

## **Eternal Heart 171**

### Chapter 171: Lv Tiezu's Investigation

Chen Yu's abundant harvest shocked the Three Sects Camp, as well as the Bone Demon Palace faction.

The scene was filled with clamor.

In terms of overall gain, even if half of the Blood Soul Flower was credited to him, Chen Yu could still stand shoulder to shoulder with Mei Changqing.

Although the Blood Soul Flower was a priceless treasure, the spiritual efficacy of the halved Blood Soul Flower was greatly diminished without its bud. Its value was far from even one-tenth of the original.

"It seems that this young man is undoubtedly the murderer who killed Lu Zhuo. Having such a harvest is not surprising."

The Blood Robed Handsome Man glanced over Chen Yu.

He remained calm, pensive, and did not express strong jealousy or murderous intent like Guardian Shangguan.

"Changqing, what is this young man's background that he achieved such a harvest?"

Master Fu's face darkened.

It truly irked him that someone from the Three Sects Camp could match Mei Changqing, a prodigy on equal footing.

"Master, regarding this person..."

Mei Changqing spoke with a hint of bitterness, briefly describing Chen Yu's rise within the Blood Burial Garden.

Included in his account were the incidents where Chen Yu had killed Lu Zhuo and defeated him, which Mei Changqing dared not conceal.

At the same moment.

Many disciples from the Three Sects Camp and the Bone Demon Palace were recounting Chen Yu's experiences within the Blood Burial Garden to their elders.

"So, Qi'er is confirmed to have been killed by this man?"

The purple-haired, golden-armored Guardian Shangguan, upon hearing a disciple's account, displayed a strong resentment and killing intent on his face.

"Helian Tu was also killed by this person? It seems that this young man is a person of great fortune within the Three Sects Camp."

Master Fu's expression fluctuated.

After Chen Yu's deeds were revealed, the Bone Demon Palace faction was furious.

Some of the elders and accomplished individuals from the Three Sects Camp looked enviously at Elder Mao.

Elder Mao's two disciples had reaped significant rewards in the Blood Burial Garden.

Chen Yu's harvest was among the top.

For a time.

Elder Mao was the center of attention, becoming the big winner among the older generation.

Chen Yu, standing in the crowd, felt uneasy under the many hostile, covetous, and murderous gazes.

In the Blood Burial Garden, no matter how imposing he had been, he was ultimately a newcomer.

Any of the older generation's Qi Transformation Innates, let alone the undying old monsters of the Guiyuan Realm, could take his life with a mere flick of their fingers.

Cold sweat began to seep from Chen Yu's forehead.

This was even as he had privately hidden parts of his harvest, such as the ancient Token, the Heavenly Bamboo Shoot Liquid, the Puppet Sphere, the Black Blood Strange Grass... including the [Blood Crystal Flame] sealed within his body.

According to Tong Yuling, the value of that [Blood Crystal Flame] was not much less than a complete Ten-thousand-year Blood Soul Flower.

Once such True Fire Spirit Flame was exposed, it would presumably provoke the mad scramble of Guiyuan Realm old freaks.

"Chen Yu, you needn't feel too much pressure. With this trip to the Blood Burial Garden, you have made great contributions to our sect."

The green-robed, white-haired elder said with a slight smile.

At this moment.

The Supreme Elder, the Yunyue Sect Master, and others were in front of Chen Yu, inquiring about various related matters.

Simultaneously.

Lv Tieniu and Master Fu unleashed their Spiritual Sense to search for all the displayed spoils of the disciples.

After a long while.

Disappointment showed on the faces of both Guiyuan Realm individuals.

Master Fu was disappointed because he did not find the other half of the Blood Soul Flower or any trace of the Blood Soul Bud.

If he could find the other half of the Blood Soul Flower and the Blood Soul Bud, there would be a chance to piece together a complete Blood Soul Flower.

Lv Tieniu's disappointment lay in not finding any clues to Lv Santong's death.

Among these.

Lv Tiezu had also paid attention to Chen Yu's numerous spoils of war, finding nothing related to Lv Santong.

"How could this be..."

Lv Tiezu's brows furrowed, feeling as though he was touching upon something, yet without any clues.

At this time.

Master Fu, with a displeased expression, stared at the Yunyue Sect faction and said in a heavy tone:

"Gongyang Daoist, my disciple Changqing tells me that the disappearance of the other half of the Blood Soul Flower, as well as the Blood Soul Bud, seems to be related to your sect's Chen Yu."

With these words.

Once again, the scene erupted. Many eyes converged on the Yunyue Sect and Chen Yu.

The "Gongyang Daoist" mentioned by Master Fu was the white-haired, green-robed elder standing beside Chen Yu, the Yunyue Sect's Supreme Elder.

Facing Master Fu's unfriendly gaze and the Bone Demon Palace's aggressive stance, the high-ranking officials from the other two sects appeared somewhat gloating.

In the war among the Chu Country Sects.

The Bone Demon Palace overshadowed the Three Sects. If they made a further push, they might first destroy one sect.

If indeed.

The Yunyue Sect attracted great hatred from the Bone Demon Palace, it would invisibly share the greater pressure for the other two sects.

"Regarding this matter, Chen Yu has already explained to me..."

The Gongyang Green Robed Elder spoke deliberately and calmly.

In the previous questioning, Chen Yu recounted the situation regarding Tong Yuling.

He had placed all blame for the missing half of the Blood Soul Flower, as well as the Blood Soul Bud, squarely on Tong Yuling.

After all.

Whether Tong Yuling, who stayed behind in the Blood Burial Garden, would return to the lands of the Chu Country, was uncertain.

"This woman was actually seized by a powerful being within the Blood Burial Garden? And she took away half of the Blood Soul Flower, remaining within the garden..."

This significant news caused a great stir within both factions.

Relative to the Chu Country, the Blood Burial Garden was an extremely rare resource-rich land.

The garden's secret space had Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi several times denser than the outside world, especially suited for practitioners of the Blood Path.

"Young friend, could you elaborate on the details of that body seizing event?"

The Blood Robed Handsome Man suddenly spoke up.

Chen Yu was startled and curiously sized up the Blood Robed Man.

"Yu'er, this man is suspected to come from the mysterious 'Blood Moon Organization,' whose background is even more terrifying than the Bone Demon Palace. You must be cautious."

Elder Mao warned him via a transmitted message.

Chen Yu's heart grew tense, for any existence that could make Elder Mao wary was certainly no ordinary figure.

Immediately,

Chen Yu recounted in simple terms the details of how Tong Yuling had been possessed.

"What this young man says is true. The mysterious woman who possessed her is none other than the former master of the Blood Burial Garden—the Blood Lotus Saintess!"

The Blood Robed Man's expression was complex as he sighed deeply.

"Blood Lotus Saintess?"

Upon hearing this, Master Fu could not help but exclaim in shock, showing a look of awe.

"To think that the 'Blood Lotus Saintess,' who perished in the past, had a remnant soul escape back to the Blood Burial Heavenly Garden and take refuge in the Ten-thousand-year Blood Soul Flower she had carefully nurtured..."

The Blood Robed Man stated.

"Oh? If that is so, she could have easily created a body from a millennium of Blood Soul, why then did she need to possess a female disciple?"

Master Fu looked puzzled.

"However, a 'Flower Spirit' was born within the Blood Soul Flower, and its awareness had awakened. It occupied half of the Blood Soul Flower alongside the weakened remnant soul of the Blood Lotus Saintess, and it was difficult to distinguish the victor between them."

The Blood Robed Man said with a hint of mockery.

Had Chen Yu been there to hear this discussion, he would have certainly been shocked.

This man had not personally entered the Blood Burial Garden, yet he had deduced these details based on the accounts of disciples from the outside world.

"In the end, this lad, Chen Yu, split open the Blood Soul Flower. This accomplished the resurrection of the 'Blood Lotus Saintess' remnant soul, which, by a fortuitous coincidence, took residence in the body of the girl named Tong Yuling. I surmise that this female disciple must have some blood-related origins in her body that allowed the Blood Lotus Saintess to succeed with such ease."

The Blood Robed Man analyzed one by one.

"Fate plays tricks on us indeed. A single thought from this young man could potentially enable the 'Blood Lotus Saintess' to rise again and perhaps change the fate of the entire Kunyun Realm."

Master Fu couldn't help but lament.

"With the acquisition of half the Blood Soul Flower and various other treasures in the garden, it wouldn't be difficult for the 'Blood Lotus Saintess' to recover to her peak. The most regrettable part is the [Blood Crystal Flame], which is most likely under her control now..."

The Blood Robed Man was filled with regret.

"The [Blood Crystal Flame]? Such a legendary True Fire Spirit Flame actually exists in the Blood Burial Garden."

Master Fu was shaken to his core.

The Blood Robed Man's face was filled with regret, and his heart seemed to bleed.

His plan fell just short.

If he could get his hands on the [Blood Crystal Flame], the [Blood Sun Pearl], and the [Ten-thousand-year Blood Soul Flower] all at once,

He was confident that within twenty years, he could reach the summit of the continent.

Clang swoosh!

Just then, a brilliant orange light from the Surprising Swallow Sword soared into the sky, and the surrounding wind and clouds churned.

At the same time,

An overwhelming Sword Intent enveloped everyone present, making the people of the Three Sects Camp and the Bone Demon Palace tremble in their hearts.

"Lv Tiantong, have you not yet found the murderer?"

Master Fu said indifferently.

At this moment,

Despite using various methods, Lv Tiezu had failed to find any leads on the murderer.

The tremendous Sword Intent he had just launched was meant to sense the sword-shaped Jade Talisman in Lv Santong's possession.

Lv Santong had three such sword talismans, crucial for life-or-death situations.

He would undoubtedly use one of those sword-shaped Jade Talismans, which were personally crafted by Lv Tiezu, imbued with his own Sword Dao power.

Once the power of such a sword-shaped Jade Talisman attacked someone, it would naturally taint them with a trace of its essence.

"Hmm? It's you..."

Lv Tiezu's sharp gaze fixated on Mei Changqing.

This scene

Caused Chen Yu and Liu Xin'er to show astonished expressions.

But soon,

Chen Yu understood the likely reason.

Lv Santong must have been pursued by Mei Changqing and had probably used a sword-shaped Jade Talisman, tainting his pursuer with the sword's Dao power, albeit faintly.

Liu Xin'er had also come into contact with the power of this sword-shaped Jade Talisman.

However, the [Blood Sun Pearl], which she had unleashed beyond her level, was too powerful, instantly burning away that force, so she didn't retain any related aura.

"Changqing, was it you who killed Lv Santong?"

Master Fu asked calmly.

He had no reservations about the matter and didn't care if Mei Changqing admitted to it or not.

Lv Tiezu's eyes also flashed with wariness as he looked toward the back of the Bone Demon Palace camp, where a deadly still stone coffin lay.

"Senior Lv. Changqing did indeed pursue Lv Santong but failed to catch him. He used one of those sword-shaped Jade Talismans and almost rebounded against me."

Mei Changqing said calmly.

Lv Tiezu frowned slightly. He was aware of the pursuit circumstances already recounted by a disciple of the Iron Sword sect.

"I would confess if I were the killer. Why hide? However, I might offer a thought."

Mei Changqing then smiled again.

"Oh? Let's hear it."

Lv Tiezu's eyes gleamed with a cold light, surprised as he looked at Mei Changqing.

Indeed,

If Mei Changqing had killed Lv Santong, he would have no reason to hide and could simply admit it openly.

Besides,

Lv Tiezu subconsciously hoped that Mei Changqing was not the murderer.

"Everyone knows that of all the disciples who entered the Blood Burial Garden, aside from Mei, only Chen Yu and Lu Zhuo were likely capable of killing Lv Santong. And that Lu Zhuo... has died at the hands of Chen Yu..."

Mei Changqing grinned enigmatically, then fell silent.

He would not accuse Chen Yu of being the murderer, but the insinuation was crystal clear.

"This Mei Changqing, what a schemer..."

Chen Yu cursed inwardly.

Was he not obviously sowing discord among the factions of the Three Sects Camp?

Lv Santong had strong survival skills.

People like Jiang Ping, Demon Clown, and Chang Xuan had no chance of threatening Lv Santong's life.

In the Blood Burial Garden,

After Chen Yu had killed Lu Zhuo and subsequently won against Mei Changqing,

If they ruled out Mei Changqing and the deceased Lu Zhuo, based on "capability," there was only Chen Yu left.

Chapter 172: Six-Month Agreement

Chen Yu's heart seethed with silent resentment and extreme irritation.

Of course, he understood that it was Mei Changqing's hostility and jealousy towards him that led to the deliberate framing.

In fact.

Mei Changqing probably didn't know the truth, but he had guessed correctly and spoke with such seeming justification.

After all.

Simply based on "capability," Chen Yu could be considered a suspect.

The key issue was.

Whether Lv Tiezu would subjectively believe or be so easily "driven apart by wedge-driving."

If he were rational.

A person at Lv Tiezu's level, with his experience and insight, should not easily believe the enemy's words.

However.

Chen Yu realized that his thoughts were too naive and optimistic.

"Chen Yu!"

A chilling shout that shocked the soul echoed through the venue.

Lv Tiezu, with his silver hair flying, had a sharp and icy Sword Intent flash in his eyes, locking onto Chen Yu.

"Stop! Lv Tiezu!"

Yunyue Sect's Supreme Elder Gongyang, his face changing, cried out to stop him.

However.

Lv Tiezu's movement was too fast; his spiritual Sword Intent had already made its move towards Chen Yu.

Boom!

Chen Yu felt a dominating and void-like spiritual Sword Intent rushing towards him, akin to the broken sword he faced in the Ancient Moon Well, though slightly weaker.

Nevertheless.

This Sword Intent was purposeful, targeting Chen Yu more intensely, and the situation was very different from that day.

In an instant.

Chen Yu felt a sharp pain in his heart and mind, his complexion turned ghostly pale, his body shook, and he nearly vomited blood.

With a "crack."

The "Ice Heart Tears" amulet he wore on his chest shattered immediately.

It was unimaginable.

The power of this spiritual Sword Intent was so strong that it directly shattered the "Ice Heart Tears" protecting his spirit.

Although the Ice Heart Tears had already been cracked when it blocked a dagger that day.

Sigh~

Chen Yu steadied his body and blood, as a nameless rage erupted in his chest.

Had it not been for the Cloud Evil Fist reaching its peak, combined with the enhanced spiritual energy from consuming the Blood Soul Bud, making him slightly stronger than the average Qi Transformation Realm, this void Sword Intent could have cost him half his life.

"Eh!"

Lv Tiezu, however, was completely taken aback, letting out a sound of surprise.

His attack, a spiritual Sword Intent, was meant to intimidate Chen Yu; yet, it was resisted by him.

