang Replenishment Technique. If you marry him, it could cost you your life," Xu Nian blurted out to ease the awkwardness.

However, to his surprise, Leng Yanran's face showed no signs of agitation.

It was as if she already knew about it.

"You know about this?" Xu Nian asked, puzzled.

Leng Yanran shook her head, "No, I've only met the Crown Prince once. How could I possibly know which Cultivation Technique he practices? But marrying him was an order from the Leng Family, a marital grant from the Emperor. Even if I disagree, it's useless."

Xu Nian's brows furrowed deeply.

Although he had suspected as much, hearing Leng Yanran articulate it made his heart sink profoundly.

"What was your purpose for coming to see me today?" Xu Nian asked.

He had a feeling that Leng Yanran's visit was particularly suspicious today, and seeing her expression now, he felt even more uneasy.

It was at that moment Leng Yanran said, "My purpose today is to persuade you to leave the Imperial Capital. I know what you intend to do, but I still want you to give it up."

As Leng Yanran spoke, her voice choked up, her lips even trembling slightly.

Even her eyes dared not meet Xu Nian's directly.

Chapter 477 She is Lying

"Leave the Imperial Capital?"

Xu Nian was taken aback, not expecting Leng Yanran to suggest such a thing.

"Yes, leave the Imperial Capital, and it's best if you leave today. The further, the better," Leng Yanran spoke firmly, though she dared not look directly into Xu Nian's eyes.

Xu Nian stared at Leng Yanran for a long time before finally speaking, "I will not leave. If I go, I will take you with me, after all, we have a promise of two years."

"If you don't leave, you will die. The Crown Prince is already investigating the relationship between you and me. If he finds out about us, he will definitely not let you go," Leng Yanran said urgently upon hearing Xu Nian refuse to leave.

"Hmph, what of it? If I were afraid of the Crown Prince, I wouldn't have come to the Imperial Capital. Besides, I am now the Hall Master of the Divine River Palace; the Crown Prince can't hurt me," Xu Nian declared proudly.

He knew that Leng Yanran had his best interests at heart,

not wanting him to take risks for her.

After all, Leng Yanran was to marry the Crown Prince.

If Xu Nian forcefully took Leng Yanran away, he would probably face endless persecution from the Imperial Family.

Hearing this, Leng Yanran's expression filled with urgency.

Although she had expected Xu Nian to disagree, she did not anticipate his stubbornness to this extent.

She might not care about her own life, but she did not want Xu Nian to ruin his bright future or sacrifice his life because of her.

"Xu Nian, please listen to me this time. Leave. I'm not worth your sacrifice," Leng Yanran said with a resigned sigh.

But Xu Nian's gaze remained fixed intensely on Leng Yanran as he spoke, "Whether you're worth it or not is for me to decide. Yanran, I just want to ask you one thing — do you love me?"

With that question, Leng Yanran was completely taken aback.

She had never expected Xu Nian to ask such a question.

She had asked herself this question countless times in her own mind.

In the end, she had come to a surprising conclusion: yes, she loved him!

That was precisely why she had taken the risk to come to see Xu Nian and persuade him to leave the Imperial Capital.

She did not want her lover to sacrifice his life because of her.

Now, faced with Xu Nian's piercing gaze, she genuinely did not know how to respond.

Admit the truth?

That might shatter the purpose of her visit.

But to say she did not love him?

She could not bring herself to utter those words.

Leng Yanran bit her lip fiercely, her hands trembling.

Finally, she made up her mind and uttered two words: "Don't love!"

In that moment, Xu Nian felt his heart wrench fiercely.

He stared intensely into Leng Yanran's eyes.

But her expression was incredibly resolute.

At that moment, Xu Nian truly began to waver.

He had always believed that Leng Yanran had feelings for him.

But now, her resolute gaze shattered Xu Nian's longstanding belief.

"So you should leave the Imperial Capital as soon as possible. As for whether the Crown Prince cultivates the Evil Technique, you need not concern yourself with that. He is going to be my future husband, and I do not wish you to slander him nor disrupt my wedding day," Leng Yanran continued coldly.

Her gaze was very resolute, yet her heart was bleeding.

Xu Nian felt an intense pain in his heart.

Leng Yanran's words felt like a blade piercing into his heart.

