

Eternal Heart 491

Chapter 491: Undercurrents Surge

In the distance, Yi Lantian also turned around, preparing to watch the battle.

Under his guidance, Yuan Chen had been cultivating steadily and solidly, achieving a balanced growth in all aspects, and was most skilled in defense, without any obvious weaknesses.

But Chen Yu had been away for four and a half years, and his cultivation level had greatly changed. How strong he really was still unknown.

Compared to Yuan Chen, he was more optimistic about Chen Yu.

Meow!

The Dark Night Mountain Cat rubbed its eyes and also looked over.

"Junior brother, I won't hold back," Yuan Chen said without underestimating Chen Yu, since they had both participated in the last major competition. He himself had placed fourth, while Chen Yu had secured the first place.

Whoosh!

Yuan Chen launched the attack first, arriving at Chen Yu's right side. He stretched out his palm, where the cold light condensed into an ice palm.

As Yuan Chen slapped down, a burst of ice mist formed around, directing the powerful palm strength towards Chen Yu.

Chen Yu stimulated the Secret Pattern Demon Body, and his body's surface instantly turned black, covered in dense patterns and demon light shining in all directions, causing the surroundings to darken.

Bang!

Yuan Chen's palm struck Chen Yu in the chest, turning most of his body into ice.

Crack!

Chen Yu's figure slightly shifted, shattering the ice, and he was not injured in the slightest.

"You're indeed worthy of the 'Heavenly Demon Secret Pattern Record.' Such defensive power, even I, your senior brother, can't compare," Yuan Chen said with a smile.

Yi Lantian nodded. Chen Yu's cultivation of the "Heavenly Demon Secret Pattern Record" was good.

On the other side, Yu Bu Yu's eyes widened. She had long heard that her third senior brother was practicing one of the ancient top ten marvelous cultivation techniques, the "Heavenly Demon Secret Pattern Record," so she wanted to witness it.

At this moment, the third senior brother, at the peak of the early Guiyuan Realm, had endured a palm from the second senior brother without a scratch. The renowned first defensive cultivation technique of ancient and modern times indeed lived up to its reputation.

But who would win this battle?

Perhaps it would be the third senior brother, since he had previously won the first place in the competition, and the cultivation technique he practiced was even stronger.

However, with the guidance from their master, the third senior brother's cultivation level was higher than the second senior brother's, which might give him an even greater advantage.

"Mystic Ice Palm."

Cold power erupted from Yuan Chen's palm, drastically dropping the surrounding temperature.

In the void, a huge ice palm rapidly condensed, larger than Chen Yu's entire person, and charged out.

Chen Yu noticed the extraordinary nature of his senior brother Yuan Chen's attack and stimulated the Demon Rune Battle Technique, a layer of Demon Scale Armor emerging on his body.

Bang!

The ice palm struck Chen Yu's body, unable to shake him, exploded into numerous ice crystals, covering Chen Yu.

"Junior brother, even if you have strong defensive power, if I make you immobile, I would consider it my victory," Yuan Chen declared his combat intention openly.

After all, their fight was primarily a sparring match, not a battle to win at all costs.

At the very least, both Chen Yu and Yuan Chen did not use any weapons.

"Converge!"

Yuan Chen clapped his hands together, and the cold Xuanbing True Essence surged out, resonating with the ice crystals around Chen Yu.

Suddenly, the force of the cold ice around Chen Yu surged, rapidly forming a layer of ice around him. Then came a second layer, a third, and a fourth layer of ice.

In the blink of an eye, Chen Yu was encased in a huge block of ice, completely immobile.

"Second senior brother is so impressive," Yu Bu Yu said with wide eyes, amazed.

Yuan Chen was better at defense and binding rather than attacking.

Hum!

Yuan Chen's palms were tightly pressed together, not yet releasing them.

He could feel that inside the ice, Chen Yu was unleashing a tremendous force in an attempt to break free.

Chen Yu had to admit that his senior brother Yuan Chen was also a genius with strong methods. With sheer strength alone, he would not be able to break free, unless he used ultimate effort or other techniques.

Hum!

On Chen Yu's right arm, a demon pattern surged, spreading over the entire limb, with Demon Pattern True Essence bursting forth from it.

Outside the blackened arm, a black True Essence demon claw faintly formed, which was the Demolishing Claw.

Crack!

The ice layer around Chen Yu's arm split, and the Demolishing Claw grew larger.

Bang!

Chen Yu poured more True Essence into it, the Demolishing Claw swelled, and with a fierce swing, the claw ravaged forth, shattering the ice block.

The dark, ancient, and domineering claw rushed towards Yuan Chen.

"Cold Ice Shield!"

Yuan Chen released a layer of cold ice luminescence from his palms, waving them up to form a thick and solid Cold Ice Shield.

Bang!

The Demolishing Claw arrived, blasting a hole in the Cold Ice Shield and continuing its attack inside.

Yuan Chen waved his palms to increase the defensive power of the location being attacked by the Demolishing Claw.

"Junior brother has strong defensive power, strength, and attacking methods, but I, your senior brother, am also good at defense. If you can't injure me, I won't consider it a loss, we'll be at a stalemate at most," Yuan Chen said with a smile from within the shield.

Chen Yu's claw had weakened somewhat from destroying the ice block before, so Yuan Chen comfortably blocked it.

Boom!

Chen Yu charged out, stirring up a pitch-black gale.

He arrived in front of the ice shield, channeling his power and rotating his True Essence, punching down fiercely.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

Then, a second, a third, a fourth punch landed continuously.

Compared to the instantaneous burst of the Demolishing Claw, the continuous bombardment of Chen Yu's fists caused even larger damage.

Yuan Chen was continuously repairing the spot that Chen Yu was bombarding, but his pace seemed to be lagging behind.

"Enough, stop here," Master Yi Lantian spoke up.

Chen Yu and Yuan Chen immediately ceased their actions.

Yu Bu Yu pouted, seemingly not having had enough, or perhaps she wanted to know who would be more powerful if the battle continued, the second senior brother or the third.

"Junior brother, your strength hasn't declined at all. Just now, I was about to not hold on, but fortunately, our master intervened," Yuan Chen maintained his calm smile.

"It was just a sparring match, and the victory was not decided."

Chen Yu also smiled.

Between him and his senior fellow disciple, Yuan Chen, there wasn't really a question of victory or defeat.

Yuan Chen took the initiative to challenge, probably because he and the Master just wanted to see Chen Yu's strength, and once they determined that it was about what they expected, they could stop.

"Junior brother, you have the 'Blood Crystal Flame', a True Fire Spirit Flame that restrains my Xuanbing True Essence. If we really came to blows, then your senior brother here would undoubtedly suffer."

Yuan Chen spoke the truth.

He was somewhat wary of the 'Blood Crystal Flame'.

Moreover, with Chen Yu practicing the 'Heavenly Demon Secret Pattern Record,' it was impossible for him to injure Chen Yu.

So, he had no chance of defeating Chen Yu.

"Blood Crystal Flame?"

Yu Bu Yu stared at Chen Yu with wide eyes, showing a look of surprise.

"Your junior sister is a Fire Spirit Body genius, so she practices the Fire Dao, hence she is so amazed by such magical and powerful True Fire Spirit Flames."

Yuan Chen explained.

"Fire Spirit Body genius."

Chen Yu hadn't expected his junior sister to have such high talent. No wonder she reached the Late Innate stage at such a young age.

Hum!

Chen Yu stretched out his hand, and the blood flame in his palm bloomed, expanding continuously.

The flame kept churning until it finally formed a dazzling, glaze-like flower made of blood flame.

"Is this the 'Blood Crystal Flame'? It's so pretty!"

Yu Bu Yu approached Chen Yu, her blue eyes fixated on the blood lotus, filled with amazement and admiration.

Facing the powerful Blood Path flame like the 'Blood Crystal Flame,' even a strong figure like Yi Lantian felt tempted, but the magic he practiced wasn't compatible with the 'Blood Crystal Flame', besides, as a Master stealing something from his disciple, it might deter others from joining the academy in the future.

After a while, Chen Yu withdrew the 'Blood Crystal Flame'.

"If the Master has no other instructions, I will take my leave now."

Chen Yu said.

"We shall also take our leave."

Yuan Chen spoke on behalf of Yu Bu Yu.

He had brought his junior sister here, anticipating that Chen Yu would come to see the Master as soon as he returned to the academy.

"Alright, you all may go. Prepare yourselves for the Talent Tea Party in half a year,"

Yi Lantian reminded them again.

Subsequently, the three left the mountain peak.

"Junior sister, did you make it into the top fifty in this academy competition?"

On the way, Chen Yu asked.

He had this guess because the Master had said to let them all prepare.

"Yes."

Yu Bu Yu revealed a small smile.

"The competition in this academy contest was even fiercer. Bu Yu did great, she made it into the top fifty, ranking forty-eighth."

Yuan Chen said with a smile.

Being praised by Yuan Chen made Yu Bu Yu somewhat embarrassed.

Yu Bu Yu was lucky, after being accepted into the school, the Master took her in as a disciple, and she made it into the top fifty in the academy contest, earning the opportunity to participate in the Talent Tea Party.

If nothing unexpected happened, she would definitely shine in the next academy contest.

Before long, the three senior and junior fellow disciples parted ways.

Chen Yu immediately returned to his own courtyard. As a disciple of the vice dean, his courtyard was in an excellent location, providing far superior conditions for cultivation than the other students.

"Comfortable."

Chen Yu couldn't help but sigh with relief; the cultivation environment here was so much better than in Chu Country.

Next, Chen Yu began to cultivate.

...

Elsewhere, in the south of Yun Zhao Country.

A continuous stretch of misty gorges exuded chilling cold, and at the bottom lay a vast and gloomy ancient temple.

Within a certain great hall, a middle-aged man with a stern face and sinister eyes sat at the top.

"Hasn't there been any news from those from Unlawful Temple?"

The middle-aged man's voice was cold and deep.

"Elder Ren, it has been three days since their last message, and there is still no news. I fear they may have failed..."

Below, a monk bowed low, speaking softly.

He also found it hard to imagine how the elders Buyi and Bu Ren could have failed with their capabilities.

Besides, even if they had failed, they should have sent a message to lay the groundwork, so Elder Ren could brace himself and avoid a severe reprimand upon their return.

"Hmph, once they fail, Chen Yu would surely be on guard. Just a bunch of incompetent fools."

"Once Chen Yu returns to No Demon Academy, it will be even harder to kill him."

Ren Bing's face was clouded with gloom.

Initially, he had taken action himself only to be stopped by Yi Lantian.

However, a vendetta for the murder of a son must be avenged!

What's more, Ren Han had successfully infiltrated No Demon Academy, gaining the trust of the high-ranking officials, causing many leaders of the Black Prison Alliance to regard Chen Yu with enmity. At the time, Chen Yu's bounty had jumped to the top three.

Furthermore, could Yi Lantian possibly protect Chen Yu at all times?

Whoosh!

Ren Bing suddenly stood up, his long hair and cloak flying wildly.

"I will take his life!"

Ren Bing's voice, filled with resolve to kill, turned into a black shadow and flew out.

The next moment, a red-haired, bizarre Blood Robed Woman approached the entrance.

"What's happened to Elder Ren?"

The Blood Robed Woman asked.

"Chen Yu has appeared. Those sent to assassinate him have failed, so Elder Ren has decided to take matters into his own hands."

The monk replied respectfully.

The person before him belonged to the mysterious "Blood Moon Organization".

"Is this all true?"

The Blood Robed Woman's eyes shimmered with a strange light.

The monk nodded his head.

"Chen Yu has appeared. I must report this news to the Holy Daughter."

The Blood Robed Woman turned and swiftly left.

Chapter 492: Collecting Materials

In the secluded chamber, Chen Yu ended his closed-door cultivation with a refreshed feeling, and the training went very smoothly.

Back in Chu Country, each time Chen Yu engaged in closed-door cultivation, he would have to expend a tremendous amount of Primordial Stones to set up a Gathering Primordial Array, but in the special training grounds of the No Demon Academy, this was not necessary.

Half a month later, Chen Yu concluded his closed-door training.

"Within four years, I should have a chance to break through to the Middle Stage of the Guiyuan Realm," Chen Yu estimated, based on his training progress.

"Master repeatedly instructed me to prepare for the Tea Party; there must be some meaning behind it. The 'Nine Bone Demon Spirit Sword' is too precious to reveal, and the 'Giant Ruler Sword' is of too low a grade, no longer suitable for me now," Chen Yu mused.

