

Divine King 491

Chapter 491: Blood Essence Saber

A colossal evil deity's phantom loomed behind Xiahou Chun.

A pair of vast eyes, like two massive blood moons suspended in the sky.

Xiahou Chun himself appeared as if an evil deity, emerging from hell, his entire being emanating an unimaginably terrifying aura.

Everyone who glanced at him felt a chilling fear from the depths of their heart.

Xiahou Chun's blood-red eyes were fixed on Xu Nian, filled with endless killing intent.

He had been forced to take this step, all because of this young man before him.

He couldn't dispel the hatred in his heart today without killing this youth.

"You claimed you haven't cultivated any evil techniques, so what exactly are you using now?" Xu Nian sneered and asked.

"Hmph, Xu Nian, you're the first to push me to this point; I have to admit, your talent is the most terrifying I've ever seen. You might even surpass Old Eight. But even the most talented can fall. This day next year will be the anniversary of your death," Xiahou Chun said with a cold snort.

As he sneered, the air around them grew even colder.

A dreadful yin cold power made the already frigid temperature even more piercing.

Within this chill, there was a mix of a strange power.

This power, upon entering a person's body, could freeze their blood and cells solid.

Even amidst this horrifying yin cold power was mixed a terrible corrosiveness.

This corrosiveness could not only decay one's flesh and blood but also their spiritual energy.

Average Saint Level powerhouses.

For this terrifying yin cold power, they had no means of resistance at all.

However, Xu Nian was different, even if the yin cold power was stronger and the corrosiveness more intense.

His Dan Sea Species Green Lotus could absorb it, so as soon as the yin cold power entered Xu Nian's body, it was completely consumed by him.

Thinking to kill him with just this evil method was far from enough.

"Xiahou Chun, save your breath, let's begin. Show me the strength you gained by slaughtering countless lives and how formidable it is," Xu Nian said with a cold voice.

Having said that, he thrust forward with the Immortal Sword in his hand.

The Sword Radiance contained a strong intent of cutting.

Wherever the Sword Radiance passed, the space itself was torn apart.

However, upon seeing this, a mocking cold smile instead of previous panic appeared in Xiahou Chun's eyes.

"If you wish to see, then I will let you die clearly," Xiahou Chun chuckled.

With a beckon of his hand, a blood-colored long saber appeared in his grasp.

As this blood-colored saber appeared,

A strong scent of blood instantly permeated the surroundings.

That horrific stench of blood made everyone shiver.

"This, could it be the legendary evil weapon... the Blood Essence Saber?"

Leng Wuqing stood upon the pavilion, speaking out in surprise, his face showing a look of shock.

"The Blood Essence Saber? What sort of weapon is that?" the surrounding crowd expressed their confusion.

Clearly, they did not know of this Blood Essence Saber.

"The Blood Essence Saber is one of the three great legendary evil weapons from ancient tales, said to be forged from the fresh blood of a million people, possessing formidable lethality. Once activated, it must be stained with blood, but this weapon has long since disappeared from the world. I never imagined the Crown Prince would have obtained it," Leng Wuqing said.

The surrounding crowd all took a sharp breath.

A weapon forged from the fresh blood of a million people had to possess a terrifyingly murderous aura.

With such an aura bolstering its attacks, the power was hard to imagine.

Xu Nian was also surprised, not expecting Xiahou Chun to have this up his sleeve.

"Buzz!"

Xiahou Chun held the Blood Blade and made a slash.

A horrifying blood-colored Sword Light burst forth in an instant.

And collided violently with Xu Nian's Sword Radiance.

"Boom!"

A loud explosion.

The Sword Radiance from Xu Nian was shattered by Xiahou Chun's blood-colored Sword Light.

The surrounding crowd saw this and was shocked.

This was after all the Dimension Cutting Profound Argumentation being unleashed after stepping through the threshold of entry-level mastery.

The attack's power had already surpassed that of a Battle Saint Level expert, yet now it was casually blocked by a single strike from Xiahou Chun.

It seemed that the outcome of this battle, who would fall, was truly uncertain.

"Xu Nian, you've swung your sword at me so many times, now it's time for you to taste my Blood Essence Saber," Xiahou Chun declared with a cold shout.

He finished speaking and swung the blood-colored battle saber in his hand, brutally striking out towards Xu Nian.

In an instant, a streak of sword light tore through the sky.

The blood-red sword light was as vivid as blood, emanating an incredibly terrifying aura.

The sword light moved at an unimaginable speed, chopping directly towards Xu Nian.

At this moment, everyone seemed to envision a mountain of corpses and a sea of blood, sending chills down their spines.

"Such a terrifying sword light, even from this distance, I feel a chill in my back,"

Someone among the Imperial Capital's geniuses couldn't help but speak out.

Those around him who heard this deeply shared the sentiment.

If they were to face this strike, death was almost certain.

Xu Nian looked at the fast-approaching blood-red sword light, his eyes revealing a hint of surprise.

However, there was no trace of panic.

Xu Nian had long anticipated Xiahou Chun could unleash such a terrifying attack.

But what Xu Nian hadn't expected was that Xiahou Chun's sword light contained such horrifying killing intent.

This killing intent even affected Xu Nian's state of mind slightly.

To someone with a weaker mind, it would certainly have caused an immediate mental breakdown.

After all, the killing intent within this sword light was truly too terrifying.

"Zhen!"

Without any hesitation, Xu Nian exerted the Kun Cave Power.

He struck with his sword.

The blood-red sword light was instantly crushed under the crushing force of Xu Nian's Kun Cave Power.

No matter how strong the bloody killing intent was, how could it possibly withstand the Kun Cave Power?

"Eh, it actually broke through my Blood Essence Saber attack?" Xiahou Chun was obviously taken aback.

He had not expected Xu Nian to easily break through his attack.

However, before Xiahou Chun's surprise dissipated, he was shocked to find that Xu Nian in the distance had vanished.

"Not good!"

Xiahou Chun didn't hesitate for a moment, hastily slashing behind him.

"Clang!"

The sound of metal clashing abruptly rang out.

Xu Nian's Immortal Sword collided directly with Xiahou Chun's Blood Essence Saber.

The terrifying power swept outwards.

The lake beneath them, frozen into ice, cracked open under the fearsome force, with cracks rapidly spreading all around.

"Hmph, thinking to ambush me, impossible," Xiahou Chun scoffed, his gaze full of mockery as he looked at Xu Nian confronting him.

"Really?" Xu Nian smiled faintly.

Two figures burst forth from him.

They launched a fierce attack directly at Xiahou Chun.

Xiahou Chun's face paled; he hurriedly swung the Blood Essence Saber to knock Xu Nian aside.

At the same time, he frantically defended against the assault of Xu Nian's two clones.

"Boom!"

Although Xiahou Chun blocked the attack of the two clones, he was still sent flying by the force generated from the impact.

Like a meteorite, he crashed onto the ice river.

The ice river exploded, emitting a muffled sound.

And in that moment, Xu Nian sheathed his longsword and sat down cross-legged amidst the void.

"Zhen!"

A strong vibration emanated from Xu Nian's body.

Chapter 492 The Conspiracy of the Eighth Prince

As the wave of fluctuation passed,

Xu Nian's body erupted in a holy glow.

It lit up the darkness like daylight, and he stood there like a dazzling star.

"This... how is this possible?"

The people around were all showing faces of utter astonishment at the sight.

A Profound Argumentation of the Light Attribute?

Had Xu Nian actually comprehended a fourth Profound Argumentation?

Damn it, if those who spent years without mastering a Profound Argumentation saw this, they'd probably rage themselves to death.

However, fortunately, this Light Attribute Profound Argumentation wasn't too strong; it seemed he had just stepped into the Initial Insight Realm.

If it had been like the Dimension Cutting Profound Argumentation, breaking straight through the threshold of Profound Argumentations,

probably everyone present would feel an urge to commit suicide.

It was just too crushing a blow.

Even though it was only the Initial Insight Realm, everyone understood.

This time, Xiahou Chun was probably in real danger.

After all, Light Attribute Profound Argumentations are the nemesis of all evil methods.

The Profound Argumentation Xu Nian mastered was precisely the Star Purification - the best one in the Light Attribute against Xiahou Chun.

There are three types of Light Attribute Profound Argumentations: Light Enhancement, Star Purification, and Light Annihilation.

What Xu Nian comprehended was the Star Purification in the Intermediate Profound Argumentations, which holds tremendous purifying power against all things evil.

Now, Xiahou Chun, lying in a heap of shattered ice, had a complexion that turned exceedingly gloomy.

The radiance emanating from Xu Nian made him instinctively feel a powerful discomfort.

