

Doctor 2111

Chapter 2111: Fang Bai “Falls

Peng Wu, Yu Feng, and Ying Luo shared the same thought.

Seeing immortals screaming miserably as they flew out of Dragon Blood Lake, all covered in wounds, they turned pale and felt a faint fear in their hearts.

A hundred years ago, although Peng Wu and the other two immortals had entered the Five Elements Tower for training, their strength was far inferior to now. Therefore, they did not stay long, withdrawing due to the impossibility to withstand the oppression of the Immortal Might, never having soaked in the Dragon Blood Lake.

“How about it? Do you have the courage to give it a try?”

Xuan Ze turned around, his gaze sweeping over the four immortals behind him. He asked with a smile, a hint of provocation in his tone.

Fang Bai smiled faintly, tapped his feet lightly, and auspicious clouds formed beneath him, carrying him as he flew down from the mountain peak to the edge of Dragon Blood Lake.

“I’ll go too!”

Seeing that Fang Bai, the strongest among them, was fearless, Peng Wu took a deep breath, patted his chest, and flew down beside Fang Bai.

“I’ll join as well.”

Ying Luo and Yu Feng both gritted their teeth, ready to take the plunge and try the Dragon Blood Lake, even at the risk of being injured.

For immortals, training is often a combination of opportunity and peril; the greater the peril, the greater the opportunity.

Peng Wu and the other two immortals embarked on this journey with the belief that it would be a narrow escape from death. They knew that if they retreated at the first sign of difficulty, they would surely miss any great opportunities, and their cultivation levels would not advance.

Seeing all four immortals ready to enter the Dragon Blood Lake, Xuan Ze nodded silently.

Xuan Ze was eager to mentor Fang Bai, Peng Wu, and the other two “younger generations,” but if they didn’t dare to attempt the Dragon Blood Lake training, they were destined to achieve little on the path of immortality. He would not bother guiding them further.

He greatly admired Fang Bai for stepping forward first.

Regarding Peng Wu and the other two immortals’ earlier concerns and hesitations, he felt a little regretful at first. But when they followed Fang Bai to the lake, he showed a relieved smile.

The waters of Dragon Blood Lake had beneficial effects on all the immortals entering the third space of the Five Elements Tower, even for Immortal Venerable Realm Experts.

Therefore, among those soaking in Dragon Blood Lake at the moment, the strongest was an Immortal Venerable Realm Expert, one of the few such experts training in the third space of the Five Elements Tower.

The majority in the lake were Heavenly Immortal Realm Experts, with cultivation levels similar to Xuan Ze, numbering over ten.

The remaining few spots in the lake were occupied by Earth Immortal Realm Experts.

However, it was rare for those Earth Immortal Realm Experts to soak in Dragon Blood Lake for more than twenty breaths, resulting in a cycle of Earth Immortal Realm Experts coming and going in the lake.

Any immortal with experience in Dragon Blood Lake knew that soaking for less than a hundred breaths would yield little benefit for cultivation.

Thus, most immortals entered the lake for a mere trial.

Xuan Ze, having trained in the Five Elements Tower multiple times, never missed the chance to soak whenever Dragon Blood Lake appeared.

He attributed his current Heavenly Immortal Realm of the fifth grade to the soaking experience a hundred years ago.

“Be careful and protect yourselves. I’ll go in first!”

Arriving at Dragon Blood Lake, Xuan Ze left this message to Fang Bai and the other three immortals before leaping into the lake. Only his head remained above the water surface, while his entire body sank into the water to soak.

Except for Fang Bai, when Peng Wu and the other three saw Xuan Ze in the lake, within a few breaths, sweat beaded on his forehead, his face showing pain, as if enduring gritted teeth, they could not help but feel uneasy.

They knew they couldn’t retreat now; otherwise, they would lose Xuan Ze’s respect and risk their own heart’s resolve becoming unstable, which would be detrimental to their future cultivation.

“Jump!”

At Peng Wu’s soft shout, Fang Bai and the other three immortals leaped into the lake together.

As Peng Wu and the other two immortals’ bodies soaked into the lake, they felt as if countless powerful forces were ripping their skin and flesh apart, invading their bodies as if thousands of spears and swords simultaneously pierced them. That kind of pain was beyond words, causing their facial features to twist and sweat to pour.

They gritted their teeth to persevere, circulating Immortal Laws, desperately absorbing the essence from Dragon Blood Lake, but only managed for about ten breaths before the overwhelming pain seemed to engulf them, forcing them to fly out one after another, landing on the lake shore.

“Fang... Immortal Friend Fang?”

After coming ashore, Peng Wu, Ying Luo, and Yu Feng looked around but didn’t see Fang Bai, their hearts sinking as they all looked toward the lake.

On the hundred-zhang wide lake surface, they saw Xuan Ze still gritting his teeth to hold on. Yet, after searching back and forth several times, they didn’t find a trace of Fang Bai.

They sent their Divine Sense into the lake, only to find it could only go down a few meters deep before an invisible force blocked it.

Yu Feng looked at the lake surface, showing a remorseful expression, murmuring, “Immortal Friend Fang’s cultivation level is slightly weaker than ours... could it be he already...”

Peng Wu sighed, “We can’t even sense his aura... it’s likely indeed...”

“Immortal Friend Fang is so young and has the Innate Spiritual Root, if he were unharmed, he would surely have an infinitely bright future in the Immortal Dao... what a pity...”

Ying Luo’s eyes reddened slightly, and her voice trembled as she spoke.

Having known Fang Bai, and with Fang Bai’s ancestors having ties with their sect’s predecessors, they felt deep sorrow over Fang Bai’s fall.

Convinced that Fang Bai was swallowed by the lake and perished within it, they stood sadly by the lake for a moment before each taking an Immortal Pill to heal their injuries.

During this time, the gentle sound of water was heard occasionally, as one immortal after another could not endure, breaking out of the lake surface.

After a hundred breaths, Xuan Ze, wounded all over, appeared on the shore of Dragon Blood Lake.

“Where is Fang Bai?”

After taking several Immortal Pills and regulating his breathing for a moment, Xuan Ze felt he was okay and came before Peng Wu and the other two immortals, asking solemnly.

When he leaped out of the lake, he glanced around casually. Seeing no sign of Fang Bai gave him an ominous premonition, but his body had been severely damaged in Dragon Blood Lake, and he had to heal for a moment before inquiring.

After healing, Peng Wu and the other two immortals’ injuries had greatly improved. Hearing this, they all stood up.

Peng Wu sighed deeply, shook his head, and answered, “Immortal Friend Fang... couldn’t make it up...”

“How could this happen...”

Though this outcome was expected, Xuan Ze still found it hard to accept. He thought that with Fang Bai’s Innate Spiritual Root, his endurance in the lake should be similar to Peng Wu and the other two immortals, not enough to fall.

“What a pity indeed...”

Xuan Ze too released his Divine Sense, searching Dragon Blood Lake, but indeed found no trace of Fang Bai, confirming that Fang Bai had truly perished. He couldn’t help but look up and close his eyes, sighing audibly.

Chapter 2112: Second Grade Earth Immortal Realm

"The immortal's journey is fraught with risks, and falling is commonplace. So, we mustn't mourn too much. Let's continue our training."

After lingering by the Dragon Blood Lake for a moment, Xuan Ze said in a deep voice.

Peng Wu, Ying Luo, and Yu Feng, the three immortals, reluctantly glanced at the lake's surface, then solemnly followed Xuan Ze away.

At the Dragon Blood Lake, batches of immortals continued to dive in or fly out, an ongoing cycle.

Fang Bai's fall was like a small wave in a vast ocean among the hundred thousand immortals in the Five Elements Tower, unheeded by others.

Day after day, half a month passed in no time.

During this period, Peng Wu, Ying Luo, and Yu Feng, following Xuan Ze, reached many places on the third level of the Five Elements Tower, obtaining quite a few cultivation resources.

However, their small team of only four immortals wasn't strong enough to acquire any particularly rare resources.

They discovered rare cultivation resources but could never contend against teams with many Heavenly Immortal Realm experts or lone Immortal Venerable Realm experts.

Later, along with many immortals, they sat cross-legged by a blue seashore, observing the mirage over the sea and diligently contemplating cultivation.

It's said that the scenes manifested by the mirage reflect the evolution of various immortal technique secrets. Any immortal with decent talent would greatly benefit from cultivation there.

...

After Fang Bai jumped into the Dragon Blood Lake, unlike others who revealed their heads, he completely submerged, swiftly descending toward the lakebed.

Soon, his feet touched the bottom, and he casually sat there, starting to circulate water system immortal technique, madly absorbing the immense immortal power contained in the dragon's blood.

With multiple experiences in the Five Elements Tower in his past life, Fang Bai knew that the deeper the Dragon Blood Lake, the purer and denser the dragon's blood, enhancing the cultivation effect.

Of course, the dangers also increased significantly.

The strong and domineering immortal power contained in the dragon's blood wasn't something ordinary immortals could withstand. If Fang Bai didn't have the Chaos True Body, he wouldn't dare cultivate so recklessly.