Lv Tiezu's reason for attacking was not only his suspicion towards Chen Yu but also the resentment and indignation in his heart.

He was displeased by Chen Yu's rising fortune in the Blood Burial Garden, especially when compared to the death of his own grandson.

"Lv Tiezu, why attack my disciple without any proof?"

An old and angry voice came from the red-faced elder next to Chen Yu.

It was Elder Mao!

A warmth filled Chen Yu's heart. He suppressed his anger, reminding himself that he absolutely must not act impulsively.

"No proof?"

Lv Tiezu's voice was a cold sneer, "The fact that this boy could withstand my ten percent Sword Intent and remain unharmed proves that he can resolve Santong's trump card."

Hearing this.

Chen Yu and Elder Mao almost exploded with fury.

Resisting ten percent of Sword Intent means that Chen Yu is the murderer?

"Lv Tiezu, is this alone sufficient to conclude that Chen Yu is the culprit? Isn't this a bit far-fetched?"

The Gongyang elder in a green robe said with a troubled face.

"Gongyang Mountain, decades ago you couldn't withstand ten moves from me; do you still plan to obstruct my pursuit of the murderer?"

Lv Tiezu transmitted a mocking tone.

Supreme Elder Gongyang's face immediately turned embarrassed, and he broke out in a cold sweat.

Lv Tiezu's transmission was meant to save some face for him.

In terms of strength.

Lv Tiezu was unrivalled among the Three Sects; Yunyue Sect's Supreme Elder "Gongyang Mountain" had been his defeated foe, unable to withstand ten moves.

"I don't oppose your pursuit of the murderer, but you must present real evidence, convincing to all. Otherwise, how can I, a Supreme Elder... live with myself?"

Supreme Elder Gongyang transmitted back with a bitter smile.

If Chen Yu were the murderer and there was conclusive evidence, he would not hesitate to hand him over.

After all, the Three Sects were part of the same camp, and they had agreed before entering the Blood Burial Garden not to kill each other.

And Chen Yu's talents were not a key focus for cultivation within Yunyue Sect.

The problem was.

Now that Chen Yu had made significant contributions, Lv Tiezu had no real evidence, which was hard to justify.

"Chen Yu! I ask you one last time, did you kill Santong? I heard from the disciples that at Yan Family Castle, there was a grudge between you and Santong, and you harbored resentment towards each other."

Lv Tiezu said sternly.

Hearing this.

Some elders at the scene suddenly realized.

It turns out.

Lv Tieniu's suspicion of Chen Yu's "capabilities" was also because of a grudge between him and Lv Santong.

"Lv Santong? I recall that the person who appeared at Yan Family Castle was the notoriously infamous Infinite Thief."

Chen Yu coldly laughed.

He understood that at this moment, it was crucial not to show weakness but to stand firm.

"That's right! The one who appeared then was the Infinite Thief?"

Fang Haofei, Xie Jing, and others came forward to testify immediately, voicing their support for Chen Yu.

"So, does Senior Lv admit that your grandson was the villainous Infinite Thief?"

Chen Yu retorted.

"Hahaha..."

A burst of laughter came from the crowd, especially the Bone Demon Palace side, which thoroughly enjoyed the spectacle.

"This boy seems to have great fortune among the Three Sects Camp; causing such discord would indeed be quite an entertaining play."

Master Fu said with a cold tone.

He greatly appreciated Mei Changqing's manipulation and stirring up trouble.

Guardian Shangguan had a cruel and cold expression, watching the drama play out.

"Junior Brother, don't bother with excuses! As long as you know in your heart what you did. Given that you have the power to kill Santong and you have a grudge against him, we can confirm you are the prime suspect!"

Lv Tiezu's expression turned cold as he shouted angrily.

In an instant,

A vast Sword Intent, accompanied by a large swath of orange brilliance, formed a swirling cloud of swords with a radius of twenty zhang, hovering above Chen Yu.

Under that Guiyuan Realm pressure and Sword Intent, everyone in the Yunyue Sect, including some of the Qi Transformation Realm elders, found it hard to breathe.

Boom!

Chen Yu's entire body's qi and blood condensed, and under the invisible Sword Intent's lock, he felt as though he was being crushed by a million-jin iron mountain.

Thinking of arguing back? Even the thought of resisting felt incredibly difficult.

At this moment,

From the Yunyue Sect side, only Supreme Elder Gongyang had the capability to resist Lv Tiezu's power.

But he remained silent.

Whoosh!

A gust of azure wind swiftly flashed by, placing itself in front of Chen Yu.

"Master..." Chen Yu's heart was shaken.

At this critical moment,

Only Elder Mao, regardless of the cost, stood in front of him.

"Senior Lv! My disciple's single denial is taken as an excuse, whereas the presence of related Qi on Mei Changqing's body, as tangible evidence, is enough to win your belief."

"Could it be that as the number one figure of the Three Sects Camp, you'd rather trust the words of an enemy?"

Elder Mao's gaze was piercing as he stared straight at Lv Tiezu.

As soon as these words came out, the whole place went deadly silent.

This statement was a direct hit to the crux of the matter!

Why should the words of an enemy be believed, while the explanations of one's own camp be dismissed as mere excuses?

"Who do you think you are!"

Lv Tiezu's face was domineering, near to losing his temper in embarrassment as he watched his efforts to force a slip-up from Chen Yu being repeatedly foiled.

A flash of cold light in his eyes, he swung his hand.

Whiz!

From the huge orange cloud of sword brilliance above, a streak of sword light flew down like lightning, sweeping past Elder Mao.

Elder Mao's body erupted with a layer of dazzling blue glow, and with a "puff," he blocked the orange sword shadow's sweep.

Wow! Spit!

Elder Mao's figure staggered back, spitting out a mouthful of blood, leaving a fresh red sword scar on his face.

"Lv Tiezu, don't go too far!"

Supreme Elder Gongyang finally couldn't hold back and shouted in shock.

"Hahaha..."

A laughter that shook the mountains and brimmed with indignation erupted from behind Elder Mao.

Whoosh!

Upon Chen Yu's body emerged a powerful spiritual evil might, and around him, blue-black serpentine Qi patterns manifested tangible Evil Qi.

"Junior! What are you laughing at..."

Lv Tiezu couldn't hide his surprise; under his immense pressure and Sword Intent lock, the young man managed to find his voice.

"Hahaha... The first person of the Three Sects is merely a bully who fears the hard and preys on the soft!"

Chen Yu mocked with a big laugh, throwing caution to the wind.

To him, Lv Tiezu was completely unreasonable; no matter how much he bore or explained, it all seemed futile.

As soon as these words were spoken, the whole place went deadly silent again.

Lv Tiezu's face showed anger, with a tangible murderous intent in his eyes.

He raised one hand, ready to strike Chen Yu down.

"You have no evidence whatsoever, yet you wish to use force against me. An enemy disciple holds evidence of murder, and yet you turn a blind eye."

Chen Yu stood his ground, fearlessly confronting the first person of the Three Sects.

"I would like to ask everyone present, if this isn't bullying the weak and fearing the strong... then what is it!"

As Chen Yu laughed, his gaze swept across the crowd.

Before the sound of his words had faded, a sense of injustice had already risen in the hearts of some of the disciples present.

"There's no human or physical evidence, why suspect Junior Brother Chen!"

"Why not use force against Mei Changqing?"

Some disciples on the scene, having received favors from Chen Yu in the Blood Burial Garden, spoke out one after another.

Li Bingyue from the Water Moon Sect, including Fei Letian from the Iron Sword Sect, could no longer stand by and raised their objections.

"You..."

Under the multitude of questions, Lv Tiezu's eyes brimmed with rage and killing intent to the point of boiling over.

He raised a hand into mid-air, only to freeze there.

"Junior Master Lv!"

The bearded middle-aged man from the Iron Sword Sect couldn't help but send a telepathic reminder.

Under the public scrutiny,

If Lv Tiezu still used force against a junior like Chen Yu, his reputation in the sects of Chu Country would indeed be marred as that of someone who bullied the weak and feared the strong.

Lv Santong was always domineering and acted alone.

But now, even the disciples of his own Iron Sword Sect were beginning to dissent.

"Very well, very well!"

Lv Tiezu laughed instead of getting angry, suddenly releasing his hand, and the swirling orange brilliance of the sword cloud above his head and the spiritual Sword Intent disappeared in an instant.

"Go!"

Lv Tiezu flicked a finger.

Whoosh!

An orange, transparent sword glyph flashed like lightning and descended upon Chen Yu.

Instantly,

A bean-sized orange Peach Wood Sword imprint appeared on the back of Chen Yu's ear, its light gradually fading away.

"Senior, what is the meaning of this?"

Chen Yu's expression changed dramatically, wondering what Lv Tiezu had done to him.

"Junior? This old man won't use force against you, so as to not lower my own status and become a laughingstock. Yet this spiritual sword imprint will linger on your body for half a year."

Lv Tiezu said with a cold laugh.

"Within half a year, you may not leave the territory of the Three Sects, or you shall be killed without mercy!"

"This old man will investigate this matter, and might even invite the 'Great Witch' of the Great Snow Mountain Tribe of the northern lands to perform the Divination Technique, using the information and clues we have to confirm the murderer."

Lv Tiezu laughed proudly, full of confidence.

And before Chen Yu could say anything, Supreme Elder Gongyang spoke up:

"Chen Yu, I have made an agreement with Lv Tiezu. If he cannot confirm you as the murderer within half a year, he naturally won't trouble you any further. And during this period, you must not leave the territory of the Three Sects."

"Disciple understands."

Chen Yu took a deep breath, forcefully suppressing the anger and dissatisfaction in his heart.

This Supreme Elder of the Yunyue Sect obviously feared and yielded to Lv Tiezu, and would not consider the thoughts of someone as insignificant as himself, readily making this agreement.

Chapter 173: Distribution of Harvest In front of the pinnacle Guiyuan Realm of Chu Country, Chen Yu had no say, bound by the “half-year agreement” set for him.

At that moment.

Chen Yu felt an illusion as though he was just a tiny pawn in the game of titans, easily discarded at any time.

This was not just about his personal fate.

In the Chu Country Sect realm, millions of low-level insects under the pyramid are controlled by the handful of titans at the top with invisible palms governing their destinies.

This current reality of the Sect battlefield and Blood Burial Garden was merely the result of those titans' strategic plays.

The feeling of helplessness over his fate made Chen Yu's heart unwilling.

He had never felt so strongly, so urgently, his desire to wield truly great power, to control his own destiny, even to wrestle with those titans.

Right then.

Swoosh!

A sound of breaking through the air came, as Lv Tiezu transformed into a dazzling orange sword shadow, piercing into the skies.

Before leaving.

Chen Yu felt Lv Tiezu's cold, indifferent gaze, looking down on him as if he were an ant.

His fists clenched tightly, he resisted the immense pressure from that cold gaze.

"That kid's gaze

Lv Tiezu returned to Lu Yun City, his heart slightly chilled.

From the opponent's gaze, he sensed an indomitable will.

...

"Yu'er, it's because I am incapable as a Master that I can't protect you like Mei Changqing,"

Elder Mao wiped the blood from the corner of his mouth, his face bitter.

"Master, the injury you've received

Chen Yu quickly approached, feeling moved and guilty.

But he feared.

Elder Mao did not know that he was indeed the killer of Lv Santong, and had also shielded him from Lv Tiezu's fury.

As for Mei Changqing, he was under the protection of his master and even the Bone Demon Palace.

Chen Yu did not envy him at all.

If the one to act against Mei Changqing turned out to be a supreme from the Sky Sea Realm, would Master Fu come forward like Elder Mao?

That was questionable.

All along.

In Chen Yu's eyes, Elder Mao was someone more inclined toward benefits.

And it was indeed the case.

Elder Mao took him as a disciple initially for the benefits of the Ancient Moon Well and didn't help much in Chen Yu's training.

However.

Though Elder Mao was profit-oriented, once he accepted a disciple, he would at least adhere to the basic principles expected of a master.

Protecting his disciple was one of his principles.

"I've only sustained some minor injuries, nothing serious.

It's just that you've been spiritually attacked by Lv Tiezu's Sword Intent, causing potential deeper mental harm."

Elder Mao waved his hand, showing care for Chen Yu again.

"That Lv Tiezu is truly ruthless to test a Disciple in the Organ Refining Stage with his spiritual Sword Intent."

Several Yunyue Sect elders voiced their dissatisfaction.

"Fortunately, I had consumed a small portion of the Blood Soul Bud.

My spirit was nourished and strengthened and, with the shattering of the Ice Heart Tears, I was almost unharmed."

Chen Yu said in relief.

He had consumed the Blood Soul Bud, which contained immense Blood Soul Essence, continuing to nourish his spirit for some time.

"Blood Soul Bud?"

Several Qi Transformation Realm elders from Yunyue Sect showed envy.

After 15 minutes.

Inside a spacious hall in Lu Yun City.

The high ranks of Yunyue Sect, including the Supreme Elder Gongyang, were all present.

Below.

Seventeen or eighteen disciples took out their respective storage bags filled with their gains, waiting for the sect's distribution.

According to prior agreements.

Yunyue Sect disciples would keep 30% of their gains from the Blood Burial Garden.

After all, these were obtained through life-and-death battles.

At this moment.

Many high-ups, including the Sect Master, elders, and the Supreme Elder, all had their gleaming eyes fixed on Chen Yu.

"Now, let's begin distributing the gains."

The Blue Robed Sect Master coughed lightly, and at the indication of Supreme Elder Gongyang, began negotiating with each disciple.

An hour later.

All the disciples had their gains distributed.

Most disciples obtained only one or two percent of their collection, while the sect would also compensate with some Grade Essence Stones and contribution points as a reward.

Only Chen Yu was left till the end.

"Chen Yu, I, the Elder, negotiated hard with Lv Tiezu, barely securing a half-year agreement for you at a significant cost

A white-haired, ghost-like figure appeared before Chen Yu.

"Supreme Elder."

Chen Yu dared not delay, and hurriedly paid his respects.

"Elder Gongyang, please pick some.

If it weren't for your presence, no matter how great our gains, we couldn't have kept them."

The Blue Robed Sect Master said, smiling obsequiously.

Several Qi Transformation Realm elders, with faces showing reverence, were utterly respectful.

A great power from the Guiyuan Realm in the Yunyue Sect was an existence that transcended all.

"Hmm, I'll take these few

Supreme Elder Gongyang waved his hand.

"Swish."

From the war spoils before Chen Yu, those heavenly treasures of three to five hundred years were immediately taken, more than half of them.

In addition.

This half that was taken away included the most valuable and rarer types.

Furthermore.

Supreme Elder Gongyang also took away a dozen of the topmost precious minerals.