He had not expected the outcome to end like this.

"Okay, I've said what needs to be said. So, I hope you can live well," Leng Yanran finished speaking, then ran out of the hall.

As she ran out, her tears could no longer be held back and they started to flow.

Xu Nian, on the other hand, collapsed directly on the steps inside the hall.

The words of Leng Yanran had truly hurt him.

In fact, it also took a lot of courage for him to ask that question.

If Leng Yanran had nodded, he would have definitely not hesitated to take her away from the Imperial Capital, standing against the Crown Prince.

But he did not expect Leng Yanran to say such words.

"It seems I really was deluding myself," Xu Nian said with a self-deprecating laugh.

It was the first time he felt his heart in such pain.

...

Outside the Divine River Palace.

As soon as Leng Yanran had run out of the reach of the Divine River Palace's influence, she burst into uncontrollable sobs.

The words she had just spoken were completely against her true feelings.

But to help Xu Nian live better, she had to do it.

"Xu Nian, don't blame me, I really hope you can live well, I actually love you very much," Leng Yanran muttered to herself, choking up.

She looked back one last time in the direction of the Divine River Palace, then ran away.

Xu Nian sat dejectedly inside the hall.

Xu Xin slowly walked into the hall from outside.

She had heard the entire conversation between Xu Nian and Xu Xin.

Seeing her brother in such a dejected state, she shook her head helplessly.

"Silly little brother, you believe even when Leng Yanran lies. If she didn't like you, why would she specially come to see you, and why would she run out so quickly?" Xu Xin sat next to Xu Nian and spoke.

Xu Nian was stunned for a moment, then suddenly turned his head to look at Xu Xin.

Xu Nian shook his head and continued, "You are so clever, usually, you would instantly know if Xu Xin was lying, but today, because you care too much, you were confused. Leng Yanran's words were clearly

contradictory; she first said she was helpless, but later she defended the Crown Prince, obviously, she said it on purpose to make you give up. If she didn't love you, why would she end up running out and crying?"

"She cried?" Xu Nian asked, surprised.

Xu Xin had a helpless expression.

It was the first time she saw her brother acting so foolishly.

It seemed her brother truly loved Leng Yanran deeply.

"Leng Yanran urged you to leave the Imperial Capital, actually not wanting you to take risks for her, and that last statement was also intentionally made for you to give up. If you really love her, you must not let her jump into the fire pit," Xu Xin said.

Xu Nian pondered for a moment, then nodded vehemently.

Setting aside whether or not Leng Yanran truly loved him, even if she didn't,

he would absolutely not stand idly by and watch her marry the Crown Prince.

And his feelings were not wrong; Leng Yanran did have feelings for him.

Realizing this, Xu Nian's eyes once again became firm.

Ten days later, even if he had to steal, he would snatch Leng Yanran from the Crown Prince's wedding.

The woman Xu Nian fancied, how could he allow others to persecute her like this?

"Leng Yanran, you wait for me. You dare to deceive me; the next time I see you, I'll make you understand the consequences of deceiving me. You think driving me away is that easy?" Xu Nian clenched his fist, his eyes firm as he spoke to himself.

"What consequences?"

However, just as Xu Nian was secretly swearing in his heart, Xu Xin leaned in with a mischievous smile and asked.

Xu Nian immediately broke character, his face full of embarrassment.

What consequences?

Is that something he could say?

Chapter 478: The Furious Crown Prince

Inside the Crown Prince Palace.

At this moment, the Crown Prince had just undergone a cultivation session, and his body was dripping with sweat.

Behind him lay the corpse of a woman.

"Damn it, such little Primordial Yin, when will I be able to break through again?" the Crown Prince cursed under his breath.

His cultivation speed had been slowing down recently.

This had been souring his mood.

He was now more impatient than ever to get Leng Yanran back.

She had the rare Xuanyin Physique.

Leng Yanran's Xuanyin could sustain his cultivation for half a year.

By then, his cultivation level would surely soar.

Just ten more days, in just ten days, he would have what he desired.

"Your Highness!"

At that moment, a knocking sound came from outside the hall.

"Enter!"

The Crown Prince responded with a cold voice.

A man in a black robe entered.

