

Doctor 1681

Chapter 1681: Who Is That Man?

Immortal Stone City does not have a City Lord, but the Wei Family where Qingluan belongs has many family members and strong individuals, making it the de facto leader of this Immortal Stone City.

In the limited few times over the past millennium when repelling sea beast invasions, the Wei Family has also played the most important role, uniting and commanding the strong individuals of Immortal Stone City to repel the sea beasts.

Today's warning of a sea beast invasion came somewhat suddenly, causing many strong individuals within Immortal Stone City to be at a loss. Seeing the current Family Head of the Wei Family, Wei Zhengtian, and his wife Shi Hongye rise into the air, they instinctively began to gather towards the Wei Family.

"Reporting to the Family Head, tens of thousands of sea beasts have suddenly come ashore and are heading towards Immortal Stone City."

A streak of light cut across the sky, flying at high speed, and stopped in front of Wei Zhengtian. When the numerous strong individuals of Immortal Stone City focused their eyes, they saw that it was a member of the Wei Family.

This member of the Wei Family had long since moved with his family to reside outside the city, becoming a branch of the Wei Family outside the city, living in a small village closest to the Black Sea. If there was any movement in the Black Sea, the Wei Family in the small village would surely be the first to know.

And the Great Bell that was just struck was exactly rung by this member of the Wei Family to alarm them, and then he came over to report to Wei Zhengtian.

When the Wei Family member mentioned "tens of thousands of sea beasts ashore," the strong individuals around Immortal Stone City all took a deep breath, finding it unbelievable.

In the past, when sea beasts attacked the city, hundreds to thousands at least, and over ten thousand at most, already made the strong individuals of Immortal Stone City feel troubled. But tens of thousands of sea beasts coming ashore at once seemed unprecedented in Immortal Stone City's records.

"Are there really that many? Did you see it clearly?"

Wei Zhengtian frowned and asked.

The Wei Family member solemnly said, "I saw it with my own eyes, absolutely true! Please, Family Head, make full preparations in case the sea beasts break through the city!"

Wei Zhengtian was confident that his family member wouldn't lie about such matters. After thinking for a moment, he said, "Go and notify each branch of the Wei Family, have them rush here to support!"

The Wei Family member responded with a nod and flew away on a Spiritual Artifact.

Wei Zhengtian glanced around and shouted in a loud voice, "Everyone, with the sea beasts attacking, to protect our Immortal Stone City, I ask all of you to join me in fighting the sea beasts!"

"Yes."

The strong individuals around echoed in response.

Among the hundreds of thousands of Martial Artists in Immortal Stone City, more than a hundred thousand are above the Soul Severing Realm. Now, the vast majority of these hundred thousand strong are gathered here, waiting for Wei Zhengtian's orders.

Immediately, led by the couple Wei Zhengtian and Shi Hongye, the hundred thousand strong transformed into a hundred thousand streaks of light, flying out of Immortal Stone City towards the Black Sea.

"Qingluan, you and Qinglong stay in the city with Miss Xia! Do not act rashly!"

Shi Hongye's voice traveled from afar to Wei Qingluan and Chenyu's ears.

The two women were originally about to fly towards the Black Sea, but after hearing Shi Hongye's voice, they had to stop.

"Sister, it's really boring to stay in the city. How about we sneak off?"

At this moment, a young man in a blue outfit, eighteen or nineteen years old, appeared behind Wei Qingluan and Chenyu, speaking with a grin.

The young man in blue had ruby lips and white teeth, with a handsome and elegant demeanor. He bore some resemblance to Wei Qingluan and was exactly her brother, Wei Qinglong.

Wei Qinglong, like his sister Wei Qingluan, was lively and active. Hearing that a battle was about to happen, Wei Qinglong was itching for action, eager to slay a few sea beasts himself, and so he began to urge his sister on.

Wei Qingluan gave him a sideways glance, and said in an annoyed tone, "Wei Qinglong, I'm warning you, you cannot leave my sight without my permission. Otherwise... humph humph!"

Though Wei Qingluan was also itching to join the battle against the sea beasts, as her mother had ordered them to stay in the city, as the elder sister, she naturally had to set an example for her brother, so she forcefully restrained her inner urge.

Wei Qinglong put on a bitter face, "Dear sister, can't you let me go? I'll just take a look and come back... Sister Chenyu, won't you plead for me?"

Seeing that he couldn't convince his sister, knowing she had a good relationship with Chenyu, he turned to her for help.

Chenyu laughed, "Qinglong, I'm a guest staying at your home now; how can a guest not listen to their host? I wouldn't dare to defy your mother's words!"

Wei Qinglong chuckled, "Sister Chenyu, you can't fool me with that! Though you're a guest, my parents treat you like a daughter, even better than they treat me! Alas, my parents are the strictest with me, compared to you and sister, I feel like an illegitimate child."

Wei Qingluan and Chenyu both snickered at those words.

Seeing Chenyu cover her mouth and laugh, Wei Qinglong couldn't help but be a little smitten, blushing slightly, "Sister Chenyu, ever since you came to our house, you rarely smiled. Your smile is truly beautiful..."

Seeing his infatuated expression, Chenyu immediately wiped away her smile and became serious.

Wei Qingluan tugged at her brother's sleeve and whispered, "Qinglong, say less of this kind of thing... I'm telling you, Sister Chenyu has someone she cares about!"

Hearing this, Wei Qinglong was dumbfounded. Seeing Chenyu nod slightly, he instantly became dejected, like an eggplant hit by frost.

The young woman in the red dress, Chenyu, was none other than Xia Chenyu.

A few years ago, Xia Chenyu came from a Minor World through a teleportation array to the Three Thousand Worlds, landing on the shore of the Black Sea, and was attacked by sea beasts. Luckily, she was saved by Wei Zhengtian and his wife.

With no relatives and nowhere to go, Xia Chenyu followed Wei Zhengtian and his wife to the Wei Family to stay.

She and the Wei siblings were about the same age, and with her conversational skills, she quickly became friends with the siblings, and over the years, Wei Qinglong secretly developed feelings for Xia Chenyu, but was always too shy to express them.

Seeing the matter had been brought to light, Xia Chenyu decided to thoroughly extinguish the thoughts in Wei Qinglong's mind, and earnestly said, "Qinglong, I know you like me. But as Qingluan said, I already have a Martial Dao companion, and my heart won't waver. So I hope you can find someone better than me in the future... We will still be good friends, right?"

Wei Qinglong's expression changed slightly, and he unwillingly said, "Sister Chenyu, who is that man?"

Before Xia Chenyu could reply, Wei Qingluan already grabbed one of Wei Qinglong's ears and pointed at the stone statue, "Sister Chenyu said that her man is like that stone statue. You, stop daydreaming! Do you want a Martial Dao companion? I know many female Martial Artists in Immortal Stone City, I'll introduce one to you another day."

"I don't want to!"

Breaking free from his sister's grasp, Wei Qinglong's gaze fell on the stone statue, thinking, "That stone statue is the ancestor of the Wei family's ancestral teacher. Does Sister Chenyu mean that only someone who reaches the ancestral teacher's level can be her Martial Dao companion? The ancestral teacher was an Immortal soaring in the nine heavens; in this lifetime, I'm afraid I won't have that hope..."

The more he thought, the more discouraged he became, losing his spirit, standing on the ground, staring blankly at the stone statue.

Chapter 1682: Sea Beasts Attack the City

The waters of the other seas in the vast world are primarily deep blue, but the waters of the Black Sea are pitch black like ink, different from all others.

If one overlooks the Black Sea from the sky, it resembles a massive dark abyss, terrifying to behold.

The Black Sea is windy and wavy throughout the year, with howling winds rolling waves several zhang high forward, continuously crashing against the shore rocks, each strike accompanied by a thunderous boom.

At this very moment, under the clear sky over the Black Sea, the water appears even darker; tens of thousands of sea beasts, like an army of underworld ghosts, emerge from the sea floor, swiftly advancing toward the shore.

These sea beasts comprise hundreds to thousands of species, including sea snakes, beavers, seals, sea lions, and whales. Most have massive bodies, hideous faces, and exude a powerful aura.

Tens of thousands of sea beasts, after landing, twist their bodies, transforming into human forms, holding various spiritual artifacts from the sea floor, roaring and wailing as they charge toward the Immortal Stone City.

The foremost dozen or so sea beasts are more than a zhang tall, with formidable bodies, menacing auras, and strength comparable to Thunder Tribulation Experts. As they run, they sweep forward like a violent storm, with a muffled thunderous roar, creating an impressive momentum.

Behind these sea beasts follow tens of thousands more, each akin to a human Soul Severing Expert, each one releasing a strong aura, with tens of thousands of these auras combined forming a formless gas wave over ten li wide, crashing toward the Immortal Stone City.

The targets of these sea beasts are the hundreds of thousands of human warriors within the Immortal Stone City and the cultivation resources they store.

Their eyes emit a greedy and fervent light, some drooling nauseating saliva from their mouths.