In terms of grade, his 'Nine Bone Demon Spirit Sword' might even be a bit higher than a complete 'Heavenly Que Sword'.

Whereas the 'Giant Ruler Sword' was merely a Half Spirit Artifact and offered too little enhancement to Chen Yu's capabilities.

The Talent Tea Party gathered geniuses who ranked among the top fifty in the triennial Academy Tournament.

For instance, in the previous Tournament, Chen Yu had barely managed to defeat Ye Chengfeng and Yunhai Zhen, taking great risks. A slight oversight could have resulted in failure.

Both individuals had astonishing backgrounds; Ye Chengfeng was from one of the four great families, the Ye Family, while Yunhai Zhen belonged to the Imperial Yun Family. They didn't need to worry about resources, and their cultivation environments were excellent; coupled with their talents, their strength must have grown terribly fierce.

In the Academy Tournament, Chen Yu had defeated both of them, but to take on Ye Chengfeng and Yunhai Zhen now, the outcome was uncertain.

As for the latest Academy Tournament, it, too, was filled with talents, giving rise to eight cultivators who reached the Guiyuan Realm. The first place, Situ Lin Yu, reigned unbeatable, claiming the top spot.

A year and a half had passed since the Tournament, and they surely had digested the rewards, which meant significant improvements in their strength.

Apart from these two Tournaments, there were also the older members from the previous one.

Although the strength of each Tournament was said to surpass the previous, older members couldn't match the newcomers, given the same age. However, in this world, there was no fair play; with over a decade more experience, it was daunting to consider how much these older members had honed themselves.

The host of this Tea Party was supposed to be Chen Yu and the first place winner from the previous Academy Tournament, "Yun Yingwu."

But since Chen Yu couldn't be contacted, Yunhai Zhen took his place.

Yun Yingwu, Yunhai Zhen – both from the Imperial Family seemed to symbolize the strength of the Yun Zhao Country's Imperial Family.

Since the organizers were all from the Imperial Family, the Tea Party took place in the Yunyang Holy Mansion.

Preparations for the venue had begun several months ago.

"As the previous Tournament's champion, I cannot disgrace myself; I must forge a suitable weapon," Chen Yu decided and left the courtyard.

Before long, Chen Yu arrived at the Artifact Refining grounds of the No Demon Academy.

From a distance, he could feel a scorching aura emanating from a valley.

Chen Yu made no effort to conceal his cultivation aura. As he approached, several guards immediately bowed and then opened the barrier to let him pass.

In the canyon, rows upon rows of palaces and loft towers were constructed upon the cliff faces.

At the very center, a colossal palace shaped like a forge occasionally belched clouds of fire and smoke.

Chen Yu's arrival caught the attention of several Artifact Refiners.

"Chen Yu?"

"Chen Yu has come."

A few Artifact Refining Masters called out in mild surprise.

But as Artifact Refiners of high status, they did not fawn over him like some of the students, coming over immediately to offer flattery.

In a corner, a bald Artifact Refiner trembled slightly upon seeing Chen Yu.

"Master Liu,"

Chen Yu glanced over and recognized the bald Master, then walked over.

"Chen Yu, what brings you here this time?" Master Liu asked with a wry smile.

Years ago, Chen Yu had come here to refine a top-grade Spiritual Artifact.

Master Liu tried to cut corners, so he didn't put in his full effort, which annoyed Chen Yu, and the two had a dispute.

It so happened that Master Shen, the leading figure of the Artifact Refining grounds, appeared. Master Liu tried to frame Chen Yu, denigrating the 'Giant Ruler Sword,' unaware that this sword was one of Master Shen's youthful creations.

Offending Master Shen, Master Liu's status plummeted here.

This time seeing Chen Yu, his heart's fury and grievances reignited, yet he had to suppress them.

Firstly because Chen Yu held an exceptional position in the Academy, and secondly, he had undoubtedly broken through to the Guiyuan Realm; unless he fell prematurely, his future achievements were boundless.

If Master Liu held a grudge but couldn't best Chen Yu, it was better to forget the past.

"I'm looking for Master Shen," Chen Yu revealed his purpose.

Chen Yu knew Master Shen to possess the best memory of any Artifact Refiner in the grounds and was highly regarded throughout Yun Zhao Country.

Naturally, Chen Yu hoped for the best Artifact Refining Master to assist him in forging his weapon.

"Master Shen... Alright, I'll go and inquire for you," Master Liu hesitated but eventually obliged, heading deeper into the palace.

Ever since that previous misstep with Master Shen, every time Master Liu encountered him, he was never met with a pleasant demeanor, which made Liu Yuan somewhat fearful of Master Shen.

Boom boom!

Master Liu approached the chamber door and gently knocked. When there was no response inside, he knocked a few more times.

Suddenly, the chamber door swung open, and Master Shen glanced outside, his brow furrowing upon seeing Liu Yuan, "What's the matter?"

"Chen Yu wishes to see you,"

Master Liu slightly bowed his body and said.

"Oh? That kid is back?"

Master Shen's brows relaxed, and after pondering for a moment, he said, "Let him come."

"Okay."

Master Liu left the place, relieved.

After a short while, Chen Yu came in.

"Master Shen, how about helping me refine a Spiritual Artifact?" he asked directly.

From their last encounter, Chen Yu felt that Master Shen was a man of temperament; whether you were respectful or not made hardly any difference to him.

"You kid, you're really not at all indirect. Don't you know that even some instructors and branch deans from the academy would speak to me with utmost courtesy when asking for my help in Artifact Refining?" Master Shen said with a sense of helplessness, but soon chuckled.

"We're already acquainted, after all," Chen Yu immediately tried to cozy up, approaching Master Shen and taking out the Giant Ruler Sword.

"My cultivation has reached the peak of the early Guiyuan Realm, so this sword is not of much use to me," Chen Yu stated plainly.

In Yun Zhao Country, some top geniuses or those with the backing of great powers who were at the early stage of the Guiyuan Realm wielded Spiritual Artifacts.

To Chen Yu, this Half Spirit Artifact was indeed a bit outdated.

"In addition, I will also be participating in the Talent Tea Party in half a year. Without a suitable weapon, I am afraid I might bring shame to the academy," Chen Yu added.

"You little rascal, are you saying that if you embarrass the academy then, it'll be my fault for not refining an artifact for you?" Master Shen said grumpily.

"I didn't say that," Chen Yu immediately denied.

"Bring out whatever materials you have," Master Shen said, getting back to the point.

As the top student of the last grand competition, a poor performance at the Talent Tea Party would indeed be embarrassing. Moreover, Chen Yu had a promising future. Helping him refine a Spiritual Artifact meant he would owe Master Shen a favor.

Chen Yu promptly took out some materials from the Smoke-spitting Pearl. Most of them were scavenged secrets within the last grand competition's secret realms, plus over a dozen dragon teeth from a Red-eyed Jiao.

"Your materials are decent, but the Spiritual Artifact refined from them might not match your Cultivation Technique very well," Master Shen assessed after a glance. "Additionally, since you favor heavy swords, these materials might not be enough to refine a high-quality Spirit-heavy sword."

Chen Yu did not understand Artifact Refining, and after Master Shen's analysis, he indeed felt he had not prepared thoroughly enough.

"With the materials you've brought out, I can probably help you refine a lower grade but exquisite heavy sword, and it still might not suit you well. If you can gather a few more precious materials, then I could craft a lower grade top-tier Spiritual Artifact for you," Master Shen said again.

A lower grade top-tier Spiritual Artifact was comparable to weapons at the level of the Heavenly Moon Sword, which was quite impressive. Moreover, a weapon refined by Master Shen was guaranteed to not be subpar.

Eager for a top-tier Spiritual Artifact, Chen Yu naturally didn't want one that was just exquisite.

"Then what other materials do I need?" Chen Yu asked. He had already decided to refine a lower grade top-tier Spiritual Artifact.

With progress in the Guiyuan Realm being slow, a weapon could be used for a very long time. Hence, Chen Yu hoped to craft a better, more suitable Spiritual Artifact as much as possible.

"I'll list some materials for you. If you can collect three types with sufficient quantities, that should be enough. Of course, the more the better," Master Shen said, writing down a list, and passing it to Chen Yu.

"Alright," Chen Yu responded, taking the paper and leaving the Artifact Refining area.

Spiritual Artifacts were expensive, as were the materials needed, especially for heavy swords. Chen Yu planned to refine a better Spiritual Artifact, which required a considerable amount of materials.

After leaving, he headed to the No Demon Main Hall.

The trading area here was full of goods, but those suitable for the Guiyuan Realm level were scarce. After browsing around, Chen Yu only found one material he could use, and in very limited quantities.

A mosquito may be small, but it's still meat, Chen Yu thought as he made his purchase.

"It seems that I won't be able to gather all the materials within the No Demon Academy, so I'll have to make a trip outside," Chen Yu sighed.

However, Chen Yu had just returned to the No Demon Academy and had made quite a commotion. Upon his return, he had killed three monks from the Unlawful Temple. No doubt the remaining sect powers were closely watching him.

Therefore, Chen Yu bought a special black robe that, once draped over, prevented Spiritual Sense from penetrating.

After leaving the No Demon Academy, Chen Yu donned this black robe, revealing only his face below the bridge of his nose.

Soon, he arrived at Tianhe Royal City.

Tianhe Prefecture had three giants: No Demon Academy, the Situ Family, and the Duan Family.

Hence, Tianhe Prefecture's economy was exceptionally prosperous, with countless shops, grocers, rare material stores, restaurants, and more.

Chen Yu went to a material shop in the Guiyuan Realm level section.

Materials suitable for the Guiyuan Realm were extremely rare and even fewer met Chen Yu's criteria.

In Yun Zhao Country, most resources were controlled by the major forces, which indeed allowed them to attract batch after batch of Cultivators.

After extensive browsing, Chen Yu selected a type of ore called Black Light Stone. It met the required quantity, and now he just needed to gather two more types of sufficient materials to refine a lower grade top-tier Spiritual Artifact.

Upon seeing Chen Yu select such a rare and costly material, the maidservant assumed he was a wealthy patron and suggested, "If the customer can't find suitable materials, you can try looking at the Blood-colored Restaurant."

"A restaurant?" Chen Yu was slightly startled.

Why would he go to a restaurant to buy materials?

But since the maidservant worked in the material shop and knew what Chen Yu was seeking, she wouldn't give pointless advice.

Leaving the shop, Chen Yu gave her a generous tip, leaving the maidservant beaming, "Please remember to come back here if you need anything else, customer!"

Chapter 493: Yinluo Sect Ruins

After leaving the shop, Chen Yu wandered around for a while.

"Blood-colored Restaurant?"

Perhaps because of what the maidservant mentioned earlier, Chen Yu paid more attention and happened to see this restaurant.

This restaurant, clad entirely in a dark red hue, revealed its uniqueness as Chen Yu entered.

Spanning three floors, although everyone was drinking, the atmosphere was very quiet as if lively discussions were being held in hush tones.

Strangely, almost everyone made no effort to conceal their cultivation levels.

Thus, it was easy for Chen Yu to determine that on the first floor were all those of the Postnatal Qi Transformation level, the floor teeming with the most people, while the second floor housed those of the Qi Transformation Innate level, and on the third floor were those of the Guiyuan Realm, numbering more than twenty.

In the vast ancient lands, it was somewhat easier to break through to the Guiyuan Realm compared to Beiyuan.

And in this one prefecture, with three huge leaders, some second-tier families, third-tier families, and Loose Cultivators, the number of those in the Guiyuan Realm was not on the same level as in Beiyuan.

"This modest tavern has gathered so many powerful figures from the Guiyuan Realm; it truly is extraordinary!"

Chen Yu grew more interested.

Bang!

Chen Yu also released a faint trace of a demonic aura, although not intense, it was undeniably of the Guiyuan Realm level, causing many on the first floor to shiver and look at him with added respect.

At the same time, many on the third floor sized him up.

However, Chen Yu's black robe obstructed their Spiritual Sense. Without the cultivation level of the Late Guiyuan Realm, they could not discern Chen Yu's true appearance.

Chen Yu climbed to the third floor and casually chose a seat, ordering a jar of wine.

"Alright, sir, here's your wine."

Shortly after, the server came over, placed down a jar and bowl, and left.

Chen Yu poured himself a drink and started observing the surroundings.

Although he felt something was peculiar about this place, he didn't know the reason. Since the restaurant was very quiet, it seemed inappropriate for Chen Yu to randomly ask someone.

Thus, he began to observe the individuals of the Guiyuan Realm around him.

According to his senses, there were ten at the Early Guiyuan Realm, five at the Early Guiyuan Realm Peak, four at the Middle Stage of Guiyuan Realm, and three whom he could not see through at all.