"Your Highness, Leng Yanran went to the Divine River Palace and came out crying in the end. Due to the multitude of strong cultivators in the Divine River Palace, your subordinate could not hear what she said, but it's certain that she went to see that Xu Nian," said the man in the black robe.

Upon hearing this, the Crown Prince's brow furrowed instantly.

Leng Yanran had gone to see Xu Nian and came out crying later.

What did this imply?

Even a fool would know.

"Hmph, that bitch, is she trying to cuckold this Crown Prince? Did you find out the relationship between this Xu Nian and Leng Yanran that I asked you to investigate?" the Crown Prince said coldly, his eyes flashing with intense anger.

"I-investigated it," the man in the black robe stammered, startled by the killing intent emanating from the Crown Prince.

"Speak!" said the Crown Prince icily.

"This subordinate has discovered that the relationship between Xu Nian and the Crown Princess Consort is indeed not as simple as that of ordinary master and disciple. They once met in the Demon Beast Forest. Leng Yanran was severely injured there, and it was Xu Nian who saved the Crown Princess Consort. The two even spent a night together in a cave. Furthermore, using a secret technique, this subordinate has found out that the Crown Princess Consort is no longer a... a... virgin..."

"Enough!"

Before the man in the black robe could finish, he was interrupted by the Crown Prince's furious shout.

The man in the black robe didn't dare to look up at the Crown Prince.

But he could still imagine how ugly the Crown Prince's expression was at that moment.

Indeed, right now the Crown Prince's face was as unsightly as a liver, his complexion terribly ashen.

He, a Crown Prince, had been cuckolded.

How could he not be filled with rage?

It was always him taking advantage of others; now, the prey he had been eyeing for years had been snatched away.

It was enough to make his lungs nearly explode with fury.

"Xu Nian... I want you dead!"

The Crown Prince bellowed madly, a terrifying killing intent swirling within the great hall.

The temperature of the entire hall plummeted abruptly.

The man in the black robe shuddered at once.

The cultivation level of the Crown Prince before him could easily take his life.

He truly feared that in his wrath, the Crown Prince might take him as the target to vent his anger.

"But, Your Highness, Xu Nian is now the Hall Master of Divine River Palace. I'm afraid it will be quite difficult to kill him," the Black Robed Man spoke up.

Just after saying this, the Black Robed Man immediately regretted it.

Sure enough, a terrifying aura surged towards the Black Robed Man in an instant.

"Pu!"

The Black Robed Man was slammed against the wall by this terrifying aura, blood spraying from his mouth wildly.

"Hmph, I don't care who he is. If he dares to touch the prey of this Crown Prince, he must die!" the Crown Prince bellowed.

The violent aura rampaged wildly throughout the entire hall.

The Black Robed Man felt incredibly depressed in his heart,

cursing himself for speaking out of turn just now.

"What you said is indeed the truth; Xu Nian is now the Hall Master of Divine River Palace, and killing him is indeed no easy task. That's why I'm sparing your life. Speak, is there any way? I want Xu Nian to die without a burial place," the Crown Prince said as he sat down again, speaking coldly.

He had not lost his rationality.

Although he had coveted Leng Yanran for a long time, to him, Leng Yanran was ultimately just prey.

It was just that this prey had been bitten by someone else, which made him very unwilling to let it go.

Hearing the Crown Prince's words, the Black Robed Man cursed inwardly.

Nevertheless, he had no choice but to speak up: "Your Highness, if you want to kill Xu Nian, I do have a way."

"Speak!" the Crown Prince commanded coldly.

"Xu Nian has grudges against many forces in the Imperial Capital, especially the Fang and Ye Families who hate him to the bone. Your Highness might take advantage of the forthcoming grand wedding to host a banquet and invite youths from various forces here, and also extend an invitation to Xu Nian. Why not use their hands to eliminate Xu Nian? At that time, Your Highness only needs to give advice and strategize behind the scenes; there's no need to act personally," the Black Robed Man proposed.

The Crown Prince's eyes immediately lit up upon hearing this.

"But I've heard that Xu Nian is quite strong; it won't be easy to kill him, will it?" the Crown Prince asked with some doubt.

"You can be assured about this, Your Highness. Haven't you treasured a type of extraordinary poison called Tianyao Powder? It could be used during the banquet. By then, even if Xu Nian has Cultivation at the Battle Emperor Level, he won't be able to utilize it," the Black Robed Man explained.

