

Divine King 501

Chapter 501: Earth Vine (Makeup 7)

Six Battle Saint level experts stared at the colossal creature that had suddenly appeared before them.

Each of them subconsciously swallowed hard.

This Demon Beast in front of them was too terrifying; merely standing there, it gave them a sense of being unable to contend.

Moreover, the fearsome Demon Beast at this moment was stepping on the Battle Emperor Expert they had always revered immensely.

Leng Yanran was also shockingly looking at the Exotic Beast that had suddenly appeared.

At this time, the great tree had already been shattered, and she had freed herself from the tree.

Although the seal on her cultivation had not been lifted, she had regained the freedom to move.

Leng Yanran hurriedly ran toward Xu Nian.

"Don't come over, hide further away. Right now, I am covered in poison. If you touch me, you will be poisoned too. Listen, hide somewhere far." Xu Nian opened his eyes and said.

"But you..." Leng Yanran was still hesitant.

"Don't worry, I won't die. With the Undying Devouring Sky Beast Avatar here, nothing will happen to me. Besides, how could your man die so easily?" Xu Nian said with a faint smile, his eyes filled with strong confidence.

Hearing this, Leng Yanran's pretty face flushed, and she nodded.

She then ran to a far distance and hid far away.

Those Battle Saint level experts saw Leng Yanran fleeing and actually wanted to chase after her.

But the Undying Devouring Sky Beast suddenly turned its head, and a terrifying scorpion tail instantly pierced through the chests of three Saint experts.

Seeing their three companions killed instantly,

the remaining Saints didn't dare to make any rash moves.

Damn it.

This Demon Beast was truly horrifying.

A single tail had killed three Saints.

How could there be such a powerful Demon Beast?

Xu Nian, who was seated on the ground, saw the three remaining Saints scared off and also revealed a slight smile.

Then he closed his eyes again, beginning to absorb the snake poison within his body.

This snake poison was very terrifying.

Xu Nian tried to absorb it using the Dan Sea Species Green Lotus but found that not only could he not absorb it, but it also made the poison grow stronger.

Even the Gang Qi generated by the Divine Demon Technique was food for it.

"Divine Empress, how can this poison be cured?" Xu Nian hastily sought help from Emperor Ye Tian.

"This poison is very peculiar; I do not know how to cure it at the moment," Emperor Ye Tian said helplessly.

Right now, she was only in a soul state; trying to help Xu Nian detoxify was extremely difficult.

With Xu Nian's own strength, detoxifying was even more impossible.

Upon hearing Emperor Ye Tian's words, Xu Nian's brow furrowed instantly.

"Ha ha, kiddo, why don't you ask me if I can cure the poison?"

Just then, a loud laugh echoed in Xu Nian's mind.

"Eh, Senior Wentian, do you have a way to cure the poison?" Xu Nian was startled, then immediately pleased, he said.

"Ha ha, it's just a little snake poison. In our Demon Realm, I've seen poisons a thousand times, ten thousand times, more terrifying than this. And I'm also an expert in using poison; do you think I wouldn't know how to detoxify?" Wentian Demon Sovereign laughed heartily.

Hearing this, Xu Nian was instantly overjoyed.

Having a great expert to help was good.

Having two great experts was even more blissful.

"Quick, Senior Wentian, please teach me the detoxification method. I will definitely repay your life-saving grace in the future," Xu Nian said excitedly.

His tone was also filled with sincerity.

"Alright, kid, I'll save you for a bit. I not only want to save you but can also help you enhance your cultivation. Little guy, you must remember this favor," Wentian Demon Sovereign said.

After speaking, a black light surged out of Xu Nian's right palm.

This black light flashed in the air and directly entered Xu Nian's brow.

"Eh, this is..." Xu Nian was stunned.

A flood of information poured into his mind.

"Boy, this is the Devouring Poison and Demon Transformation Technique that I created myself," Wentian Demon Sovereign began. "Plainly speaking, it's a method of absorbing poison to enhance one's own cultivation. So far, there's no poison that can't be absorbed. This small dose of snake venom poses no challenge at all, and you can even transform it into your own cultivation."

Xu Nian revealed a look of surprise.

He had not expected Wentian Demon Sovereign to possess such a peculiar technique.

In this case, wouldn't he be immune to all poisons in the future?

Could he even use poison to cultivate?

"Boy, poison is actually a wonderful thing. Once you've killed all these people, I will teach you how to concoct powerful poisons so you can have poison to drink every day," Wentian Demon Sovereign continued.

Xu Nian's eyes sparkled with excitement.

However, he felt something was a little odd.

Drink poison every day?

What if one day he actually drank himself to death?

However, now was not the time to think about these matters. His key concern was to neutralize the snake poison in his body.

Thus, Xu Nian immediately began to absorb the snake poison in his body according to the method taught by Wentian Demon Sovereign.

And as the snake poison was gradually absorbed,

Not only was the poison in Xu Nian's body being neutralized, but his cultivation was also increasing bit by bit.

"Amazing!"

Xu Nian felt the changes within his body and fully immersed himself in the absorption of the snake poison.

On the other side, the old man who had been trampled underfoot by the rampaging Undying Devouring Sky Beast had now also recovered from his dazed state.

Just a moment ago, he felt an overwhelming power violently crashing onto him.

If not for the green scale armor covering his body, which deflected much of the attack,

That blow might very well have shattered his internal organs.

Now, looking at the colossal beast before him,

Killing intent seeped heavily from the elder's eyes.

The avatar of Xu Nian's Undying Devouring Sky Beast also coldly watched the old man, its blood-red eyes likewise filled with a strong killing intent.

"You've finally shown yourself. I have to admit, you are very powerful, but killing me is completely impossible. Don't forget, I am a Battle Emperor Level expert," the old man said with a cold smirk on his lips.

Even though he was immobilized under the massive paw of the giant beast,

There wasn't a hint of panic in his eyes.

The avatar of the Undying Devouring Sky Beast, upon hearing the old man's words, felt a bad premonition rising within.

From the start of their encounter, the old man had not used Profound Argumentation.

Since he was a One-star Battle Emperor Level expert,

He would undoubtedly be someone who had crossed into the Profound Argumentation Threshold.

What exactly was his Profound Argumentation?

"Buzz!"

While the avatar of the Undying Devouring Sky Beast was filled with uncertainty,

A terrifying fluctuation came from underground, and the entire ground seemed to tremble.

"The Power of Earth?"

The Undying Devouring Sky Beast guessed in its heart.

But it quickly dismissed this thought.

Because the fluctuation did not seem like the earth was surging, but rather like something was moving beneath it.

"Not good, it's Earth Vines!"

Suddenly, Xu Nian seemed to realize something.

The avatar of the Undying Devouring Sky Beast immediately spread its wings, trying to soar into the sky.

However, before it could act, a dense mass of vines burst forth from the ground in an instant,

Wrapping around the Undying Devouring Sky Beast's colossal body tightly, binding it firmly to the ground.

...

Chapter 502: Full Firepower

"Roar!"

The Undying Devouring Sky Beast Avatar let out an angry roar, struggling to stand up.

Several vines had been snapped break.

However, as soon as some were snapped, dozens more vines reappeared, entwining the Undying Devouring Sky Beast Avatar again.

Binding it firmly to the ground.

"Haha, bet you didn't expect this. What I've comprehended is the intermediate Earth Profound Argumentation of the wood attribute, the Earth Vine. Now, in this dense forest, my vines are truly endless. Even with your strength, you won't be able to withstand the attacks from so many vines."

The elderly man laughed heartily, a cold, triumphant smile playing on his lips.

A Battle Saint is after all a Battle Saint, fundamentally unable to cross the Thunder Pond to defeat an Emperor-level strong man.

Even if an Emperor-level strong man suppressed their cultivation, it would be absolutely impossible for a Battle Saint level fighter to contend with them.

The three Saints watching from afar breathed a sigh of relief as the huge Exotic Beast was bound.

Just now, the strength displayed by this Exotic Beast was simply too terrifying.

They almost thought that Elder Hai had really been finished off.

If Elder Hai were killed, they would undoubtedly be doomed as well.

"Wood attribute's Earth Vine, truly a headache-inducing Profound Argumentation," muttered the Undying Devouring Sky Beast Avatar internally.

It had once possessed a Purple King Vine and knew the terror of such vines: they were notoriously difficult to deal with.

And that was a King-level plant Demon Beast.

But now, this Earth Vine Profound Argumentation was a different story.

It was vines created by an Emperor-level strong man who had reached the threshold of Profound Argumentation, with the power of Profound Argumentation.

Their toughness, speed, and strength all far surpassed that of the Purple King Vine.

Thus, even the Purple King Vine in Leng Yanran's hands couldn't compare with the vines created by Earth Profound Argumentation.

