

Eternal Heart 351

Chapter 351: Only Using Feet

Duan Xinyue, though beautiful and with an alluring figure that caused the hearts of many male students to flutter, was paradoxically a warlike character.

Tangshan, who had just stepped onto the stage, had obviously planned to admit defeat, but Duan Xinyue didn't care about that, striking like thunder to defeat him.

"So terrifying. In this group, probably only Lv Qiuling from Sky Star Academy, who is ranked second, can contend with Duan Xinyue."

Yu Hong glanced at Duan Xinyue and shivered.

After all, top geniuses like Duan Xinyue were already at a limit in strength, and the increase in power from breaking through to the Guiyuan Realm wasn't significant.

Students who ranked second or third in the four major academies could still compete with Guiyuan Realm breakthrough Duan Xinyue.

But what he didn't know was that as a Beast Tamer, Lv Qiuling mainly relied on the combat power of her Spirit Pets, but most of her powerful Spirit Pets were dead. She had no power to contend with Duan Xinyue.

Moreover, the number ones from the four major academies were evenly distributed across four battle platforms.

And in the first round of the first battle, they all took the stage.

On platform number one, Yunhai Zhen's opponent was a tall man at the Innate Peak. As soon as he stepped onto the battle platform, he felt an overwhelming pressure descend, making it hard for him to breathe.

As he looked into Yunhai Zhen's eyes, he suddenly felt as if his spirit were engulfed by a sea of fire, breaking into a cold sweat and collapsing weakly on the ground.

"Combining pressure with spiritual power creates a force that suppresses both the material and spiritual levels. If the opponent's strength is too low, they're almost powerless to resist," Chen Yu mused to himself.

Yunhai Zhen's spiritual power also had a unique characteristic. For instance, Chen Yu's spiritual power had a touch of demonic intent, capable of forming an invisible spiritual pressure.

Without the ability to fight, the referee declared Yunhai Zhen's opponent as the loser.

On platform number two, Yuan Chen hadn't even made a move when his opponent already admitted defeat.

Similarly, on platform number three, a student at the Innate Peak immediately admitted defeat.

Ye Chengfeng's swordsmanship was no ordinary feat, few of his peers could withstand it, let alone someone who was a level below him.

"It's really unexpected that this Academy Tournament has produced four Guiyuan Realm powerhouses!" a high-level academy official said, with a hint of admiration.

In past tournaments, having one or two Guiyuan Realm participants was already considered good.

Moreover, the top ten of the academy tournament usually received an Origin Transformation Pill as a reward, which could increase the chances of breaking through to the Guiyuan Realm.

But for the four top geniuses who had already broken through to the Guiyuan Realm, the Origin Transformation Pill wasn't of much use. No wonder the rewards for this tournament had increased compared to previous ones.

"Apart from the second-ranked students from the four major academies, almost nobody dares challenge these four people's authority."

"It's just that we don't know who among these four is the strongest

Nearby spectators were keenly anticipating the final battle.

Of course, they weren't only interested in the top rankings—the top twenty in the tournament all held a glimmer of hope for reaching the legendary Sky Sea Realm.

After one fight on platform number four, Yu Hong from No Demon Academy made his way onto the stage.

His opponent was a young woman with aqua-colored hair, at the Innate Peak.

Yu Hong showed no mercy, attacking straight away with a palm technique, releasing a dark blue flame-like palm wind.

But the aqua-haired woman wasn't weak, wielding a strange ring-shaped weapon and engaging Yu Hong in a battle lasting nearly two hundred moves.

After a drawn-out struggle, the aqua-haired woman began to falter first, and Yu Hong forcefully launched an attack, securing victory.

After a few more matches.

"Chen Yu against Yang Ge!"

"It's my turn."

Hearing his name, Chen Yu walked onto the battle platform.

"Ha ha, lucky me."

The short-haired young man opposite him saw Chen Yu and revealed a delighted smile.

He was a top student from a second-tier academy and had barely managed to gather ten Tokens to enter the second segment.

But amidst the many strong competitors in the fourth group, he felt completely out of his depth, worried he might suffer seven or eight consecutive defeats.

Yet, unexpectedly, his first opponent turned out to be Chen Yu, in the Innate Middle Stage.

With this, he would win his first match, and even if he lost afterwards, at least he'd save face.

Although Chen Yu had shown many black-and-white Tokens before, the short-haired youth absolutely didn't believe Chen Yu had obtained them on his own strength.

"This brother is celebrating too early

Yu Hong couldn't help sneering.

The match began.

The short-haired youth immediately charged forward, gripping his treasured saber tightly, wreathed in a pale blue aura.

He planned to use his killer move right from the start.

On the other hand, Chen Yu stood with his hands behind his back, his expression composed.

Boom~

The saber came down, and Chen Yu's figure was torn apart in the vision, dissolving into nothing.

"Damn, afterimage

The short-haired youth's expression changed drastically.

He hadn't noticed Chen Yu channel his True Qi, so when had Chen Yu used his movement technique to leave?

Simultaneously, he felt a massive force strike his rear.

Thump!

The short-haired youth was kicked out of the ring by Chen Yu, falling face-first to the ground.

From beginning to end, Chen Yu hadn't even used his hands – a light kick had secured his victory.

Below the stage, not many people were surprised.

After all, Chen Yu was the disciple of the Vice Dean of No Demon Academy, while the short-haired youth was just a student from a second-tier academy.

"Just with bodily strength, he has such speed?"

A ripple of shock appeared on Nie Xuan's usually cold expression.

For most cultivators, speed and movement techniques are performed with True Qi in coordination with their bodies.

But Chen Yu's movement hadn't involved any True Qi; it was purely the use of bodily strength, and the speed was so fast it didn't allow the opponent to detect it.

"Devilish Evil Frenzy Shadow" required an extremely high level of physical fitness. With Chen Yu's current body strength, even without mobilizing True Qi, he could burst forth with astonishing speed, far beyond the ordinary.

"Such strong physical fitness, it seems his "Heavenly Demon Secret Pattern Record" must have been cultivated to the third layer."

Yi Lantian's deep eyes flashed with a hint of surprise.

With Chen Yu at the third level of the "Heavenly Demon Secret Pattern Record," the sheer power of his physical body alone was enough to easily suppress a Late Innate cultivator.

After the match, Chen Yu left the arena and glanced at the battles on the other stages.

On the second stage, Situ Lin Yu was making his appearance.

His opponent was a Sword Dao practitioner from Sky Sword Academy at the Innate Peak level.

This Sword Cultivator executed his swordsmanship with ferocious precision, a hazy sword light enveloping his body.

"Dark Night Pupil Skill."

Situ Lin Yu released an Evil Spirit while applying his Pupil Skill.

A force of spiritual pull and Illusion Path power shrouded the body of the Sword Cultivator.

With both hands gripping the treasured sword, a white light flickered in the Sword Cultivator's eyes as he unleashed an astonishing Sword Intent, resisting the Illusion Technique deployed by Situ Lin Yu.

All of a sudden, the Evil Spirit under Situ Lin Yu's command ceased the Dark Night Pupil Skill and opened its mouth wide, releasing a low and urgent evil sonic wave.

Caught off guard, the Sword Cultivator was hit by the sonic attack, his body violently shuddering as he staggered backward.

At the same time, the Big-headed Evil Spirit executed the Dark Night Pupil Skill once again.

With the coordinated efforts of Situ Lin Yu and the Evil Spirit, the Sword Cultivator was defeated.

"It is no wonder, coming from the Situ Family, a talent who can defeat a Sword Dao Practitioner at the Innate Peak level while being only at the Late Innate."

"The cooperation between Situ Lin Yu and the Evil Spirit is so seamless that the Sword Cultivator hardly has a chance to swing his sword."

Situ Lin Yu's first battle earned him fame, drawing the attention of many.

The first round continued seamlessly, with Nie Xuan, Shang Han, and others also entering the arena.

Soon, it was time for the second round.

This time, Duan Xinyue's opponent, having learned from the previous encounters, conceded as soon as he stepped on the stage, then leaped off, sighing deeply.

A few battles later, it was Chen Yu's turn again.

His opponent was Yu Hong from No Demon Academy.

"Brother Chen, I didn't expect to face you so soon," Yu Hong said cheerily.

Chen Yu looked at Yu Hong, unsure of his intentions. In the struggle for the No Demon Academy's slots, Yu Hong had, under Luo Haotian's instigation, challenged Chen Yu and was soundly defeated.

Seeing Chen Yu's expression change slightly, Yu Hong immediately said, "Brother Chen, please don't misunderstand; I admit defeat."

Yu Hong had regretted offending Chen Yu since then and had been looking for an opportunity to curry favor with him.

As soon as Yu Hong spoke, many people were greatly surprised.

Yu Hong, being at the Innate Peak, had previously battled and won against a female cultivator with green hair at the same level, a force not to be underestimated.

But now, facing Chen Yu, Yu Hong had conceded without a fight.

"Alas, both being from No Demon Academy, and with Chen Yu being the deputy headmaster's disciple, Yu Hong, with no background to speak of, must have conceded because he dared not offend Chen Yu," a male student said, believing he had seen through Yu Hong's thoughts, his words carrying a tone of empathy.

The green-haired female cultivator also strongly agreed. She had been defeated by Yu Hong, but now that Yu Hong was admitting defeat to a disciple at the Innate Peak like herself, it felt as if she too had lost to Chen Yu.

"Chen Yu wins."

The referee announced Chen Yu's victory.

Without further ado, it was no longer Chen Yu's concern. His gaze swept across the four battle stages, watching fights that intrigued him.

Soon, the third round arrived.

Chen Yu's opponent was a student from Sky Sword Academy at the Late Innate stage.

Without using his True Qi, he moved with the speed of lightning to the student's back, kicking him off the stage and securing victory.

The fourth round followed swiftly.

"Chen Yu vs. Fu Beiling."

"Fu Beiling, the talented disciple from the Fu Family, one of the four great super families, has managed to break into the second segment of this year's Academy Competition at such a young age. Come the next competition, he might even have a chance to contend for first place against other geniuses from different academies."

"Heh, Chen Yu is considered a prodigy in No Demon Academy too; I wonder how many moves he can withstand against Fu Beiling."

On the stage, Chen Yu and Fu Beiling locked eyes.

"Last time we couldn't decide a victor, but this time, I will definitely defeat you," Fu Beiling said, his gaze fixed on Chen Yu.

Back in the Red Earth Secret Realm, they had encountered each other and exchanged a few blows, but neither gained the upper hand.

Later, when they collaborated to attack a nest of sand bandits, Chen Yu had tricked Fu Beiling quite badly.

Having witnessed Chen Yu seizing opportunities from the hands of Zhou Yuning and Lv Qiuling in the trial secret realm, Fu Beiling was aware of the staggering growth in Chen Yu's strength since then and therefore did not underestimate him.

"So they knew each other before? It seems they've even fought to a standstill!"

Many were shocked, and even in Sky Star Academy, few people were privy to this fact.

Fu Beiling had a considerable reputation in Sky Star Academy, seen as the lead contender for the next Sky Star Academy Competition.

Whoosh!

Fu Beiling suddenly charged, white starlight flickering around him as he rapidly approached Chen Yu.

At the same moment, Chen Yu moved too, unleashing the power of his body, appearing behind Fu Beiling.

"This move won't work on me," said Fu Beiling calmly.

In the previous two fights, Chen Yu had employed this method to end the battles.

But Fu Beiling was also adept at speed, and combined with having watched Chen Yu before, he could react in time.

He quickly turned around, his finger pointing out, gathering intense starlight resembling a star, which rushed forth.

Yet, Chen Yu, still with hands behind his back, swept his leg out.

Boom!

His leg swept through, shattering the dazzling starlight finger.

At the same moment, Chen Yu's foot landed on Fu Beiling's chest.

Pu!

Fu Beiling spat out a mouthful of blood, his white robe billowing as he flew out of the ring.

Against Fu Beiling, Chen Yu still didn't use his hands or True Qi, finishing the fight with a single kick.

Chapter 352: Defeat Shang Han with One Move

Nearby spectators were all stunned.

Facing the Yunyang Academy prodigy Fu Beiling, Chen Yu still managed to kick him off the platform.

Could Chen Yu be a master of leg techniques? But from the looks of that attack posture, it was just a very ordinary kick!

"I underestimated you, it really does hurt a bit!"

After kicking Fu Beiling off the combat platform, Chen Yu's right leg slightly shrugged left and right.

Chen Yu had resisted with his physical strength alone, and Fu Beiling's attack was indeed formidable. However, had Chen Yu activated his Secret Pattern Demon Body, it would have probably felt no more than a tickle.

Fu Beiling, kicked off the challenge platform, was dumbfounded. But when he heard Chen Yu's words, he was suddenly overcome with rage, spitting out a mouthful of fresh blood.

He really wanted to curse at Chen Yu, you've already kicked me off the platform, please stop humiliating me.

The battle ended, and Chen Yu walked down from the combat platform under the watchful eyes of many.

At this moment, everyone finally took Chen Yu seriously.

Although Fu Beiling was only in the Late Innate Stage, being a genius of the Fu Family, he had excellent talent and potential and was considered the leading candidate for the next academy competition from the Sky Star Academy.

Yet Chen Yu, a young man of the same age, also eligible to participate in the next academy competition, had defeated Fu Beiling with such ease.

Only now did some people understand that Yu Hong, who had admitted defeat earlier on, might have truly believed he was no match for Chen Yu, rather than because Chen Yu had a strong backing in the academy.

"How is his strength so strong? Could there be a special defensive item on his leg?"

Shang Han stared intently at Chen Yu.

She was also on Platform Four, destined to face Chen Yu, and she had previously believed she had a great chance of winning.

But watching Chen Yu's battle, her confidence wavered, not as solid as before.

Little did she know, Chen Yu had defeated Fu Beiling without even using True Qi.

"This youngster, his strength has increased quite fast!"

Duan Xinyue also looked at Chen Yu with a serious eye.

Of course, in her view, Chen Yu's speed on the combat platform was nothing compared to her own.

Duan Xinyue considered Chen Yu strong but not a real challenger.

"Hmph, Junior Brother Beiling, I will help you thoroughly humiliate this boy,"

Lv Qiuling said to the beside recuperating Fu Beiling.

"It's done for, Lv Qiuling is seeking revenge for Fu Beiling!"

"Lv Qiuling, ranked the second powerhouse at Sky Star Academy with numerous Spirit Pets, could almost instantly crush Chen Yu!"

Many people looked at Chen Yu with some sympathy.