The Evil Power within his body even began to dissipate and disintegrate under the illumination.

"Damn it, how could this guy have comprehended such a Profound Argumentation," cursed Xiahou Chun inwardly.

Although Xu Nian's Profound Argumentation was merely at the level of Initial Insight, it was already exerting suppression on the Evil Power in his body.

If Xu Nian's comprehension had reached Insight, Xiahou Chun would probably be in agony, screaming in pain.

"How about it, Crown Prince, this was a gift specially prepared for you. Next, I'll let you fully experience the cleansing of Star Purification," Xu Nian said, staring down at Xiahou Chun, whose face was dark to the extreme, with a hint of cold laughter in his eyes.

To deal with Xiahou Chun, he had specifically sought advice from Emperor Ye Tian on methods to suppress Evil Power.

In the end, Emperor Ye Tian had pointed out two directions for him.

One was to comprehend the Fire Attribute's Red Lotus Karma Fire, and the other was the Light Attribute's Star Purification.

Xu Nian ultimately chose to comprehend Star Purification.

After all, the difficulty of comprehending Red Lotus Karma Fire was much greater than Star Purification, and Xu Nian couldn't assure himself that he would achieve Initial Insight in a short time.

Of course, the power of Red Lotus Karma Fire was also much stronger than Star Purification.

"Hum!"

Xu Nian flashed, then instantly crossed a distance of a hundred yards.

He appeared right in front of Xiahou Chun.

"Courting death!"

Xiahou Chun, outraged, hastily swung his Blood Essence Saber at Xu Nian.

A hint of a light smile crossed the corners of Xu Nian's mouth, his holy radiance sparkling.

"Hum!"

Xu Nian's Dragon Scale Boxing Gloves instantly covered his hands, the powerful holy vibration enveloping his whole arm.

"Clang!"

The Blood Essence Saber struck the back of Xu Nian's hand, producing a sound like that of colliding fine iron.

Although the Blood-colored Dragon Scales were shattered, Xu Nian's skin was unharmed.

Xiahou Chun was immediately shocked, a strong premonition of doom rising in his heart.

He hurriedly tried to retreat.

"Thinking of retreating now? I'm afraid it's already too late, Star-picking Finger."

Xu Nian uttered a cold laugh and then Xiahou Chun saw Xu Nian's finger point at his chest with the speed of lightning.

A strong and unrivaled holy vibration surged through his finger.

"Boom!"

Xiahou Chun's chest was instantly pierced by a powerful burst of light, leaving a bloody hole.

The wound felt as if it was being scorched by blazing fire, unbearably painful.

"Boom boom boom!"

Xu Nian then struck three more fingers in quick succession, each targeting the joints of Xiahou Chun.

"Ahh..."

Xiahou Chun let out a wretched scream.

The Light Power generated by the Star Purification was rapidly purifying the Evil Power within his body.

This purification was like being burned alive, excruciating beyond belief.

"Thump!"

Xiahou Chun fell to his knees before Xu Nian.

Yet Xu Nian's hand was firmly placed on top of his skull.

And on his palm surged the supremely holy Light Power.

Under the erosion of this Light Power.

Xiahou Chun's face twisted immeasurably, in extreme agony.

Black smoke continuously billowed out from the top of his head.

This was the polluted air produced as the Evil Power inside Xiahou Chun was being purified.

"Ahh... Xu Nian... I curse you to a fate worse than death..." Xiahou Chun yelled desperately, his face hideously twisted.

The pain of being burned alive was so intense, he wished for nothing but death.

It was as though all the women he had once tormented were swarming over him, biting and tearing at his flesh bit by bit.

Observers from the distant tower also furrowed their brows one after another.

The shrieking of Xiahou Chun sent shivers down their spines.

The suffering endured by Xiahou Chun was palpable from his screams.

"Hmph, you have harmed so many beings, now you finally taste the pain of being consumed by the Evil Power, Xiahou Chun you committed countless atrocities, today is the day you repay them," Xu Nian snorted coldly, his eyes void of any sympathy.

Who knew how many innocent women had died at the hands of this beast.

Only the agony caused by the backlash of Evil Power could let him truly understand the gravity of his sins.

Originally, Xu Nian did not want to get involved, as the heavens would have dealt with the atrocious deeds of Xiahou Chun on their own.

But Xiahou Chun dared to covet Leng Yanran.

This thoroughly provoked Xu Nian's Reversed Scale.

"Xu Nian, if you kill me, you won't survive either, remember, I am the Crown Prince of the empire," Xiahou Chun threatened furiously.

Xu Nian, however, just sneered.

What of the Crown Prince, who provoked his Reversed Scale.

Even if it were the Emperor of the empire, Xu Nian would still slay him without hesitation.

"Release him, Crown Prince!"

At the same time, a black figure darted out from the darkness, heading straight for Xu Nian to attack.

Xu Nian sensed the breath coming from behind him, but a hint of contempt flashed in his eyes.

The Immortal Sword reappeared in his hand, and without any hesitation, he wielded the Kun Cave Power.

"Splash!"

The black figure didn't even get close before Xu Nian split him in half.

The crowd on the tower were visibly shocked upon seeing this.

The man in black was clearly at the Nine-star Saint Level, yet he couldn't withstand a single strike from Xu Nian.

Just how strong is Xu Nian?

"All of you, attack! Kill Xu Nian!" Xiahou Chun bellowed.

From the surrounding darkness, four figures instantly emerged.

These figures were all at the Saint Peak Level.

One of the elders was even at the Peak of Nine-star Body Saint.

Xu Nian, seeing the four Nine-star Saints attacking, a hint of contempt flashed in his eyes.

Chapter 493: Defeated by Ignorance

"Die!"

Three Nine-star Battle Saints simultaneously attacked Xu Nian from three different directions.

They each unleashed their most powerful attacks, with their weapons emitting terrifying fluctuations.

These Saints were all experts from the Tianji Pavilion, cultivated by the Crown Prince,

each one's hands stained with copious amounts of blood.

In committing murder, they showed no mercy whatsoever.

Hence, as soon as they made their move, they immediately used their strongest attacks.

Following these three, a Peak of Body Saint elder was in pursuit,

with an aura that was formidably strong, clearly aiming to strike Xu Nian fatally at this opportunity.

Faced with attacks of this level, even Half-Emperor Level warriors would not dare to take them lightly.

Yet at the corner of Xu Nian's mouth, there was a hint of a cold smile.

A sharp light flashed through his eyes.

His left hand did not loosen its grip on the Crown Prince's head, while his right hand swung three successive slashes.

Each slash contained the enormously powerful Kun Cave Power.

Thus, before the three Battle Saints could even get close, they were slain by Xu Nian.

But just as Xu Nian delivered the three slashes,

a terrifying wave of force violently targeted his face.

This wave bore the fearsome Thunder Attribute Profound Argumentation,

and if hit, it would likely leave even the Undying seriously injured, if not dead.

Moreover, the punch came too fast.

Xu Nian, having just completed an attack, had no time to defend.

Unless he abandoned his torture of the Crown Prince to block the attack,

he would have no choice but to watch helplessly as the punch inflicted serious injury.

However, as the fist drew relentlessly closer, Xu Nian showed no signs of wanting to release the Crown Prince.

"Has he gone mad?"

The surrounding crowd couldn't help but exclaim upon seeing this.

Xu Nian was actually willing to sustain serious injuries rather than let go of the Crown Prince.

Did he not realize that if he was seriously injured, he would not only fail to kill the Crown Prince, but he would also die?

Xiahou Chun, enduring the agony, saw this scene,

and a fierce smile spread across his face.

He sneered inwardly: "Xu Nian, soon I will repay all the suffering you've inflicted on me a hundredfold. Just wait for your death!"

However, just as Xiahou Chun was about to be blown away by Elder Mo's punch,

a terrifyingly huge claw suddenly reached out from the void.

That claw, terrifying beyond compare with its razor-sharp talons like battle sabers, instantly pierced Elder Mo's chest.

The Nine-star Peak Level defense was like paper before this horrific claw, utterly incapable of withstanding its assault.

Suddenly, everyone was stunned.

They stared blankly at the claw that had unexpectedly reached out from the void.

The old man who attacked Xu Nian was also completely dazed, his mouth full of blood.

He died without understanding where that claw had come from.

And his Nine-star Peak of Body Saint physique

provided absolutely no defense against the claw.

But these questions soon vanished, for he was already breathless.

"No... Impossible!"

Xiahou Chun looked at the Elder Mo suspended on the giant claw, his eyes filled with intense surprise and despair.

Elder Mo was one of the strongest in the Tianji Pavilion.

Xiahou Chun had been counting on Elder Mo to rescue him from Xu Nian.