Regarding these.

Both Chen Yu and Elder Mao, even if they felt dissatisfied, could not express it.

The Supreme Elder was the sky of Yunyue Sect.

Without him, Yunyue Sect would find it hard to stand as one of the three sects in Chu Country.

"Chen Yu, you have made no small merit this time, and I hereby appoint you as a True Disciple of our sect."

Supreme Elder Gongyang, having taken away the spoils of war, wore a full-faced smile.

"Thank you, Supreme Elder, for your promotion."

Chen Yu maintained an overtly grateful expression on his face.

Inside, however, he was filled with criticism.

The gains he brought back were enough to make the Qi Transformation Realm green with envy, so much so that even those in the Guiyuan Realm coveted them.

The quota for True Disciple was just a word from the Supreme Elder.

Moreover,

With Chen Yu's current strength, becoming a True Disciple through a challenge was as easy as turning over his hand.

Even,

The position of Chief Disciple, with all his effort, was not far out of reach.

Swoosh!

Supreme Elder Gongyang disappeared from the spot, leaving behind the high-level elders of the Yunyue Sect.

Afterward,

About half of Chen Yu's remaining harvest was to be distributed according to the agreement.

Several elders at the scene argued heatedly.

Although most of the harvest was to be taken by the sect, the elders, with their privileges and contribution points, Primordial Stones, could exchange and purchase at a more favorable rate.

"My fellow seniors and uncles, these various precious ores and heavenly materials, I urgently need

Chen Yu struggled for his share of the harvest.

Ultimately,

Chen Yu successfully retained a few stalks of Fire Spirit Ginseng aged two to three hundred years, which was one of the main ingredients in the fourth recipe of the Medicinal Liquid for the Copper Statue Technique, Body Refining.

Also,

There were Black Mysterious Crystal, Golden Cloud Stone, Five Hundred Years of Yin Corrosion Bamboo, and seven or eight other items used for Artifact Refining that Chen Yu barely managed to keep.

Especially so for the Five Hundred Years of Yin Corrosion Bamboo, which Chen Yu had almost forcibly retained.

Three pieces of Golden Cloud Stone, which could enhance the sharpness of magical weapons, were also not easily kept.

This stone, was one of the finds from Lu Zhuo's storage bag.

Chen Yu planned to forge several powerful spears to ensure his long-range lethality.

The rest of the precious ores and materials, as well as those kept in the Light Silver Crystal Space, were all in preparation for future weapons refining.

An hour later,

Chen Yu's share of the harvest was finally distributed.

After calculations, he had only received slightly more than 10% of the total gains, far less than the previously agreed 30%.

There was no helping it.

The Supreme Elder alone had taken more than 50%.

While other disciples had each taken one or two percent; but Chen Yu's share was so rich that getting 10% was inappropriate, and that was thanks to Elder Mao's strenuous efforts.

However,

Yunyue Sect also gave Chen Yu corresponding compensation.

Apart from the identity of True Disciple, they also exchanged the complete version of the Cloud Evil Divine Skill to him without any cost.

Other compensations:

Primordial Stones, awarded two hundred thousand Grade Essence Stones.

Contribution points, awarded five hundred thousand!

Chen Yu's heart felt slightly better.

From facing the threat of Lv Tiezu, his master standing up for him and getting injured, to the Supreme Elders and their exploitation, he had been enduring it all along.

He silently swore.

One day, he would reach the summit of Chu Country, growing from an ant to a great hand capable of flipping the clouds and the rain.

...

Three days later.

Chen Yu and the other disciples set off for their return to the Yunyue Sect.

Every disciple who participated in the Blood Burial Garden was permitted to come back and rest for a month.

These disciples, having returned from the Blood Burial Garden, had all had notable opportunities and had made significant contributions to the sect; it was proper to return and recuperate for a while.

Elder Mao also returned with them.

In the battlefield of Lu Yun City, Elder Mao had faced Lv Tiezu's attack and was seriously injured, thus he was assigned to return and oversee the sect for a while.

Upon reaching the sect,

Elder Mao, with a solemn expression, called Chen Yu to his mansion.

In a secret room in the Elder Mansion,

Chen Yu looked around at the heavy Array restrictions surrounding the secret room and showed a surprised expression.

"You have Lv Tiezu's mental Sword Seal on you.

Though he is far enough not to likely hear our conversation, we still have to be cautious," Elder Mao solemnly said.

Then, without waiting for Chen Yu to speak,

Elder Mao's eyes flashed sharply: "Was Lv Santong killed by you?

Do not hide it from your master anymore."

"Yes."

Chen Yu clenched his teeth and gave a firm answer.

Unexpectedly, Elder Mao's face remained calm and not much surprised.

"Your suspicion in Lv Santong's death is indeed significant.

Not just because of your capabilities, but also your grudge with this person."

Elder Mao spoke gravely.

"What else?" Chen Yu was taken aback.

"There's also the matter of destiny.

Your great opportunity and rise in the Blood Burial Garden coincided with the fall of some geniuses' destinies," sighed Elder Mao.

Hearing this, Chen Yu was emotionally and mentally shaken.

Could it be,

That destiny, this intangible force, truly exists?

But on further thought,

How many geniuses had he slain in the Blood Burial Garden?

Helian Tu, Yi Yunfei, Lv Santong, Lu Zhuo, and other geniuses all fell by his hand.

The world is cruel.

If Chen Yu did not kill others, he himself might be killed, possibly fueling others' fortunes.

Suddenly,

Chen Yu realized some reasons.

Why Lv Tiezu was most suspicious of him.

Three main reasons: the power to kill Lv Santong, the grudge with Lv Santong, and the great destiny upon him (the fall of Lv Santong's destiny).

Afterward,

Chen Yu detailed the process of killing Lv Santong, including Liu Xin'er's involvement.

Throughout this process,

Elder Mao's expression grew heavier.

"Yu'er, you only have one path left now.

To flee Chu Country, escape far away, maybe there lies a thread of life for you," Elder Mao's expression was unprecedentedly grave.

"Master...

I killed Lv Santong with a spear, without any trace or evidence; how can Lv Tieniu be certain I am the murderer?" Chen Yu could hardly understand.

"Yu'er, you don't understand the prowess of the 'Great Witch' from the Snow Mountain Tribe.

With so many information mediums available, it's enough for the Great Witch to divine the real murderer.

Staying in Chu Country, your death is inevitable," Elder Mao shook his head and smiled bitterly.

Chapter 174 Yuan Sha Divine Skill

With such abundant information mediums, it's enough for the Great Witch to divine the real killer.

Staying in Chu Country, you will undoubtedly die!"

The last few words were spoken by Elder Mao with distinct deliberation.

Staying in Chu Country guarantees death!

Chen Yu was profoundly shocked, as it was the first time he had seen such a serious expression on Elder Mao's face.

Could it be...

That he must flee his homeland to have a sliver of chance at survival?

Chen Yu bitterly smiled to himself.

Leaving the expanse of Chu Country?

Easier said than done!

Lv Tiezu had left a psychic sword imprint on his own body.

Not to mention leaving Chu Country, but even a slight move away from the Three Sects Camp might be sensed by the other party, who would then come to kill him.

"Master, what exactly is this Snow Mountain Great Witch?"

Chen Yu couldn't help but ask.

He maintained that he had left no trace when he killed Lv Santong.

Although Liu Xin'er was present at the time, this woman was also an accomplice, and she certainly wouldn't reveal her identity as a spy from the Bone Demon Palace.

"The Snow Mountain Tribe, in the northern region of our Qi, Chu, and Yan Three Kingdoms, is composed of nine tribes.

The Snow Mountain Great Witch is a revered being, worshiped as a deity by the nine tribes

After explaining this, Elder Mao unfolded a map.

Chen Yu fixed his eyes on it.

At the top of the map, there were two big characters Beiyuan.

The Beiyuan Field Region consisted of the Snow Mountain Nine Tribes, Qi, Chu, and Yan four countries in total.

In these.

The Snow Mountain Tribe occupied a vast and barren region, nearly half of this entire area.

In the south.

Qi, Chu, and Yan countries neighbored each other.

Among these three kingdoms, Chen Yu noticed that Qi Country was the largest.

"Qi Country...

Lingjian Sect...

Purple Cloud Palace

Chen Yu's gaze lingered on the area of Qi Country.

The words "Lingjian Sect" caught his attention, seemingly one of the foremost great powers of the country.

In his memory.

After he had killed Great Evil, a mysterious woman named Ye Luofeng, who appeared to come from the Lingjian Sect neighboring Qi Country, had descended.

"Among the three neighboring countries, Qi Country is the strongest.

Decades ago, had it not been for the support of its 'Lingjian Sect,' our three sects would have been annihilated by the Bone Demon Palace long ago."

Elder Mao seemed to notice Chen Yu's gaze and added an explanation.

Chen Yu was greatly surprised upon hearing this.

Originally.

Qi Country's Lingjian Sect had supported the three sects, preventing the Bone Demon Palace from unifying Chu Country decades ago.

"Of course, looking at the entire 'Beiyuan' region, the strongest are still the Snow Mountain Tribe.

Fortunately, the nine tribes are constantly fighting among themselves year-round, making it difficult for them to unite.

Otherwise

Elder Mao explained.

Chen Yu listened very attentively; he would need to preserve his life, perhaps even escape to someplace nearby in the future.

"How strong is the Snow Mountain Tribe exactly?"

And what realm is the Great Witch?"

Chen Yu couldn't help but ask.

Especially about the Great Witch, could he really divine that Chen Yu was the killer?

"How strong?"

In the Snow Mountain Tribe, even just a normal tribe has the strength to rival the Bone Demon Palace."

Elder Mao stated blandly.

Sss!

Chen Yu gasped in astonishment.

Any normal strength tribe from the Snow Mountain Nine Tribes had the power to rival the Bone Demon Palace.

And the Snow Mountain Great Witch was an extraordinary being respected by all nine tribes.

"The realm of the Great Witch?"

That's hard to estimate.

Because the Great Witch is truly mysterious.

He doesn't cultivate traditional martial arts; it's said that he wields the power of ancient witchcraft, capable of manipulating supernatural forces.

In ancient times, he even led the tribes to resist primordial beasts and defy natural disasters

Deep reverence shone in Elder Mao's eyes.

This reverence included a kind of fear of the unknown, even surpassing the wariness toward Lv Tiezu.

"So, you're saying the Great Witch can definitely divine that I'm the killer?"

Chen Yu asked for one last confirmation.

"Definitely!

The divinations of the Great Witch have never been wrong!"

Elder Mao replied without hesitation.

Whew!

Chen Yu took a deep breath, harboring no more doubts about the capabilities of the Great Witch.

Because the divinations of the Great Witch were too infallible.

Once the Great Witch confirmed Chen Yu was the killer.

Even if he weren't the real culprit, Lv Tiezu would not hesitate to act.

As for the protection of the Supreme Elder from his own sect, he couldn't count on that either.

It would be a stroke of luck if they didn't actively hand Chen Yu over at that time.

"Yu'er, your current situation is a narrow escape from death.

The time left to you is actually just three or four months."

Elder Mao solemnly stated.

Three or four months?

Chen Yu's heart tightened as he listened to Elder Mao explain the reason.

"From the time Lv Tiezu sends someone to the Snow Mountain Tribe to seek a divination from the Great Witch, to when the news returns.

Based on my analysis, it will take three to four months."

Elder Mao paused.

"That means.

Within three to four months if you cannot dissolve that psychic sword imprint, or quickly escape to another place, your life will be in jeopardy."

Elder Mao deeply exhaled.

In the secret chamber.

Chen Yu and Elder Mao, master and disciple, discussed for a long time, but found no winning strategies.

Firstly.

In the Three Sects Camp, besides Lv Tiezu, no one else could dissolve that psychic imprint.

The reason why Lv Tiezu was considered the number one person of the Three Sects Camp was reportedly because he was the only true Sword Cultivator within the Three Sects!

Even the Supreme Elders of the other two sects combined might not match him.

Beyond Chu Country, there might be powerful individuals capable of dissolving the psychic imprint, but such individuals were not easily moved.

Moreover.

According to the half-year agreement, Chen Yu couldn't leave the Three Sects Camp.

The moment he left, he would be chased down and killed by Lv Tiezu.

It was a vicious cycle, restraining Chen Yu's fate.

"However, I do have one risky method that might enable you to escape quickly."

Elder Mao's eyes suddenly sparkled.

"Please speak, Master."

"Do you still remember the rumors related to the Ancient Moon Well?"

Elder Mao said with a smile.

"Ah, the Ancient Moon Well..."

Oh!

I understand now!"

Chen Yu suddenly realized.

There was an ancient transmission array within the Ancient Moon Well!

It was said that the well was once part of the territory of the Ancient Sword Sect, before Chu Country even came into existence.

After discovering a vast Moon Spirit Ore deposit, a sect master guarding the area secretly consumed it and set up a transmission array to transport the Moon Spirit Ore to faraway lands to build his own forces.

Chen Yu had seen that transmission array deep within the mine with his own eyes.

"Master, is that transmission array still usable?"

Where does it transport to?"

Chen Yu took a deep breath and couldn't help but ask.

"The rumors related to it are too ancient.

Whether the transmission array is still usable, we cannot be sure.

That is what makes it dangerous."

Elder Mao shook his head and sighed.

Chen Yu, however, was greatly moved.

Regardless, he had finally found a feasible and tempting plan.

Should there be no better method in the end, at least the transmission array was a possibility.

"Thus, during the next full moon night, we can make a trip to the Ancient Moon Well and imprint the patterns and array designs of that transmission array.

With my studies in ancient arrays, I can offer you some guidance."

Elder Mao concluded definitively.

"That would be most excellent."

Chen Yu was delighted, having not expected Elder Mao to understand ancient arrays.

That night,

Chen Yu returned to his quarters and had a good night's sleep.

That night,

Perhaps under too much pressure, Chen Yu had quite a few dreams.

The first dream was of successfully using the transmission array beneath the Ancient Moon Well to escape Chu Country.

However, in a fit of rage, Lv Tiezu destroyed the Chen Family.

Including Father Chen and Mother Chen, all died tragically.

The second dream.

Chen Yu entered that bizarre dream he had before, once again seeing the affectionate couple's vague and ethereal figures.

In this dream,

He once again turned into that infant, and the woman in front of him began to slowly disappear, activating a mysterious and unfathomable “Whispered Blessing.”

Under a sacred radiance, his blood mingled with a mystical heart known as the Eternal Heart.

Finally, the crystal heart broke through the sky.

Whew!

The next day, Chen Yu opened his eyes, his head covered in cold sweat.

"Regarding this dream...

I need to visit my clan soon and ask my parents personally.”