They didn't know that Lv Qiuling already bore a grudge against Chen Yu, and was just looking for an excuse while also doing Fu Beiling a favor.

They also didn't know that Lv Qiuling's powerful Spirit Pets were gone.

At the summit of the mountain where Sky Star Academy was stationed, a woman in palace attire with her hair done up spoke to Yi Lantian via voice transmission: "This disciple of yours must be a body cultivator, but to defeat Fu Beiling without even using True Qi is indeed extraordinary. What Body Cultivation Technique does he practice?"

"You'll know in a while!"

Yi Lantian, rarely showing a hint of a faint smile.

The competition continued, quickly reaching the seventh round.

Chen Yu was fortunate not to encounter any formidable opponents, and each one was kicked off the combat platform by him.

"This boy is too mean, humiliating people like this during the competition!"

"Yes, being kicked off the combat platform like that, even I would be left with a psychological shadow!"

Voices of denunciation started emerging from various places.

Meanwhile, on Platform Three, the Puppet Master Kong Zhong defeated a Postnatal Late Stage disciple, earning a round of applause.

"This Puppet Master is also considered a dark horse, having lost only to Ye Chengfeng and Luo Haotian so far, otherwise maintaining a complete winning streak."

The Puppet Master Kong Zhong had found an opportunity within the secret realm and had already broken through to Late Innate.

Combined with his new puppets and superb control techniques, he was nearly invincible among Late Innate competitors, having previously even used a stalling tactic to defeat an Innate Peak disciple.

"That's not the only dark horse, the Thunder Spirit Body prodigy Wu Heng from Yunyang Academy, and the Eighth Prince from the royal family, are both young and surprisingly powerful."

Fights were going on all four platforms, leaving watchers unsure which one to focus on.

Platform Four, comes the eighth round.

This time, Chen Yu's opponent was a strong contender at the Innate Peak stage from the Yunyang Academy.

"Hehe, kid, you're too conspicuous

A dark-faced youth, looking at Chen Yu, grinned mischievously.

"Is that so?"

Chen Yu simply smiled.

He just felt there was no need to use his real skills against those people, and inadvertently killing them might strip him of his right to compete in the grand competition.

"Haha, you underestimate Yunyang Academy!"

The dark-faced youth laughed aloud.

Though he ranked eighteenth in Yunyang Academy, the top twenty from Yunyang all reached the Innate Peak stage, far surpassing the other three major academies.

Swoosh!

Chen Yu didn't bother to chat further, moving instantly.

The dark-faced youth's eyes shifted slightly, clearly able to see Chen Yu's form, but he didn't move.

Hah!

Suddenly, the dark-faced youth let out a low shout, his burly body instantly swelling a bit, with many metal-like patterns emerging, exuding an astonishing forceful pressure.

It turned out the dark-faced youth was also a body cultivator, preferring close combat. Knowing Chen Yu would approach, he naturally saw no need to dodge.

"Do you think you can kick me off the platform with one foot?"

The dark-faced youth said with a hint of sarcasm.

"Oh? Body Cultivation?"

Chen Yu glanced at the dark-faced youth. If it was about Body Cultivation, there should have been some fighting.

He still lifted a foot and kicked at the dark-faced youth.

But this time, he activated the energy of his demonic patterns, and a layer of dark misty demonic patterns swirled around Chen Yu's legs.

Bang!

Chen Yu kicked, and the dark-faced youth punched out at the same time.

"How can this be? Such strong True Qi!"

The dark-faced youth's complexion suddenly turned ugly, his arm trembling violently as he retracted it.

Chen Yu's "Heavenly Demon Secret Pattern Record" had broken through to the third layer, further enhancing the energy of the demonic patterns, almost approaching Half-step True Essence.

Ranked eighteenth at Yunyang Academy, the dark-faced youth was far inferior compared to the top contenders at the Innate Peak, naturally unable to withstand Chen Yu's kick at this moment.

As the dark-faced youth withdrew his arm, Chen Yu kicked at his chest, producing a muffled sound.

"It's somewhat tough!"

Chen Yu realized the dark-faced youth's defense was quite strong, firmly rooted to the ground.

Immediately, Chen Yu mobilized more demonic pattern energy, bursting forth, even utilizing some of the power from the Secret Pattern Demon Body.

Thud!

The dark-faced youth was still kicked off the Life and Death Platform.

"My goodness, even someone at the Innate Peak was kicked off the platform by him!"

"And Wei Dong is a Body Cultivator, aren't their defenses supposed to be very strong? How did he get kicked off?"

Many bystanders were greatly surprised.

However, if they had faced that powerful kick from Chen Yu, they wouldn't think this way.

"What powerful Demon True Qi!"

Some students nearby the platform clearly felt the True Qi that Chen Yu had just released.

It was hard to imagine that at just the Innate Middle Stage, his True Qi was so condensed and powerful.

On the ground, the dark-faced youth climbed up very frustrated, looking at Chen Yu with a fearful expression.

He never expected that, as a Body Cultivator, he would be kicked off the platform by a youngster at the Innate Middle Stage.

However, looking at it from a different angle, he, at least, forced Chen Yu to use his True Qi; previous opponents of Chen Yu had been dealt with a single kick without even using True Qi.

Thinking this way, the dark-faced youth actually felt he had performed rather well.

After Chen Yu kicked the Innate Peak Body Cultivator off the platform, several other challengers of decent strength chose to concede when faced with Chen Yu.

After all, being kicked off the platform was quite embarrassing and could easily leave a psychological scar.

It wasn't until the twelfth round that Chen Yu finally faced a formidable opponent, albeit only in the eyes of others.

"Chen Yu against Shang Han."

"Shang Han ranks fifth at No Demon Academy, a top contender in the Innate Peak, while Chen Yu ranks thirteenth. This time, he's going to get a thorough beating."

"I heard that Shang Han seems to have a grudge against Chen Yu, this time, she will definitely not miss this chance to humiliate him."

Many were looking forward to this battle.

Chen Yu walked to the platform, wearing a playful smile as he observed the noble and stunning woman in white across from him.

Back then, on the Life and Death Platform, Chen Yu had killed Shang Honglan, and Shang Han had vowed to make Chen Yu pay the price.

Afterward, Shang Han had prepared to strike against Chen Yu, but just by chance, after that battle, Chen Yu was taken in as a disciple by the deputy dean.

But now, the two were facing each other again.

"I am ranked fifth at No Demon Academy, even if his strength is strong, I can defeat him!"

Shang Han silently thought, her gaze fixed on Chen Yu, her figure swiftly moving.

Whoosh!

From her sleeve suddenly flew a white ribbon, wrapping towards Chen Yu at high speed.

Moreover, the Shang Family, being one of the four great super clans, this ribbon was actually a top-grade treasure.

Had it been any other beautiful and powerful woman, Chen Yu might have played along, but for Shang Han, he had no fond feelings.

Chen Yu activated the Secret Pattern Demon Body, his body turning dark and glossy while a layer of demonic pattern energy enveloped him, making him look extremely terrifying, like a fierce demon.

Roar~

A fierce wind howled as Chen Yu rushed forward at high speed towards Shang Han.

At this moment, the strength Chen Yu burst forth with was far beyond before, greatly surprising Shang Han.

She knew that Chen Yu had held back before, but now facing her, Chen Yu was not going to show any mercy.

"I am the fifth-ranked genius in the academy, defeating me won't be so easy!"

Shang Han was incredibly annoyed, her face filled with cold hostility.

Whoosh, whoosh!

Her white ribbon rapidly stirred, forming a powerful whirlwind.

However, after mobilizing the Secret Pattern Demon Body and demonic pattern energy, Chen Yu completely ignored Shang Han's attacks, reaching her front.

"Impossible

Shang Han shuddered, her heart filled with sudden panic and confusion.

How could Chen Yu ignore her attacks?

Seeing Chen Yu approaching, Shang Han, without a second thought, mobilized a small amount of her Half-step True Essence, and fiercely struck out with a palm.

Chen Yu, unabashedly fearless, powered up and threw a punch.

Boom!

Upon the collision of fist and palm, Shang Han's True Qi and Half-step True Essence were shattered, and she herself was thrown outside the platform.

With the "Heavenly Demon Secret Pattern Record" breaking through to the third layer, Chen Yu's demonic pattern energy, powerful enough to rival Half-step True Essence, combined with his use of the Secret Pattern Demon Body deploying full strength in a punch, was something Shang Han could not withstand.

Chapter 353: Battle against Lv Qiuling

No Demon Academy's number one beauty, ranked fifth among the academy's geniuses, now looked pale and haggard, like a sandbag being thrown out of the martial arts stage.

Bang!

Shang Han's delicate body crashed to the ground, she groaned, and the blood slipping from the corner of her mouth stained her clothes red.

She still looked bewildered, seemingly unwilling to accept what had just happened.

As a genius ranked fifth in the No Demon Academy, she had been defeated by Chen Yu with a single punch, what a humiliation this was.

Logically speaking, both being from the No Demon Academy, Chen Yu should have shown her some face, like exchanging a few moves before defeating her.

But Shang Han knew that Chen Yu did not like her, hence not only did he not show mercy, he even used his hidden strength to defeat her swiftly.

The nearby spectators had thought this battle would be very exciting, fought intensely, but the outcome was always so unexpected.

Chen Yu once again won with a single strike, and many people didn't even catch the details of the fight.

"Chen Yu wins."

The referee announced Chen Yu's victory.

At this, an uproar erupted from the surroundings.

"How can Chen Yu be so strong? He defeated Shang Han, ranked fifth at No Demon Academy, with just one move, and he is only ranked thirteenth at No Demon Academy?"

"He's really strong. It seems he has always been holding back, but Shang Han is such a beauty and even from the same academy as Chen Yu, how could he be so ruthless to knock her away in one move

With this battle, Chen Yu finally made a name for himself.

Now, many people looked at Chen Yu with admiration and respect.

In a world where power is respected, that is just how it is.

"Brother Chen, you are too mighty

When Chen Yu came down, Yu Hong immediately spoke.

Thinking back, he had even agreed to Luo Haotian's challenge to Chen Yu, now thinking about it made him shudder.

At the top of a mountain peak, the lady in palace attire flashed a trace of astonishment and transmitted her voice to Yi Lantian, "Is he cultivating the 'Heavenly Demon Secret Pattern Record'? You actually let him cultivate such a technique?"

The lady in palace attire seemed surprised. She knew some of the ten great ancient techniques, and Sky Star Academy also possessed one of the ten great ancient techniques.

However, such techniques are extremely difficult to cultivate, and even Duan Xinyue was cultivating Sky Star Academy's definitive technique, the 'Dark Star Heavenly Palace Technique', rather than the ancient one.

Elsewhere on two other peaks, an elderly man with white eyebrows from Sky Sword Academy and a man in a golden cloud robe from Yunyang Academy seemed to have noticed something too.

After all, the True Qi and special physique displayed by Chen Yu were exceptional and very powerful.

Experts of their level, upon careful consideration, could roughly guess some details.

"Vice Dean Yi, you are really bold, allowing your disciple to cultivate such a technique

The white-browed old man also showed a trace of surprise.

If one cannot break through due to the difficulty of the technique, one's cultivation might also be limited. Even geniuses could remain stuck at a certain level for a long time, wasting a lot of time.

In this case, it would be more secure to cultivate a less difficult technique.

"He is a genius in this field!"

Yi Lantian answered simply.

Actually, initially, he did not intend for Chen Yu to cultivate the 'Heavenly Demon Secret Pattern Record'. It was Chen Yu who wanted to participate in the academy competition and needed to enhance his strength quickly; this technique was the best choice, and Chen Yu wanted to try it.

At that time, he hesitated, but now, he was confident it was the right decision.

The heads of the other three major academies were skeptical of Yi Lantian's words.

Since ancient times, many had challenged the ancient great techniques, but only a very few succeeded.

However, if the heads of the other three major academies knew that Chen Yu had been cultivating the 'Heavenly Demon Secret Pattern Record' for only half a year, they would certainly change their views.

Near martial arts platform number one, Luo Haotian's gloomy eyes stared intensely at Chen Yu.

"Lucky you. If you were on the same platform as me, I would make you lose face."

Luo Haotian clenched his fists, thinking inwardly.

He hadn't seen the process of Chen Yu defeating Shang Han, just the result, thus he believed he could still easily defeat Chen Yu.

It was just unfortunate that he was not assigned to the same platform as Chen Yu, and didn't get the chance to humiliate him personally.

"Luo Haotian versus Zhou Yuning!"

"My turn?"

Luo Haotian sneered coldly, striding onto the martial arts platform.

"Luo Haotian is ranked second at No Demon Academy, and Zhou Yuning is ranked third at Sky Sword Academy; this battle should be extremely exciting."

The attention of most of the nearby people immediately focused on martial arts platform number one.

Opposite Luo Haotian, a slender man with sword-like eyebrows stood on the platform like a sword, his eyes firmly fixed on Luo Haotian.

"Take my sword."

Zhou Yuning bellowed, and without even seeing him unsheathe his sword, a red fiery glow descended from the sky, slashing towards Luo Haotian.

"Mere tricks."

Luo Haotian's expression remained unchanged, and a hot black stream suddenly burst from his body, quickly accumulating on his fist, unleashing a boxing technique, blasting out a black fiery dragon-like stream.

Boom~

The red sword light and the hot black stream intertwined and tore at each other, gradually extinguishing.

Zhou Yuning's gaze intensified; as a Sword Cultivator, renowned for his attacking power, although the clash seemed evenly matched, he had actually been at a disadvantage.

Swoosh!

"Sun Flame Annihilation."

Zhou Yuning's sword in hand, he swung repeatedly, unleashing a vast sea of sword-light flames, pressing forward.

This time, Luo Haotian no longer held the relaxed posture from before; he could see Zhou Yuning was going all out.

Whoosh—

Within the hot black flow around Luo Haotian's body, another layer of fierce white light emerged, which was the Bai Chi Bloodline of the Luo Family.

Luo Haotian's bloodline was very compatible with his technique, boosting his strength considerably at this moment; he struck out a black-and-white intertwined flame dragon.

Boom!

The battle between the two shocked all around, intensely fierce.

Luo Haotian was overwhelmingly powerful, clashing head-on with the Sword Dao Practitioner without the slightest hint of falling into disadvantage.

They exchanged hundreds of moves, each unleashing their hidden combat skills.

"White Shuo True Fire!"

Luo Haotian unleashed true fire, combining it with his bloodline and combat skills, greatly producing a fierce howling black and white flame dragon, stirring up a layer of shockwaves and heat waves.

Boom!