So, even the Undying Devouring Sky Beast Avatar found it difficult to break free from the binding of the Earth Vine.

"Demon Beast, I give you a chance to submit to me, and I shall spare your life," Elder Hai said coldly, looking at the Undying Devouring Sky Beast as it lay prostrate on the ground.

The defense, strength, and the sharpness of this Demon Beast's talons were the most terrifying he had ever seen.

Even his Immortal Snake Scale Armor had failed to withstand the Demon Beast's talons.

Truthfully, he would regret it if he just killed it outright.

Therefore, Elder Hai's first thought was to tame it.

In his view, as an Emperor-level strong man, he was certainly more worthy than Xu Nian to make it submit.

"Haha, old man, you think you can tame me?"

However, just as the old man thought the Demon Beast would give up on Xu Nian and turn to recognize him as its master, the Demon Beast spit out a sentence.

This obviously startled the old man; he did not expect the Demon Beast to be able to speak the human tongue.

"You old undying, do you really think these vines can trap me?" the Undying Devouring Sky Beast snorted coldly.

After speaking, an invisible fluctuation burst from its body.

Then, all the vines entwined around the Undying Devouring Sky Beast were cut off by an invisible blade.

The massive body of the Undying Devouring Sky Beast then stood up again.

At the same time, a terrifying invisible blade lashed out fiercely towards the elder.

The blade was invisible and shadowless, but it sent a tingling sensation across one's scalp.

The elder was alarmed and retreated rapidly.

Meanwhile, roots burst out like water snakes from the ground in front of him, slamming towards the invisible blade.

Space Blade!

A blade formed by the compression and condensation of Space Power, its might is incomparably fearsome.

It was somewhat similar to Xu Nian's Dimension Cutting.

But, when it came to pure power, the Space Blade was, of course, a bit stronger.

"Pfft!"

The roots were all severed.

The Space Blade moved swiftly towards the elder.

"Hmph!"

The old man finally lost his temper, a stick made from an ancient willow tree appearing in his hand.

With a swing of the stick, carrying a terrifying green fluctuation, it struck viciously upon the invisible blade.

"Boom!"

A thunderous roar echoed through the heavens.

The Space Blade shattered.

The old man, holding the Ancient Willow Stick, also retreated three steps in midair.

The terrifying gale swept around.

Within a thousand-mile radius, all the trees were cut down by scattered fragments of the Space Blade.

The battlefield where Xu Nian and the others were, turned into a vast clearing.

"Space Profound Argumentation. A being capable of manipulating Space Power is definitely not ordinary. You cannot be from a higher-dimensional plane, can you? Why would such a creature choose to follow a mere human?" the old man asked coldly.

The level of Space Profound Argumentation already exceeded what beings of the Mortal World could control.

It surpassed the basic Nine Great Attributes Profound Argumentation.

Even those stronger than a Battle Emperor couldn't control Space Power.

Yet this Demon Beast in front of him could wield a Space Blade, albeit at a very low level of comprehension.

But Space Power was Space Power after all, even at a low level of comprehension, its might is still extraordinary.

The Demon Beast's defenses and strength far exceeded those of an ordinary Demon Saint.

This alone was enough to indicate its extraordinary origins.

And such a Demon Beast would be incredibly proud and would never easily submit to a human.

So he couldn't understand why the Demon Beast would willingly serve Xu Nian.

"Old man, your eyes are indeed sharp. However, you're wrong about one thing. I am not serving Xu Nian; I am Xu Nian," the Undying Devouring Sky Beast Avatar said with a cold laugh.

"You are Xu Nian?" The old man was visibly stunned, not understanding the meaning of Xu Nian's words.

The three Saints who were afar also looked bewildered.

"Because he is my avatar."

Just then, a cold voice came from afar.

Xu Nian, who was originally sitting cross-legged on the ground, suddenly opened his eyes and stood up under the astonished gazes of everyone present.

And the aura on his body had evidently advanced from the Fifth-star Battle Saint Realm to the Sixth-star War Saint Realm.

"How is this possible? Weren't you poisoned with my Green Shadow Snake Poison? How can you still stand up?" The old man exclaimed in surprise upon seeing Xu Nian stand up.

Xu Nian had gotten over his Snake Poison; not only that, he had even made a breakthrough in his cultivation.

How could such a bizarre thing happen?

And this gigantic beast, it is Xu Nian's avatar?

How can a human possess such a fearsome Demon Beast avatar?

Moreover, such a high-level avatar technique, surely that's not something mortals could possess?

The three Saints in the distance were also flabbergasted.

So this powerful Demon Beast was actually Xu Nian's avatar.

Was Xu Nian a human or a Demon Beast?

Xu Nian looked at the surprised crowd, the corners of his mouth revealing a cold smile.

Devouring the Green Shadow Snake Poison had actually increased his cultivation by one whole star.

This was indeed an unexpected joy for Xu Nian.

At the same time, Xu Nian admired the strength of the Devouring Poison and Demon Transformation Technique created by Wentian Demon Sovereign.

"Even if you are a Battle Emperor, how dare you covet my woman? Today, you shall become the first Battle Emperor to fall by my hand," Xu Nian stepped forward, his eyes blazing with a cyan gleam.

The roaring sound within him suddenly intensified, with Dragon Energy fully activated at this moment.

At the same time, his inner momentum burst forth.

Four Talent Phenomenons along with Twelfth Rank Ancestor Vein Power erupted simultaneously.

The aura on Xu Nian's body surged to the peak of the Battle Saint, even beginning to approach the Half-Emperor Realm.

Chapter 503: The Angry Elder

Xu Nian's aura erupted, instantly influencing the surrounding area.

The trees nearby rustled loudly in the powerful wind generated by his presence.

Sand flew, and leaves fluttered through the air.

At this moment, Xu Nian was like a Netherworld King stepping out of hell.

Behind him, four phantoms of his Talent Phenomenon stood tall, lending an ancient and vast aura to his figure.

Beyond that, the Azure Dragon Mark on his forehead was shining incomparably bright.

Twelve Azure Dragons poured into Xu Nian's meridians, causing his strength to surge dramatically.

The three Saints watching from a distance were completely dumbfounded.

Are you freaking kidding me?

Four Talent Phenomena for enhancement?

Twelfth Rank Ancestor Vein Power?

Isn't this a bit too exaggerated?

Is this guy even human?

Even the Battle Emperor old man's face showed a hint of surprise.

Talent Phenomenon, Ancestor Vein Power.

He had seen people with these special abilities before and wasn't the least bit afraid.

But someone as terrifying as Xu Nian?

This was truly his first time seeing such.

With the enhancement of these special techniques, Xu Nian's aura was now almost indistinguishable from his own.

And Xu Nian had also grasped the threshold of Profound Argumentation.

This meant that he, as a suppressed Battle Emperor, held no advantage over Xu Nian whatsoever.

Moreover, Xu Nian had a formidable Demon Beast avatar by his side, eying him with a covetous gaze.

This made the Battle Emperor Expert feel threatened for the first time since the beginning of the ordeal.

However, Xu Nian's words also ignited a surge of anger in him.

After all, he was a Battle Emperor Level expert and carried his own pride.

Xu Nian actually said he wanted to kill him, completely enraging the elder.

"No wonder the Eighth Prince His Highness sent me to kill you. It seems you truly possess great secrets within you. You want to kill me? Do you really think a Battle Emperor Level expert is a joke? Today, I will let you witness the wrath of a Battle Emperor," the elder growled angrily.

Before his words fell, the ground began to churn.

Then, countless vines shot violently out from the ground, binding fiercely towards Xu Nian.

Seeing this, a cold smile flashed across Xu Nian's eyes.

The Immortal Sword appeared in his hand in an instant, and he activated the Dimension Cutting Profound Argumentation.

"Pfft!"

Xu Nian slashed with his sword.

The approaching vines were split in half by his strike.

"Old fool, meet your end!"

With a loud shout, Xu Nian took a step forward.

His figure broke through the air, causing a terrifying sonic boom.

In the blink of an eye, he crossed a distance of a hundred feet and appeared in front of the elder.

The sword in his hand swung down without hesitation.

Intense azure light surged above the blade, and the strong intent to cut was enough to instill deep fear.

"Hmpf, overestimating yourself," the elder snorted coldly.

Swinging the Ancient Willow Stick in his hand, he struck hard at Xu Nian's Immortal Sword.

"Clang!"

The Sword Radiance collided with the Ancient Willow Stick, creating a metallic clang as if they were made of fine steel.

His Immortal Sword couldn't cut through the willow stick?

"Hmph, this stick is made from a section of the Immortal Willow Tree, imbued with Immortal Snake Blood for three hundred years. Its hardness is in no way inferior to that of an Immortal Artifact. Your sword may be an Immortal Sword, but my Ancient Willow Stick is no pushover," the elder sneered coldly.