Chen Yu was resolute.

His time was running short.

The Great Witch's divination results would return to Chu Country in three to four months.

The next full moon night was twenty days away.

Before then,

Chen Yu still had much to do.

In the early morning,

Chen Yu went to the Central Hall to register and confirm his status as a True Disciple.

Immediately after.

Chen Yu found the Yunyue Sect Master and obtained the sect's core cultivation technique, Yuan Sha Divine Skill, free of charge.

In Chen Yu's hands were also 500,000 contribution points, enough to exchange for various common materials and elixirs within the sect.

Or perhaps, to “browse” through the many martial arts in the Heavenly Martial Pavilion, including sacred grade martial arts of the Qi Transformation Realm.

Back at his quarters,

Chen Yu briefly reviewed the Yuan Sha Divine Skill.

As a core cultivation technique, it was extraordinary, surpassing the Qi Transformation Realm techniques.

Yuan Sha Divine Skill could be cultivated up to the Guiyuan Realm!

This alone made it superior to the Copper Statue Technique and those so-called sacred martial arts in the Heavenly Martial Pavilion.

Comparing it to Cloud Evil Fist,

Chen Yu found that his main practice, Cloud Evil Fist, was about eighty to ninety percent similar to the introductory stage of Yuan Sha Divine Skill.

"Master said that the Cloud Evil Fist I am cultivating is the original version of this skill's entry-level."

Chen Yu's eyes flickered.

The original entry-level was altered because it was too dangerous, easily leading to deviation and a twisted nature.

But one had to admit.

The original version, with its power of Evil Qi, was significantly stronger.

Chen Yu looked forward to seeing if, based on the original entry-level, advancing Yuan Sha Divine Skill would give him certain advantages over others in the sect.

As an advanced technique, Yuan Sha Divine Skill was a further refinement and sublimation of Evil Force.

Among them, two points particularly interested Chen Yu.

The first was the True Sha Qi.

When advancing to the Qi Transformation Realm in Yuan Sha Divine Skill, after the Evil Force was intensified to the extreme, True Qi could transform into special "True Sha Qi."

The power of True Sha Qi far surpassed ordinary True Qi.

The second point was the conversion of Evil Qi into form.

By integrating True Qi with Sha Qi True Intent, one could morph and attack powerfully.

Each person's practice of this technique could morph "Evil Qi" into different forms like tigers, leopards, snakes, etc., varying from person to person, and the extent of power would differ.

The stronger the Sha Qi and Sha Intent, the stronger the morphing power of "Evil Qi."

As for how strong it could become, there was no clear description.

"As expected of an ancient technique, to be used as a core technique of Yunyue Sect."

Chen Yu saw the potential in this technique.

As he had refined Cloud Evil True Qi ahead of time, Chen Yu could now start practicing this technique.

Inside his room,

Chen Yu sat cross-legged, a small cluster of Cloud Evil True Qi at the center of his Qi Sea, propelling the dense and pure Cloud Evil Internal Qi circulating inside his body.

In the Blood Burial Garden,

Chen Yu had consumed a quarter of the Blood Soul Bud, still harboring immense potential energy within his body.

Four or five days later,

Hum!

A startling roar of Evil Qi echoed from Chen Yu's room as a ferocious python shadow circled around his body eerily.

Almost without hindrance,

Chen Yu's cultivation advanced to the Late Stage of Organ Refining!

Chapter 175: Improvement in Multiple Domains

Chen Yu was not surprised at all by the smooth progression to the Late Stage of Organ Refining.

After taking the Blood Soul Bud, he still possessed immense potential, and his foundational realm was solid.

However, advancing to the Late Stage of Organ Refining did not significantly increase Chen Yu's combat strength; it mainly compensated for his cultivation's weaknesses, improving his overall strength and foundation.

After all,

Chen Yu had mastered the Cloud Evil Fist to its peak, and the Cloud Evil Inner Breath was very close to Postnatal True Qi, with Cloud Evil True Qi also being condensed within his body.

Under normal circumstances, he could fight evenly with an average Postnatal Qi Transformation foe.

And if one were to add the Black Emperor Bloodline and the storage of power in his heart, a typical Postnatal Qi Transformation opponent might not necessarily be a match for him.

"If I diligently cultivate for two or three months, advancing to Postnatal Qi Transformation shouldn't be difficult

Chen Yu's gaze flickered as he slowly finished his cultivation session.

But now,

The war among the sects of Chu Country was far from over, leaving Chen Yu only a month to recuperate.

He didn't have the time, nor did he plan to rush the advancement to Postnatal Qi Transformation.

Moreover,

Advancing to the Qi Transformation Realm might be more detrimental than beneficial for Chen Yu.

For one, Chen Yu already possessed the combat strength of the Postnatal Stage; advancing to Postnatal Qi Transformation would not increase his strength as much as one would imagine.

Secondly, once he advanced to the Postnatal Phase, his potential and threat would alert strong enemies like Lv Tiezu and the Bone Demon Palace, leading them to increase their threat assessments.

Remaining in the Organ Refining Stage meant he would still be considered a lowly creature in the eyes of enemies, which would result in much less pressure.

In martial arts cultivation, it was not suitable to advance.

However,

In the area of Body Cultivation, it would be feasible to attempt to advance the Copper Statue Technique.

Nowadays,

Chen Yu's Copper Statue Technique had reached the peak of the Copper Bone level, practically the limit of the introductory level.

The next step,

Would be to advance to the Copper Statue Gang Body and the True Copper Statue.

If the Copper Statue Technique could advance to the "Copper Statue Gang Body," the increase in overall combat strength and self-preservation ability would be quite considerable.

...

Over the following days,

Chen Yu focused on cultivating the Copper Statue Technique, but progress was quite ordinary, facing a significant bottleneck of a major realm.

Because,

Advancing to the “Copper Statue Gang Body” represented a leap across a significant boundary, corresponding at least to the martial cultivation of the Postnatal Stage.

Faced with this great bottleneck,

The effects of Chen Yu’s previous “Snake Gallbladder Spirit Ginseng” prescription were negligible.

Three days later,

“With this pace, it would be difficult to break through to the ‘Copper Statue Gang Body’ without at least half a year.”

Chen Yu’s brow furrowed slightly.

The difficulty of advancing in Body Cultivation Techniques was much more difficult and arduous than traditional martial arts, and it became more apparent the further one progressed.

And this was with Chen Yu being blessed with a talent for Body Techniques.

For ordinary people, what might take half a year could require more than ten times as long.

Chen Yu finally understood why the path of Body Cultivation declined in historical trends and was even phased out.

Fortunately,

Chen Yu was already collecting materials for the fourth Body Refining prescription and had placed a large amount of Primordial Stones and contribution points in the Sect Affairs Hall for purchase.

The value of the various materials required for the fourth Body Refining prescription had shot up several times.

The three main ingredients: Two Hundred Years Fire Spirit Ginseng, Two Hundred Years Ice Snow Lotus, and Moon Spirit Ore.

Among these, the most difficult to find was the Moon Spirit Ore.

Chen Yu already possessed it.

The next hardest to find was the Two Hundred Years Ice Snow Lotus, which was relatively scarce in the lands of Chu Country, especially a two hundred-year-old specimen.

He had brought out a few Fire Spirit Ginsengs from the Blood Burial Garden, all between two and three hundred years old.

The other auxiliary materials were also quite rare and valuable.

But Chen Yu believed that since he had obtained the most difficult to acquire, the Moon Spirit Ore, the rest of the materials should not be too hard to gather with ample Primordial Stones and some extra time.

...

In the following days,

Chen Yu slightly relaxed his cultivation of the Copper Statue Technique and devoted some of his energy to familiarizing himself with puppets.

Swoosh!

He retrieved a small metal sphere from the Light Silver Crystal Space.

Quickly,

A figure about three meters tall, a sword and shield puppet, stepped out of the bright mist.

Chen Yu used the mental technique passed down by Tong Yuling to control the sword and shield puppet, hoping to quickly coordinate with his combat style.

This sword and shield puppet could be considered one of Chen Yu's trump cards.

But to skillfully control the puppet and unleash its strongest power required a high level of proficiency in the mental techniques and his own spiritual power.

At the time in the Blood Burial Garden,

Lu Zhuo's spiritual power was not enough to fully utilize this puppet's power, especially when coordinating in battle.

Chen Yu's spiritual power, after reaching the peak of the Cloud Evil Fist and being nourished by the Blood Soul Bud, slightly surpassed that of an average Postnatal Qi Transformation level, much stronger than Lu Zhuo's at that time.

After two or three days of repeated intense practice,

Chen Yu became gradually proficient in controlling the puppet.

While not as effortless as moving an arm, he had already surpassed the previous Lu Zhuo.

After getting familiar with the puppet,

Chen Yu began to explore the beast skin armor on his body.

This beast skin armor, also from Lu Zhuo, was the highest-grade treasure on Chen Yu's body!

The protection of the high-grade treasure armor seemed to be some ancient artifact, its defensive capability enough to entice those at the Qi Transformation Innate level.

That day in Lu Yun City, when dividing the loot,

It was only after much persuasion that Chen Yu reluctantly kept the beast skin armor.

Half a day later.

Chen Yu figured out how to utilise the beast skin armor.

If one were to use only a small amount of Postnatal True Qi, it would be far from sufficient to form a protective energy layer over the entire body.

He estimated

That the armor would require the power of someone at the Postnatal Peak or Qi Transformation Innate to fully unleash its defensive potential.

Besides,

The addition of the Black Emperor Bloodline could also activate it beyond its level.

"Activate!"

Chen Yu channeled his Cloud Evil True Qi and the Black Emperor Bloodline, merging them into the beast skin armor on his body.

Buzz!

A layer of purple-green light film emerged from the beast skin and enveloped Chen Yu's entire body, offering robust protection.

When both forces were driven to the limit,

Hmm~

Chen Yu's body overlaid with the phantom of an ancient beast, resembling a black iron giant pig, exuding a violent and savage aura.

That instant,

Chen Yu felt his Cloud Evil True Qi and Hei Emperor bloodline swiftly depleting.

The Cloud Evil True Qi was bearable, as it could be slowly replenished within his Qi Sea, but the Hei Emperor bloodline was different and needed to be conserved.

"Retract!"

Chen Yu immediately withdrew the Cloud Evil True Qi and Hei Emperor bloodline, the ancient beast's shadow and the protective layer vanishing in the blink of an eye.

Afterward,

His treasured armor turned lifeless, resembling a provincial leather armor with no distinguishing features.

"Not bad."

A faint smile appeared on Chen Yu's face.

If he were to fully activate this leather armor, attacks below the Qi Transformation Innate would hardly be a concern.

However,

Compared to the strength of the leather armor, Chen Yu's other two weapons were somewhat lacking.

The Xuan Heavy Sword, as his main weapon, was still a low-grade treasure at its best.

The Dark Snake Sword, a lethal weapon for close combat, was a mid-grade treasure.

As for the pair of dark teal boots and three spears Elder Mao had given him, they had all been claimed by the Blood Burial Garden.

"It seems I need to make a trip."

Chen Yu exhaled deeply.

...

The next day,

Having prepared himself, Chen Yu set out from the Yunyue Sect's gates.

With his status as a True Disciple and the Spirit Sword Seal left by Lv Tiezu, the Sect Affairs Hall posed no difficulties and approved his departure.

This time leaving the mountain,

Chen Yu had two matters to attend to.

First, to visit the Chu Family for weapon forging and refining.

He still remembered that Master Gu owed him a weapon forging session.

Second, to return to the Chen Family to dispel the mysteries of that bizarre dream.

With Chen Yu's current light-body technique, it took only a day to reach the Chu Family's territory.

After announcing his name,

Chen Yu was swiftly led by a steward to the back mountain of the Chu Family.

This time,

Chen Yu didn't see the Chu Ancestor but met with Master Gu, who had a goat beard.

"Chen Yu, it hasn't been long since we've met, and you're already back seeking my weapon refining skills?" Master Gu said with a note of surprise.

He scrutinized Chen Yu, eyeing him as one might regard a figure from the rumors.

Clatter!

Chen Yu got straight to the point, pulling out a bunch of Artifact Refining materials, including Black Mysterious Crystal, Golden Cloud Stone, Five Hundred Years of Yin Corrosion Bamboo, Moon Spirit Ore, meteoric iron, and others, totaling over a dozen different kinds.

These rare and precious minerals caused Master Gu's mouth to drop open in amazement.

What's more,

From his Light Silver Crystal Space, Chen Yu produced a piece of Dark Silver Crystal Stone and a bloodstained jade, shimmering with a faintly dim iridescence.

"The legendary Xuan Yin Crystal Stone.

And this...

Mutated Peacock Stone!” Master Gu exclaimed as he grabbed the two items, his face gleaming with excitement.

Right now, these items were from Lu Zhuo’s storage bag, later identified by Tong Yuling.

Without Tong Yuling,

Chen Yu himself probably would not have recognized their significance, especially the Mutated Peacock Stone.

Both items could at least be used to refine top-notch treasures; the Peacock Stone might even be suitable for materials beyond treasures.

Regrettably,

The quantities of these two items were quite small, no bigger than the size of a fingertip.

“It seems the rumors are true; you truly gained immense fortune at the Blood Burial Garden,” Master Gu remarked thoughtfully.

Then,

Staring at this array of precious Spiritual Ores, he asked in a trance, "With such a variety of ores, how many weapons do you intend to forge?"

Chen Yu let out a slight smile, extending three fingers.

He then presented both the Xuan Heavy Sword and the Dark Snake Sword.

In addition, he wanted to forge three spears.

Chen Yu had brought out so many ores at once primarily to see what Master Gu's scheme would be.

"Three pieces of weaponry, to what level do you wish to refine each?" Master Gu asked gravely.

"The three spears should preferably be of mid-grade, the Xuan Heavy Sword should reach a refined mid-grade, and the Dark Snake Sword I hope for a high-grade treasure," Chen Yu answered.

"A high-grade treasure?"

These materials should be sufficient, but your cultivation is only

Master Gu rolled his eyes.

But he abruptly halted his speech.

Hm!

Chen Yu's palm opened, revealing a ring of Postnatal True Qi tinged with a dark green hue.

"Alright, forget my idle talk," Master Gu said, giving Chen Yu a deep look.

Before Chen Yu arrived,

The Chu Family Ancestor had sought out Master Gu, advising him not to get too entangled with Chen Yu.

"With the Xuan Yin Crystal Stone and Mutated Peacock Stone you have in hand, there's not much of them.

To be frank, with my level of Artifact Refining skill, it's not enough to unleash their true value," Master Gu emphasized before starting the refining process.

Clearly, if the weapons produced didn't meet expectations, it shouldn't be blamed on him.