But now, his last shred of hope was shattered.

"Xiahou Chun, do you have anything else to say now?" Xu Nian turned to look at Xiahou Chun and asked with a cold smile.

At this point, the Evil Power inside Xiahou Chun had been almost completely purified.

Drained of all strength, Xiahou Chun collapsed weakly on the icy river.

Xiahou Chun looked up at Xu Nian, his eyes brimming with venom.

If looks could kill, Xu Nian would have been slain a thousand times, ten thousand times over.

"Xu Nian, I admit I underestimated you; however, you wanting to kill me is impossible. Don't forget that this is the Imperial Capital, and I am an Imperial Prince." Xiahou Chun said, glaring daggers at Xu Nian.

Xu Nian frowned slightly, a trace of fierceness flickering in his eyes.

He then swung his sword toward Xiahou Chun.

"Buzz!"

However, at that moment, a beam of purple light descended from the sky, enveloping Xiahou Chun completely.

"Clang!"

Xu Nian's sharp sword struck the purple light.

It was actually repelled back.

Xu Nian, faced with the sudden appearance of the purple light, wore a look of surprise on his face.

"Not good, it's the Imperial Capital Array. Xiahou Chun has activated the defensive body protection of the Imperial Capital Array. It's impossible for Xu Nian to kill him now," Leng Wuqing said from his position atop the pavilion.

The surrounding crowd heard this and nodded in agreement.

Indeed, it seemed impossible to kill an Imperial Prince within the Imperial Capital.

The entire Imperial Capital was enveloped by a powerful formation.

And each important member of the Imperial Family possessed a Great Formation Jade Token.

As soon as this jade token was crushed, the formation would descend with its defenses to protect that member of the Imperial Family.

Usually, even warriors of the Battle Emperor Level might not be able to break through the defenses of this great formation.

With the Great Formation protecting him, Xiahou Chun was truly unkillable.

Seeing this scene from afar, Xia Bingling and Xia Qinghe also wore expressions of helplessness.

They too had one of these Great Formation jade tokens.

As long as they were anywhere within the Imperial Capital,

they each had a chance to save their own lives.

They had simply forgotten about it until Xiahou Chun made his move, and only then did they remember that Xiahou Chun still had such a life-saving trump card.

"Ha ha, Xu Nian, I told you that you couldn't kill me. With the Imperial Capital Array's protection, no matter how powerful you are, you can't break through," Xiahou Chun laughed heartily, his eyes filled with savagery.

As long as he survived this time, he would make sure that Xu Nian paid a painful price next time.

And that slut Leng Yanran, all of this started because of her.

He would definitely make her taste the agony of being played with.

However, just as a great battle seemed about to conclude,

Xu Nian suddenly started to laugh.

"Do you really think I can't kill you?" Xu Nian said with a mysterious smile.

Xiahou Chun's expression froze for a moment, but he quickly sneered again.

"Xu Nian, you think you can deceive me? I'm protected by the formation, and with your power, you can't possibly break the defenses. I'd like to see how you'll kill me," Xiahou Chun said mockingly.

He didn't believe Xu Nian could kill him.

But Xu Nian simply smiled slightly, saying, "Then you'd better watch closely."

After he spoke, the void began to churn once more.

The crowd then saw a giant claw emerge from the center of that purple column of light, instantly dragging Xiahou Chun into the void.

When he reappeared, Xiahou Chun's entire body was already outside the purple light column.

And at that moment, he was being held in the palm of a claw as large as a small mountain.

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

Everyone's eyes widened in disbelief.

Only Xu Yu and Black Wind exchanged a look and snickered coldly.

Their elder brother's avatar had the ability to control space.

So the capability to penetrate space and take objects from afar was not beyond him.

Xiahou Chun fell due to his own ignorance.

Xiahou Chun's face was also filled with disbelief.

How had he suddenly appeared outside the purple light column, and where did this giant beast come from?

"It's time to end this."

But before he could figure it out, he saw Xu Nian's mouth curl into a cold smirk.

Then, he was crushed to death by the forceful crunch of the Undying Devouring Sky Beast's colossal claw.

Chapter 494: The Eighth Prince

The people on the attic were dumbfounded.

After a long time, they finally came back to their senses.

Xiahou Chun was really killed?

He was brutally crushed to death by the giant beast summoned by Xu Nian.

An Imperial Crown Prince was actually killed in the Imperial Capital, and his death was so tragic.

This incident was probably going to shock the entire Imperial Capital, and a huge storm was about to rise.

Looking at the youth standing above the lake,

everyone's eyes no longer held any disrespect.

Even the geniuses of the Fang Family and Ye Family

now couldn't muster a bit of defiance at this moment.

This youth was too terrifying.

Thinking back now, he could only be described as horrifying.

Being an enemy to such a youth was simply seeking death.

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On the avenue outside the Crown Prince Palace,

a young man was walking slowly with a middle-aged looking man.

The middle-aged man clearly possessed a Half-Emperor Level cultivation, yet while walking, he consciously stayed a step behind the youth.

The youth seemed to be only around twenty-six years old, but there was a mysterious and unfathomable aura about him.

Especially his eyes— they were as deep as the starry sky.

From beginning to end, a faint smile hung on the young man's lips.

Indeed, this young man was the number one genius of the Imperial Capital, the Eighth Prince.

"Your Highness, now that the Crown Prince is dead, the position of Emperor is likely yours to claim," the middle-aged man said with a smile.

Upon hearing this, the youth's expression didn't change in the slightest.

He seemed not at all excited about the throne that was within easy reach.

"In fact, even if Xu Nian hadn't killed the Crown Prince, the throne couldn't have been his. I've long known about his practice of Evil Techniques, and had already collected all the evidence; the timing to present it to our father was the only factor holding me back. Someone who relies on crooked paths for his power doesn't even register in my eyes," the Eighth Prince said with a light laugh.

His tone carried an air of natural arrogance.

Upon hearing these proud words, the middle-aged man felt no discomfort.

On the contrary, he thought it was to be expected.

Because this youth, whether in terms of strength, talent, or political acumen, far surpassed his peers.

This young man was undoubtedly a born Emperor.

He would stop at nothing to achieve his goals.

"So, what are your plans moving forward?" the middle-aged man asked with a smile.

"I am very interested in this Xu Nian," said the Eighth Prince with a gentle smile.

"Eh, what does Your Highness mean?" the middle-aged man appeared surprised.

However, after thinking it over, he quickly grasped the Eighth Prince's intent.

"Your Highness is interested in the Dragon Meridian he possesses?" he asked.

He knew that this youth's ambitions were not limited to the Emperor's position of the Tianhen Empire; that would not be enough to satisfy him.

"Not just that. I am interested in everything about Xu Nian, there are many secrets hidden within him. I'm sure his Combat Technique and Body Technique are of surpassingly high quality, far beyond any that our Empire could imagine. Besides that, there's also that Demon Beast he summoned later; I dare say it's the most powerful Demon Beast I've ever seen, capable of controlling Space Power. If it could be subdued, then my Star Pavilion would gain an incredibly strong force," the Eighth Prince said with bright eyes.

He had watched the entire battle between Xu Nian and Xiahou Chun.

The strength Xu Nian displayed assured him there must be great treasures hidden with Xu Nian.

He believed that these treasures were far more valuable than the Emperor's position of the Tianhen Empire.

So, on the way back just now,

he had been thinking about how to take Xu Nian's treasures for himself.

"However, it seems that dealing with this Xu Nian won't be easy. Your Highness saw it as well— Xu Nian's strength seems invincible within the Saint Realm, and unless a Battle Emperor Level expert takes action, it's almost impossible to kill him. In addition to that, Xu Nian also holds the identity of the Divine River Palace Master; killing him will be difficult," said the middle-aged man with a frown.

However, the Eighth Prince smiled upon hearing the middle-aged man's words.

"If it's very difficult for Battle Saint Level experts to kill him, then we'll just have a Battle Emperor Expert do it. As for his identity, that poses some trouble, but who said we have to kill him so openly?" the Eighth Prince said with a sinister laugh.

"Eh, it seems Your Highness already has a plan," the middle-aged man said, taken aback before smiling.

Although the prince was younger than he, he couldn't completely fathom the youth's thoughts.

The Eighth Prince looked at the puzzled middle-aged man, shook his head with a smile, and hinted, "What was Xu Nian's reason for killing Xiahou Chun?"

With the Eighth Prince's guidance, the middle-aged man's eyes suddenly lit up.

"For Leng Yanran? Could it be what Your Highness is implying?" the middle-aged man ventured tentatively.