As more and more immortal power flowed into his body, Fang Bai's flesh was torn apart by the overpowering force, countless wounds opened, and white bones were exposed continuously.

His blood continuously flowed out from the wounds, while a large amount of dragon's blood seeped into his body.

The intermingling and fusion of Fang Bai's blood and the dragon's blood went on for an indefinite period, thoroughly washing his body, inside and out, including skin, flesh, bones, tendons, and veins.

The suffering endured during this couldn't be imagined by ordinary immortals; there were several moments when Fang Bai nearly lost consciousness, yet he persevered through gritted teeth.

Fang Bai knew that this way of cultivation was far more effective than consuming any immortal pill or elixir.

Especially for body refinement, it was an exceptionally rare opportunity.

If he could endure this cultivation, his cultivation level would not only see an unimaginable increase, but his body's strength would also achieve a qualitative leap.

"It's time for a breakthrough..."

Fang Bai suddenly opened his eyes, shooting out beams of light like electricity, sharp and dazzling, seemingly capable of piercing through rocks.

At the same time, a series of increasingly intense immortal Qi shockwaves scattered out from Fang Bai's body.

After undergoing three consecutive episodes, the phenomenon subsided.

This time, the training at the bottom of the Dragon Blood Lake advanced Fang Bai's cultivation by three small realms, from Ninth Grade Human Immortal Realm to Second Grade Earth Immortal Realm.

Fortunately, despite the commotion during Fang Bai's breakthrough, the suppression from the powerful forces of the Dragon Blood Lake made the surface remain calm, without causing any disturbances.

After this round of cultivation breakthrough, Fang Bai's body had adapted to the lake's waters, realizing that continuing to cultivate in the Dragon Blood Lake wouldn't produce significant results.

The Five Elements Tower has four more layers that Fang Bai hadn't explored; he planned to tour the other spatial layers after leaving the Dragon Blood Lake.

With past experience in the Five Elements Tower, Fang Bai believed there was a high likelihood of ascending to the Heavenly Immortal Realm before exiting.

After recuperating at the lake's bottom, Fang Bai slowly ascended.

In the Five Elements Tower, with his Second Grade Earth Immortal Realm cultivation, Fang Bai wasn't considered a formidable figure, unlikely to attract attention; hence, he didn't bother to conceal his aura.

As he expected, when he emerged above the lake's surface, no immortals paid attention to him; all focused on their own cultivation.

Fang Bai silently flew out of the lake, landing at the shore, still clad in his snow-white robe.

His Divine Sense spread out, unable to detect the presence of Xuan Ze and the other three immortals, leading Fang Bai to suspect that they might have ventured far away.

"Let's go and have a look at the first level of space."

Fang Bai's form flickered, leaving the Dragon Blood Lake, and within dozens of breaths, he appeared in the first level space of the Five Elements Tower.

This space was filled with pure and dense Golden Immortal Qi, permeated with the distinctive aura of slaughter and sharpness inherent to Golden Immortal Qi.

Among the nearly twenty thousand immortals training in this spatial layer, most had already discovered their respective fortunes and were in a state of cultivation; only a few immortals still wandered around.

To those wandering immortals, Fang Bai was just a "pawn," met with expressions of disdain and scorn, not even warranting a second glance.

In Fang Bai's memory, there were several training sanctuaries suitable for cultivation in this first layer space; however, whether these treasures remained with the current opening of the Five Elements Tower was unknown.

Relying on memory, Fang Bai flew, noticing the scenery along the way differed significantly from his past life training experiences.

Upon seeing a towering sword-shaped mountain standing ahead, a smile appeared on Fang Bai's lips, thinking that despite the Five Elements Tower undergoing considerable changes over a millennium, some secret realm treasures still remained.

The sword-shaped mountain was known as "Heaven Sword Mountain" because many immortal swords were abandoned there, most suitable for Heavenly Immortal Realm experts.

Fang Bai's purpose in coming to Heaven Sword Mountain wasn't to retrieve the immortal swords scattered on the mountain surface, but because he knew there was an Immortal Tomb inside, where an Immortal Venerable Realm expert was buried.

In Fang Bai's past life, he had already discovered the Immortal Tomb within Heaven Sword Mountain, but at that time, being of Immortal Venerable cultivation himself, he hadn't touched the fallen Immortal Venerable Realm expert's relics.

In this life, however, being only of Second Grade Earth Immortal Realm, the relics of the fallen Immortal Venerable Realm expert held immense allure for him.

To achieve another breakthrough, Fang Bai wouldn't miss out on the Immortal Venerable Realm expert's relics this time.

Ordinary Immortal Venerable Realm experts couldn't detect the Immortal Tomb buried deep within Heaven Sword Mountain with their Divine Sense, but Fang Bai knew of its existence.

Chapter 2113: Remains of an Immortal Venerable Realm Expert

The several-thousand-zhang tall Heaven Sword Mountain was like a giant sword piercing straight into the azure sky, with its mirror-like smooth mountain surface reflecting countless golden rays.

And the celestial swords scattered on the mountain, visible to the naked eye, were dazzling and brilliant, attracting many immortals at the foot of the mountain to fly up one after another, vying to seize them.

However, near Heaven Sword Mountain, the immortal might was overwhelming. Ordinary Earth Immortal Realm experts could only ascend to about a hundred zhang, and then had to rely on their limbs to climb further.

Heavenly Immortal Realm experts could only fly a thousand zhang before needing to rely on the strength of their physical bodies to continue ascending.

The higher the celestial swords on Heaven Sword Mountain, the higher their grade.

Therefore, to obtain a higher-grade, more powerful celestial sword, one must put in immense effort and hardship to reach greater heights.

At this moment, the mountain body of Heaven Sword Mountain was densely populated, with many immortals flying down onto the mountain surface, and climbing upwards with all their might, aiming to reach higher ground and acquire better-grade celestial swords.

At the mountain's base, many immortals also looked upward, watching those climbing immortals, eager to try their luck.

As soon as an immortal couldn't withstand the immortal might on Heaven Sword Mountain and was forced to fly down, they would immediately fly up.

All immortals ascended Heaven Sword Mountain with hope, yearning to seize their ideal celestial sword.

However, the vast majority of immortals couldn't fulfill their wishes, with only a few able to return satisfied, laughing out loud with pride amidst the envious gazes of the surrounding immortals.

While the eyes of all immortals were focused on Heaven Sword Mountain, a figure concealed its aura and merged with the surrounding scenery, slipping into a dense forest at the mountain's base.

In the next moment, that figure's body slowly sank into the mountain body, continuously moving towards the mountain's depths.

That figure was Fang Bai.

Fang Bai possessed the Chaos True Body, with Chaos Immortal Qi in his Qi Sea, including Earth Immortal Qi, allowing his body to easily merge with the mountains and earth and travel freely within.

In the eyes of immortals, Fang Bai's ability was akin to the Earth Escape Technique.

Heaven Sword Mountain's body was massive, and Fang Bai's burrowing speed was not fast. Only after a hundred breaths did he feel the space ahead open up, reaching a space over ten zhang in diameter.

This space was the Immortal Tomb that Fang Bai's divine sense had detected in his previous life.

That Immortal Venerable Realm expert had ingeniously used the entire Heaven Sword Mountain as his tomb.

"I beg your pardon for disturbing!"

Fang Bai's gaze fell upon the Immortal Venerable Realm expert sitting cross-legged in the center of the Immortal Tomb, clasping his fists before speaking, then slowly walked to stand before him.

Though the Immortal Venerable Realm expert had long lost his vitality, his facial features were still vivid and lifelike, almost as if still alive.

Even his clothing remained uncorrupted.

In his hands, he was holding a celestial sword that appeared ordinary and without luster, yet Fang Bai knew that its grade was high, suited for an Immortal Venerable Realm expert.

However, with several divine artifacts in his possession, Fang Bai had no interest in the celestial sword, instead fixating on the Space Immortal Ring on his finger.

After all, as an Immortal Venerable Realm expert, the cultivation resources within his Space Immortal Ring were of undeniable importance to Fang Bai.

But Fang Bai was sure that the Immortal Venerable Realm expert had a defensive immortal artifact, so he dared not approach the Space Immortal Ring lightly and could only probe first to dismantle his defensive immortal artifact.

However, the space here was too small, and Fang Bai worried that his probing might provoke a fierce backlash, creating a big commotion and alerting the immortals outside the mountain.

"No matter, I'll give it a try..."

A flash of light appeared between Fang Bai's brows, and the enlarged Blood-Drinking Mad Blade rested in front of him, completely shielding his body.

Though this immortal had fallen, as an Immortal Venerable Realm expert, Fang Bai had to be extremely cautious, reinforcing his self-protection.

With the Blood-Drinking Mad Blade protecting him, Fang Bai felt a lot more at ease. After all, no matter how powerful the Immortal Venerable Realm expert was, he couldn't destroy a divine artifact like the Blood-Drinking Mad Blade.

"Swoosh!"

A piece of Immortal Stone shot out from Fang Bai's hand, fully striking towards the Immortal Venerable Realm expert's remains.

"Buzz!"