"Good!" the Crown Prince exclaimed in admiration.

A thick killing intent flashed across his eyes.

This Black Robed Man's plan really hit the mark with his own thoughts.

By then, even if Divine River Palace sought someone to blame, they would only trouble the Fang and Ye Families.

They would not look for trouble with him, the Crown Prince.

And he would have killed Xu Nian, eliminating this future trouble,

while at the same time using the strength of Divine River Palace to suppress the Fang Family, gaining the favor of the Divine Emperor.

"There's just some trouble with the Eighth Prince; if he interferes, the plan might fail, so Your Highness must guard against that," the Black Robed Man continued.

Upon hearing this, the Crown Prince's eyes narrowed instantly.

His biggest enemy was the Eighth Prince.

Now that his subordinate brought up the Eighth Prince, he was of course displeased in his heart.

"Hmph, at that time, I'll invite Old Eight too, and have him under my watch. I'll see how he can scheme," the Crown Prince snorted coldly.

"By the way, Your Highness, you could also invite the Crown Princess Consort. Take advantage of this opportunity to control the Crown Princess Consort, and at the same time let her watch with her own eyes as Xu Nian is trampled under Your Highness's feet. Wouldn't that be satisfying?" the Black Robed Man suggested.

Upon hearing this, the Crown Prince's eyes shone brightly.

"Good, this plan is truly brilliant. I thought this woman was pure and untarnished, intending for her to marry into the royal family with great honor. Since she's so shameless, I'll let her see what happens when she betrays the Crown Prince. When the time comes, I will make her watch the man she loves kneel at my feet, showing her that I am the only one in this world who can conquer her," the Crown Prince said with a cold snort, and then he slapped the corner of the bed.

The corner of the bed, made of jade, instantly burst open.

The Black Robed Man, witnessing this scene, also revealed a cold smirk.

...

Fifth update, there will be no make-up updates today! Sanjia is not in the right mood today!

Writing a romance scene, I've embarrassed myself to death! The material written won't be liked by everyone, we'll continue to make up for it tomorrow!

Chapter 479: Xu Nian Attends a Banquet

"Hall Master, the Crown Prince invites you to attend the banquet at the palace," a servant walked into the great hall and said.

Xu Nian furrowed his brows.

The Crown Prince actually invited him to attend some banquet.

He was not familiar with the Crown Prince, and Leng Yanran had already mentioned it.

The Crown Prince had started to suspect the relationship between him and Leng Yanran.

Inviting him to the banquet at this time was probably a trap.

"Xu Nian, you must not go. The Crown Prince is cunning and ruthless. His invitation to the banquet surely bodes no good," Xia Bingling urged anxiously.

That morning, Xia Bingling had come to find Xu Nian.

Xu Nian was busy with his cultivation and did not pay her any attention.

However, Xu Xiuxue had pulled Xia Bingling aside and chatted with her all morning.

Xu Nian heard what Xia Bingling said but gave no response.

"Brother, I think it's best if you don't go," Xu Xin also said, frowning.

She knew about Xu Nian's relationship with Leng Yanran.

If it was indeed because of Leng Yanran, the Crown Prince would definitely not let him off.

"Nian'er, I advise you not to go either. The Crown Prince is ambitious and will surely harm you," Xu Xiuxue added hurriedly.

She had also heard about Xu Nian and Leng Yanran from Xu Xin.

Xu Nian was free to like whoever he wanted and do whatever he pleased, and she supported him.

Of course, all of these were under one condition—that Xu Nian was not in any life-threatening danger.

Xu Nian heard the advice from the three of them yet shook his head.

He had to attend this banquet.

If it was merely a simple banquet by the Crown Prince, then there was nothing to worry about.

But if it was a setup for him, then he had to meet the Crown Prince no matter what.

Since he had already decided to take Leng Yanran away from the Crown Prince,

how could he possibly fear the Crown Prince's provocation.

The three women saw that Xu Nian was determined to go, and anxious expressions appeared on their faces.

They all knew that once Xu Nian made a decision, it was impossible to change.

"Don't worry, even if the Crown Prince wants to kill me, I won't be harmed. Right now, unless a Battle Emperor level powerhouse makes a move, no one can hurt me," Xu Nian said with a fierce gaze.

