

Divine King 691

Chapter 691 Thunderclap Man

Xu Nian and the Xuanwu Netherworld Turtle suddenly appeared in the outside world.

At that moment, those who had come out of the Small World had not dispersed.

They were all gathered around Cuiping Mountain.

When they saw Xu Nian and a man they had never seen before walking out together,

they realized that this man was probably the giant Xuan Turtle they had seen before.

Instantly, everyone's gaze towards the Xuan Turtle turned fearful.

After all, this Xuan Turtle had just unleashed terrifying battle prowess inside the Small World.

Now, who would dare to provoke this Killing God?

If they really angered him, it would probably be their doom in countless lifetimes.

Moreover, the Xuan Turtle had already sworn inside the Small World

to protect Xu Nian's safety.

With this, they couldn't afford to offend Xu Nian either.

Thinking about this, those who still thought about contending for the Seven-colored Bodhi Tree quickly decided to give up.

"Hmph, let's go!"

Duan Tianya furiously turned around with Elder Lin in tow.

He had almost been throttled to death by this Xuan Turtle.

He definitely didn't want to be caught in the gigantic turtle's grip like a fly again.

If he hadn't used a treasure left by his father to escape in time,

he would probably be a puddle of mush right now.

As for Elder Lin, he wasn't much better off.

His internal organs were all injured.

If it weren't for the Spiritual Medicine they had from their family,

they wouldn't be able to stand at this moment.

And all of this was because of Xu Nian.

But for now, this debt was impossible to settle.

They could only leave for the time being and wait for an opportunity to get their revenge.

Xu Nian saw Elder Lin and Duan Tianya leaving and sneered quietly.

But he didn't try to stop them.

After all, this guy was a scion from a Cultivation World family.

He surely had some unknown life-saving methods.

If they really came to blows, he might not get the better of it.

Thus, Xu Nian chose to let them leave.

Besides, if the old Xuan Turtle was unwilling to take action,

he really wouldn't be able to keep the two.

The old Xuan Turtle was only under obligation to protect him.

Getting him to attack would probably be difficult.

"By the way, Elder Xuan Turtle, what is your name?" Xu Nian asked the Xuanwu Netherworld Turtle.

"The venerable one's name is Xuan Hong, you can just call me Xuan Hong," the Xuanwu Netherworld Turtle said.

"Alright, Elder Xuan Hong," Xu Nian nodded and responded.

Although he knew that Xuan Hong did not fully respect him,

he didn't really care.

After all, this guy couldn't harm him.

Xuan Hong sneered internally at that moment, "Boy, your end will come once half a year passes. Just enjoy yourself for these six months."

"Whoosh!"

Right then, a beam of golden light flew swiftly from a distance

and appeared directly in front of Xu Nian.

Xu Nian knew that this golden light was none other than the Netherworld King who had disappeared earlier.

It seemed the Netherworld King had gained a lot.

The gold on his body had become duller, but the hardness had become even more terrifying.

"Did you reach the Six-star War Emperor level?" Xu Nian asked in amazement.

The Netherworld King nodded quickly, then happily spread his arms.

Xu Nian was momentarily stunned,

but then he noticed that the Netherworld King actually had over thirty storage rings in his hands.

Xu Nian's lips twitched slightly.

He realized it.

All these storage rings had been snatched from the adventurers who entered the Small World by the Netherworld King.

Xu Nian had never expected this guy to have hunted so many.

"Damn, so it was this ghastly thing. So many of our comrades were killed, and we thought it was the spirits of the Ancient Small World. Turns out, it's just a skeleton."

Curses immediately filled the crowd.

The Netherworld King then turned and glared provocatively at the speaker.

That person was so frightened that he dared not speak again.

Xu Nian couldn't help but smile wryly.

To think among them, the Netherworld King had reaped the most.

Of course, that didn't take into account the Seven-colored Bodhi Tree.

If that were included, perhaps all the treasures of the entire Small World combined wouldn't measure up to its value.

"Are all these for me?" Xu Nian asked the Netherworld King.

The Netherworld King nodded.

Xu Nian took the storage ring.

He checked inside.

Each storage ring was filled with a massive amount of Spirit Stones and Spiritual Medicines.

Xu Nian made a rough estimate.

These Spirit Stones probably amounted to no less than thirty thousand Low Grade Spirit Stones.

Such an amount directly turned Xu Nian into a wealthy man in an instant.

And here he hadn't even stepped into the world of Cultivation yet and already owned so much—that was no small feat.

With this, Xu Nian could finally make use of his Spiritual Ship.

"Alright, it's time for us to leave." Xu Nian gathered all the storage rings.

Then he prepared to leave with Xu Yu and the others.

After all, the Small World had completely collapsed.

There was no point in staying here any longer.

"Whoosh!"

However, at that moment.

A figure rapidly flew in from afar.

His body was wrapped in white thunder.

In the blink of an eye, he appeared in the sky right above Xu Nian.

Xu Nian frowned and looked up at the man who had come controlling thunder.

The man also scanned the crowd before finally fixing his gaze on Xu Nian.

"Are you Xu Nian?" the thunder-wielding man asked.

"And you are...?" Xu Nian asked, looking at the Thunderclap Man.

Xu Nian really couldn't guess the identity of this sudden arrival.

The Imperial Family?

He didn't seem like it.

But apart from the Imperial Family, who else possessed such power?

It went without saying that this man's Cultivation level had reached the realm of the Supreme Battle Emperor.

And the thunder wrapped around him was definitely not ordinary thunder.

"It doesn't matter who I am, what's important is that you hand over the Seven-colored Bodhi Tree to me, or you won't leave here alive today," the Thunderclap Man threatened.

"Seven-colored Bodhi Tree? What Seven-colored Bodhi Tree?" Xu Nian responded, pretending to be surprised.

"Hmph, kid, stop pretending. My Master has already seen through the Xuantian Mirror that you have the Seven-colored Bodhi Tree in your possession. Don't play dumb," the Thunderclap Man said coldly.

Xu Nian frowned.

He had pretended to be ignorant on purpose.

Just to test what the Thunderclap Man might divulge.

Now, it seemed this man must be the disciple of some hidden powerhouse.

"So, your Master sent you?" Xu Nian said with a smile.

With Xuan Hong by his side, was he supposed to be afraid of this guy?

"That's right, my Master sent me. Smarten up, kid, hand over the Seven-colored Bodhi Tree," the Thunderclap Man said coldly.

Xu Nian chuckled lightly, his gaze towards the Thunderclap Man filled with amusement.

"It seems your Master didn't tell you what happened after I obtained the Seven-colored Bodhi Tree. Buddy, if you die, blame your Master. Xuan Hong, make your move!" Xu Nian said with a laugh.

The Thunderclap Man was taken aback, then his pupils shrank, and a chill ran down his spine.

For he realized that the man who had been standing by Xu Nian's side had suddenly appeared behind him.

Chapter 692: Laying Hidden Dangers

"Boom!"

A loud crash.

The Thunderclap Man was brutally struck from the sky by Xuan Hong, flung far away.

He slammed into the distant ground like a rock, smashing hard enough to create a deep pit.

The man, who wielded the thunder, then convulsed inside the pit.

The surrounding crowd all took in a sharp breath of cold air.

The Thunderclap Man had made an exceedingly domineering entrance,

only to be thrown to the ground by the Xuan Turtle in a matter of moments.

Such a reversal was difficult for anyone to accept.

Xu Nian also smiled.

He did not care who this Thunderclap Man was.

Since he had come looking for trouble, it was time he learned that Xu Nian was not someone to be trifled with.

"Who are you?" asked the Thunderclap Man, climbing out of the pit,

his face filled with fear as he looked at Xuan Hong.

Xuan Hong sneered in reply, "Kid, you're not worthy to know my name. Let me tell you, this boy is now under my protection. If you dare lay a hand on him, I will kill you."

The Thunderclap Man's face showed surprise upon hearing Xuan Hong's words.

His eyes then turned even angrier when looking at Xu Nian.

He hadn't expected Xu Nian to have such a formidable enforcer.

Xu Nian merely smiled unconcernedly.

Yet, he was curious about where this Thunderclap Man had come from.

"Hmph, Xu Nian, I will leave the Seven-colored Bodhi Tree with you for now, but one day I, Qi Lei, will definitely take it back," said the Thunderclap Man with a cold snort.

He then made to turn and leave.

"Did I say you could go? Since you're here, you ought to leave something behind!" Xu Nian said with a smile.

His ignorance of the man's identity did not prevent him from trying to rob him.

"What do you want? I'm not afraid to tell you that there are still many powers on this continent that you cannot provoke," Qi Lei turned angrily to Xu Nian.

Xu Nian sneered, "I'm not sure about the powers I can't provoke, but if you don't leave your storage ring today, you probably won't live to see tomorrow!"

Qi Lei's expression darkened, his eyes filled with intense killing intent.