"You're not wrong. Since Xu Nian cares so much for Leng Yanran, why not use this to our advantage? If we capture Leng Yanran and send the news to Xu Nian, do you think he would not go to save his beloved?" the Eighth Prince said with a cold laugh.

"Brilliant! That way, we can prepare an ambush beforehand. No matter how strong Xu Nian is, he will inevitably meet his demise then. At that time, all of Xu Nian's secrets and Dragon Meridian will be yours, Your Highness," said the middle-aged man.

"Now, the only trouble is deciding who to send. If an Emperor-level strong man takes action, they need to suppress their cultivation lest they attract Heavenly Punishment. Not only will they fail to kill Xu Nian, but they might also lose their own lives. Those two have been painstakingly won over by me and could be very useful to me in the future. I wouldn't wish for them to waste an Emperor-level expert over a trivial figure like Xu Nian," said the Eighth Prince with a smile.

"Your Highness might consider sending Elder Hai. You know his strength. Even if he suppresses his cultivation, I am no match for Elder Hai, let alone killing Xu Nian; it surely won't be a problem. Moreover, Elder Hai is also fond of women. You just have to tell him about the benefits of Leng Yanran, and he couldn't possibly resist," said the middle-aged man.

The Eighth Prince's eyes lit up when he heard this.

"From this perspective, Elder Hai really is the best choice. Okay, let him be the one to kill Xu Nian. Just tell him that if he kills Xu Nian, once I become Emperor in the future, I will allow him to comprehend the Tianjian Stele once," the Eighth Prince said.

Upon hearing this, the middle-aged man revealed a look of surprise and envy.

Comprehend the Tianjian Stele once?

That was an immense opportunity.

One has to know that the Tianjian Stele was the most precious treasure of the Imperial Family.

Those who pledged allegiance to the Star Pavilion and the Imperial Family, the Emperor-level strong men, were almost all lured in by the Tianjian Stele.

Chapter 495: Great Disaster Looms

After coming out of the Crown Prince Palace,

Xu Nian took Xu Yu and the others back to the Divine River Palace.

As for Leng Yanran, she followed Leng Wuqing and Leng Cangfeng back to the Leng Family.

However, before leaving, Xu Nian had a long conversation with Leng Yanran.

This time, Leng Yanran did not push Xu Nian away but openly expressed her willingness to be with him.

This made Xu Nian overjoyed.

Nevertheless, Leng Yanran decided to return to the Leng Family first to report the matter to her father.

Leng Wuqing and Leng Cangfeng also agreed with this idea.

By now, they were fully aware of the situation between Leng Yanran and Xu Nian.

Although they also agreed that Leng Yanran should be with Xu Nian,

they needed to report back to their elders.

Ultimately, it was up to the elders to decide.

After all, the matter involved far too many complications.

Xu Nian very much wanted to be with Leng Yanran immediately.

However, not wanting to put Leng Yanran in a difficult position, he agreed that she should temporarily return to the Leng Family.

He then asked Leng Cangfeng to pass on a message.

In three days, he personally would visit the Leng Family Patriarch.

Leng Cangfeng expressed admiration for Xu Nian's actions and assured him that he would deliver the message.

As for Xia Bingling, she returned to the Sixth Prince's palace with Xia Qinghe.

Upon realizing that Xu Nian was in love with Leng Yanran, she cried for a long time, heartbroken.

Yet there was nothing she could do but silently bury her pain deep in her heart.

After all, from the beginning, her affection had been unrequited.

Upon returning to the Divine River Palace, Xu Nian immediately entered a state of closed-door cultivation.

Because of this battle, he felt signs of a breakthrough in his cultivation once again.

"Boom!"

Xu Nian was sitting cross-legged in the great hall.

A thunderous rumble emanated from within his body.

Spiritual Energy from all around continuously converged into his body.

A terrifying vortex of Spiritual Energy formed.

The Spiritual Energy within the range of the Divine River Palace was all sucked over by Xu Nian's vortex.

As the vortex continuously absorbed Spiritual Energy, the surrounding Spiritual Energy grew increasingly dense.

The Spiritual Energy around him even condensed into a thick mist.

Anyone present would have been astonished.

At this moment, the concentration of Spiritual Energy where Xu Nian was located was undoubtedly twenty times that of the outside world.

"Rumble!"

The thunderous sound continued to echo within Xu Nian's body.

This rumbling was not actual thunder but the sound of surging qi and blood within his body.

As the Spiritual Energy kept pouring into Xu Nian's body,

the rumbling within him grew louder.

"Boom!"

Finally, the sound was like a hundred thousand thunders exploding simultaneously.

Xu Nian's Body Cultivation broke through to a new realm, reaching the Four-star Body Saint Realm.

With the breakthrough in Xu Nian's Body Cultivation,

his physical body grew once more.

Whether in terms of strength or bodily robustness, Xu Nian felt a significant enhancement.

This filled Xu Nian's heart with immense joy.

Although the breakthrough in Cultivation Realm did not greatly amplify his strength,

a breakthrough was always better than no breakthrough.

"Body Cultivation has broken through, now it's time for Spiritual Cultivation," Xu Nian muttered to himself.

He then prepared to close his eyes and attempt to break through his Spiritual Cultivation as well.

"Buzz!"

However, at that moment, a fluctuation transmitted through the air.

The figure of Emperor Ye Tian appeared in the grand hall.

"Uh, Your Majesty, why have you come out?" Xu Nian asked, bewildered by the sudden appearance of the empress.

Logically, Emperor Ye Tian should have been asleep in the mind of his Undying Devouring Sky Beast at this time.

How could she appear now?

"Boy, you still have the mind to break through your cultivation here? Don't you know that a great disaster is upon you?" Emperor Ye Tian said with a hint of sarcasm as she glanced at Xu Nian.

"A great disaster is upon me?" Xu Nian asked, puzzled.

"Hmph, boy, take a closer look at that Xiahou Chun's storage ring. See what's really inside," Emperor Ye Tian commanded coldly.

Xu Nian was startled.

After he had killed Xiahou Chun, he had casually collected his storage ring.

He had not had a chance to check it yet, but hearing Emperor Ye Tian mention it,

he immediately took out Xiahou Chun's storage ring.

Previously, Xu Nian had thought that a storage ring belonging to someone from the Imperial Family would certainly contain extraordinary items.

But he had not anticipated Emperor Ye Tian suddenly taking such great interest in this storage ring.

After retrieving the storage ring, Xu Nian began to examine it.

He then realized that Xiahou Chun's storage ring was much larger than the storage rings he usually obtained.

However, apart from mountains of Gold Coins, some extremely rare Pills, and some peculiar herbs, there was nothing particularly remarkable.

"Boy, look again. Is there a black stone inside this storage ring?" Emperor Ye Tian spoke up.

Xu Nian, upon hearing this, was stunned, then proceeded to thoroughly examine the storage ring.

With this examination, he suddenly found a fist-sized, glossy black stone at the edge of the ring.

And when Xu Nian's Spiritual Sense touched the stone, it was absorbed by the stone.

"Boy, do not touch that stone, and it would be best to throw it away," Emperor Ye Tian said sternly.

"Why? Does this stone have some sort of origin?" Xu Nian asked, visibly astonished.

Emperor Ye Tian looked at Xu Nian with disdain and said, "Truly ignorant. That's not a stone, but the skull of an evil Demon God. If I'm not mistaken, this Demon God might still be alive. And your storage ring is a special kind that can contain living things. As for that Crown Prince's evil Cultivation Technique, it was likely taught to him by this Demon God."

"The skull of a Demon God? The soul of a Demon God?" Xu Nian was startled,

his face showing extreme surprise.

A cold sweat broke out on his back.

If it was as Emperor Ye Tian had said,

this was a Demon God's skull, housing a powerful residual soul of a Demon God.

That meant he was carrying a danger with him.

Who knows, perhaps one day the Demon God would suddenly awaken, invade his mind, and take over his Mud Ball Palace.

Then he would completely disappear from this world.

Thinking this, Xu Nian immediately felt an urge to throw away the storage ring.

"Ha ha, I really didn't expect there to be a Divine Emperor in this small Mortal World."

However, just at that moment, a loud voice resonated in the grand hall.

Xu Nian's face suddenly changed. Could this voice be...

Emperor Ye Tian also furrowed her brow.

It was exactly as she had suspected.

When Xu Nian was putting away the storage ring, she had sensed a strong spiritual fluctuation.

But then when she inspected it, the soul fluctuation had disappeared.

Now that she had exposed it, it had voluntarily revealed itself.

And the fact that the other party had revealed themselves also meant that they were not afraid of her.

"Come out!" Emperor Ye Tian said with a cold snort.

Just as her words fell, a figure in a Black Robe appeared in the grand hall.