Zhou Yuning's Sword Skill Kill Technique was broken by Luo Haotian, the residual force of the flames struck out, sending Zhou Yuning flying to the edge of the arena.

Seeing Luo Haotian closing in, Zhou Yuning conceded defeat.

Though he lost to Luo Haotian, there was still hope for him to enter the final battle; if he got too injured here, he might not have that chance.

"Hahaha

Luo Haotian let out a loud laugh, stepped down from the arena, and looked towards Chen Yu as if to show off.

Chen Yu was indeed watching Luo Haotian's battle, but he paid no mind to Luo Haotian's bravado, quickly turned his head, and looked towards another arena where Ye Luofeng was fighting.

Ye Luofeng's opponent was Wei Bin from the No Demon Academy.

"Gaga, I have long heard of the Ice Mountain Fairy from the Sky Sword Academy. Today, it is my honor, Wei Bin, to come into close contact with the fairy!"

Wei Bin stared at Ye Luofeng and laughed loudly.

Many nearby cast disdainful glances at this scene.

"Suddenly, I find the Ice Mountain Fairy to be a hundred times more beautiful than I imagined!" a student said excitedly.

"Idiot, that's because Wei Bin from the No Demon Academy is too ugly."

Compared to the Ice Mountain Fairy Ye Luofeng, Wei Bin was unspeakably ugly; the contrast between the two standing together was stark.

"Pity, Wei Bin was ranked eighth at the Late Innate stage in the No Demon Academy, now that he has broken through to the peak, he's probably even stronger!"

The crowd couldn't help but feel sorry for Ye Luofeng, such a beauty about to be defeated by the ugly Wei Bin.

While others discussed, Ye Luofeng and Wei Bin had already begun their fight.

In an instant, a wild barrage of fiery blade energy collided with the sharp icy sword light.

"Haha, the Ice Mountain Fairy is indeed strong!"

Wei Bin laughed loudly, his attacks becoming even more ferocious, a wave of fiery heat rushing forward.

"Cold Light Moon!"

Ye Luofeng's expression remained unchanged, her jade sword chillingly impressive as she fiercely repelled an advancing layer of fiery blade waves.

Hiss! Hiss! Hiss!

The icy sword light struck continuously, like sharp ice spikes.

Ten moves, twenty moves, a hundred moves, Ye Luofeng still hadn't been defeated.

"Luofeng is calm and good at identifying the enemy's weaknesses. Although Wei Bin initially had the advantage, as the battle drags on, Ye Luofeng will surely win."

Beside her, Ye Chengfeng spoke softly, watching Ye Luofeng with a flicker in his eyes.

As Ye Chengfeng predicted, after a hundred and fifty moves, Wei Bin fell into a disadvantage.

At an opportune moment, Ye Luofeng suddenly burst forth and defeated Wei Bin.

"Such a fearsome Sword Dao talent, this woman must be the leader from the Sky Sword Academy in the mortal world."

...

When Chen Yu was watching the fights on other arenas.

"Chen Yu versus Lv Qiuling!"

On arena number four, the referee's voice sounded.

Chen Yu knew it was his turn again after another round.

"This is bad, Chen Yu is in trouble now!"

"Lv Qiuling is ranked second among the strong contenders from the Sky Star Academy, and is a powerful Beast Tamer. It's likely Chen Yu won't even touch the hem of her robe before being defeated by her Spirit Pet."

Though Chen Yu had defeated Shang Han, compared to top talents like Lv Qiuling, there was still a huge gap.

"Chen Yu, this time, let's see where you can run!"

Lv Qiuling stepped onto the stage and sneered.

At the start of the trial, Chen Yu was indeed running, and during the scramble for a treasure turtle, he had snatched the item and slipped away amid the chaos.

After her Token was stolen by Chen Yu, Lv Qiuling thought about revenge, but she had never found Chen Yu.

"Haha, run? I wonder who it was during the trials chased by me and ended up handing over their Token obediently."

Chen Yu couldn't help but laugh out loud.

This statement immediately caused an uproar at the scene.

"That's impossible, how could Lv Qiuling have been chased by Chen Yu, that guy really talks big."

The crowd didn't believe what Chen Yu had said.

"You... If it wasn't for you teaming up with Jin Zhuo Peak and using a trap to kill my Spirit Pet, you would have died by my hands long ago."

Lv Qiuling's face turned red with anger as she retorted.

But her words undoubtedly confirmed that she had indeed been chased by Chen Yu.

The higher-ups of the No Demon Academy were startled, not expecting that during the trial, Chen Yu and Jin Zhuo Peak had indeed tricked Lv Qiuling.

Swoosh~

Lv Qiuling immediately released more than a dozen Spirit Pets from her pet bag.

She decided to stop talking and to settle the score with a victory to regain her reputation.

Chen Yu glanced at the Spirit Pets; most were at the Late Innate stage, only two or three at the Innate Peak.

He couldn't help but smirk, thinking such a lineup of Spirit Pets also thought to take him on.

However, Lv Qiuling herself was also quite strong, possessing Half-step True Essence, so he shouldn't underestimate her.

Chapter 354: Aerial Dogfight

Lv Qiuling's powerful Spirit Pets were almost all killed by Chen Yu.

Now, the Spirit Pets Lv Qiuling brought out were mostly those she tamed temporarily with the help of a large team during the trial, so there weren't many high-level Spirit Pets.

In the eyes of the uninformed, Lv Qiuling was among the best of the Beast Tamers.

This time, Lv Qiuling brought out a group of lower-ranked Spirit Pets, which truly took people by surprise.

"Could it be that Lv Qiuling's powerful Spirit Pets really were all killed in the secret realm by Chen Yu?"

"That can't be possible, even if Chen Yu is strong, he couldn't possibly have killed that many Spirit Pets."

Questions revolved in the minds of the spectators.

They had thought that in this battle, Lv Qiuling would undoubtedly win, but now their certainty was shaken.

"Chen Yu, where's your Spirit Pet? Why isn't it joining the battle?"

Lv Qiuling suddenly asked.

Actually, she was very concerned about Chen Yu's Spirit Pets.

The Fire Scale Beast was an ancient beast and, since it was of a low cultivation level, it was easy to tame.

The main reason she had attempted to kill Chen Yu before was because she coveted Chen Yu's Spirit Pets.

"To deal with you, I alone am enough,"

Chen Yu said very casually.

Actually, sometimes he couldn't even command the Red Flame King; he guessed the Red Flame King also despised this kind of boring fight.

"Attack!"

Lv Qiuling's face was covered with a frosty chill.

Boom boom boom~

Suddenly, in front of Chen Yu, more than a dozen Demon Beasts radiated a boundless fierce demonic aura, all of them fixing their gaze on Chen Yu and charging ferociously.

"Heh heh, just these little guys."

Chen Yu grinned and activated his Secret Pattern Demon Body, his body becoming dark and shiny.

At the same time, Chen Yu drew in a breath, and strong winds howled around him, his belly swelling up.

Wooo~

Suddenly, an explosive sound like thunder burst from Chen Yu's mouth, forming a dim sound wave impact that enveloped the area ahead, causing the view to distort.

Instantly, those dozen or so Spirit Pets trembled in place, bleeding from their ears and noses, some even losing consciousness, blasted off the fighting platform by the fierce sound wave impact.

Even the three Innate Peak Spirit Pets found it hard to resist Chen Yu's Sound Wave Secret Technique, suffering internal injuries as their organs were damaged and their blood boiled.

Chen Yu's "Heavenly Demon Secret Pattern Record" had just broken through the third layer, enhancing his constitution.

This "Copper Lion Roar" was driven by both the Secret Pattern Demon Body and the energy of the demonic patterns; its power was naturally extraordinary.

However, after crushing the group of Spirit Pets, Chen Yu didn't see the shadow of Lv Qiuling.

"Chen Yu, prepare to die!"

A cold voice came from the sky, and immediately a huge shadow enveloped Chen Yu.

Chen Yu looked up, and there was Lv Qiuling, riding the blue Cang Ying, launching an attack on Chen Yu.

The blue Cang Ying had only been poisoned before and wasn't fatally injured; now it had recovered.

He was even more surprised that Lv Qiuling would actually use this kind of blind spot trick against him.

Having fought with Chen Yu before and also having observed several of Chen Yu's fights, she felt that Chen Yu's strength had greatly improved.

Therefore, she started taking Chen Yu seriously, which is why she didn't summon the blue Cang Ying at the beginning of this battle as a means to confuse Chen Yu.

When the group of Demon Beasts rushed toward Chen Yu, Lv Qiuling used them to block Chen Yu's vision and summoned the blue Cang Ying for an aerial attack.

Whoosh swish!

The blue Cang Ying's sharp eagle eyes focused intently on Chen Yu, its steel-like blue giant claws violently striking down.

It remembered that it was this human who had injured its wing, causing it to fall from the sky.

This scene also greatly surprised the other spectators: "It seems Chen Yu is not as simple as he appears on the surface; otherwise, why would the second-ranked student from Sky Star Academy resort to such a strategy?"

As the blue Cang Ying's giant claws reached for Chen Yu,

The blue Cang Ying, one of Lv Qiuling's powerful Spirit Pets, possessed strength close to the Guiyuan Realm. This strike was powerful enough to easily defeat an average Innate Peak practitioner.

However, Chen Yu did not move and took out the “Giant Ruler Sword.”

Boom bang!

Chen Yu swung the giant sword, clashing fiercely with the blue Cang Ying’s sharp claws.

To everyone’s surprise, Chen Yu’s sword strike managed to block the blue Cang Ying’s dive.

“Explode!”

Chen Yu shouted fiercely, unleashing a sword move “Sword Breaking Nebula” from the “Shocking Evil Sword Technique.”

Boom rumble!

An enormous amount of energy from the demonic patterns, condensed on the Giant Ruler Sword, suddenly burst apart, forming a storm of demonic Qi.

The blue Cang Ying, being a bird and not skilled in defense, immediately retracted its claws and retreated.

“My Spirit Pet, with strength close to the Guiyuan Realm, is actually evenly matched with Chen Yu!”

Lv Qiuling was inwardly shocked, Chen Yu’s increase in strength was truly terrifying.

Of course, Chen Yu’s “Heavenly Demon Secret Pattern Record” had just achieved Great Success at the second layer and was only a step away from the third layer; after entering the ancient ruins, Chen Yu had taken that step.

Ding ding bang!

Chen Yu continuously swung his giant sword.

A High Grade King-level Treasure, along with the Secret Pattern Demon Body and demonic pattern energy, pressing the offensive, dominated the blue Cang Ying.

But the eagle, having followed Lv Qiuling for a considerable time and possessing strong combat abilities, managed to cope.

"Slash!"

Chen Yu immediately leaped up, wielding the giant sword and chopping toward the blue Cang Ying's wing.

This could be considered one of its weaknesses; after all, if its wings were damaged, the eagle wouldn't be able to fly, and its combat power would plummet.

"Don't even think about it!"

Lv Qiuling, controlling the Cang Ying, ascended.

"Chen Yu, the sky is my domain!"

Lv Qiuling looked down from high above at Chen Yu, with a cold smile on her face.

For an average person, being looked down upon from a high vantage point, powerless to do anything but wait for an attack, would create a certain psychological pressure, affecting their strength and mentality, which could easily lead to defeat.

But Chen Yu was evidently not that kind of person.

He immediately took out a pair of black wings from his storage bag, condensed True Qi and fastened them on his back.

Roar~

A loud roar like an angry wind, and Chen Yu, executing the "Devilish Evil Frenzy Shadow," shot straight up.

Halfway through, his black wings began to flap, generating a stream of black air.

Instantly, Chen Yu's speed increased by fifty to sixty percent.

"Devilish Evil Frenzy Shadow", which was already adept at straight-line speed, now increased by another fifty to sixty percent; the terrifying speed that Chen Yu unleashed surprised even Duan Xinyue below the stage.

At this moment, Chen Yu seemed to transform into an ancient flying beast, shooting straight into the sky, and suddenly appearing above the azure Cang Ying.

This scene made Lv Qiuling's heart tremble, and the azure Cang Ying was also deeply affected.

Just a moment ago, this master and pet duo were still looking down on Chen Yu, but now, their positions had been reversed.

"Kill!"

Chen Yu did not fly very high.

When he reached above Lv Qiuling, he controlled his wings and dove downward.

Cling clang!

Chen Yu's sword slashed down, and the azure Cang Ying barely managed to react in time to use its Iron Claw to block, but its figure sank a bit.

Now, Lv Qiuling had no choice but to act, lashing out with a brown leather whip.

Chen Yu's gaze sharpened, the Demonic Qi gathered in his hand, and the defensive capability of his Secret Pattern Demon Body was brought to bear as he caught the whip with one hand.

"To catch my treasure with bare hands!"

Lv Qiuling's eyes widened in disbelief.

In this moment, Chen Yu did not seem human but more like a ferocious demon beast.

Cling cling clang!

Chen Yu swung his Giant Ruler Sword again, each strike immensely powerful, relentlessly attacking the azure Cang Ying.

After all, the bird only had two claws, insufficient to fend off the strikes.

Boom!

Its head was smacked by Chen Yu's sword, leaving it dizzy and struggling to maintain balance, plunging toward the ground.

"Not good!"

Lv Qiuling hurriedly released a potent True Qi to hover in mid-air.

"You've lost your flying Spirit Pet, now the sky is my domain!"

Chen Yu laughed heartily, charging forward.

"Scram!"

Lv Qiuling retracted her whip and, channeling Half-step True Essence, lashed out fiercely.

Cling clang clang!

Chen Yu was fearless; in the sky, his movement technique's speed and agility far surpassed that of Lv Qiuling.

Even as Lv Qiuling utilized Half-step True Essence, Chen Yu managed to block.

Whip-type weapons were suited for long-range attacks, and they were even harder to control when attacking up close.

Chen Yu seized this detail, closing in on Lv Qiuling.

Bang boom!

With one sword strike, Lv Qiuling couldn't fully defend in time and was blown back by Chen Yu.

Boom!

Another strike and Lv Qiuling was seriously injured, spitting out a mouthful of blood, falling towards the ground below.

With a “pom” sound, Lv Qiuling landed on the dueling platform, her body shuddering violently as she couldn’t help vomiting another mouthful of blood.

Fortunately, she had been descending all along, and the distance to the ground was not great; otherwise, she might have been fatally injured.

"I admit defeat!"

Lv Qiuling immediately conceded.

At the moment, without the strength to fight and still on the platform, if she did not admit defeat, Chen Yu could freely attack and humiliate her as long as he did not kill her, which would not violate the rules.