While Chen Yu was observing, a voice suddenly echoed in his mind. "Young brother, are you interested in the treasure hidden within Mysterious Moon Forest?"

Chen Yu looked up; the voice had come from the middle-aged man at the table opposite him.

Mysterious Moon Forest was one of the dangerous forbidden grounds in Tianhe Prefecture, and this forbidden area had a remarkable treasure that Chen Yu had also heard about, said to be the base of a notorious band of thieves a thousand years ago.

Chen Yu did not respond to the man's query.

Through the middle-aged man's message, Chen Yu was fairly certain of the purpose of the Blood-colored Restaurant.

Yun Zhao Country was vast with many naturally formed dangerous places, and others created by the mighty of the Sky Sea Realm among others, in abundance.

These perilous spots represented opportunities as well.

Perhaps someone had accidentally discovered a clue but lacked the personal power and sought partners.

The Blood-colored Restaurant provided a setting for such people to form teams.

More Loose Cultivators, who survived by adventuring, often roamed here in search of companions.

"Hmph!"

Across him, the middle-aged man's face fell, and with a cold snort, a chilling spiritual power surged toward Chen Yu.

He had extended an invitation, but Chen Yu hadn't even responded, embarrassing him.

In fact, Chen Yu was deep in thought and had neglected it.

Buzz!

Chen Yu immediately looked up, his piercing, deep black eyes releasing a domineering demonic spiritual power.

Instantly, the middle-aged man's spiritual power shattered, and he felt an invasive demonic force entering his mind, causing him to grunt and his body to tremble slightly.

This scene caught the attention of other powerhouses present, and they glanced at Chen Yu more pensively.

That middle-aged man had some reputation in Tianhe Prefecture; he had broken through to the Guiyuan Realm ten years ago and was just a step away from reaching the Early Guiyuan Realm Peak.

"Not interested."

After countering, Chen Yu replied to the other.

Chen Yu had declined the invitation because bandits, passionate about riches, were likely to have gathered mostly Primordial Stones if they truly found a treasure.

Moreover, Chen Yu had a disagreement with this man, making them unsuitable for cooperation.

Furthermore, Chen Yu developed an interest in the Blood-colored Restaurant, finding that some of the clues and information here were unique and known by few.

"Sir, the strength you just displayed was commendable. I was wondering if you'd be interested in exploring a relic with us?"

Just then, a middle-aged man with golden hair from another table sent a message to Chen Yu.

"What kind of relic?"

Chen Yu asked.

A sect relic."

The golden-haired middle-aged man hesitated for a moment before replying.

Clearly, before Chen Yu agreed, he was unwilling to share too much information.

"A sect?"

Chen Yu was inwardly astonished.

A millennium ago, Yun Zhao Country had been ruled by the royal family, and sects were almost obliterated.

Thus, this sect relic must be ancient and could contain various types of treasures, including the mineral materials Chen Yu needed.

Chen Yu stood up and moved over to sit with them.

At this table, there were originally five people, with the addition of Chen Yu, there were now six.

The middle-aged man with golden hair was the mission initiator; his cultivation seemed to be in the Middle Stage of Guiyuan Realm. To his left was a short man, in the Early Guiyuan Realm. Beside him was a man wearing a wide-brimmed hat, whose emitted cultivation was at the peak of the Early Guiyuan Realm.

Besides these, there was also a pair of twin sisters, one at the peak of the Early Guiyuan Realm and the other at the Early Guiyuan Realm.

"Are you willing to go?" the middle-aged man with golden hair asked.

"Could you reveal some more information!" Chen Yu replied indifferently.

"I discovered this relic; currently, no one else should be aware of it. Moreover, I have personally explored it, so the information is absolutely true. If you do not swear an oath of soul and blood, I will not reveal any further information," the middle-aged man with golden hair said with a smile.

Although he said this, his words still leaked some information.

Firstly, few people knew about the relic, and secondly, he had personally explored it. This could be used to make him swear later to confirm its authenticity.

"Very well, I agree!" Chen Yu responded.

First, he was indeed very interested in so-called relics; humans have curiosity and a desire for adventure, and he might find the minerals he needed.

Secondly, the strongest among these five people was only in the Middle Stage of Guiyuan Realm, and they did not seem to belong to a group but were a team formed on the spot, so there was nothing to worry about.

"Good, six people should be enough," the middle-aged man transmitted telepathically. Then he led everyone away from this place to a room.

First, the others needed to verify the truth of what the middle-aged man with the golden hair had said, so they made him swear a soul and blood oath first.

Then the rest similarly swore a soul and blood oath, agreeing not to explore alone or reveal the information to others after learning of it.

"The relic I discovered is suspected to be the Yinluo Sect site from ten thousand years ago; it was too dangerous inside, and as I was alone, I quickly left," the middle-aged man with golden hair finally revealed.

"Yinluo Sect!" The others fell into thought.

The matter was from ten thousand years ago, too distant, but the Yinluo Sect was not an ordinary sect; it had a certain reputation among the demonic sects, so the people also had some knowledge of it.

"Yinluo Sect? We sisters are very interested, and hope to gain something from this journey," the twin sisters said in unison, one voice enchanting and the other deep, sounding quite odd.

"When do we set out?" the man in the wide-brimmed hat asked. Although he intentionally lowered his voice, one could tell he was not old.

"Hehe, now that we have almost everyone, naturally, we set out immediately," the middle-aged man with golden hair laughed.

The short man seemed to be part of the middle-aged man's group, as he had been silent from start to finish and hadn't stated his position.

"Now?" The twin sisters were surprised by the golden-haired middle-aged man's urgency.

"Fine, you 'Wan Baoguang' do have some reputation; I will trust you, let us set out now!" the man in the wide-brimmed hat said briskly.

"You are Wan Baoguang?" the twin sisters asked simultaneously.

This was their third time coming to the Blood-colored Restaurant to form a team; they were cautious, but they had heard the name Wan Baoguang once.

Wan Baoguang was a loose cultivator who frequented the vicinity of Tianhe Prefecture. He was regularly involved in adventures, searching for relics and inheritances, which gave him some fame.

His most famous moment was when his team broke through an Ancient Transmission Array in the Sky Sea Realm. The team only lost one person, and everyone else obtained something significant.

Moreover, it was precisely after this that Wan Baoguang advanced to the Middle Stage of the Guiyuan Realm.

"Alright, let's do it now."

Chen Yu was indifferent.

Shortly afterward, the group left the Blood-colored Restaurant.

Some people looked on enviously, but since Wan Baoguang's team had six people, they dared not make a move.

Quickly, the six of them arrived at the Transmission Array, choosing the Ancient Transmission Array designated for “Donglin Prefecture”.

"Three thousand low-grade essence stones."

The officer collected the essence stones, and after a while, once sixteen people had gathered, the Transmission Array activated, and everyone's figures gradually disappeared.

Donglin Prefecture was a coastal prefecture on the eastern edge of Yun Zhao Country. Due to its distant location, the transmission cost was higher, and the six of them paid over twenty thousand low-grade essence stones.

After arriving in Donglin Prefecture, Wan Baoguang led the way, with the group following behind.

Unnoticed, among those who were transmitted with them was an ordinary-looking man who arrived at a secluded corner and took out a communications talisman to send a message.

After a long flight, the twin sisters voiced their concern, “Where are we going? We’re about to leave Donglin Prefecture.”

"Outside Donglin Prefecture, East Sea," Wan Baoguang answered.

At this moment, everyone felt a tad more solemn.

Donglin Prefecture was on the edge of Yun Zhao Country's territory, and the government's control was weak, thus the area was relatively chaotic. Outside the prefecture was even more so, and the sea was home to various alien races.

After a while, the group arrived at a certain spot above the East Sea.

Ensuring there was no one around, Wan Baoguang then said, "The relic is two thousand miles below here, but before we enter the relic, I must clarify one thing. As the discoverer of the relic, I have the right to one priority selection of treasures."

Having reached the mouth of the relic, Wan Baoguang put forward this condition.

At that moment, everyone was too impatient to wait and easily agreed to Wan Baoguang's reasonable request.

Chapter 494: Evil Ghost

Behind the Blood-colored Restaurant, a middle-aged man emerged, exuding an imposing aura, the corners of his mouth drawn into an abnormally ferocious grin.

If Chen Yu were here, he would surely recognize him—he was Ren Bing, the elder of the Black Prison Alliance and the father of Ren Han.

"Chen Yu, you had the path to heaven yet you didn't take it, now there's no door to hell yet you're barging in."

With a sneer, Ren Bing donned a black robe and left the place.

In reality, for nearly a decade, the power of the sects has been steadily infiltrating Yun Zhao Country.

Within the Royal City Mansion, many of the shops were secretly operated by the sects' power, and this Blood-colored Restaurant was one among them.

After Ren Bing arrived at Tianhe Prefecture, it would naturally be impossible for him to just wait outside No Demon Academy, so he stayed at the Blood-colored Restaurant and ordered all members of the Black Prison Alliance in Tianhe Prefecture to report immediately if they found any trace of Chen Yu.

Today, he unintentionally observed the people in the restaurant. Chen Yu's brief clash with the middle-aged man caught his attention, and his powerful Spiritual Sense peered through, piercing Chen Yu's black robe, revealing Chen Yu's identity.

This was truly a case of finding something without even searching, a fortunate stroke of serendipity.

He did not attack Chen Yu on the spot, as his appearance in the Royal City might invite attacks from many powerful individuals and even from the Prince Manor, as well as risk exposing the Blood-colored Restaurant.

But as Chen Yu left with a team, Ren Bing guessed that Chen Yu was embarking on an expedition adventure, so he sent a member to follow Chen Yu and his companions.

"They went to Donglin Prefecture, which is on the edge of Yun Zhao Country, the most chaotic, with many remnants of sect forces

As he flew, Ren Bing mulled over in his mind.

Donglin Prefecture was undoubtedly an excellent place for wilderness murder.

"They are a total of six people, surely off to search for treasures. Maybe at that time, not only can I kill this boy, but there might also be some unforeseen gains."

Ren Bing quickened his pace, arrived at a Transmission Array, and was transported to Donglin Prefecture.

It wasn't long before he met up with the scout.

"Sir, they move too fast for me to follow without risking being noticed and arousing suspicion."

The man reported.

"Hmm, you may go back."

Ren Bing gave an order and then left the place.

In Donglin Prefecture, a portion of the members belonged to the Black Prison Alliance. Chen Yu's team of six was easy to identify, so they weren't worried about failing to trace the whereabouts of that boy.

...

On the other side, Chen Yu and his companions had already delved deep into the bottom of the sea.

The deeper they went, the greater the water pressure became, and everyone had to erect True Essence Shields.

Whoosh whoosh!

Suddenly, a group of about twenty black, strange fish appeared nearby, their heads adorned with horns, their teeth as sharp as blades. They moved through the water at extreme speed, like black lightning, launching an attack on the group.

There were Demon Beasts in the deep sea, and these creatures had the advantage in their watery domain, making them even stronger.

"Ignorant." The twin sisters snorted softly. The younger sister suddenly produced a half-transparent blue jade sword.

She swung it persistently, making the sword seem to merge with the water, difficult to distinguish. Swift and sharp Sword Qi water currents surged out.

Spurt—

As the Sword Qi water currents passed, several of the black long fish suddenly bore smooth, sharp cuts, and blood spurted forth.

"Ah... stop," sighed Wan Baoguang before shouting, "Do not kill here. It will attract other Demon Beasts, even the alien tribes lurking in the East Sea."

The younger of the twins furrowed her brows and bowed her head, ceasing to speak.

"What's your plan, then?" The elder sister smiled seductively, exceedingly charming.

"Brother, in the Blood-colored Restaurant, I noticed your spiritual power is very strong. I wonder if you know any Spirit Secret Techniques. If it's such techniques, they can slay Demon Beasts without bloodshed."

Wan Baoguang looked at Chen Yu.

Out of the six people present, he knew the short man, and the background of the twin sisters had been somewhat explored, with only Chen Yu and another man with a bamboo hat remaining enigmatic.

Wan Baoguang couldn't help but test out Chen Yu.

The difficulty of this expedition was high, and he had planned to recruit another Middle Stage of Guiyuan Realm or an Early Guiyuan Realm peak.

But there weren't many people in the restaurant, and even fewer willing to join. It was Chen Yu's display of spiritual power that caught Wan Baoguang's attention, prompting the invitation.

"My spiritual power is strong due to an accidental consumption of a certain spiritual treasure. I am primarily a Body Cultivator and have no research on the spiritual aspect." Chen Yu explained.