A powerful green wave burst from the stick in his hand, instantly deflecting Xu Nian's strike.

Xu Nian was forced back, his sword poised mid-air.

He looked at the elder, his eyes piercing.

The elder held the ancient willow walking stick, his eyes revealing disdain.

Having lived for so many years, how could he have survived to this day without possessing some treasures for longevity?

This Xu Nian thinking such simple tactics could kill him was just delusional talk.

"Really? Then taste this."

Xu Nian sneered coldly and immediately swung his sword at the elder again.

However, this time the energy surging from Xu Nian's sword was no longer a green light but a terrifying dark power.

"Hmph, futile effort, a total waste of energy." The elder snorted disdainfully, waving his walking stick to strike at Xu Nian's sharp sword again.

"Crack!"

That previously indestructible ancient walking stick instantly split in two from Xu Nian's sword.

"What?"

The elder's expression changed dramatically.

His figure rapidly retreated backward.

How could his ancient willow walking stick possibly be broken?

This was comparable to an Immortal Artifact!

But Xu Nian just held his sword, sneering coldly.

The walking stick made from the ancient willow was indeed strong.

But how could it possibly withstand the power of the Kun Cave?

Previously, Xu Nian could control only a small amount of the Kun Cave power.

But now his cultivation had broken through once again, and after the blessings of the Talent Phenomenon and the Ancestor Vein Power, the integrated Kun Cave power was clearly much greater than before.

Thus, the power of the Immortal Sword naturally increased by a lot.

The ancient willow walking stick, although comparable to an Immortal Artifact, is not one after all.

Cutting it apart is entirely possible.

"How about now, do you still think your walking stick is indestructible?" Xu Nian sneered, looking at the elder with a hint of scorn.

The elder, looking at the two broken pieces of his walking stick, erupted with intense rage in his eyes.

"Xu Nian, I'm going to kill you," the elder bellowed furiously.

A berserk aura burst forth from his body.

His eyes, at this moment, began to transform.

Changing from human eyes to a pair of red, vertical pupils.

Not only that, but blue scales emerged on his face, arms, and all over his body.

A pair of massive wings, which were likewise covered with blue scale armor, actually grew out of his back.

Additionally, a long snake tail emerged from behind him.

As the snake tail swung, it generated terrifying sonic booms.

Xu Nian was taken aback. This elder was obviously the same as the person from the Desolate Hall.

He had infused the essence blood of the Immortal Snake into his body, turning himself into a half-human, half-snake monster.

However, this elder's control of the Immortal Snake's power was clearly much stronger than that of the Battle King's.

And the power was even more horrifying.

"Xu Nian, you forced this on me. I wanted to give you a swift death, but you insisted on courting disaster. Now I'll show you what's worse than death," the Battle Emperor elder roared in anger.

Then his wings vibrated sharply, and his figure turned into a streak of azure light, speeding towards Xu Nian with astonishing quickness!

Taken aback, Xu Nian noted that the elder's speed had increased twofold.

Without a moment's hesitation, Xu Nian wielded the power of the Kun Cave and swung his sword fiercely at the elder.

"Hmph, seeking death!"

The elder dodged, evading Xu Nian's sword and appearing beside him.

A kick landed on Xu Nian's abdomen.

"Boom!"

A terrifying force exploded instantly in Xu Nian's abdomen.

Xu Nian was sent flying backward in an instant.

The surrounding trees were broken one after another, and Xu Nian left a long trail on the ground.

"Such horrifying power." Blood trickled from the corner of Xu Nian's mouth as he glanced at the shattered blood-colored scale armor on his abdomen.

If he hadn't formed the Dragon Scale Blood Armor in time, that hit would have likely stopped him from getting up.

"Not good!"

Xu Nian's expression suddenly changed.

He looked ahead quickly, only to see the elder speeding towards him from a distance, as fast as a streak of azure lightning.

Chapter 504: Breaking the Seal

"Die!"

The elder's figure, sinuous as a serpent, came rushing in.

His hand, covered with green snake scales, reached straight for Xu Nian's head.

What spat out of his mouth was actually a snake's tongue.

And those blood-colored vertical pupils emitted a bloodthirsty killing intent.

Xu Nian's gaze instantly hardened, and he smacked his palm on the ground.

His body shot up from the earth.

The Immortal Sword in his hand chopped directly at the elder.

"Buzz!"

However, the elder let out a cold snort.

Terrifying tendrils burst out from the ground in an instant.

Xu Nian was completely bound in an instant, his sword-wielding motion frozen.

Xu Nian's face changed dramatically in the blink of an eye.

Bound by these tendrils, he was absolutely incapable of wielding his sword in defense.

Thus, he could only watch helplessly as the elder's claw reached towards him.

"Haha, let me rip out your heart and see how it's different from others," the elder laughed heartily.

His claw reached Xu Nian's heart in an instant.

In the next moment, it was about to pierce Xu Nian's skin and plunge into his flesh.

Just when it seemed too late, a sharp glint flashed in Xu Nian's eyes.

A dreadful fluctuation emanated from Xu Nian's body.

"Crash!"

With a loud shout from Xu Nian, the tendrils binding him were shattered.

Simultaneously, Xu Nian's hand, quick as lightning, caught the elder's probing claw.

The Immortal Sword in Xu Nian's right hand had vanished, replaced by the layer of blood-red Dragon Scale Boxing Gloves.

"Eh?"

The elder was taken aback.

He had never expected Xu Nian to break free from his restraints so suddenly.

For some reason, he felt that the Xu Nian in front of him seemed to have transformed into a different person.

His eyes had turned pitch black.

A terrifying aura radiated from his body.

The elder was shocked and had a bad premonition.

He hurriedly tried to retreat.

But he found himself utterly unable to break free from Xu Nian's grip.

"Die!"

Xu Nian shouted fiercely.

His hand had already formed a tight fist.

A dreadful wave of power transmitted from Xu Nian's fist.

"Boom!"

With a thunderous roar, Xu Nian's fist slammed viciously into the elder's abdomen.

The elder's scale armor burst apart in an instant.

A horrifying, landslide-like force poured directly into the elder's midsection.

"Pugh!"

The elder spat out fresh blood on the spot, his eye sockets nearly splitting.

His face also wore an expression of utter shock.

"How... how is this possible?" the elder screamed inside.

Yet, from Xu Nian's nostrils came a cold snort.

His right hand threw another punch.

"Boom!"

This punch landed solidly on the elder's chest.

Not only did the elder's chest scale armor explode,

but the power also tore apart the blue scale armor on his back.

Fresh blood spewed wildly from the elder's mouth; his eyes bulged as large as a bull's.

But Xu Nian did not cease his assault and grabbed the wing on the elder's back.

With a fierce tug, he savagely ripped the wing right off.

Blood sprayed everywhere, flesh turned blurry.

The elder let out a pitiful scream.

The three Battle Saints watching from a distance were left completely agape.

What's going on?

Wasn't the elder occupying the upper hand just now?

How come he suddenly got insanely ravaged by Xu Nian?

Even Leng Yanran, who had been watching the battle from a distance, was dumbfounded.

This is a Battle Emperor Expert, yet Xu Nian cruelly tore off one of his wings?

Xu Nian looked at the elder, who was in unbearable pain, but his eyes did not show the slightest sign of stopping.

On the contrary, there was a bloodthirsty killing intent.

"Buzz!"

Xu Nian directly swung his Iron Fist towards the elder's head.

Terrifying black light surged around the fist.

Strike him down while he's weak!

This was always Xu Nian's principle.

"Enough!"

Just as Xu Nian's fist was about to strike the elder.

The elder let out a thunderous roar, and then an overwhelming force that Xu Nian could not contend with burst forth.

Xu Nian was instantly sent flying.

"Damn, he's unsealed his power," Xu Nian exclaimed in horror.

His body went flying backward with the rebounding force.

At that moment, the elder's blue Scale Armor had receded, and his robe was stained with blood.

His white hair whipped wildly in the air.

An extremely powerful aura was continuously emanating from the elder.

The trees within three thousand miles around were uprooted in this fierce wind.

Leng Yanran also couldn't withstand the terrible fluctuations and was sent flying.

Fortunately, the Undying Devouring Sky Beast took action in time to catch her and retreated with her to five kilometers away.

The three Battle Saints were also frightened by this terrifying aura and retreated hastily.

"Elder Hai actually unsealed his power, this way, isn't he going to..."

The Nine-star Body Saint Peak powerhouse couldn't help but look up at the sky.

The horizon was filled with rolling dark clouds, and the originally clear sky gradually darkened at this moment.

"Did someone tamper with the imperial oath and trigger the Heavenly Tribulation?"

In the direction of the Imperial Capital, many strong individuals were stirred, looking towards the outskirts of the city.