"Master, do your best," Chen Yu nodded in agreement.

For Master Gu, crafting a high-grade treasure was already pushing his limits.

In Chu Country, Master Gu was among the very top Artifact Refiners; there might be better Refiners out there, but Chen Yu didn't know them nor could he roam freely outside the Three Sects Camp.

Over the subsequent days,

Chen Yu stayed atop Master Gu's mountain, assisting in Artifact Refining with his Cloud Evil True Qi.

The entire process was exceedingly monotonous.

The first weapon to be forged were the three spears; Chen Yu only asked for a mid-grade treasure, which put no pressure on Master Gu.

According to him, this was merely preparation for the following two weapons, warming up first.

Three days later,

Three brand-new, black metallic spears appeared before Chen Yu.

With a smile on his face, and seemingly in good form, Master Gu gesture for Chen Yu to try them out.

Chapter 176: Ace

Chen Yu reached out and grabbed a black javelin, weighing at least five hundred jin, feeling a hint of cold metal.

"These three javelins, although they are middle-grade treasures, their hardness and toughness are comparable to high-grade treasures."

"On the tip of the spear, a bit of Golden Cloud Stone is added to increase its sharpness, making it easier to pierce armor and penetrate the layer of True Qi.

More Golden Cloud Stone is reserved for refining the Dark Snake Sword

Master Gu explained.

Yet, Chen Yu, holding both ends of the javelin, had a fierce look in his eyes as he exerted his strength vigorously.

Buzz!

Chen Yu took the Copper Statue Technique to its limit, his heart accumulating a bit of power.

Squeak!

Under the terrifying power, the black javelin showed a slight bend, causing Master Gu to secretly break into a cold sweat.

"The hardness and toughness are both outstanding."

Chen Yu was very satisfied with the material and toughness of the javelin.

Javelins and long spears, being too rigid is not appropriate.

Because the attack of these weapons often does not follow a straight path.

Only with a certain resilience while being rigid, can they exert maximum power during launching.

Humming!

Chen Yu infused the inner breath and Cloud Evil True Qi into the javelin, which gave off a layer of murky black light patterns, and the tip of the spear flashed with a hint of golden sharp light.

Eh?

Chen Yu was greatly surprised, feeling the inner breath and True Qi as if pouring into a bottomless pit.

"Hehe, these three javelins have almost reached the quality of fine middle-grade treasures; especially the penetration power of the spear tip, it can penetrate some high-grade armor not infused with True Qi in one shot."

Master Gu showed a pleased expression.

Go!

Chen Yu swung forcefully, the murky shadow of the spear adorned with a strand of cold golden light, suddenly covering a distance of twenty or thirty meters.

Puff-bang!

The javelin pierced a small hill forty meters away, the entire shaft penetrating it, followed by a cracking roar and dust flying.

Master Gu slightly widened his eyes, staring dumbfounded at the nearly shattered little hill.

I'm afraid.

The power of this single strike from Chen Yu's javelin was such that even ordinary Postnatal Qi Transformation warriors might not be able to withstand it.

"Ts-ts, after integrating Cloud Evil True Qi, the power of these middle-grade treasures is really something else."

Chen Yu had a smile on his face.

He walked unhurriedly to the hill, and extracted the javelin.

After verifying the three javelins,

For the next two days,

Chen Yu and Master Gu together began refining another weapon the Xuan Heavy Sword.

The Xuan Heavy Sword was large and required a lot of materials,

However,

Chen Yu's demand was only for a fine middle-grade treasure.

With such an ample supply of precious ores, it would be difficult for Master Gu to fail, even if he was not in his best state.

Moreover, Master Gu had gradually gotten into a good rhythm after making the javelins.

In less than two days,

The freshly refined Xuan Heavy Sword was completed.

Still with a dark silver blade, it was thicker than before, with some intricate, ancient inscriptions added to the back of the blade and a layer of sharp, gleaming cold edge on the blade.

"This sword crushes by weight.

I have fused it with more than a dozen Artifact Refining ores, comprehensively enhancing its hardness and greatly increasing the attack strength of the True Qi and inner breath."

Master Gu said expressionlessly.

The refining of the Xuan Heavy Sword didn't involve much trickery.

It was simply, largely a matter of "piling up materials," aiming for something heavier, stronger, with overwhelming force.

"This sword is just a bit shy of being a high-grade treasure.

Its materials and hardness are completely comparable to those of regular high-grade treasures.

Hehe, it's the first time I've been so extravagant in artifact refining

Master Gu chuckled oddly.

If the same value of materials were used, it would be entirely possible to refine a high-grade treasure with normal volume and weight.

But Chen Yu's requirement was to enhance it to a fine middle-grade.

It couldn't overstep.

If the Xuan Heavy Sword were refined as a high-grade treasure, it would consume too much True Qi, making it unsuitable for Chen Yu.

This sword was essentially customized for Chen Yu's strength advantage.

In his hands, this heavy sword was more handy than the average high-grade treasure, and would not fall behind even when used at the Qi Transformation Innate level.

...

The first two weapons were successfully forged and refined smoothly.

Next up was the last one.

The enhancement and refining of the Dark Snake Sword, Chen Yu demanded it to reach the level of high-grade treasure.

For Master Gu, a high-grade treasure was the limit of what artifact refiners of his level could achieve in their lifetime, rarely completing a few.

On one hand, it was the bottleneck in refining skills.

A true Artifact Refiner not only needs to be proficient in the fusion of materials but also has to understand the “inscriptions” of the weapons, allowing them to manifest extraordinary abilities and effects.

On the other hand, it was the limitation of materials.

In the land of Chu Country, various resources and materials were relatively scarce, especially lacking in high-grade precious materials.

Some high-grade refining materials even contain natural inscriptions, also known as “Dao patterns,” inherently possessing certain extraordinary abilities and characteristics.

This means,

If the refining materials are good enough, even if the skills of the Artifact Refiner are slightly lacking, high-grade treasures can still be crafted.

Currently,

What lay before Master Gu was a rare opportunity.

A large batch of precious refining materials like the Five Hundred Years of Yin Corrosion Bamboo, Black Mysterious Crystal, Golden Cloud Stone, and Moon Spirit Ore was presented.

To have two or three of these high-level materials in the past would have been good enough for crafting high-grade treasures.

Furthermore,

Chen Yu had also brought out mythical materials like the Xuan Yin Crystal Stone and mutated Peacock Stone, though only in very small quantities.

But the weapon to be refined was just a short sword.

Master Gu suppressed the excitement and thrill in his heart.

This was the most “luxurious” material list he had faced in his artifact-refining career.

Over the following several days,

Chen Yu assisted Master Gu in meticulously crafting and recasting the Dark Snake Sword in the furnace.

Three or four days later,

Buzz!

A deep and profound sound of a sword cry emanated from the refining room, not exactly pleasant to the ear, but it possessed a mysterious and cold intention.

"It's done!"

Master Gu held a short sword about a foot long, slightly curved, and nearly translucent.

Its delicate inscriptions resembled the natural patterns of snake skin.

At first glance,

It looked like a jade artwork of a snake.

Chen Yu reached out to grasp it and felt that the sword was much heavier than he had anticipated, weighing around two to three hundred pounds.

Of course,

Two to three hundred pounds was still light as a feather for him.

This was because Master Gu, considering his strength, had slightly increased the sword's weight in its design.

Normally, such short swords, used mainly for close-range assassinations, were designed to be as light as possible to reduce weight.

"Master Gu, what grade has this sword achieved?"

Chen Yu held the sword and gently swung it, feeling as if the wind left no trace.

Almost no sound was heard.

"This sword can amplify the attack speed by more than sixty percent, and it maintains its silent and highly poisonous characteristics.

Its power amplification and sharpness are both considered 'kingly' among high-grade treasures."

Master Gu stated.

High-grade and kingly?

Chen Yu was astonished and gently touched the art-like Dark Snake Sword.

He infused some internal breath and True Qi into it, but it was like pouring into a bottomless pit, instantly absorbed by the sword.

The speed at which this sword conducted True Qi was terrifying.

The True Qi inside Chen Yu was insufficient to support even two or three swings of this sword; this was even considering the fact that the sword's consumption was much smaller due to its short length.

Shh!

A sword arc as thin as a hair, accompanied by a trace of dark golden edge, swept across the void.

So fast!

Chen Yu was shocked, feeling as if the sword light arrived before the sword even moved.

Swoosh!

Inside the artifact-refining room, a two-foot-thick wall cracked open with a neat and smooth fracture that spread to the top of the wall, rendering the array reinforcements practically useless.

"Stop!"

Master Gu roared as he watched the wall in front of him get split in half with a "boom".

If Chen Yu had swung this sword from outside the artifact-refining room,

Then the entire room would have been cleaved in two like a piece of tofu.

"Not bad, not bad

Chen Yu burst out laughing, extremely pleased!

Looking at his own greatest "masterpiece," Master Gu sighed deeply and decided not to settle accounts with Chen Yu.

You see,

The material of this artifact-refining room was very special, and it was reinforced by arrays, making it difficult to quickly destroy a normal Postnatal Qi Transformation.

"Chen Yu, this sword is just a bit short of becoming a top-tier treasure.

However, during the night, its power can increase by thirty to forty percent, almost rivaling a top-tier treasure.

Consider it an incomplete top-tier treasure."

Master Gu said with a slight regret.

The slight shortfall was not due to the quality of the material.

But because he had encountered a bottleneck in his artifact-refining technique, just missing that final touch.

"No matter, no matter!"

Chen Yu laughed heartily.

If it were a real top-tier treasure, probably only those at the Qi Transformation Innate level could support this sword.

Master Gu couldn't help but shake his head.

From a professional perspective,

Chen Yu's creation and refinement of these three weapons were quite the "splurge".

However,

Creating this high-grade kingly treasure had broken a record in Master Gu's lifetime.

"Master Gu, take these leftover artifact-refining materials as a form of payment."

Chen Yu generously waved his hand.

Using leftover materials...

As payment?

If it were anyone else, Master Gu would probably have slapped them.

However,

This time was different; Master Gu wore a pleased expression and carefully stored the remaining materials.

If used well,

These leftover materials, together with some slightly inferior main materials, had the potential to create a fine middle-grade treasure.

Before leaving,

Chen Yu spoke up, "Master Gu, I have one last request."

"Speak," Master Gu gestured.

"I hope you can help conceal this new 'Dark Snake Sword'."

Chen Yu stated earnestly.

The lethality of this sword was unquestionably his trump card.

"This is only right; I've heard faintly about your recent encounters in the sects of Chu Country."

Master Gu nodded.

Chen Yu's contribution of substantial materials allowed him to reach a rare height in artifact-refining, plus the extra leftover materials, was indeed rare.

Not long after Chen Yu left,

An elderly man with the appearance of a youthful teenager floated in.

It was none other than the Chu Family Ancestor.

"Has the young man left?" the Chu Family Ancestor asked.

He looked towards the nearby collapsed hill and the crack inside the artifact-refining room, his expression turning stern.

"He's gone."

Master Gu kept his face expressionless.

"This young man brought out astonishing resources from the Blood Burial Garden; what kind of treasures did you end up creating for him?"

The Chu Family Ancestor asked with a look of astonishment.

"A treasure that would leave you completely defenseless,"

Master Gu hummed lowly, not specifying the level or capabilities of the treasure.

Completely defenseless?

The Chu Family Ancestor was shocked; he was a long-established Martial Arts master in the Qi Transformation Realm, renowned far and wide.

"Old Man Chu, you advised me not to get too involved with him, but I feel this person is no ordinary individual.

Once he survives this ordeal and transforms, you may not even have the chance to curry favor with him

Master Gu chuckled.

"Impossible!"

The Chu Family Ancestor shook his head, certain: "Lv Tiezu, I know him well, he is very domineering.

Chen Yu has offended him, and regardless of whether he is the murderer of Lv Santong, he won't escape this calamity!"

Chapter 177: Background and the Insect

Leaving the Chu Family.

Chen Yu did not tarry a moment, heading straight for the Chen Family in Xiangyang City.

Inside the hall.

The return of Chen Yu, a true disciple of the Yunyue Sect, was met by the family's high-ranking members, including the Chen Family Patriarch clad in plain clothes, all personally accompanying him.

But this time.

The reverence in the eyes of the family's upper echelons was more than sufficient, while the warmth was much less than before, with a vague sense of deliberate distancing.

Family Head Chen Tianwei and others, when faced with Chen Yu's gaze, had a trace of strangeness and avoidance.

This made Chen Yu think of the situation when he visited the Chu Family.

At that time, the Chu Family Ancestor did not meet him in person but was observing in secret.

Chen Yu's spiritual senses, superior to an ordinary Postnatal Qi Transformation, had naturally not missed the Chu Family Ancestor's movements.

"Clan Leader, uncles, you all must be aware of my half-year agreement with Lv Tiezu, right?"

Chen Yu took a sip of tea, smiling calmly.

"Yu'er, regarding this matter, we too heard about it recently when Ying'er came back!"

Family Head Chen Tianwei smiled awkwardly.

Father Chen and Mother Chen, however, showed faces full of worry and concern.

"Yu'er, are you really the murderer who killed Lv Santong?"

Mother Liu Wen couldn't help asking.

Chen Yu's gaze, however, meticulously scrutinized his father Chen Tiande and mother Liu Wen.

Enhancing his perception with the mysterious heart.

He found that both of his parents were very ordinary people of the secular world.

"Dad, Mom, with Lv Tiezu's tyranny, does it really matter whether I am the murderer or not?"

Chen Yu did not answer directly.

Upon hearing this.

The faces of Father Chen and Mother Chen turned somewhat pale, and their breathing became more rapid.

In front of so many clan members, Chen Yu naturally wouldn't mention the true details of the event; that escape plan, besides himself and his master, must not be known to a third party.

"I came back this time mainly to see you, Dad, and Mom."

Chen Yu rose quickly, his calm gaze sweeping across the high-ranking members of the Chen Family.

Family Head Chen Tianwei and others did not dare to meet his gaze, feeling somewhat guilty.

Ignoring these people.

Chen Yu took his parents back to his private estate.

Watching Chen Yu and his parents leave, the high-ranking clan elders of the Chen Family wore faces of regret, lamenting.

"Chen Yu's return this time, it seems a bit like he's preparing for the worst?"

"Alas.

Having provoked Lv Tiezu, the top figure of the three Sects, no matter how exceptional he is, he won't escape the palm of a Guiyuan Realm powerhouse."

...

In a chamber within Chen Yu's private estate.

The family of three conversed late into the night by candlelight.

"This visit home, on one hand, was to ensure Dad and Mom are settled well

Chen Yu began slowly.

If his escape plan fails and he dies at the hands of Lv Tiezu, then perhaps there would still be a slim chance of survival for his parents.