“Comrades, charge!”

“Charge into the Immortal Stone City; those human warriors will be a feast for us!”

“Their cultivation resources will be used by our Sea Clan!”

...

The leading sea beasts spoke human words, their voices rumbling like heavenly thunder.

Tens of thousands of sea beasts echoed in response, accelerating their attack, and in the blink of an eye, the Immortal Stone City appeared in sight.

Just then, from above the Immortal Stone City, large swaths of 'dark clouds' floated down. These 'dark clouds' hovered in the air a thousand zhang away from the sea beasts, and soon after, nearly half landed on the ground, moving towards the sea beasts.

These swaths of 'dark clouds' were, of course, the hundred thousand Martial Artists of the Immortal Stone City, ready to meet the sea beasts outside the city and protect the Immortal Stone City from damage.

Although the human warriors from the Immortal Stone City numbered a hundred thousand, more than half as many as the sea beasts, the sea beasts' destructive power was so formidable they could almost each fight two.

Therefore, even though the human warriors had the upper hand in numbers, their overall strength was nearly equal to that of the sea beasts, and the sea beasts might even be a bit stronger.

This was precisely why Wei Zhengtian had the Wei Family descendant who came to sound the alarm seek help from the Wei Family branch outside the city.

Every time the sea beasts launched a large-scale invasion of the Immortal Stone City, the Wei Family would collectively gather to resist the sea beasts, ensuring no harm came to the Immortal Stone City.

As long as the Immortal Stone City remained unharmed, that Stone Statue would not be damaged.

It is better for the Wei Family to perish than for the Stone Statue to be damaged. This was the ancestral command of the Wei Family, and for tens of thousands of years, they have made it their duty to protect the Stone Statue.

Though sea beast invasions always targeted cultivation resources and human warriors, the Stone Statue stood so prominently in the city's center that if the sea beasts entered, with their aggressive and destructive nature, the Stone Statue could not be preserved.

Hence, keeping the enemy outside the city was the duty of the Wei Family. As the leaders of the Immortal Stone City, the Wei Family went out to battle, and the city's strongmen followed suit.

"Brothers and sisters, the Immortal Stone City is our shared home. The sea beasts are fierce. If allowed into the city, our home will be destroyed. Do you agree?"

Wei Zhengtian, seeing tens of thousands of sea beasts surging, knew this time would not be easy to deal with. His pupils narrowed as he raised his voice.

"No, we do not agree!"

"Fight them to the death!"

"Our children are in the city; we cannot let the sea beasts come near!"

"Unite as one, fighting side by side, we can surely kill all the sea beasts!"

"Kill!"

...

A hundred thousand human warriors raised their battle cries, each summoning their spiritual artifacts, engaging the sea beasts from both the sky and the ground.

For tens of thousands of years, the battles between the Immortal Stone City's human warriors and the sea beasts have been countless. They knew that against the ferocious sea beasts, no reason prevailed; only combat, repelling them with great force.

“Kill!”

From the side of the sea beasts, a roar like a mountain’s collapse and the sea’s tumult echoed.

A hundred thousand human warriors and tens of thousands of powerful sea beasts clashed on the beach ten li outside the Immortal Stone City, starting a fierce and hot-blooded melee.

The few Thunder Tribulation experts within the Immortal Stone City gathered around Wei Zhengtian and Shi Hongye, ready to charge at the dozens of Thunder Tribulation Realm sea beasts at their command.

Several breaths later, eight streaks of light soared in. Eight Thunder Tribulation Experts from the Wei Family branch arrived to join the fray.

This gave the human side more Thunder Tribulation experts than the sea beasts.

While the sea beasts and human experts were locked in combat, within the Immortal Stone City, things were calm. The city’s residents believed their side could win.

For tens of thousands of years, sea beasts repeatedly attacked the city; yet, no matter how large the scale, the Immortal Stone City had never fallen. This gave the residents great confidence, believing the legendary fierce sea beasts to be just that.

To the west of the Immortal Stone City, mountains stretch unbroken, with no strong Spirit Beasts residing there. Moreover, the tall, sturdy walls have ensured no spirit beasts ever attacked from this direction, making the residents believe it was the safest.

However, while a hundred thousand human warriors fought tens of thousands of sea beasts on the coastal side of the Immortal Stone City, nearly ten thousand sea beasts suddenly appeared in the mountainous west.

Those sea beasts came silently over the mountains and valleys, not being noticed until they were within ten li of the Immortal Stone City by a Wei Family branch guarding there.

A disciple of that Wei Family branch ascended to sound the alarm and rang the Immortal Stone City's alert bells. Still, most of the city's strongmen, including the Wei Zhengtian couple, had been drawn to the coastal fray and were locked in combat, unable to pull away.

The Thunder Tribulation Experts from that Wei Family branch had gone to support Wei Zhengtian and others, leaving only Soul Severing experts among the family's young generation. Although over ten thousand warriors from the Immortal Stone City rushed to support them, they couldn't stop the assault of ten thousand sea beasts.

"The sea beasts are cunning, splitting their forces! What should we do?"

A Wei Family youth saw the ten thousand sea beasts crossing mountains and was close to tears as he spoke.

"The ancestral edict states that the family may perish, but the Stone Statue must remain intact! Now, we must give it our all! If we cannot stop the sea beasts from entering the city, we will retreat into the city to guard that Stone Statue!"

Another Wei Family youth, eyes bloodshot, shouted fiercely.

Chapter 1683: He Has Arrived

In just half a two-hour period, the tens of thousands of sea beasts from the continuous mountains in the west of the city broke through the defensive line constructed by human Experts inside Immortal Stone City at a small cost and charged into the city.

This was the first time in tens of thousands of years that sea beasts entered the city, immediately causing an uproar among the Martial Artists across the city.

At this moment, there were no Soul Severing Experts within Immortal Stone City; how could one expect them to stand against the powerful sea beasts?

The rampaging sea beasts attacked the Martial Artists in the city wantonly, greedily devouring their flesh and blood, seizing human cultivation resources, plunging this small city, which had been peaceful and harmonious for tens of thousands of years, into what seemed like hell.

Hundreds of thousands of Martial Artists from Immortal Stone City fled out of the city to avoid the sea beast attacks.

And at this very moment, Wei Qinglong, his sister Wei Qingluan, and Xia Chenyu hovered in mid-air, focusing on the sea beasts wreaking havoc in the city below.

“Sister, what should we do?”

Facing the sea beasts pouring into the city like a tide, Wei Qinglong, who had never experienced such a scene, turned pale and was at a loss.

Wei Qingluan clenched her pink fists tightly, bit her silver teeth, and said resolutely, “Our Wei Family has been dedicated to protecting the Stone Statue for generations, just like our ancestors, parents, and clan members. We, the two of us, must do the same! Qinglong, don’t worry about anything else, let’s go down to protect the Stone Statue!”

Wei Qinglong’s gaze quickly became determined, answered with a nod, and quickly descended towards the Stone Statue in the center of Immortal Stone City.

At this time, the sea beasts had not yet reached the city center, and the Stone Statue remained safe, but the Wei siblings knew it wouldn’t be long before the sea beasts would appear there.

Though the Stone Statue was carved from the most solid Earth Spirit Stone, if tens of thousands of sea beasts charged in aggressively and repeatedly, it would be difficult to preserve.

Wei Qinglong and Wei Qingluan, both at the Soul Severing Perfection realm, assumed they would defend by the Stone Statue’s side, should be able to stave off the sea beasts for a while. If they could hold out until their parents returned, perhaps the statue would be safe.

The Wei siblings understood the peril of this battle, they had already resigned themselves to die if necessary, thinking that even if they died fighting against the sea beasts, at least they would not have let the Wei Family ancestors down.

“Sister Chenyu, you...”

Wei Qingluan wanted to say, “You’re still weak, you should leave the city and hide first,” but before she could speak, Xia Chenyu interrupted her.

“Qingluan, you don’t need to say anything. We are as close as family, at this time, I cannot leave!”

Xia Chenyu smiled calmly and said, “I’m not weak either! I’ve reached Nascent Soul Perfection!”

Wei Qingluan knew she intended to live or die with her and her brother, her eyes turned red, and she choked up, “No, Sister Chenyu, you’re different from us! We, the Wei Family, live and die for the Stone Statue. But you... you haven’t found your beloved yet, how can you risk your life carelessly?”

After a pause, she continued, “Sister Chenyu, if you find your beloved Fang Bai, remember to send him my regards! Tell him there was a little sister named Qingluan who really wanted to meet him, but unfortunately, didn’t get the chance!”

Xia Chenyu sensed from her words that she was prepared to die, knowing that this battle was extraordinarily dangerous, and her heart suddenly felt sour. But she still smiled and said, “Qingluan, don’t talk nonsense, you will have the chance to meet Fang Bai! Why not, when this battle is over, let’s go find him together?”

Wei Qingluan bit her lower lip tightly, holding back her tears, and nodded forcefully.

“Sister, the sea beasts are coming!”