As Lv Qiuling conceded, the tense spectators nearby finally relaxed.

"I never expected to witness an aerial battle, truly thrilling!"

"Yes, aerial combat is more dangerous, but the outcome was far beyond my expectation!"

"The second-ranked student of Sky Star Academy, Lv Qiuling, actually lost to Chen Yu. He is definitely the dark horse of this tournament!"

"But, if Lv Qiuling, being a Beast Tamer, had more powerful Spirit Pets at her disposal, the outcome of this battle might have been different!"

Many spectators sighed and expressed their opinions.

Chen Yu landed and immediately retracted his wings.

This black remnant wing consumed a great deal of True Qi, especially during flight.

"Chen Yu's victory!"

The referee announced the result.

Lv Qiuling, lying on the dueling platform, looked at Chen Yu with a complex gaze before stepping down.

Until now, she had never lost an aerial fight below the Guiyuan Realm, but today was an exception, something she never anticipated.

"Interesting!"

Duan Xinyue's eyes, like two crescent moons, watched Chen Yu with great interest.

Up to now, the fourth dueling platform had progressed to the thirteenth round.

And with thirteen consecutive victories, Duan Xinyue also held the same record.

In the fourth dueling platform, Duan Xinyue was undisputedly the strongest, with Lv Qiuling assuredly in second place.

The remaining competitors could only vie for the last spot to possibly enter the final battle.

But with Lv Qiuling's defeat, everyone knew that the third spot now belonged to Chen Yu!

The matches continued.

In the fifteenth round, Chen Yu's opponent conceded.

What a joke, even a strong opponent like Lv Qiuling, who had a flying mount, had been defeated by Chen Yu; if he didn't concede, was he waiting to be humiliated?

Moreover, at this stage, conceding to a strong opponent like Chen Yu was not shameful; it was seen as wisdom.

Thereafter, Chen Yu was practically uninvolved.

His streak of consecutive victories kept being refreshed!

Reacting to this, Chen Yu simply sat down and began to cultivate.

His strength was now formidable, and contending for the top three spots was not out of his reach.

However, the Half-step True Essence within his body was limited, only enough to sustain a few extravagant moves, so Chen Yu seized the moment to refine more.

Round after round went by.

Until round twenty-two.

"Duan Xinyue versus Chen Yu!"

After the referee's announcement, he looked at the two with anticipation, evidently looking forward to this match.

Chapter 355: First in the Group

"Duan Xinyue versus Chen Yu!"

On the fourth martial arts platform, two of the strongest students faced off in battle.

Originally, in the eyes of others, Chen Yu was just an average participant. Even as the Vice Principal's disciple, in this tournament, at best he could hope to make some acquaintances and gain experience. Chen Yu's stage was destined to be the college tournament of the next term.

But now, in their eyes, Chen Yu was an imposing figure to be revered, a miracle at every turn, like an insurmountable rift in the heavens.

Chen Yu's opponents, including Fu Beiling, Shang Han, and others, had all been defeated by him with a single move.

And Lv Qiuling, who excelled in aerial combat, was also defeated by Chen Yu.

To date, on the fourth martial arts platform, maintaining twenty-two consecutive victories, were none other than Chen Yu and Duan Xinyue.

However, at this moment, the battle commenced.

Chen Yu's opponent was the top student of one of the four major academies, Sky Star Academy's Duan Xinyue, a prodigy who had just stepped into the Guiyuan Realm.

"Facing Duan Xinyue, Chen Yu's winning streak is bound to end, but for a student participating in the college tournament for the first time, achieving such feats is already unimaginable!"

"Yes, facing Duan Xinyue, no matter how strong Chen Yu is, he will be powerless. I think he will definitely admit defeat."

"If it were me, I would definitely admit defeat too. After all, there are three spots on the fourth martial arts platform to advance to the final battle. Chen Yu only needs to lose one match. As long as he can advance to the top twelve, he will have already made a name for himself in Yun Zhao Country!"

Nearby, the discussions grew louder.

One was the top student of the academy, the other an up-and-coming dark horse, unstoppable like a rushing bamboo!

This battle was highly anticipated!

Including the senior management of the four academies and the Vice Principal, they all couldn't help but look toward Chen Yu, with varying thoughts.

However, one thing was the same; they had never expected that Chen Yu could defeat Lv Qiuling, emerging as the strongest on the fourth martial arts platform, second only to Duan Xinyue.

"Chen Yu

Near the first martial arts platform, Luo Haotian clenched his fists, struggling to calm his emotions.

During that previous battle, although Lv Qiuling didn't have many powerful Spirit Pets, Chen Yu's victory over her meant that he had at least the power to contend with Luo Haotian.

At the same time, senior brothers like Yuan Chen, Ye Luofeng, Nie Xuan, Kong Zhong, and others also watched Chen Yu.

They knew Chen Yu's character.

But an up-and-comer simply can't defeat someone in the Guiyuan Realm. It's best to admit defeat.

Next to the martial arts platform, Chen Yu hadn't yet gotten up, his mind also pondering.

"Admit defeat?"

Chen Yu asked himself.

If he admitted defeat, he could indeed smoothly enter the finals.

But in reality, Chen Yu was not entirely without confidence in contending with the Guiyuan Realm; he just didn't want to reveal too much too soon, to prevent from being studied and targeted by others.

Suddenly.

Chen Yu slowly stood up, his stature seeming taller by several degrees, causing a nameless shock in the many watchful eyes.

On the martial arts platform, Duan Xinyue was also sizing up Chen Yu. When Chen Yu stood up, her eyes suddenly brightened, and the corners of her charming mouth turned upwards.

Boom!

Chen Yu landed on the martial arts platform.

This time, Duan Xinyue did not deny her opponent the chance to admit defeat like in the first match. She stood in place, not making a move.

Several moments passed, and Chen Yu did not speak.

"He's not admitting defeat? He wants to challenge Duan Xinyue, the top student of Sky Star Academy?"

"I think he's asking for trouble. Although Duan Xinyue is flawless in looks and figure, she is a warmonger. If she beats him to severe injury and disability, even if he enters the top twelve, he will be unable to fight."

Most people believed Chen Yu was courting death.

At that moment.

The two on the martial arts platform moved simultaneously—a gust of black wind and a sphere of black light collided.

Bang!

Their fists met, erupting with a tremendous shockwave.

Because his opponent was Duan Xinyue, Chen Yu showed no mercy. This punch employed the Secret Pattern Demon Body and the power of the Demon Patterns, a combination that unleashed a might nearly equal to that of the Guiyuan Realm.

However, Duan Xinyue, who had just broken through to the Guiyuan Realm, wielded True Yuan.

Woosh—Bang!

Chen Yu's figure was sent flying backward, retreating several Zhangs before stopping, blood spilling from the corner of his mouth.

On the other hand, Duan Xinyue remained unmoved.

"Guiyuan Realm prodigies are indeed extraordinary."

Chen Yu wiped away the blood. His formidable self-healing ability meant the light injuries he just sustained were no big deal.

Although the power of the Demon Patterns was strong, approaching that of Half-Step True Essence, it still fell short of a complete "True Yuan."

If not for the third layer breakthrough of the “Heavenly Demon Secret Pattern Record” and the backing of the powerful “Secret Pattern Demon Body,” an ordinary Innate Peak fighter receiving such a blow would be either close to death or severely wounded.

"First, reserve strength, show weakness to the enemy, watch for their lapse, and then

Chen Yu’s eyes flickered with a hint of a plan.

"Let’s go again.”

Duan Xinyue, now more interested in Chen Yu, took the initiative to attack.

Her speed, power, and defense were all well-balanced, with no significant flaws to speak of.

Clang clang bang!

Chen Yu drew out the Giant Ruler Sword to counter Duan Xinyue in several hard exchanges.

At the same time, Chen Yu accumulated power in his heart, enhancing his speed, strength, and other aspects, lest he be easily suppressed by Duan Xinyue’s Guiyuan Realm cultivation advantage.

In a blink of an eye.

The two exchanged over a dozen moves, with each one resulting in Chen Yu being repelled and sustaining minor injuries. But with Chen Yu’s recovery ability, none were serious.

He had just broken through the third layer of the “Heavenly Demon Secret Pattern Record,” and now was the perfect chance to hone his Secret Pattern Demon Body against Duan Xinyue.

Unbeknownst to him, with each clash, the injuries Chen Yu sustained grew lighter and lighter.

...

"Is this kid a monster? How can he withstand the attacks of the Guiyuan Realm!"

A countless number of people surrounding the area focused on this battle, gradually showing surprise until their mouths hung open.

"Is this the power of the ancient number one defensive technique? This child has cultivated the 'Heavenly Demon Secret Pattern Record' to such a degree!"

The Vice Principal of Yunyang Academy focused intently on Chen Yu.

"This defensive power

Yi Lantian showed a trace of surprise.

Chen Yu's "Heavenly Demon Secret Pattern Record" must have just broken through to the third layer, yet his level of defense had already reached the threshold of the early stages of the Guiyuan Realm.

"This kid, he's using me to temper his Demon Body with his cultivation technique."

Duan Xinyue seemed to have realized something.

She could feel that Chen Yu's defensive power was getting stronger and stronger.

Clearly, this was the result of having just broken through recently, constantly stabilizing and strengthening through proficiency and battle.

Swoosh! Boom! Bang!

Duan Xinyue's attack frequency became faster and the angles of her attacks were extremely tricky and fierce.

"Focused solely on defense, this third layer of the Secret Pattern Demon Body is indeed becoming more solid."

Chen Yu kept retreating as he defended, feeling secretly delighted in his heart.

At this moment, directly facing his opponent's attacks was not as strenuous as before, and the injuries he sustained became more and more minor.

One could imagine.

Once he had fully stabilized the third layer of the "Heavenly Demon Secret Pattern Record," coupled with the advantage of his strong physique, his defense could easily withstand attacks of the strength found in the early Guiyuan Realm.

"Dark Sky Star Transformation!"

Duan Xinyue felt that something was amiss and immediately activated her secret technique.

The kid in front of her was not only as tough as a turtle but also recovered at an astonishing rate.

Hum!

Around her figure, a layer of faint dark starlight appeared, forming a huge circular light dome with a diameter of thirty feet, emanating a suppressive and terrifying aura.

"New Moon is actually using her special move."

The woman in palace attire from Sky Star Academy revealed a hint of surprise.

Chen Yu's defensive power was indeed exceptional. Perhaps, as Yi Lantian had said, this child had a talent in this aspect, suitable for practicing the "Heavenly Demon Secret Pattern Record."

However, even if he was suitable, Duan Xinyue's move should be more than enough to end the match.

"Chen Yu, being able to fight to this extent with me, your sister, I've even started to like you a bit, but this is a competition, and I have no choice but to defeat you ruthlessly."

Duan Xinyue revealed a charming and delightful smile.

Swoosh!

The dark light dome around Duan Xinyue burst into a layer of black light, her speed doubling, smashing toward Chen Yu like a meteor.

Executing "Dark Sky Star Transformation," Duan Xinyue's attack power astonished some of the Guiyuan Realm observers in the audience.

"Retreat!"

Without a second word, Chen Yu performed the "Devilish Evil Frenzy Shadow" to move backward.

But Duan Xinyue, having executed her secret technique, was much faster than usual.

Chen Yu immediately took out the black remnant wing and, while floating back, boosted his speed.

But soon, Chen Yu reached the edge of the dueling platform; turning would waste time and make it easy to be caught up to.

Chen Yu entered a heart-bursting state, his speed increasing dramatically!

Swoosh! Swoosh!

Chen Yu and Duan Xinyue circled the dueling platform once.

"This kid, so slippery!"

Duan Xinyue couldn't help but curse.

However, suddenly, Chen Yu stopped and charged toward Duan Xinyue.

Their distance was already very close, and Duan Xinyue had no time to react to Chen Yu's sudden change of direction.

Moreover, when Duan Xinyue executed her special move, it was her most powerful moment. There's a saying that what goes up must come down, and at this moment, she was relatively exhausted.

Thud! Thud! Thud! Thud!

Under the heart-burst state, strength and speed increased exponentially.

Swoosh!

Chen's figure swiftly approached Duan Xinyue, feeling the oppressive dark light surrounding her; he stretched out his arm and sharply grabbed Duan Xinyue's arms.

At the same time, Chen Yu's shoulder slammed into Duan Xinyue's full and soft chest.

This sudden impact hit Duan Xinyue hard, sending her quickly retreating toward the edge of the dueling platform.

"Not good!"

Duan Xinyue quickly realized but her arms were firmly grasped, and the energy surrounding her body erupted, gathering toward Chen Yu.

Roar~

Suddenly, a low dragon's roar emanated from Chen Yu's body, revealing a layer of translucent red scales on his arms, generating a dreadful and intimidating pressure.

At such close proximity, Duan Xinyue was even shocked by the bloodline power emanating from Chen Yu.

At the same time, as her arms were grabbed by Chen Yu, she couldn't move and even felt intense pain.

With the activation of dragon scales bloodline, Chen Yu's strength, especially defensive power, surged again, bearing the dark starlight around!

Furthermore, as "Devilish Evil Frenzy Shadow" was affected by the physique, Chen Yu activated the dragon scales bloodline, enhancing his physique greatly, and coupled with the heart-burst, he was like a cannonball, charging out with Duan Xinyue.

At a certain moment.

Chen Yu smirked mysteriously, suddenly stopped, loosened his hands, and Duan Xinyue was propelled out of the dueling platform.

"No

Duan Xinyue landed outside the platform, not sustaining much damage, but her expression stiffened, and she went dazed.

She never imagined that she would be defeated by someone other than Yuan Chen, Yunhai Zhen, and Ye Chengfeng.

"You, Chen Yu

What made Duan Xinyue most furious was that Chen Yu defeated her by pushing her out of the dueling platform.

According to the rules, leaving the platform counted as a loss.

Even now, her chest was somewhat deformed and not as full as before.

"This... Chen Yu wins!"

The referee's eyes widened in disbelief.

It was not a direct defeat; Chen Yu suddenly attacked and sent her flying out of the platform.

Boom!

The surroundings erupted into uproar.

"New Moon was actually defeated by Chen Yu, tell me this isn't real, how is this possible?"

"This kid is incredible, pretending to be weaker before and suddenly exploding at the critical moment, closing in on Duan Xinyue, and sending her off the platform."

"Not only did this kid win the match, but he also had close contact with Duan Xinyue, even directly crashing into that pair of chili peppers... tsk tsk, I really admire him!"