Just as Fang Bai had anticipated, when the Immortal Stone was three chi from the Immortal Venerable Realm expert's remains, a sword light killing intent burst from his chest, pulverizing the Immortal Stone to dust, then continued slashing towards Fang Bai.

The enveloped range of that sword light killing intent wasn't large, yet when its power concentrated to a smaller area, its might grew stronger.

Fang Bai could plainly see that the space ahead appeared as though it was sliced by the killing intent, revealing a long, void-like black line.

"Clang!"

A loud, clear sound echoed as the killing intent slashed against the blade of the Blood-Drinking Mad Blade.

The blade was unharmed, but Fang Bai, along with the blade, was sent flying backward, crashing into the mountain body behind.

A few breaths later, Fang Bai, covered in dust, bounced back from within the mountain body, reappearing in his original spot.

"Truly worthy of an Immortal Venerable Realm expert..."

Fang Bai patted the dust off his body, grinning slightly.

This probing reassured Fang Bai, making him think that the Immortal Venerable Realm expert's retaliatory power was somewhat less than he imagined, suggesting that acquiring his Space Immortal Ring might not be overly difficult.

"Again!"

With a flick of his hand, Fang Bai once again launched an Immortal Stone with full force, thereby triggering another retaliation from the Immortal Venerable Realm expert...

Dozens of breaths later, after the Immortal Venerable Realm expert had triggered yet another retaliation, Fang Bai heard a soft cracking sound.

Then, a fragmented Jade Pendant fell from the Immortal Venerable Realm expert's chest to the ground.

Fang Bai was overjoyed, trying to soften his force, and struck once more.

This time, as he expected, no more killing intent erupted from the Immortal Venerable Realm expert.

Evidently, all of the Immortal Venerable Realm expert's killing intent was contained within the Jade Pendant. With it shattered, approaching his remains posed no further danger.

"The grade of this celestial sword may not compare to the Blood-Drinking Mad Blade, but it would make a good gift for a friend..."

Fang Bai took slow steps to stand before the Immortal Venerable Realm expert, took a glance at the celestial sword in his hands, and casually stored it in the Five Elements Space Ring.

"This Space Immortal Ring is mine..."

Fang Bai removed the Space Immortal Ring from the Immortal Venerable Realm expert's hand, and as his divine sense scanned it, a smile of joy quickly spread across his face.

In the vast Space Immortal Ring, it was piled with various cultivation resources. Both the grade and quantity exceeded his imagination, giving him quite a pleasant surprise.

After tossing the Space Immortal Ring into his Five Elements Space Ring, Fang Bai roamed within the mountain body for a while longer. Finding no additional treasures, he then left the way he came.

After over half a month in the Five Elements Tower, Fang Bai moved from the first floor to the second floor's Wood Immortal Qi space world to continue training.

Another half month later, Fang Bai bypassed the third floor's Water Immortal Qi space in the Five Elements Tower and reached the fourth floor's Fire Immortal Qi space.

In the final month, Fang Bai stayed on the fifth floor's Earth Immortal Qi space to train.

During these times, Fang Bai didn't encounter Xuan Ze, Peng Wu, Ying Luo, or Yu Feng, but he could sense their presence, confirming that they were all well.

Chapter 2114: Friend, Not Foe

The day the Five Elements Tower closes has finally arrived.

In these eighty-one days, among the hundred thousand immortals training within the various spaces of the tower, only one-tenth to one-fifth gained opportunities.

Similarly, about one-tenth to one-fifth encountered various perils and perished.

It's quite common for immortals to fall during training; even if the close friends of some immortals unfortunately perished, the others were only briefly saddened before continuing their journey of cultivation.

Xuan Ze, Peng Wu, Ying Luo, and Yu Feng were like this.

They grieved briefly at Fang Bai's fall but soon pulled themselves together and resumed their training.

Thanks to the support of Xuan Ze, a Heavenly Immortal Realm expert, Peng Wu, Ying Luo, and Yu Feng not only acquired a large amount of cultivation resources but also encountered various opportunities, allowing their cultivation levels to rise a small realm.

As for Xuan Ze, whose own cultivation level was already high, it was far more difficult for him to advance compared to Peng Wu and the others.

Though he didn't advance a level during this Five Elements Tower training experience, which was somewhat regrettable, his cultivation still improved significantly, giving him confidence to reach the sixth grade Heavenly Immortal Realm within the next decade.

"The time has come; it's time to leave."

That day, Xuan Ze calculated with his fingers, realizing the Five Elements Tower was about to close, and led the three immortals, Peng Wu, Ying Luo, and Yu Feng, to leave the tower with other immortals one after another.

"Finally out!"

Looking at the red flowers and green grass, the blue water and sky, and the many immortals with various expressions around, Peng Wu and the other three couldn't help but let out a long breath of air, with irrepressible joy on their faces.

Although they only advanced a minor realm, the rapid improvement in their cultivation within a short span of eighty-one days was already a rare opportunity that made many immortals envious to the point of their eyes turning red.

"For us to have advanced is a cause for celebration. It's just a pity for Immortal Friend Fang..."

Xuan Ze stood outside the Five Elements Tower, sighing again as he thought about Fang Bai who perished in Dragon Blood Lake.

He always had some doubts in his heart, but now that Fang Bai had fallen, he could not verify them with him, leaving him with some regret.

As immortals floated out of the four exits of the Five Elements Tower, Xuan Ze glanced over, hoping for a miracle that Fang Bai would suddenly appear.

But after waiting for a long time without any trace of Fang Bai, he finally lost all hope.

"Let's go!"

Xuan Ze waved his hand, taking Peng Wu and the other three immortals away from the Five Elements Tower, out of Immortal Tower City, and flew towards the outskirts of the city.

"Can you tell me which immortal sect you come from?"

While flying, Xuan Ze turned his head to look at Peng Wu and the other three immortals, suddenly asking.

"Our master's identity is somewhat special, and they've ordered us not to disclose his name or title... Upper Immortal, we truly apologize!"

Peng Wu said sternly.

Though sensing the goodwill and closeness from Xuan Ze, he could not disobey his master's orders, and leaking the sect's secrets could lead to great calamity, so he was not going to tell Xuan Ze.

Ying Luo, being from the same sect as Peng Wu, nodded vigorously upon hearing this.

Although Yu Feng was not from the same sect as Peng Wu and Ying Luo, his stance was essentially the same, not intending to share anything about his sect with Xuan Ze.

Xuan Ze was not angry, smiling as he said, "I understand your difficulties, but you don't have to be so secretive with me. Don't be afraid to tell you..."

At this point, his divine sense spread over a thousand miles around, ensuring there were no other immortals within this range, then continued, "I have deep ties with the Nine Heavens Immortal Emperor Palace of old. I suspect your sect has similar connections, correct?"

Seeing Peng Wu and the other three immortals' expressions change slightly and their heightened vigilance, Xuan Ze smiled again and said, "Don't be nervous; I am a friend, not a foe. Hmm, let me guess, who your masters are..."

He looked at Yu Feng, sensing the aura around him, his eyes flashing brilliantly before slowly saying, "If I'm not wrong, your master should be the Flying Crane Venerable who had a close relationship with the Emperor's Palace a thousand years ago?"

"You... who exactly are you?"

Yu Feng looked horrified, taking a few steps back, summoning an immortal artifact in hand as if facing a formidable enemy, looking at Xuan Ze.

Peng Wu and Ying Luo, though not of the same sect as Yu Feng, had masters who were best friends and inseparable from the Nine Heavens Immortal Emperor Palace of the past, and hearing Xuan Ze accurately state Yu Feng's master's title also made them wary.

Seeing Yu Feng's expression, Xuan Ze knew he'd guessed correctly, and the smile on his face grew deeper as he looked at Peng Wu and Ying Luo, saying, "As for you two, you should be disciples of Nvlang Venerable, correct?"

Peng Wu and Ying Luo's faces changed drastically upon hearing this, summoning immortal artifacts in hand.

Xuan Ze chuckled, "Now that I've guessed correctly, I can be completely at ease with you."

Pausing, he added, "I'll introduce myself too! My name is Xuan Ze, a disciple under Bitao Immortal King!"

Peng Wu, Ying Luo, and Yu Feng, upon hearing the name "Bitao Immortal King," widened their eyes in disbelief.

"You... you are a disciple of Bitao Immortal King?"

Peng Wu exclaimed.

Xuan Ze nodded solemnly, "Indeed. The moment I saw you, I sensed your aura, saw the immortal technique secrets you used, and guessed you might have some relation to the Nine Heavens Immortal Emperor Palace of the past, which is why I approached you to offer protection. Otherwise, why would I be so kind without reason?"

Subsequently, the four immortals each talked about their sects, details some of which were extremely secretive and wouldn't be known unless one was an Emperor's Palace descendant or closely related to it.

Thus, after these exchanges, all the remaining wariness between Xuan Ze and Peng Wu and the other three immortals dissipated, with each seeing only joy in the other's eyes.

Ying Luo couldn't help exuding joy, "I heard from my master that he and Bitao Immortal King were both disciples under the War Emperor and members of the Emperor's Palace."

Yu Feng said, "Though my master was not a member of the Emperor's Palace, he was both teacher and friend with the War Emperor of old, having an extremely close relationship with the Emperor's Palace."