Wei Qinglong, already by the Stone Statue, suddenly looked up and shouted.

Wei Qingluan looked down and saw a group of sea beasts already charging to within several hundred yards of the Stone Statue. In a flash, they would be upon them, and she had no time to speak to Xia Chenyu, as she swiftly descended beside Wei Qinglong like lightning.

Xia Chenyu hesitated slightly, then summoned the Dragon and Phoenix Twin Swords into her hands and followed Wei Qingluan down.

The Dragon and Phoenix Twin Swords were gifted to Xia Chenyu by the Golden Crow Manor when she was in the Minor World, later upgraded by Fang Bai, greatly enhancing their power. Additionally, because of her ability to challenge above her level, despite being at the Nascent Soul Perfection realm, she actually possessed fighting power equivalent to a Soul Severing Expert.

Yet, in such a grand battle, even someone like her, a Soul Severing Expert, had a hard time protecting herself, let alone being of much help to the Wei sisters.

“Sister Chenyu...”

Wei Qingluan glanced sideways at Xia Chenyu, knowing that she would not leave, sighed lightly, and stopped trying to persuade her.

At this time, all Martial Artists in the city were fleeing towards the outside of the city. Within a radius of several dozen miles centered around the Stone Statue, apart from Wei Qingluan, Wei Qinglong, and Xia Chenyu, there were only sea beasts.

The three formed into three positions, shielding the Stone Statue behind them, facing the sea beasts charging from all directions, their nerves tensed tightly, preparing for battle.

“Boom!”

“Boom!”

“Boom!”

A group of Soul Severing realm sea beasts arrived first, and upon seeing the Wei siblings and Xia Chenyu, surrounded them, spit spiritual energy, and launched their attack.

The Wei siblings and Xia Chenyu counterattacked with their Spiritual Artifacts, slashing and cutting with beams of spiritual energy continuously sniping the sea beasts approaching them.

This batch of sea beasts may not have been very strong, but they had the advantage in sheer numbers, and they were smart, attacking in turns to deny the trio any chance to catch their breath, aiming to exhaust their spiritual energy.

The Wei sisters and Xia Chenyu were beset on all sides, having to fend off sea beast attacks while protecting the Stone Statue from damage, making it extremely difficult.

There were several times when Xia Chenyu found herself in danger, and without the Wei siblings nearby to rescue her, she might have been seriously injured or even fallen.

“My staying behind has only dragged them down!”

Xia Chenyu thought bitterly with a smile, looking at the ever-encroaching sea beasts around her, feeling somewhat desperate.

Though she was prepared to live or die alongside the Wei siblings, when faced with reality, knowing she might never see Fang Bai again brought her sadness and regret.

In her moment of distraction, two streams of spiritual energy came whistling at her, and she was unable to avoid them completely.

Those two streams of spiritual energy grazed her left arm and right leg, splattering blood, injuring both areas simultaneously.

Though not critically injured, Xia Chenyu’s combat strength was reduced by thirty percent as a result.

“Sister Chenyu, stand behind me! I’ll protect you!”

Wei Qingluan cried out in a crisp voice.

Xia Chenyu knew that if she let herself be protected, she would drag Qingluan into danger too, so she shook her head powerlessly, took a deep breath, and a sorrowful smile appeared at the corner of her mouth.

“Fang Bai, if there’s a next life, may we meet again!”

Xia Chenyu realized that her presence would only distract the Wei siblings, so she simply gave up resistance, lifted her face to the sky, and closed her eyes, waiting for death.

“You fool, what do you think you’re doing?”

Just then, a clear voice seemed to come from the horizon and echoed in Xia Chenyu’s ear.

As if struck by lightning, Xia Chenyu’s body quivered, and she suddenly opened her eyes to see a white shadow descending from the sky above her.

“He’s here...”

Although Xia Chenyu had not yet clearly seen the white shadow, she already knew who it was. Her entire being immediately relaxed, and she unexpectedly slumped to the ground.

The white shadow landed with a crash in front of Xia Chenyu, its feet hitting the ground with such force that the earth around them trembled, and even the numerous sea beasts launching their fierce attacks paused momentarily.

Chapter 1684: Fang Bai and the Stone Statue

The white afterimage landed on its feet, the figure slightly crouched, and the blood blade held in the right hand swung forward fiercely.

"Buzz!"

Accompanied by the piercing sound of the blade's wind, a dazzling blood-colored blade light, like a death scythe, expanded fan-like continuously, cutting forward.

The blade light surged like a rainbow, fierce and unstoppable, obliterating all the sea beasts within a hundred feet ahead.

Limbs scattered, blood mist filled the sky,

The space around the stone statue was instantly permeated with a nauseating heavy bloody scent.

At least dozens of sea beasts were killed or injured under that blood-colored blade light, and the sea beasts' overall momentum abruptly halted.

Ren Qinglong and Ren Qingluan exhaled deeply, focused on the white figure, discovering that it was actually a martial artist roughly their age, clad in white.

"You..."

Seeing the white-clad martial artist sheath the blood blade and turn to support the weakened Xia Chenyu, Ren Qinglong furrowed his brows, ready to intervene, but was held back by Ren Qingluan.

Ren Qingluan, upon seeing the white-clad martial artist's appearance and figure, seemed to have guessed his identity, her beautiful eyes radiating a bright glow.

Xia Chenyu, drained of spiritual energy and overly tense, relaxed instantly upon seeing Fang Bai, her whole body seemingly exhausted, softly leaning into Fang Bai's embrace.

"Fang Bai, am I dreaming?"

Xia Chenyu stretched out a hand, gently caressing Fang Bai's face, her dazzlingly beautiful face still carrying a look of disbelief.

"It's not a dream, it's real!"

Fang Bai held Xia Chenyu's hand, gently kissed her forehead, and said joyfully, "Chenyu, who would've thought we'd meet here!"

Xia Chenyu's eyes filled with tears at once, she sniffled, her smile radiant like flowers, saying, "Indeed, I thought we'd never meet again in this lifetime! Had you come a moment later, we might've been separated forever... Heaven smiled upon us, allowing us to reunite safely."

Fang Bai laughed lightly, gently tapped her nose, then lifted her horizontally, murmuring, "You've become lighter, seems you've lost weight..."

Xia Chenyu's slender arms coiled around his neck like snakes, giggling, saying, "I've lost weight from longing for you; you owe me compensation."

Fang Bai bowed his head and asked, "How would you like me to compensate you?"

Xia Chenyu thought for a moment, bit her rosy lips, and said, "Offer yourself to me!"

Fang Bai laughed heartily, "Alright. Once everything here is settled, I'll give myself to you."

Wei Qinglong and Wei Qingluan watched in shock, thinking despite the numerous sea beasts and imminent danger, they still found time for flirting—perhaps forgetting themselves due to deep emotions or fearless due to powerful strength.

Nonetheless, recalling Fang Bai's casual strike after landing, killing dozens of sea beasts spectacularly, even a common Thunder Tribulation Expert would struggle to accomplish it; the sea beasts threatening their lives seemed unlikely.

"Sister Chenyu, is he your beloved?"

Wei Qingluan suddenly asked.

Xia Chenyu released her arms from Fang Bai's neck, stepped out from his embrace, nodded towards Wei Qingluan, saying, "Yes, Qingluan, his name is Fang Bai, he's my man! Weren't you eager to meet him? How is it, not disappointed, right?"

Wei Qingluan's eyes sparkled, focused on Fang Bai's face, nodding, "Yes, your man really resembles that stone statue, not weak in power either... Sister Chenyu, your taste is impressive!"

Wei Qinglong was also looking at Fang Bai.

Before meeting Fang Bai, Wei Qinglong was filled with dissatisfaction and reluctance, believing only a heavenly prodigy like himself matched someone as unparalleled as Xia Chenyu.

However, at this moment, he found Fang Bai ahead in every way, dealing him a heavy blow, filled with despair and frustration.

"Sister Chenyu, congratulations on reuniting with your beloved! Wishing you eternal happiness! This place is perilous, no need to stay! Leave quickly!"

Wei Qinglong saw the sea beasts around the stone statue stirring again, knowing they were ready to attack, shouted loudly.

"Yes, Sister Chenyu, hurry and leave! Protecting the stone statue, perishing with it, is our Wei family's destiny! We'll handle this!"

Xia Chenyu initially intended to live and die with the Wei siblings, but upon seeing Fang Bai, her heart filled with joy, wanting to stay together, she didn't wish to fall under the sea beasts' attack.

Yet leaving the Wei siblings wasn't what she wanted either, briefly hesitating.

"Was your ancestor named Wei Feng?"

Fang Bai glanced at the statue and the Wei siblings, suddenly asked.

Both Wei siblings were startled, exclaiming, "How do you know?"

Thousands of years ago, Wei Feng, the Wei family ancestor, was taken as a disciple by the stone statue's prototype, Fang Bai; after Fang Bai ascended to the Immortal Realm, Wei Feng resided in Immortal Stone City loyally guarding the statue.