In the world of sects, grudges mostly did not involve the secular.

This was a taboo.

But once Chen Yu successfully escaped, it would likely provoke Lv Tiezu's rage.

At that time.

Not just Lv Tiezu's lineage but also people like Guardian Shangguan and Palace Master Fu of the Bone Demon Palace, wielding immense power, could, with a few underlings attempting to curry favor, implicate Chen Yu's parents.

Regarding the arrangement of Father Chen and Mother Chen, Chen Yu had discussed it with his master, Elder Mao Zhang.

Once the plan was set in motion.

Father Chen and Mother Chen would be properly settled by Elder Mao in a secluded and isolated location where they could live out their lives in peace.

For a Sect Elder, it was but a simple effort.

Subsequently.

Chen Yu then explained the arrangement plan to his parents.

Father Chen and Mother Chen wore expressions of deep sorrow, affected by the notion that Chen Yu was preparing for the worst.

Chen Yu sighed inwardly, for all details of the plan had to be kept absolutely secret, making it impossible to be completely honest with his parents.

"Rest assured, Dad and Mom, I have at least a fifty percent chance of overcoming this calamity.

Once successful, I will be parted from you for some time, and I hope you will take care of your health."

Chen Yu tried to reassure them.

"Yu'er, are you really confident that you can survive this disaster?"

Mother Liu Wen's tearful eyes conveyed a glimmer of hope.

Although she understood.

Perhaps, this was a benevolent lie from Chen Yu.

"Without a doubt."

Chen Yu nodded earnestly, easing his parents' concerns slightly.

Next, the second matter.

Chen Yu thought of that absurd dream but didn't know how to broach the subject.

Just then.

Father Chen and Mother Chen exchanged glances, seemingly having made a decision.

"Yu'er, as you are nearly sixteen, you may be parted from us for a while, or even forever.

There are some things we should tell you."

Mother Liu Wen took a deep breath, resolutely making a decision.

With that said.

Mother Chen took out a piece of a jade pendant that she wore close to her body.

The jade was crystal clear and flawless white, but it was incomplete, one side clearly showing signs of being broken off.

Its material seemed like jade indeed, yet it emitted a hint of a mysterious metallic sheen.

Thump, thump!

Thump, thump!

The half pendant, upon nearing, caused Chen Yu's mysterious heart to beat abnormally a few times.

"What is this?"

Chen Yu took the half pendant, noticing that on one side, the character "Yu" was engraved.

Yu?

Chen Yu's heart stirred slightly, could this word be related to his name and identity?

Suddenly.

His previous speculations and unease grew stronger.

"Yu'er, in fact, we are not your biological parents.

More than a decade ago, while your mother and I were out on an excursion, a wounded man suddenly appeared by our side.

He handed you and this jade pendant to us, and in an instant, he was gone."

Father Chen laid it out plainly.

"Dad, Mom, you

Chen Yu's heart was greatly shaken, this "truth" coincided with that bizarre dream.

He had always wondered.

Why had that mysterious heart chosen to descend on Yunyue Sect of all places, select him, and then integrate seamlessly with him?

If that dream had only appeared once, that would have been the end of it.

But that dream had recurred multiple times, relating to the mysterious heart, and it made Chen Yu feel uneasy.

He did not want to accept the “speculation” in his heart.

However.

Father Chen’s current confession shattered Chen Yu’s self-deception.

"Because your dad and I have never been able to conceive.

When that mysterious man brought you to us, we decided to raise you as if you were our own son

Tears glistened in Liu Wen’s eyes.

"As for this half of the jade pendant, the man said that it should be handed over to you when you came of age."

Mother Chen explained.

Chen Yu extended his hand to touch the half of the white, flawless jade pendant and felt a sudden clarity in his spiritual platform.

As if a warm spring nourished and cleansed deep within his heart.

With his current spiritual power, he felt as though the jade pendant contained an endless ocean, deep and unfathomable.

Chen Yu was certain.

This half of the jade pendant must be an extraordinary treasure, far more advanced than the Ice Heart Tears.

"Your mother, originally weak and sickly, has been invulnerable to disease since she wore this half of the jade pendant, looking much younger than others her age."

"Now, your mother is returning it to you, perhaps to help Yu'er confirm the mystery of your own identity."

Liu Wen's eyes were moist as she helped Chen Yu wear the jade pendant close to his body.

From his parents, Chen Yu felt profound love, along with a hint of loss.

After all.

They had raised Chen Yu for over a decade, yet suddenly one day, they had to reveal the mystery of his origins to him.

"Dad, Mom.

Rest assured, no matter what my background is, in my heart, you're no different from my own parents."

Chen Yu wiped the moisture from the corners of his eyes, more serious than ever before.

Could he sever the parental grace of a dozen years?

Mr.

And Mrs.

Chen Tiande, though not his biological parents, had given him kindness greater than the heavens.

...

Late in the night.

Chen Yu sat cross-legged in his room, touching the half of the jade pendant, his gaze flickering.

Previously.

He had been reluctant to trace the so-called mystery of his identity, preferring to believe he was indeed the biological son of Mr.

And Mrs.

Chen Tiande.

However.

The couple in his dreams, with deep concern in their eyes, especially the mysterious woman who sacrificed herself to enable the Chen Yu baby's existence.

Such selfless maternal love, given in silence, resonated deeply in Chen Yu's heart.

If the scenes in his dream were real.

Chen Yu's biological parents might not have provided him with nurturing, but the sacrifices they made could be greater than the nurturing itself.

Involuntarily.

Chen Yu developed a bit of interest in the mystery of his origins.

But immediately.

Chen Yu chuckled bitterly to himself; there was no need to ponder further before resolving the looming disaster facing him now.

In the cold light of the night's moon.

While Chen Yu was contemplating, he suddenly felt a slight itch and stirring somewhere on his body.

"Eh!"

Connected in spirit, Chen Yu sensed consciousness from the other end, his face brightening with joy.

Whoosh!

An iron-gray insect, the size of a thumb, shot out from his sleeve and landed on Chen Yu's hand, affectionately caressing him.

It was the awakened Iron Moon Strange Insect.

Chen Yu took a close look and saw that, while the Iron Moon Strange Insect's size had not changed much, its surface shimmered with faint silver spots that gave off a lustrous moon-like sheen.

Moreover.

There were a few blood-red crystal membranes remaining on its body which rapidly peeled away as it squirmed.

The aura emanating from the insect had clearly surpassed a significant level; the power fluctuations it released invisibly were even more potent than a common Postnatal Qi Transformation.

"How strong is this insect's combat power now?"

Chen Yu looked forward with anticipation.

As usual, Chen Yu let the Iron Moon Strange Insect patrol around the estate and even enter every corner underground to check.

At a certain moment.

The Iron Moon Strange Insect, joyfully frolicking, transmitted an unusual image.

Hmm?

Chen Yu focused on that image, his expression becoming stern; as long as it's within five miles, he could share the images and sounds transmitted by the Iron Moon Strange Insect.

At the periphery of the estate's orchard.

Swoosh!

A man and a woman drifted in and stared at the main house in the center of the estate.

The man was a blue-robed youth, around thirty, standing with his hands behind his back, an air of arrogance on his face.

The woman appeared to be in her twenties, dressed in a dark green gown, and she was somewhat charming and beautiful.

"Hmph, that kid will eventually die at the hands of Lv Tiezu; is there a need for us two Postnatal Qi Transformed experts to take action?"

The blue-robed youth was visibly reluctant.

"Who asked him to be the murderer of the Young Sect Master?"

The Sect Master, after investigation, has confirmed Chen Yu as the prime suspect, and this youngster possesses great fortune that must be terminated early to prevent future troubles," said the green-robed beauty with a hint of indolence in her voice.

The man and woman casually strolled towards the center of the estate's courtyard.

This scene.

Was shared by Chen Yu's senses, darkening his expression.

The "Young Sect Master" mentioned by the two was naturally Yi Yunfei from the Water Moon Sect.

That Water Moon Sect Master had still not been reassured by the calamity that Lv Tiezu would bring to Chen Yu, dispatching two Postnatal Qi Transformed experts for an assassination attempt.

As for the death of Yi Yunfei, why it was pinned on him, Chen Yu guessed it straight away.

At the Blood Sky Hall, while escaping with Chen Ying'er, Chen Yu had used an "Ice Split Ball" to block their enemies, leaving behind that minor detail, a flaw in their escape.

## Chapter 178: Combat Qi

In the vast manor.

The blue-robed youth and the green-robed beauty strolled forward leisurely, seeming slow but floating at least twenty feet with each step.

"I hear that Chen Yu has the strength to contend with Postnatal Qi Transformation, even Mei Changqing from Bone Demon Palace falls short of him by a notch.

Big brother, be careful later and do not take him lightly," the green-robed beauty warned seriously.

"Heh!

I just hope his strength is as rumored.

Otherwise, this trip would really be making a big fuss over nothing," the blue-robed youth smirked, baring his teeth.

He had reached the Postnatal Middle Stage in his cultivation, not too far from the late stage.

And the two of them were experts at joining forces in battle.

Before the mission, the Water Moon Sect Master had even given them four Ice Split Balls.

Not to mention anything else.

Just those four Ice Split Balls, thrown together in a volley, could reduce an average person at the Postnatal Qi Transformation to a pile of ice residue.

Of course.

The two regarded the four Ice Split Balls as their reward and figured they wouldn't get the chance to use them.

Swish-swish-swish!

Before long, under the cold moonlit night, they were drawing steadily closer to the central tower and manor of the estate.

"This manor is so desolate and barren it saves us some trouble, allowing us to strike without any reservations," the blue-robed youth surveyed his surroundings with a satisfied look.

"Hehe, your thoughts coincide with mine, without having to discuss a light chuckle suddenly emanated from the orchard beside them.

"Who is it!" The expressions of the blue-robed youth and the green-robed beauty changed.

Upon closer inspection.

A tall youth dressed in beast skin armor with a rustic air about him slowly walked out from the orchard.

Chen Yu!

The man and woman were quite taken aback, their Postnatal True Qi suddenly surging forth.

Whoosh!

The blue-robed youth's palm condensed a ball of ice-blue stream that resembled hoarfrost, with a ring of icy tornadoes automatically swirling about him, half a zhang in diameter.

Clang!

The green-robed woman drew a shining white sword, flashing with a frost-like light pattern as if tiny white ice snakes were slithering on it.

In terms of cultivation, both were a bit more profound than Mei Changqing.

The intriguing part was.

The cold-type True Qi emanating from their bodies complemented each other, causing a sudden drop in temperature around, and even the blood and Qi in the air seemed to congeal.

"Tsk tsk, one at Postnatal Early Stage, one at Postnatal Middle Stage, with cultivation techniques mutually enhancing each other.

The Water Moon Sect Master really thinks highly of me," Chen Yu sneered lightly.

Seeing Chen Yu's unruffled demeanor, the man and the woman became wary and looked around.

If Chen Yu didn't have backup, he probably wouldn't have the courage to face two Postnatal Qi Transformation powerhouses so calmly.

"The two of you can rest assured, there's no one else here," Chen Yu said with a smile.

But the smile contained a hint of eeriness.

The blue-robed youth and the green-robed woman quickly scanned the surroundings and indeed found no reinforcements.

"Youngster, just you alone dare to take on both of us?" The two frowned, their gazes locking onto Chen Yu with some disbelief.

Even if Chen Yu had the strength that could match Postnatal Qi Transformation, he was still at the Organ Refining Stage, belonging to the introductory third tier of disciples.

However.

Before the two could finish speaking, there was a "plop" from the ground beneath their feet.

The next moment.

A silver-spotted black dot, too fast for the naked eye to catch, suddenly closed in on the green-robed woman's leg.

"Watch out!" The blue-robed youth let out a low cry as a stream of blue-chilling air surged from his palm toward the green-robed woman's leg.

The green-robed woman reacted quickly, instinctively defending her entire body with Protective True Qi.

But.

The silver-spotted black dot moved too swiftly, flashing a sharp silver sheen as it penetrated the layer of True Qi of the green-robed woman with a "swoosh."

"Ah!" The green-robed woman screamed, her body tensing and her leg trembling.

You could see.

A Silver Spot Iron Worm had pierced her pale foot, biting through blood and flesh.

Immediately, a numbing cold sensation surged up her entire leg.

"This insect has actually reached the Qi Transformation Realm!" the blue-robed youth and the green-robed woman exclaimed in shock.

Ancient Beast Strange Insects generally have even stronger abilities than humans of the same stage.

Only elite humans could contend against them.

A moment ago, the green-robed woman, in haste, defended herself with Postnatal True Qi, yet failed to block the insect.

Plop, plop!

After biting through the wound, the Iron Moon Strange Insect burrowed powerfully into the flesh of her leg.

Fortunately.

The green-robed woman didn't lose her cool and while stopping the intrusion with True Qi, her shining white sword directly slashed at her leg.

Swoosh!

A chunk of flesh along with the Iron Moon Strange Insect was sliced off by the sword.

The green-robed woman let out a muffled groan, sweating large beads on her forehead from the acute pain.

Chen Yu couldn't help but reveal a look of seriousness on his face.

It seemed that these veteran Qi Transformation Realm powerhouses had steadier temperament and combat experience overall than the younger disciples.

This woman's decision to cut off the flesh on her own leg so decisively was telling.

"Kill this insect!" After escaping the crisis, the man and woman quickly made their move.

Whoosh, whoosh, whoosh!

A whirl of blue ice stream and a mist of white frost intertwined, forming an even more ferocious blue and white cold air that immediately enveloped the Iron Moon Strange Insect.

This power even reached the Postnatal Late Stage level.

Even for the formidable Iron Moon Strange Insect, a layer of frost formed on its body surface, limbs slowly freezing, struggling desperately.

This process lasted a good second or two.

The fierce blue and white cold air still hadn't frozen the Iron Moon Strange Insect solid.

Clang, clang!

The green-robed woman struck with her sword, sparks flying, but failed to breach the Iron Moon Strange Insect's exterior.

"This insect has actually surpassed regular demon beasts, reaching the level of a Treasure Insect Ancient Beast

A man and a woman turned solemn.

If it were a common Postnatal Qi Transformation demon beast, the two combining their frosty Qi could freeze and restrain it within two to three breaths.

However, this insect's resistance to True Qi was exceptionally strong.

At this rate, even if the two exhausted all their strength, it would take roughly ten breaths and a large amount of True Qi to freeze it.

Yet.

As the owner of the insect, would Chen Yu allow them to execute their moves for tens of breaths?

Just now, Chen Yu had let the Iron Moon Strange Insect attack first to gauge its fighting prowess, which was why he did not immediately make his move.

The result had certainly not disappointed Chen Yu.