Upon hearing them talk about their masters, Xuan Ze's expression darkened, and he smiled bitterly, "Your masters are all still around, which is indeed fortunate. My master, Bitao Immortal King, fell unfortunately while being pursued by the subordinate forces of the eight Immortal Emperors after the War Emperor's demise..."

As he spoke, he clenched his fists tightly, the veins on the back of his hands popping out, exclaiming with boundless hatred, "The War Emperor, in those days, was good friends with the eight Immortal Emperors, and no one expected them to join forces and harm him, leading to the destruction of the Emperor's Palace. This deep vendetta cannot be forgotten by any surviving disciple of the Emperor's Palace!"

Peng Wu said through gritted teeth, "I remember my master mentioned how the War Emperor was invincible in those days, and if not for the deceit of the eight Immortal Emperors, even their joint efforts couldn't have bested the War Emperor. The eight Immortal Emperors' vile means are truly hateful! I, Peng Wu, vow to avenge the War Emperor!"

Ying Luo swung her fists, "Avenging our fallen comrades from the Emperor's Palace!"

Chapter 2115: Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable

Xuan Ze and Peng Wu, along with other immortals, are either descendants of the Emperor's Palace or have profound ties with it. Therefore, they no longer address each other as "Junior Immortal Friend" or "Upper Immortal," but instead as "brother and sister disciples."

Although Xuan Ze's cultivation level far exceeds that of Peng Wu and the other three immortals, in terms of seniority, he is merely their senior brother.

"Senior brother, our master's cultivation level is the same as yours, but why is your cultivation much stronger than ours? Have you had some great opportunity before?"

Peng Wu looked at Xuan Ze and asked enviously.

Xuan Ze is not much older than them, yet his cultivation is a full realm higher and more, making them feel ashamed.

Xuan Ze smiled faintly and nodded, "I indeed had a great opportunity once. It was this opportunity that improved my physique, making my cultivation progress rapidly. Otherwise, I might not have even reached the Heavenly Immortal Realm."

Peng Wu and the other three immortals were even more envious upon hearing this, as the great opportunity Xuan Ze spoke of is extremely rare and hard to come by; they might never encounter such an opportunity in their lifetime.

"Where is your master currently? I'd like to visit!"

After flying for a while, Xuan Ze said to Peng Wu and the other three immortals.

A thousand years ago, when the master of the Emperor's Palace, the War Emperor, fell, the hundred thousand disciples of the Emperor's Palace were hunted by the Eight Immortal Emperors, scattering across the nine heavenly domains of the Immortal Realm, causing many of the disciples to lose contact with each other.

Since then, the Emperor's Palace disciples, hidden in various places, have been secretly searching for their fellow disciples, hoping to strengthen their power and one day avenge themselves against the Eight Immortal Emperors and rebuild the Emperor's Palace.

This time, Xuan Ze ventured out per his late master's instructions, to connect with the lost Emperor's Palace disciples or immortals with close ties to the Emperor's Palace throughout the Immortal Realm, to pool their efforts and plot revenge together.

However, Xuan Ze knew such matters must be conducted in utmost secrecy, for if the factions under the Eight Immortal Emperors knew, it would be catastrophic.

Thus, Xuan Ze did not reveal his identity upon meeting Peng Wu and the other immortals until their identities were confirmed.

Now, knowing each other's identities, they all felt excited and elated.

Especially Xuan Ze, upon learning that two Immortal King Realm experts from the Emperor's Palace still lived, was truly delighted, yearning to meet them and hear their teachings.

"Senior brother Xuan Ze, let me take you to meet my master first!"

Yu Feng said excitedly.

His master is the Flying Crane Venerable, who a thousand years ago, before the War Emperor's fall, had received guidance from him and was both a teacher and a friend of the War Emperor.

After the War Emperor's demise, his master, the Flying Crane Venerable, was so grief-stricken and enraged, he wanted to come out of seclusion to avenge the War Emperor. But knowing his own strength was insufficient, he realized it would be suicide. Fearing the eight Immortal Emperors would come to the Immortal Sect seeking vengeance, he took his disciples and found another Immortal Domain to hide and lay low.

For a thousand years since the Emperor's Palace was destroyed, the Flying Crane Venerable had been searching for Emperor's Palace disciples and later established contact with the Venerable Nvlang, the master of Peng Wu and Ying Luo. They agreed to vigorously cultivate the next generation of disciples while continuing to search for other Emperor's Palace disciples, accumulating strength for future plans of revenge for the Emperor's Palace.

The Flying Crane Venerable, though not a disciple of the Emperor's Palace, was even more dedicated than one; after the War Emperor's fall and the Emperor's Palace's destruction, he was more saddened and eager for revenge than many Emperor's Palace disciples.

Yu Feng thought that if his master met Xuan Ze, he would certainly be happy.

"Alright, let's first meet your master, then we'll go together to visit Uncle-Master Nvlang!"

Xuan Ze said.

Just then, a streak of light swiftly caught up from behind, and an immortal in a bright yellow robe appeared in their sight, instantly blocking their path.

The immortal wore a seemingly shabby gray robe, arched his back, and looked decrepit, with white hair and beard, appearing very old. Yet his small eyes gleamed with a sharp brilliance, making it difficult for anyone to meet his gaze.

He leaned on an Immortal Wand with his left hand, the top of which was carved into a ferocious wolf's head, its fangs exposed, eyes blood-red, as if ready to devour someone, instilling fear.

"Might you be Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable?"

Seeing the wand in the immortal's hand, Xuan Ze thought of a notorious evil immortal in the Immortal Realm, feeling slightly shocked.

Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable, known for his bloodthirsty nature and infamous reputation, was sinister and vindictive, causing many immortals to shudder at his mention; he was an expert in the Heavenly Immortal Realm.

The cultivation level of Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable was comparable to Xuan Ze, both being at the fifth tier of the Heavenly Immortal Realm. Yet Xuan Ze hadn't detected him with his divine sense moments ago, allowing him to catch up and block their path, making it clear that his battle prowess must be superior to Xuan Ze's, despite their equal cultivation level.

This realization was what surprised Xuan Ze.

"You, immortal, how dare you bully my disciple, a disciple of Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable!"

Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable glanced sideways at Xuan Ze, saying sinisterly.

As for Peng Wu and the other three immortals beside Xuan Ze, he completely ignored them.

The mere three low-tier Earth Immortals of the second rank could be suppressed with just a hint of his Immortal Might, not even worth mentioning in his eyes.

"Who is your disciple?"

Though Xuan Ze asked this, he had already guessed from Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable's aura, recalling the gray-robed immortal he had fought in the third layer of the Five Elements Tower.

Back then, that gray-robed immortal tried to force Fang Bai to hand over the Immortal Cauldron while Xuan Ze was recuperating, but with Fang Bai's help, Xuan Ze quickly recovered from his injuries. Knowing he couldn't defeat Xuan Ze, the gray-robed immortal pleaded for mercy and willingly offered his Space Immortal Ring.

After obtaining the gray-robed immortal's Space Immortal Ring, Xuan Ze gave it to Fang Bai and let the gray-robed immortal go.

Xuan Ze guessed that the Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable should be the master of that gray-robed immortal.

"My disciple's title is Tianluo True Person."

Blood Wolf Venerable, seeing Xuan Ze's puzzled expression, coldly chuckled, "You don't recognize him? But he recognizes you!"

Saying this, he looked towards the distant sky and shouted, "Tianluo, hurry up!"

Moments after his shout, another streak of light flew over and stopped beside him.

"It's him!"

Peng Wu, Ying Luo, and Yu Feng cried out upon seeing the newcomer.

That immortal, thin and clad in a gray robe, had a cultivation of the second tier of the Heavenly Immortal Realm. He was precisely the gray-robed immortal they fought in the Five Elements Tower.

Unexpectedly, this gray-robed immortal named Tianluo True Person was actually Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable's disciple.

Their teacher-disciple pair, one a second-tier Heavenly Immortal and the other a fifth-tier, is extremely formidable when combined. Although Xuan Ze and the trio of immortals had the advantage in numbers, their strength was undoubtedly inferior.

Judging from the tone of Blood Wolf Venerable earlier, his pursuit, along with his disciple, was obviously to demand justice.

"How about it, quite unexpected, isn't it?"

Tianluo True Person looked at the frowning Xuan Ze, sneering proudly, "In the Five Elements Tower, you ruined my plans and seized my Immortal Ring. How hateful! Now, I'll make you repay tenfold!"

Chapter 2116: Three Arrows Annihilate Tianluo

The four immortals led by Xuan Ze confronted Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable and his disciple across dozens of zhang of space.

The four immortals of Xuan Ze held their Immortal Artifacts, battle intent surging, on high alert.

In contrast, Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable and his disciple appeared much more relaxed, with mocking expressions.

"Didn't you hear? You robbed my disciple of so many cultivation resources, just return ten times that, and I'll spare your life! Otherwise..."

Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable glanced sideways at Xuan Ze, smiling sinisterly.

Although he and Xuan Ze were evenly matched in cultivation level, he was confident that his combat strength was superior, and he had a trump card secret technique, certain that he could suppress and kill Xuan Ze.