Among them were Emperor-level strong men from the Four Great Families and the Imperial Family.

They looked at the rolling dark clouds in the sky, their faces showing an extremely surprised expression.

Tamper with the imperial oath.

An Emperor Level strong man would trigger the imperial oath only when taking action against a Holy Level or lower strong man.

Such an event had not occurred in hundreds of years.

Now, someone had tampered with it.

Just who was engaged in the battle?

Who was worth a Battle Emperor risking his life to kill?

Inside the palace where the Eighth Prince resided, a young man stood at the front of the hall, watching the rolling dark clouds on the horizon.

His brows were tightly furrowed.

Behind him stood a middle-aged man, whose face also showed great surprise.

"Your Highness, it's in the direction of the Tianling Mountain Range. If I'm not mistaken, it should be Elder Hai who triggered the imperial oath," the middle-aged man said.

Even as he spoke, his face still held a tinge of surprise.

They all knew who Elder Hai went to kill.

But they never imagined that Elder Hai would be pushed to such a point.

That was an Emperor-level strong man with the power of the Immortal Snake.

To be driven to this point by a mere Xu Nian?

At this moment, the Eighth Prince's fist was also clenched tightly, his eyes revealing a strong killing intent.

His star-like eyes darkened to the extreme.

"Your Highness, what should we do now? With Elder Hai unsealing his power, Xu Nian is surely doomed, but this will likely reveal the purpose of our Star Pavilion to everyone's eyes, and what Your Highness desires..."

—The middle-aged man began.

"Humph, useless trash, one little Xu Nian and I've lost a Battle Emperor. Instruct them; I am going into seclusion. Without my permission, no one is to disturb me," the young man said coldly, his sleeves flapping, as he walked into the grand hall.

The middle-aged man, however, stood frozen in place.

"Could it be that His Highness is about to..."

The middle-aged man seemed to have realized something, his face showing an extremely surprised expression.

Then a gleam of excitement burst forth in his eyes.

Chapter 505: The Empress Makes a Move

Xu Nian's eyes widened as he stared at the sky.

Rolling dark clouds gathered rapidly from afar, converging towards his location.

A terrible pressure weighed down on his heart, like a fearful mountain pressing upon it.

Heavenly might!

It was much greater than the Heavenly might Xu Nian had experienced when he broke through to the Holy Realm.

Xu Nian could feel an extremely terrifying power contained within the tumbling clouds.

Amid the shock in his heart, Xu Nian's gaze remained fixed on the old master who had triggered it all.

At this moment, the aura emanating from the old master continued to climb, reaching a terrifying level.

The fearsome Emperor-level might was unmistakable at this juncture.

The Gang Qi winds generated by that momentum brushed against Xu Nian, causing his cheeks to sting painfully.

"So this is what a true Battle Emperor-level powerhouse is like? So strong!" Xu Nian mused to himself.

The aura the elder emitted at this moment was terrifying to the extreme.

His power was utterly insignificant in its presence.

If the elder's power could be likened to a mountain, then Xu Nian's current power would be a mere mound of soil.

Xu Nian had never imagined the chasm between the Battle Emperor and the Battle Saint levels to be so vast.

"Boy, stop being amazed. Start thinking about how to deal with this. Since the elder has broken the seal, his death is inevitable. He's bound to kill you, and this time, I fear your chances of escape are slim." Wentian Demon Sovereign's voice echoed in Xu Nian's mind.

Xu Nian fell silent.

"Boom!"

Suddenly, Xu Nian felt his heart jolt violently.

He spat out a mouthful of fresh blood.

His aura deflated at that moment.

"What happened? Was it a side effect of that move just now?" Xu Nian thought to himself, horrified.

Just as he faced a critical juncture, an unexpected complication arose.

This only made his situation even more perilous.

"Hmph, overestimating your own capabilities, daring to integrate the Kun Cave Power into your flesh and blood. Boy, you're lucky that you practice the Divine Demon Refining Body; otherwise, your actions just now would have been tantamount to suicide," Emperor Ye Tian's figure also spoke up in Xu Nian's mind.

Upon hearing this, Xu Nian let out a bitter smile.

Indeed, the sudden outburst was him integrating strands of the Kun Cave Power into his flesh and blood.

He figured that since Spiritual Energy could fuse with the Kun Cave Power to produce a powerful attack...

Why couldn't Gang Qi do the same?

Thus, he had attempted it that day in the great hall.

And the collapse of the great hall had been caused by his punch, infused with the Kun Cave Power.

As for a moment ago, Xu Nian had recklessly merged three streams of Kun Cave Power.

Otherwise, he could never have rendered the elder in such a state.

But Xu Nian hadn't anticipated the side effects of the integration.

"Boom!"

While Xu Nian felt helplessness within,

The seal on the distant elder finally broke completely.

He glanced at the dark clouds above his head before finally setting his sights on Xu Nian.

The moment he saw Xu Nian, his eyes burst forth with intense ruthlessness.

A killing intent surged from his gaze, like a flood.

With the arrival of Heavenly Punishment, his death was certain.

However, in the meantime, he intended to dismember the culprit who had brought him to this state.

"Xu Nian, you will be my funeral companion."

The old master shouted loudly, stomping his foot on the ground.

The earth instantly cracked.

And in that instant, the elder's figure sped out towards Xu Nian.

He rushed at Xu Nian like a primordial beast unleashed.

Xu Nian was shocked at the sight.

But now his body was somewhat unresponsive.

"It's over!"

Xu Nian sighed inwardly.

He, in his prime condition, had no way to withstand the old man's power at this moment.

Nor to mention his body now suffering from side effects.

"Hey, kid, I can't help you," said Wentian Demon Sovereign's voice in Xu Nian's mind. "I fear nothing in heaven or earth except Heavenly Tribulation. As soon as it appears, Heavenly Punishment is sure to strike me. You must rely on yourself."

Xu Nian was at a loss for words.

The words of Wentian Demon Sovereign were no doubt adding insult to injury.

"Humph, ignorant fool, I will help you one last time," Emperor Ye Tian said coldly.

Upon hearing this, a gleam of hope instantly flashed in Xu Nian's eyes.

Like a drowning boy who suddenly sees a lifesaving straw, his heart was filled with immense joy.

"Hum!"

Indeed, just after Emperor Ye Tian's words ended.

An incredibly terrifying force surged out from Xu Nian's Mud Ball Palace.

That's right, just now Emperor Ye Tian had reached Xu Nian's Mud Ball Palace and lent his soul power to Xu Nian.

With the strong soul power he received, Xu Nian not only instantly returned to his peak condition.

But his whole being's aura reached an unprecedented height.

"Hum!"

At this moment, the Battle Emperor had already reached in front of Xu Nian.

A palm smashed viciously towards Xu Nian with a fluctuation so fearsome in the palm's core.

The three Saints in the distance sighed in relief upon seeing this scene.

Elder Hai's peak-strength strike was about to land; Xu Nian, no matter how formidable, was undoubtedly doomed.

Leng Yanran couldn't help but cover her mouth, closing her eyes, not daring to look any longer.

"Die!"

Elder Hai's eyes burst with killing intent as he slammed his palm towards Xu Nian's face.

As if he had already seen Xu Nian's head shatter under his palm.

However, at that moment, Xu Nian suddenly struck out with a palm of his own.

"Boom!"

A thunderous roar echoed.

The ground beneath crumbled in an instant.

The surrounding trees were pulverized by the terrible surge of energy.

The dreadful air wave spread out like a tidal wave for a dozen miles.

Yet Xu Nian's body remained unmoved.

"Soul... soul power, how... how is this possible? Who are you? Who are you really?" Elder Hai felt the fluctuations emanating from Xu Nian's body, and staring at Xu Nian's unfazed gaze, his mind was shocked to the extreme.

The aura now coming from Xu Nian was entirely different, as if he were another person.

Moreover, the soul power currently radiating from Xu Nian was so overpowering it made him feel an urge to kneel.

He was certain that Xu Nian should not be capable of releasing such dreadful soul power.

"Who I am is none of your concern," Xu Nian said with a cold snort.

Then, as if instantly teleporting, Xu Nian appeared right in front of Elder Hai.

Then slammed a fierce palm onto his chest.

"Puh!"

Elder Hai immediately spewed blood uncontrollably, his body flying backward rapidly.

The three distant Saints stood completely dumbfounded.

What... what on earth is happening?

Hadn't Elder Hai lifted his seal?

How come he was still no match for Xu Nian?

Far away, Leng Yanran also showed an extremely surprised expression.

Xu Nian actually sent a Battle Emperor Level powerhouse flying?

"Boom!"

But at that moment.

The dark clouds in the sky suddenly tore apart.

Two bolts of lightning plummeted from the clouds.

One struck Elder Hai, while the other headed straight for Xu Nian.