Leaving behind the storage ring was a profound humiliation for him.

Of course, compared to his life, the storage ring was ultimately just a worldly possession.

Qi Lei took off the storage ring, erased the Soul Mark, and threw it to Xu Nian.

"Can I go now?" Qi Lei said fiercely.

Xu Nian caught the storage ring and checked it, his smile wide.

"Go on, get out of here!" Xu Nian waved his hand, appearing unconcerned.

"Xu Nian, today's humiliation will be returned twofold another day," Qi Lei threw down these words and turned to leave.

Xu Nian watched the direction Qi Lei left in, a smile forming at the corner of his mouth.

Qi Lei had just issued a threat. Did he not fear that Xu Nian might change his mind and keep him here?

"Big brother, why not just kill him? Why let him go?" Xu Yu came over, his face full of confusion.

Ice Blue and Bull Demon King also looked puzzled.

Clearly, they all thought Xu Nian was not the type to be merciful.

Why would he let them go?

Did he not understand the danger of letting the tiger back into the mountain?

Xu Nian just smiled, not knowing what to say.

"This kid did the right thing, that young man indeed should have been released. Just now, I distinctly sensed a powerful Spiritual Sense sweeping over from our side. If I'm not mistaken, the strength of the person backing him is at least not inferior to mine," Xuan Hong came over and said with a light laugh.

Xu Nian grinned, his inner concerns clearly matching the reason Xuan Hong mentioned.

The people nearby, including Xu Yu, looked on with surprise.

To be nearly on par with Xuan Hong, does that mean this young man also has a Wanxiang Realm expert behind him?

How come so many powerful figures have suddenly appeared?

Of course, Xu Nian also showed his stance.

By having that Thunderclap Man leave his storage ring, he was issuing a warning.

He wanted them to understand that Xu Nian was not afraid of them.

"Kid, your cultivation is still too low. Only when you reach Zifu will you understand what true cultivation is. Without entering Zifu, you are ultimately just ants because in the Cultivation World, Zifu Cultivators are as common as hairs on an ox," Xuan Hong spoke again.

People around exchanged looks.

It was hard to imagine a scene where Zifu Cultivators were everywhere.

Could the so-called Cultivation World truly be that powerful?

Xu Nian also felt deeply moved in his heart.

It seemed his strength was still not sufficient.

He had thought that reaching Battle Emperor would allow him to stand at the pinnacle of this lost land.

Now it seemed that even Tianhen Continent was not as simple as he had imagined.

Truly, cultivation determines one's vision.

Only with higher cultivation could one see a broader world.

...

Just as Xu Nian left Cuiping Mountain.

In a deep part of the mountain forest far from them.

A figure landed in front of a cabin in the forest.

Beneath the cabin, there sat an old man with white hair.

"Master, why didn't you make a move? Are you just going to watch Xu Nian take away the Seven-colored Bodhi Tree?" the man said with dissatisfaction.

Indeed, he was Qi Lei, who had suffered a defeat at the hands of Xu Nian.

The old man, hearing Qi Lei's complaint, picked up his teacup and took a sip.

Then he said indifferently and quietly, "I also didn't expect Xu Nian to release the Xuanwu Netherworld Turtle. Even more so, I didn't expect them to reach a consensus. If I had intervened, I might not have been a match for that old turtle. The Seven-colored Bodhi Tree is precious, but it's not worth the risk right now."

"Are we just going to let it go like this?" Qi Lei said discontentedly.

Being pulled down from the sky and having his storage ring taken.

Such a humiliation was unbearable, and if this vengeance was not claimed, he would remain discontented.

"Let's wait a bit longer. In twelve years, the Immortal Treasure will open. All those old fellows in hiding are watching. Now is not the time to act. Don't provoke that Xu Nian for now; he's not so easy to deal with," the old man spoke softly.

"But... if this vengeance is not pursued, I can't swallow this pride," Qi Lei said angrily.

"That shows your temperament is still lacking. If you can't even endure this small humiliation, how will you manage in the Cultivation World?" the old man immediately became stern and scolded.

Qi Lei heard Master's scolding and did not speak any longer.

However, he was still not convinced in his heart.

"No, I must make Xu Nian pay a price. Xu Nian, since you have protectors by your side, your family might not, right? I've heard you have a beautiful woman in the Imperial Capital. I want to see what your expression will be like when you see your woman being played by me," Qi Lei muttered to himself.

A hint of cunning flashed in the depths of his eyes.

He wanted to make Xu Nian pay a painful price for his actions.

After speaking, Qi Lei turned and left.

The old man, seeing Qi Lei leave, shook his head helplessly.

His disciple was good in every way, but his temperament was still poor.

He ultimately would find it hard to achieve great things!

Chapter 693: Goddess of the Divine World

Artifact Refining Sect.

Inside a space within the God King Cauldron.

Xu Nian was sitting cross-legged atop a small hillock at this moment.

Next to him was a small tree, less than half the height of a person.

This sapling shimmered extraordinarily, emitting a faint divine light.

This was a sprout of the Seven-Colored Bodhi Tree.

After pondering for a moment, Xu Nian still decided to first place it inside the God King Cauldron.

After all, he did not possess any spatial-type treasures.

The God King Cauldron could barely be considered a small space.

Moreover, the concentration of spiritual energy inside the God King Cauldron was about three times that of the outside world.

In this way, he could barely maintain the survival of the Seven-Colored Bodhi Tree.

However, to make it grow, he would still need to find another solution in the future.

"This Seven-Colored Bodhi Tree really is vigorous, I merely sat under this Divine Tree for three days, and I've comprehended the Wind Cutting Profound Argumentation to the Second Level Realm, and now I have officially stepped into the realm of Initial Profound Argumentation Formation," Xu Nian said joyfully as he opened his eyes.

While cultivating under the Bodhi Tree, he could distinctly feel his mind become exceptionally tranquil.

The laws of Heaven and Earth Profound Argumentation became particularly clear.

The effect bestowed upon him by this Divine Tree was obviously much more powerful than that of the Dragon Veins.

Xu Nian was truly curious, if this Divine Tree were to grow,

what kind of mystical powers it would possess.

Stepping out of the God King Cauldron, Xu Nian came to the plaza of the Artifact Refining Sect.

At this moment, the Bull Demon King and Xu Yu were all there in the plaza.

Before them, set down was precisely that Glazed Stone.

The maiden within the Glazed Stone still looked lifelike, beautiful and captivating.

"Damn, what kind of rock is this, that it just won't crack open?" the Bull Demon King said in frustration.

He had been pondering over this stone for three days already.

Yet after three days, there was no progress whatsoever.

Not only had his attacks failed to break the stone, but there wasn't even a single scratch on it.

He really didn't know how the maiden had been sealed inside.

Xu Yu and the others were also deeply frustrated.

They too had tried, but there was simply nothing they could do with this stone.

"Big brother!"

"Boss!"

Seeing Xu Nian approach, Xu Yu and the others greeted him one after another.

Xu Nian nodded and then walked up to the stone.

To be precise, he was staring at the maiden inside.

The maiden inside looked exactly like an ordinary person, but there was one difference.

At the center of the maiden's forehead, there was a natural red dot.

And although the maiden's eyes were closed, there was a feeling that she might open them at any time.

Xu Nian could feel that it was entirely possible for this maiden to be still alive.

"Eh, Divine Clan?" Just then, the voice of the Wentian Demon Sovereign echoed in Xu Nian's mind.

"Divine Clan? What Divine Clan?" Xu Nian asked in surprise.

He knew that Senior Wentian had to be talking about the maiden before him.

"I understand now. I was wondering how such a thing as the Seven-Colored Bodhi Tree could appear in a small Mortal World; it looks like she brought it here," Wentian did not answer Xu Nian's question but spoke to himself.

The more Xu Nian listened, the more confused he became.

"Kid, the maiden before you has no simple origin, she is a descendant of the Divine Clan from the Divine World, the original inhabitants. The Seven-Colored Bodhi Tree that you have acquired should have been brought back by her from the Divine World," Wentian Demon Sovereign explained, sensing Xu Nian's confusion.

"Original inhabitants? What does that mean?" Xu Nian pressed for an answer.

"Kid, you might not know," Senior Wentian said again, "there are two types of people from the Divine World Human Clan. One is the Ascenders, and the other is the original inhabitants, who call themselves the Divine Clan. Therefore, the young lady before your eyes is an original inhabitant of the Divine World. It's just strange how she would appear in the Mortal World?"

Xu Nian nodded in realization.

So that's how it is.

A descendant of the Divine Clan?

Wouldn't that mean she's from the Divine World, just like Emperor Ye Tian?

But, as Senior Wentian asked, how did she end up in the Mortal World?

"Senior, what about the stone that sealed her? Is she really still alive?" Xu Nian hurriedly asked.

"She is still alive, but also like a half-dead person because the stone that sealed her cannot be opened, making it impossible for her to escape from within. So, at most, she can be considered half-alive," Wentian Demon Sovereign replied.