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Chapter 496: Wentian Demon Sovereign

Xu Nian gazed at the shadowy figure that suddenly appeared, his eyes betraying a deep sense of caution.

The person was clad in a Black Robe, his entire body shrouded by it.

Beneath the Black Robe was pitch darkness, and nothing could be seen clearly.

From the moment this Black Robed Man appeared,

the temperature in the great hall had plummeted sharply.

A layer of frost formed on the surrounding ground and stone pillars.

Moreover, this was not the result of normal cold, but rather of a powerful Evil Power.

So within this intense coldness, there was also a strong corrosive presence.

"Who are you?" Xu Nian asked the Black Robed Man warily.

He could feel that the body of the man before him was not solid, but like that of Emperor Ye Tian—

formed by a powerful Soul Condensing Power into an illusory image.

Emperor Ye Tian also coldly stared at the Black Robed Man, with an unfriendly gaze.

"Kid, you're quite impressive. You're much stronger than that worthless Crown Prince, possessing the powerful Nine Dragon Supreme Body and the Undying Devouring Sky Beast as your incarnation. Even the Cultivation Technique you practice is that which the Green Emperor cultivated. No wonder you've been able to grow so rapidly in this Lost Land," the voice of the Black Robed Man resonated once again.

Having said this, he removed the black hat from his head to reveal an elderly face.

However, his eyes were bright and piercing, immeasurably profound.

Xu Nian felt a shock at the old man's words.

The old man had virtually laid bare all his secrets.

The only thing he hadn't mentioned was the Kun Cave contained within the Black Jade in his body.

"Kid, don't look so astonished. Though I am left with only a Residual Soul now, I was once a Demon Lord, not that much weaker than the Goddess Emperor by your side. What she understands, I nearly all understand, so your secrets are hardly secrets in my eyes," the Black Robed elder said with a light laugh upon seeing Xu Nian's surprised face.

Xu Nian was instantly at a loss for words.

Another Divine-level figure?

It seemed to be a Demon Lord indeed.

He had already been handling Emperor Ye Tian, who resided within him, with great caution.

Now another such Demon Lord had arrived.

Could his body possibly become a battlefield between gods and demons?

"Hmph, merely a lowly Demon Lord. If I were at the peak of my strength, I could extinguish you with just a finger," Emperor Ye Tian disdainfully scoffed.

The level of a Demon Lord was equal to that of a Divine Sovereign.

Positioned below a God Emperor.

For a God Emperor Level expert to kill a Divine Sovereign Level warrior—

it truly was an effortless feat.

"Yes, if you were at your peak, I wouldn't dare show my face, but it seems you're not faring much better than I am now," the Black Robed Man coldly smirked in response, showing no fear towards Emperor Ye Tian.

"You're courting death!"

Emperor Ye Tian instantly became enraged, her eyes glaring at the Black Robed Man.

The Black Robed Man simply sneered and indifferently said, "Save your strength. Both of us are but Residual Souls. If we truly start fighting, I'm afraid the outcome will be both sides suffering. Since we're both Residual Souls, neither desiring to enter the cycle of reincarnation and presumably both having unfulfilled desires, you want to return to your Divine World, I to my Demon World, let's each pursue our own goals and not interfere with each other."

"Hmph!" Emperor Ye Tian let out a cold snort, her eyes revealing a trace of disdain.

Yet, she no longer entertained the thought of making a move.

Apparently, she also understood that to fight now—

...

It would only make her situation all the more tragic.

By then, even if he defeated the fellow before him, it's feared she would have to pay an irreversible price.

"Since you want to return to the Demon Realm, please leave and stay away from Xu Nian," Emperor Ye Tian warned the Black Robed Man, his rage subsiding.

However, the Black Robed Man simply laughed.

"You know that we can't return to our respective worlds with our own strength, not even walk out of this Lost Land. Only by relying on someone else's power is there a glimmer of hope. Yet, in this Mortal World, there are too few capable of ascending to the Divine and Demon Worlds. Having finally found such hope, do you think I would give it up?" the Black Robed Man said with a smile.

"Hmph, I don't care what you think. Xu Nian is someone I've trained step by step. You should find someone else," Emperor Ye Tian snorted coldly.

A direct declaration of sovereignty.

"What if I just insist on not leaving?" the Black Robed Demon Venerable said with a defiant face.

"Then I am prepared to pay the price to completely annihilate you," Emperor Ye Tian stated.

"Do you really think I'm afraid of you?" The Black Robed Demon Venerable seemed to be provoked, his eyes growing angry.

For a moment, Emperor Ye Tian and the Black Robed Demon Venerable stood at a standoff, their towering auras clashing and standing in opposition within the great hall.

The stone pillars and floor around them were shattered by their frightening auras, and the cracks kept worsening.

"Hey, both of you big shots, can you consider my feelings?" Xu Nian finally couldn't help but speak up.

These two were actually fighting over him right in front of his eyes.

What did they take him for?

Hearing Xu Nian's shout, the two mighty figures finally stopped their fight.

"Little boy, as long as you follow me, I will definitely train you to become the first Demon Emperor of the Demon Realm, which is far better than following this Goddess Emperor," the Black Robed Demon Venerable offered.

"Hmph, you yourself are a Demon Lord and still want to train a Demon Emperor? Aren't you afraid of being laughed at?" Emperor Ye Tian immediately scoffed.

"You..." The Black Robed Demon Venerable was suddenly at a loss for words.

A wave of cold sweat broke out on Xu Nian as well.

But he still said, "Lord Demon Venerate, I appreciate your kind intentions, but I don't want to follow the path of Demon Cultivation. The Goddess Emperor has been gracious to me; I cannot abandon her. However, if you don't mind, you can continue to stay in the storage ring. If there is a chance in the future, I can help you restore your body and send you to the Demon Realm."

"Ha ha, little fellow, you're afraid that I'll suddenly seize your body, aren't you? Trying to have the Goddess Emperor restrain me is quite clever. Well, I don't have anywhere else to go for now, so I'll stay in that storage ring. If I find someone more suitable in the future, I'll leave. Of course, if you ever wish to walk the path of Demon Cultivation, you can call me out at any time," the Demon Lord laughed heartily.

Xu Nian felt somewhat embarrassed.

That was indeed what he had thought.

Emperor Ye Tian and this mysterious Demon Lord were at odds.

If she won, all would be well.

But if she lost, not just Emperor Ye Tian would suffer the consequences.

Even Xu Nian would face the danger of being possessed.

Without Emperor Ye Tian's help,

Xu Nian would be nothing but a lamb to the slaughter before this godlike Demon Sovereign.

Instead of letting that happen, it would be better to stabilize him first.

Emperor Ye Tian just snorted coldly but didn't speak.

Clearly, she didn't really want to end in mutual destruction with this formidable Demon Sovereign.

"Little boy, remember that my name is Mo Wentian, and from now on you can call me Wentian Demon Sovereign. If you ever need something, feel free to seek me out. I'm off to take a nap," Mo Wentian yawned, then once again burrowed into the skull atop the storage ring.

"Keep him close and be very careful, this fellow definitely has ulterior motives."

Emperor Ye Tian warned before retreating back into the Mud Ball Palace of the Undying Devouring Sky Beast.

Watching this, Xu Nian could only show an inevitably bitter and helpless smile.

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Chapter 497: Big Trouble

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"Boom!"

A thunderous sound came from the central hall of the Divine River Palace.

All the people in the Divine River Palace were startled by the sound and rushed towards the direction of the hall.

Xu Yu, Black Wind, and Bull Demon King, who had been practicing in the martial arts field, all rushed towards the source of the sound.

They knew that the sound came from the cultivation site of their eldest brother.

But when they landed in front of the hall, they were stunned.

The originally magnificent hall had disappeared, replaced by ruins.

Billowing dust filled the air.

"Big brother!"

"Big brother!"

Xu Yu, Black Wind, and Bull Demon King all cried out in shock, looking at the ruins.

"Cough, cough!"

Just then, the rubble of the ruined building was moved aside.

A figure crawled out from inside.

"Big brother, are you alright?" Xu Yu quickly flew forward and asked.

"Right, big brother, who attacked you?" Black Wind also hurriedly followed and asked.

Bull Demon King even drew his steel fork, looking around warily.

"I'm fine, no one attacked me. I just lost control during my cultivation, it's nothing," Xu Nian replied with an awkward smile.

He had just been trying something out.

He had not expected to actually bring the entire hall down.

Luckily, he had earlier commanded that no one should come near his place of cultivation, otherwise, someone would have been affected.

"A disturbance caused by cultivation?"

Black Wind and Xu Yu were both startled, looking at the ruins around them in surprise.

They were very curious to know what kind of cultivation their big brother was practicing.