Xuan Ze was a fifth-grade Heavenly Immortal Realm expert, and having just emerged from the Five Elements Tower, Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable knew that he must have a large amount of cultivation resources. If he could force him to hand over his Space Immortal Ring without a fight, this trip to Immortal Tower City would truly be a great harvest.

Xuan Ze was a descendant of the Emperor's Palace, inheriting his master's pride. Knowing he was outmatched, he would never submit, sneering coldly, "You want my cultivation resources? Come and take them if you have the skill!"

"Seeking death!"

Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable snorted angrily, his wolf-headed Immortal Staff striking the ground.

Instantly, Immortal Qi surged, space trembled, and a blood wolf several zhang long, condensed from Immortal Qi, leaped out from the wolf head of the staff, roaring and attacking Xuan Ze.

The blood wolf, transformed from Immortal Qi, appeared almost tangible, its roar like thunder, shaking Peng Wu and the other three immortals behind Xuan Ze, making their heads spin, nearly unable to stand, falling from the clouds.

The blood wolf's attack was extremely fierce, and Peng Wu and the other three immortals were shrouded in its Immortal Might, feeling fear and trepidation.

Xuan Ze let out a long howl, his eyes flashing fiercely, using his palm as a blade, he slashed down on the incoming blood wolf.

A blade light, several zhang long, condensed from Water Immortal Qi, sliced down from the sky, as if it could split the heavens and earth, with a "pff" sound, it struck the blood wolf's neck.

"Boom!"

With a heart-shaking muffled sound, the blood wolf instantly dissipated, the blade light vanishing into thin air.

"You have some skill! But, this is far from enough!"

Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable's eyes gleamed coldly, his Immortal Staff flew out, growing to several dozen zhang in length in the air, suppressing towards Xuan Ze.

Wherever the Immortal Staff went, the Immortal Qi above Xuan Ze's head surged disorderly, space trembled constantly, seeming about to collapse.

This Immortal Staff was Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable's close-fitting Immortal Artifact, of boundless power, with the staff's emergence, his combat strength instantly increased, able to suppress immortals of the same cultivation level.

Xuan Ze took a deep breath, the light flickered in the Sea of Consciousness between his brows, a Immortal Sword flew out.

The Immortal Sword expanded with the wind, in the blink of an eye, it was the same size as Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable's Immortal Staff, going to contend with the Immortal Staff falling quickly like a great mountain.

"You can't block it!"

Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable shouted, his Primordial Spirit sitting within his Qi Sea sprang out, standing on the Immortal Staff, instantly doubling the pressure on Xuan Ze, making it increasingly difficult for him to resist.

When an immortal deploys their Primordial Spirit to join the battle, it usually signifies going all out, a fight to the death.

This clearly showed Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable's intention to suppress and kill Xuan Ze.

Xuan Ze knew it was a moment of life and death, and naturally wouldn't surrender without a fight, so he also deployed his Primordial Spirit outside his body, launching an attack on Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable's Primordial Spirit.

The Primordial Spirit is equivalent to an immortal's second life; if the Primordial Spirit is damaged or even destroyed, it would be a severe blow to the main body.

Thus, immortals in the Immortal Realm do not deploy their Primordial Spirits to battle unless absolutely necessary.

Both Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable and Xuan Ze, two fifth-grade Heavenly Immortal Realm experts, one attacking, one defending, ended up in a stalemate, with no quick resolution possible.

"You three little immortals, surrender your lives!"

Tianluo True Person, the disciple of Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable, saw Peng Wu, Ying Luo, and Yu Feng standing in astonishment, watching the battle between the two Heavenly Immortal experts, and sneered, his figure like lightning, rushing towards them.

"Scatter and escape!"

Xuan Ze, seeing Tianluo True Person attack Peng Wu and the other three immortals, urgently shouted.

He knew that even if the three immortals combined forces, they were no match for Tianluo True Person. If they scattered and fled, Tianluo True Person would be stretched thin, and one or two of the three immortals might survive.

Peng Wu and the other three immortals understood this, so when Tianluo True Person rushed at them, they almost without hesitation turned into streams of light and fled in three different directions.

"Escape? Nobody gets away!"

Tianluo True Person laughed loudly, simultaneously deploying his Primordial Spirit and Immortal Artifact, chasing after Ying Luo and Yu Feng, while his main body pursued Peng Wu.

As a second-grade Heavenly Immortal Realm expert, even his deployed Primordial Spirit and Immortal Artifact wielded power beyond what Peng Wu and the other three immortals could withstand, putting them all in grave danger.

Xuan Ze, knowing that Peng Wu and the other three immortals were unlikely to escape, became furious, roaring as he launched a frenzied attack on Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable, trying to shake him off and save the three immortals.

How could Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable allow him to succeed? With a cold smile, he manipulated the Immortal Staff to continually suppress Xuan Ze, preventing him from breaking free.

Peng Wu and the other three immortals hadn't escaped a thousand zhang before being caught by Tianluo True Person's main body and the Primordial Spirit and Immortal Artifact he deployed. Despair showed in their eyes as they sighed, closing their eyes to await death.

"Whoosh!"

"Whoosh!"

"Whoosh!"

At this moment, three arrows, condensed from Fire Immortal Qi, carrying supreme Immortal Might, pierced through the void.

The first arrow shattered Tianluo True Person's Immortal Artifact.

The second arrow pierced Tianluo True Person's Primordial Spirit.

The third arrow penetrated Tianluo True Person's Qi Sea.

"Boom!"

As that arrow pierced Tianluo True Person's Qi Sea, his body exploded into a cloud of blood mist.

These three arrows came so suddenly, without any forewarning, leaving the few immortals present stunned, looking in unison towards the direction the arrows came from.

A massive Wind Roc, flapping its wings, flew over, arriving in an instant.

On the back of the Wind Roc, standing with the wind, was a young immortal in white robes, elegant and handsome.

The young immortal held an ancient large bow, with remnants of Fire Immortal Qi still lingering on it.

Clearly, the three arrows just now had been shot by the large bow in the young immortal's hands.

Both Xuan Ze and Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable, with their extraordinary eyesight, immediately recognized the extraordinary nature of the bow.

"Immortal Friend Fang?"

Upon seeing the appearance of the white-robed immortal, Xuan Ze raised his eyebrows, his face showing surprise and joy, and he couldn't help but call out.

"Immortal Friend Fang is not dead!"

"That's great!"

"To shoot a second-grade Heavenly Immortal Realm expert dead with one arrow, Immortal Friend Fang's bow is extraordinary!"

Peng Wu and the other three immortals also saw the figure of Fang Bai in his white robe, overflowing with joy.

They had thought Fang Bai had perished in the Dragon Blood Lake on the third level of the Five Elements Tower, and had mourned for him for a time. Yet, they never imagined that not only was Fang Bai alive, he had also made a powerful move to take down Tianluo True Person.

Chapter 2117: Mercy to the Enemy Is Cruelty to Oneself!

"Who are you, Immortal, to harm my disciple's life!"

The Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable witnessed the fall of his beloved disciple, filled with shock and fury, grief and indignation, his gaze toward Fang Bai full of murderous intent.

Meanwhile, he couldn't comprehend how this young Immortal before him, clearly just of a first-ranked Heavenly Immortal Realm cultivation level, could easily kill Tianluo True Person, his disciple of one small realm higher.

"Could the powerful bow he used be a Supreme Immortal Artifact?"

At this thought, the heart of the Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable stirred. He wanted to examine the powerful bow Fang Bai held closely, but realized Fang Bai had already put it away.

Fang Bai ignored the Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable and waved to Peng Wu, Ying Luo, and Yu Feng, who stared at him blankly.

Once the three Immortals flew to his side, Fang Bai summoned the Blood-Drinking Mad Blade and tossed it to Xuan Ze, saying aloud, "Borrow this blade for a while. Return it after you've slain the opponent!"

Xuan Ze, seeing the Blood-Drinking Mad Blade transform into a streak of blood light flying toward him, hurriedly reached out to catch it. Glancing at it, he was suddenly startled, thinking to himself, "This Blood Blade... such thick Evil Qi!"

He could tell at a glance that this Blood Blade was much more powerful than his Immortal Artifact, and combined with its incredibly dense Evil Qi, it might just turn the tide in their favor.

With the Blood Blade in hand, Xuan Ze didn't bother pondering how Fang Bai had grown so powerful in cultivation level, and faced the Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable, saying, "Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable, your disciple has been executed. Now it's your turn."

The Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable laughed wildly toward the sky and pointed his Immortal Staff at Xuan Ze, mocking, "Don't think you can defeat me with just one Immortal Artifact! You have your Immortal Artifact, and I have my secret technique! Today, you shall witness my power!"

He said this and let out a long whistle, the sound echoing in all directions.

"He actually knows the Beast Taming Art..."

Upon hearing the Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable's whistle, Xuan Ze's expression shifted slightly, noticing the Wind Roc that Fang Bai was riding became visibly agitated after hearing the whistle, causing him to secretly worry.

Although the Wind Roc was of a second-ranked Heavenly Immortal Realm, it was an Immortal Beast, its combat power able to contend against a third-ranked Heavenly Immortal Realm expert. If controlled and commanded by the Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable, it would be a great threat to them.