"What in the world is that sealing stone, and why is it so impenetrable?" Xu Nian asked in surprise.

"This is a special kind of stone from the Divine World called the Glazed Jade Divine Stone. Without the basic strength of a Divine Emperor or some special methods, it is impossible to break," Wentian Demon Sovereign explained.

"Divine Emperor?" Xu Nian exclaimed in shock.

That would mean only someone with the power at the Peak of God Emperor Level like Emperor Ye Tian could break it.

"So, kid, don't waste your effort," said Wentian Demon Sovereign, and with those words, he disappeared.

Xu Nian was speechless.

"How about it, Boss, do you have a way?" Bull Demon King quickly stepped forward to ask.

This was the biggest trophy he had brought back from the Ancient Spiritual Sect.

He had hoped to release her once he got out.

But after three days, they had achieved nothing.

Xu Nian shook his head and relayed the identity of the girl in the Glazed Stone to everyone.

Everyone listened, agape with astonishment.

"Heavens, I thought I had only brought back a Holy Daughter, but I had not expected that she was actually a Goddess. It's just too bad we couldn't release her," Bull Demon King said with a look of pride.

"Release her? Bull Demon King, are you trying to kill us? If that girl really got out, do you think, being a Goddess, her Cultivation would be low? I fear the moment she wielded her hand, we would all turn to ashes," Black Wind couldn't help but taunt.

"That seems to be the case!" Bull Demon King scratched his head in embarrassment.

Xu Nian nodded as well.

He had also forgotten this point.

If she really was a Goddess and was released, she could probably punch a hole through the Heaven and Earth prohibitions set up by the Immortal experts.

"Alright, I'll keep this Goddess Stone for now," Xu Nian said as he took possession of the Goddess Stone.

After all, the stone wasn't of any use to Bull Demon King, who couldn't store living things in his storage ring. It wasn't like he could carry it around forever, so Xu Nian took over the responsibility.

Bull Demon King had no objections.

However, Xu Nian didn't place it in his storage ring.

Instead, he put it inside the God King Tripod.

He did this because Wentian Demon Sovereign mentioned that the Seven-colored Bodhi Tree had been brought by the Goddess.

Xu Nian thought that by putting the Goddess and the Seven-colored Bodhi Tree together, a miracle might occur.

But in the end, he had thought too much.

"Big brother, what are we going to do next? Should we head to the Imperial Capital?" Xu Yu eagerly asked.

"Not in a hurry. We will go, but we have something to do before that," Xu Nian said with a smile.

"What is it?" Xu Yu and the others asked, all looking puzzled.

"Artifact Refining!" Xu Nian said with a smile.

"Artifact Refining?" The people around all showed a look of confusion.

Xu Nian saw everyone's puzzled expressions, and his smile deepened.

In fact, during these three days of Cultivation under the Seven-colored Bodhi Tree, he had another major breakthrough.

His Soul level had broken through the Battle Emperor's constraints and reached the Zifu Realm.

Chapter 694: Refining the Spiritual Artifact

Xu Nian had only discovered this not long ago.

Practicing under the Seven-colored Bodhi Tree seemed to quickly elevate the realm of his soul.

This brought immense joy to Xu Nian.

With his soul level now broken through, Xu Nian was also able to forge Spiritual Weapon Level armaments.

Although this world restricted his own Spiritual Cultivation, it did not limit his Soul Cultivation.

Thus, Xu Nian's breakthrough in Soul Cultivation came logically and without the slightest obstacle.

"I wonder what scale of weapon the Sect Master plans to forge?" The Great Elder approached from a distance, his face revealing a chuckle-like smile.

Although he knew Xu Nian possessed an extraordinary talent.

The path of Artifact Refining required diligence in practice.

So he didn't think Xu Nian would have any significant breakthroughs in Artifact Refining.

At most, he could only forge armaments of a peculiar metal level.

As for the quality, it certainly wouldn't be too high.

"I'm going to forge a Spiritual Artifact," Xu Nian said with a smile.

"What?" The Great Elder even doubted whether his ears had misheard.

The people around them all looked at Xu Nian with faces full of surprise.

"I plan to forge a Spiritual Artifact," Xu Nian repeated, still smiling.

The Great Elder was suddenly stunned, blankly staring at Xu Nian for a full minute.

"Wait a moment, I'll inform all the disciples in the institute to gather here. The Sect Master forging a Spiritual Artifact is an event not to be missed," the Great Elder said, immediately turning on his heels to run.

Though he no longer had both arms, his cultivation remained intact.

Seeing this scene, Granny Xu's eyes also revealed a hint of surprise.

Xu Nian, on the other hand, was sweating profusely.

He was merely trying, without certainty of whether he could succeed or not.

If he failed in the presence of all the Sect disciples, wouldn't it be incredibly embarrassing?

However, seeing the Great Elder's level of excitement,

Xu Nian found it difficult to object.

In the present Tianhen Continent, forging a Spiritual Artifact

was utterly impossible.

Constrained by the heavens and the earth, one's cultivation could not reach the Zifu Realm.

And thus, Artifact Refiners naturally couldn't produce the terrifying flames needed to melt Divine Iron.

So when they heard Xu Nian was preparing to forge a Spiritual Artifact, their first reaction was disbelief.

However, thinking of Xu Nian's continuous creation of miracles,

they still chose to believe in Xu Nian.

Soon, the Great Elder had gathered all the disciples of the Artifact Refining Sect.

Upon hearing that the Sect Master was preparing to refine an artifact, and moreover a Spiritual Artifact,

these people swarmed over in droves.

And so, the entire square quickly filled with people.

The crowd was abuzz with discussions, clearly about Xu Nian forging the Spiritual Artifact.

"The Sect Master is planning to forge a Spiritual Artifact? I'm not hearing things, am I? How is it possible to forge a Spiritual Artifact on the Tianhen Continent?"

"Yeah, the Tianhen Continent is under heaven and earth's suppression; it's utterly impossible to break through to the Zifu Realm. So how can he refine a Spiritual Artifact?"

"Hey, don't forget, how did the Sect Master refine artifacts in the first place? His method of Artifact Refining seems completely different from ours, maybe he really can forge a Spiritual Artifact?"

"But what about the flames? Can the Sect Master produce flames capable of melting Divine Iron?"

...

The disciples of the Artifact Refining Sect below were all talking at once.

Some agreed with Xu Nian's approach to refining, but most harbored doubts.

However, even with their doubts, it definitely did not affect the exalted image of Xu Nian in their minds.

"Sister, do you think the Sect Master can really forge a Spiritual Artifact?" Yann Xi asked Yann Hong.

"It's hard to say. The Sect Master is always full of surprises, which you should know too. Maybe he really can create a miracle and become the first person in the history of our Artifact Refining Sect to forge a Spiritual Artifact," Yann Hong replied.

Upon hearing this, Yann Xi nodded her head.

Indeed, each time they thought something was unachievable by others,

Xu Nian ultimately accomplished it.

Xu Nian found the discussions below quite amusing.

However, he did have one real issue.

That was the problem of the flame.

Flames capable of melting Divine Iron were not easy to find.

But Xu Nian already had a plan in mind.

"Senior Wentian, may I borrow some fire?" Xu Nian asked the Wentian Demon Sovereign.

He was certain that the Wentian Demon Sovereign must possess flames that could melt Divine Iron.

"Boy, you sure know how to calculate, aiming for the soul fire of my life essence. But are you sure you can withstand it?" the voice of the Wentian Demon Sovereign rang out.

"I can!"

Xu Nian responded immediately.

"Alright then, boy, catch." Wentian Demon Sovereign said.

A stream of black flames then surged out from his storage ring.

Immediately after, everyone saw a ball of black flames erupt from the palm of Xu Nian's hand.

Xu Nian looked at the flames on his palm, with a trace of joy appearing on his face.

But soon, the corners of Xu Nian's mouth began to twitch.

The terrifying flames caused his skin to burn with intense pain.

If this continued, his whole hand might burn to a crisp.

"Boy, I told you my soul fire is terrifying. What I've given you is already a weakened version of my soul fire. I advise you to give up," Wentian Demon Sovereign's voice echoed in Xu Nian's mind.

The surrounding disciples also showed signs of horror.

The terrifying temperature of the flames genuinely frightened them.

"Hum!"

Xu Nian immediately activated his Dragon Scale Blood Armor.

With the emergence of the Dragon Scale Blood Armor, Xu Nian felt much better.

Furthermore, the Dragon Energy from the Ice Frost Giant Dragon strengthened him.

Finally, Xu Nian could withstand the intense temperature of the terrifying flames.

"Boy, not bad, you actually managed to deal with the temperature of my soul fire. But controlling it might be a bit difficult, right?" Wentian Demon Sovereign's voice continued to resonate in Xu Nian's mind.