To have shattered the entire hall into this state.

"Big brother, did you figure out some powerful technique? This power seems very formidable!" Bull Demon King said excitedly.

Hearing this, Xu Nian just smiled.

Two more days had passed since Wentian Demon Sovereign's appearance.

During these two days, Xu Nian had stayed inside the hall to cultivate.

Honestly, the gains from these two days were quite substantial for him.

"Big brother, what realm is your cultivation at now?" Xu Yu suddenly asked.

"Four-star Body Saint, Five-star Battle Saint," Xu Nian answered.

"Five-star Battle Saint? How did you advance two levels?" Xu Yu asked in surprise.

Black Wind was also surprised.

They knew Xu Nian was about to have a breakthrough.

But logically, he should have advanced to the Four-star Battle Saint realm!

How could he have suddenly advanced to the Five-star Battle Saint realm.

"It's kind of a coincidence. After I advanced to Four-star Battle Saint, I found ten Saint King Pills in Xiahou Chun's storage ring. I took seven of them, and my cultivation advanced by one star again. Here, you three can split these remaining three," Xu Nian said smilingly.

As he spoke, three pills appeared in his hand.

"Saint King Pill? Big brother, you took seven pills and only advanced by one star?" Bull Demon King exclaimed, his eyes wide.

The Saint King Pill is a high-level pill at the Saint Level.

Normally, even a high-ranking Saint taking one would advance by one cultivation star.

Xu Nian had taken seven and only advanced by one star; what kind of Combat Technique was he cultivating?

It was incredibly abnormal.

But still, he excitedly took the pill Xu Nian offered.

Now that he had reached the peak of One-star Battle Saint, with this Saint King Pill, he would definitely be able to break through to Two-star Battle Saint.

Xu Yu and Black Wind were also delighted.

They had just broken through to Two-star Battle Saint yesterday.

...

"Taking this Saint King Pill, wouldn't I be able to break through to the Three-star Battle Saint Realm?"

Xu Nian saw the excitement of the three men and also revealed a smile on his face.

Although the Saint King Pill possessed great power, its effects were limited.

Normally, after taking one pill, the second pill would have no effect.

After taking the third pill, the effects gradually weakened.

By the seventh pill, the effects were almost negligible.

So instead of wasting them, it was better to share the remaining pills with Xu Yu and the others.

"Big brother, you still haven't told us what caused all this commotion?" Black Wind suddenly remembered to ask.

"That's a secret; you'll find out later," Xu Nian said with a mysterious smile.

Black Wind and the others felt helpless.

But since Xu Nian wasn't willing to tell them, there was nothing they could do.

They had to suppress their curiosity.

"Swoosh swoosh swoosh!"

Several breaking sounds came through the air.

The elders from the Divine River Palace were also attracted by the commotion here.

The leader was none other than Xia Bingling's master, Qi Lingfeng.

"Hall Master, what's going on here? Was someone attacking you?" Qi Lingfeng and the elders looked at the surrounding ruins and asked in astonishment.

Xu Nian gave a bitter smile.

He had no choice but to repeat the explanation he had just given to Xu Yu and the others to Qi Lingfeng and his group.

Qi Lingfeng and his group were stunned for a long time, unable to understand what kind of cultivation could cause such a huge disturbance.

However, thinking of the hall master, who often surprised everyone, they then came to terms with it.

After all, killing the Imperial Crown Prince, an act that shocked the Empire, was done by him; what else could he not do?

"Elder Qi, is there any news from the Imperial Family?" Xu Nian asked.

"For now, no news. The Emperor is still in seclusion, but the Empress has publicly declared in front of everyone to take your head to accompany the Crown Prince in burial, but it was forcefully suppressed by

our Divine River Palace. As for how this matter will be handled, we must wait for the Emperor to come out of seclusion," Qi Lingfeng explained.

Xu Nian nodded.

He had anticipated that this matter would cause a huge uproar.

He might even be pursued by the Imperial Family.

But he had no regrets.

For Leng Yanran, even if it meant going through a sea of flames, he was willing to brave it.

However, he must not take this lightly.

The power of the Imperial Family should not be underestimated.

If he truly angered the Imperial Family, they might dispatch an Emperor-level strong man to forcefully take action against him.

And now, without the protection of Zhang Tiansheng.

It would indeed be a disaster for Xu Nian.

"By the way, Hall Master, recently many people from the Star Pavilion have appeared around the Divine River Palace, likely monitoring your movements," Qi Lingfeng said.

"Star Pavilion? The Eighth Prince?" Xu Nian frowned.

Although he had never met this Eighth Prince.

Yet he harbored no good feelings towards the Eighth Prince.

Chen Wudi's Star Battle Body's origin was forcefully taken by this Eighth Prince.

And a potent poison was placed in his body as well.

If it weren't for Xu Nian's intervention with the Nine Dragons Supreme Body bloodline, Chen Wudi would likely be dead.

Plus, the earlier Hundred Ghosts Ancestor wiped out an entire city's population to enhance his own cultivation.

This made Xu Nian quite despise the so-called Star Pavilion.

However, Xu Nian had never had any personal feud with the Eighth Prince.

And by killing Xiahou Chun, he had inadvertently helped him.

Why would the Eighth Prince send people to monitor him then?

"Not good, Xu Nian, something terrible has happened; Leng Yanran has been kidnapped."

Just as Xu Nian was pondering this inner question, a figure was swiftly approaching from a distance.

A fierce gleam suddenly burst forth in Xu Nian's eyes.

Chapter 498 The Evil Elder Hai

"What's going on?"

Xu Nian looked at Leng Cangfeng who was rushing toward him and asked urgently.

"Here is what happened, after we brought Yanran back to the Leng Family, we reported to the Family Head and Leng Yanran's father. Finally, with Leng Yanran's earnest persuasion, the Family Head agreed to let you be with Leng Yanran. However, the Leng Family Patriarch wants to meet you, so I came with Leng Yanran to inform you. But unexpectedly, on our way here, a group of people suddenly attacked and forcefully kidnapped Leng Yanran, while I was overwhelmed and knocked down without any chance to fight back. They also mentioned that if you want Leng Yanran alive, you should go alone to the Tianling Mountain Range outside the city; otherwise, you will never see Leng Yanran again," Leng Cangfeng said urgently.

"Tianling Mountain Range? Where is this Tianling Mountain Range?" Xu Nian asked urgently.

"This Tianling Mountain Range is located fifty li beyond the West City, it's a mountain range covered with original forest. There aren't any large Demon Beasts, only some small and cautious ones. Because of the rugged terrain, people rarely go there," an Elder explained.

Hearing this, Xu Nian immediately prepared to head toward the West City Gate.

"Hall Master, I think there must be a conspiracy here. The adversaries are likely using Miss Leng Yanran to lure the Hall Master there, and if you go, it might be perilous!" Qi Lingfeng remarked as he saw Xu Nian preparing to go alone.

"Indeed, big brother, we know you are worried about your wife, but there must be a trap. If we are going, we will go with you," Xu Yu also hurriedly spoke.

Black Wind and Bull Demon King nodded fiercely as well.

"Even if there is a conspiracy, I must go, and I must go alone. Since they are targeting me, Xu Nian, let me handle it. Xu Yu, Black Wind, Bull Demon King, you three will stay and protect my mother and sister. No one else is allowed to follow me. If anyone disobeys, don't blame me, Xu Nian, for turning against you," Xu Nian said with a cold hum.

Then he transformed into a streak of light and swiftly headed toward the West City Gate.

Everyone around watched the direction in which Xu Nian disappeared, with their brows tightly furrowed.

But recalling Xu Nian's order, they felt a sense of helplessness in their hearts.

"Let's chase after him, big brother. Are we just going to watch him take this risk alone?" Bull Demon King asked reluctantly.

"Let's follow big brother's about orders and protect his mother and sister, let's go, I believe big brother will be fine," said Black Wind with a cold snort.

Upon hearing this, Xu Yu nodded.

Unable to do anything else, Bull Demon King glanced in the direction Xu Nian had left.

He reluctantly followed Xu Yu and the others as they left.

Even the Elders of the Divine River Palace felt helpless and eventually dispersed.

As for Leng Cangfeng, he headed toward his family.

He had informed Xu Nian the moment he arrived and hadn't yet had the chance to notify his family.

With such a significant event, he needed to go back and inform the Family Head.

Xu Nian transformed into a streak of blue lightning, heading toward the West City Gate.

After exiting the West City Gate, he sped up even more.

"Yanran, you must be safe, wait for me. And for you, whoever you are, I want you all dead without a burial place," Xu Nian's eyes swelled with boundless killing intent.

Thinking of this, his speed surged further.