The onlookers couldn't contain their discussions.

Chapter 356: Twelve People

The audience throughout the Liuyun Mountain Range was set ablaze by Chen Yu and Duan Xinyue's fight, their voices incessant.

In their view, Chen Yu's battle against Duan Xinyue was definitely at a disadvantage.

But not only had Chen Yu displayed formidable strength, but he also achieved victory with strategy and a unique approach, a move that was wholly unexpected and left many in shock.

However, there were also some people who were quite dissatisfied with Chen Yu's tactics and openly criticized him.

"This kid is too cunning, and he even targeted that spot on New Moon, truly a scoundrel and rascal."

"That's right, Chen Yu is too despicable, winning by opportunism and trickery."

These voices of reproach were mostly from Duan Xinyue's admirers.

They begrudged Chen Yu fiercely, grinding their teeth in hatred; they never got close to Duan Xinyue themselves, only for Chen Yu to take such a big advantage of the situation.

In the distance, Ye Luofeng looked at Chen Yu with a resentful expression, "He truly is a shameless and despicable person!"

Besides that, there were also some top fighters who were scrutinizing Chen Yu closely.

After all, Chen Yu's rise signified that the struggle for the top twelve had become even more intense.

"Little junior brother really has some skills, but this time, he must have angered Duan Xinyue,"

Yuan Chen said with a faint smile.

Yunhai Zhen and Ye Chengfeng also took another few looks at Chen Yu.

Chen Yu had continuously entered their line of sight, and this time was the most noticeable of them all.

However, they still did not pay too much attention.

Among the top combatants of the four major academies, Duan Xinyue herself had the weakest strength and was the latest to break through to the Guiyuan Realm; and Chen Yu only won against Duan Xinyue by taking advantage of the situation.

Regardless.

At fighting stage number four, there were originally two competitors with twenty-two consecutive victories, Chen Yu and Duan Xinyue, but with the end of this fight, Chen Yu became the only student with an undefeated record, ranking first in the group!

Outside the fighting stages, Duan Xinyue was extremely angry, her face flushed with annoyance and fury, wishing she could rush onto the stage and fight Chen Yu again.

But this was the grand tournament of the academies, with the higher-ups of the four major academies present, and if she did not follow the rules, she would lose her qualification to compete.

"Chen Yu, I underestimated you before, complacent and neglectful, you won't have such good luck during the finals!"

Duan Xinyue glared fiercely at Chen Yu, then walked to the side.

She may have lost this fight, but she was not convinced at all.

Chen Yu and she would both enter the finals, and next time, she would not be careless and was determined to defeat Chen Yu in one fell swoop to save face.

As the buzz of conversation gradually died down, Luo Haotian not far away was still intently staring at Chen Yu.

Chen Yu could directly confront Duan Xinyue, which was something he was slightly inferior at.

But what he was more concerned about right now was the Bloodline Power Chen Yu had displayed earlier, which reminded him of something.

"The competition continues, Yu Hong versus Huang Hu!"

The referee announced loudly.

With the next round of fighting underway, the controversy over Chen Yu and Duan Xinyue's battle quickly subsided.

Those who could stand on this stage were all top talents of Yun Zhao Country, each drawing significant attention.

Below the stage, Chen Yu sat serenely, closing his eyes to reflect deeply.

The fight with Duan Xinyue had brought him great enlightenment, after all, this was his first fight against a practitioner of the Guiyuan Realm.

And in the fight, Chen Yu's Secret Pattern Demon Body was honed, becoming even stronger.

Seizing the opportunity, he began to reflect and cultivate.

"Ye Chengfeng, Yunhai Zhen, and senior brother should all be a bit stronger than Duan Xinyue!"

Chen Yu thought to himself.

In his fight with Duan Xinyue, Chen Yu felt the most troublesome aspect was the True Yuan's overwhelming power, much stronger than the power of the demon patterns.

Although Chen Yu contains Half-step True Essence, the quantity was limited and unsustainable for a prolonged fight.

This was also the reason why Chen Yu did not rashly reveal his Half-step True Essence in the previous fight.

Now, Chen Yu was operating the secret techniques taught by the Red Flame King to condense his Half-step True Essence, while also operating the mental method from the Heavenly Demon Secret Pattern Record to enhance his True Qi cultivation.

In the trials, Chen Yu had consumed many precious materials, and then, after entering the ancient relics, he gained a lot of insight, now after experiencing battle after battle, Chen Yu's cultivation was stimulated.

Especially after this fight, Chen Yu felt his cultivation had subtly improved.

At several peak mountaintops.

The woman in palace attire from Sky Star Academy furrowed her brows slightly, her dignified face showing a hint of dissatisfaction.

Duan Xinyue, being the number one of Sky Star Academy, had now been defeated by a student ranked in the teens from No Demon Academy, which made Sky Star Academy lose some face.

"Vice Dean Yi, unless I am mistaken, your disciple seems to possess a particularly powerful Bloodline Power

The white-browed elder from Heavenly Sword Academy transmitted his inquiry.

The dragon scale Bloodline Power that Chen Yu possessed felt stronger to him than the Bloodline Powers of even the top ten Ancient Clans!

Otherwise, the white-browed elder would not have paid attention to Chen Yu's Bloodline Power.

This vast country has a plethora of academies, not just the ten Ancient Clans, and many different Bloodline Powers exist, though most are of lower concentration.

"Yes

Vice Dean Yi replied simply.

He only knew that Chen Yu had a unique physique, and had not expected that Chen Yu also had a Bloodline Power.

Suddenly, Vice Dean Yi realized that when he had allowed Chen Yu to participate in the academy's grand competition, it was sufficient to enter the top fifty.

But Chen Yu had slowly made his way up and now ranked among the top twelve, with even a potential final ranking not that far off.

This made him have greater expectations for this disciple.

The man in the Golden Cloud Robe also observed Chen Yu carefully, deeply interested in Chen Yu's Bloodline Power.

As everyone knows, the Yun Family also belongs to the top ten Ancient Clans, but they were willing to actively accept and assimilate new Bloodline Powers to thrive and prosper.

...

On the four combat stages, the battles continued.

Occasionally, a few spectacular and outstanding fights occurred.

Duan Hao, a genius from No Demon Academy, was also immensely powerful, with a Late Innate cultivation capable of fighting against Innate Peak combatants.

Bang bang!

Duan Hao's fists and kicks burst forth, his attacks wild and fierce. An invisible Evil Qi rose, as though a ferocious and fierce tiger lurked behind him.

But his opponent was just as strong, an Innate Peak student from Yunyang Academy.

As the swords clashed, their movements interwoven with each other, tearing at one another.

"Duan Hao, you are no match for me!"

"You're speaking too soon

Duan Hao let out a deafening roar.

At the same time, he stimulated his Bloodline Power, with a layer of black wind patterns emerging more clearly and distinctly on the surface of his skin than ever before.

By fully driving his bloodline, Duan Hao's speed greatly increased, and his Bloodline Power, in harmony with his Cultivation Technique, received a significant boost in might.

Boom bang pong!

Duan Hao launched a frenzied and rapid assault, leaving his opponent utterly astonished.

As the blade's evil wind dissipated, another person had fallen.

"Duan Hao wins."

With that announcement, Duan Hao too lay back, looking up.

In this battle, he had given his all; it was a performance well beyond the usual.

"Chen Yu, I must catch up to you

Duan Hao clenched his fist.

The previous fight between Chen Yu and Duan Xinyue had truly rattled him, making him realize the vast gap between himself and Chen Yu.

Of course, he wasn't the only one stimulated by Chen Yu.

Wu Heng, the genius from Yunyang Academy participating in the competition for the first time, was also provoked, brimming with a fierce desire to fight and an almost crazed determination.

Before the competition, Wu Heng had met Chen Yu in the Demon Bone Wilderness and had directly expressed his desire to compete with Chen Yu at the event.

Although he never got the chance, the battle between Chen Yu and Duan Xinyue had already made it clear that he was no match for Chen Yu.

On another side, Ye Luofeng was taking things even more seriously; she was filled with an intense fighting spirit, persistently and resolutely brandishing her sword.

The competition continued.

Chen Yu was hardly disturbed.

After all, he had defeated Duan Xinyue. Even though there had been some trickery, he had also demonstrated the strength to stand up to Duan Xinyue in a head-on clash.

Everyone else at the No. 4 fighting platform considered Chen Yu and Duan Xinyue to be the strongest competitors, looking up to them.

Thus, when it was Chen Yu's turn to fight, his opponent would immediately concede.

So Chen Yu was able to quietly practice on the side, in relative peace.

Perhaps it was the stimulation of the competition, but Chen Yu was making good progress in his training, his Half-step True Essence growing significantly.

Finally, with the last battle at the No. 4 fighting platform concluding.

The rankings for the No. 4 fighting platform were decided.

But only the top three could advance to the final.

First place: Chen Yu.

Second place: Duan Xinyue.

Third place: Lv Qiuling.

This was an undoubtedly surprising ranking, with Chen Yu claiming the spot that should have been Duan Xinyue's.

In addition, with her Cang Ying still at her side and her own strength, Lv Qiuling was unmatched by the others and secured the third spot.

Soon after, the rankings for the No. 2 fighting platform were also announced.

First place: Yuan Chen.

Second place: Tang Mo.

Third place: Lu Fan.

Among them, although Tang Mo was at the Innate Peak, he was extremely powerful, having the ability to challenge someone in the Guiyuan Realm. He exchanged over fifty moves with Yuan Chen before being defeated.

And Lu Fan, ranked second at the Sky Sword Academy, had no dispute in securing the third spot.

Just then, a blinding golden light and scorching heat filled the No. 1 fighting platform.

The one making an appearance was none other than Yunhai Zhen, the top contender from Yunyang Academy.

His opponent was Luo Haotian, the second-ranked fighter from No Demon Academy.

Facing Yunhai Zhen, even Luo Haotian felt an infinite pressure, as if his body and spirit were being tormented.

Seeing that Luo Haotian did not concede, Yunhai Zhen's gaze sharpened, and he drew a golden dragon-patterned sword.

Immediately, Yunhai Zhen's presence surged.

"Slash!"

True Yuan surged within Yunhai Zhen, and the precious sword glowed with a dazzling flame, drawing everyone's gaze toward it, yet also making them feel a painful burning sensation.

"Roho Protective Flame!"

Luo Haotian's eyes trembled, and he drove his Bloodline Power, casting a layer of black and white flame light from his palms that swirled around his body, forming a shield of black and white flames.

Additionally, Luo Haotian integrated the White Shuo True Fire into his defense.

Just then, a golden sword aura tens of feet long ferociously struck down.

Boom-crack!

In an instant, a crack appeared in the protective shield around Luo Haotian, with gold, black, and white flames scattering in all directions.

The next moment, the golden sword light swept fiercely across, shattering the fiery shield.

Spurt!

Luo Haotian was blasted off the platform, spurting out a mouthful of blood, with a charred streak left across his chest. Had it not been for the protection of an exceptional armor, his injuries would have been far more severe, possibly preventing him from participating in the following matches.

One sword stroke—defeating the second-ranked fighter from No Demon Academy!

Such strength was truly shocking.

After all, in No Demon Academy, Luo Haotian was a match for Yuan Chen.

And Lv Qiuling from Sky Star Academy was also able to confront Duan Xinyue.

But against Yunhai Zhen, Luo Haotian was defeated with a single sword strike.

Even Duan Xinyue from the No. 4 fighting platform looked toward Yunhai Zhen with a grave expression.

Shortly thereafter, the rankings for the No. 1 fighting platform were released.

First place: Yunhai Zhen.

Second place: Luo Haotian.

Third place: Zhou Yuning.

Before long, the battles on the No. 3 fighting platform also concluded.

First place: Ye Chengfeng.

Second place: Yin Chengzhuang.

Third place: Luo Qiuman.

And so, the top twelve for the final were decided.

Chapter 357: Encounter with the Black Emperor's Bloodline

After the preliminary round ended, the college competition paused for the night.

After all, with twenty-seven consecutive rounds in the preliminary round, all the students were quite exhausted.

Moreover, the final battle could not be taken lightly; it was only fair and just for every student to fight in their peak condition.

In the No Demon Academy's representatives' area, Yuan Chen, Chen Yu, and Luo Haotian became the center of attention.

"The final match; just do your best," Yi Lantian said to the three.

Yuan Chen, Chen Yu, and Luo Haotian all had serious expressions on their faces. This was not only about fighting for the college's honor but also their own, and naturally, they would give it their all.

"Of course, if you achieve good rankings, in addition to the rewards from the college competition, No Demon Academy will also provide certain rewards based on your rankings," said a senior dean, squinting and sizing up the three.

Chen Yu and the others' eyes suddenly lit up at these words; it was essentially a double reward.

"To exchange for the fourth to sixth layers of the 'Heavenly Demon Secret Pattern Record' needs a million No Demon Points... Looks like I have to go all out," Chen Yu chuckled. A million No Demon Points were not easy to earn.

Chen Yu had a deep understanding of the power of the 'Heavenly Demon Secret Pattern Record.'

If he were still practicing the 'Copper Statue Technique,' achieving a high ranking in this competition would have been nearly impossible.

After a night's rest, the final twelve competitors restored their energy, waiting for the next day's battle.

"Not bad, little guy, making it into the top twelve the Red Flame King said lazily and old-fashionedly to Chen Yu.

"Only twelfth place!"

Chen Yu replied indifferently.

"What? You're aiming for first place, aren't you?" The Red Flame King's eyes sparkled, as if seeing through Chen Yu's intentions.

Chen Yu nodded.

In the final battle, he would hold nothing back and aim for the best possible ranking, and if possible, he would take the first place.

"How much of the precious materials I previously asked you to gather have you collected?" the Red Flame King inquired.

"I've collected six," Chen Yu replied.

"Good, in consideration of these six precious materials, I will give you a hand!" The Red Flame King stood up and walked over to Chen Yu: "I see that your cultivation is about to reach the Peak of Middle Innate. Now I will help you speed up your cultivation for a short period. But your spiritual body's talent is lacking, reaching the Peak of Middle Innate is still up to luck."

Then, the Red Flame King moved behind Chen Yu and quickly tapped various acupoints on his body, generating a strange heat energy.

Chen Yu felt the circulation speed of the demon pattern energy within his body increase significantly.

...

The next morning, more cultivators gathered in the Liuyun Mountain Range.

The final battle of the college competition would determine the most dazzling batch of geniuses in Yun Zhao Country, potentially ruling it in the future.

On the platform, four battle stages had already merged into one enormously wide stage.