However, Xu Nian just smiled slightly and directly controlled the black flames with the power of his Spiritual Sense, freely changing their shape.

Wentian Demon Sovereign was taken aback.

It then dawned on him that Xu Nian's soul had been strengthened by the Wordless Heavenly Scripture.

The crowd around him watched as Xu Nian deftly manipulated the flames, each of them showing surprised expressions.

Could it be that the Sect Master really could refine a Spiritual Artifact?

"Hum!"

Xu Nian flicked his sleeve.

A Spiritual Hammer appeared in front of him.

Indeed, this Spiritual Hammer was the Thunder Hammer he had acquired from the Eighth Prince.

Originally, this Thunder Hammer was a Low Grade Spirit Artifact.

Now, Xu Nian's goal was to smelt down this Thunder Hammer and refashion it into a hammer suitable for himself.

Of course, Xu Nian also had a very important piece of artifact refining material.

This artifact refining material was the real reason he wanted to smelt down the Thunder Hammer.

"Hum!"

Xu Nian flicked his sleeve again.

A bead then appeared before everyone's eyes.

As soon as the bead appeared, everyone immediately felt an intense cold.

This cold swept across the entire plaza instantly.

Even the heavens and earth were affected by the terrifying cold, and snowflakes even began to drift down from the sky.

Everyone retreated, their bodies shivering uncontrollably.

"What... what on earth is this? How can it have such terrifying low temperature? Could it be the Sect Master wants to meld this bead into his weapon? How terrifying would that be?"

Everyone was shocked, murmuring to themselves.

Xu Nian merely smiled slightly.

That was exactly his intention!

Chapter 695: Mid-grade Spiritual Artifact

Yes, this metal bead.

It was precisely the piece of Tianyuan Iron that Xu Nian had obtained from the bottom of Moon-shaped Lake in the desert.

This Tianyuan Iron had an extremely cold attribute, and it had a very strong attack effect on the soul.

Moreover, its weight was extremely heavy.

Once it was fused into the hammer, the weight would likely reach an even more terrifying level.

Of course, what Xu Nian pursued was a truly heavy weight.

Now if it wasn't ten million catties, it could not satisfy him.

"What kind of artifact refining materials is this, why have we never seen it before?"

"Although we haven't seen it, we can be sure it's a kind of Divine Iron, and the quality is definitely not low."

"Yes, but these kinds of extremely cold attribute refining materials are very difficult to melt!"

...

The disciples below were all discussing animatedly.

At this moment, Xu Nian had already calmed his mind and spirit, beginning to attempt artifact refining.

The first step was, naturally, melting.

Xu Nian's method of refining was different from others.

Others needed an artifact furnace, but he did not.

He only needed to control the flames to melt those artifact refining materials out of thin air.

"Buzz!"

His mind stirred.

The iron hammer then levitated in the air above Xu Nian.

Following that, the black flames that even Xu Nian could hardly bear surged forth, directly enveloping the Thunder Hammer.

This was the advantage of the Ten Thousand Divine Hammer Technique.

As long as one could endure the flames,

Then one could control them, using them for artifact refining.

However, other artifact refiners couldn't do this.

They could only use the flames they cultivated themselves.

Of course, for Xu Nian, there were advantages and disadvantages to this.

The advantage was that if he encountered powerful flames, he could refine his own fire seed.

The disadvantage was that the flames needed to be sought out by him and couldn't just improve along with his cultivation.

But at this moment, Xu Nian was using the soul fire of Wentian Demon Sovereign.

Although it was weakened, its power was still extremely terrifying.

"Buzz!"

After being enveloped by the black flames, it only took a few moments for the Thunder Hammer to start melting.

"What terrifying flames, to be able to melt the spiritual artifact so quickly, and without even using an artifact furnace, it's truly unimaginable how there could be such an artifact refining method."

"Yes, it's said that the Sect Master's artifact refining technique is the oldest and very powerful, and ordinary people simply cannot practice it."

"No wonder he became the Sect Master at such a young age; I'm now completely in awe of the Sect Master."

...

The crowd around engaged in animated discussions.

Everyone's gaze towards Xu Nian was now filled with even more reverence.

Xu Nian simply smiled and focused on his artifact refining.

Very soon, the entire Thunder Hammer was turned into molten iron by Xu Nian.

Then Xu Nian began to attempt to melt the Tianyuan Iron.

Even though the volume of the Tianyuan Iron was not large, its attribute made it very difficult to melt.

"Buzz!"

Sure enough, when Xu Nian's black flames enveloped the Tianyuan Iron, he distinctly felt the flames threatened by the ice-cold temperature as though they might be extinguished.

Xu Nian immediately summoned the power of his Spiritual Sense to maintain the flames.

With Xu Nian's control over his Spiritual Sense, the flames began to rotate.

Eventually forming a black Fire Lotus.

This was a method of flame refinement recorded in the Ten Thousand Divine Hammer Technique.

This method could make the flames more even during the melting process,

Speeding up the melting of the refining materials.

Time ticked away slowly.

Two hours, four hours.

The Tianyuan Iron had still not melted.

However, the surrounding crowd was not anxious.

Because they knew that artifact refining couldn't be rushed, and the most important thing was to have patience.

Moreover, the higher the quality of the artifact refining materials, the more difficult it was to melt.

"Buzz!"

Just when everyone was curious.

The chunk of Tianyuan Iron finally showed signs of melting.

Xu Nian saw this scene with a delighted expression in his eyes.

He immediately increased the intensity of the flames.

Subsequently, the Tianyuan Iron directly melted into molten iron.

Xu Nian then merged the molten iron from the Thunder Hammer with the molten iron from the Tianyuan Iron.

Afterwards, he used his Spiritual Sense Power to shape the embryo.

Under the delineation of Xu Nian's Spiritual Sense Power, the shape of an iron hammer appeared before everyone's eyes.

Of course, this was still a rough shaping.

Immediately after, Xu Nian used his Spiritual Sense Power to sketch intricate patterns on the hammer.

Suddenly, Xu Nian thought of the magical sigils on the Star Shield.

"What would happen if these sigils were integrated into the hammer?" he mused to himself.

He then promptly took action.

He carved all the sigils onto the face of the iron hammer.

As the sigils were formed, the entire hammer began to shine with gleaming brilliance.

A powerful surge rippled out from it.

Within this surge, there lurked a terrifying Ice Cold Power.

Xu Nian was elated.

It seemed the sigils could indeed be integrated into the hammer.

Next was the final step of hammering.

Since Xu Nian had crafted a hammer,

he had no choice but to substitute the basic Golden Sword for the hammer.

Xu Nian placed the crafted hammer on the Artifact Refining Platform next to him.

Then, he struck the hammer with the Golden Sword.

"Clang!"

The Ten Thousand Divine Hammer Technique was unleashed.

In an instant, an immense Spiritual Sense Power passed through the Golden Sword, permeating the entire iron hammer.

"Clang clang clang!"

Twenty consecutive strikes.

Each strike seemed to hit right at the heart of the onlookers.

The disciples of the Artifact Refining Sect, seeing this, showed looks of astonishment on their faces.

To them, hammering often meant just a few strikes and it was done.

But now, Xu Nian's hammering seemed quite peculiar to them.

Although they did not understand, they could see that these strikes were entirely different from their usual hammering.

With each strike, the hammer seemed to gain more luster.

After the twentieth strike had fallen, the hammer had become flawless.

"Hum!"

An overwhelmingly powerful vibration burst forth from the hammer.

The entire hammer began to levitate.

Its body was silvery white, exuding a feeling of extreme hardness and heft.

The vibration was intensely cold, yet it made everyone shiver with fear.

"A Spiritual Artifact, it truly is a Spiritual Artifact, he actually managed to refine a Spiritual Artifact."

The people surrounding felt the surge pulsing from the hammer.

They all shouted excitedly.

Xu Nian was also immensely joyful.

Watching the hammer that levitated on its own, his eyes shone with pleasure.

"Boom!"

However, just as Xu Nian was about to grab the hammer to feel its power,

a terrifying bolt of lightning came crashing down from the sky, slamming fiercely onto the hammer.

"Boom!"

A deafening roar went off.

Lightning exploded.

The entire iron hammer shone with a terrifying lightning light.

The people around were dumbstruck.

Did this hammer actually call forth Heavenly Tribulation?

Could this possibly be the legendary Artefact Tribulation?

Every Artifact Refining Sect disciple was stunned.

Artefact Tribulation, that indicated that the quality of the refined Spiritual Artifact had reached a very high level!

Moreover, after the bombardment of lightning, the quality of the weapon would be greatly improved.

"Mid-grade Spiritual Artifact!"

Xu Nian, feeling the vibrations emanating from the hammer, also showed an ecstatic expression on his face.

That's right, the hammer, which was originally at the peak of Low Grade Spiritual Artifact, had ascended to the level of a Mid-grade Spiritual Artifact after the impact of the lightning.