Since then, generations of Wei family descendants inherited Wei Feng's will, taking protecting the statue as their duty.

But Wei family's ancestor was from thousands of years ago, known only to Wei family descendants; how did Fang Bai know?

Wei Qinglong stared blankly at Fang Bai, suddenly wondering, "This Fang Bai resembles the statue we've guarded for generations in features and name, is there some connection?"

Wei Qingluan had similar thoughts, though fleeting.

In the vast worlds, countless people exist, having the same name and appearance wouldn't be rare, thus nothing surprising.

Moreover, this statue was carved thousands of years ago, the prototype's in the Immortal Realm likely living for thousands of years, while Fang Bai was so young, how could he have any connection?

Fang Bai chuckled, pointing at the statue, "Actually... I do have some connection with this stone statue."

His admission of connection with the statue left the Wei siblings stunned.

Even Xia Chenyu found it incredible, as Fang Bai, like her, traveled from the mundane, while the statue always existed here; how could there be a connection?

Fang Bai said seriously, "During my previous trials, I encountered a strong man claiming to be a Fang family descendant. In chatting with him, he mentioned your ancestor Wei Feng and this stone statue..."

Fang Bai crafted a story of meeting Fang family descendants, convincing the Wei siblings.

"Fang Bai, do you know where that Fang family descendant is?"

Wei Qinglong asked eagerly.

Thousands of years ago, Fang Bai, who ascended to the Immortal Realm, was Wei Feng's master, so the Fang family's descendant naturally deserved the Wei family's reverence.

This significant matter, Wei Qinglong thought of telling his parents, unsure how excited they'd be.

Chapter 1685: Chaos Heavenly River Finger

Fang Bai shook his head and sighed, "That descendant of the Fang Family is like a dragon that appears and disappears unpredictably. He spent merely a day with me, taught me some martial arts techniques, and then went on his travels. Since then, I haven't seen him again. What a pity..."

The Wei siblings couldn't help but show expressions of disappointment and regret upon hearing this.

Wei Qingluan furrowed her brows and hesitantly asked, "Brother Fang... You said that descendant of the Fang Family taught you martial arts techniques. Could you... tell us which techniques those were?"

She called Xia Chenyu her elder sister and thought it was safe to call Fang Bai "Brother Fang".

Fang Bai knew this pretty and delicate young girl was somewhat skeptical of his words. He chuckled and replied with a question, "Does your Wei Family cultivate the water system techniques passed down from your ancestor Wei Feng?"

Wei Qingluan said, "Yes! We've grown up by the sea since childhood. The water element Qi here is pure and dense, giving us exceptional conditions to cultivate water system techniques."

Fang Bai continued, "The water system techniques learned by your ancestor Wei Feng were originally taught by the Fang Bai who ascended to the Immortal Realm, wasn't it?"

Wei Qingluan nodded, thinking that the Fang Bai who ascended was her ancestor's master, and it was only natural for her ancestor to cultivate the martial arts he taught. Why ask about it?

Fang Bai said, "Let me guess... does your Wei Family's legacy include a set of water system martial arts known as 'Chaos Heavenly River Finger'?"

Wei Qinglong and Wei Qingluan exchanged glances and saw astonishment in each other's eyes.

The Chaos Heavenly River Finger is a water system martial art created by Fang Bai in his previous life, a finger pointing out like the galaxy pouring down, with immense power.

This water system martial art was taught by Fang Bai in his previous life to some disciples and close friends, including Wei Feng, the ancestor of the Wei Family.

Wei Feng was one of the disciples Fang Bai received during his time in the Three Thousand Worlds before ascending to the Immortal Realm. Thousands of years passed, and Fang Bai had almost forgotten about this disciple until today, when he saw the stone statue in Immortal Stone City and suddenly remembered he had such a disciple and descendant in his past life.

Although Wei Feng received Fang Bai's teachings, due to limited talent, he ultimately fell at the Thunder Tribulation Realm and could not ascend to the Immortal Realm, which is regrettable.

However, because of Fang Bai's teachings, Wei Feng gained tremendous strength, allowing him to traverse the Three Thousand Worlds. His family, the Wei Family, became one of the most powerful families in the Three Thousand Worlds.

Just that the Wei Family has guarded the stone statue for generations, rarely leaving Immortal Stone City, and they have acted discreetly, not making their name known to the world.

"Do you... know the Chaos Heavenly River Finger?"

Wei Qinglong looked at Fang Bai and asked.

Fang Bai chuckled and said, "Not only do I know it, but I also learned it... It was taught to me by that descendant of the Fang Family."

At this moment, the roars resounded, and the surrounding sea beasts attacked once again.

This time, the sea beasts mainly targeted Fang Bai because they knew only by killing him could they enjoy the bodies of the other human martial artists here.

"Chaos Heavenly River Finger! Watch closely!"

Fang Bai put away the Blood Blade, and his right hand slowly pointed toward the sky.

Amidst the thunderous sounds, dark clouds gathered in the sky, and a massive finger formed from water element Qi emerged from the clouds, like the galaxy descending, carrying immense pressure toward the incoming sea beasts.

"It truly is the Chaos Heavenly River Finger..."

The Wei siblings looked at the finger pointed out by Fang Bai and were speechless, with faces full of shock.

In their eyes, Fang Bai not only performed the Chaos Heavenly River Finger but also the power of that finger seemed stronger than they could imagine, as if it wasn't weaker than when their parents performed it.

"Boom!"

The water element Qi finger slammed down like a huge water column, smashing into the ground and creating a pit ten zhang in diameter, instantly turning over a dozen sea beasts into pools of flesh and blood, and the shockwave sent dozens more flying.

"Brother Fang, you're incredible..."

Wei Qingluan muttered as she looked at Fang Bai with admiration.

Xia Chenyu didn't expect that after not seeing Fang Bai for several years, his strength had reached such a level, her beautiful eyes shining with surprise.

Fang Bai's formidable power greatly intimidated the sea beasts, so some began to howl, summoning their companions who had invaded the city for support.

In just a dozen breaths, the sea beasts surrounding the stone statue increased from hundreds to over a thousand, and the number was rapidly growing.

Although the sea beasts in the Thunder Tribulation Realm were battling human experts at the Black Sea's edge, the sea beasts that invaded the city were not lacking in the Soul Severing Realm. A thousand Soul Severing Realm sea beasts gathered together could cause considerable destruction.

"If you don't leave now, it'll be too late!"

Wei Qinglong shouted. He knew the heavy pressure of such a large number of sea beasts could greatly hinder martial artists' ability to fly, and at that time, no matter how strong Fang Bai was, if he couldn't ride the spiritual artifact to escape into the air, he might not escape death.

However, Fang Bai was unafraid, casually punching several sea beasts that approached him, and asked the Wei siblings, "Why don't you leave?"

Wei Qinglong shouted loudly, "We must protect this stone statue! Our ancestor left this command: while the statue stands, the Wei Family exists! If the statue is damaged, the Wei Family has no face to exist in the world!"

Fang Bai shook his head and said, "It's just a stone statue. Why should your Wei Family..."

He knew the Wei siblings were determined, and persuading them to leave was impossible, so he raised his head and let out a clear howl.

This howl was like a demonic sound, entering the ears of the thousands of sea beasts surrounding the stone statue, causing them to suddenly become dazed, their eyes turning blood-red.

Fang Bai's howl changed, becoming rapid and piercing, and then the sea beasts began to go berserk and scattered to attack other sea beasts in the city.

"This..."

"The sea beasts are fighting each other..."

The Wei siblings saw the thousands of sea beasts that had invaded the city stop attacking human martial artists and start attacking each other, leaving them dumbfounded.

Xia Chenyu knew Fang Bai was using the Beast Taming Scripture to control the sea beasts and have them attack each other. She was not surprised, letting out a long breath, knowing the four of them were safe for a short time.

"Xiao Lian, Wu De, Little Mink, come out and get some air!"

Fang Bai said, looking at the Five Elements Space Ring on his left finger.

The Five Elements Space Ring flashed with light, and Xia Chenyu felt her eyes blur. After the light disappeared, she focused again and three people appeared out of thin air.

"Wu De?"

Xia Chenyu recognized Wu De at first sight. Wu De hadn't changed much compared to their time in the Minor World, only becoming a bit fatter.

And to Wu De's left was a girl in a yellow dress. Xia Chenyu felt she looked familiar but was hesitant to recognize her.

The one standing to Wu De's right was a young man in silver clothing, whom Xia Chenyu had never seen before.

"Sister Chenyu, it's me, Xiao Lian!"

The girl in the yellow dress saw Xia Chenyu and beamed with joy, excitedly rushing forward to hug Xia Chenyu.

Chapter 1686: Who Compliments People Like This?

"You... Xiao Lian? Are you Shi Xiaolian?"

Xia Chenyu saw the girl in the yellow dress in front of her, her eyebrows and eyes vaguely resembling that lovable little girl from years ago, only now she had grown more graceful and tall, becoming increasingly beautiful and charming.

"Yes! Sister Chenyu recognized me, right?"