“Kill!”

Xuan Ze hesitated no longer, swinging the Blood-Drinking Mad Blade with all his strength toward the Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable, thinking he must kill him before he could command that Wind Roc.

With the Blood-Drinking Mad Blade in Xuan Ze’s hand, although it couldn’t unleash its extraordinary power as it did in Fang Bai’s hand, it was still a Divine Artifact, thus increasing Xuan Ze’s combat power significantly with each swing.

Moreover, the Evil Qi of the Blood-Drinking Mad Blade was able to confuse the opponent’s mind, forcing the Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable to divert his attention to resist the intense Evil Qi enveloping him while facing Xuan Ze’s swing.

As a result, Xuan Ze steadily gained the upper hand, forcing the Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable to retreat.

Although gaining the upper hand, Xuan Ze seemed unable to kill the Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable for the moment.

Moments later, the Wind Roc spread its enormous wings and flew swiftly towards the two battling Immortals.

“Not good!”

Xuan Ze instinctively thought the Wind Roc had been successfully controlled by the Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable, coming to attack him, and couldn’t help but secretly lament.

A fifth-ranked Heavenly Immortal Realm expert and an Immortal Beast with combat power comparable to a third-ranked Heavenly Immortal Realm expert; the combination of these two was something Xuan Ze considered himself unable to match.

Meanwhile, a smug smile appeared on the face of the Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable.

Xuan Ze was about to urge Fang Bai and the three other Immortals to leave, when he heard another whistle. Immediately, he saw the Wind Roc sweep past him furiously, charging towards the Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable on the opposite side.

“Hmm?”

Xuan Ze was initially stunned, then suddenly turned to look at Fang Bai, a surge of joy crossing his eyes.

“How is this possible...”

The Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable’s smile froze on his face, also quickly glancing at Fang Bai with an expression full of disbelief.

Neither Xuan Ze nor the Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable had expected that Fang Bai also understood the Beast Taming Art and seemed to surpass the Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable, preventing him from controlling the Wind Roc to attack Xuan Ze.

Accompanied by Fang Bai’s sudden urgent whistle, the Wind Roc’s eyes turned blood-red, appearing insane, and it charged directly at the Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable with its giant body.

The Wind Roc’s physical body was incredibly tough. Such a charge would crush even a mountain, and although the Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable was arrogant, he wouldn’t want to bear such a blow head-on.

So, the Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable chose to evade.

And it was then that Xuan Ze acted.

The Blood-Drinking Mad Blade swung fiercely, its many shadows filling the sky, enveloping the Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable, while the dense Evil Qi surged at him.

One Immortal and one beast, jointly attacking the Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable, caused him to be overwhelmed.

“Hold your hand!”

The Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable, almost unable to hold on, suddenly shouted for Xuan Ze to stop, all the while dealing with the Wind Roc’s frenzied attacks and loudly saying to Xuan Ze, “You killed my disciple. Let us not dwell on it further, nor shall I demand your Space Immortal Ring. Let us cease hostilities and part ways! How about it?”

The Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable had initially intended to seize Xuan Ze’s Space Immortal Ring but ended up losing his disciple’s life and risking his own. Despite his countless grievances, he understood that persisting would lead to a bad outcome, prompting him to demonstrate weakness to Xuan Ze.

“This...”

Seeing the Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable show weakness, Xuan Ze hesitated a bit.

He thought that although the Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable was powerful, even if he could ultimately kill him, it would be a pyrrhic victory, with both sides suffering heavy losses. Ending the conflict peacefully might be a beneficial option.

“Showing mercy to the enemy is cruelty to oneself! This Immortal cannot be spared!”

Seeing the declining fighting spirit in Xuan Ze, Fang Bai was somewhat displeased, coldly asserting.

Xuan Ze met Fang Bai's gaze and saw a resolute determination, prompting a slight start. Recalling the Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable's notorious reputation, he took a deep breath, resolidifying his determination.

"Destroy your Qi Sea, and I will spare your life. Otherwise... you'll join your disciple in death!"

Xuan Ze lifted the Blood-Drinking Mad Blade, its tip pointing at the Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable, and with a chilling tone, declared with Immortal Might descending upon him.

"I'll fight you to the death!"

Realizing the futility of the situation, the Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable, with a fierce expression, swung his Immortal Staff, roaring an attack on Xuan Ze, only to be intercepted by the Wind Roc.

"I'll kill you, you abomination!"

The Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable, finding himself tangled with the Wind Roc, furiously activated his potential, causing a sudden increase in battle power, and simultaneously threw his Immortal Staff at the Wind Roc's left wing.

The Wind Roc, unable to evade, was hit on its left wing, which broke immediately, letting out a wail as it fell toward the ground.

Xuan Ze seized the moment, swinging the Blood-Drinking Mad Blade, and simultaneously deployed his close-fitting Immortal Sword, sending one blade and one sword from two different directions, both striking at the Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable.

The Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable evaded the Immortal Sword but failed to dodge the Blood-Drinking Mad Blade.

The Blood-Drinking Mad Blade shattered his Immortal Domain, cutting off his right shoulder.

Chapter 2118: Flying Crane Sect

"Ah!"

Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable, caught off guard, had an arm severed by the Blood-Drinking Mad Blade. Shocked and angry, he roared towards the sky.

He immediately swallowed a few healing Immortal Pills, thinking that with his cultivation level combined with the efficacy of the pills, he would soon achieve limb regeneration.

But he hadn't anticipated that the Blood-Drinking Mad Blade, unlike ordinary Immortal Artifacts, caused wounds that were hard to heal after being cut.

Moreover, the evil qi of the Blood-Drinking Mad Blade spread everywhere, infiltrating his body rapidly through the wound on his severed arm, beginning to affect his consciousness, causing hallucinations to appear before his eyes.

This was the truly terrifying aspect of the Blood-Drinking Mad Blade.

Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable, with his extensive experience, realized that his wounds weren't healing and he was feeling dizzy. He understood that the blood blade in Xuan Ze's hand could take an immortal's life, and he might not survive this time.

Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable was ruthless to both his enemies and himself. Knowing he couldn't escape this disaster, he resolved to fight to the death.

"Even if I fall, I'll drag a few of you down with me!"

With Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable's violent roar, his body rapidly swelled, with wild immortal qi swirling around him, as if brewing a great storm.

"Not good, he's going to self-detonate!"

Xuan Ze's face changed dramatically, disregarding the task of wounding Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable, and retreated rapidly.

He never imagined that Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable would go to such madness, attempting to self-detonate and perish with himself and the other immortals.

Self-detonation by an immortal is the ultimate resort when there's no other choice. No immortal would easily employ it, as it results in both physical and spiritual destruction, leading to annihilation.

Peng Wu and the other immortals also turned pale upon hearing Xuan Ze's shout, "He's going to self-detonate."

Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable was a dignified fifth-grade Heavenly Immortal Realm Expert. If he self-detonated, the shockwave would instantly spread dozens of miles around.

With the strength of Peng Wu and the other immortals, they could not withstand the immense shockwave triggered by Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable's self-detonation, not without suffering severe injury or death.

"Hide behind the cauldron!"

Fang Bai knew it was too late to escape, so he shouted, rushing forward to shield Xuan Ze, Peng Wu, and the other immortals.

"Let's die together! Haha..."

Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable laughed maniacally, his body and surrounding aura swelling to the extreme.

"Boom!"

A deafening explosion echoed through the heavens and earth as Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable's body suddenly burst apart, seemingly darkening the entire sky.

The intense immortal qi shockwave, like massive waves, surged violently in all directions, creating dark rift lines in the void under its oppressive impact, which were soon repaired by the laws of heaven and earth.

Simultaneously with Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable's self-detonation, Fang Bai summoned the Five Elements Origin Qi Cauldron from his Sea of Consciousness, expanding it to a height of several zhang, just in time to shield Xuan Ze and the five immortals including himself.

"Thump!"

The strong, scattered shockwave crashed onto the Five Elements Origin Qi Cauldron floating in mid-air, emitting a dull metallic clang.

The great cauldron merely trembled slightly, not shattered by the intense shockwave.

"Phew!"

As the powerful shockwave subsided, Xuan Ze, Peng Wu, and the other immortals, who were incredibly tense, all breathed a long sigh of relief.

Xuan Wu and the other immortals, during their training inside the Five Elements Tower, once hid in the great cauldron with Fang Bai to avoid a disaster, knowing then that Fang Bai's cauldron was extraordinarily sturdy, a most extraordinary Immortal Artifact.

However, the golden-scaled python that swallowed them had merely the peak cultivation level of the Earth Immortal Realm, far inferior to the fifth-grade Heavenly Immortal Realm Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable. They initially believed Fang Bai's cauldron couldn't withstand the shockwave from Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable's self-detonation and had mentally prepared for the cauldron's shattering and their severe injuries.

Yet, unexpectedly, the cauldron not only withstood Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable's self-detonation shockwave but also remained undamaged.

They had never seen such a sturdy Immortal Artifact, their esteem for the cauldron greatly increased.

"This great cauldron... is extraordinary!"