Chapter 696: The Birth of the Kunlun Hammer

The crowd around them was also stunned.

Mid-grade Spiritual Artifact!

How could this be possible?

Did their Sect Master actually forge a mid-grade Spiritual Artifact?

Even the Great Elder, the Third Elder, and others were extremely surprised.

Originally, they thought it would be impressive enough if Xu Nian managed to forge a mid-grade Spiritual Artifact.

But they never expected that he would actually succeed in forging one.

This must be the first mid-grade Spiritual Artifact ever born on this continent!

At this moment, Xu Nian had also walked up to the hammer.

The hammer was still pulsing with lightning.

That blue thunder melded into the surface patterns.

It added a unique quality to the entire hammer.

"Hum!"

When Xu Nian gripped the handle, he immediately felt two terrifying powers.

One was the extreme coldness.

The other was the violent rage of thunder.

Clearly, the hammer retained these two powers.

"Hum!"

Suddenly, the glow on the hammer disappeared, and Xu Nian felt it suddenly get much heavier in his hands.

He stumbled and almost fell to the ground.

"So heavy, how heavy must this be?" Xu Nian wondered in amazement.

He immediately used both hands, activating Divine Demon Gang Qi.

Only with the circulation of Divine Demon Gang Qi could Xu Nian gradually lift the hammer.

"Such a terrifying weight, it must be at least thirty million catties!" Xu Nian thought in shock.

He did not expect that infusing Tianyuan Iron into the Thunder Hammer would increase its weight so much.

If an average Battle Emperor Expert tried, they probably wouldn't be able to lift it at all.

"Boom!"

Xu Nian swung it, and the hammer caused the air to roar as it moved through it.

Xu Nian was incredibly pleased.

Although it was still a bit difficult to use now,

in the future, as he adapted, he would surely wield the hammer even more smoothly.

"With this hammer, my attack power is at least doubled," Xu Nian cheerfully said to himself.

"Big brother! Quickly, show us your weapon," Xu Yu and the others also came flying over excitedly.

Xu Nian replied with a smile, "You can't lift it!"

"Impossible, I'm at the Battle Emperor Level now, how could I not lift a weapon?" Xu Yu immediately said indignantly.

"Then give it a try!" Xu Nian said with a smile and passed the hammer over to him.

"Brother, watch this!" Xu Yu reached out to take the hammer.

"Thud!"

However, the moment he took the hammer, its weight pulled him down to the ground.

The ground even got smashed into a big pit by the hammer.

"Damn, why is this hammer so heavy!"

Xu Yu tried several times more, yet the hammer remained immovable on the ground.

Eventually, Xu Yu had no choice but to roll his eyes and stand aside sheepishly.

"Let Old Bull give it a try!"

The Bull Demon King immediately stepped forward, excited.

However, the result was exactly the same as Xu Yu's.

Black Wind and Black Hou were smart enough not to step forward.

Since even Xu Yu couldn't lift it, there was no use in them trying.

Ice Blue also came out, curious.

She held the hammer, and with her effort, it barely left the ground by an inch.

The crowd around was astonished.

Ice Blue was a Nine-star Demon Emperor.

With her strength, she could only barely lift the hammer.

How heavy exactly must this hammer be?

Xu Nian simply smiled.

A weapon weighing thirty million jin was indeed very strenuous for the average Battle Emperor-level expert.

Unless it was a cultivator like Duan Tianya, who took the path of strength.

Otherwise, even Body Cultivation experts would not be able to wield this hammer.

"Big brother, such a freakish hammer can only be wielded by you. If you were to throw it out, it could probably smash a Battle Emperor-level expert to death!" the Bull Demon King said excitedly.

The people around could not help but laugh.

However, they all very much agreed with the Bull Demon King's words.

Indeed, throwing this hammer could probably smash a Battle Emperor-level expert to death.

Xu Nian also found it quite amusing.

Although smashing to death was not guaranteed,

the weight of this hammer, when combined with his Gravity Ring,

would probably be extremely terrifying!

"Big brother, hurry, give this hammer a name; it has to be something really awesome," Xu Yu also said excitedly.

Xu Nian had refined such an impressive hammer, and they were all very pleased.

"How about calling it Heavenly Gang Hammer?" Black Hou suggested.

"No, no, that's too common. I think we should just call it Emperor Hammer; it sounds so domineering!" the Bull Demon King immediately replied.

"Emperor Hammer? That name sounds too bad. In my opinion, it should be called Battle King Hammer!" Black Wind also added his suggestion.

...

For a time, everyone had their own opinions.

Xu Nian then fell into deep thought.

Indeed!

This hammer was personally refined by him, so of course it needed a name.

But what should he name it?

"I have heard that in the Cultivation World there is a famous mountain called Kunlun Mountain; why not call it the Kunlun Hammer?" Ice Blue proposed.

Xu Nian's eyes lit up.

Kunlun Hammer!

Good!

"Alright, let's call it the Kunlun Hammer," Xu Nian decided straight away.

The Bull Demon King and the others were puzzled.

They obviously felt that the name Kunlun Hammer did not sound as imposing as their Heavenly Gang Hammer, Emperor Hammer, or Qian Kun Hammer.

Xu Nian just smiled.

Kunlun Mountain had a tremendous reputation throughout the entire Cultivation World.

It was a Cultivation Holy Land, a presence like a giant pillar.

Xu Nian's choice to name it after Kunlun was by no means inferior to the other vulgar names.

Besides, it was just a name.

"Hum!"

At that moment, Xu Nian suddenly frowned.

He pulled out his Communication Spirit Talisman.

However, when Xu Nian saw the content on it, his eyes split with rage.

"How dare someone threaten me with Leng Yanran, you're seeking death!"

Xu Nian was immediately furiously enraged, his eyes filled with intense killing intent.

"Big brother, what's wrong? What happened?" Xu Yu and the others quickly asked.

Obviously, the sudden change in Xu Nian's expression made them feel that something very abnormal was occurring.

"Someone wants to threaten me using my family. I need to return to the Imperial Capital. Ice Blue, come with me. Xu Yu, instruct the White Flood Dragon King to take his subordinates and travel on this Spiritual Ship to the Imperial Capital, but do not enter the city. Wait outside for my orders," Xu Nian ordered straight away.

"Yes!" Xu Yu and the others immediately responded.

Ice Blue nodded as well.

"Who in the world is so ignorant of their mortality, daring to provoke big brother? They're courting death!" Black Wind and the others were all filled with anger.

"Great Elder, I leave the Artifact Refining Sect in your hands. If anything happens, just send me a message," Xu Nian said to the Great Elder.

"Sect Master, rest assured, no one dares to offend our Artifact Refining Sect now. You go on without worry!" the Great Elder replied.

After Xu Nian had revealed his Cultivation last time,

the status of the Artifact Refining Sect within the empire had changed.

The Three Great Sects now only consisted of the Artifact Refining Sect.

The current Artifact Refining Sect had already become a force capable of contending with the Four Great Families.

Xu Nian, hearing the Great Elder say this, nodded his head.

He then said to Ice Blue, "Ice Blue, let's go!"

After speaking, he took Ice Blue and turned into a streak of light, leaving.

Chapter 697: Xu Nian's Killing Intent

As Xu Nian raced towards the Imperial Capital,

Within the city, in the area controlled by the Divine River Palace,

A disaster was unfolding.

A huge transparent light shield enveloped the Divine River Palace.

The shield quivered as if on the verge of collapse.

Outside this shield, there hovered ten powerful figures.

Without exception, these were all Emperor-level strong men.

At that moment, four of the Emperor-level strong men were concurrently using an artifact that resembled a mirror.

With the continuous activation of the Spiritual Artifact, a powerful light incessantly assaulted the Formation.

This defense, usually strong enough to withstand the full onslaught of a Supreme Battle Emperor,

Now trembled under the attack of the four Battle Emperors.

"Brother Qi, won't there be a problem attacking the Divine River Palace?" asked a short-haired man standing next to the four Battle Emperor Experts.

"What's there to fear? The old Hall Master of the Divine River Palace has left this continent, and its Battle Emperors are in secluded cultivation, whereabouts unknown. What else is there to worry about? Besides, hasn't your Fang Family always wanted to kill Xu Nian? This is the perfect opportunity," Qi Lei said with a cold laugh.

The short-haired man was none other than Fang Tianlun, the first powerhouse of the Fang Family

And he was considered a close brother to Qi Lei.

When Qi Lei came looking for him and revealed his purpose,

Fang Tianlun was extremely surprised.

As for the four Battle Emperor Level strong men,

They were not from the Fang Family but assigned by Emperor Tianhen.

This clearly reflected the stance of the Emperor

Otherwise, Fang Tianlun, despite his deep relationship with Qi Lei, would not have dared to attack the Divine River Palace.

"But Xu Nian is not someone to be trifled with now. Once we enrage him, I'm afraid our Fang Family will suffer," Fang Tianlun still expressed his worry.