Shi Xiaolian said with a giggle.

Xia Chenyu held her face with both hands, carefully examining her, and sighed, "Xiao Lian, you've changed so much! You used to be a shy little girl, and now you're a bright and youthful beauty!"

Her gaze then turned to Wu De, smiling and nodding, saying, "Taoist Priest Wu, hello! It's been years, and you've become more rounded!"

Wu De laughed heartily and said, "You might as well say I've gotten fat, I won't be angry!"

"And this is..."

Xia Chenyu's eyes shifted to the handsome young man in silver clothes beside Wu De.

The handsome young man somehow had an extra folding fan in his hand, gently fanning himself as he spoke with a shake of his head, "Sister Xia, you have so many important people to remember, you even forgot Little Mink."

"Little Mink?"

Xia Chenyu furrowed her brows, then relaxed, exclaiming, "Are you the Lightning Mink?"

The Lightning Mink replied, "Indeed."

Xia Chenyu suddenly realized, knowing that the Lightning Mink's cultivation level had reached the realm capable of transformation, the handsome young man before her was its human form.

Xia Chenyu looked up and down at the Lightning Mink, smiling, "Little Mink, with that appearance, if you wore women's clothes and applied some makeup, you'd be quite the beauty."

Fang Bai, Shi Xiaolian, Wu De, and the Wei siblings couldn't help but laugh.

The Lightning Mink's appearance was indeed more beautiful than masculine, and if it dressed as a woman, it could truly be mistaken for one.

The once upright and proud posture of the Lightning Mink immediately slumped, its face showing distress, "Sister Xia, I've done nothing to provoke you! I'm really hurt by your mockery!"

Xia Chenyu chuckled, "I'm complimenting your handsomeness!"

The Lightning Mink sighed deeply, “Handsome like a woman? Is that even a compliment? In fact, Sister Xia, I’ve defeated countless formidable opponents along the way, displaying plenty of manly spirit! If you don’t believe me, ask Fang Bai...”

Fang Bai patted the Lightning Mink’s shoulder, pointing to the sea beasts fighting each other in the city, “Little Mink, do you see those sea beasts? Now’s the time to show your manly spirit! Go, and try to take down as many of them as you can!”

The Lightning Mink rolled its eyes and said sarcastically, “Clearly, you’re just pushing me to kill sea beasts, yet you’re making it sound so noble... Fine, most of those sea beasts are Soul Severing Realm, consuming some will also help my strength! Master Mink shall go slay the enemy!”

Its body shook rapidly, already transformed into the Lightning Mink form, darting towards the area with the most sea beasts, leaving behind a white afterimage.

“When did Little Mink become so formidable?”

Seeing the small Lightning Mink able to devour a low-level Soul Severing sea beast in one gulp, Xia Chenyu was astonished.

The Wei siblings were also dumbfounded, finding it unbelievable.

“This guy is lazy, loves to nap, but its cultivation level is always improving.”

Fang Bai watched the Lightning Mink charging through the sea beast crowd as if in no-man’s-land, and sighed, “I remember previously its cultivation level was the same as mine. Unexpectedly, after a good nap in the Five Elements Space Ring, it emerged as a mid-level Soul Severing... It’s just unfair!”

On the way to the Black Sea, Wu De and the Lightning Mink also stayed in Fang Bai’s Five Elements Space Ring to cultivate, and Shi Xiaolian joined midway, so the two of them were not surprised at all by the Lightning Mink’s strength.

Inside Fang Bai's Five Elements Space Ring, because it was filled with a large amount of Royal Grade cultivation resources, the spiritual energy was pure and rich, so the Lightning Mink's strength increased greatly by staying there, and Wu De and Shi Xiaolian also benefited significantly.

"Earlier, Xiao Lian and the Taoist Priest, they came out of your ring?"

Xia Chenyu widened her beautiful eyes, looking at the Five Elements Space Ring worn on Fang Bai's left hand with disbelief on her face.

In her view, a space ring as a storage spiritual artifact was meant for storing cultivation resources and other non-living things, and one that could accommodate living beings would simply be an Immortal Artifact Divine Artifact.

Fang Bai raised his left hand with a smile, saying, "That's right, Xiao Lian, Wu De, and the Lightning Mink have been staying in this Five Elements Space Ring all the way. You can check it out if you want as well!"

Shi Xiaolian whispered about the various benefits of staying in the Five Elements Space Ring in Xia Chenyu's ear, and Xia Chenyu's beautiful eyes sparkled with interest. However, thinking of just reuniting with Fang Bai, with many words to exchange, how could she bear to enter the Five Elements Space Ring to cultivate just now?

Inside Immortal Stone City, the sea beasts killed each other and, along with the continuous devouring by the Lightning Mink, their numbers quickly reduced, with some sea beasts sensing the bad situation and fleeing the city.

Soon, Immortal Stone City returned to peace, with only the scent of blood still lingering in the wind.

"Phew..."

Seeing the sea beasts retreat, Wei Qinglong and Wei Qingluan sighed in relief and sat cross-legged around the stone statue to meditate.

Although Xia Chenyu was also extremely tired, after Fang Bai transferred a wisp of Fire Spirit Energy into her body, she almost instantly recovered, leaving her greatly amazed.

Seizing the moment while the Wei siblings were resting, Fang Bai walked a few circles around the stone statue, continuously embedding Spirit Stones on the ground and surrounding buildings, at the same time engraving complex and exquisite array patterns.

“Fang Bai, what are you doing?”

Xia Chenyu couldn't help but ask, seeing Fang Bai's peculiar actions.

“Setting up a formation.”

Fang Bai replied.

Shi Xiaolian realized, “I understand, Brother Fang wants to protect the stone statue with formations.”

Fang Bai said, “That's right. The Wei family has been living near the stone statue to protect it for all these years, it's too rigid and stupid. If there's a formation for protection, it would be much easier for them.”

Even while meditating, the Wei siblings were also listening with all ears; hearing Fang Bai calling the Wei family “rigid and stupid,” the siblings felt a bit indignant.

Wei Qinglong finished his cultivation state first and loudly declared, “For tens of thousands of years, sea beasts have repeatedly attacked Immortal Stone City, including some in the Thunder Tribulation Realm, and each time it was through the Wei family leading the strong ones in Immortal Stone City to repel them and keep the stone statue unharmed. What kind of formation can withstand the attacks of Thunder Tribulation Realm sea beasts?”

Fang Bai smiled, “The formation I'm setting can. Don't believe it? You can try it!”

Wei Qinglong leaped to his feet and said, "Try it I will!"

Following Fang Bai's indication, he walked to a spot twenty paces from the stone statue, then moved closer to it.

When he got about ten paces from the stone statue, the defensive array set by Fang Bai around the statue was automatically triggered, forming a yellowish protective shield around the stone statue.

Wei Qinglong glanced at Fang Bai, who nodded, indicating he could attack, so he shouted and threw a punch at the stone statue.

Chapter 1687: Reinforcements

When Wei Qinglong threw this punch, he held back some strength.

His aim was to break Fang Bai's formation without affecting the stone statue.

"Be careful, Qinglong!"

Wei Qingluan admonished worriedly.

She was concerned that her brother might overdo it and damage the statue, which would be impossible to explain to their parents upon their return.

"Boom!"

Wei Qinglong's great fist of Spiritual Energy, wielded with fifty percent strength, fiercely struck the protective shield of the formation. The great fist dissipated, yet the shield only trembled slightly.

"Huh?"

As a Soul Severing Perfection expert, Wei Qinglong's punch with half strength was formidable; he didn't expect it to be unable to affect the shield, surprising him.

Wei Qingluan instead felt relieved and shyly glanced at Fang Bai, thinking that the man Sister Chenyu favored was truly impressive. Not only was his combat prowess comparable to a Thunder Tribulation Realm expert, but the formations he set up were also extraordinary.

"Once more!"

Wei Qinglong's competitive spirit stirred, and as he delivered the second punch, he used eighty percent of his strength.

"Boom!"

After another thunderous strike, Wei Qinglong's great fist of Spiritual Energy once again vanished, and the formation's shield vibrated only marginally more than before, returning to its original state within moments.

"Yay!"

Shi Xiaolian clenched her tiny fists, unable to resist cheering aloud.

She thought that if the formation Brother Fang set up were broken by Wei Qinglong with just a few hits, Brother Fang would surely feel humiliated. Seeing the formation appear unbreakable, she naturally felt happy for Fang Bai.

Wei Qingluan was also delighted. She believed that with this formation, even though it might not stop the attacks of Thunder Tribulation experts, it could resist most Sea Beasts' destruction.

Wei Qinglong's expression was solemn. He realized Fang Bai's words were not boasting—this formation's ability to fend off Thunder Tribulation Sea Beasts' attacks was real. So, with the third strike, he held nothing back, eager to test the formation's defensive capacity.

"Chaos Heavenly River Finger!"

Wei Qinglong's third strike employed a martial technique Fang Bai had previously demonstrated.