Although the group of six was teaming up for an adventure, they didn't know each other, each with their own guard up, unwilling to easily reveal too much about themselves.

At the moment, the aura that Chen Yu emitted was merely that of an early Guiyuan Realm.

"Body Cultivation?" Wan Baoguang looked disappointed.

The decline of Body Cultivators had its reasons, as it required heavy costs and great suffering to undergo Body Refinement. Moreover, they had obvious weaknesses, easily targeted by Spirit Secret Techniques and hit-and-run tactics.

Even more crucially, Body Cultivators had a low utility in expeditions into the relics of the Yinluo Sect.

"To think a Body Cultivator slipped in, Wan Baoguang, your judgment isn't up to par this time." The short middle-aged man spoke for the first time, teasing Wan Baoguang.

And the pair of twin sisters, their gaze towards Chen Yu carried a trace of disdain.

Compared to Body Cultivators, people skilled in spiritual attacks are more dreaded.

The man with the conical hat seemed as if it was none of his business, completely detached.

"Let me deal with these underwater demon beasts."

Wan Baoguang stepped forward.

He circulated his True Yuan, opened his mouth to shout, but no sound came out. Instead, an invisible and rapid wave surged forward, sweeping over the black long fish.

In an instant, the remaining demon fish froze and then floated upwards, clearly dead.

"Sonic attack, with additional mental damage."

Chen Yu blinked, acknowledging that Wan Baoguang, a Loose Cultivator experienced in explorations, was not to be underestimated with the numerous tactics he had.

The group quickly descended, encountering two more waves of demon beasts, all handled by Wan Baoguang's sonic and mental secret techniques.

Soon, everyone reached the sea floor, greeted by a coral reef.

Under Wan Baoguang's lead, the group navigated through the corals, and a while later, arrived next to a dark purple piece of coral that exuded a cold and sinister aura, causing discomfort to all.

"Open."

Wan Baoguang took out an array flag and waved it. The water before their eyes shimmered, and a pattern of an array faintly appeared before slowly vanishing.

In an instant, what had appeared to be coral in front of them disappeared, revealing an entrance leading downward.

"The concealment array is still active; no one should have entered here after I left," said Wan Baoguang with a smile, taking the lead.

After some distance, they saw a stretch of dilapidated ruins and numerous decayed skeletons. The entire space was filled with a sinister atmosphere, very ominous.

"Such an ancient architectural style, and the mark of the Yinluo Sect, this must be the ruins of the Yinluo Sect

The man with the conical hat whispered.

"The scope of a sect is vast, the part I discovered must be only a portion of it; it's uncertain whether the rest is elsewhere or destroyed."

Wan Baoguang showed greater interest in the ruins, even wanting to use them as a clue to find other related ruins.

Initially, there wasn't any danger, but Wan Baoguang had explored this place before and had to retreat to find teammates due to its peril, so everyone was extremely cautious.

After a short while, the group was faced with a staircase that seemed endless.

The visibility was very dim, but along the staircase were many pillars, each topped with a skull emitting a pale and dull light that made the stairs flicker.

One could see many dark and gloomy figures wandering aimlessly above the stairs, with an overwhelming Yin Sha Qi rushing towards them.

"Gentlemen, there is only this path ahead, and I was stopped right here at these stairs before," said Wan Baoguang.

"Many evil ghosts roam these stairs, including those of Guiyuan Realm level. We must join forces to break through."

"These evil ghosts could be creatures originally nurtured by the Yinluo Sect or may have been transformed from the dead here."

The man with the conical hat analyzed.

"Hey, these evil ghosts are all skilled in spiritual and soul attacks; be careful. If you're scared, you can quit now."

The twin sisters looked at Chen Yu, their voices in unison, with clear disdain in their eyes.

After all, they were two people, skilled in combined attacks, completely unfazed by Chen Yu.

Following the twins' comments, the rest remained silent, including Wan Baoguang, the team leader, who also glanced at Chen Yu.

Obviously, they all felt that Chen Yu, as a Body Cultivator, wouldn't be much use in the exploration of the Yinluo Sect ruins and might even become a burden.

Moreover, they would have to share any treasures with Chen Yu, which would not be worthwhile.

"The treasures are right inside; how could I possibly back out?"

Chen Yu feigned a greedy look.

The twin sisters snorted coldly and disregarded Chen Yu, paying more attention to the man with the conical hat and Wan Baoguang.

"Let's strike together."

Wan Baoguang gave a low shout and took the lead.

Immediately, the rest surged up the stairs.

As the group stepped onto the staircase, the confused wandering evil ghosts suddenly stared at them, some with pale eyes, some with no eyes at all.

Boom!

Wan Baoguang's palms turned golden, and with a blast, he obliterated an Innate stage evil ghost.

And that golden palm light continued to pierce through, killing two more in succession.

These evil ghosts existed between physical and ethereal states; physical attacks were effective but much less so.

Although Wan Baoguang was skilled in spiritual attacks, unsure of the dangers ahead and the fact that spiritual power was harder to recover, he restrained himself.

The short middle-aged man, at the Early Stage of the Guiyuan Realm, followed Wan Baoguang closely, though not weak in strength.

Whiz! Whiz! Sizzle!

The twin sisters, one wielding Water Path Sword Technique and the other the Fire Dao Sword Technique, coordinated flawlessly, instantly killing any evil ghosts that approached them.

Chen Yu mixed in with the group, his fists and palms coming out together, blowing away a nearby evil ghost.

"This kid has strong True Yuan."

Wan Baoguang spared Chen Yu a glance.

Typical Body Cultivators, relying solely on raw strength, could inflict only limited damage on evil ghosts.

Chen Yu's attacks, though filled with True Yuan and very restrained, were felt as exceptionally remarkable.

Finally, there was the man with the conical hat, holding an ancient green sword. His swordsmanship was graceful, like wind and rain, incredibly precise, a display of ease indicating a sword master who likely still hid his true strength.

Chapter 495: Treasure Hall

The strength demonstrated by the man in the conical hat made everyone present pay him more serious attention.

The elder sister among the twins was also at the Early Guiyuan Realm Peak and skilled in swordsmanship, but her strength was inferior to the man in the conical hat.

"An Evil Ghost of Guiyuan Realm level is coming."

Wan Baoguang cautioned with a remark.

Just then, three larger-than-average Evil Ghosts appeared on the staircase, situated in a fog of Yin Sha Qi, bringing a group of evil spirits as they swooped down.

The Evil Ghosts at the Guiyuan Realm level were even more powerful in such a place.

One of them lunged at the most conspicuous Wan Baoguang.

The second attacked the twin sisters.

The third headed straight for Chen Yu.

"Hehe, this kid is probably doomed."

The twin sisters glanced at Chen Yu, their lips curling into a cold smirk.

This type of evil spirit was known to be a nemesis to Body Cultivators.

They had stronger immunity to physical attacks and their spiritual attacks were mysterious and eerie, what chance did ordinary Body Cultivators stand against these ghosts?

"This guy, he's targeting me."

Chen Yu looked towards the Evil Ghost, dressed in grey-black robes, its two soul-hooking claws stretched out straight, and its head missing a small portion, bloodied all over.

Moreover, this Guiyuan Realm Evil Ghost was accompanied by some top Qi Transformation Level ghosts.

Without revealing his strength, Chen Yu found it difficult to cope, thus deciding to just defend vigorously.

They were a team, the other members would not abandon Chen Yu, once they defeated their enemies, they would have to come aid Chen Yu.

With this plan in mind, Chen Yu slowly manoeuvred around the group of Evil Ghosts, not making any offensive moves.

Boom! Boom!

Chen Yu wielded the Giant Ruler Sword, repelling some ghosts, while reducing the impact of their attacks.

Even if some spiritual attacks hit Chen Yu, with his Mid-stage Guiyuan Realm spiritual power, he was completely unaffected.

"I forgot, this kid mentioned he had consumed a soul-enhancing treasure, his soul is quite strong, ordinary soul attacks can't hurt him."

The enchantingly beautiful elder sister among the twins, watching Chen Yu's battle, just remembered this.

"The Guiyuan Realm level Evil Ghost is showing its power."

The sister's voice, slightly stiff and cold, chimed in.

Howl!

The Guiyuan Realm Evil Ghost roared, spewing a black ghost fog from its mouth, which twisted and turned, forming a Ghost Face that opened its mouth wide and charged towards Chen Yu.

As the powerful spiritual attack neared, the Jade Pendant on Chen Yu's body released a layer of pristine white halo which enveloped his consciousness, giving Chen Yu a sense of warm comfort.

When the attack from the Evil Ghost arrived, penetrating the white halo, its strength was reduced by thirty to forty percent.

The remaining spiritual attack rushed into Chen Yu's mind.

Chen Yu steadied his mind, fully defended, and blocked the attack.

"This person actually possesses a spiritual defense treasure."

The twin sisters felt somewhat envious and covetous.

Chen Yu had not only consumed a soul-enhancing treasure but also possessed such defense items; he must have encountered significant opportunities.

Bang Peng!

When the Evil Ghost's spiritual attack failed to harm Chen Yu, it swung its claws, tearing out a dark light mark.

Chen Yu swung the Giant Ruler Sword, reducing the impact of the attack, with the remnants being successfully blocked.

Other side, the man in the conical hat was wiping out one ghost after another with ease using his ancient cyan sword.

"Your swordsmanship is astonishing, I am truly impressed!"

Chen Yu hooked up a mischievous smile and flew over to him.

"Hmm?"

The man in the conical hat glanced at Chen Yu, seeing that he had brought a group of evil spirits with him.

"I too wield a sword, but my swordsmanship is far inferior to yours, I'm here to learn."

Chen Yu said with a smile.

Seeing Chen Yu leading the evil spirits to the man in the conical hat, the twin sisters inwardly cursed Chen Yu for his shamelessness.

"Hehe."

The man in the conical hat gave a faint smile, his emotions unreadable.

He didn't bother too much, just continued to eliminate the evil spirits around him, although some of them had been brought over by Chen Yu.

The Guiyuan Realm Evil Ghost, not particularly intelligent, attacked randomly.

With the man in the conical hat sharing the burden, Chen Yu was much more relaxed.

Meanwhile, he was surprised that the man in the conical hat hadn't said anything or blamed Chen Yu.

"Everyone, stop holding back, we better explore the relics and leave early to prevent any mishaps."

Wan Baoguang whispered at the front.

Immediately, he released a strange sound wave from his mouth, enveloping an Evil Ghost in front of him, causing its body to halt and tremble slightly as it howled.

Seizing this opportunity, Wan Baoguang and a short man launched an attack, significantly stronger than before.

On another side, the twin sisters unleashed a powerful Water and Fire Sword Intent, merging it into their sword moves.

Sword Intent could attack on a spiritual level, and with their coordinated efforts, their combat strength increased, forcing the Guiyuan Realm Evil Ghost to continually retreat while shrieking.

Like the man in the conical hat and the two sisters, they released Sword Intent to amplify their attacks, affecting the spiritual level.

Amidst these people, Chen Yu occasionally struck with his fists.

At one point, Chen blasted the staircase beneath his feet, revealing some black jade stones.

"Yin Cold Stone."

Wan Baoguang glanced around and then said, "No wonder all these evil ghosts are lingering on this staircase. It's for this reason."

The Yin Cold Stone, for those in the Guiyuan Realm, wasn't considered a precious item.

But if such large quantities of this type of jade were beneath this lengthy staircase, their total value would still be extremely expensive. However, everyone's storage space was limited, and it was impossible to move all these items.

"Die!"

The twin sisters attacked swiftly; their Fire Sword and Water Sword dazzled onlookers, severely wounding the Guiyuan Realm ghost. They seized the opportunity to unleash a killing technique, and a colossal Water and Fire Sword burst forth from their swords.

Boom!

The ghost was blasted away by the sister's sword light, slowly dissipating amidst the intertwining of water and fire.

Next, Wan Baoguang and a short man dealt with the Guiyuan Realm ghost.

Wan Baoguang, already extremely strong, with the additional support of his companion who could launch spiritual attacks, handled it well.

The one who finally killed the ghost was the man in the conical hat. He didn't use much strength but relied on sophisticated swordsmanship to suppress and gradually grind the Guiyuan Realm ghost to death.

After the three Guiyuan Realm-level ghosts were slain, the journey ahead seemed somewhat easier.

The group continued to cut down any ghosts along their way until the back of the staircase, where they encountered another Guiyuan Realm ghost, which they destroyed together.

After passing through this staircase level, they encountered a collection of ruined and relatively well-preserved debris.