During the last battle at the Artifact Refining Sect,

Xu Nian turned the tide.

With his own strength, he killed several Battle Saints and Battle Kings of their Fang Family, including a Battle Emperor Expert.

Even a Nine-star War Emperor Level expert from the Imperial Family was slain.

Now, as a Seven Stars Battle Emperor himself, if he were to truly anger Xu Nian, the consequences would be unimaginable.

"Look at you, acting so cowardly. You call yourself the top warrior of the Fang Family. Now that Emperor Tianhen has spoken, if Xu Nian dares to return, he will activate the Imperial Capital Array to eliminate him. Besides, with me here, do you think I would be afraid? The only trouble is that old turtle by his side," Qi Lei snorted coldly.

He had no regard for Xu Nian.

The only one he feared was Xu Nian's companion, Xuan Hong.

But Emperor Tianhen had already made it clear.

There would be someone to deal with Xuan Hong.

So, if Xu Nian dared to show up, then he was doomed.

If he didn't, then his family and loved ones would face a grim fate right here today.

He couldn't believe that Xu Nian could endure that.

"Xu Nian, just wait, your end is coming soon, and the Seven-colored Bodhi Tree in your hands will belong to me, Qi Lei," Qi Lei clenched his fist tight, his eyes shining with brilliance.

Fang Tianlun, hearing Qi Lei's words, felt somewhat relieved.

But he still felt uneasy.

He couldn't shake the feeling that things weren't going as smoothly as they had imagined.

...

Inside the Great Hall of the Divine Hall,

Several people were gathered.

Included among them were Xu Nian's mother and his elder sister.

And of course, Leng Yanran.

Now, Xu Nian's Cultivation had also broken through to the saintly level.

As for Leng Yanran, her cultivation had already reached the Four-star Battle Saint Realm.

Of course, this was largely thanks to the cultivation resources Xu Nian had left them, coupled with the heritage of Divine River Palace.

Otherwise, even with their remarkable talents, they couldn't possibly have cultivated so quickly.

But what of it?

At this moment, six Battle Emperors were attacking the Divine River Palace.

And yet, Divine River Palace didn't have a single Battle Emperor of its own.

The Defense Array, though strong, would ultimately be breached by the Spiritual Artifacts of the attackers.

Once the Great Formation was broken through, they were bound to die.

"Elder, how much longer can this Great Formation hold?" Leng Yanran asked.

"It won't hold much longer. Given their momentum, it can only support us for another four or five two-hour periods at most. Once that time has passed, we'll be at their mercy," the Elder replied, his voice tinged with helplessness and anger.

Divine River Palace had always kept to itself, never causing trouble for anyone.

Yet unexpectedly, today someone dared to attack the Palace's Great Formation.

"So you're saying we only have four or five two-hour periods left?" Xu Xin's eyebrows knitted lightly in concern.

They all knew that these attackers were targeting Xu Nian.

But none of them wished to involve Xu Nian.

Initially, they didn't want to send a message to Xu Nian.

But then they thought about how much more devastating it would be for Xu Nian if he learned they had been hurt.

So, they chose to send word to Xu Nian after all.

Now, Xu Nian was on his way here.

As for when he would arrive, that was unknown to them.

All they could do now was hope that Xu Nian could make it before the Great Formation was breached.

"I wonder if Nian'er can take on these people, it seems they have the backing of the Imperial Family," Xu Nian's mother said worriedly.

She wasn't concerned about her own safety, but she was worried about Xu Nian's.

"Mother, rest assured, brother's strength is incredible right now. These guys are no match for him. Moreover, he's extremely smart. Even when the Imperial Family sent people to assassinate him, he resolved the situation multiple times. So, I believe he will be able to do so this time as well," Xu Xin said confidently.

"That's right, Mother, Xu Nian will definitely be fine. I believe in him. He has already sent word asking us not to worry too much," Leng Yanran likewise affirmed.

Since Leng Yanran had agreed to be Xu Nian's woman, she naturally considered herself part of the Xu Family now.

Xu Nian's mother nodded in agreement.

She was very pleased with Leng Yanran.

As their conversation continued, the atmosphere in the great hall become somewhat more relaxed.

Right now, all they could do was wait for Xu Nian to arrive.

Otherwise, Divine River Palace would ultimately be unable to escape death.

...

And at that moment, Xu Nian was also racing desperately toward the Imperial Capital.

By his side, aside from Ice Blue.

Naturally, there was also Xuan Hong who had caught up later.

Originally, Xuan Hong had been sleeping in the Great Hall, and he came over quite reluctantly upon hearing the news of Xu Nian.

"Kid, why do you have so many enemies?" Xuan Hong couldn't help but complain.

"Senior Xuan Hong, when we get to the Imperial Capital, do you have a way to deal with the Imperial Capital Array?" Xu Nian, however, was not in the mood for idle chatter.

"Isn't it just a City Protection Array? How could it possibly hurt me? Kid, rest assured, since I promised to ensure your safety for half a year, it'll be hard for you to die even if you wanted to within this half-year," Xuan Hong said proudly.

Xu Nian felt relieved upon hearing this.

He knew that the Imperial Family must be behind this incident.

This meant that the Great Formation of the Imperial Capital was his greatest threat.

"Ice Blue, you lead the forces outside the city in defense. As soon as the White Flood Dragon King arrives, you lead them to strike at the Fang Family. Leave none alive," Xu Nian ordered with a heavy killing intent in his eyes.

"Yes!" Ice Blue nodded quickly in response.

She knew that this time Xu Nian was truly enraged.

Chapter 698: The Power of the Kunlun Hammer

"Boom!"

Another earth-shattering explosion.

The Defense Array that enveloped the Divine River Palace wavered intensely.

It could shatter at any moment.

Four two hours had already passed.

The Defense Array had reached its limit.

"Boom!"

At last, under the impact of the light emanating from the Spirit Mirror.

The Defense Array completely shattered.

Fang Tianlun and Qi Lei, up in the sky, were overjoyed.

They had been waiting for this moment for a long time, and now it had finally arrived.

"Hmph, Xu Nian, wait until you see your family members die by my hand, and then let's see what your expression will be," Qi Lei sneered coldly.

His figure immediately drifted towards the direction of the main hall of the Divine River Palace.

Leng Yanran and all the people of the Divine River Palace also stepped out of the main hall.

As they looked up at the six Battle Emperor Experts descending from the sky, their eyes were resolute.

"Who is Xu Nian's family? Step forward!" Qi Lei scanned the crowd with a cold laugh.

When he saw Xu Xin and Leng Yanran, his gaze visibly paused.

Evidently, the beauty of Xu Xin and Leng Yanran took him by surprise.

"Who are you? Why are you targeting Xu Nian?" Xu Xin asked coldly.

She could tell that this man was the mastermind behind today's events.

To her, anyone who harmed Xu Nian wasn't a good person.

"It doesn't matter who I am, what matters is that your fate will soon be miserable. If I'm not wrong, you must be Xu Nian's sister, Xu Xin," Qi Lei said with a cold laugh.

"So what if I am!" Xu Xin's cold voice rang out again.

"So what? Two choices, either die or kneel and become my slave. As long as you kneel and surrender your Soul Mark, I will spare you from death," Qi Lei said with a cold laugh.

He originally planned to kill Xu Nian's family, to let Xu Nian feel the pain of losing his loved ones.

But when he saw the appearances of Xu Xin and Leng Yanran, he changed his mind.

He thought that if Xu Nian saw his sister and his woman kneeling before him, the expression would be even more spectacular.

Besides, if he could truly conquer Xu Nian's sister and woman, he would feel extremely satisfied.

At this moment, Xu Xin's eyebrows furrowed slightly, and a Killing Intent flickered deep within her eyes.

How could she not perceive Qi Lei's vile intentions?

For such a person, Xu Xin found even speaking a single word distasteful.

"Well, do you agree or not?" Qi Lei asked with a sneer.

"Get lost!" However, what responded to him was a cold word from Xu Xin.

Qi Lei sneered and then turned to look at Leng Yanran, saying, "What about you? Leng Yanran, what good does following Xu Nian do you? You surely don't expect him to come to your rescue. He's probably fled already, tail between his legs. Even if he were to come, do you think they could save you? It's better to follow me. As long as you behave, I will surely take you to the Cultivation World."

Qi Lei smiled lightly at Leng Yanran, his gaze traveling over her perfectly curved body, his eyes burning with passion.

Although he was never lacking women, a beauty like Leng Yanran truly stirred his heart.

"You are not even worth one of Xu Nian's toes," Leng Yanran said icily.

Her clear, cold eyes conveyed a readiness to face death.

She was prepared to protect herself with her life.

Even in death, she would not let anyone touch a single hair on her body.

For she belonged only to Xu Nian.