Chaos Heavenly River Finger was a legacy of the Wei Family's ancestors, passed down through the generations. All Wei Family descendants with a cultivation level reaching the Soul Severing realm could train in this martial technique.

Due to varying cultivation levels, the power they unleashed with this technique naturally differed.

The Chaos Heavenly River Finger was immensely powerful, significantly augmenting a Martial Artist's combat prowess. Although Wei Qinglong was only at Soul Severing Perfection, this finger strike was as impactful as an attack from a Thunder Tribulation expert.

However, the formation Fang Bai set up was wondrously designed; even a true Thunder Tribulation expert would struggle to breach it, let alone Wei Qinglong.

"Boom!"

A giant finger, condensed from Water Spirit Qi and carrying a faint thunderous rumble, descended upon the air shield of the formation above the stone statue. The shield only slightly indented inwardly and quivered more violently than before but remained indestructible.

Wei Qinglong, seeing his three attempts to breach the formation shield fail, was greatly dejected and ceased attacking.

Instead, Wei Qingluan clapped her hands excitedly, exclaiming, "What an amazing formation! With this formation, unless a Thunder Tribulation Realm Sea Beast attacks, we needn't worry about its safety! Thank you, Brother Fang!"

Fang Bai, smiling, pointed at the stone statue, saying, "This stone statue resembles me somewhat. If it were destroyed, I'd also feel quite embarrassed!"

Amidst the sea breeze, faint sounds of battle cries and Spiritual Energy explosions came through. It was the chaotic battle at the edge of the Black Sea, where Sea Beasts gradually gained the upper hand, and the defense of tens of thousands of human warriors continued to shrink and retreat, drawing ever closer to Immortal Stone City.

"You all stay here. I'll go with the Lightning Mink to have a look!"

Fang Bai flew into the air, glanced in the direction of the Black Sea, and then, with the Lightning Mink, both rode their Spiritual Artifacts, flying towards the battlefield at the edge of the Black Sea.

The chaotic battle at the Black Sea's edge was incredibly fierce. Tens of thousands of Sea Beasts, seemingly driven mad, launched relentless attacks on Immortal Stone City. Although they were met with the desperate resistance of human warriors, suffering heavy losses, countless human warriors also perished.

The beach was already piled high with the corpses of Sea Beasts and human warriors, a Corpse Mountain Blood Sea Killing scene, with Evil Qi soaring into the sky, like a Human Hell.

Among the Wei Family's youth, considerable losses occurred in this great battle. Wei Zhengtian and Shi Hongye, who guarded the stone statue, were besieged by several Thunder Tribulation Realm Sea Beasts, sustaining multiple injuries, covered in blood, and in grave danger.

This couple, as the present-day leaders of the Wei Family and the pillar of strength for tens of thousands of Immortal Stone City warriors, if they fell, the human warriors' side was at risk of collapsing instantly, turning Immortal Stone City into a paradise for Sea Beasts.

It was at this moment that Fang Bai and the Lightning Mink flew in swiftly from afar, halting outside the battlefield.

One man and one mink, as if telepathically, howled to the sky simultaneously.

This bizarre howl did not affect the present human Martial Artists but caused a sizable portion of the tens of thousands of Sea Beasts to become dazed, their eyes bloodshot, showing signs of madness.

A dozen Thunder Tribulation Realm Sea Beasts could still resist the strange howl, yet they felt dizzy, while many Sea Beasts below the Thunder Tribulation Realm grew mentally disoriented and, under the howl's control, started tearing each other apart.

"Kill!!"

Wei Zhengtian and Shi Hongye, recognizing that the man and mink were allies, not enemies, were invigorated and led the human warriors in a full-scale counterattack.

Tens of thousands of Sea Beasts, having already lost a third during their battle with the human warriors, now found nearly another third driven to infighting under the control of Fang Bai and the Lightning Mink's howls, quickly finding themselves at a disadvantage.

The leading dozen Thunder Tribulation Realm Sea Beasts, realizing Fang Bai and the Lightning Mink were key to the battle's outcome, were frustratedly grounded, unable to ascend like the human warriors, and could only look on in despair.

As the Sea Beasts fell into complete disarray, a series of low roars suddenly emanated from the depths of the Black Sea.

These roars, sounding like thunder, raised towering waves, and the auditory shockwave caused the eardrums of human warriors to buzz, leaving many human warriors reeling as if drunk, unable to maintain their flight, plummeting to the ground. Many had no choice but to shut off their hearing to block the roar's sonic impact.

Even Fang Bai wobbled in mid-air, nearly falling from the Blood-Drinking Mad Blade, turning pale with shock.

"An immensely powerful Sea Beast lurks in the Black Sea. Judging by its roaring, it's at least at the fourth level of Thunder Tribulation..."

Fang Bai gazed towards the Black Sea, muttering to himself.

As the roar subsided, the Spirit Beasts controlled by Fang Bai and the Lightning Mink's howl immediately regained clarity, engaging again in fierce battle with the human warriors.

"Little Mink, leave this to you. I'll check out the sea."

Knowing that with the sea beast emitting the roars present, the human warriors' side couldn't secure victory in this battle, Fang Bai quickly left these words to the Lightning Mink and rode the Blood-Drinking Mad Blade toward the Black Sea.

Chapter 1688: The Sea Beast

Flying above the Black Sea, Fang Bai looked down, only to see fierce winds and towering waves on the sea surface. No one would expect that lurking beneath the pitch-black waters is a sea beast comparable to a human Heavenly Tribulation realm fourth-level expert.

How powerful is a Heavenly Tribulation fourth-level sea beast?

Fang Bai knew very well that if that sea beast appeared on land, then even Wei Zhengtian and Shi Hongye with Heavenly Tribulation third-level cultivation combined wouldn't be its match.

One can imagine what serious consequences would arise if that sea beast landed—likely, the entire Immortal Stone City would be utterly destroyed.

Immortal Stone City used to be a small fishing village. In his past life, Fang Bai stayed in this small village for a while and took Wei Feng, the ancestor of the Wei Family, as a disciple, establishing some connections here.

Now, the descendants of the Wei Family in Immortal Stone City are considered Fang Bai's disciples and grand-disciples. Generations of Wei Family disciples have guarded the stone statue carved in Fang Bai's likeness, showing their sincerity. How could Fang Bai bear to see the Wei Family descendants fall with the city?

Fang Bai knew that with his current strength, he wasn't a match for the Heavenly Tribulation fourth-level sea beast in a head-on confrontation, but he had many aces up his sleeve. Perhaps by risking confrontation with the sea beast, he might find a chance and method to kill it.

The powerful sea beast that roared seemed to have dived deep into the ocean; Fang Bai released his Divine Sense to investigate tens of miles around but couldn't locate its trace.

"If you won't come out, I'll force you out!"

Fang Bai hovered in the air and let out a piercing long howl toward the sea, the sound waves shattering the water's surface into towering waves.

Fang Bai knew the sea beast was strong, and his Beast Taming Scripture couldn't control it, but he could disrupt it enough to make it uncomfortable under the sea, perhaps forcing it to surface out of frustration.

Just as Fang Bai expected, after several breaths, abnormal fluctuations appeared in the sea below; the water rapidly parted, revealing a sea beast ten zhang long, like a giant ship suddenly surfacing from the deep.

The sea beast was smooth and dark, with a single eye and horn, a long tail—the Unihorn Dragon Whale, one of the top predators in the Black Sea food chain.

The Unihorn Dragon Whale had thick, tough skin and moved incredibly fast in the water, making it unmatched in the Black Sea among thousands of sea beasts, even more so against humans of the same realm.

However, the Unihorn Dragon Whale's weakness was that it couldn't fly; if an opponent hovered beyond its attack range, it was helpless.

Fang Bai had lived for tens of thousands of years in his previous life, journeying through numerous realms and encountering all kinds of Spirit Beasts. He's even killed a more formidable Unihorn Dragon Whale than this one, so he naturally knew how to handle it.

He maintained an altitude more than a hundred zhang above the sea, where eighty to ninety zhang was roughly the Unihorn Dragon Whale's attack limit, making it difficult for it to harm him.

The Unihorn Dragon Whale, unable to withstand Fang Bai's annoying howl, surfaced and focused its single eye, glowing bluish, on Fang Bai, its gaze filled with killing intent.

"Finally came out, did you?"

Fang Bai laughed loudly, diving down as his right hand swung, wielding the Blood-Drinking Mad Blade to slash a long blade light.

"Clang!"

Fang Bai's blade light, comparable to a Heavenly Tribulation first-level expert, slashed across the Unihorn Dragon Whale's spine like hitting a giant piece of hard metal, scattering sparks and leaving only a shallow mark.

"Impressive! Again!"

Fang Bai shouted, slashing three more times in succession while airborne.

Each slash aimed at the same spot on the Unihorn Dragon Whale, only deepening the blade mark a little without causing any significant damage.

Fang Bai wasn't discouraged; he continued flying around the Unihorn Dragon Whale's massive body, cutting it with the Blood-Drinking Mad Blade at various points, not aiming to harm it but treating this as a kind of trial.