Here, many skeletons could still be discerned, including several abnormally large ones, not resembling human remains.

"There are so many foreign race corpses here."

Wan Baoguang felt somewhat surprised.

Moreover, apart from the corpses, this place also housed quite a few evil ghosts, not as many as above the staircase but with a higher proportion in the Guiyuan Realm.

"Wan Baoguang, so far, we've only seen some Yin Cold Stones, no other treasures."

The twin sisters, spotting this batch of stronger evil ghosts, questioned him at the same time.

"This is a ruin, not a heritage site. Who can be sure what treasures might be here, or if it's completely empty before we finish exploring?"

Wan Baoguang shrugged his shoulders in an innocent manner.

"Let's explore a bit more. If there's still nothing, we'll retreat."

The short man accompanying Wan Baoguang said.

This ruin was definitely related to the Yinluo Sect, but if the people from the Yinluo Sect had scavenged everything before leaving, it might really be empty.

But referential books accounted that many treasures were found in some ruins, so the people could only hope that their luck was good.

Thus, they began to fight against the ghosts again.

This time, perhaps because everyone was slightly anxious, they displayed more powerful combat abilities than before. Soon, all the ghosts blocking their way were killed.

After passing through this area, a grand hall with dark golden walls appeared before them, catching everyone's eyes.

The buildings they had passed before were all in ruins, but this dark golden hall, though somewhat dilapidated, was still entirely intact.

This suggested that the building might have been sturdier, or supported by an array, and so on.

Then, there must be something important inside.

Years of treasure hunting told Wan Baoguang that it might be time to reap the rewards.

After checking and finding no issues, they only discovered some fragile and broken seals on the main door.

"Hold on a moment!"

Being an expert, Wan Baoguang had some knowledge about arrays and seals.

This place, being ancient, had very weak seals, and he solved them after a while.

"Open!"

Wan Baoguang struck the center of the temple doors with a palm from afar.

The powerful force caused the doors to open.

Boom!

A translucent and white glow, along with a rich surge of Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi, poured out from the entrance.

Initially, the dense Yin Sha Qi inside the ruin made it eerily gloomy and uncomfortable.

At that moment, with the massive wash of Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi, everyone felt refreshed and invigorated.

They widened their eyes as a pile of Primordial Stones, resembling a small mountain at the center of the great hall, attracted everyone's attention.

"So many... Primordial Stones!"

The short middle-aged man revealed a look of surprise, "At least a million

Being only at the Early Guiyuan Realm and a Loose Cultivator, even when he had the most Primordial Stones, it never exceeded one hundred thousand.

And there in the hall, the mound-like pile of Primordial Stones was estimated to be at least over a million...

And that wasn't all, next to the pile of Primordial Stones, there were also numerous other precious ores and gems, colorful and dazzling, making hearts race with no chance for careful identification.

"There might be the ore I need. It seems it was worth coming here."

Chen Yu smiled.

Moreover, tirelessly secluding oneself for cultivation wasn't the answer; occasional combat and exploring ruins could also broaden one's horizons.

"It seems there are also Grade Essence Stones here, definitely worth the trip."

The man in the conical hat also smiled.

"A Grade Essence Stone is equivalent to a hundred lower-grade Primordial Stones. It seems there might be more Primordial Stones here than we initially saw."

The colder sister among the twins revealed a smile.

"Let's go!"

The twin sisters took the lead and stepped forward.

Wan Baoguang's expression shifted slightly as if he was about to stop the sisters, but in the end, he did nothing and followed them into the hall.

When the twin sisters entered the hall and seemed to notice something, they suddenly lifted their heads, then their expressions changed into sheer terror.

Sssss—

The hall, which had been quiet, might have been disturbed by the entrance of the sisters, for from the top came a series of tiny, intense sounds.

Suddenly, hundreds of silver-black insects flew down, opening their densely fanged mouths, and all rushed towards the twin sisters.

Chapter 496: Alien Invasion

"What is that?"

Just as everyone was about to enter the grand hall, they halted their steps and looked together at the silver-black insects falling from the top of the hall.

"These are Yin Corpse Worms. Everyone be careful—these Yin Corpse Worms are quite extraordinary."

Wan Baoguang, who had been treasure hunting for many years, recognized these insects instantly and accurately evaluated that the Yin Corpse Worms here were extremely formidable.

"Get lost."

The twin sisters shouted loudly, their Water Sword and Fire Sword swiftly swirling into action, creating a whirlpool of water and fire around them that blocked the attacks of the Yin Corpse Worms.

But at the top of the grand hall, more and more Yin Corpse Worms flew forward in a dense swarm, too numerous to count.

Pfft!

The Yin Corpse Worms felt no pain and had a terrifying biting ability. Many of them penetrated the sword move defenses of the twin sisters and attacked the two of them.

Looking again at the top of the grand hall, more Yin Corpse Worms surged forward, leaving the sisters feeling chilled to the bone, their hair standing on end.

"Retreat quickly!"

Wan Baoguang immediately said, and with two successive strikes of his golden palm, he sent hundreds of Yin Corpse Worms flying.

"Retreat?"

The short man accompanying Wan Baoguang was slightly puzzled.

Although this batch of Yin Corpse Worms was very powerful, there was a good chance of winning with so many people joining forces on the scene.

Retreat? Were they supposed to give up on the Million Yuan Stones and the many other ores inside?

What's more, Wan Baoguang had just taken the initiative to assist the sisters, which also struck him as strange. He had known Wan Baoguang for a while and was aware that the latter was not one to conduct business at a loss.

Originally, everyone was prepared to fight their way in, but with the leader suggesting retreat, they immediately hesitated.

Once they hesitated, they were no longer fit to continue fighting.

The crowd began to move backward, and the twin sisters also withdrew, casting a glance of gratitude towards Wan Baoguang.

Buzz!

Wan Baoguang took out eight dark yellow flags from his storage bag, planted them in front of the gate, and activated the Array.

Immediately, a light screen with a rock pattern stretched out, sealing the gate.

Sizzle!

The Yin Corpse Worms collided with the Array barrier, biting furiously and showing a lethal intent towards Wan Baoguang and his group.

"Wan Baoguang, what's your plan?" the short man asked.

The others couldn't help but look over, as nobody doubted that Wan Baoguang, the old hand, might have a clever plan. At the same time, they all became more cautious and thoughtful.

"None."

Wan Baoguang's response was a big surprise to everyone present, and the short middle-aged man felt discontented within.

But Wan Baoguang's next words silenced them once more: "I just felt it—the Array at the entrance has been broken."

"What? Other people have also come here?"

The twin sisters' expressions fluctuated uncertainly.

It was impossible for those present to leak the information, after all, they had sworn a blood oath of the soul.

"Perhaps the bloodshed in the sea earlier had drawn the attention of other mighty figures, or perhaps someone exploring here uncovered this secret... Either way, we are just unlucky."

Wan Baoguang's expression was grave, and everyone else fell silent, with the younger twin sister looking the worst off because the intruders might have come due to her mistake.

Now they finally understood why Wan Baoguang had them retreat just before.

It was because others had broken into this place. If everyone here fought against the Yin Corpse Worms and even if they were victorious in the end, they might just be paving the way for the latecomers to reap the benefits.

"What shall we do?" asked the man in the bamboo hat, his usually calm demeanor showing a trace of urgency.

"Are we to give up this hall of treasures?"

"And we don't even know the strength of the newcomers, perhaps it's just one person who stumbled upon this place by mistake

When it came to their interests, everyone began to express their views.

"Ladies and gentlemen, I have a strategy, but it requires one of us to make a slight sacrifice," Wan Baoguang suddenly spoke up at just the right moment.

"This guy really is full of tricks," the short man thought to himself.

At present, nobody else had any better ideas, and with time pressing and not knowing when the enemy might arrive, they all looked to Wan Baoguang.

"Since none of us want others to profit from our struggles, why not let us be the ones who gain in the end?" Wan Baoguang asked, provoking thoughtful consideration among the crowd.

The man in the bamboo hat and Chen Yu looked at the Yin Corpse Worms inside the hall and seemed to understand Wan Baoguang's plan.

"We can let the Yin Corpse Worms fight with the enemies while we wait in the shadows for the opportunity to strike," Wan Baoguang explained.

"The others aren't fools either," the twin sisters said.

With an Array at the entrance, others would surely guess that there were people inside the ruins.

"But they don't know our exact numbers, do they?"

Wan Baoguang revealed a faint smile.

His plan was simple: send one person to pretend to be chased by the Yin Corpse Worms, leading them to the intruders.

If the enemy was weak, the rest would show themselves and kill them.

If the enemy was strong, they would let the Yin Corpse Worms wear them down before launching a surprise attack.

Once Wan Baoguang laid out this plan, everyone thought it was a good idea. But the key question was, who would lure the Yin Corpse Worms to the others?

Being chased by Yin Corpse Worms was dangerous, and if the enemies were extremely powerful, it was equivalent to a death sentence.

"I suggest that this gentleman, a practitioner of Body Cultivation, takes on this important task as your defensive power and survival capability are stronger, plus you haven't exerted much effort from the beginning. I also propose that, upon successful completion, you take twenty percent of everything inside this hall."

The short man spoke under Wan Baoguang's guidance.

The plan was proposed by Wan Baoguang, so if he were to say all this, it might make people uneasy.

Moreover, the short man's proposal was very enticing—claiming a twenty percent share of the spoils was no small matter.

"Heh, you've really calculated this nicely. If the enemy is too strong and I die, you all still have a sliver of hope," Chen Yu chuckled and declined.

The people present had no solution, after all, the task was rather hazardous.

"I have a special talisman here that, once cast, can grant a cultivator the speed of the Late Guiyuan Realm for the duration of ten breaths. If you agree, this talisman is yours!"

Wan Baoguang pulled out a light cyan talisman, its surface etched with complex and obscure patterns, clearly no ordinary object.

Others' eyes lit up, not expecting Wan Baoguang to possess such a treasure.

But if the enemy was one of the outstanding individuals from the Late Guiyuan Realm, even with such an item, escape would be impossible.

In reality, Wan Baoguang sensed that his Array had been instantly destroyed, proving the enemy's strength was definitely out of the ordinary; otherwise, he wouldn't have taken out the talisman.

The rest also had a vague idea of what might be happening.

"Fine, but regarding the distribution of profits, I want thirty percent."

Chen Yu began to negotiate.

He was confident in his own strength; even if the enemy was strong, he could simply retreat.

If he couldn't escape, that would mean the enemy's abilities were exceptional, and no one present would survive.

"Isn't that a bit too greedy, sir?"

The twin sisters frowned.

One person taking thirty percent—what would be left for the five of them?

"Make a decision quickly, or I won't risk it either," Chen Yu shrugged.

Buzz! Buzz!

Just then, the stability of the Array barrier in front of the gate began to waver, as if it could be breached by the Yin Corpse Worm swarm at any moment.

"I agree."

"I agree too."

Wan Baoguang and the short man spoke up first, followed by the man in the conical bamboo hat, and finally, the twins had no choice but to consent.

"Let's see how lucky you are next, if the enemy is weak, you stand to make a fortune."

Wan Baoguang handed over the talisman to Chen Yu with a smile on his face.

"Heh."

Chen Yu chuckled lightly without further comment.

Next, the others hid on the side while Wan Baoguang controlled the Array flags to dismantle the Array.

Instantly.

Sizzle! Sizzle!

A wave of silver-black Corpse Worms surged towards Chen Yu, who felt his scalp go numb at the sight.

Boom!

Unleashing the "Devilish Evil Frenzy Shadow," Chen Yu whipped up a black tempest and sped straight away.

Chen Yu was the only one in sight as the Yin Corpse Worm horde pursued him.

...

"Be careful, there's a heavy Yin presence here."

One of the foreign tribesmen, whose body was covered with black scales and head smooth and bald like a fish's, spoke softly.

This ruin, drawn by the scent of blood, was discovered by him after a search.

"Heh, Xiao Er, are you too timid? With Elder Kun here, what's there to fear?"

Another tribesman resembling "Xiao Er" spoke up.

His cultivation level was the same as Xiao Er's, at the Early Guiyuan Realm.

The "Elder Kun" he referred to was tall with black tough armor, looking very imposing. However, his tiny eyes shone with a green light, giving him a cunning and ruthless demeanor.

The three aliens looked around and saw clear signs of battle.

"It seems someone has entered before us, let them clear the way."

Elder Kun chuckled confidently, seeming very sure of himself.

Suddenly, a loud boom came from the distance.

"What's going on?"

Xiao Er immediately became alert.