And the final twelve competitors were already standing on this stage.

Interestingly, each academy had three students among these twelve finals slots.

In past competitions, Yunyang Academy always had a lead in numbers.

However, thinking of Yunyang Academy's Yunhai Zhen, everyone felt that this detail wasn't significant as the first place in this college competition would likely still belong to Yunyang Academy.

"I still haven't reached the Peak of Middle Innate!" Chen Yu's expression was calm.

After all, he had only recently made a breakthrough to the Middle Innate. Without consuming a massive amount of precious materials, coupled with opportunities from ancient ruins, and numerous fierce battles, his cultivation would not have possibly improved so rapidly.

Now, he was just a bit short of reaching the Peak of Middle Innate.

"The rules for the final competition are exactly the same as in the preliminary round," announced a middle-aged man in a Golden Cloud Robe, his voice booming like a bell and spreading in all directions.

"First round, first match, Yunhai Zhen versus Lv Qiuling!" a referee announced.

"I surrender."

Lv Qiuling's body trembled, and she immediately conceded.

During the preliminary match, Luo Haotian had been defeated by Yunhai Zhen in just one stroke.

Moreover, Qiuling's spirit pet had suffered much loss; how could she possibly contend with a supreme genius like Yunhai Zhen.

Qiuling's surrender went unquestioned.

"Second match, Yuan Chen against Zhou Yuning!"

As the voice fell, both stepped onto the battle stage.

Zhou Yuning held his crimson sword tightly, his eyes focused, and a sizzling sword intent erupted from him.

He knew he was no match for Yuan Chen, but to forfeit without a fight was against his Sword Dao principles.

Slash!

Suddenly, without seeing Zhou Yuning make a move, a huge red sword light descended from the sky.

The sword light fell, and Yuan Chen's silhouette was easily shattered.

Swoosh!

Yuan Chen suddenly appeared at Zhou Yuning's right side, launching a strike with his palm, sending out a dim, icy light that moved at high speed.

The originally hot air instantly cooled down, and a thin layer of frost formed.

Clang!

Zhou Yuning positioned his sword horizontally in front of his chest. A huge amount of True Qi mixed with some Half-step True Essence burst forth.

However, Yuan Chen's strike was launched with True Essence.

Although Zhou Yuning's powerful attack diminished the efficacy of the palm strike, his body was still thrown backward, flying back several dozens of feet before stopping, and his body was covered with a layer of frost, his limbs somewhat stiff.

He had just looked up when Yuan Chen appeared before him.

Bang!

A palm strike hit Zhou Yuning on the shoulder, sending him flying out of the battle stage once again.

Naturally, Yuan Chen's palm strike wasn't very destructive; it merely sent Zhou Yuning flying, otherwise, Zhou Yuning would not have survived without severe injuries.

"So strong

Everyone's spirits sank.

Indeed, challenging the four Guiyuan Realm geniuses was a very difficult task.

"Yuan Chen won, the third match, Chen Yu versus Lu Fan!"

It was now Chen Yu's turn in the third match.

"Lu Fan?"

Chen Yu looked toward a brawny, dark-skinned man not far away and sensed a vaguely familiar aura.

Lu Fan was the second-ranked student at Sky Sword Academy, even stronger than Zhou Yuning.

Moreover, Lu Fan was also a member of one of the Ten Ancient Clans, the Lu Family.

"If I'm not mistaken, the once Lu Zhuo should have been from the Lu Family among the Ten Ancient Clans."

During the preliminaries, Chen Yu had paid attention to Lu Fan, whose Bloodline Power characteristics were exactly like Lu Zhuo's.

Back then, in the Blood Burial Garden, Lu Zhuo had considered the disciples from the three sects and Bone Demon Palace as yokels, his formidable Black Emperor Bloodline making even Mei Changqing step back.

However, in the end, Lu Zhuo's Black Emperor Bloodline had been extracted by Chen Yu's mysterious heart and appropriated for his own use.

"Chen Yu, right? Let me see how much of your fight with Duan Xinyue was luck and how much was your real strength."

Lu Fan looked at Chen Yu squarely.

Even though Chen Yu's defeat of Duan Xinyue involved some opportunism and a lot of luck,

Lu Fan still would not underestimate him but would treat him as a formidable opponent and give his all.

"Okay."

This Lu Fan gave Chen Yu a very steady and meticulous impression.

The duel began.

In Lu Fan's hand, a broad longsword appeared, emitting a sense of heaviness.

On the other side, Chen Yu took out a dark, giant ruler.

Both were sword wielders and used particularly rare heavy swords.

Clang!

The two heavy swords collided, erupting with a dull metallic sound that gave the illusion that the heavens and the earth were shuddering.

In their initial clash, Chen Yu and Lu Fan both retreated two or three steps simultaneously.

"This lad indeed has some abilities," Lu Fan inwardly commented.

First, Chen Yu's cultivation technique was unknown to him, and his True Qi was stronger than his.

Second, Chen Yu's strength was also significantly superior to his.

However, as a Sword Dao Practitioner, Lu Fan's sword skills far surpassed Chen Yu's.

Ding Ding Bang!

They continued to clash, their gigantic swords casting layers of black shadows.

Lu Fan's sword swung faster, his mastery and utilization of the blade exceptionally refined. He played to his strengths and exploited the weaknesses, pressing Chen Yu hard in consecutive exchanges.

"Just as expected from the second-ranked student of Sky Sword Academy," Chen Yu inwardly commented.

No longer holding back, Chen Yu's Secret Pattern Demon Body instantly activated, his body shimmering with a dark luster, subtle deep black patterns faintly outlined.

Boom!

The moment he used the Secret Pattern Demon Body, Chen Yu's True Qi also surged, a sword swung forcefully, and despite Lu Fan's superior sword skills, he was forced back several steps.

"Again!"

Lu Fan bellowed, and a pattern of black iron emerged on his body.

His Black Emperor Bloodline surpassed Lu Zhuo's by several levels.

Upon activating the Black Emperor Bloodline, Lu Fan's defensive power and strength greatly increased, along with his advanced heavy sword skills, his combat capabilities far surpassed Lv Qiuling's.

The two's clash intensified, Chen Yu unable to injure Lu Fan, and Lu Fan unable to harm Chen Yu.

It was like two copper and iron-cast monsters fighting.

"Chen Yu, if you dare lose to Lu Fan, I will never let you off easily," Duan Xinyue coldly huffed from below the stage.

On the surface, it seemed Lu Fan's superior sword skills gave him a slight advantage.

Duan Xinyue had been defeated by Chen Yu, and if Chen Yu were to lose to Lu Fan, wouldn't it mean she was also inferior to Lu Fan?

"I will not lose to him!" Chen Yu's expression turned stern as he seriously declared.

He was aiming for the top three, perhaps even contending for the first place.

Without further ado, he mobilized a trace of Dragon Scale Bloodline, immediately emitting an invisible, mighty ancient dragon's oppressive force as a layer of blood-colored scale patterns appeared on his arm.

He didn't fully activate the Dragon Scale Bloodline, but even the Bloodline Power he showed now was somewhat stronger than Lu Fan's.

Additionally, Chen Yu's Bloodline carried a dreadful authority capable of diminishing the power of Lu Fan's Black Emperor Bloodline.

A sword swung, the shocking Sword Intent dark red in color, eerie patterned scales appearing on it.

Ding Bang!

A sword strike sent Lu Fan's arms trembling, his footing slipping back as he felt his internal organs tremble and his blood roil.

Thump! Thump! Thump!

Chen Yu's heart suddenly erupted, his strength and speed doubling as he pressed the attack.

At this moment, Chen Yu, like a madman, unleashed sword strike after sword strike, a layer of dark red violent Sword Waves enveloping Lu Fan all around, bombarding him into continuous retreat.

If it had been Lv Qiuling, she would probably have been defeated by now, but Lu Fan's Black Emperor Bloodline provided a strong defensive power.

"How ferocious, I thought Chen Yu defeating Duan Xinyue was merely taking advantage by chance and good luck, but in a head-on fight, even Lu Fan is being suppressed by Chen Yu,"

In Sky Sword Academy, only second to Ye Chengfeng, and good both offensively and defensively, people usually did not want to clash with him.

But at this moment, Lu Fan was utterly suppressed by Chen Yu, bearing various wounds on his body, almost retreating to the edge of the fighting platform.

Unlike Chen Yu, who appeared virtually unharmed.

At a certain moment, Chen Yu mobilized a wisp of Half-step True Essence, blending it into the massive demonic pattern energy.

The giant sword's power surged.

Boom!

Chen Yu unleashed his strongest sword strike, this time Lu Fan couldn't block it, his arms trembling, his hand losing grip of the heavy sword, which flew out of his hand.

The residual sword light struck Lu Fan's chest, blasting him out of the fighting platform, spitting a mouthful of fresh blood, his Bloodline Power rapidly fading.

"Chen Yu wins!" The referee announced the result.

If Chen Yu's victory over Duan Xinyue could be attributed to opportunism and good luck,

This time, his direct defeat of Sky Sword Academy's second-ranked student proved that his own strength was also immensely strong.

Chapter 358: Invincible in Battle

Chen Yu directly defeated Lu Fan, the second-ranked competitor from Sky Star Academy, and his prestige rose once more.

"This is simply the ultimate dark horse of this competition, making it to the top twelve and even defeating Lu Fan head-on."

"This young man might even claim the fifth spot after the top four Guiyuan Realm prodigies."

A No Demon Academy instructor showed a pleased expression.

If Yuan Chen could break into the top four and Chen Yu could secure the fifth spot, this academy competition would certainly be a breath of fresh air for No Demon Academy.

"It won't be that easy. Tang Mo from Yunyang Academy, ranked second, as well as Yin Chengzhuang, ranked third, are top fighters below the Guiyuan Realm. Tang Mo is even more stable and seasoned than Lu Fan, and Yin Chengzhuang's Bloodline Pupil Technique is the nemesis for Body Cultivators!"

A branch dean slowly stated.

No one objected, clearly agreeing by default.

Moreover, they still compared Chen Yu with those below the Guiyuan Realm, clearly believing that Chen Yu had won by a fluke against Duan Xinyue, and if he faced Duan Xinyue in the finals, the opponent would undoubtedly give his all, and Chen Yu would definitely lose.

"Ye Chengfeng versus Luo Qiuman!"

The competition continued.

"I concede!"

Being the third ranked in Sky Star Academy, Luo Qiuman was no match for Ye Chengfeng, probably unable to withstand even a single strike.

"Luo Haotian versus Tang Mo!"

Tang Mo and Luo Haotian, each ranked second in their respective academies, were both descendants of the top ten Ancient Clans.

In the spectators from Liuyun Mountain Range, there were also members of the top ten Ancient Clans, and they were highly anticipating this battle.

"The Bai Chi Bloodline of the Luo Family against the Dark Water Bloodline of the Tang Family, it's hard to say who is stronger or weaker!"

The crowd was also very much looking forward to this battle.

On the martial stage, both competitors didn't waste words, attacking like lightning.

Luo Haotian's body surged with a layer of scorching black flow, his momentum fierce, as he thunderously punched towards Tang Mo's left side.

With a wave of his hand, Tang Mo conjured a layer of dark, soft water flow, colliding with Luo Haotian's fist.

Instantly, black fire mingled and eroded with dark water.

Bang bang bang!

Luo Haotian swung his other fist, exchanging more than a dozen blows with Tang Mo.

At a certain moment, both nearly simultaneously activated their bloodlines, sending an ancient and oppressive bloodline aura surging in all directions.

After employing their bloodlines, both their combat strengths greatly increased, startling the onlookers on all sides.

Luo Haotian's Bai Chi Bloodline could amplify fire-related Cultivation Techniques, unleashing explosive power.

Meanwhile, Tang Mo's Dark Water Bloodline specialized in defense, using softness to overcome hardness, which somewhat restrained Luo Haotian.

Gradually, Luo Haotian found himself at a disadvantage.

"White Shuo True Fire!"

Without a second word, Luo Haotian employed the True Fire, unleashing even more terrifying power.

However, Tang Mo wore a special treasure garment within his body, a top existence among the finest treasures.

This treasure armor could boost his water-based Cultivation Techniques, enhancing his defensive power.

Boom bang peng!

Tang Mo blocked Luo Haotian's repeated assaults, and suddenly, making a move unexpectedly, he won by surprise!

"Tang Mo wins!"

The referee announced the result.

"Damn it

Luo Haotian was extremely unwilling, having been defeated by Tang Mo.

Throughout the battle, Tang Mo remained utterly calm, deciphering every attack, his demeanor thoroughly composed and seasoned, giving Luo Haotian an unfathomable impression.

"Alas, Luo Haotian lost."

A high-ranking official from No Demon Academy sighed.

With Tang Mo being so strong, if he also defeated Chen Yu, he would likely take the fifth place.

Thus, this competition's top five would include two from Yunyang Academy, once again stealing the spotlight.

"Duan Xinyue versus Yin Chengzhuang!"

This was the last fight of the first round.

With a serious look in his eyes, Yin Chengzhuang stepped up to the martial platform, deciding to challenge the Guiyuan Realm prodigy.

However, Duan Xinyue's "Dark Star Heavenly Palace Technique" was well-rounded in both offense and defense, also somewhat enhancing soul-level defenses.

Since Duan Xinyue was already within the Guiyuan Realm, Yin Chengzhuang's Pupil Skill could not harm him.

"I concede."

Yin Chengzhuang immediately conceded.

Duan Xinyue, a lover of battle, challenged his authority and dignity, and if he didn't concede promptly, Duan Xinyue would definitely not spare him.

"Hope my next opponent will be you!"

As he stepped down from the platform, Duan Xinyue's dark eyes, filled with a hint of combative spirit, lingered on Chen Yu.

After six battles ended, the second round soon began.

In the first fight of the second round, Zhou Yuning faced Lu Fan, with Lu Fan ultimately victorious.

In the second fight, Luo Qiuman faced Yunhai Zhen, with Luo Qiuman conceding yet again.

"Chen Yu versus Yin Chengzhuang!"

"Ha ha ha, Chen Yu, I've finally caught up with you."

Right after the referee announced the competitors, Yin Chengzhuang burst into malevolent laughter.

Inside the trial secret realm, Yin Chengzhuang had been relentlessly pursued by Chen Yu, and caught between Ye Chengfeng and Yuan Chen, he had no choice but to surrender all tokens.

Otherwise, he could have secured a place in the top ten in the first round and then advanced to explore the ancient ruins.

But all of this was ruined by Chen Yu.

"Junior brother, be careful."