"Very well, I actually wanted to spare you, but since you are so oblivious to your fate, don't blame me for not being compassionate," Qi Lei said, laughing angrily. He then shouted to Fang Tianlun standing beside him, "Brother Fang, take action. Kill everyone else and capture these two women for me. I want to show them just how formidable I am."

"Yes!" Fang Tianlun directly responded.

He then gave a meaningful look to the four Battle Emperors behind him.

The four Battle Emperor Experts nodded and immediately swept towards the people of the Divine River Palace.

The people of the Divine River Palace were on high alert.

These four Battle Emperors were mere One-star Battle Emperors.

But they were not something the palace members could oppose.

"Ha ha, a bunch of Battle Saint Level ants; just wait to be slaughtered!"

Qi Lei looked at the four Battle Emperors who had flown out, a cunning smile appearing on his face.

"Boom!"

However, just when the people of the Divine River Palace thought they were doomed,

A beam of silver light came rushing from afar.

It crashed down like a plummeting meteorite right at the feet of the four Battle Emperors.

A heaven-shaking, enormous boom.

The square was immediately smashed into an immensely large deep pit.

The impact of the silver light killed all four Battle Emperor Level experts on the spot.

Naturally, the people of the Divine River Palace were also thrown to the ground by this terrifying fluctuation.

Even Fang Tianlun and Qi Lei were forced to retreat several steps by this terrifying force.

"What... what exactly is going on?"

Fang Tianlun looked at the bodies of the four Battle Emperor Level experts, his eyes filled with extreme surprise.

He then looked toward the center of the giant pit.

There, lying in the pit, was a silver hammer,

its surface still flashing with blue lightning patterns.

Qi Lei also furrowed his brows, his eyes filled with disbelief.

The people of the Divine River Palace also got up from the ground, and seeing the giant pit, their eyes revealed surprise.

"Whoosh!"

Just then, two breaking sounds came from afar.

Then, two figures appeared in everyone's line of sight.

Yes, it was Xu Nian and Xuan Hong.

"Xu Nian!"

"Nian Er!"

"Hall Master!"

...

The people of the Divine River Palace and Xu Xin, among others, saw the young man among those two figures, and their eyes shone brightly.

Qi Lei, however, stared intently at Xu Nian, his eyes full of intense anger.

But when he looked at Xuan Hong, his eyes showed fear.

Having been brutally beaten by Xuan Hong last time, he was still somewhat traumatized.

As for Fang Tianlun, his complexion wasn't much better.

Xu Nian glanced at Fang Tianlun and Qi Lei, his eyes filled with Killing Intent.

He then floated down next to Leng Yanran and Xu Xin.

"Are you all right?" Xu Nian asked.

"We're fine, but you need to be careful; they might harm you," Leng Yanran hurriedly said.

"Don't worry, today none of them will escape," Xu Nian patted Leng Yanran's hand, reassuringly.

Hearing Xu Nian's words, Leng Yanran then smiled and said no more.

As for Xu Xin and Xu Nian's mother,

they too nodded towards Xu Nian.

They were also full of confidence in Xu Nian.

Seeing this, Xu Nian didn't say more.

He turned his head to look at Qi Lei and Fang Tianlun, his eyes instantly turning ice cold.

With a wave of his hand, the hammer returned to his grip.

Now that the Kunlun Hammer had recognized its master,

it naturally responded to Xu Nian's will.

Just now, while Xu Nian was on his way here, he sensed the danger facing the people of the Divine River Palace.

So, he directly threw the Kunlun Hammer.

Indeed, the power of the Kunlun Hammer didn't disappoint him.

Four One-star Battle Emperors were directly killed by the power unleashed from the Kunlun Hammer.

The hammer, weighing thirty million jin and mixed with Xu Nian's Wind Vibration Profound Argumentation, produced an unimaginable impact.

Chapter 699: Killing Fang Tianlun

"Xu Nian, I didn't expect you to actually dare to come out. I thought you might be too scared to show up," Qi Lei said with narrowed eyes, immediately followed by a sneering remark.

Xu Nian responded with a smile upon hearing Qi Lei's words.

"As I recall, you were the one who got badly beaten last time. Why would I be afraid to come?" Xu Nian retorted with a cold laugh.

Previously, it was indeed Qi Lei who had been beaten miserably by Xuan Hong.

Seeing how arrogant Qi Lei was now,

Xu Nian felt amused.

However, amidst his amusement, Xu Nian's heart was also filled with killing intent.

He had heard everything Qi Lei had said about Xu Xin and Leng Yanran through the power of his Spiritual Sense.

Qi Lei really didn't know whether to live or die. Today, he simply couldn't be allowed to leave the Imperial Capital alive.

"Hmph, last time I was defeated by him, not by you. If it were a one-on-one fight, you wouldn't stand a chance against me. What right do you have to be so arrogant in front of me?" Qi Lei huffed with great dissatisfaction.

In his view, Xu Nian's strength wasn't even on par with a Seven or Eight Star Battle Emperor.

As a Supreme Battle Emperor, killing Xu Nian would be a piece of cake for him.

"So, you're not convinced?" Xu Nian said with a light chuckle.

"Of course, not to mention me, even Brother Fang by my side might be more than a match for you," Qi Lei retorted with a cold huff.

His gaze toward Xu Nian grew even more contemptuous.

Xu Nian responded with a faint smile,

and turned to look at Fang Tianlun.

"It seems the lesson you received from the Artifact Refining Sect during our last encounter at the Fang Family wasn't enough, daring to come and trouble me again," Xu Nian said to Fang Tianlun with a light laugh.

Fang Tianlun, originally in an uncertain mood, now seemed influenced by Qi Lei's words,

and looked at Xu Nian with even more brazen eyes.

"Xu Nian, last time you killed a Battle Emperor from our Fang Family. Today will be your day of death. You probably don't know yet, but Emperor Tianhen has already ordered the activation of the Imperial Capital Array. Once the formation starts, your death is certain," Fang Tianlun said angrily.

The members of the Divine River Palace showed surprised expressions upon hearing this.

They looked toward Xu Nian with concern in their eyes.

If what this Fang Family powerhouse said was true,

Then Xu Nian really might be in danger.

After all, the power of the Imperial Capital Array was extremely great.

Once inside the boundaries of the Imperial Capital, escape would be truly impossible.

Upon hearing this, Xu Nian just laughed.

"Whether I die or not, I don't know. But what I do know is that your Fang Family will soon be completely wiped out from this continent," Xu Nian said with a smile.

"What?" Fang Tianlun was shocked, a bad feeling surging in his heart.

Suddenly, something seemed to dawn on Fang Tianlun, and he turned to Xu Nian and scoffed, "Hmph, don't think you can fool me. Our Fang Family has a Three-star Battle Emperor at its helm, and on top of that, we have four more Battle Saint Level powerhouses. What can you possibly have to wipe out our Fang Family?"

Xu Nian just smiled and continued, "A Three-star Battle Emperor? I'm afraid you'll be disappointed. I have already commanded a Nine-star Battle Emperor to lead seven Battle Emperors, thirty Battle Saints, and three hundred Battle Kings to assault your Fang Family. Do you think your Fang Family can withstand that?"

Fang Tianlun's face went pale in an instant.

Xu Nian had actually dispatched so many powerful warriors.

Such a formidable force, let alone wiping out a Fang Family,

could easily sweep through all four of the Great Families in a very short time.

If the Fang Family were to be destroyed, would he not become the greatest sinner in its history?

"Xu Nian, I will kill you!"

All of a sudden, Fang Tianlun's eyes turned blood red, and a Long Spear appeared in his hands, which he thrust directly at Xu Nian.

As he thrust, Fang Tianlun's spear gleamed with a strong Gold Attribute fluctuation.

Mixed Element Piercing!

This was the Upper-class Profound Argumentation of the Gold Attribute that Fang Tianlun had mastered—Mixed Element Piercing.

However, it seemed that his understanding of it was not particularly profound.

"Just teetering at the threshold of Profound Argumentation."

With a thrust of the long spear, it seemed as if it could pierce through the void.

However, when Xu Nian saw this thrust, a hint of a light smile appeared in his eyes.

He gripped the Kunlun Hammer in his hand and directly slammed it against Fang Tianlun's long spear with a fierce blow.

"Clang!"

The Kunlun Hammer struck the tip of the long spear, producing an incredibly shocking sound.

Then everyone saw the long spear in Fang Tianlun's hand explode instantly.

"Poof!"

Fang Tianlun spat out fresh blood, his body flying backward.

Xu Nian, however, let out a cold laugh.

"Go!"

He waved his sleeve.

A sword transformed into a golden flash and instantly streaked out.

"Spurt!"

Before Fang Tianlun could even react, the sword pierced through his forehead.

His whole body, along with the sword, flew out and eventually was pinned to a distant stone pillar.

The spectators from the Divine River Palace were utterly stunned.

Although they had heard about Xu Nian's entry into Emperor Level and how formidable his strength was,

when Xu Nian left, he was still only at Holy Level.