Elder Kun's eyes narrowed into slits as he stared toward the distance.

The next moment, a figure and a swarm of silver-black insects appeared in front of the three.

"Three aliens."

Chen Yu's gaze hardened slightly.

Among the three aliens, the one in the tough armor made Chen Yu sense a trace of danger; he was likely in the Late Guiyuan Realm.

"Gentlemen, save my life; there are treasures ahead that we can share evenly."

Chen Yu approached the three aliens but kept his distance, shouting to them.

"Hmph, humans, die!"

Elder Kun's face turned icy as he hummed disdainfully and suddenly made a move—a terrifying aura spread out, making the other two aliens step back a few paces.

He drew a Trident, swung it fiercely, and concentrated dark water into a sphere, launching it explosively.

Chen Yu screamed, dodging to the distance at full speed, not yet using the talisman.

As the black water sphere descended, Chen Yu immediately activated his Secret Pattern Demon Body, using the Demon Scale Armor.

Boom!

The water sphere exploded, and Chen Yu's body was blasted into the ruins, covered by the rubble.

Elder Kun believed that, as a cultivator in the Late Guiyuan Realm, this move was more than enough to crush his opponent.

"Masterful stroke, Elder Kun."

The alien in the Early Guiyuan Realm Peak complimented.

"Eliminate these insects!"

Elder Kun commanded, charging at the Yin Corpse Worms.

The other two aliens, too, charged forward excitedly, as they heard from Chen Yu that there were treasures ahead.

Amidst the rubble, Chen Yu lay motionless, relying solely on touch and hearing to assess the situation outside.

Chapter 497: Who is the Fisher?

Wan Baoguang and his companions hid in the shadows when they suddenly sensed intense fluctuations of True Yuan.

"Such strong True Yuan fluctuations, it must be the Guiyuan Late Stage!"

The small man with Wan Baoguang's group felt a shudder in his heart.

He was only at the Early Guiyuan Realm, and facing an opponent in the Guiyuan Late Stage would be like child's play for the enemy.

"Moreover, the newcomer is from a different race."

Wan Baoguang said as the strange voice from just now had uttered the words 'human beings,' heavy with the intent to kill; and considering this was the East Sea, the presence of other races was very common.

Another race, Guiyuan Late Stage!

The twin sisters were internally relieved that they had almost lost their composure over the two percent interest, ready to volunteer themselves and snatch away Chen Yu's mission.

They hadn't expected the newcomer to be from another race in the Guiyuan Late Stage. With the hostility between humans and other races, the enemy would definitely not let them go just by seeing them, and even if they had a talisman capable of momentarily bursting with the speed of the Guiyuan Late Stage, escape was not guaranteed.

"With one strike there was no more commotion; that kid must have been killed by someone in the Guiyuan Late Stage."

The elder twin speculated.

"Didn't he even use a talisman?" The younger twin was perplexed.

If he activated a talisman and, considering Chen Yu's Body Cultivation, he shouldn't have been killed in one strike.

"Hehe, he probably thought talismans were too precious, wanting to save them for later use. But now, he no longer has that chance," the small middle-aged man laughed.

To him, Chen Yu seemed the type to be greedy, and such behavior was quite normal.

"What should we do?" the twins asked.

The enemy was at the Guiyuan Late Stage, and not easy to provoke.

"Those Yin Corpse Worms are not ordinary either. We'll observe for a while before acting."

Wan Baoguang was more composed, probably having some life-saving measures.

He had observed the palace earlier and noticed that the top was actually cracked. It was precisely because of this that the Yin Corpse Worms were attracted and entered the palace.

Inside the palace, the Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi was rich, and through the crack, the Yin Corpse Worms could also absorb outside Yin Sha Qi.

In such an environment, the worms grew stronger and more powerful in combat.

This is why when the twin sisters first entered the hall, they looked shocked, because there were an extremely high number of Yin Corpse Worms, and their presence was strong.

As a seasoned treasure hunter, Wan Baoguang easily stabilized the army's morale; the others didn't act and stayed in the area for the time being.

The people present were mostly Loose Cultivators, desperately needing resources, and unwilling to abandon the Million Primordial Stones.

After some time passed.

"There's a total of three, the other two have weaker auras, likely in the Early Guiyuan Realm," Wan Baoguang surmised.

Their gazes flickered as they began to analyze the gap in strength between the two sides.

Normally, three well-coordinated Middle Stage of the Guiyuan Realm could contend with a Late Guiyuan Realm individual.

Furthermore, that Late Guiyuan Realm individual was currently battling a swarm of Yin Corpse Worms. Considering this, an ambush by three Guiyuan Realm cultivators at the same time even had a chance for victory.

However, there were now only five of them left; the twin sisters, when combined, were equivalent to a Middle Stage of Guiyuan Realm combatant, and adding Wan Baoguang, they had the strength of just two at that level.

Right at this moment!

Screech! Screech!

A sharp and piercing scream emitted from the sea of worms.

"It's the Worm King; it's about to show its might. If we use the king's counterattack, our chances of turning the situation around increase significantly!"

Wan Baoguang transmitted his voice to everyone, urgent and causing their hearts to pound.

"But it seems we don't have much chance of winning."

The twins and the small man were all wary.

They only had the strength of two Middle Stage Guiyuan Realm warriors.

"Do you still plan on hiding your strength, sir?"

Wan Baoguang looked toward the man in the conical hat.

The other three all turned to look, as the man in the conical hat had been acting quite uniquely along the way, inscrutable.

"Just consider me one more Middle Stage Guiyuan Realm strength," the man in the conical hat transmitted.

...

Elsewhere, three members of another race were fighting amidst the swarm of Yin Corpse Worms, the ground littered with worm corpses.

Boom!

Elder Kun waved his Trident, and three streams of black water jetted out, hitting hundreds of Yin Corpse Worms.

The other two Early Guiyuan Realm members were in a rather pitiable state, retreating constantly, leaving Elder Kun to bear more of the worm attacks.

Among the swarm of Yin Corpse Worms, one that was three times bigger than the others with gray luminescence flickering in its eyes, exuded amazing Yin Sha Qi all over its body.

Under the Worm King's command, the coordination of the Yin Corpse Worms improved, organizing their formations to strike at Elder Kun.

In this battle, Elder Kun had killed the most Yin Corpse Worms and became the primary target of the Worm King.

Boom!

Numerous Yin Corpse Worms combined together, formed a silver-black ribbon, and rolled towards Elder Kun, launching attacks from all sides.

"Scram!"

Elder Kun placed his Trident horizontally, and a wave of black water spread out, blasting in all directions.

Immediately, countless Yin Corpse Worms were shocked away or killed, but some still advanced toward Elder Kun.

From behind, the Worm King suddenly launched an attack, opening its fang-filled mouth and spewed out a gray, deathly mist.

Whoosh!

Elder Kun swung his Trident, repelling the Yin Corpse Worms and at the same time, the end of the Trident collided with the gray mist.

Pop!

The gray, deathly mist was blown apart and scattered, sending a wave of Yin Sha Qi towards Elder Kun.

Feeling a hidden trick within the move, Elder Kun waved his arm, dispersing his True Yuan.

Still, plenty of Yin Qi infiltrated his body, causing him discomfort.

"Seeking death."

Elder Kun's face showed a ruthless expression as he swung his Trident, launching a fierce attack on the Worm King.

At that moment, a series of True Yuan fluctuations came from the other side.

"Kill!"

Wan Baoguang uttered a low shout, leading the others in a charge, moving at an incredibly fast pace.

He opened his mouth, and although no sound came out, a layer of distorted sound waves blasted forth.

The twin sisters' Sword Intent grew even stronger, and they simultaneously thrust out their Water and Fire Swords. The two beams of light seemed to merge, radiating an even more powerful aura.

The man with the conical hat also exhibited a completely different aura than before, as he wielded an ancient blue sword with continuous strikes and slices.

At this moment, everyone could feel the Genuine Yuan fluctuations at the Middle Stage of Guiyuan Realm emanating from the man with the conical hat.

"He's been hiding his cultivation level," everyone realized.

Although they all thought the man with the conical hat had hidden his strength too deeply, they needed his power at the moment and thus did not mind it.

"There are actually humans lying in ambush here!"

Elder Kun was extremely surprised.

He had thought that Chen Yu had fled alone and that there was no one else but Chen Yu at this place.

Now, with enemies on both sides, Elder Kun had no better strategy than to commit all his efforts to the fight.

Boom! The sound of the explosion shook the heavens and earth, making the entire ruin tremble slightly.

Not far away, Chen Yu still lay quietly amidst the rubble.

"The battle has finally begun..." Chen Yu thought to himself.

Although lying down was quite comfortable, being buried was another matter. He hoped these two forces would start fighting soon and end the battle quickly.

Once Chen Yu knew the strength of the enemy, he was certain that Wan Baoguang and the others would take a risk.

Furthermore, he always felt that the man with the conical hat was very strong, possibly the strongest among them, which meant Wan Baoguang and the others had a fighting chance.

In fact, Chen Yu was willing to join them in confronting the enemy.

However, Wan Baoguang had schemed against Chen Yu, sending him to do such a dangerous task and to assess the enemy's true combat power, which irritated Chen Yu.

Therefore, he decided to just watch the drama unfold from the sidelines and not bother with them.

Regardless of the outcome, the victorious side would surely be severely injured, and by that time, even if it was the Guiyuan Late Stage, Chen Yu would be able to fight it.

"You despicable and shameless humans, how dare you ambush me."

Elder Kun roared.

He was attacked from both sides and unable to pay attention to both fronts while facing powerful enemies, which caused him to get injured.

"Kill."

Wan Baoguang's body shimmered with golden light, each of his palms delivering far greater power than before.

The twin sisters, having used some secret technique, unleashed an even greater combat strength.

And the man with the conical hat was even more impressive—his swordplay was as swift as the wind, creating countless blue sword glows around Elder Kun, dazzling to the witnesses.

The trio aimed to repel or even severely injure Elder Kun, so they used all their means without reservation.

Thanks to the initial surprise attack, the three fighters injured Elder Kun and gained an advantage, and together with the aid of the Corpse Worm King, their battle was almost equivalent to four Middle Stage Guiyuan Realm cultivators besieging the wounded Elder Kun.

"Mixed Element Kill!"

Elder Kun's body surged with black Genuine Yuan, which he poured into his Trident, unleashing a powerful killing move.

Black violent streams swirled around him, their destructive forces astonishing, obliterating nearly a hundred Yin Corpse Worms in an instant.

The three, temporarily pushed back by the Guiyuan Late Stage, knew that by retreating they would likely give Elder Kun a chance to catch his breath.

"Sword Soul Strike!"

The man with the conical hat's eyes flickered with traces of blue ethereal sword shadows.

Whoosh!

A streak of ethereal blue sword shadow, imbued with sharp Sword Intent, rushed forward furiously.

This was a spiritual Sword Intent attack!

The twin sisters could also execute it, but their spirits were weaker, and their Sword Intent was not high, rendering it ineffective.

"Damn it..."

Elder Kun stumbled and cursed involuntarily.

The spiritual Sword Intent attack was so fierce and swift that he couldn't defend in time.

Boom, boom...

The group once again charged forward to kill.

This was their final opportunity, and they were even willing to pay certain costs, utilizing all methods at their disposal.

Ultimately, Elder Kun was gravely injured, his combat strength diminished, and he was forced to retreat.

"Curse you, wait and see..."

Elder Kun wiped the blood from the corner of his mouth and roared before he chose to withdraw.

As someone in the Guiyuan Late Stage, to be severely injured by those in the middle phase was a complete loss of face.

But he had no choice; the sudden ambush had injured him, and with the Corpse Worm King's ferocity and the man with the conical hat's might, he stood alone, unable to fight against many. His companions, two in the Early Guiyuan Realm, were restrained by the Yin Corpse Worms and couldn't assist him.

"Heh, this is truly a case of the bystander reaping the rewards," the twin sisters smirked, thinking that Wan Baoguang's scheme wasn't bad.

Under normal circumstances, they would never dare clash with someone in the Guiyuan Late Stage.

As Elder Kun and his two companions withdrew, one of the Early Guiyuan Realm cultivators had an idea and approached Chen Yu's location, blasting away the ruins.

"A storage bag..."

His gaze fell on Chen Yu's body, on the storage bag.

Having obtained this storage bag, the trip wouldn't be a loss.

But suddenly, Chen Yu, who had been lying down, burst forth, fiercely stabbing towards the Guiyuan Realm cultivator with the Giant Ruler Sword.

"You... aren't dead?" The cultivator from a different race widened his eyes, startled by Chen Yu's feigned death.