Chapter 506: Endless Fury

"What's happening? Why are there two Heavenly Tribulations?"

The crowd in the distance all showed surprised expressions.

This Heavenly Punishment was meant for Elder Hai, wasn't it?

Why would it attack Xu Nian too?

"Boom!"

However, there was no time for the onlookers to ponder.

That terrifying thunder had already crashed down with a thunderous roar.

Elder Hai, sent flying backward, had not the slightest power to resist and was struck in the chest by that horrifying thunderbolt.

His entire chest was instantly pierced by the terrifying thunder, leaving a bloody hole.

The old man died on the spot.

Meanwhile, 'Xu Nian' watched the Heavenly Thunder plummeting from the sky with a sharp glint in his eyes.

A powerful surge emerged from his hand and slammed fiercely towards the Heavenly Thunder.

"Boom!"

The Heavenly Thunder collided with Xu Nian's palm. Xu Nian managed to sustain it for less than a second before being directly hit by the thunder.

His entire body was smashed to the ground, and he passed out on the spot.

"Is Xu Nian dead too?"

The Saints in the distance didn't understand why Heavenly Thunder had struck Xu Nian.

But they knew it was undoubtedly not good news for them.

Leng Yanran also covered her mouth, tears streaming down relentlessly.

She was about to rush towards Xu Nian's direction.

But she was stopped by an Undying Devouring Sky Beast Avatar.

"Don't worry, I'm not dead, just a little injured. You don't need to come over for now," said the Undying Devouring Sky Beast.

As it spoke, the Undying Devouring Sky Beast also furrowed its brows deeply.

Hearing the words of the Undying Devouring Sky Beast Avatar, Leng Yanran felt somewhat relieved, but her heart was still filled with worry.

She already knew that the formidable beast before her was Xu Nian's avatar.

If Xu Nian's avatar said it was fine, then it must be true.

The Undying Devouring Sky Beast Avatar had a grave expression.

Its true self was unharmed, but something seemed to have gone wrong with Emperor Ye Tian.

"Empress, Empress, are you alright?"

Inside Xu Nian's Mud Ball Palace, Xu Nian anxiously addressed the extremely ethereal form of Emperor Ye Tian.

Yet Emperor Ye Tian, eyes tightly shut, seemed as if she hadn't heard Xu Nian's words at all.

"Buzz!"

A shadow appeared within Xu Nian's Mud Ball Palace.

Xu Nian instantly became vigilant towards the newcomer.

"Kid, there's no need for you to be so guarded against me. Although I, Wentian Demon Sovereign, cultivate demons, I wouldn't take advantage of someone's peril," the Wentian Demon Sovereign spoke.

Hearing the Wentian Demon Sovereign's words, Xu Nian pondered for a moment and said, "Senior, my apologies for the disrespect."

"It's nothing. I understand your thinking. Being cautious is warranted, and since I've only known you for a few days, it's normal for you to be wary of me," Wentian Demon Sovereign replied, waving his hand.

Xu Nian nodded and then anxiously asked Wentian Demon Sovereign, "Demon Lord Senior, what's happened to the Empress? Why would she suddenly attract a Heavenly Tribulation?"

Xu Nian was certain that Emperor Ye Tian had been wounded by the Heavenly Tribulation.

He just couldn't understand how the Heavenly Tribulation, which was clearly drawn by the Battle Emperor, suddenly turned to attack him.

"Kid," Wentian Demon Sovereign began, "speaking of this matter, you really ought to thank this empress. I originally thought she was just using you, but it turns out she truly cares about you."

"Cares about me?" Xu Nian asked in surprise.

Although he had a good relationship with Emperor Ye Tian, to say that Emperor Ye Tian cared about him...

That seemed rather impossible, didn't it?

After all, Emperor Ye Tian was not reluctant to reprimand him usually.

"Kid, I don't know what kind of feelings you have for her, but from her actions just now, she indeed cares about you a lot. Both she and I are not from this realm, and under the threat of Heavenly Punishment, we can only conceal all of our auras to prevent the Heavenly Punishment from detecting us. Yet, she chose to make a move to save you, obviously exposing herself to the Heavenly Punishment. That's why the Heavenly Thunder descended to strike you," the Wentian Demon Sovereign explained.

Upon hearing this, Xu Nian was momentarily stunned.

So that was the reason why he was targeted by the Heavenly Punishment.

And Emperor Ye Tian, knowing full well the risk to herself, had nevertheless chosen to act.

She was literally risking her life to save him!

This realization sent tremors through Xu Nian's spirit.

He could never have imagined that Emperor Ye Tian would willingly risk being obliterated by the Heavenly Punishment just to save him.

"How is she now, is there any way to save her?" Xu Nian asked urgently.

"You can rest assured on that point. After all, she is a Divine Sovereign of the Divine World. The Heavenly Thunder just now wasn't too strong. Although it injured her Divine Soul Origin, it wasn't too damaging. She's not going to die for now, but that's only temporary. As for waking her up, I'm afraid you'll need some soul-nourishing Heavenly Materials and Earthly Treasures. Moreover, during this time, you must use your Soul power to continuously nourish her Divine Soul; otherwise, her Divine Soul will continue to deteriorate. Once it completely collapses, she will truly be finished," said Wentian Demon Sovereign with a sigh.

Hearing this, Xu Nian was rendered speechless.

He didn't expect Emperor Ye Tian to be so seriously injured.

"Lady Emperor, rest assured. I will definitely save you, I will find those soul-nourishing Heavenly Materials and Earthly Treasures," Xu Nian murmured to himself.

After finishing speaking, he mobilized the Soul power within his Mud Ball Palace, enveloping Emperor Ye Tian.

He nourished her Divine Soul bit by bit, delaying the deterioration of her Soul origin.

Wentian Demon Sovereign observed this scene, a smile appeared at the corner of his mouth as he thought to himself, "Kid, I really don't know from where you get such great Fortune, to have a Divine Sovereign of the Divine World care for you in such a way. Using Soul power for nourishment is truly a wondrous utility, consider it a big gift from this old man to you. Don't thank me too much, ha ha."

Wentian Demon Sovereign laughed heartily in his heart, then his figure disappeared from inside Xu Nian's Mud Ball Palace.

Xu Nian, however, was looking at Emperor Ye Tian suspended in front of the great hall of the Mud Ball Palace.

His eyes then burst forth with intense Killing Intent.

"Eighth Prince, I, Xu Nian, have noted this vendetta today; one day, I will make you pay for your actions," Xu Nian's Soul origin clenched into a fist, his body surging with intense Killing Intent.

It was the Eighth Prince who led Emperor Ye Tian to such a state, the root of it all.

The Eighth Prince has not only sent people to seize Leng Yanran but has also caused Emperor Ye Tian to fall to this state.

Xu Nian would not let this vendetta go easily, no matter what.

...

At this moment, within the forest.

The three Battle Saint Level powerhouses, upon seeing Elder Hai killed, began to harbor thoughts of retreat.

But before they could move, they felt a chill behind them.

When they turned around, they saw the gigantic figure of the Undying Devouring Sky Beast standing behind them, looking down at them with cold indifference.

"Run!"

All three Saints had the same thought in their minds.

"Hmph, think you can run? Dream on!"

The Undying Devouring Sky Beast Avatar let out a cold snort.

Its terrifying claws swiftly left countless afterimages in the air.

In just an instant, including the Peak of Body King powerhouse, all three Saints were reduced to shreds.

However, the Killing Intent in the eyes of the Undying Devouring Sky Beast Avatar did not diminish in the slightest.

Chapter 507: The Emperor Emerges from Seclusion (Make-up for the 8th)

"Xu Nian, have you woken up?"

Leng Yanran looked at Xu Nian, who had opened his eyes, and finally showed a smile on her face.

Two days had passed since the battle at the Tianling Mountain Range.

Soon after Xu Nian killed those last three Saints, people from the Divine River Palace and the Leng Family also arrived here.

Xu Nian's Undying Devouring Sky Beast Avatar naturally returned to his original body.

However, the original body had not opened its eyes from the beginning to end.

Of course, Xu Nian wasn't pretending on purpose, he genuinely couldn't do so.

He had forcefully merged with the Kun Cave Power, which had already put a tremendous strain on his body.

Later on, Emperor Ye Tian also forcefully infused Soul power into his body, further causing secondary harm.

Finally, Xu Nian was struck by Heavenly Thunder, even if he didn't die, he was not far from death.

Thus, Xu Nian's physical condition at that time could be described as extremely poor.

Now, two days later, after taking some Healing Holy Medicine and being nourished by the Gang Qi of the Divine Demon Refining Body, his injuries finally began to ease.

"Mm, I'm fine, don't worry about me," Xu Nian smiled at Leng Yanran.

Although Xu Nian had not opened his eyes, his soul was conscious.