...

Meanwhile, as Xu Nian was rapidly making his way,

In an open space of the Tianling Mountain Range.

There stood quite a few people.

Among them, there were even seven Saint-level experts.

These Saints varied in their Cultivation, with some being at One-star and others reaching the Peak of Body Saint level.

Tied under a large tree at the center of where these seven Saints were standing, was a strikingly beautiful woman.

The woman's cultivation was sealed, and the corners of her mouth still bore a trace of faint blood.

Clearly, she had struggled before being captured and had been injured by someone.

At this moment, the woman's gaze did not fall on the seven Saints guarding her surroundings.

Instead, she stared at the elder behind those seven Saints.

This elder had a sharp, monkey-like face with half-gray hair and a goatee on his chin.

When pondering issues, he liked to squint his eyes and stroke his goatee.

However, these were not the focal points; the essence was that the aura emanating from this elder was terrifying.

Standing there, he was like a massive mountain blocking Leng Yanran's path.

Leng Yanran had only felt this sensation from the Elder of her family.

This made Leng Yanran instantly realize that the elder in front of her was a Battle Emperor Level expert.

A Battle Emperor expert had captured her?

It likely wasn't just for her, was it?

This gave her a very bad premonition.

"Who are you, and why did you capture me?" Leng Yanran demanded.

The seven Saints around her exchanged smiles when they heard Leng Yanran's words.

At that moment, the elder turned around, looking at Leng Yanran.

His eyes wandered over Leng Yanran's graceful body, revealing a lascivious glint.

"I had long heard that among the younger generation of the Leng Family, there was a supreme beauty. Seeing today, it is indeed extraordinary; this figure could probably rank within the top three of all the women I have entertained in my life. Oh, I forgot to mention, I've been with no less than eight hundred women," the elder said with a lecherous laugh.

Leng Yanran's pupils shrank instantly, and her brows furrowed tightly.

"Who exactly are you? I know you are a Battle Emperor Level expert, but if you dare to touch me, my Leng Family will not let you off," Leng Yanran quickly threatened.

The elder laughed upon hearing this.

A man beside him, at the Peak of Body Saint, chuckled and said, "Leng Family, don't expect your Leng Family to come rescue you. Leng Yanran, do you think our Star Pavilion fears your Leng Family? To tell you the truth, our Master has ordered people to surround your Leng Family; even if Leng Cangfeng wants to go back and report, it's absolutely impossible."

"What exactly do you want?" Leng Yanran asked sternly.

Unexpectedly, these people were from the Star Pavilion.

"It's simple. We are baiting your lover out; he must have received the news and is on his way here," the Body Saint expert said with a smile, his gaze on Leng Yanran filled with fervor.

It had to be said, Leng Yanran was indeed an exceptional beauty among beauties.

Once the mission was completed, he would ask Elder Hai to let him taste the leftovers.

Hearing the words of this Body Saint expert, Leng Yanran's eyes widened.

These people had brought her here merely to lure Xu Nian and kill him?

"Kill me then; Xu Nian won't come," Leng Yanran said sternly as she glared at the Peak Body Saint powerhouse.

"Kill you? I couldn't bear to. You are said to possess the Xuanyin Body, and although I have been with many women, I have yet to taste the Xuanyin Body. Since Xu Nian hasn't arrived yet, let me entertained myself with you; I wonder what expression Xu Nian will have when he sees his woman has been toyed with," Elder Hai said with a slight smile.

He then began walking towards Leng Yanran step by step.

"Don't... don't... don't come over," Leng Yanran pleaded in terror, desperately struggling to break free.

However, without her cultivation, no matter how hard she struggled, she couldn't free herself from the bonds.

Chapter 499 How Do You Want to Die

Elder Hai slowly advanced towards Leng Yanran.

A vile, lecherous smile hung on his face.

He watched as Leng Yanran's face displayed fright and struggle.

His heart felt an indescribable thrill.

Having lived nearly five hundred years, his greatest pleasure in life was not toying with women.

Instead, it was the look of terror on a woman's face before being toyed with and the look of despair afterward.

That look provided immense enjoyment deep in his heart, giving him an indescribable sense of accomplishment.

For centuries, this preference had remained unchanged.

The seven Saints watching this unfold also bore lustful expressions in their eyes.

To witness the bedroom prowess of a Battle Emperor Level powerhouse was certainly a visual feast for them.

Thus, they eagerly anticipated the forthcoming erotic display.

They even thought about enjoying a delicious share after the Battle Emperor had his fill.

However, Leng Yanran felt utterly hopeless at that moment.

Tears streamed down her face as she watched the old man approaching.

She knew her fate would be unbearably grim.

A strong sense of unwillingness filled her heart, but she was completely powerless.

Her cultivation was sealed, and her limbs were bound.

Resistance was impossible.

She could only watch helplessly as the old man's devilish hand slowly reached towards her.

"Xu Nian, I'm sorry. I'll be your woman in the next life," Leng Yanran muttered to herself.

Then, she prepared to activate the Ancestor Vein Power within her body to explode her meridians.

Suicide!

That was the only thing she could do at the moment.

"If you dare touch her, I will make your life a living hell!"

But just as the old man's hand was about to touch Leng Yanran,

A terrifying Sword Radiance came hurtling from afar, fiercely striking the old man's arm.

The old man's eyes hardened instantly, and he quickly retracted his hand and retreated a step.

"Boom!"

The Sword Radiance slashed down.

It left a long, deep sword mark right in front of Leng Yanran.

The seven Saints, along with the old man, were all startled and turned to look in the direction from which the Sword Radiance had come.

Leng Yanran, who had been preparing to explode her meridians, was stunned by this sudden turn of events.

Her beautiful eyes gazed toward the deep forest.

She saw a young man with a sword emerge from the depths of the forest.

His eyes were as cold as a hungry wolf, filled with endless killing intent.

"Xu Nian!"

The moment Leng Yanran saw the young man, she froze.

Tears of overpowering excitement soon followed.

Then, as if remembering something, she urgently cried out, "Xu Nian, run! This old man is a Battle Emperor Level powerhouse, he will kill you."

However, Xu Nian seemed not to hear Leng Yanran's words, his eyes intently fixed on the eight individuals before him.

At this moment, the old man, known as Elder Hai, also stared at Xu Nian, a faint cold smile playing on his lips.

"Xu Nian, I didn't expect you to arrive so quickly. I thought you'd come after I had finished, but it seems you've come just in time. Nonetheless. I will let you watch how your woman is toyed with," the old man said to Xu Nian with a cold smirk.

The seven Saints looked at Xu Nian with playful eyes.

Although they had heard of Xu Nian's prowess, the one before them was a Battle Emperor Level powerhouse.

How could Xu Nian possibly stand a chance against a Battle Emperor Level powerhouse?

So, they believed that Xu Nian's appearance was simply a death wish.

"If you want to kill me, I, Xu Nian, will accompany you. But you should never have targeted Yanran. I'll give you a chance, tell me, how do you want to die?" Xu Nian said, his eyes coldly gleaming.

His voice was filled with endless killing intent.

"Hmph, boy, you are too arrogant. Let's see if you are as powerful as the rumors say," sneered a Battle Saint Peak powerhouse disdainfully.

Xu Nian's tone annoyed him.

He immediately brought out a Battle Hammer and swung it fiercely toward Xu Nian.

The Battle Hammer also surged with terrifying thunderbolts.

In Xu Nian's eyes, a trace of ferocity flashed.

At this moment, his heart was suppressing a terrifying rage.

Had he been a moment later, the consequences would have been unimaginable.

So now, he was like an enraged lion.

"Hmph!"

With a cold snort from Xu Nian, his Immortal Sword instantly swung.

As the Seven-star Battle Saint advanced, Xu Nian slashed out dozens of swords in an instant.

The Seven-star Battle Saint had not even reached Xu Nian, but his body was already sliced into more than ten pieces.

Before Xu Nian, the Seven-star Battle Saint had no chance to fight back at all.

The other six Saints were tremendously shocked when they saw this.

They never imagined that a Seven-star Saint could be killed by Xu Nian like this,

And moreover, in an instant, sliced into more than ten pieces.

"So strong, such a fast sword."

The Saint-level powerhouses marveled in their hearts.

Especially those of less strength than this Seven-star Saint, were incredibly terrified.

They were lucky they hadn't made a move, or else they would have died a tragic death like that Seven-star Saint.

"Dimension Cutting has actually entered the Profound Argumentation Threshold. No wonder His Highness asked me to make a move," Elder Hai remarked with a trace of surprise upon witnessing this.

However, this surprise quickly turned into a sneer.

Xu Nian, holding his long sword, had a fierce killing intent in his eyes.