Thud!

The huge sword struck his abdomen, causing him to spit out blood.

Chen Yu continued his relentless advance, the massive sword pressing against the opponent as he flew upward, striking against the rocks and forcing him to spit out another mouthful of blood.

"Die."

Chen Yu punched like thunder, aiming for the foreigner's head.

Bang! Bang!

He unleashed his full strength with two punches, smashing a dent into the opponent's face and causing blood to spurt out.

Caught off-guard, the Early Guiyuan Realm cultivator fell to Chen Yu's sudden attack!

At the same time, Chen Yu confiscated the storage bag from his body.

"You're not dead?" Elder Kun was struck with realization.

"Is this kid pretending to be dead?"

Even Wan Baoguang and his party were stunned.

They had fought desperately, risking their lives against the Guiyuan Late Stage, and just when the battle ended, Chen Yu bounced back out. Who was really the fisherman reaping the rewards?

Chapter 498: Profit Distribution

Among the astonished and disdainful gazes of the crowd, Chen Yu cleared his throat, "I indeed did not die, I was just unconscious..."

Wan Baoguang and the others naturally did not believe his words, and now they finally realized that Chen Yu was not as simple as he appeared on the surface, he had concealed some strength.

"Damn it, these people are in cahoots, I've been duped."

Elder Kun also came to a realization in an instant.

"Let's go."

Elder Kun commanded in a low voice, retreating with the waiter.

Wan Baoguang and the others did not give chase, as, after all, the enemy was in the Late Guiyuan Realm, fighting to the death would not end well for anyone.

Instead, the Yin Corpse Worm horde gave chase.

Although Wan Baoguang and his group were the first to break in, they only killed a few hundred worms, but Elder Kun had killed tens of thousands, and the Worm King regarded him as a mortal enemy.

"Damn it, these worms are stubbornly chasing us."

Seeing that the Yin Corpse Worm horde had followed, Elder Kun could not help but curse.

If the Yin Corpse Worm horde went after Wan Baoguang and the others, it would delay them for a while, and Elder Kun could go out for reinforcements, then return for revenge.

"Let's go."

Wan Baoguang and his group quickly retreated, returning to the treasure hall.

With the Late Guiyuan Realm opponent driven away, and the Yin Corpse Worms gone too, they could divide the spoils directly.

Inside the hall, there were three small piles of treasure. The middle pile was Primordial Stones, the left contained precious ores and gems, and the right one various rare materials.

However, these rare materials had been stored for too long and had all rotted away, leaving only the ores and Primordial Stones.

In a short while, Wan Baoguang had deciphered all the Array's enchantments.

The rich Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi and the brilliance of multiple colors filled the entire hall, making everyone's heart race.

"Quickly count, see how much there is?"

The short man's eyes shone bright, he had never seen so many Primordial Stones in his lifetime.

"With so many resources, my sister and I hardly need to toil for the next ten years."

The twin sisters were quite satisfied.

"Ladies and gentlemen, let's divide the treasure equally as we previously agreed,"

Chen Yu spoke indifferently.

Immediately, the hall fell silent, as obviously, no one wanted to keep their promise.

Especially since they had just learned Chen Yu had feigned death, letting them do the fighting before he appeared. This annoyed them greatly.

"Sir, you feigned death just now, letting us fight in the front line, and now you want to take thirty percent?"

The twin sisters asked.

The more Chen Yu would take, the less they would get; if there was a reason, they would naturally fight for their interests.

"You all only required me to lead the Yin Corpse Worms to the enemy before, there were no stipulations regarding my participation in the battle afterward, right?"

Chen Yu revealed a faint smile, retorting.

Wan Baoguang's expression grew grave. Under normal circumstances, he would step forward to honor the agreement, as this would allow the team to stick together.

But with Elder Kun escaped, it wouldn't be long before he returned with reinforcements. Their time exploring the ruin was limited, and they might not gain anything further.

In such a case, if he were to still honor the agreement and give Chen Yu thirty percent, that would be foolish.

However, as an experienced treasure hunter, his reputation mattered. Without it, he'd struggle to form teams in the future, so he chose to remain silent first.

"In a team, rewards have to be divided based on how much effort was expended. You feigned death and did nothing, so thirty percent is out of the question, at most we can give you twenty percent."

The twin sisters refused to back down.

The short man also joined their side, presenting a united front with the twin sisters.

As for the man with the conical hat, he stood aside, appearing indifferent to the matter.

"Heh, I'll take my thirty percent, whether you agree or not."

Chen Yu chuckled and walked towards the Primordial Stone pile, unwilling to argue further. This action made the others tense.

Under such circumstances, Chen Yu daringly went to take the Primordial Stones. Was he not afraid of provoking dissatisfaction among the many people present?

Furthermore, Chen Yu's words were very domineering; he was going to take his thirty percent whether they agreed or not!

As the leader, Wan Baoguang could not initiate a confrontation with Chen Yu. The short man was only in the Early Guiyuan Realm and still feared Chen Yu.

"Humph, we haven't come to an agreement yet, and you're already pocketing the treasure, that might not be appropriate!"

One of the twin sisters, the younger one, her expression cold, thrust a blue glowing water sword shadow at Chen Yu's arm.

Since the sisters were inseparable, the older one also feared her sister would be at a disadvantage against Chen Yu alone, and she too made her move, releasing a dazzling flame.

"Seeking death."

Chen Yu shouted, his body gleamed with demonic light, and the Demon Pattern True Essence burst forth.

With a swish of his pitch-black claw, he powerfully struck out.

At this moment, Chen Yu's Secret Pattern Demon Body and Demon Pattern True Essence fully erupted.

Boom!

A powerful and dark demonic claw swept out, clashing with the sisters' sword moves, shattering them.

"What?"

The twins were surprised. Chen Yu's True Essence was clearly at the Early Guiyuan Realm Peak level, and its strength was even more formidable than that of the older sister.

The man with the conical hat's expression changed slightly, taking another look at Chen Yu, "This man's True Essence is extraordinary."

"Your strength is remarkable indeed, no wonder even the alien from the Late Guiyuan Realm couldn't take you down."

At this point, Wan Baoguang stepped forward, "We agreed beforehand, Sir gets thirty percent, and I hope everyone will honor their word. Also, I hope that if we encounter danger next time, you will not hide but will contribute."

Wan Baoguang's words carried a reprimand but also praised Chen Yu's strength. This made Chen Yu and the twin sisters feel somewhat appeased, somewhat smoothing things over.

But in reality, all of this was obtained by Chen Yu through his strength.

Because of weakness, one is deceived; because of strength, one can take what they deserve.

If it were the man with the conical hat to take thirty percent, surely the twin sisters would not dare to say much.

"No problem."

Chen Yu agreed without hesitation, and in a short time, he took his thirty percent of the Primordial Stones.

The total number of Primordial Stones here was one million two hundred thousand, and Chen Yu alone received three hundred sixty thousand.

The remaining eight hundred forty thousand were divided among the other five.

Next came the division of ores, which took more time as they were distributed based on their value.

"Demon Plate Stone, Seven Star Ore."

Chen Yu's Spiritual Sense scanned the pile, finding two items that he needed.

"This exploration of the ruins has indeed been fruitful. With the Demon Plate Stone and Seven Star Ore, along with the Black Light Stone I acquired earlier, I have now collected three types, enough to craft a lower-grade top Spiritual Artifact."

Chen Yu thought to himself.

"I'll take these!"

Chen Yu casually picked some items and put the Demon Plate Stone and Seven Star Ore into his bag.

Before long, all the items inside the treasure hall were divided among the six people.

"What's next for us..."

The twin sisters hesitated to ask.

Having gained so much, they were somewhat reluctant to leave. After all, the exploration of this relic had just begun, and who knows, there might be even more precious treasures elsewhere.

However, that Late Guiyuan Realm being from another race had escaped and would undoubtedly return, and by then, it would probably be more dangerous than lucky.

The others also frowned and pondered.

"The Yin Corpse Worm swarm chased them away, and their return won't be so swift. Let's explore for the time of half a cup of tea, and, regardless of what we find, we'll leave immediately. How does that sound?"

Wan Baoguang proposed with an inquiring tone.

"Alright."

The short man was the first to agree, trusting Wan Baoguang's judgment in this matter.

"Fine, half a cup of tea."

After pondering for a moment, the twin sisters agreed.

This time, gaining the Primordial Stone and ores was all thanks to Wan Baoguang's clever plan, so they were more inclined to trust his calculations.

"In that case, let's make it quick."

Chen Yu had originally wanted to leave, since he already got the ores he needed, but since the others chose to continue exploring for half a cup of tea, he stayed as well.

He believed that when it came to the ability to survive, none of the people present could compare to him.

"Let's go."

The group left the treasure hall and continued to delve deeper.

...

On the other side.

Above the East Sea, several shadows hovered, all of them strong Qi Transformation Innate beings.

Meanwhile, at the bottom of the sea, five members of the Guiyuan Realm seemed to be searching for something.

"There's an entrance here."

An elder immediately sent a message to the others.

Whoosh!

As soon as Ren Bing received the message, he rushed over.

These people were all members of the Black Prison Alliance. After some investigation, they confirmed that Chen Yu and his team had come to the sea.

The exact direction was unclear, but they had narrowed it down to a certain area.

Ren Bing knew that Chen Yu and the others were here for exploration, so the probability of the sea ruins being their destination was extremely high.

Now that he had searched and indeed found some clues.

Before long, the five Guiyuan Realm members gathered at the entrance.

"Elder Ren, are we going to barge in directly, or do we wait here and catch them when they come out?"

A black-robed elder asked. He was the Sect Master of a major sect in Donglin Prefecture with a cultivation at the peak of the Middle Stage of the Guiyuan Realm, having the second most authority in this group next to Elder Ren.

To barge in would likely alert the enemy.

But waiting here, what if the ruins had other exits?

Just then, unusual fluctuations emanated from inside the entrance.

"Could it be... has that kid Chen Yu finished his exploration and is coming out?"

Ren Bing held his breath, his hands trembling slightly with excitement; he could finally kill Chen Yu.

...

"Stay here, Junior Two. I'll go back to the 'Sea Demon Hall' and call for reinforcements. We'll make them pay a heavy price."

Elder Kun instructed.

Nearby the East Sea, there was a large otherworldly force known as the Sea Demon Hall; all three of the other races belonged to it.

"Stay here?"

Junior Two was somewhat fearful. After all, being at the Early Guiyuan Realm, he would certainly face death if he encountered those humans.

"I'm not asking you to go fight. Just hide nearby."

Elder Kun coldly snorted.

As Kun Elder was about to leave the cave, he sensed that something was amiss.

At that moment, several figures appeared at the entrance with a formidable presence. Without saying a word, they attacked in unison.

Bang Boom!

The entire coral reef entrance burst apart. Junior Two died tragically under the combined attack of Elder Ren and the others, and Elder Kun was gravely injured.

"Damn, there was an ambush outside..."

Elder Kun felt extremely depressed in his heart.

Inside the relic, he was sneak attacked by humans, and just as he left the relic, he encountered another ambush by humans.

"It's not Chen Yu..."

Elder Ren was somewhat disappointed.

The others looked at each other, seemingly having made a mistake, but since the target was an otherworldly being, they felt justified.

Elder Kun was filled with indignation, his True Yuan boiling inside, seemingly preparing to fight with all his might to break out a path to survival.

"Hold on, if you answer a few of our questions, you may leave."

Ren Bing spoke up.

Elder Kun's gaze flickered. Normally, he would never trust the words of humans.

But now, suffering from serious injuries and the enemy being so powerful, he had no confidence in breaking out and thus clung onto a sliver of hope.

"What did you encounter inside the relic?"

Ren Bing asked calmly.

"Inside the relic, everything is in ruins. We encountered a swarm of Yin Corpse Worms and were attacked by humans..."

Elder Kun's expression was cold, and a flash of murderous intent passed through his eyes as he recounted.

"Oh? How many people, and what did they look like?"

Ren Bing's eyes brightened.

"There were a total of six people, a blond middle-aged man, a man wearing a bamboo hat, a pair of sisters, a small dwarf, and a person in black,"

Elder Kun reported truthfully.

Ren Bing's eyes gleamed even brighter, and he couldn't help but reveal an excited and ferocious smile on his face.

He was now certain that the six people the otherworldly being spoke of were Chen Yu's team.

"Kill him."

Suddenly, he grunted lowly and abruptly made his move, sending out a deep and dark demonic sphere.

The four other Guiyuan Realm beings also launched their attacks simultaneously, besieging Elder Kun.