During these two days, Leng Yanran had been by his side every moment.

Even Xu Xiuxue and Xu Xin hadn't spent as much time by his side as Leng Yanran had.

Therefore, Xu Nian could clearly feel Leng Yanran's love for him.

"It's all my fault this time. If it wasn't for me..." Leng Yanran started to say.

However, before she could finish, Xu Nian interrupted her.

"Don't say such things. I've told you that you're my woman. Since you're my woman, how could I possibly just watch you get hurt?" Xu Nian said firmly.

Leng Yanran was stunned.

She hadn't expected Xu Nian to say such words in front of her.

Her pretty face instantly turned red.

Although she was a full ten years older than Xu Nian, she had never experienced romantic love.

When she heard Xu Nian say that, she still felt somewhat shy.

"Yanran, would you be willing to be my woman?" Xu Nian suddenly grabbed Leng Yanran's hand at that moment.

Leng Yanran's body trembled immediately, but she did not withdraw her hand.

Eventually, she nodded shyly.

Seeing Leng Yanran nodding, a smile appeared on Xu Nian's face.

He pulled Leng Yanran into an embrace.

Leng Yanran also nestled into Xu Nian's embrace, her heart full of emotion and happiness.

Afterward, Xu Nian and Leng Yanran talked for a long time.

Although there were some intimate gestures between them.

Yet the two had not officially taken that final step.

Although they had shared such an intimate moment before, it was when neither of them was fully aware.

Now that the two had just confirmed their relationship, naturally, they couldn't progress that quickly.

So, in the following days,

Xu Nian continued to heal while spending time with Leng Yanran.

Sometimes, he would chat with his mother and sister.

Xu Xiuxue and Xu Xin were both very satisfied with Leng Yanran, constantly pouring into her their desire to hold grandchildren sooner.

This always left Leng Yanran feeling shy.

As Xu Nian's injuries gradually improved, the anger he had been suppressing also began to surface bit by bit.

He had not forgotten the vendetta against the Eighth Prince.

The Eighth Prince, he must kill.

However, killing the Eighth Prince would not be easy.

With his current strength, seeking vengeance against the Eighth Prince would be akin to seeking death.

Not to mention the Emperor-level strong man in the Star Pavilion, the Eighth Prince's own strength should not be underestimated.

Furthermore, the Eighth Prince had the support of the Imperial Family behind him.

"It seems I must hasten to enhance my strength," Xu Nian murmured to himself.

Henceforth, Xu Nian's cultivation became even more arduous.

But the good times did not last long; an unexpected event interrupted Xu Nian's cultivation.

"Hall Master!" Qi Lingfeng walked in from outside the hall.

Xu Nian stopped pondering the Profound Argumentation and looked at Qi Lingfeng with slightly furrowed brows.

He had ordered that during his cultivation period, he should not be disturbed unless there was something of utmost importance.

Qi Lingfeng's appearance meant there must be something significant.

"Elder Qi, what's the matter?" Xu Nian asked.

Qi Lingfeng glanced at Xu Nian, hesitated a moment, and then said with a serious voice, "Hall Master, Emperor Tianhen has finished his seclusion."

"Emperor Tianhen has finished his seclusion?" Xu Nian was momentarily stunned.

Emperor Tianhen had been in closed-door cultivation for some time.

He had not even exited his seclusion when the Crown Prince was killed.

Now that he had finally emerged, this could hardly be good news.

Moreover, Xu Nian trying to assassinate the Eighth Prince might now be even more difficult.

"Did Emperor Tianhen mention anything about the matter with the Crown Prince?" Xu Nian asked with some concern.

His strength was not yet sufficient to contend with the Tianhen Empire's Imperial Family.

If Emperor Tianhen truly intended to kill him over the Imperial Family's affairs, he could escape.

But what about his mother, sister, and Leng Yanran?

"He did. Emperor Tianhen said the Crown Prince cultivated an Evil Technique, committed heinous crimes, and deserved a myriad of deaths. Hall Master, by executing the Crown Prince, you did no wrong but have instead merited a great service, and he has sent someone to invite the Hall Master to the palace for a talk," said Qi Lingfeng without any trace of joy on his face.

Xu Nian let out a slight sigh of relief upon hearing this.

It seemed that Emperor Tianhen had no intention of seeking open vengeance for the Crown Prince.

This was an entirely favorable turn of events for him.

At the very least, Xu Nian did not have to worry about a direct confrontation with the Imperial Family.

As for Emperor Tianhen's words suggesting that he had done no wrong but merited great service, Xu Nian did not believe them.

He had killed the man's son; could he genuinely be grateful?

That was why Qi Lingfeng showed not a trace of joy—it was apparent to him as well that Emperor Tianhen's words were mere formalities, meant to appease the masses.

Xu Nian's brows knitted slightly as Emperor Tianhen invited him to a palace meeting.

This was by no means a good sign.

If Emperor Tianhen intended to assassinate him within the palace walls,

Even with all his might, he would not find escape easy.

"Hall Master, the envoy sent by Emperor Tianhen has already arrived and is currently waiting outside the hall. What would you have us do?" Qi Lingfeng asked.

He too felt helpless.

If Xu Nian truly went to the Emperor Palace, his prospects seemed grim.

Yet if he refused to go, the envoy sent by Emperor Tianhen would hardly give up easily.

Xu Nian's expression darkened, followed swiftly by a sneer.

"When Emperor Tianhen's people have already reached our doorstep, on what grounds can we refuse to go? Let's go and meet this envoy," Xu Nian said with a sneer.

Since Emperor Tianhen had sent for him, his intent to meet was resolute.

Xu Nian could not avoid it even if he wanted to.

Rather than being passive, it was better to actively meet Emperor Tianhen and see just what he was capable of.

Hearing Xu Nian's words, Qi Lingfeng nodded helplessly and then led Xu Nian outside the hall.

Following Qi Lingfeng outside, Xu Nian soon saw a tall figure standing there.

When Xu Nian saw this figure, his brows furrowed slightly.

For this person was none other than the Saint Peak Powerhouse who had been repelled by the Black Hou in Death Valley.

Chapter 508: Fortune Confrontation

Xu Nian had not expected the person sent by the Emperor would be Situ Yu.

When he first met Situ Yu, he had been a lofty Peak Powerhouse.

Although Xu Nian, with the aid of the Black Hou, had scared him off,

his strength at that time was truly not something he could contend with.

But now, Xu Nian, with his own power, was more than capable of killing him instantly.

The moment Situ Yu saw Xu Nian, he frowned slightly.

Despite hearing many rumors of Xu Nian's great power during this time,

Situ Yu still regarded him merely as being at the Battle King Level in his heart.

Even if he could slay a Saint, it was by using some special means.

But now, upon seeing Xu Nian, he realized he was mistaken.

The young man standing before him posed a strong threat

as if killing him would be a matter of merely lifting a hand.

Situ Yu did not know if this feeling was real or just his illusion.

However, one thing was certain—the young man before him had grown at a rate far beyond his expectations.

"I am Commander Situ Yu of the Imperial Guards of the Emperor Palace, greeting the Master of the Divine River Palace," said Situ Yu, bowing to Xu Nian.

Now that Xu Nian was the Master of the Divine River Palace, his status was above his own,

so he still needed to greet Xu Nian with respect.

"Commander Situ need not be so formal. Tell me, what does the Emperor require of me?" Xu Nian waved his hand.

Xu Nian did not care for such formalities and even found them somewhat repellent.

Seeing that Xu Nian did not want to waste words, Situ Yu cut straight to the point, "Master, the Emperor wishes for you to come to the palace and has specially sent me to fetch you."

"Now?" Xu Nian asked.

"Yes, the Emperor means now, but of course, if you are busy, I can convey your message," Situ Yu replied.

"No need, if the Emperor has invited me, then let's go directly," Xu Nian waved his hand.

Hearing this, Situ Yu did not waste any words and took the lead.

Xu Nian followed behind Situ Yu.

Situ Yu moved quickly, but Xu Nian consistently maintained a two-meter distance behind him.

Situ Yu, attempting to test Xu Nian, even deliberately increased his speed.

But the result was that Xu Nian kept the same distance, not showing the slightest sign of lagging behind, and seemed to do so with ease.

This brought a sense of surprise to Situ Yu.

Xu Nian chuckled internally, deeming Situ Yu's minor test as unworthy of his concern.

When it came to speed, he, who mastered Thunderclap Speed, was naturally incomparable to Situ Yu.

If it really came down to speed, Xu Nian could leave him far behind.

However, soon Situ Yu slowed down.

Eventually, they stopped in front of a massive palace gate.

Xu Nian knew they had arrived at the front of the Emperor Palace.

Inside the Emperor Palace, flying was forbidden.

The gates of the Emperor Palace were gigantic, at least ten meters tall and nearly six meters wide.