Today, he would not let any of them off.

He would make each of them die a miserable death.

"Boy, being able to step into the threshold of Profound Argumentation at the age of eighteen, you really are the first one. If other Battle Emperor level powerhouses suppress their realms, it might not be easy to deal with you. However, unfortunately, you have encountered this old man," the elder said with a slight smile.

Then the elder stepped forward.

A terrifying Emperor's might emanated from the elder's body, pressing intensely toward Xu Nian.

In an instant, Xu Nian felt as if a horrifying ancient giant snake had appeared, its colossal vertical eyes staring at Xu Nian.

At the same time, a stream of cyan smoke began to emanate from the elder's body.

It started to spread around.

"Xu Nian, that cyan smoke is poisonous. Do not breathe it in at all, or you will lose all your fighting power," Yetian God Emperor's voice echoed in Xu Nian's mind.

Poison?

Though Xu Nian was filled with killing intent, he hadn't lost his senses.

Is this elder a master of using poison?

This thought caused his gaze to sharpen in an instant.

"Time to die!"

Just then, the elder's figure rapidly shot out.

However, the elder didn't move in a straight line.

Instead, he moved like a serpent, constantly flickering from side to side while closing in on Xu Nian.

Xu Nian dared not slack off and immediately gripped his Immortal Sword tightly.

"Buzz!"

Suddenly, Xu Nian felt a terrifying aura coming from his left.

Without a moment of hesitation, Xu Nian fiercely slashed his sword toward the left.

"Clang!"

Sparks flew.

Xu Nian's Immortal Sword fiercely struck the elder's palm.

However, it failed to inflict any damage on the elder.

For on the elder's palm, there was a layer of cyan, metallic-like Scale Armor.

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"What?"

Xu Nian, watching the sparks fly between the Immortal Sword and the azure Scale Armor, displayed an expression of utter astonishment in his eyes.

His Immortal Sword couldn't break through this elder's Scale Armor?

How could that be?

This was an Immortal Sword, after all; even exotic metals turned to soft tofu before it.

Even Spiritual Artifacts, in terms of hardness, were far inferior to this Immortal Sword.

Moreover, for that strike, he had even employed the Dimension Cutting Profound Argumentation.

How could it possibly fail to breach the azure Scale Armor?

"Ha ha, Xu Nian, didn't see that coming, did you? Your attack can't harm me. This azure Scale Armor was obtained from the corpse of an incredibly powerful Ancient Immortal Snake. I refined it and integrated it into my body. The hardness of this Scale Armor even surpasses that of Spiritual Artifacts. However formidable your sword may be, it can't injure me," the elder laughed heartily.

Hearing this, a shock instantly coursed through Xu Nian's heart.

The corpse of an Ancient Immortal Snake?

Damn it!

No wonder the Scale Armor was so incredibly hard.

It was actually from the Scale Armor of an Ancient Immortal Snake.

Although he held an Immortal Sword in his hands, he wasn't able to leverage its advantage, as he lacked immortal power.

"Buzz!"

Just as Xu Nian reeled from the shock,

A terrifying fluctuation suddenly came from ahead.

"Not good!"

Xu Nian instantly realized something was amiss and hurriedly attempted to retract his sword in defense.

"Boom!"

A palm clad in azure Scale Armor fiercely struck down upon the face of Xu Nian's sword.

The terrifying force was transmitted in an instant.

Before Xu Nian could react, he was hit by the elder's palm, sword and all, against his chest.

"Pugh!"

Xu Nian spewed fresh blood and his body was sent rapidly flying backwards.

He crashed through six large trees before finally coming to a stop.

"Xu Nian!"

Leng Yanran, bound to a tree, cried out upon seeing this.

Watching Xu Nian being blasted away and vomiting blood, her heart ached as if pricked by needles, and tears flooded her eyes immediately.

Elder Hai, watching from a distance with some concern along with the six Saints, once again revealed smirks at the corners of their mouths upon witnessing the scene.

With Elder Hai stepping in, Xu Nian was certainly doomed.

Although Elder Hai was but a One-star Battle Emperor, his terror was well-known throughout the Star Pavilion.

Even against Half-Emperor Level powerhouses who suppressed their Cultivation, none could stand against him.

Without suppression of realm, virtually no one within the range of One-star Battle Emperor could be his match.

After all, his azure Scale Armor was too abnormal, it could completely ignore the attacks of others.

"Ha ha, boy, now do you realize how insignificant you are? A Battle Saint will ultimately be a Battle Saint. In front of an Emperor-level strong man, you're nothing but an ant, and even if the old man suppresses his realm, killing you is still as easy as slaughtering a chicken," Elder Hai laughed loudly.

Looking toward the far off Xu Nian, who had tumbled to one side, his eyes were filled with mockery.

Xu Nian, however, was clutching his chest as he stood up.

Intense pain radiated from his chest.

Not only that, Xu Nian could feel his Spiritual Energy was being heavily obstructed.

A mass of green energy roiled inside his body, ravaging his meridians and causing him unimaginable pain.

"Ha ha, are you feeling it now? Yes, that's my Green Shadow Snake Poison. I forgot to tell you, in addition to obtaining that Immortal Snake's Scale Armor, I also drank the Immortal Snake's fresh blood. So, my body now possesses the toxicity of the Immortal Snake, and I've long since integrated this toxic force into my Spiritual Energy. With that palm just now, I have already infused the poison into your

body. Unless you possess Battle Emperor Level Cultivation, you will not be able to resolve this Green Shadow Snake Poison. Ha ha, just wait for the poison to slowly devour your Spiritual Energy and grow progressively stronger," the elder laughed loudly.

His gaze toward Xu Nian was as if he were looking at a dead man.

Upon hearing this, Xu Nian immediately sat down cross-legged on the ground.

He began to try to resolve the poison.

Leng Yanran, who was far off at that moment, was even paler, her eyes filled with a deep sense of guilt.

If it hadn't been for saving her, Xu Nian wouldn't have been poisoned.

It was she who had doomed Xu Nian!

"Hmph, boy, you're dreaming if you think you can neutralize my snake poison. Since you want to detoxify, I'll just begin by giving your little woman a proper welcome," the old man said with a playful curve to his lips, then turned his gaze upon Leng Yanran.

He intended to toy with Leng Yanran right in front of Xu Nian.

To let Xu Nian watch with his own eyes how his woman was tormented.

"Buzz!"

However, before the old man could take a step, a fearsome and sharp presence suddenly extended from the void, violently clawing towards him.

Startled, the old man's palms were immediately covered by a layer of scales, and then he ferociously slapped towards the horrific claw.

"Clang!"

A sound akin to metal being torn rang out.

The old man was sent flying backward.

On the cyan scales of his arms and chest were now four deep gashes.

In those slashes was a faint trace of blood.

"Damn it, what kind of monstrous thing is this?"

The old man retreated hundreds of yards before stabilizing his form.

Glancing at the gashes in the scales on his body, his eyes revealed an utterly astonished expression.

A cut had been made in the scale armor over his chest?

How could this be possible?

This was the scale armor of an Immortal Snake!

Yet, when he looked forward, he found nothing around him.

The enormous claw that had extended from the void had disappeared as well.

The old man scanned around with one punch and didn't notice any anomalies.

At last, his gaze fixed firmly on Xu Nian, who was sitting cross-legged on the ground.

"Hmph, I know you have a powerful Exotic Beast. Since it dares not show itself, I'll kill you first," the old man humphed coldly.

Then, a bone dagger appeared directly in his hand.

The dagger was incredibly sharp, and his form rapidly swept toward Xu Nian.

He wanted to sever Xu Nian's head. He didn't believe the beast would not come out then.

"Buzz!"

Just as the old man had covered half the distance, a ripple once again passed through the space.

This time the old man was already on guard, wielding his dagger towards the direction of the spatial fluctuation.

However, this time, what appeared wasn't a colossal claw.

It was an enormous wing.

The scales on the wing were incredibly sharp, slashing directly at the old man's waist.

"Clang!"

The old man used his dagger to fend off the wing's blow.

But the force transmitted from the wing was too immense.

The moment the old man touched the wing, he was sent flying by that horrific power.

However, before he could retreat further,

A giant claw appeared above the old man, mercilessly stomping down.

"Boom!"

Instantly, mountains crumbled, and trees were uprooted, tumbling like waves in all directions.

The six Saints watching from afar,

All of them widened their eyes in shock, their figures rapidly retreating backward.

Elder Hai was actually being dominated?

As they lifted their heads to look forward, they saw a colossal Fierce Beast standing there.

Its vast body was like a small mountain.

And the scales covering its body were as hard as steel, conveying a sense of invincibility.