Xu Xin and Xu Xiuxue hesitated at his words but finally nodded.

They had both witnessed Xu Nian's battle in the Xu Family Ancestral Land.

Even the Patriarch Xu, who had suppressed his realm, couldn't defeat him, and now it seemed truly no one in the Saint Realm could harm him.

Xia Bingxue was still somewhat worried.

She did not know Xu Nian's true strength.

After all, Xu Nian had just recently stepped into the Saint Realm not long ago.

"Nian'er, if you must go, we won't oppose it, but you must be very careful. Open spears are easy to dodge, but hidden arrows are hard to defend against. The Crown Prince probably won't oppose you openly, but he will definitely play dirty behind your back," Xu Xiuxue said.

People's hearts are treacherous, and she saw that clearer than anyone else.

Xu Nian nodded seriously.

He knew that he was now the Hall Master of the Divine River Palace, a sensitive identity.

The Crown Prince definitely wouldn't attack him openly, he would surely resort to underhanded tactics.

But so what?

No matter the method, if the Crown Prince dared to make a move, Xu Nian would certainly make him understand what it meant to regret.

"I'll go with you tonight," Xia Bingling quickly volunteered.

"No," Xu Nian decisively refused.

Xia Bingling knew the Crown Prince's secret and had already been a target of his assassination attempts.

She had been staying in the Divine River Palace, protected by her Master, so she was safe.

But once she left the Divine River Palace, the Crown Prince would definitely not let her off easily.

"You're saying 'no' just like that? I insist on going tonight," Xia Bingling dropped these words and left in a huff.

Xu Nian felt helpless.

When it came to Xia Bingling, he really had no solution.

After all, the Emperor Palace was her home.

She wanted to return, and Xu Nian had no way to stop her.

He simply didn't want the girl to waste time and emotions on him in vain.

He had no particular thoughts regarding Xia Bingling.

"Xu Nian, really, Bingling is a good girl. Are you sure you don't want to consider her?" Xu Xiuxue asked as she looked towards Xu Nian.

Xu Nian helplessly waved his hand.

Then he left the grand hall.

Since the Crown Prince had especially set up a banquet for him tonight.

He ought to prepare some gifts.

...

The night fell quickly.

Xu Nian, along with the Bull Demon King, Xu Yu, and Black Wind, headed towards the Crown Prince Palace.

Originally, Xu Nian wanted to go alone.

But the Bull Demon King and the others insisted; how could they miss such a lively event.

After some thought, Xu Nian decided to bring them along.

Although they were all One-star Saints, they could certainly protect themselves.

It was time for them to experience more trials and tribulations.

The banquet set by the Crown Prince was located in the Crown Prince Palace.

Along the way, Xu Nian could see many people flocking towards the Crown Prince Palace.

"This Crown Prince seems to have invited a lot of people. Boss, I'm afraid he didn't miss any of your enemies," Black Wind chuckled.

He possessed the bloodline of the Divine Beast Bai Ze, and since he was a mutant Divine Beast, he was extraordinarily intelligent.

He recognized the hidden agenda right away.

"This Crown Prince wants to use someone to eliminate his rival, but they are underestimating the big brother too much; the knife they borrowed is not sharp enough!" Xu Yu said proudly.

A trace of disdain flashed in his eyes.

From his recent experiences, he had developed a profound understanding of Xu Nian's strength.

Black Wind, the Bull Demon King, and he had teamed up.

Yet, they were unable to handle even one hand of Xu Nian.

In the end, they were miserably defeated.

Since then, they had held Xu Nian in high esteem.

They completely scorned those so-called geniuses.

In front of Xu Nian, all geniuses were worthless.

"Humans are just troublesome, loving to play mind games. If you're capable, just strike directly; what's with all this beating around the bush? This Crown Prince is too damn like a woman," the Bull Demon King said with anger.

Hearing the talk of the three Demon Beasts, Xu Nian couldn't help but smile helplessly.

His three brothers were fearless.

If they really threw a fit, they might just overturn the entire Crown Prince Palace.

"Let's go and meet them, but be careful, and don't act impulsively. The Crown Prince Palace is not as simple as we imagine," Xu Nian said.

Even the Xu Family had three Battle Emperor Level experts and a powerful Killing Array.

The Crown Prince, being a member of the Imperial Family and having his own forces, was certainly not that simple.