The walls were forty to fifty meters high, and powerful formations were laid on top of them.

These were meant to prevent cultivators from breaking in.

The whole scene looked quite majestic and spectacular.

In front of the gate, two rows of guards stood.

These guards were all of the Battle Sect Level.

Such cultivation in a remote and underdeveloped area would at least qualify them as Deputy City Lords.

It was clear from this how strict the defenses of the Imperial Capital and the Emperor Palace were.

"Greetings, Commander!"

Upon seeing Situ Yu, all the guards knelt down uniformly, their eyes filled with reverence.

Situ Yu, however, paid them no heed and led Xu Nian directly through the palace gate.

Passing through three consecutive gates,

Xu Nian finally entered the interior of the Emperor Palace.

And inside, the Emperor Palace was much larger than Xu Nian had imagined.

Those vast squares.

It took 15 minutes just to walk across one normally.

Periodically, rows of palace maids and eunuchs passed by.

All of them had cultivation, but it was not high.

Most were at the Warrior level.

"Master, up ahead is Chengtian Hall, where the Emperor resides. Please proceed by yourself as I can only escort you this far," Situ Yu said to Xu Nian as he led him to the steps of a palace.

The palace was towering and majestic, with an awe-inspiring presence.

Located in the center of the Imperial Capital, it was like a giant dragon ready to soar, its aura reaching for the skies.

The hundred steps leading up to it were made of extremely hard White Jade Stone, both beautiful and reflective of the Emperor Palace's noble luxury.

Xu Nian nodded and walked up the stairs.

With every step he took, Xu Nian felt a terrifying pressure overwhelm him.

It was as if a gigantic purple dragon loomed above him in the air.

The dragon looked down, suppressing everything around it.

With every step Xu Nian took, the dragon roared.

It seemed to want to completely subjugate the resister beneath it.

Xu Nian, sensing this pressure, let out a cold smile.

He knew this was the Emperor using the Fortune of the Tianhen Empire to pressure him, seeking to make him submit to the Imperial Family.

It was both an intimidation and a test.

Regrettably, Xu Nian would not simply submit.

"Roar!"

A dragon's roar sounded.

At that moment, the Golden Dragon on Xu Nian's back burst forth with intense golden light.

A Golden Dragon soared into the sky, coiling above Xu Nian's head, issuing an angry roar towards the purple dragon.

The roar shook the heavens, no less powerful than that of the purple dragon.

It even showed signs of suppressing the purple dragon.

Xu Nian, protected by the Golden Dragon, steadily walked up the steps.

Situ Yu, from a distance, hadn't left.

Watching Xu Nian ascend the steps step by step, his face showed a surprised expression.

The steps of Chengtian Hall,

except for the Emperor,

had never been climbed to the top without someone kneeling.

Chengtian Hall, by its very name, meant to bear the heaven's might.

Thus, everyone who sought to enter the hall would face the pressure of the Empire's Fortune.

And under this mighty dignity of the Empire, they would have to kneel.

Even Situ Yu would kneel under this pressure when he reached the thirtieth step.

Yet Xu Nian seemed unaffected, with steady steps, quickly reaching over fifty steps.

How could this not shock Situ Yu?

"Crack!"

Just as Situ Yu was astonished,

a faint sound of cracking reached his ears.

Situ Yu abruptly looked towards the White Jade Platform.

He saw that the incredibly hard White Jade Stone steps were beginning to show fine cracks.

And these cracks were rapidly spreading.

The direction of the spread was even towards the Chengtian Hall.

"How... how is this possible?"

Situ Yu was immensely shocked.

Disbelievingly staring at the dense cracks on the steps,

he clearly understood what the appearance of these cracks implied.

He watched the still unrushed youth climbing the steps, his eyes revealing a shocked and complex expression.

The aura of Fortune around this youth was something even the Tianhen Empire could not bear.

How could a youth possess such immense Fortune?

Chapter 509 Encounter Assassination

Xu Nian looked at the cracks that kept spreading.

This Emperor wanted to intimidate him but didn't expect to end up shooting himself in the foot.

At this moment, the Purple Dragon in the sky had dispersed, and the oppressive force bearing down on Xu Nian had also vanished.

Clearly, the Emperor had given up.

If he had continued to pressure Xu Nian, his entire Chengtian Hall would have been shattered by Xu Nian's Fortune.

By then, the already scarce Fortune of the Tianhen Empire would likely be even more unstable.

Xu Nian walked directly through the Hundred-level Heavenly Tribulation to the front of the hall.

He stepped towards the interior of the grand hall.

Chengtian Hall wasn't as luxurious as the other palaces, but it retained the imperial majesty.

The entire grand hall was majestic, with a ceiling that reached thirty meters high.

The interior of the main hall was supported by four huge stone pillars.

They were each engraved with the territories of East Field, Southern Wilderness, West Shu, and Beimo.

These indicated that the Tianhen Empire was supported by four large provinces.

Above their heads was carved a huge Purple Dragon.

The Purple Dragon looked lifelike and imposing.

That represented the Imperial Family.

However, Xu Nian wasn't paying attention to these; his gaze was fixed on the middle-aged man seated on the dragon throne in front of the hall.

This person wore a purple dragon robe, with the Purple Gold Giant Dragon entirely inlaid with gold thread.

It was exquisitely gorgeous yet simultaneously commanding.

The entire person sat there, naturally exuding an aura of a superior.

The instant Xu Nian looked at this middle-aged man,

a strong sense of caution surged in his heart.

He was certain that the man in front of him could kill him effortlessly if he wanted to,

because the imperial majesty he possessed was much stronger than that of Elder Hai.

Though already deliberately restrained, it still churned like a giant dragon, evoking fear.

At this moment, Xu Nian was extremely relieved that such a thing as imperial bounds existed in this world.

Otherwise, he would truly fear that this Emperor could simply flick his finger and kill him.

It seemed the middle-aged man felt someone entering the grand hall.

Finally, he opened his eyes and looked towards Xu Nian.

To Xu Nian's surprise, the middle-aged man's pupils were purple.

And in that moment of being stared at by the middle-aged man,

Xu Nian distinctly felt his heart tremble fiercely.

"You've come?"

The middle-aged man spoke with a calm tone.

Xu Nian was taken aback.

This Emperor's response surprised him.

In Xu Nian's view, having killed the Crown Prince, as well as the Seventh Prince and Ninth Prince,

the Emperor should hate him to the bone. It was already polite not to ambush and kill him on sight.

How could he speak to him in such a manner?

This tone was as if meeting an old friend.

It made Xu Nian very uncomfortable.

"You needn't be surprised. Indeed, you killed three of my sons, and rightfully, I should have killed you to settle this matter appropriately. However, the continuation of my Imperial Family is the foundation. In my life, I have over a dozen children; as long as the Xia Family can continue, what does the death of a few children count?" the middle-aged man said.

Xu Nian was startled.

He had heard that emperors were heartless, but he never imagined to such a cold extent.

To completely disregard the killing of his own sons.

It seems he has no affection for his sons at all.

Yet, this did not make Xu Nian feel any relaxed.

If he treats his own children so coldly, then his attitude towards an outsider like him surely must be even colder.

"So you sought me out, not for this matter?" Xu Nian asked.

The Emperor shook his head and then chuckled lightly, "I sought you out to ask you something; are you willing to be loyal to my Xia Family? I do not know why you bear such great Fortune, but your Fortune has already seriously threatened the Empire. If you swear allegiance to my Xia Family, I could even take you as my adopted son and appoint you as the Crown Prince."

"Appoint me as the Crown Prince?"

Xu Nian, as if he had heard a great joke, could not help but burst into laughter.

If he really agreed to the Emperor's words, wouldn't he become the Emperor's son?

"You disagree? If you become the Crown Prince, the position of Emperor will be yours in the future," the Emperor added.

"Do you think I care about the position of Emperor?" Xu Nian responded with a sneer.

The Emperor's eyes suddenly became sharp, staring intently at Xu Nian.

Xu Nian, undaunted, met the Emperor's gaze.

"So you refuse?" the Emperor asked coldly.

"Of course, I, Xu Nian, only wish for my family's safety. I have no interest in your Emperor's position, nor will I play the role of any Crown Prince," Xu Nian declared resoundingly.

Upon hearing Xu Nian's words, a glint of Killing Intent flashed in the depths of the Emperor's eyes.

But that glint of Killing Intent was quickly concealed.

"You may not want the Emperor's position, but you must hand over the Dragon Vein, as it rightfully belongs to the Tianhen Empire," the Emperor stated coldly.

Upon hearing this, a cold smile finally appeared on Xu Nian's lips.

This probably was the Emperor's real intention.

As for such positions as Crown Prince or future Emperor, those were merely diversions.

What he truly wanted was the Dragon Vein in Xu Nian's possession.