Xuan Ze, with his keen sight, recognized that although the exterior of the Five Elements Origin Qi Cauldron appeared plain and old, it was by no means comparable to ordinary Immortal Artifacts, far surpassing even his Immortal Sword.

With a thought, Fang Bai retrieved the Five Elements Origin Qi Cauldron back into his Sea of Consciousness, smiling as he said, "Fortunately, my Immortal Artifact is solid, we finally escaped this disaster!"

He didn't wish to dwell too much on the matter of the Five Elements Origin Qi Cauldron and quickly added, "There must have been many cultivation resources in Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable's Space Immortal Ring, though with his self-detonation, the ring turned to ash, a bit of a pity!"

The air was still filled with floating blood mist and a faint bloody odor.

Xuan Ze, recalling the terrifying scene of Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable's self-detonation, still felt lingering fear, smiling wryly, "To escape this disaster is fortunate enough; the rest doesn't matter."

Pausing, he continued, "Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable's self-detonation caused quite a disturbance, possibly attracting other immortals to investigate. To avoid unnecessary trouble, we should continue on our way!"

Fang Bai and the other immortals nodded in agreement.

The Wind Roc Fang Bai rode previously couldn't withstand the shockwave from Blood Wolf Immortal Venerable's self-detonation, turning into blood mist and dispersing with the wind.

Thus, Fang Bai, together with Xuan Ze, Peng Wu, Ying Luo, and Yu Feng, rode on Auspicious Clouds, continuing their flight.

After a dozen days, the five immortals reached the Flying Crane Sect.

The Flying Crane Sect was located in a forest formed in ancient times, extremely secluded, with layers of formations set up around the immortal sect. Unless one was a disciple of the Flying Crane Sect or knowledgeable in advanced formation techniques, discovering Immortal Crane Mountain, let alone entering it, was near impossible.

Led by Yu Feng, Xuan Ze and the other immortals ventured into the ancient forest with trees towering a hundred zhang high and boundless in expanse, making twists and turns, finally arriving at an immortal paradise shrouded in immortal mist and with white cranes soaring.

"Your Master truly found a good place!"

Fang Bai looked around, smiling as he spoke.

Yu Feng replied earnestly, "My master was once guided by the War Emperor, skilled in the Array Path. After discovering this immortal realm, he set up a Concealment Formation here to establish the immortal sect... Over the millennia, my master has accepted over a hundred disciples. I am one of the top ten Core Disciples..."

He was introducing Fang Bai and the other immortals to the origins of the Flying Crane Sect when he saw a few figures darting towards them through the trees.

Laughing, he said, "They are my fellow disciples, brothers, and sisters."

Just as he finished speaking, those figures appeared before them.

"Senior Brother Yu, you're back?"

A round-faced girl in a green dress looked at Yu Feng, her eyes revealing adoration, and said happily.

It was evident that the girl in the green dress felt a deep affection for Yu Feng.

Yu Feng nodded to the girl in the green dress, saying, "Junior Sister Xia, how has everyone been?"

The girl in the green dress replied, "Everyone's doing great! I... I did miss you a bit!"

Yu Feng's cheeks flushed, and he cleared his throat, saying, "Hurry to report to Master, telling him there are distinguished guests at the immortal sect."

Chapter 2119: Flying Crane Venerable

Upon hearing the words "distinguished guests," the young girl in green shifted her gaze from Yu Feng's face.

She blinked her large, round eyes and, upon seeing Peng Wu and Ying Luo, said with a cheerful smile, "Senior Brother Peng and Senior Sister Ying come here often, so they don't count as distinguished guests. So is Senior Brother Yu referring to them?"

As she spoke, she pointed towards Xuan Ze and Fang Bai.

The Flying Crane Sect disciples behind the girl, upon seeing the unfamiliar immortals Xuan Ze and Fang Bai, also looked at them with curious eyes.

The Flying Crane Sect has been established for thousands of years, and aside from immortals like Peng Wu and Ying Luo, who have great relations with the sect, it is rare for other immortals to enter. Therefore, the arrival of Xuan Ze and Fang Bai surprised the disciples of the Flying Crane Sect.

Especially Fang Bai, with his sword-like eyebrows and starry eyes, red lips and white teeth, he was a remarkably handsome young immortal, attracting the attention of several young female Flying Crane Sect disciples.

Yu Feng waved his hand and said to the green-clad girl, "Go, go! Tell the master that these distinguished guests have deep connections with the Emperor's Palace."

Upon hearing this, the young girl dared not say more and swiftly moved toward a high Immortal Hall.

"This junior sister is named Xia Qingying; she's the youngest and the latest disciple to join the Flying Crane Sect, greatly favored by the master."

Yu Feng pointed at the silhouette of the green-clad girl with a chuckle.

"Junior Sister Xia is not only favored by your master; she seems quite favored by you too, isn't she?"

Peng Wu smiled, winking.

Ying Luo also teased with a laugh, "Earlier, the way Junior Sister Xia looked at you was full of affection! How are things progressing between the two of you? When will you become immortal companions?"

They had been visiting the Flying Crane Sect frequently and long knew of the mutual affection between Yu Feng and Xia Qingying.

Upon hearing this, Yu Feng blushed and muttered, "What immortal companions... we have yet to take the first step, it's too soon!"

At this moment, several brothers and sisters from Flying Crane Sect gathered around, chatting with Yu Feng, Peng Wu, and Ying Luo.

Two bold and outgoing Flying Crane Sect female disciples showed interest in Fang Bai and actively chatted with him, causing Yu Feng, Peng Wu, and Ying Luo to snicker nonstop.

Only Xuan Ze was left out on the sidelines for a while.

However, Xuan Ze was not annoyed; he looked around this immortal paradise, his eyes sparkling with wonder, deeply admiring it.

Soon after, Xuan Ze and the others sensed a profound aura approaching, instantly enveloping the world, involuntarily giving rise to feelings of awe and respect.

"The master is here."

Yu Feng said, turning towards the Immortal Hall.

Xuan Ze, Peng Wu, Ying Luo, and all the Flying Crane Sect disciples, too, solemnly looked in that direction.

Only Fang Bai maintained a smile at the corners of his mouth, his eyes revealing a somewhat enigmatic expression.

From within the Immortal Hall, a benevolent gray-robed immortal slowly walked out, standing on the steps, casting a glance towards Xuan Ze and others.

At first glance, he seemed ordinary, not striking in appearance, yet he emanated an aura that invited one to worship.

His eyes were bright as lightning, seemingly tangible; a glance from him made one feel as though entirely seen through, no secret able to be hidden.

Not to mention Peng Wu, Ying Luo, even Xuan Ze, possessing a fifth-grade Heavenly Immortal realm cultivation degree, became respectfully restrained, hardly daring to take a deep breath upon seeing the gray-robed immortal.

"The master invites us over."

Seeing the gray-robed immortal beckon, Yu Feng led Xuan Ze, Fang Bai, Peng Wu, and Ying Luo over.

The gray-robed immortal, is Yu Feng's master, Flying Crane Venerable, one of the rare Immortal King Realm Experts in the Immortal Realm.

Arriving before Flying Crane Venerable, Yu Feng cupped his fists and bowed deeply, saying, "Master, your disciple has returned from training."

Flying Crane Venerable smiled gently, his gaze lingering on Yu Feng for a moment, nodding, "Years of training, progressing one small realm... Hmm, not bad."

Then he shifted his gaze to Peng Wu and Ying Luo, saying with a hearty laugh, "You two youngsters are here again? How is Nvlang Venerable doing? I haven't seen him for decades; has his cultivation advanced further?"

Peng Wu quickly replied, "The elder master is doing well. He is now at the second-grade Immortal King Realm. Before I set out for training this time, the master specifically asked me, if I met Uncle Crane, to pass along his regards. The master also said that if you have the time, you might visit Bluewater Immortal Mansion as a guest and discuss the Dao of Cultivation together."

Flying Crane Venerable laughed and said, "Very well. It's time I visit him as it's been too long since I last saw Nvlang Venerable."

His gaze fell on Xuan Ze and Fang Bai, sensing a familiar aura from them, he raised a white brow and happily said, "It's the first visit for these Junior Immortal Friends, a most welcome one!"

"Junior Xuan Ze, disciple under Bitao Immortal King, greetings to you, Senior!"

Xuan Ze stepped forward, extended a deep bow, introducing himself.

Flying Crane Venerable's gaze brightened, originally calm demeanor visibly stirred, saying, "So my guess was right, you are indeed Bitao Immortal King's disciple... Where is your master now?"

Xuan Ze's expression darkened, his eyes slightly reddening, said in a mournful voice, "The master... fell a millennium ago under the pursuit of the Eight Immortal Emperors!"

Flying Crane Venerable exclaimed "Ah" and stood dazed for a long time, suddenly showing an expression of grief and anger, lamenting, "The Eight Immortal Emperors are truly detestable! The War Emperor was killed, the Emperor's Palace destroyed, if this vendetta isn't avenged, I cannot rest in peace!"

Xuan Ze clenched his fists, his gaze firm, declaring, "For years, I've traveled across nine Heavenly Domains of the Immortal Realm, connecting with disciples of the Emperor's Palace, all for the day I may avenge against the Eight Immortal Emperors!"