To the Unihorn Dragon Whale, Fang Bai's attacks were like tickling, causing no harm, yet irritating.

"Boom!"

When Fang Bai's tenth slash struck the Unihorn Dragon Whale's head, the whale lifted its upper body, opened its large mouth, and shot out a huge water ball formed from condensed Water Spirit Qi toward Fang Bai.

The enormous Spirit Qi water ball, several zhang wide, carried tremendous power and thunderous "buzzing" sound, split through the air, quickly heading toward Fang Bai.

Not only was the Spirit Qi water ball fast, but its range of effect reached over ten zhang from the center. Although Fang Bai dodged the ball's direct impact, he was swept by the aftermath.

The strike, comparable to a Heavenly Tribulation fourth-level expert, was incredibly fierce. Though only struck by the aftermath, Fang Bai felt as if his body was hit by a massive hammer, flying backward into the air.

Luckily, his physical body was extraordinarily strong; otherwise, this hit would've shattered his internal organs, instantly taking his life.

Fang Bai felt dizzy and calmed himself in the air for a moment before regaining his composure.

"Now feel my Spirit Fire might!"

Fang Bai put away the Blood-Drinking Mad Blade, with the Houyi Bow appearing in his hand.

"Tweet!"

Fang Bai combined Fire Spirit Energy from the Red Silkworm Spirit Fire and Nether Spirit Fire into arrows, placing them on the Houyi Bow and shooting them.

With the appearance of the two Spirit Fires, the temperature soared within tens of miles of Fang Bai. The already turbulent sea surface became even more boiling, and wisps of white smoke rose from the sea, showing the rapid evaporation of seawater.

The Unihorn Dragon Whale, being a Fire System sea beast, was naturally countered by fire. Fang Bai's two Spirit Fires were its nemesis.

Fang Bai's arrow, enhanced by the power of the Spirit Fires, struck the Unihorn Dragon Whale's tail.

The arrow's power exceeded that of the prior blade light, penetrating a chi deep into the Unihorn Dragon Whale's body. Under the scorching heat, the beast's skin emitted a "sizzling" sound, immediately spreading a burnt smell.

The Unihorn Dragon Whale felt pain and started twisting its body uneasily, quickly submerging into the deep sea.

Where it sank, the water erupted like fireworks, surging upward and releasing countless bubbles, gradually fading after several breaths.

Fang Bai rejoiced at the Houyi Bow showing its might, holding the bow tightly as he kept his eyes on the sea, continuing to howl to provoke the Unihorn Dragon Whale to surface.

However, after suffering a loss, the Unihorn Dragon Whale didn't reappear for a while, and Fang Bai, suspended above the water for a long time, sensed his Spiritual Energy depleting and lost patience in waiting.

Fang Bai stowed the Houyi Bow, ready to fly away when suddenly, a rumble of water sounded behind him as the Unihorn Dragon Whale surfaced again.

Alongside the Unihorn Dragon Whale's emergence were hundreds of dark shadows.

Chapter 1689: Devouring

The hundreds of black shadows, like hundreds of sharp arrows, shot out from the sea with a piercing whistle, reaching a hundred feet high, even surpassing Fang Bai in the air.

"Arrowfish!"

Seeing the sudden appearance of hundreds of black shadows, Fang Bai couldn't help but be taken aback.

Arrowfish are a unique species among sea beasts. Although they cannot fly, due to their special body shape, they can leap out of the sea, soar high into the sky, and stay aloft for a moment, having an impressive speed and power.

The hundreds of arrowfish, each having reached the Soul Severing Realm, did not attack Fang Bai but rather shot past him instead, weaving a dense "net" above him, descending towards Fang Bai from above.

The speed of the arrowfish was truly fast. By the time Fang Bai reacted, the "net" overhead was already closing in.

In a hurry, Fang Bai had no time to counterattack effectively. He could only plummet downward in an attempt to distance himself from the "net" before flying away horizontally.

As Fang Bai descended rapidly, the hundreds of arrowfish pressed down quickly as well, seemingly trying to force Fang Bai into the sea.

"I'm not playing with you anymore!"

When he was still fifty or sixty feet from the sea surface, Fang Bai realized that if this continued, he might be locked onto by the emerging Unihorn Dragon Whale, and it would be very difficult to escape. So, wielding the Blood-Drinking Mad Blade in hand, he swung it upward, slicing out a few blade beams.

The arrowfish did not dodge, and after a dozen were cut down by the blade beams, the other arrowfish quickly filled the gap, continuing to weave a tight net pressing towards Fang Bai.

At the same time, the Unihorn Dragon Whale opened its huge mouth, a vortex of air emerging from it, rushing into the sky and creating a powerful suction out of thin air.

"Not good!"

Upon feeling the powerful suction, Fang Bai suddenly remembered this special skill of the Unihorn Dragon Whale.

Fang Bai's cultivation level was only at the initial stage of the Soul Severing Realm, far inferior to the Unihorn Dragon Whale. Once enveloped by the air vortex, he was dragged steadily downward, bit by bit towards the giant open mouth of the Unihorn Dragon Whale.

Fang Bai felt as if he was trapped in a quagmire, all movements becoming sluggish, unable to break free from the vortex for the moment.

Seeing his body getting closer and closer to the blood-red gaping mouth below, Fang Bai became anxious. Suddenly, a thought struck him, and he stopped struggling, letting his body sink.

Just as his body was about to be swallowed by the Unihorn Dragon Whale, Fang Bai summoned the Five Elements Origin Qi Cauldron, hiding his body within. The moment the cauldron lid closed, the entire Great Cauldron was swallowed into the belly of the Unihorn Dragon Whale.

After swallowing the Five Elements Origin Qi Cauldron, the Unihorn Dragon Whale leisurely descended to the depths of the seabed.

In its perspective, it merely swallowed a mere Spiritual Artifact, which would soon be dissolved by the corrosive acids in its stomach.

This attack on Immortal Stone City by tens of thousands of sea beasts was initiated by this Unihorn Dragon Whale.

The Unihorn Dragon Whale was at a crucial point in its advancement but had stagnated due to a lack of cultivation resources, turning its thoughts to the tens of thousands of human experts and a vast amount of resources within Immortal Stone City.

It drove tens of thousands of sea beasts to exhaust the power of the human experts in Immortal Stone City as much as possible. Once both sides were weakened after a fight, it planned to come ashore and

devour the bodies of the human experts abundantly, easily acquiring the cultivation resources within the city.

With the assistance of human expert corpses and a vast number of cultivation resources, its hopes of advancing to the fifth level of the Heavenly Tribulation would greatly increase.

However, it had not anticipated Fang Bai's interference midway. Seeing Fang Bai use his howl to control the sea beasts, almost disrupting its plans, it emerged from the seabed, breaking Fang Bai's control with its roar.

In the battle just now with Fang Bai, the Unihorn Dragon Whale was injured by the two clusters of Spiritual Fire shot from Fang Bai's Houyi Bow, feeling infuriated. It submerged itself in the seabed, waiting for Fang Bai to let his guard down before launching a surprise attack with the arrowfish, catching Fang Bai off guard and then seizing the chance to swallow him.

Inside the Five Elements Origin Qi Cauldron, Fang Bai, after being swallowed, tumbled for a moment before finally landing inside the massive stomach of the Unihorn Dragon Whale.

The stomach acids of the Unihorn Dragon Whale were highly corrosive, capable of dissolving steel, but the Five Elements Origin Qi Cauldron was an ancient Divine Artifact. Its rigidity was incomparable to steel.

The Five Elements Origin Qi Cauldron remained in the stomach of the Unihorn Dragon Whale for several hundred breaths', without any damage, causing the Unihorn Dragon Whale to sense something amiss and continuously squirm its guts, attempting to expel it.

"Expand!"

Fang Bai, understanding the Unihorn Dragon Whale's intentions, murmured softly. With his voice, the Five Elements Origin Qi Cauldron rapidly expanded, instantly filling the whale's stomach entirely, remaining unmoved despite any squirming and pressing.

"Huff!"

The Unihorn Dragon Whale suddenly swallowed a large amount of seawater, attempting to drown Fang Bai, yet the Five Elements Origin Qi Cauldron was impervious to water and fire, leaving Fang Bai unaffected by this tactic.

It released its internal aura, trying to subdue Fang Bai with the pressure of a fourth-level Heavenly Tribulation sea beast, yet that pressure was blocked by the Five Elements Origin Qi Cauldron outside, unable to affect Fang Bai.

After a while, perhaps tired of trying multiple methods, the Unihorn Dragon Whale temporarily gave up the struggle, lying silently at the seabed.

If it were any other expert, they would already have perished within the Unihorn Dragon Whale's belly, but encountering Fang Bai turned out to be its nemesis, bringing it great misfortune.

"You wish to rest, but I won't let you be in peace!"