The three great Demon Beasts nodded, but their faces still carried a sense of pride.

Xu Nian was helpless about this; Xu Yu and the others were all Divine Beast Bloodline Demon Beasts.

The pride was innate, and it was nearly impossible for them to restrain it.

Thus, Xu Nian led Xu Yu and the others towards the inside of the Crown Prince Palace.

The Crown Prince Palace was magnificent and splendidly opulent.

Apart from the palace buildings, there was an even larger garden area.

There was also a large artificially excavated lake that occupied tens of acres.

Pavilions, ponds, and a variety of flora and fauna were all present.

This time, the banquet was set by the lake in a pavilion.

Led by a palace eunuch, Xu Nian and the others quickly arrived at this pavilion.

Before they even entered, a melodious sound of celestial music reached their ears.

The air was also filled with a strong fragrance of wine.

Chapter 480: The Crown Prince's Cunning Plan

"Such fragrant wine, could this be the legendary Spiritual Wine? Drinking this can enhance one's cultivation?"

The Bull Demon King, upon smelling the aroma of the wine, instantly widened his eyes, nearly drooling.

"Ugh, stupid bull, all you know is drinking. Be careful not to get poisoned to death." Xu Yu and Black Wind gave the Bull Demon King a disdainful glance.

Undeterred, the Bull Demon King argued, "If I could taste even a drop of Spiritual Wine, I'd be willing to die by poison. Who would be foolish enough to taint Spiritual Wine with poison? Wouldn't that be a terrible waste of heaven's gifts?"

"Yeah right, who knows what's in the heart of the Crown Prince? You better watch your mouth; we don't want to end up collecting your corpse," Xu Yu transmitted his voice directly to him.

The Bull Demon King rolled his eyes.

Xu Nian could only shake his head helplessly.

He continued to follow the little eunuch through the corridors of the loft.

Upon entering the loft, Xu Nian saw a majestic hall.

The hall was filled with banquet tables.

Atop the banquet tables were all kinds of exquisite food and fine wines.

In the center of the great hall, women in gorgeous dresses were dancing.

Their figures graceful, their movements elegant and captivating.

At this moment, the hall was already filled with quite a few people.

These people were both male and female, mostly young in age.

However, Xu Nian's gaze quickly fell upon the young man wearing the Nine Dragon Python Robe at the front of the hall.

This young man, wearing a hair crown, had a handsome and extraordinary appearance.

His eyes radiated fierce sharpness, and he exuded an air of superiority, a lordship that rose high above the others.

At the same time, this lordly aura was mixed with an alarming and chilling sensation.

But this chilling sensation was so subtle that most people could hardly notice it.

Indeed, he was Crown Prince Xiahou Chun.

Xiahou Chun also noticed Xu Nian the moment he stepped into the hall.

He first glanced over Xu Nian and his companions and then a flash of killing intent passed deep within his eyes when he looked at Xu Nian.

However, this flash of killing intent was quickly concealed, replaced by a warm smile on his face.

"Haha, our Divine River Palace Master has finally arrived, please, do come in," the Crown Prince stood up and laughed heartily.

With these words, everyone's gaze immediately fell upon Xu Nian.

The dancers retreated.

The celestial music also stopped at this moment.

Xu Nian's face showed a smile.

For he could feel that, the moment Xiahou Chun's words fell, a number of gazes filled with killing intent were directed at him.

Most of these gazes came from members of the Fang Family and Ye Family.

"It seems it truly is a banquet with hidden malice." Xu Nian sneered inwardly.

He had killed so many members of the Ye Family and Fang Family.

Everyone from these two families already loathed him to the bone.

Seeing him now, how could they not harbor thoughts of murder?

Xiahou Chun, observing this scene, also revealed a faint smile at the corner of his mouth.

Everything was just as he had expected.

The Fang Family and Ye Family indeed harbored intense hatred for Xu Nian.

Now all he had to do was fan the flames.

When the time came, the youth of the Fang Family and Ye Family would surely not let this opportunity slip by.

"In addition, he had long been prepared with Tianyao Powder, so it would have been difficult for Xu Nian not to die."

Xu Nian was directly arranged to sit not far from the Crown Prince.

As for Xu Yu and the others, they were arranged to sit in the positions below.