If these two were not adept at joint attacks, ordinary Postnatal Qi Transformation individuals would likely be defeated in disarray by this insect.

"Heh heh!

How long do you two plan to stay busy?"

Sarcastic laughter pierced the intense roaring wind, suddenly closing in.

"Sister Ying, be careful!"

The blue-robed youth exclaimed as he saw Chen Yu turn into a blurry shadow, rapidly approaching the green-robed woman.

Cloud Evil Fist!

Chen Yu's eyes flashed coldly as he threw a punch that took the shape of a fierce, snake-like shadow, with visible layers of greenish-black Qi patterns on the snake's head and wide-open maw.

Before the punch could land, an invisible spiritual pressure descended first.

The green-robed woman felt a huge, fierce serpent barge into her spirit, making her body and blood tremble.

Slash!

She gritted her teeth, abandoning her attempt to freeze the Iron Moon Strange Insect, and slashed her treasured sword, emitting a cold and brilliant snowy sword rainbow accompanied by a fierce cold Qi wind.

Boom!

An enormous serpent-shaped shadow, wrapped in a cloud of Cloud Evil True Qi, swallowed the snowy sword rainbow, and after an intense tremor, both dissipated simultaneously.

Despite this.

The green-robed woman staggered back two or three steps, her face flushed with a hint of crimson.

While Chen Yu emerged unscathed and rapidly closed in.

The previous exchange was not due to the green-robed woman's lack of strength, but because of the injury to her leg from the Iron Moon Strange Insect's bite, with corpse poison making her movements cumbersome.

Her fighting strength, reduced to around seventy percent.

Huff!

Just as Chen Yu was about to follow up on his victory and slay the disadvantaged green-robed woman, he sensed an icy piercing sound behind him.

"You brat, it's your life on the line!"

The blue-robed youth was seen brandishing a Three-pointed Two-bladed Saber, slashing a sharp blue chill blade from afar, about ten feet long, cleaving towards Chen Yu.

"Together we shall take down this youngster!"

The green-robed woman, now at a disadvantage, with a fierce expression, swung her treasured sword again, unleashing another snowy blade of light, joining forces for a pincer attack on Chen Yu.

In the blink of an eye.

The two abandoned the insect and sandwiched Chen Yu from front and back.

The Iron Moon Strange Insect probably needed a breath or two to recover completely.

All they needed was to kill the spirit pet's master for an instant victory.

Chen Yu's expression darkened slightly.

If caught in the enveloping chill Qi attack from both, complementing each other, it would be troublesome.

Whoosh!

A layer of black iron-like patterns emerged on Chen Yu's body, bustling with the circulation of Cloud Evil Inner Breath and True Qi.

The next moment.

Chen Yu dragged his shadow, his speed abruptly increasing by fifty to sixty percent, dodging the blue-robed youth's stronger strike from behind.

And then.

His form darted from the other side, lunging at the green-robed woman with his arms etched with black and copper patterns swelling in size and Inner Breath True Qi vibrating in tandem.

Clang boom!

That punch, like a steel behemoth, thundered in front of the green-robed woman, who barely blocked it with her treasured sword.

Wow!

The woman nearly flew backwards, vomiting blood, her complexion paling.

"Bloodline Power, how can you possibly

The sudden onslaught left the man and woman of the Water Moon Sect in shocked disbelief.

The green-robed woman was indeed at a disadvantage due to the injury from the insect's bite and the corpse poison's invasion.

However, for Chen Yu, with his Refining Organ Stage cultivation, to repel her with mere punches was truly shocking.

After all.

To resist higher levels of the Postnatal Qi Transformation with entry-level abilities was already one in ten thousand rare, let alone defeating with such a resolute punch.

"Youngster!

Even the Sect Master underestimated your strength."

The blue-robed youth surged with a frenzied burst of icy blue True Qi, the Three-pointed Two-bladed Saber slicing out two or three, ten-feet-long icy blue saber shadows that piled on top of each other and cleaved at Chen Yu.

Not only that.

He also threw two Ice Split Balls that burst with a "crack," forming two massive, shocking cold whirlwinds accompanied by thousands of icy crystal particles' assaults.

Chen Yu was taken aback.

The blue-robed man's assault and the frost from the Ice Split Balls seemed to create a certain overlay, with a might that probably reached the Postnatal Late Stage.

His eyes saw.

As the bursting cold whirlwind, icy crystals, and ice-blue saber shadow all enveloped Chen Yu, it seemed impossible to dodge the wide-span attack completely.

In this crisis.

Chen Yu snorted coldly, still lunging directly at the green-robed woman.

Only.

He tossed a metal ball behind him.

Crack!

The metal ball split open, revealing a sword shield automaton over three feet tall materializing from the whitish fog, using its massive shield to firmly protect Chen Yu.

Ding ding ding!

On the pitch-black shield, sparks spewed continuously, the thousands of icy crystals hitting it unyielding.

Clang chirr~

Even the blue-robed youth's full-strength ice-blue saber shadows failed to move the shield in the slightest.

"Qi Transformation Realm automaton!

This defensive power is on par with Qi Transformation Innate

The blue-robed youth looked on in horror, feeling a wave of helplessness wash over him.

At that moment.

"Hahaha

From the other side of the sword shield automaton, Chen Yu laughed heartily.

Seen in his hand was a heavy and ancient dark silver sword, with Black Emperor bloodline Power and Cloud Evil True Qi both pouring into it.

Boom!

Hiss

With a sweep of the dark silver sword, a heavy oppressive force was brought forth, visually manifesting as a dazzling, gigantic black and silver sword rainbow, almost like a full moon, sweeping past over the green-robed woman in an instant.

Chapter 179: Killing Across Ranks

Boom!

Hiss

As the giant sword swept through the void, the air vibrated violently, and a huge, dazzling black and silver sword rainbow, almost full-moon shaped, flashed past the woman in green robes.

Her complexion turned deathly pale, her breathing halted under the astonishing pressure and momentum of the sword.

Clang!

Her treasured sword flew out of her hand as her arm went numb and lost all feeling.

But that was not all.

The brilliant black and silver sword rainbow, surrounded by a ring of peculiar black iron qi patterns, sliced through her protective True Qi with a hiss.

Pfft!

A nearly two-foot long gash appeared on the woman's chest, just half a foot away from her heart.

With this sword strike.

Even though it had not hit the vital spot, it nearly cleaved open the chest of the woman in green, inflicting a fatal injury.

"No!

Sister Ying

The youth in blue robes watched in horror as the woman in green screamed and was flung backward.

He wanted to help her, but a sword-shield puppet blocked him.

Clank!

Hiss!

The puppet's giant sword swept past, creating a dazzling bloody arc light, comparable to the combat strength of a mid-Postnatal Stage.

"Brother..."

Run

The woman in green, with a face of agony, knew she was doomed.

Her legs had first been injured by the Iron Moon Strange Insect which drastically reduced her mobility; then, Chen Yu's sword strike had been nearly lethal.

As Chen Yu advanced on her once more.

Desperation filled her eyes, revealing a glimpse of a fight-to-the-death resolve as she clutched two Ice Split Balls in her hand.

But a mocking smirk crossed Chen Yu's lips.

Swoosh!

Before the woman in green could stabilize herself, a silvery streak followed the wound opened by the giant sword and burrowed into her chest.

Moments later.

Her entire body stiffened, overtaken by excruciating pain, and she lost consciousness the next instant.

With a “thump” sound!

The woman in green fell to the ground, dead, her heart bursting out a beam of blood and black dots.

It turned out.

The Iron Moon Strange Insect had recovered faster than expected and seized the opportunity created by Chen Yu’s grievous wound to burrow into the woman’s heart and sever her lifeline.

Swoosh!

Chen Yu swiftly appeared in front of the woman in green and caught the two Ice Split Balls about to hit the ground.

Along with the one remaining in the Blood Burial Garden.

Chen Yu now had three Ice Split Balls in his hand, which, if activated simultaneously, could unleash power close to the limit of the Postnatal Stage, producing an astonishing force of icy energy.

After storing the Ice Split Balls.

Chen Yu directed the Iron Moon Strange Insect to attack the blue-robed youth from below.

He also picked up the Xuan Heavy Sword and, with the sword-shield puppet, initiated a pincer attack on the blue-robed youth.

"Youngster, you actually killed Sister Ying

The youth in blue robes had bloodshot eyes and a face full of murderous intent.

However.

Even though he possessed the strength of the mid-Postnatal Stage, he was overwhelmed by the combined attacks of Chen Yu, the insect, and the puppet.

Clang clang bang!

Chen Yu and the puppet preoccupied the blue-robed youth with frontal assaults that forced him to retreat step by step, his blood churning and sustaining minor injuries.

Moreover, the Iron Moon Strange Insect's lower attacks disoriented the blue-robed youth, who was eventually bitten on the foot.

"I will return today's enmity tenfold someday!"

His teeth clenched, the blue-robed youth finally calmed down, suppressing the deep-seated hatred and murderous intent in his heart.

Clang clang hiss!

Swinging his Three-pointed Two-bladed Saber, albeit slightly wounded, he used the force to retreat and immediately withdrew.

The terrifying strength and deep reserve of Chen Yu chilled him to the core.

"This boy has hidden too deep, whether it's Lv Tiezu, the Water Moon Sect Master, or the Bone Demon Palace clan, all were deceived by him

A clear realization dawned in the mind of the blue-robed youth.

By his lone strength, vengeance was next to impossible.

However.

Once Chen Yu's true strength came to light.

It could force his formidable enemies, such as Lv Tiezu, the Water Moon Sect Master, and the Bone Demon Palace's clan, to reassess him and perhaps, regardless of the cost, eliminate him ahead of time.

"Ha ha ha..."

Chen Yu!

This time I won't need to wait for the six-month agreement; you'll die prematurely."

The blue-robed youth laughed loudly, his face almost twisting with resentment.

Meanwhile.

He quickened his escape.

With the mid-Postnatal speed of the blue-robed youth, Chen Yu behind him had no advantage, especially with the puppet slightly slower in speed.

Only the Iron Moon Strange Insect was able to keep up momentarily.

"Hmph, since I have personally made a move, there's no chance for you to escape."

Chen Yu sneered internally.

Suddenly, he stowed away his Xuan Heavy Sword.

Hmm!

Chen Yu took a deep breath; his abdomen swelled as though a small barrel, the nearby air currents rustling noisily.

If Mei Changqing were present, he would've been extremely vigilant at this sight.

What Chen Yu was executing was precisely the Copper Lion Roar!

Booming!

Booming!

Simultaneously, as Chen Yu brewed the Copper Lion Roar, his heart amassed strength, subtly fortified by the "Black Iron Bloodline", integrating it into the air currents in his abdomen.

Hmm roar!

A majestic roar like a grand bell shaking the forest, resounded through the empty estate.

In an instant.

The nearby trees caught in the sweep of the sonic wave shattered their leaves and fruits, kicking up a storm of dust.

Whoosh!

A black-green evil wind enveloped the sonic surge, forming a fan-shape, and struck the escaping blue-robed youth.

"What!"

His body shook violently, his brain buzzing, blood seeping from his ears and nose.

Had he not reacted swiftly to protect his vital organs with True Qi, that roar could have shattered his eardrums.

Swoosh!

A silvery streak sprung up from underground, burrowing into his nose, and viciously bit down.

"Ah!"

No

The blue-robed youth screamed in terror, an intense chill enveloping his body.

Under normal circumstances.

He certainly wouldn't have exposed such a significant weakness for the Iron Moon Strange Insect to exploit by burrowing into his nose.

Just then.

The blue-robed youth was preoccupied with fleeing and had his brain filled with hatred and schemes, so he hadn't anticipated that Chen Yu would possess such a formidable sonic attack.

That sudden scream caught him off guard, nearly shattering his blood and True Qi.

"Get out of here!"

Under the biting of the Iron Moon Strange Insect, the blue-robed youth gathered strength in his abdomen, amassed his True Qi, and prepared to forcefully expel the Iron Moon Strange Insect through his nose.

However.

While giving his all to handle the Iron Moon Strange Insect, he neglected another fearsome title of Chen Yu.

Less than ten zhang behind him.

Chen Yu held a refined black spear in his hand, throwing it forward.

Swoosh!

The dark arc of spear shadow, with a tip emanating a sharp golden edge, closed the distance of ten zhang in the blink of an eye.

Blood splattered.

The tip of the dark spear, with its sharp golden edge, pierced through the blue-robed youth's flimsy True Qi layer, including his protective armor.

"Ah!

Impossible

The blue-robed youth looked back at the spear tip pierced through him, his face filled with fear and regret, as his body was propelled by the tremendous force of the spear by about fifteen to twenty zhang.

Thud!

The blue-robed youth fell to the ground, struggling briefly before breathing his last.

Swish!

A Silver Spot Iron Worm burst out of his head and returned to Chen Yu's sleeve.

After consecutively killing two Postnatal Qi Transformation cultivators, Chen Yu's face slightly paled.

The brief combat had nearly exhausted eighty to ninety percent of his Cloud Evil True Qi.

Inside his heart, the small black space that was once as big as a bamboo basket had shrunk slightly.

"Killing two Postnatal Qi Transformation cultivators really takes a toll

Chen Yu murmured.

For someone with entry-level cultivation to slaughter two in the Qi Transformation Realm, any Organ Refining Stage cultivator witnessing this would surely be immensely shocked.

Looking at Chen Yu's expression, he seemed somewhat dissatisfied.

Next.

Chen Yu cleaned up the spoils from the two Water Moon Sect cultivators and disposed of their bodies in a secluded place.

The pleasant surprise was.

Among the spoils, Chen Yu found two stalks of Ice Snow Lotus, each a hundred and fifty years old.

Ice Snow Lotus.

This was one of the main materials needed for the fourth recipe of the Copper Statue Technique.

However.

While these two stalks of Ice Snow Lotus were a hundred and fifty years old, missing a few decades in maturity, they were still better than nothing.

!

Two days later.

Chen Yu returned to the Yunyue Sect.

The first thing he did was to check the collection status of the fourth Body Refining recipe at the Sect Affairs Hall.

The results were mostly satisfying.

Thanks to Chen Yu's generous marked Primordial Stones and contribution points, most of the auxiliary materials had been gathered.

The next day.

Chen Yu went to see his master, Elder Mao.

"What!

Two Qi Transformation cultivators from the Water Moon Sect attacked you?

Was Yi Yunfei also killed by you?"

Elder Mao's expression was quite vivid.

His disciple really knew how to stir up trouble.

Lv Santong, Yi Yunfei, Helian Tu, Shangguan Qi, these disciples with profound backgrounds, all had fallen by his hand.

It seemed.