Flying Crane Venerable nodded, "I imagine any Emperor's Palace disciples who survived back then hold similar thoughts. Tell me, how many Emperor's Palace disciples have you managed to connect with now?"

Xuan Ze chuckled wryly, "I'm ashamed to say, the number of Emperor's Palace disciples I've found is few to count so far."

Flying Crane Venerable wasn't surprised, sighing, "That's not your fault. After the War Emperor fell, the Emperor's Palace disciples were leaderless, relentlessly pursued by the Eight Immortal Emperors' forces. To avoid them, most Emperor's Palace disciples have found refuge in hidden places like me, secretly accumulating strength, thus making them hard to find."

Xuan Ze suddenly remembered, pointing to Fang Bai beside him, said joyfully, "This Immortal Friend Fang Bai, met during our training, has some connection with the Emperor's Palace. He accompanied us here to meet you, Senior. However, I still don't know Immortal Friend Fang's identity."

Flying Crane Venerable, from the first glance at Fang Bai, had been attentive to him, continually feeling a familiar aura akin to recognition from this young immortal.

Especially noting Fang Bai holding an Innate Spiritual Root, being so young yet already at the Heavenly Immortal Realm, it was shocking, making him wonder that even with such a root, without divine fortune, reaching such levels should be impossible.

So what exactly is Fang Bai's identity and background?

Chapter 2120: There's a Problem With Your Teaching

The gaze of all the immortals present fell upon Fang Bai.

To Xuan Ze, Peng Wu, and the other immortals, although they could confirm that Fang Bai had a connection with the Nine Heavens Immortal Emperor Palace of old, his specific identity and origin remained a mystery.

"Junior Immortal Friend Fang, could you perhaps enlighten us?"

Flying Crane Venerable looked at Fang Bai, asking with a smiling gaze.

He had a gut feeling that this young immortal named Fang Bai had a deep-seated connection with him, thus filling his heart with curiosity.

In his past life, Fang Bai founded the Nine Heavens Immortal Emperor Palace and was titled War Emperor, an unrivaled figure throughout the Immortal Realm, known to others as "Palace Master" and "War Emperor." Yet, Fang Bai's true name was known to very few immortals.

Even though Flying Crane Venerable had received guidance and teachings from Fang Bai, sharing a relationship that was both mentor and friend-like with him, he still didn't know Fang Bai's real name.

"My identity and origin..."

Seeing Flying Crane Venerable, Xuan Ze, and other immortals watching him and awaiting his answer, Fang Bai smiled slightly and said to Flying Crane Venerable, "This matter is somewhat complex and significant, at present I can only tell you one thing."

Flying Crane Venerable was momentarily taken aback, puzzled by Fang Bai's words, but after thinking it over, said, "Very well. Tell me, and I'll keep it a secret for you."

"Let's speak inside the Immortal Hall."

Fang Bai pointed to the Immortal Hall where Flying Crane Venerable resided.

His tone showed little respect towards Flying Crane Venerable, which made Xuan Ze, Peng Wu, and other immortals feel he was being somewhat impolite.

After all, Flying Crane Venerable was an honorable Immortal King Realm expert, who had good relations with the former Emperor's Palace Master; therefore, since Fang Bai had some connection with the Emperor's Palace, he should have maintained a certain respectful attitude towards Flying Crane Venerable.

"Immortal Friend Fang, this... alas, he is still too young!"

Xuan Ze shook his head and sighed as he watched Fang Bai walk side by side with Flying Crane Venerable towards the Immortal Hall.

Fortunately, Flying Crane Venerable was good-natured and easy-going; otherwise, he might have been displeased with Fang Bai's lack of courtesy.

After Fang Bai and Flying Crane Venerable entered the Immortal Hall, Flying Crane Venerable watched in a daze as Fang Bai casually set up an isolation formation. Fang Bai then sat down on an Immortal Stone chair, looked at Flying Crane Venerable, and shook his head lightly, saying, "Flying Crane, it's been a thousand years, and your cultivation level hasn't improved much!"

Upon hearing this, Flying Crane Venerable felt as if he had been struck by lightning, his whole body trembling lightly.

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Xuan Ze and the disciples of the Flying Crane Sect waited quietly outside the Immortal Hall, not daring to make any noise.

Even though their curiosity was insatiable and they were eager to know what Fang Bai and Flying Crane Venerable were discussing inside, without Flying Crane Venerable's permission, they didn't dare use their divine sense to probe the happenings within the hall.

It was unclear how much time had passed before the isolation formation within the Immortal Hall was lifted, and Xuan Ze and the others finally heard some movement.

When Fang Bai and Flying Crane Venerable emerged from the hall, Xuan Ze and the others noticed that Fang Bai was actually a step ahead of Flying Crane Venerable. Rather than showing any dissatisfaction, Flying Crane Venerable's demeanor was one of respectful deference, leaving them all startled and incredulous.

Looking at Flying Crane Venerable's behavior, it was clearly an attitude of a junior towards a senior!

What kind of background did Fang Bai have that could command such treatment from Flying Crane Venerable?

In an instant, Fang Bai's image in the eyes of Xuan Ze, Peng Wu, and other immortals became even more mysterious.

"All of you, come over here."

Standing on the stone steps outside the Immortal Hall together with Fang Bai, Flying Crane Venerable waved at the stunned Xuan Ze, Peng Wu, and other immortals.

Once Xuan Ze, Peng Wu, and the others had gathered at the front of the Immortal Hall, Flying Crane Venerable said solemnly, "The identity and origin of Senior Fang cannot be disclosed for now, but you'll know sooner or later..."

Upon hearing Flying Crane Venerable address Fang Bai as "Senior Fang," Xuan Ze, Peng Wu, and other immortals couldn't help but gasp, and when they looked at Fang Bai again, there was a hint of awe in their eyes.

Considering Flying Crane Venerable is a dignified Immortal King Realm expert, to address Fang Bai as a senior indicates that Fang Bai's background is truly extraordinary, far beyond their imagination.

Flying Crane Venerable looked at the shocked Xuan Ze and his disciples, cleared his throat, and continued, "Senior Fang will be staying here for a period of time to impart his knowledge to you... this is a tremendous opportunity for you all, make sure to grasp it..."

Flying Crane Venerable's voice trembled slightly as he spoke, clearly excited to the point of being somewhat out of sorts.

His reaction left Xuan Ze, Peng Wu, and the others feeling bewildered and confused.

"Don't let your thoughts run wild, just listen carefully to Senior Fang's explanations. You'll soon realize what a rare opportunity this is! Before long, your cultivation levels will surely see significant improvements..."

Flying Crane Venerable spoke with excitement and enthusiasm, a demeanor quite unlike his usually composed and steady image.

The disciples of the Flying Crane Sect, including Yu Feng, exchanged puzzled glances, wondering what kind of conversation had transpired between their master and Fang Bai inside the hall, that resulted in such a notable change upon coming out.

Flying Crane Venerable, after making his fervent and impassioned remarks, turned his gaze to Fang Bai, seemingly inquiring if he had anything to say.

"Actually, the qualifications of these Emperor's Palace descendants are quite decent. If not for some issues in your teaching, their cultivation levels would far surpass their current state..."

Fang Bai glanced over the Flying Crane Sect disciples, including Yu Feng, and then candidly directed his comment to Flying Crane Venerable.

Upon hearing this, Yu Feng and the Flying Crane Sect disciples felt somewhat defiant, thinking that since their master was an Immortal King Realm expert, if there were issues with his teaching, how could they have all reached the Earth Immortal Realm cultivation level?

In their view, having already reached the Earth Immortal Realm was a considerable achievement given their current circumstances, barring the advent of some monumental opportunity—how could their cultivation levels already far exceed the current state as Fang Bai suggested?

They expected their master to show a trace of displeasure, yet surprisingly found their master not only unoffended but rather receptive.

This humble demeanor before Fang Bai was unprecedented, leaving Yu Feng and the other immortals both curious and somewhat perturbed.

"Let's do it here..."

Fang Bai gestured to a patch of garden in front of the Immortal Hall before sitting cross-legged on the ground.

Flying Crane Venerable promptly followed suit, sitting directly opposite Fang Bai, the excitement in his eyes seemingly intensifying.

Seeing this, Xuan Ze, Peng Wu, and the other immortals joined them, sitting behind Flying Crane Venerable.

"What you've been cultivating are Water System Immortal Technique Secrets, so now, I'll explain the Azure Sea Giant Wave Art and Furious Wave Fist to you..."

Fang Bai looked at Flying Crane Venerable and the immortals opposite him, quirked a smile, and began his detailed explanation.

Yu Feng and the Flying Crane Sect disciples, already practicing the Azure Sea Giant Wave Art and Furious Wave Fist, perked up in anticipation of hearing how Fang Bai's explanations differed from their master's, particularly since he dared to suggest their master's teachings had issues.

Though not disciples of the Flying Crane Sect, Xuan Ze, Peng Wu, and Ying Luo were also practitioners of Water System Immortal Technique Secrets, making Fang Bai's lecture equally relevant to them, prompting them to listen intently with focused attention.