"I've long heard that the new Master of the Divine River Palace has an extraordinary bearing and is very young. Seeing you today, I must say, you truly stand out. I feel quite inferior before you, Lord Xu!"  
Xiahou Chun said to Xu Nian with a smile.

Xu Nian smiled back, but a hint of disdain flashed through the depths of his eyes.

The thing he loathed the most was this kind of hypocritical courtesy.

Clearly, Xiahou Chun harbored a deep hatred for him, yet he still spouted such flattering remarks.

It truly made Xu Nian feel sick to his stomach.

Yet, Xu Nian had no choice but to play along with his insincerity.

"Your Highness is too kind. My becoming the Master of the Divine River Palace was simply fortuitous; it's nothing worth mentioning," Xu Nian said humbly.

"Not at all, not at all. I've heard that Lord Xu stepped into the Holy Realm at the age of eighteen and possesses extraordinary combat power, an unprecedented feat in the history of the Tianhen Empire. Lord Xu can truly be called the number one prodigy of the Imperial Capital without any doubt. Here, I propose a toast to Lord Xu," Xiahou Chun said heartily, picking up his wine cup.

Xu Nian glanced at the wine that had been poured in front of him.

He subtly activated his Gray Dragon Eye.

Sure enough, he detected that besides containing a stream of Spiritual Energy in the wine,

There was also a layer of a peculiar liquid resembling starlight.

If his guess was right, this starlight-like liquid

Must be the poison the Crown Prince had slipped into his wine.

"Big brother, you absolutely cannot drink this. The wine has been poisoned, and the toxin is very potent. If you drink it, you'll lose all your power," Xu Yu's voice rang in Xu Nian's mind.

"Indeed, if I'm not mistaken, this poison should be the world's most remarkable divine poison, Tianyao Powder. It is colorless, tasteless, and even Spiritual Sense can't detect it. Had we not been Bai Ze, naturally sensitive to poisons, I fear we wouldn't have been able to notice it," Black Wind's voice also echoed in Xu Nian's mind.

"Damn it, it's really poisoned. Good heavens, I was about to drink it. This Crown Prince deserves to be struck by lightning for putting poison in this wine. Just let me find an opportunity, and I'll turn him into a meat pie, infuriating me to death," Bull Demon King's angry cursing also resonated in Xu Nian's mind.

Hearing his brothers' voices, a smile appeared on Xu Nian's face.

Tianyao Powder?

The Crown Prince really went to great lengths to kill him.

To even bring out this Tianyao Powder.

Regarding Tianyao Powder, Xu Nian had also read about it in ancient texts.

It was a poison that even Battle Emperor-level experts couldn't contend with.

Once it entered the body, it would blend with the Spiritual Energy or Gang Qi, leaving the victim unable to mobilize their inner strength.

In severe cases, it could even lead to the victim's Spiritual Energy going out of control, resulting in a delirious state.

Afterward, it was impossible for anyone to detect it through examination.

It could be said that Tianyao Powder was an excellent weapon for assassination.

If he ingested this Tianyao Powder and suffered a delirious state,

Then the Fang Family and Ye Family's youths could take the opportunity to kill him.

Even the Divine River Palace would be helpless.

It was indeed a clever scheme.

"Brother Xu, why aren't you drinking? This is Jade Spirit Wine, specially prepared for tonight's banquet. Just one sip is equivalent to ten days of cultivation, and I even grudge myself from drinking it normally. Could it be that Brother Xu fears I might poison it?" Xiahou Chun saw Xu Nian staring at his wine cup in a daze and quickly spoke up.

Yet he felt suspicious in his heart.

Could it be that Xu Nian had noticed the poison in the wine?

But that was impossible, not even a Battle Emperor Expert could detect Tianyao Powder.

How could Xu Nian possibly have discovered it?

"Haha, Your Highness, what are you saying? I've never seen Spiritual Wine before. Seeing it for the first time has me somewhat astonished. Since the wine has such miraculous effects, naturally, I must savor it properly," Xu Nian said with a laugh.

After saying that, he picked up the wine cup in his hand and drained it in one gulp.

Xiahou Chun, seeing this scene, revealed a sly, triumphant sneer deep in his eyes, and he thought smugly, "Hmph, Xu Nian, let's see if you can survive this time!"