Sitting cross-legged inside the Five Elements Origin Qi Cauldron, Fang Bai opened his palms. The Red Silkworm Spirit Fire and the Nether Spirit Fire appeared on either side, igniting.

Rolling heat waves emanated from the small flames, spreading outward through the cauldron's body.

The Unihorn Dragon Whale had a strong external defense, but its internal organs were much more fragile. The heat waves released by Fang Bai's two flames could melt steel, spreading within its body, becoming unbearable.

The Unihorn Dragon Whale only felt as though ten thousand needles were piercing inside, unbearably painful. Its massive body shook violently, rolling at the seabed.

As a water system spirit beast, sea beasts fear fire the most. By swallowing Fang Bai, the Unihorn Dragon Whale made an irreversible mistake, but regret was too late.

Seeing the power of the two flames erupt, Fang Bai continuously urged the Spirit Fire Power, hoping to inflict more damage on the Unihorn Dragon Whale.

Struggling and roaring, the Unihorn Dragon Whale stirred the seawater in that area, eventually sinking exhaustedly back to the bottom.

Fang Bai maneuvered the Five Elements Origin Qi Cauldron to the Unihorn Dragon Whale's head, opening the cauldron lid, summoning the Blood-Drinking Mad Blade, and swung it upward fiercely.

"Shh!"

"Shh!"

With two light sounds, as the blade beams of the Blood-Drinking Mad Blade passed by, a deep bloody hole was carved into the upper jaw of the Unihorn Dragon Whale, and a fist-sized black bead fell out.

The bead, round in shape, emitted a dazzling black light, releasing extremely dense Water Spirit Qi.

"A beast core of a fourth-level Heavenly Tribulation spirit beast, containing thousands of years of accumulated Water Spirit Qi..."

Fang Bai held the black bead in his hand, observing it closely, his eyes revealing a look of delight.

Chapter 1690: Advancement Beneath the Sea

The beast core is the essence of a spirit beast, its importance is self-evident.

The Unihorn Dragon Whale, after having its beast core removed, rapidly lost its vitality and eventually perished in the depths of the sea.

Fang Bai secretly felt fortunate, thinking that such a sea beast, comparable to a human Thunder Tribulation fourth-tier expert, would have been the end of him if he hadn't intentionally let it swallow him and used the Five Elements Origin Qi Cauldron to fend off its stomach acid corrosion and seawater infiltration.

And if he hadn't attacked from inside its body, there was no way he could have posed a threat to it, let alone killed it.

Now it seems, the decision to venture into the Unihorn Dragon Whale's belly was absolutely correct.

The beast core of a Thunder Tribulation fourth-tier spirit beast is invaluable and greatly aids martial artists.

If another expert obtained this beast core, it might take years of cultivation to gradually absorb all its spiritual energy and make it their own.

But after Fang Bai obtained the beast core, he immediately sat cross-legged in the colossal mouth of the Unihorn Dragon Whale, swallowed the beast core, and began secluded cultivation.

Once ingested, the beast core slowly dissolved, transforming into a massive amount of spiritual energy that surged through Fang Bai's meridians and blood vessels like rolling rivers.

Under the impact of the spiritual energy, those meridians and blood vessels continuously widened and strengthened, allowing more spiritual energy to circulate and operate through them.

During this process, Fang Bai could perceive significant changes in his body.

These changes manifested not only in his meridians and blood vessels, but also in his muscles, bones, skin, and even each tiny cell, making them tighter and more resilient, and his physique increasingly powerful.

The spiritual energy repeatedly circulating within his body, Fang Bai eventually felt the intense surge of spiritual energy gradually subside, and channeled it with his mind into his Qi Sea, like rivers converging into an ocean.

A vast amount of Water Spirit Qi entered his Qi Sea, filling the space. Ultimately, the impurities of the Water Spirit Qi were compressed and expelled, leaving the purest strand of Chaos Water Spirit Qi.

Since advancing to the Soul Severing realm, the mass of Chaos Spirit Qi in Fang Bai's Qi Sea split into seven Primordial Spirits.

The seven Primordial Spirits formed a circle, suspended in the Qi Sea. Like an Old Monk meditating, they sat cross-legged, eyes closed, always in a state of cultivation.

Each of the seven Primordial Spirits resembled a miniature version of Fang Bai, completely unclothed, with each having a different body color, each color corresponding to a type of nature's spiritual energy.

Fang Bai's cultivation level was only at the initial stage of the Primordial Spirit, so the seven Primordial Spirits remained in their original chaotic state, far from substantial, which was why Fang Bai had never summoned his Primordial Spirit for combat.

However, at this moment, with the changes occurring in Fang Bai's body, the seven Primordial Spirits were gradually becoming substantial, especially the black Water Element Spirit, which, after absorbing the pure strand of Water Spirit Qi in the Qi Sea, grew significantly larger and stood out among the seven Primordial Spirits.

One day, Fang Bai used his divine sense to internally observe, seeing the seven Primordial Spirits solidified into form. Almost simultaneously, they opened their once-tightly-closed eyes, emitting seven beams of colorful light that intertwined, illuminating the entire Qi Sea.

At that exact moment, spiritual energy surged within Fang Bai's Qi Sea, overflowing outward and dispersing in all directions.

"Boom!"

"Boom!"

"Boom!"

Three successive waves of spiritual energy erupted like ripples from Fang Bai's body, spreading outward.

The body of the Unihorn Dragon Whale exploded under the impact of the spiritual energy waves, sending the surrounding sea water surging upward, creating massive waves.

The immense pressure of the sea floor was something even a Thunder Tribulation expert would struggle to endure, but due to Fang Bai's unique constitution and innate Water Spirit Root, he was unperturbed by the water, like a fish in the sea.

After the three waves of spiritual energy dispersed, Fang Bai calmed down, sitting quietly in the dark depths of the ocean, silently.

A hundred breaths later, in the dark ocean depths, two beams of light suddenly appeared but quickly vanished as Fang Bai's eyes opened then closed again.

If a martial artist were nearby at this moment, they would notice Fang Bai's aura continuously surging, steadily climbing.

With each surge, the pressure emanating from Fang Bai's body intensified.

Prior to this, Fang Bai had used the massive cultivation resources he'd obtained, resulting in the accumulation of extensive spiritual energy within him. Now, with the aid of the Thunder Tribulation fourth-tier sea beast's beast core, his spiritual energy skyrocketed to a level unimaginable to ordinary experts.

The outcome was that his cultivation breakthrough crossed one threshold after another, advancing three levels, and he shot up from the initial stage of the Soul Severing to Soul Severing Perfection.

Other experts might spend years or even decades to advance a single minor realm, but Fang Bai managed to advance three minor realms in this short time beneath the sea—a feat unrivaled even in the vast expanse of the Three Thousand Great Worlds.

Fang Bai, invigorated, used his divine sense to internally observe once more and found the seven Primordial Spirits in his Qi Sea even more substantial, each radiating with brilliance and surrounded by spiritual energy.

"I don't know how long I've been down here this time, or what's happened back in Immortal Stone City. It's time to leave!"

With this thought, Fang Bai let out a long whistle, circulated Water Element Qi, and rushed upward toward the sea surface.

"Boom!"

He broke through the sea surface, soared into the air, glanced in the direction of Immortal Stone City, and flew off on the Blood-Drinking Mad Blade.

As he flew over the beach where a previous war between a hundred thousand human experts and countless sea beasts had taken place, Fang Bai saw that it had been cleaned up, with even the smell of blood dissipating in the constant sea breeze.

By now, Immortal Stone City had regained its original tranquility and peace, the city streets were clean and tidy, and the buildings and residences damaged by the sea beasts' incursion were repaired anew.

Only the occasional expression of having survived a disaster on the faces of some martial artists in the city revealed that there had been a fierce battle of extreme brutality, with countless human experts and sea beasts falling.

From what he saw, it was evident that in that battle, the human side achieved victory, otherwise, inside and outside Immortal Stone City, there would certainly be corpses everywhere, and the city would have fallen to ruin.

This result was pretty much what Fang Bai had expected.

Fang Bai flew over Immortal Stone City, sensing the aura of Xia Chenyu, Shi Xiaolian, Wu De, and the Lightning Marten, knowing they were all safe and sound, which finally gave him a sigh of relief.

Xia Chenyu and the others were gathered in the Wei Family compound, and worry was apparent on everyone's faces.

Since Fang Bai left Immortal Stone City, ten days had hurriedly passed, and Xia Chenyu and the others hadn't seen him, leaving them somewhat concerned.

Wei Zhengtian and his wife had led one hundred thousand warriors of Immortal Stone City to repel the sea beasts. Upon returning to Immortal Stone City, they learned that the stone statue was unharmed, all thanks to Fang Bai and the Lightning Marten in driving away the sea beasts, for which they were grateful, sending Wei family members to search for Fang Bai everywhere, but with no success.

Fortunately, Xia Chenyu, Shi Xiaolian, and the others, although worried about Fang Bai, because of their heart connection, knew he wasn't in mortal danger, so they stayed obediently in Immortal Stone City, patiently waiting for his return.