Beside him, Yuan Chen couldn't help but caution.

Others looking towards Chen Yu shook their heads.

"He's encountering the toughest opponent outside the Guiyuan Realm."

Ye Chengfeng commented lightly.

"True, although his strength is notable, matching even the top of the Innate Peak, and even Lu Fan isn't his opponent, it's easier to enhance physical strength than it is spiritual power, Yin Chengzhuang could defeat him with just one look."

"Being a body cultivator, his soul is definitely his weak point, and now, Chen Yu meets his nemesis."

Some people were discussing fervently, all not optimistic about Chen Yu.

Including Lv Qiuling and Luo Haotian, who couldn't help but sneer.

On the combat stage, Chen Yu faced Yin Chengzhuang from afar.

"Chen Yu, do you regret what you did back then?"

Yin Chengzhuang sneered and was not in a rush to make a move.

Because once he made a move, it would be a victory.

He didn't want to end the battle like this; he wanted to torture Chen Yu thoroughly—from psychological, spiritual, to physical aspects.

"Are you talking about regretting making you hand over all the tokens?"

Chen Yu asked with a smile.

With these words, the spectators who were unaware of the situation immediately boiled with excitement.

Incredulously, Chen Yu had pushed Yin Chengzhuang to such a miserable state in the trial secret realm.

Yin Chengzhuang's face turned iron blue, not expecting Chen Yu to be so reckless and to bring it up in front of everyone.

"Seeking death

His face twisted maniacally, and within his dark red eyes, flames flickered, generating an evil spiritual power.

Yin Flame Pupil Fire!

Yin Chengzhuang's gaze locked onto Chen Yu, and the dark red flames inside seemed like they were about to jump out.

Buzz!

Right then, Chen Yu activated his Secret Pattern Demon Body, with a layer of demonic pattern energy attached to his body's surface.

Right as he finished doing this, a cluster of dark red Yin Fire appeared in front of Chen Yu's chest and burst instantly.

Yin Chengzhuang's "Yin Flame Pupil Fire" targeted both the material and spiritual realms.

Hissss~

The flames rampaged and burned over Chen Yu's body.

But Chen Yu's defensive power was immensely strong; under a defensive stance, he could even withstand ordinary attacks from the Guiyuan Realm.

After executing the Pupil Skill, Yin Chengzhuang sneered while looking at Chen Yu.

Knowing that Chen Yu's physical defense was strong, he didn't expect his Pupil Skill to injure Chen Yu's body.

As long as the spiritual aspect of his Pupil Skill could destroy Chen Yu's spirit, he would win the battle.

Of course, he feared instantly annihilating Chen Yu's soul; hence he hadn't used his full power in the Pupil Skill, as it would break the rules and disqualify him from the match.

Ah, such is the sorrow of excelling in spiritual attacks; one careless move could kill the opponent.

However.

As time ticked by, Chen Yu stood there as if nothing had happened, and the flames on his chest gradually extinguished.

This scene not only stunned Yin Chengzhuang but also greatly surprised the nearby spectators.

Yin Chengzhuang's Pupil Skill hadn't defeated Chen Yu?

"Chen Yu, it seems I underestimated you. I didn't expect your spiritual power to be quite strong, but the Pupil Skill I just used was only at fifty percent of my strength. This time, your defeat is certain."

Yin Chengzhuang said grimly.

In theory, fifty percent power should have been enough to heavily injure Chen Yu.

"Heh heh!"

Chen Yu chuckled lightly, his figure swiftly darting forward.

His spiritual power was nearly comparable to the Guiyuan Realm, and it was even more durable, also possessing a hint of demonic intent.

That spiritual power from the Pupil Skill just now was like tickling Chen Yu. f

"Boy, are you scared?"

Yin Chengzhuang sneered, smugly.

In his view, Chen Yu was scared, hence launching a quick attack hoping to quickly defeat him.

Yin Chengzhuang's eyes flickered with Yin Fire, his spiritual power highly concentrated, firmly locking onto Chen Yu.

As Chen Yu approached, Yin Chengzhuang's Bloodline Pupil Skill activated again!

Bang!

A skull-sized clump of dark red Yin Fire burst upon Chen Yu, rapidly spreading flames.

Material damage was of no concern to Chen Yu.

The key was at the soul level; Chen Yu felt as if he was in a blazing inferno, enduring the torment of the flames.

Fortunately, Chen Yu was prepared, consolidating his spiritual power for defense.

He had trained in “Heavenly Heart Refining,” a secret ancient spirit technique designed to refine the heart and will, enhancing spiritual defensive power.

With full resistance, Chen Yu’s spiritual power firmly withstood the spiritual attack.

“If I were to unleash my Pupil Skill at full power, even a Guiyuan Realm, caught off guard, would be injured!”

After executing the Pupil Skill, Yin Chengzhuang burst into laughter.

Nearby onlookers nodded; Yin Chengzhuang’s fully unleashed Yin Flame Pupil Fire was not something Chen Yu could withstand; the outcome of this battle was decided.

However, just as Yin Chengzhuang was laughing triumphantly.

Not far from him, Chen Yu’s body suddenly erupted with a terrifying and domineering demonic power.

“This...impossible!”

Yin Chengzhuang was initially stunned, then shock surged in his heart, and he screamed loudly.

Swoosh!

Chen Yu was already very close to Yin Chengzhuang and quickly reached in front of him, coiling power in his heart, and smashed a punch at Yin Chengzhuang’s head.

Sensing the crisis, Yin Chengzhuang snapped out of his shock, circulated his Half-step True Essence, and defended.

But his hastily erected defenses could hardly withstand the formidable blow launched by Chen Yu's heart-powered punch.

Boom!

The punch struck, and Yin Chengzhuang's figure immediately flew up, landing on the edge of the combat stage, then rolling off.

All this happened in a flash of lightning.

The other talents at the scene, including the surrounding strong bystanders, only fully reacted when they saw Yin Chengzhuang roll off the stage.

Boom!

An uproar ensued.

"How is this possible? Yin Chengzhuang's two Bloodline Pupil Techniques failed to defeat Chen Yu?"

"This is too unreal; Chen Yu is like a demon, his body forged from iron and copper, his spiritual power equally robust, leaving Yin Chengzhuang helpless."

Chapter 359: Ye Chengfeng's Sword

The course and outcome of this battle surprised everyone, including the twelve talented students who all showed astonishment.

Even Ye Chengfeng, who previously said Chen Yu would meet his nemesis, slightly furrowed his brow.

"No... how could I lose to you?"

Yin Chengzhuang climbed up, his face bruised, and he roared loudly, his emotions seeming somewhat frenzied.

Before the battle began, he was certain of victory and didn't even want to end the fight too easily.

It was precisely because Yin Chengzhuang was too confident that when he fully activated his Pupil Skill, he believed Chen Yu could not and would not stand up again.

Hence, he completely let down his guard, even thinking he had already won the victory and was enjoying the pleasure of that moment.

But just then.

Chen Yu suddenly burst out, shattering his fantasy dream with a fierce punch to his face.

"Chen Yu, as a Body Cultivator, has such strong spiritual power to withstand Yin Chengzhuang's Bloodline Pupil Technique."

"This is the first time I've seen a Body Refiner with such strong spiritual power, truly a genius."

Around him, everyone expressed their admiration for Chen Yu.

At this moment, the four great Guiyuan Realm talents among the twelve seats began to take Chen Yu seriously.

Although they still felt that Chen Yu couldn't shake their status, his ability to contend with them, especially since it was his first time participating in the academy's tournament, was incredible in itself.

"Haha, to think my No Demon Academy could produce such a genius."

"True, with his current strength, the first place in the next tournament will surely belong to No Demon Academy."

The higher-ups of the No Demon Academy were overjoyed.

The No Demon Academy hadn't gained the first place in the tournament for a long time, but in Chen Yu, they now saw hope.

They believed that with Chen Yu's talented strength, the first place in the next tournament was within easy reach.

"However, Chen Yu's performance was too dazzling."

Yi Lantian murmured in a low voice.

Next to him, one of the sub-deans heard this and his joyful expression immediately sank.

Indeed, Chen Yu was too dazzling.

This tournament was completely public.

Which meant, the sects of Yun Zhao Country were definitely observing everything in the shadows.

With Chen Yu's monstrous capabilities, he was probably already marked as the number one assassination target!

"Lv Qiuling versus Luo Haotian!"

The contest continued.

Luo Haotian and Lv Qiuling were both ranked second in their respective academies.

Lv Qiuling relied on the flight ability of her green Cang Ying and contended with Luo Haotian.

But at a certain moment, Luo Haotian expended a lot of True Qi, soared into the air, and launched a fierce attack on Lv Qiuling.

Owning the Bai Chi Bloodline and aided by White Shuo True Fire, the power Luo Haotian unleashed instantly was also extremely striking, ultimately resulting in Lv Qiuling's defeat.

The fifth match finally ushered in a confrontation at the Guiyuan Realm level.

"Yuan Chen versus Ye Chengfeng!"

"It's finally starting, a battle at the Guiyuan Realm level."

"Between the top contenders of No Demon Academy and Sky Sword Academy, who will win and who will lose?"

The enthusiasm of the onlookers ignited instantly.

This was the first Guiyuan Realm level fight in the tournament, attracting almost universal attention.

The top officials from the four major academies also watched closely.

The battle between the top contenders of the two academies would decide the final ranking order.

"Yuan Chen, fight."

Ye Chengfeng said simply, then dashed out, appearing on the battle platform holding a crystalline white sword, emitting an enormous Sword Intent that disturbed the skies.

Back during the trial in the secret realm, before his breakthrough to the Guiyuan Realm, he couldn't handle Yuan Chen and had to concede all of Yin Chengzhuang's spoils of war.

Although he challenged Yuan Chen to a fight after his breakthrough, Yuan Chen always avoided a direct confrontation.

Fortunately, at this moment, he finally faced Yuan Chen in battle.

"Good!"

Yuan Chen took a deep breath, slowly stepped onto the battle platform, and emitted an astonishing chill. The air temperature dropped sharply, and a layer of gray frost mist appeared around his body.

Instantly, Ye Chengfeng's eyes narrowed, and without any warning, a sword swung out.

Ding!

A dazzling white sword light suddenly burst forth, slashing down.

The astonishing Sword Intent and powerful attack were so intense that the students outside the battle platform could clearly feel it, many shivering at the thought that they might be cut in half if faced with this sword.

Yuan Chen's expression did not change; he raised his palms, and the dull cold light flowed over them, forming a layer of dull cold frost.

Peng!

Yuan Chen clapped his hands together, blocking Ye Chengfeng's sword.

The two forces intertwined destructively.

Yuan Chen exerted force with his palms and moved to one side, and the sword light fell, leaving a shallow trace on the battle platform.

"God, even the battle platform is damaged."

"This is forged by Yun Zhao Country's forging master using 'Black Ridge ore' and later reinforced by an Array Master. Ordinarily, those in the Guiyuan Realm should not be able to leave any trace on it."

Many gasps of astonishment arose.

Having blocked Ye Chengfeng's sword, Yuan Chen immediately launched an attack.

Swoosh!

He drifted out, closing in on Ye Chengfeng.

Along the way, he continuously attacked, launching a series of frigid light palms to distract Ye Chengfeng.

Every sword Ye Chengfeng swung needed charging, hence each strike was powerful enough to annihilate everything.

Shoo!

Ye Chengfeng also began to move, his entire being like a sword, his speed incomparably fast and relentless.

"The second sword is coming."

Yuan Chen had already sensed it and circulated his True Yuan, fiercely swinging out a palm.

"Ice-breaking Palm!"

A colossal palm formed of condensed ice, roaring forth, surrounded by countless ice crystals, emerged.

Simultaneously, another sword from Ye Chengfeng arrived.

And this sword seemed even stronger than the first!

Boom bang!

The two forces collided, Yuan Chen's attack being shattered by the sword light.

Facing the remaining Sword Dao's force, Yuan Chen immediately employed defensive maneuvers to block it.

"The third sword will be even stronger. I must disrupt the situation and break his rhythm."

Yuan Chen held his breath and focused his mind.

Every battle, Ye Chengfeng treated his opponent as a whetstone for his sword, his sword movements and Sword Intent grew stronger and stronger.

Of course, his energy consumption also continually increased, making it difficult for him to wield his sword incessantly like other Sword Dao Practitioners.

Ding!

The third sword light flashed brilliantly, dazzling as it chopped down.

"Cold Ice Shield!"

Yuan Chen released a layer of cold icy glow from his palms, waving them to form a solid and thick ice shield.

Bang crack!

A sword strike landed, cracks appeared on the ice shield which couldn't hold for even a moment before it shattered.

Swish swish!

Yuan Chen retreated, a sword mark left on his body.

"You will surely lose with the fourth sword."

Ye Chengfeng looked at Yuan Chen, speaking earnestly yet plainly.

"Is that so?"

True Yuan surged explosively from within Yuan Chen.

The temperature on the entire fighting stage dropped once again.

"Cold Ice Freeze!"

Yuan Chen shouted lowly, his True Yuan fluctuated, stirring up the ice fog all over the fighting stage.

Roar whoosh!

The entire fighting stage became enveloped in bone-chilling cold, ice crystals danced in the air, continuously solidifying.

The twelve people outside the stage all felt a piercing coldness.

Soon, the space above the fighting stage seemed to become a domain on its own, encased in ice, where even the air seemed frozen.

At the center, where Ye Chengfeng stood, was the gathering point of the cold ice. He seemed to be frozen within a block of ice, unmoved.

"What astonishing power!"

Many exclaimed.

"Has Yuan Chen won?"

Everyone's gaze was fixed on the fighting stage.

"So that's it, you kept using the cold ice attacks from the beginning to fill the stage with ice fog, all for this move."

Ye Chengfeng spoke laboriously from within the ice block.

As an Ice Dao Practitioner, he had the advantage in icy terrains.

From the start, Yuan Chen had been transforming the surrounding environment to his benefit.

When he finally executed “Cold Ice Freeze,” its power far exceeded the ordinary.

“Yes!”

Yuan Chen moved through the icy domain, closing in on Ye Chengfeng.

“But, you underestimate me!”

Ye Chengfeng said coldly, True Yuan wildly surged from his body, transforming into numerous small white swords, thrusting in all directions.

This was a secret technique that Ye Chengfeng had cultivated, allowing him to turn True Yuan into fine swords for defense or attack.

This secret technique could only be performed at the Guiyuan Realm, therefore no one knew of it.

Bang crack!

The ice layer cracked and immediately shattered.