Chen Yu could no longer stay in the lands of Chu Country unless he possessed the formidable combat strength of the Guiyuan Realm, like that of Lv Tiezu.

With strength at Lv Tiezu's level, even if everyone knew his grandson was the infamous Infinite Thief, they could do nothing about it.

After a long time, Elder Mao calmed down.

Switching his perspective.

If Chen Yu hadn't killed so many talented individuals, he couldn't have possibly possessed such great fortunes in the Blood Burial Garden.

The total sum of fate in the world might be fixed at certain periods.

One rises as another falls.

Like the cycle of life and death, it is a natural law.

"Rest assured, I've already sent someone to take care of your parents.

It's personally managed by your senior brother Chang Xuan, so you can be at ease," Elder Mao added in a soothing tone.

!

Three days later.

The night of the full moon finally arrived.

Chen Yu and Elder Mao arrived at the Moon Cave together.

Like the last time, it was Old Man Pan who greeted Chen Yu and Elder Mao.

Hearing that Chen Yu was venturing into the cave again, Old Man Pan didn't ask much but displayed a somewhat thoughtful look.

On the night of the full moon.

The blood-ink colored mysterious water waves inside the Moon Mine had already vanished under an invisible force field.

Chen Yu entered the Moon Mine for the second time.

This time.

With the Iron Moon Strange Insect, akin to a “worm king,” he no longer worried about the swarm of insects.

In the Ancient Moon Well, Chen Yu tested his Cloud Evil True Qi, which was completely restrained, unable to be mobilized.

His Black Emperor bloodline was restricted by about seventy to eighty percent, although he could still barely use it.

During this journey, Chen Yu didn't see the broken sword skeleton, potentially swept into a deep corner by the blood-ink colored waves of the well.

Was it this factor?

The dangers he encountered on the way were two to three times more than last time, even encountering Qi Transformation Realm fierce creatures two or three times.

Fortunately.

Chen Yu had the Iron Moon Strange Insect which could control a large number of Iron Moon Corpse Worms, along with Sword Shield Puppets, allowing him to ward off the Qi Transformation Realm creatures.

Without too much peril.

Chen Yu reached the end of this path.

Just like last time.

A whole wall of faintly glowing Moon Spirit Ore Wall emerged in his view, causing Chen Yu's heartbeat to quicken and his breathing to roughen.

In front of the Moon Spirit Ore Wall was an Array Stone Platform engraved with complex array patterns.

This Array Stone Platform, about ten zhang wide, had four directions, each with a dark green rusted metal dragon head.

In the mouths of all four dragon heads was a small indentation.

"Four indentations?"

Chen Yu recalled his puppets, which also had similar indentations, designed to embed Primordial Stones to provide driving energy.

Chapter 180: Seven Booms that Shake the Clouds

Chen Yu's face wore a thoughtful expression as he sized up the surroundings of the Array Formation Platform, taking particular note of the four dark turquoise, rusty metal dragon heads with gaping mouths.

He took out four genuine yuan stones and embedded one into each dragon head's mouth.

Just as all four yuan stones were fully inserted,

Buzz!

The entire Array Formation Platform emanated a dim, hazy shine, and for an instant, the complex array patterns around it lit up.

But this process lasted for only half a breath's time.

Crack!

Crack!...

Following the brief flash, the yuan stones in the four dragon mouths dimmed abruptly and reduced to a pile of fine powder in an instant.

"Indeed, it is a Transmission Array!"

Joy lit up Chen Yu's face.

Recently, he had perused some ancient tomes concerning Transmission Arrays.

In Kunyun Continent, Chu Country was a relatively backward and secluded region; not to mention the long-distance Ancient Transmission Arrays, even short-distance ones had almost vanished from existence.

"Four low-grade yuan stones, drained in an instant; it seems this Transmission Array is definitely for long distances and should still be effective."

Chen Yu's heart pulsed with excitement.

That spirit sword imprint Lv Tiezu left on him was like a death curse.

The moment he attempted to distance himself from the Three Sects Camp, it would be sensed.

However,

This Ancient Transmission Array was different, capable of instantly teleporting Chen Yu to a very distant place.

When the time came,

The world was vast and wide, how easy would it be for Lv Tieniu to find him?

Thereupon,

Chen Yu took out paper and pen, meticulously sketched down the Array Formation Platform, as well as the surrounding array patterns.

Before departing,

Chen Yu dug up several high-quality Moon Spirit Ore pieces from a nearby Moon Spirit Wall, then retraced his original route back.

Returning to the surface, Chen Yu met up with Elder Mao.

Master and disciple exchanged a few words through voice transmission on the spot.

Following Elder Mao's order, Chen Yu took out a high-quality Moon Spirit Ore and handed it to Elder Pan, who was in charge of guarding the secluded mining caves.

After all, Elder Pan was the guardian here and had always kept the Ancient Moon Well a secret.

In no time,

Chen Yu and Elder Mao rode on flying beasts back to Yunyue Sect.

Watching the flying beast shrink into a dot and merge with the skyline, Elder Pan put away the Moon Spirit Ore, a sharp gleam flickering in his eyes.

...

In the Yunyue Sect, at Elder Mao's mansion,

Chen Yu handed the meticulously copied Ancient Transmission Array diagram to Elder Mao for inspection.

After a long period of scrutiny,

Elder Mao began, "Judging from the diagram, this Ancient Transmission Array should be for long-distance teleportation, at least spanning distances greater than ten 'Beiyuans'."

At least ten Beiyuans?

Chen Yu felt a slight shock, hardly able to imagine the extent of the distance.

How vast is Beiyuan?

Qi Country, Chu Country, Yan Country, the Great Snow Mountain Tribe to the north, and even more extensive wilderness areas make up the region of Beiyuan.

Among them, the wilderness area alone is more than a dozen times larger than the inhabited regions combined.

Crossing Beiyuan on a horse that could cover a thousand li in a day might take two to three years' time.

"For such distant teleportation, low-grade yuan stones surely won't suffice; you would need four mid-grade yuan stones," Elder Mao said with certainty.

"Mid-grade yuan stones?"

Those are almost extinct high-quality yuan stones in the sect circles of Chu Country, aren't they?"

Chen Yu was greatly surprised.

"Extinct?"

Not necessarily."

With a flip of his hand, Elder Mao revealed a lustrous and rounded yuan stone in his palm; while its color was somewhat dull, the essence energy it radiated was far more potent than that of average low-grade yuan stones.

"Not every Qi Transformation Realm elder necessarily possesses mid-grade yuan stones.

I only have one here," Elder Mao said pensively.

In principle, one hundred low-grade yuan stones could be exchanged for one mid-grade yuan stone.

But in the land of Chu Country,

Those extremely rare mid-grade yuan stones were mostly in the hands of those in the Guiyuan Realm and a few top-tier Innate Qi Transformation practitioners.

Certainly, Supreme Elder Gongyang of our sect must have a number of mid-grade yuan stones.

However,

Those in the Guiyuan Realm, the Supreme Elders, were elusive, and they might not be willing to trade.

"I shall find a way to help you exchange for the mid-grade yuan stones.

As for this array diagram, it has only three fissures and will require some materials for repair," Elder Mao continued after some thought.

"How long will it take?"

Chen Yu asked.

"Two months."

Elder Mao declared a timeframe seriously.

Within two months, Elder Mao would resolve the issues of materials and yuan stones for Chen Yu.

"So, it will be the next full moon after the next one."

Chen Yu's heart settled somewhat.

At least the timing and details of the plan were well mapped out.

And two months later, the divination message from the Great Snow Mountain hadn't arrived just yet there was still a bit of time.

Moreover,

The Snow Mountain Great Witch, transcending worldly status, could not guarantee an immediate audience even for Lv Tiezu himself.

One could surmise,

For Lv Tiezu to have the Great Witch perform divination would surely come at substantial cost.

Back at Yunyue Sect,

Chen Yu secretly cultivated for several days, using up as many as five hundred thousand contribution points to exchange for various Cultivation Techniques and secret tomes, including some secret techniques.

Because before long,

He would leave Chu Country far behind, rendering those contribution points useless if not spent.

Chen Yu focused his exchanges on martial skills related to swordsmanship and movement techniques to broaden his horizons and enhance his prowess in those areas.

When it came to secret techniques, he exchanged for several higher-grade "Sound Wave Secret Techniques."

Nowadays,

Having been promoted to True Disciple, he could exchange for almost any Cultivation Technique or secret technique in the sect as long as his contribution points were sufficient.

Unless they were some core techniques, which would require permissions from elders or the Sect Master.

In the following days,

Chen Yu mainly fused the various "Sound Wave Secret Techniques" he had acquired, validating them against the "Copper Lion Roar" he learned from Yuan Li of the Bone Demon Palace.

The result,

Chen Yu discovered he had been fooled by Yuan Li.

"Turns out, the modified 'Copper Lion Roar' from Yuan Li, though more powerful, causes great harm to the internal organs.

Thankfully, my constitution is strong."

Chen Yu's gaze flickered.

Invisibly, this also brought him an idea.

The Sound Wave Secret Technique was indeed well suited to Chen Yu's non-human physique altered by the mysterious heart.

The same Sound Wave Secret Technique.

If it were Chen Yu who utilized it, its power would definitely surpass those of the same rank.

Several days later.

Chen Yu blended several Sound Wave Secret Techniques and improved them into an augmented version of the “Copper Lion Roar” suitable for himself.

This new “Copper Lion Roar” was not only powerful but also adaptable to internal breath.

After initial practice.

Chen Yu confirmed that this new “Copper Lion Roar” had increased its might by more than fifty percent and would have a not insignificant deterrence and interference effect on the Postnatal Qi Transformation.

If.

His heart stored power again, and even integrated the Black Emperor’s bloodline, its strength could increase by another fifty percent or more.

At that time, the extremity of power in “Copper Lion Roar” might even slightly disturb those in the Innate Qi Transformation Realm.

...

On this day.

As Chen Yu was regularly cultivating the “Yuan Sha Divine Skill,” suddenly, a tolling bell echoed through the mountains.

Dang!

Dang!

Dang!

The Shaking Cloud Bell was struck rapidly seven times, and an atmosphere of urgent crisis spread throughout the Yunyue Sect.

"The Shaking Cloud Bell, ringing seven times!"

Chen Yu's face turned solemn.

At the same moment.

All levels within the Yunyue Sect were shaken, and the myriad of disciples were in a buzz.

The "Shaking Cloud Bell" was a treasure of the Yunyue Sect, often struck only when major events occurred.

The more times it was struck, the more significant the event.

The maximum number of strikes was nine.

If it was continuously struck nine times, it meant that the entire sect faced annihilation, signaling that enemies had reached the mountain gate.

But today.

Although it was not nine strokes of the Shaking Cloud Bell, seven tolls also indicated the gravity of the situation.

Half a tea time later.

Chen Yu arrived at the core area of the sect, in front of the Yuntian Hall.

At this moment.

Outside the Yuntian Hall gathered nearly a thousand sect members, a dense crowd that included both older and younger generations.

"Junior Brother Chen, please come in quickly

One of the Law Enforcers immediately ushered Chen Yu inside.

Most of the sect members and disciples remained outside the Yuntian Hall.

But as a True Disciple, Chen Yu had the status and identity to enter the vital area of the Yuntian Hall.

Inside the Yuntian Hall.

The Yunyue Sect Master, Elder Mao, and three or four other elders were present, as well as some middle and upper-level members who had reached the Postnatal Qi Transformation.

In addition, there were some True Disciples.

Among the crowd.

Chen Yu saw many familiar True Disciples such as Chang Xuan, Nangong Li, Huangfulin, Fang Haofei, and others.

In fact.

Most of the Yunyue Sect's members were outside, either stationed at some resource-critical areas or participating in the frontline war against the Bone Demon Palace.

Even the Supreme Elder Gongyang was at the frontline, not in the sect.

"Everyone is here."

Moments later, the Sect Master's gaze swept over the crowd.

"Sect Master, the Shaking Cloud Bell rang seven times, what exactly happened?"

An elder in the Postnatal Qi Transformation stage couldn't help but ask.

This was the first occurrence of seven strikes on the Shaking Cloud Bell in the past fifty years.

"I believe some of you have already received some information through the grapevine.

Just two days ago, the Water Moon Sect betrayed us, leading to a massive defeat at the frontlines!"

The Yunyue Sect Master said gravely.

Whoosh!

The entire Yuntian Hall erupted with noise.

At that moment.

Whether it was the high-ranking sect officials or the True Disciples, each one gasped in shock.

Betrayal by Water Moon!

Massive defeat at the frontline?

These eight words signified the complete breakdown of the situation within the entire sect community of Chu Country.

"Is the situation irreversible?"

Chen Yu's heart jolted.

Although he had once speculated that the day might come for the Three Sects to fall,

He never expected.

That this possibility was now so close.

Originally, the Three Sects, united together, could hold their breath for some time under the offensive of the Bone Demon Palace.

But now, the Water Moon Sect had actually betrayed them.

"How could the Water Moon Sect betray the alliance of the Three Sects?"

"Fifty years ago, the Water Moon Sect was also involved in a life-and-death struggle with the Bone Demon Palace, with no small amount of hatred between them."

Some of the middle and upper management present were puzzled.

The turn of events was too unexpected.

"According to rumors, the Water Moon Sect reached some kind of agreement with the Bone Demon Palace.

Over half of the high-ranking members of Water Moon agreed, while those who opposed were swiftly silenced or placed under house arrest."

The Yunyue Sect Master stated calmly.

Hearing this,

Chen Yu's expression changed abruptly as a thought struck him, "Chen Ying'er!"

Chen Ying'er was in the Water Moon Sect, and her current fate was unknown.

While everyone was buzzing with discussion,

Chen Yu approached Elder Mao and the Sect Master to inquire in a low voice.

"Chen Ying'er?"

Her master seems to be 'Elder Kui Yue' of the Water Moon Sect, one of the leading figures of the betrayal."

The Sect Master replied.

Upon hearing this news, Chen Yu was somewhat confused.

Didn't this mean that Chen Ying'er might possibly join the ranks of the Bone Demon Palace?

But after a second thought,

Chen Yu figured this wasn't necessarily bad news.

In the world of sects, there was actually no true distinction between good and evil, only differences in camps.

If the Yunyue Sect had been the one to betray the alliance of the Three Sects and Elder Mao had happened to be one of the leaders, then Chen Yu would also be compelled to join the Bone Demon Palace.

"Indeed, after she left the Blood Burial Garden, Chen Ying'er gained the favor of Elder Kui Yue as well as the Water Moon Supreme Elder."

The Yunyue Sect Master looked thoughtfully at Chen Yu.

"Nephew Chen, as a True Disciple of our sect, you must be mindful of your status and draw a clear line between yourself and traitors like Chen Ying'er."