Now in just a short span of half a year, he was easily slaughtering even a Seven Stars Battle Emperor.

Such a rate of growth was indeed terrifying.

Xu Xin and Leng Yanran both revealed surprised expressions.

They had not expected Xu Nian's strength to have reached such a level.

Qi Lei, standing nearby, also had a grave expression.

Clearly, he hadn't anticipated that Xu Nian would so easily slay Fang Tianlun.

"Tch, you even had to use a Sword Array, kid, you really are regressing more and more in your cultivation."

On the other hand, Xuan Hong mocked him with his words,

obviously disdainful of Xu Nian's performance.

Xu Nian responded with a wry smile.

He waved his sleeve.

And retracted the sharp sword, turning his head toward Qi Lei.

"Just now you said I was acting arrogant because I had Xuan Hong's help, how about this then—you and I have a one-on-one fight to see who is really the more powerful?" Xu Nian said with a smile looking at Qi Lei.

His tone was thick with provocation.

Qi Lei's eyes blazed with fury.

He had just claimed that Xu Nian's own strength was not up to par.

Now Xu Nian was challenging him.

It was an outright slap to his face.

"How about it, don't have the guts?" Xu Nian said with a smile.

"Hmph, what's there to fear? I'm just worried that after I decide to kill you, this person by your side will intervene, then wouldn't I have fought in vain?" Qi Lei retorted coldly.

Xu Nian chuckled, replying, "Rest assured, since I've spoken, I won't let anyone interfere. If I truly am not your match, I am willing to die; but if you are not my match, then I will make you pay a painful price for today's actions."

Toward the end, Xu Nian's eyes turned chillier.

"Hahaha, since you're seeking death, Xu Nian, don't blame me. Do you really think that after killing Fang Tianlun, you are a match for me, Qi Lei? Today, I will let you see and know the difference between a Supreme Battle Emperor and an ordinary one." Qi Lei laughed heartily.

At once, a surge of white lightning welled up on his body.

With the outbreak of this lightning, his aura became incredibly wild.

Xu Nian merely chuckled, his hand gripping the Kunlun Hammer tightening.

Chapter 700: The Tragic Qi Lei

"Die!"

Qi Lei roared and then leapt into the air.

Terrifying thunder burst forth from his body.

"Boom!"

He threw a punch in midair.

The horrifying white thunder directly struck toward Xu Nian.

This white thunder contained an energy that seemed more violent than ordinary thunder.

Xu Nian could feel the threat within the thunder.

Thus, Xu Nian immediately activated the Blood-colored Dragon Scale Armor inside his body and mobilized the Power of Earth.

"Buzz!"

Instantly, two earthy yellow light circles appeared on Xu Nian's arms.

"Boom!"

The Earth Fist was directly deployed.

Xu Nian's fist collided with the white thunder, emitting a thunderous boom.

The Dragon Scales on Xu Nian's hands burst forth, and he was forced to retreat several steps backward.

Each step formed a large pit.

It must be said, the power of this white thunder was truly terrifying.

"Such a powerful thunder—it can actually penetrate the body, attacking the internal organs," Xu Nian murmured in astonishment.

Had it not been for Xu Nian's immediate use of the Kun Cave Power, which absorbed the white thunder that had entered his body,

he might have been attacked by the white thunder to the point of vomiting blood.

"Hahaha, so this is all the strength you have? It seems I overestimated you. You can't even block my little White Python Thunder, what will you fight me with?" Qi Lei laughed loudly.

He looked at Xu Nian with a mocking gaze.

He had originally thought Xu Nian had some special skills.

Now it seemed, he was just worrying too much.

Upon hearing this, Xu Nian just smiled.

He had intentionally not used any weapon just now, wanting to experience what was special about this white thunder.

However, he hadn't expected that this move would make Qi Lei underestimate him even more.

Onlookers like Leng Yanran and others began to look at Xu Nian with some worry.

It seemed that Xu Nian was at a disadvantage.

Considering that Xu Nian had only recently reached the Battle Emperor Level,

and the opponent was a master of the Supreme Battle Emperor Level,

the vast disparity made it difficult for Xu Nian to gain an advantage.

"Since your strength is only so much, I will send you directly to the Western Paradise!" Qi Lei roared.

Then, violent thunder surged out from his body.

The white thunder transformed into a giant white python, coiling around his arm.

"Swoosh!"

Qi Lei roared again, then appeared in front of Xu Nian.

His fist, wrapped by the white thunder python, attacked Xu Nian with overwhelming power.

This punch was powerful enough to directly obliterate a small mountain.

Yet Xu Nian merely smiled slightly, flicking his wrist, and the Kunlun Hammer appeared.

Without even using Spiritual Energy, only mobilizing Gang Qi, he swung the hammer and smashed it toward Qi Lei.

Qi Lei sneered.

He often countered other's weapons with his fist.

With the enhancement of white thunder, he was not afraid even of sharp Spirit Swords.

What could a mere hammer do?

He was confident that his punch could outright blast Xu Nian's hammer away.

"Clang!"

However, as his fist touched the hammer, his expression changed.

He felt an incredibly strong force surge from the hammer.

"Crack!"

His arm bone, as fragile as brittle wood, snapped instantly.

And his whole body was hurled backward at high speed due to the terrifying force.

"How... how is this possible? How could the force be so immense?" Qi Lei thought, shocked.

The force on Xu Nian's hammer was terrifying.

His White Python Thunder had no effect at all and was simply blasted away by that strike.

A single force to break all techniques!

This was the terrifying impact when a force reached a certain level.

In fact, Xu Nian's strength wasn't that tremendous, but the weight of the hammer was truly fearsome.

Under Xu Nian's swing, natural forces increased several times over.

How could Qi Lei possibly withstand this?

The onlookers around were all shocked.

However, Xu Nian did not stop, his lips curling up slightly.

Gang Qi surged into his right arm.

His arm instantly swung and he violently hurled the Kunlun Hammer in his hand.

Once thrown, the Kunlun Hammer transformed into a terrifying meteor.

Qi Lei's face paled in fear as he immediately grabbed his own weapon,

a Thunder Sword, trying to block Xu Nian's hammer.

"Clang!"

However, the moment his Spirit Sword touched the hammer, it flew out of his hand.

"Thud!"

A dull sound resonated.

The hammer smashed into Qi Lei's abdomen, sending him flying backward rapidly.

"Boom boom boom!"

He crashed into three stone pillars, flying a thousand zhang away.

Only then did Qi Lei stop.

His entire chest was now caved in.

His internal organs had severely shifted.

Numerous ribs were broken.

At this moment, the Kunlun Hammer was still pressing down on Qi Lei.

The terrifying weight made it difficult for Qi Lei to breathe.

At this moment, Qi Lei finally understood why Xu Nian had unleashed such terrifying power.

The weight of the hammer was truly horrifying.

He couldn't believe that Xu Nian could actually wield such a terrifyingly heavy hammer.

"Buzz!"

However, just as Qi Lei was about to move the hammer away,

he suddenly felt the hammer on his chest sink heavily.

The ground beneath him also sank, and the weight pressing on him doubled instantly.

"Ah!"

Now, Qi Lei couldn't move the hammer at all.

Xu Nian approached, smiling step by step.

Indeed, the hammer suddenly doubled in gravity.

Naturally, it was due to Xu Nian activating the Gravity Ring.

Xu Nian had only activated twice the gravity.

If he activated two hundred times, who knew what Qi Lei would turn into.

"Let me go, let me go now!" Qi Lei yelled desperately.

Xu Nian then approached him, looking at the struggling Qi Lei, a slight smile in his eyes.

"Do you still think I'm no match for you?" Xu Nian asked lightly, smiling.

After refining the Kunlun Hammer, Xu Nian's power had undoubtedly skyrocketed.

Even if Qi Lei was a Supreme Battle Emperor, what of it?

Of course, Qi Lei's underestimation of Xu Nian also played a part.

If Qi Lei had been vigilant from the start and used his real skills,

Xu Nian wouldn't have suppressed him so easily.

"Xu Nian, let me go. If you dare to kill me, my Master will not let you go," Qi Lei immediately threatened.

Xu Nian chuckled disdainfully and asked, "Do you know that what I fear the least are threats? And everyone who has threatened me has ended up in a miserable state?"

With that, Xu Nian drew a sharp sword.

Sword Stab!

"Ah!"

The sharp sword pierced through Qi Lei's palm and into the ground, pinning his palm firmly.

Qi Lei let out a painful scream.

Yet he couldn't turn over.

"This sword is for my sister!"

After speaking, Xu Nian summoned another sword and stabbed it through Qi Lei's other palm.

"Ah!"

Qi Lei screamed repeatedly.

But Xu Nian was unmoved.

He only muttered coldly, "This sword is for Yanran!"

As he spoke, he drew a third sword and aimed for Qi Lei's thigh!