"Since the era of Emperor Bai, the Dragon Vein has severed its connection with your Xia Family; it no longer belongs to your Xia Family. Why should I hand it over? Are you going to forcefully seize it?" Xu Nian said with a sneer.

The Emperor in front of him, although an Emperor-level strong man,

but other Emperor-level strong men would not dare to make a move against him easily.

For any action would attract Heavenly Punishment.

He did not believe a dignified Emperor would sacrifice himself for the Dragon Vein.

As for suppressing his realm,

if the Emperor really tried to suppress his realm, Xu Nian might not necessarily be afraid of him.

Of course, this place was the Emperor Palace, where the Imperial Family was powerful, and Xu Nian could not be sure he could handle whatever measures the Imperial Family might take.

"What will it take for you to hand over the Dragon Vein?" the Emperor asked coldly, his tone already carrying a hint of anger.

"Simple, just give me the life of the Eighth Prince, and I will hand over the Dragon Vein," Xu Nian said with a light laugh.

His eyes fixed on the Emperor.

"How dare you!" the Emperor, furious, slammed his palm on the throne, standing up straight.

His aura, like a raging dragon, swept across the entire hall.

Xu Nian was pushed back several steps by this force, a look of surprise on his face.

The Emperor's strength truly was terrifying, just his presence had forced him back.

If he were to strike with full force, Xu Nian would stand no chance at all.

"You said you didn't care about your son's life, did you? Trading the Eighth Prince's life for the Dragon Vein is a perfect deal," Xu Nian said lightly.

"Xu Nian, don't push it too far, believe it or not, I can kill you right now?" the Emperor glared at Xu Nian furiously.

Xu Nian simply smiled faintly.

"If you really could have killed me, you probably wouldn't have been wasting words with me until now," Xu Nian said with a slight smile.

He showed no fear in the face of the Emperor's rage.

Hearing Xu Nian's words, the Emperor's expression darkened even further.

"Get out!" the Emperor shouted angrily.

Xu Nian merely smiled faintly, turned around, and walked out of the grand hall.

Chapter 510: Xia Family's Ancestor

"Emperor, why didn't you let me kill him?"

Just after Xu Nian had left.

An old man emerged from the Chengtian Hall.

This old man exuded a strong presence of the Half-Emperor Technique.

Clearly, he had been ambushed in Chengtian Hall long before.

His purpose was to strike at the critical moment and deliver a fatal blow to Xu Nian.

He had been prepared to face the Heavenly Punishment.

However, the Emperor ultimately ordered him not to make a move.

The Emperor, upon hearing the old man's words, furrowed his brows, his eyes filled with dense unwillingness.

"That young man has a terrifying aura. I clearly felt a powerful soul fluctuation sweep over me just now. Didn't you fail to find out earlier that the young man was released from the seal by Old Eight's subordinate, the One-star Battle Emperor and still wasn't killed? I think I might already know the reason," the Emperor said, looking in the direction Xu Nian had left.

"A powerful soul fluctuation? There indeed is a great figure behind this Xu Nian. Even you, Emperor, feel fear; who could this person be?" the old man exclaimed in surprise.

The Emperor shook his head, his face sinking into contemplation.

This was the point he feared the most.

If Xu Nian had no strong supporter, the Emperor had a hundred ways to kill him.

The true fear was if Xu Nian was backed by a super-strong figure.

"Emperor, what should we do next? The young man seems hell-bent on killing the Eighth Prince. The Eighth Prince is already your chosen Crown Prince. Xu Nian's intent to kill the Eighth Prince is like a moth to a flame, leading himself to self-destruction," the old man said with a cold snort.

"No need to worry about Old Eight for now; he is currently in seclusion. By the time he comes out, he may already be an Emperor-level strong man. As for this Xu Nian, he must die, but before that, I need to meet with the ancestor," the Emperor said.

As he finished speaking, a spatial vortex appeared directly behind him.

Without hesitation, the Emperor stepped into it and then vanished within the hall.

...

Once Xu Nian had left Chengtian Hall, he breathed a sigh of relief.

He had been ready to fight to the death a moment ago.

Fortunately, at the last moment, the Wentian Demon Sovereign intimidated Emperor Tianhen with his powerful soul power, making the Emperor too scared to act.

"Thank you, Senior Wentian, for stepping in," Xu Nian said, walking towards the exit of the Emperor Palace while communicating his gratitude to the Wentian Demon Sovereign.

"Kid, you don't need to thank me. It's not often that I find such a promising prospect like you. I certainly wouldn't want you to die here. But speaking of which, if you want to survive in this Emperor Capital full of strong individuals and with so many enemies, you still need to enhance your strength," the Wentian Demon Sovereign said.

"Understood!" Xu Nian nodded gravely.

He realized this point too.

Although he now fears no Saints, he was utterly helpless against Emperor-level strong men.

If it weren't for the restriction imposed on Emperor-level powerhouses by the imperial decree, he might have died several times over already.

However, his current strength was hard to improve.

"Kid, you have the Nine Dragons Supreme Body. In a place like this, your strength increases very slowly. However, I know of a place that could greatly enhance your strength, if you dare to go," the Wentian Demon Sovereign suddenly mentioned.

"Why wouldn't I dare?" Xu Nian immediately responded.

Now, the affairs of the empire had been temporarily settled.

His mother, sister, and Leng Yanran were all safe in the Divine River Palace.

Moreover, what the Wentian Demon Sovereign said was right.

The environment of the Imperial Capital indeed did not favor his Body Cultivation.

Here, his cultivation speed would be very slow.

"That's good, prepare yourself, that place is very far from here, and you will likely be gone for a long time, but I believe it will definitely not disappoint you," the Wentian Demon Sovereign said.

Upon hearing this, Xu Nian nodded seriously.

He left the Emperor Palace and headed toward the direction of the Divine River Palace.

He needed to leave the Imperial Capital, and had to inform his mother as well as Leng Yanran about these matters.

...

While Xu Nian was rushing to the Divine River Palace,

Emperor Tianhen had arrived at the ancestral land of the Imperial Family.

In the center of this ancestral land, there stood a huge stele.

This stele emanated a terrifying aura of the Heavenly Dao.

It was densely engraved with strange and mystic patterns.

These odd patterns contained powerful forces.

A mere glance by an ordinary person would result in their eyes getting blinded by the fierce light emitted from the patterns.

Even for Cultivators, those of weak will or low Cultivation.

A look at the stele could instantly lead them to deviate and become possessed.

Indeed, this was the most precious treasure of the Imperial Family.

The Tianjian Stele.

This was unintentionally discovered by the first Emperor Tianhen from a meteorite that fell from the sky and later moved to their ancestral land.

At this moment, an old man was seated in meditation in front of the stele.

The old man's skin was like dry wood, and his face was covered with wrinkles.

His entire being was seated there, almost resembling a corpse.

"Ancestor!" Emperor Tianhen approached the old man from behind and respectfully saluted.

Looking at the seated silhouette of the old ancestor, he dared not harbor the slightest disrespect in his heart.

"I already know about the situation. You did right. That young man indeed possesses a powerful residual soul. If you had acted, you would have gained nothing," the dry wood-like old man spoke without opening his eyes or turning around.

"In that case, ancestor, what should we do next? Xu Nian is protected by strong individuals, I fear killing him might be difficult..." the Emperor spoke.

"Don't worry about that," the old man spoke, "Xu Nian will soon leave the Imperial Capital. Send an Emperor-level strong man with the Secondary Seal to assassinate him; by then, Xu Nian will undoubtedly be dead."

After speaking, a peculiar seal of light flew out from his hands towards the Emperor.

"Is this the GodsLevel Seal?" The Emperor exposed a look of surprise upon seeing the light seal.

The GodsLevel Seal was indeed a unique mark.

Carrying this mark on one's person, one could completely evade detection by the Heavenly Dao.

An Emperor-level strong man could also act freely without being bound by the Emperor's pact.

This mark had always been personally held by the old ancestor; how could he now be willing to part with it?

"I no longer need this GodsLevel Seal. I have comprehended the method to conceal from the Heavenly Dao from the Tianjian Stele. Therefore, this GodsLevel Seal is now yours to keep. I hope you can secure the dragon lineage and not disappoint me," the old ancestor's voice rang out again.

Upon hearing this, the Emperor's face immediately showed an excited expression.

Tightly clutching the GodsLevel Seal in his hand, he excitedly said, "Ancestor, rest assured, I will definitely not disappoint you. I will secure the dragon lineage from Xu Nian."

"Go now, do not disturb my Cultivation. Zhang Tiansheng has already left; when I finish my retreat, there will be no one in this world who can be my adversary," the old man said indifferently.

The Emperor, upon hearing this, also showed an excited expression.

He respectfully bowed and then retreated from the range of the ancestral land.