Simultaneously, Yuan Chen gathered his strength for another sword strike.

“Not good!”

Yuan Chen’s expression changed slightly, his arms waving, cold light springing up from his palms.

From all directions, boundless icy power converged towards Yuan Chen, forming a thick and tall wall of ice in front of him.

Boom bang!

The white sword light slashed down, the ice exploded, engulfing everything.

"How's the situation?"

Everyone's gaze remained fixed on the fighting stage, trying to discern the circumstances within.

When the ice and snow dissipated, everyone once again saw the two people on the fighting stage.

In front of Yuan Chen, the ice wall was broken, but he was unharmed.

On the other side, Ye Chengfeng looked somewhat weak, but his Sword Intent had not weakened, instead, it continued to climb.

"You're quite good, I need to execute the fifth sword to resolve you!"

Ye Chengfeng focused on Yuan Chen, a surge of fighting spirit bursting within him.

"I concede!"

Yuan Chen suddenly spoke, then walked off the stage.

Ye Chengfeng, prepared to unleash a strike, froze, his figure swaying slightly.

He had been ready to deploy the fifth sword, but his opponent's sudden concession made it difficult to execute, causing some impact to himself.

"Yuan Chen, you

Ye Chengfeng's eyes were cold.

"Can't I concede if I can't withstand your fifth sword?"

Yuan Chen spoke plainly, already leaving the fighting stage.

"Ye Chengfeng, wins!"

The referee announced the result.

On the side of Sky Sword Academy, the higher-ups immediately relaxed and smiled, occasionally glancing towards Yunyang Academy.

"Vice Dean Yi, how is my disciple?"

The old man with white eyebrows asked with a smile.

Yi Lantian remained impassive, not responding.

"Ye Chengfeng, each sword stronger than the last

Chen Yu muttered.

It was hard to imagine what the scene would have been like if Ye Chengfeng had executed his final sword...

In the sixth match, Tang Mo showed all his strength, exchanging over sixty moves with Duan Xinyue before being defeated.

Though he lost, his strength had been recognized by everyone, deemed as the top person below the four major Guiyuan Realm, ranking fifth in this competition.

Then, the third round of contests began.

The first fight ended with one side conceding.

In the second match, it was Chen Yu's turn.

"Second match, Chen Yu versus Ye Chengfeng!"

Chapter 360: The Fourth Sword

"Ye Chengfeng!"

Chen Yu's mind trembled.

He had finally encountered a second opponent from the Guiyuan Realm.

Ye Chengfeng had just defeated his senior brother, Yuan Chen, which gave Chen Yu a clear understanding of Ye Chengfeng's strengths.

It had to be said, this person was extremely powerful.

Stronger than Duan Yue, and stronger than Yuan Chen as well.

Nearby, the remaining top twelve students, including the powerful figures watching, all looked towards Chen Yu.

"Chen Yu defeated Duan Yue by fluke. Facing Ye Chengfeng, Chen Yu has no chance of winning; he should just admit defeat directly."

"Ye Chengfeng just defeated Yuan Chen, and now he has come across Yuan Chen's junior brother. This pair of siblings will both fall at the hands of Ye Chengfeng."

Everyone voiced their opinions, but they still held respect for Chen Yu.

After all, below the Guiyuan Realm, it was extremely rare for anyone to withstand even a single sword strike from Ye Chengfeng.

Thus far, most people would simply forfeit when facing a formidable opponent like Ye Chengfeng. For Chen Yu, participating in the academy's grand competition for the first time, it would be normal for him to forfeit immediately.

However, Chen Yu still seemed thoughtful outside the dueling platform, without taking any action.

"Hmm?"

Ye Chengfeng glanced at Chen Yu. This kid isn't conceding defeat? Does he really think that he can challenge me just because he managed to beat Duan Yue by a fluke?

"Haha, you barely defeated me and now you want to challenge Ye Chengfeng?"

Beside, Duan Yue couldn't help but scoff.

Suddenly, Chen Yu stood up.

Seeing Chen Yu's straight and resolute figure, for some reason, Duan Yue seemed to have already guessed Chen Yu's decision.

"Come on, Ye Chengfeng."

Chen Yu leapt onto the dueling platform and roared loudly, bursting with momentum.

This scene made Ye Chengfeng's eyes light up.

Previously, his opponents were always downtrodden, either nervous or scared, but this Innate Middle Stage kid was shouting loudly and taking the initiative to fight.

"Good, if you can withstand one of my swords, you will have my admiration!"

Ye Chengfeng soared into the air, slowly landing on the dueling platform.

At this moment, the surroundings erupted.

"Chen Yu is actually accepting the challenge, and his opponent is Ye Chengfeng, even his senior brother lost to Ye Chengfeng's sword."

"Too irrational, if Ye Chengfeng injures him severely, it could affect the subsequent matches."

Everyone was not optimistic.

Even the higher-ups of No Demon Academy thought the same, as one instructor shook his head: "Why is this boy so impulsive!"

"I hope Chen Yu just intends to exchange one move with Ye Chengfeng, then concede after one move and not take too much of a risk."

A department head speculated.

Outside the dueling platform, Yuan Chen revealed a faint smile: "Junior brother, you really surprise your senior brother."

Based on Yuan Chen's understanding of Chen Yu, Chen Yu wouldn't engage in anything uncertain or purposeless.

In his view, Chen Yu wasn't afraid of Ye Chengfeng and perhaps felt confident in combating Ye Chengfeng.

Moreover, Yuan Chen realized that during his battle with Ye Chengfeng, Ye Chengfeng had suffered from his "Ice Dao Freeze", with the cold qi entering his body and likely not fully recovered yet.

"Chen Yu, the first sword!"

On the dueling platform, Ye Chengfeng called out.

As soon as his words fell, a crystalline white sword glow suddenly burst forth, sweeping towards Chen Yu and emitting a piercing whine, as if intending to cut everything asunder.

Chen Yu sensed a crisis, feeling a stinging sensation on his skin.

Buzz!

Without hesitation, he activated the Secret Pattern Demon Body.

At the same time, Chen Yu pulled out his Giant Ruler Sword, gathered the power of demon runes, and defended with all his might.

Clang!

The sword light swept over, creating a huge noise as a layer of crystalline white sword glow exploded.

Chen Yu's figure was thrown backward by five or six yards before he managed to halt, a trickle of fresh blood leaking from the corner of his mouth.

It's noteworthy that when Chen Yu defended with full force, he could withstand a regular attack by Duan Yue.

But against Ye Chengfeng, this first sword blow sent Chen Yu flying.

Of course, this sword strike didn't inflict significant injuries on Chen Yu.

Chen Yu donned excellent armor he had taken from Ren Han, had the Secret Pattern Demon Body, and on top of that, possessed exceptional recovery abilities.

"Blocked it!"

Many cries of astonishment rang out around.

However, it wasn't too surprising that Chen Yu could block one sword, given that as a Body Cultivator, he excelled in defense.

Most people assumed that Chen Yu would concede after blocking one sword.

However, Chen Yu on the platform, through his actions, negated their guesses.

After blocking Ye Chengfeng's first sword, Chen Yu immediately launched a fierce thunderous assault.

Swipe!

Behind Chen Yu, a pair of black vanta(gameObject wings appeared, flapping and stirring a layer of black energy patterns.

Simultaneously, Chen Yu's heart was also in a preload state.

A black shadow flashed, and Chen Yu had closed the distance to Ye Chengfeng.

"You actually don't want to just spar with me, but aim to defeat me?"

Ye Chengfeng's handsome face showed a trace of shock.

So far, only Yuan Chen had thought like this.

Others merely wanted to hold out against another sword in his hands.

He had thought that Chen Yu was the same as the others, but unexpectedly, Chen Yu was intent on defeating him in this fight.

Swoosh!

Ye Chengfeng moved, sweeping swiftly across the platform like a sharp sword.

Ye Chengfeng's speed was incredibly fast, and even though Chen Yu used black vanta(gameObject wings to increase his speed and was in a heart preload state, he still found it hard to keep up.

Thump! Thump! Thump!

With an explosive heartbeat, Chen Yu's speed suddenly surged, closing in on Ye Chengfeng.

"Demonic Annihilation Claw!"

Chen Yu bellowed, and the “Demon Claw Secret Pattern” on his right arm seemed to come alive, spreading and climbing to cover his whole arm.

Boom hiss!

With a slash, the dark Demonic Qi formed a fearsome, striking Demon Claw, adorned with strange, ancient, and sinister patterns.

Moreover, with his heart in an explosive state, the power of his Demon Rune Battle Technique would increase further.

"A potent strike!"

Ye Chengfeng’s pupils narrowed.

He frantically circulated his True Yuan and sped up.

At the same time, the second sword slashed down.

Boom! Bang!

Two explosive sounds shocked the heavens.

The first was from Ye Chengfeng’s location. The second explosion sounded from where Chen Yu was.

Ye Chengfeng didn’t completely dodge Chen Yu’s claw. Fortunately, he timely executed a secret technique, and countless tiny crystal-white swords surged on his body’s surface, blocking part of the damage from Chen Yu’s claw.

However, Ye Chengfeng's shoulder was torn, and a blood trail was left on his skin.

"You managed to injure me. You're quite good, but everything is already over."

Ye Chengfeng showed a look of appreciation.

He believed that based on Chen Yu's previous performance, it was impossible to block his second sword.

However, as soon as he finished speaking, Ye Chengfeng's expression changed.

After the layers of sword waves disappeared, a shattered black demon scale light shield appeared inside.

This was the battle technique that could be activated only by Chen Yu's second Demon Rune—Demon Scale Protective Body.

This was also the first time Chen Yu used this battle technique in the tournament.

"He actually blocked Ye Chengfeng's second sword!"

Luo Haotian's mouth was slightly agape, disbelieving.

"The two major battle techniques he just used had never been seen before!"

Duan Xinyue's gaze was deep.

From this, it could be inferred that Chen Yu had been holding back his real strength all along, even when facing Duan Xinyue.

This made Duan Xinyue extremely annoyed. Was she not even worth Chen Yu's full effort?

Aside from them, the rest of the bystanders were similarly shocked.

"Chen Yu not only blocked Ye Chengfeng's second sword but also injured Ye Chengfeng

However, they hardly had time to be shocked.

When Chen Yu blocked the second sword, he burst forth again, attacking Ye Chengfeng.

"Each of his swords is stronger than the previous, so I must defeat him quickly. The opportunity to defeat him lies just after he unleashes a sword and accumulates power

Chen Yu had a plan in mind already.

At this moment, Chen Yu was very close to Ye Chengfeng. With his heart accumulating power, he rapidly closed in on Ye Chengfeng.

Swoosh!

Ye Chengfeng had just executed his movement technique, preparing to dodge to another location.

Demon Annihilation Claw!

Chen Yu tore through with another claw strike—a black glowing demon claw grabbing towards Ye Chengfeng.

Ye Chengfeng executed another secret technique and quickly retreated.

Sizzle!

The Demon Annihilation Claw collided with the crystal-white sword light on Ye Chengfeng's body, tearing at each other.

Ye Chengfeng was not good at defense, and under the power accumulation in Chen Yu's heart, his Demon Rune Battle Technique was even stronger than usual.

Puff!

The Demon Annihilation Claw whistled past, leaving two faint blood marks on Ye Chengfeng's abdomen.

Unable to defeat Ye Chengfeng, Chen Yu pursued again, launching continuous attacks.

This scene left onlookers utterly dumbfounded.

Chen Yu was like a madman, doggedly chasing Ye Chengfeng, and even injuring him twice.

"Chen Yu, the third sword!"

Ye Chengfeng's expression was cold, even revealing a trace of fierceness.

To deal with Chen Yu, he actually had to use the third sword, which already made him feel ashamed.

"The third sword, huh?"

Chen Yu's expression grew more solemn.

His senior brother, Yuan Chen, practiced the Ice Dao, which was inherently strong in defense; yet, even while performing a defensive secret technique, he was still injured by Ye Chengfeng's third sword.

Roar~

A low dragon's growl emanated from within Chen Yu, and the next moment a translucent layer of blood-colored scales, sinister and daunting, emerged on his black demon body, sending shivers down the spine.

"Demon Scale Protective Body!"

By stimulating his Dragon-scale blood lineage, Chen Yu's strength and defensive power greatly increased.

On his back, the "Demon Scale Secret Pattern" surged forth, releasing a layer of peculiar True Qi Demon Scales that enveloped Chen Yu, forming a protective barrier.

At the same time, Chen Yu's hands pressed against the defensive layer, causing a sinister dark red hue to appear.

Boom!

Chen Yu clearly saw Ye Chengfeng's earth-shattering third sword coming down, causing the entire protective barrier to tremble and crack slightly.

"It can be blocked!"

Chen Yu estimated in his heart.

At a certain moment, the Demon Scale protective barrier around him violently dispersed, vanishing along with the massive white sword brilliance.

Thump! Thump! Thump!

With his heart bursting forth, Chen Yu once again closed in on Ye Chengfeng.

"Be defeated!"

Chen Yu's eyes twinkled with a black glow, exuding an astonishing demonic intent.

Ye Chengfeng had already swung three swords, and even Yuan Chen had to use his full strength to block the fourth sword before admitting defeat.

Chen Yu didn't want to face Ye Chengfeng's fourth sword, so the gap after this third sword was executed was the critical moment deciding the outcome of this battle.

"You're still not dead!"

Ye Chengfeng's chest heaved, his face showing some astonishment.

This kid at the Innate Middle Stage actually blocked his three swords!

Ye Chengfeng had no time to be frustrated, as Chen Yu was already attacking him.

From the first to the third sword, the distance between the two had been continuously closing. This time, Chen Yu was only about three yards from Ye Chengfeng.

"Be defeated!"

Chen Yu roared, his right hand blasting out a "Demon Annihilation Claw."

This time, the Demon Annihilation Claw didn't just graze past Ye Chengfeng. It struck directly on Ye Chengfeng's shoulder.

The white crystal swords on his body and the might of the Demon Annihilation Claw counteracted each other, ultimately a portion of the force of the Demon Annihilation Claw smashed outward.

Boom!

Ye Chengfeng's figure was blown nearly thirty feet away, looking somewhat disheveled.

However, this hit from Chen Yu, being weakened, did not severely injure Ye Chengfeng.

Ye Chengfeng was blown nearly thirty feet away but immediately stood up, backing off while facing Chen Yu.

"Chen Yu, the fourth sword!"

Ye Chengfeng's complexion was pale, blood dripping from the corner of his mouth, but as he swung his precious sword, a smile appeared on his face.