Chapter 499: Evil Yin Tower

Within the relic, after leaving the treasure hall, Wan Baoguang and his companions ventured further.

Along the way, the group encountered several Evil Ghosts, but the six of them easily dealt with them.

The battle they had just had with adversaries in the Late Guiyuan Realm Peak had pretty much put their true strength on display, so there was no longer any need to conceal it.

The only one still shrouded in a layer of fog, it seemed, was Chen Yu.

When Chen Yu had made his move to break the twins' attack, everyone felt that he was not simple, but they were unable to discern the extent of his true strength and remaining cards.

After a while, a towering, majestic, and solemn tower emerged before them.

This tower was preserved even better than the previous dark-gold palace, looking almost undamaged except for being coated in thick dust.

On the gateway at the entrance, three large characters were inscribed—Evil Yin Tower.

"Evil Yin Tower? If I remember correctly, the Yinluo Sect once had two Late Stage Guiyuan Realm Peak masters, one of whom was known as the 'Evil Yin Ancestor'!"

Wan Baoguang slightly closed his eyes, murmuring to himself softly.

Such information was generally unknown to the public, remembered only by treasure hunters like Wan Baoguang who held historical intelligence close to their hearts.

"Could this be the dwelling place where the Evil Yin Ancestor once cultivated?" guessed the short man.

The likelihood was great, and this notion was met with agreement from the rest.

"There must be many treasures inside. After all, the Evil Yin Ancestor was one of the strongest in the Yinluo Sect. He certainly must have collected many treasures," the twin sisters reflected upon Wan Baoguang's mention, getting somewhat excited.

"Whether it's the Evil Yin Ancestor's dwelling is not clear, but this Evil Yin Tower, with such heavy Evil Qi, is very unusual. Even if it was his residence, it doesn't guarantee that there aren't dangers or traps inside," Chen Yu said indifferently, his mysterious heart sensing the heavy Yin Qi here and feeling an ominous premonition.

"What you say is true. If there are dangers or traps, it will surely take some effort," Wan Baoguang's smile faded, and he began to ponder hesitantly.

At this moment, they had found another treasure site, but the unknown ahead might bring endless crises, requiring a lot of time. By the time Elder Kun led others here, they would be trapped with no escape, merely awaiting death.

However, having just reaped significant benefits, everyone was convinced there were more treasures to be found here. Discovering this tower, they carried that idea in their hearts, finding it hard to let go.

"There's still a bit of time before half an incense stick burns out, so why don't we go in and have a look? If there's difficulty, we won't explore anymore," suggested the twin sisters.

"Let's just take a look," the short middle-aged man also wanted to take a peek.

"Alright," Wan Baoguang made his decision.

It was fine to just have a look. Chen Yu and the man with the bamboo hat also thought it was no big deal.

The tower door was without restrictions; it could simply be pushed open and entered.

The moment the group stepped inside, they felt an intense chill of Yin Qi envelop them.

The tower's interior was pitch-black and haunting, but being in the Guiyuan Realm, everyone could see clearly the immediate surroundings, even in the darkness of night.

"Nothing at all?" muttered the twins.

The first floor of the Evil Yin Tower was utterly empty, devoid of anything.

Then, as everyone moved to the second floor, the chill deepened, their bodies unconsciously shivering.

The second floor, still, was completely empty.

The group continued upwards without any hindrance and quickly reached the eighth floor.

"What kind of godforsaken place is this? It can't be completely empty," cursed the short man.

The group braced themselves mentally and stormed into the Evil Yin Tower, only to see not a single treasure or encounter any enemy or obstacle, which bored them considerably.

"The last floor. If there's still nothing, we'll retreat," Wan Baoguang said with composure.

Relatively speaking, this exploration had not yielded much. After all, there might still be other treasures hidden in the relic, but they were out of time and had to leave.

The door to the ninth floor was sealed, covered with ancient array patterns that were intricate and interlaced, with eighteen indentations on it.

"Do we need to activate an Array to open this door?" Wan Baoguang wondered.

"That means there must be treasures inside," the twin sisters got somewhat excited.

After all, there were no obstacles in the first eight floors, with unimpeded access, the only exception being this ninth floor, which required the activation of an Array to open.

"Let's try," Wan Baoguang took out eighteen Grade Essence Stones and set them into the indentations.

Having reached the Guiyuan Realm, any Array left behind was certainly not something that could be activated by mere low-quality Primordial Stones.

Wan Baoguang chose to personally utilize eighteen Grade Essence Stones, so if they discovered treasures inside, he would have a reason to claim the larger share.

As the Grade Essence Stones were embedded, the array patterns on the stone door slowly lit up.

Boom!

The stone door opened, and a gust of chilly Yin Qi struck everyone, causing them all to shudder as their very flesh felt attacked by the infiltrating Yin Qi.

The ninth floor was unlike the previous eight, with some simple furnishings.

But that wasn't the main attraction; everyone's gaze was drawn to the skeleton sitting cross-legged at the center.

The skeletal remains were eerily still, yet surrounded by astounding Yin Sha Qi.

"Could this person be the Evil Yin Old Taoist?" Everyone entered with curiosity.

If the Evil Yin Old Taoist had died here, perhaps they would find something valuable.

"Dead for so long, yet the corpse still emits such a strong aura. Could it be that the Evil Yin Ancestor was about to break through to the Sky Sea Realm before his death?"

The twin sisters approached the skeletal frame, feeling overwhelmed by the trace of Evil Qi.

But suddenly, the skeletal frame cracked with a "crack," turning into gray dust that dispersed into nothingness.

However, a black-gray fog appeared on the spot, exuding a heart-stopping Evil Qi. The twin sisters' bones chilled, their faces turned deathly pale, and they felt an unprecedented crisis.

"What's going on?"

Everyone couldn't help asking, looking over.

Just then, the door to the ninth level closed with a "boom."

At the same time, complex Array patterns began to flicker around the ninth level, and a tremendous force swirled around.

Outside the Evil Yin Tower, Yin Sha Qi gathered and poured continuously into the ninth level.

Suddenly, within this layer of space, a hoarse and chilling laugh echoed: "Hehehe, dreaming of taking the treasures of the Yinluo Sect? Die here, all of you!"

Everyone's spirits shuddered, thinking that perhaps the Evil Yin Ancestor was not dead after all.

But that was absolutely impossible; everyone present was from the Guiyuan Realm with broad experiences; they could guess that this was a special sound trap, probably set within the Array. Once the Array was activated, the sound would be emitted.

"Not good, we've been tricked, this is a trap set by the Evil Yin Ancestor, probably meant for the enemies of the Yinluo Sect."

Wan Baoguang, as an elder, guessed something from that sentence.

Perhaps, when the Yinluo Sect was destroyed, the Evil Yin Ancestor, harboring feelings of unwillingness, set up this trap in his residence to kill those enemies looting the treasures.

Whoosh!

The gray-black fog in front of the twin sisters moved suddenly, rushed at the sisters, and entered their bodies.

Inside the tower, the twins' screams rang out.

Everyone looked on, feeling a chill down to their bones.

"Invaded by evil energy, this must be the 'Yin Evil Essence Qi' left by the Evil Yin Old Taoist, containing his angry and unwilling obsessions. I fear that the twins will no longer be themselves."

Wan Baoguang looked grave.

As he expected, the twins' screaming slowly stopped, and they suddenly looked up with pale faces, their eyes gray-black, lifeless, and their bodies emanated Yin Sha Qi.

"Die, all must die!"

The two shouted simultaneously, their voices overlapping, sounding even more terrifying.

Hiss!

The red-clothed sister among the twins rushed at the man with the conical bamboo hat, thrusting a column of black flame sword Qi.

Boom!

The man in the conical hat swept out a burst of green wind sword light, which, upon collision, was instantly pierced through by the black sword column.

Realizing the danger, the man waved his sword, deploying Sword Qi for protection.

"Her strength has increased."

The man, at the Middle Stage of Guiyuan Realm, was repelled by the red-clothed sister, who was at the Early Guiyuan Realm Peak.

The blue-clothed sister charged towards the short man.

Hiss!

She too thrust her sword, with a shadow of black watery light streaking out.

The short man, only at the Early Guiyuan Realm, felt the mightiness of this strike, beyond his ability to block, and immediately took out a copper Token, activating it to extend an ancient bronze light shield.

Boom!

The sword shadow swept across, collided with the ancient bronze light shield, and after a moment of deadlock, it sliced the shield into two.

The blue-clothed sister struck again with her sword, and the short man, out of moves, was bisected by the sword shadow, dying a gruesome death.

"The influence of the Yin Evil Qi has improved their strength."

Wan Baoguang stated immediately.

Moreover, due to the Array, the Yin Sha Qi on this ninth level was becoming denser, and the strength of those two would continue to rise.

Boom!

Chen Yu hurled a sword attack at the main door, but found it unmoved, his power shared by the entire Array.

"We can't get out..." said Chen Yu.

Furthermore, the Array was carved into the walls, integrated with the architecture, and even Chen Yu's mysterious and ancient Token was ineffective.

Wan Baoguang's face showed embarrassment; the ruins were too old, and the Primordial Stones within the Array had long been depleted. The Array was actually powered by those eighteen Grade Essence Stones he had just now.

This was not his fault; it was all the ploy of the Evil Yin Old Taoist.

"Please, assist me in killing her immediately. Otherwise, under the influence of this Array, the strength of these two sisters will continue to grow."

Wan Baoguang called out to Chen Yu.

Whoosh!

Chen Yu returned, swinging the Giant Ruler Sword to unleash a fierce black sword surge.

The blue-clothed sister, originally weaker, was more easily dealt with.

Outside the ruins.

The clash of six Guiyuan Realm warriors was magnificent, making the underground sea waves churn, alarming all around.

Ren Bing extended his arm, morphing it into a glowing black claw, clutching Elder Kun's already lifeless body.

Together, the five of them made short work of the severely wounded Elder Kun.

"Let's go, inside."

Ren Bing didn't want to wait any longer.

He also worried that the commotion of the battle had alerted the people inside the ruins.

"Everyone else does not matter, but Chen Yu must die."

Ren Bing issued a reminder.

Swoosh—

The group of five blasted through the debris and entered the cave.

Chapter 500: Fierce Battle Inside the Tower

Inside the Evil Yin Tower.

Chen Yu and Wan Baoguang joined forces in a strike, sending the blue-clothed sister flying. Her delicate body crashed against the Array, spewing a mouthful of fresh blood.

For a moment, her eyes regained a hint of luster and she appeared to struggle, but then returned to her original state, becoming icy and deathly pale.

The surrounding Array constantly operated, gathering the massive Yin Sha Qi from within the relic, suppressing enemies and simultaneously enhancing the twins' strength.

On the other side, the man in a bamboo hat was engaged in fierce combat with the twin in red. The battle was extremely intense.

Blue sword shadows and black flame Sword Qi columns shuttled back and forth between the two, emitting a series of sounds.

The man in the bamboo hat's expression was solemn. The red-clothed sister's strength was growing stronger and stronger, already far surpassing the Middle Stage of Guiyuan Realm. Using his normal strength, he couldn't defeat her.

Moreover, like a corpse, the red-clothed sister knew no pain, her attacks were fierce, and the overwhelming Yin Sha Qi bore down. If the man in the bamboo hat, being a Sword Cultivator, hadn't had a strong will, it's feared that his resolve would already be shaken.

"We can't continue this; otherwise, who knows how much stronger this woman will become."

The man in the bamboo hat made up his mind.

Sudden Wind Killer Sword!

The man in the bamboo hat pointed his sword upwards, where the blue Sword Qi continuously spiraled and condensed, his Sword Intent astonishing.

Although the red-clothed sister's mind was invaded by the evil qi, she still retained some consciousness and felt the strength of this strike. She immediately executed Sword Qi defense.

Boom!

With a vigorous wave from the man in the bamboo hat, an immense blue sword light formed like the wind, suddenly rushing out and descending upon the red-clothed sister like thunder.

Hiss-

The red-clothed sister's Sword Qi defense was shredded and torn, her red garments cut with nearly a hundred tiny incisions, fraying badly and revealing a glimpse of spring, with her fair skin also showing traces of blood.

She staggered backward dozens of steps, not feeling any pain, without a scream, just staring intently at the man in the bamboo hat.

"Sudden Wind Killer Sword, could he be 'Jiang Chen' known as 'Gale Swordman'?"

Wan Baoguang's eyes flickered slightly, glancing at the man under the bamboo hat.

He had suspected it earlier, and with the man's use of this technique, he was even more certain of his identity.

Gale Swordman Jiang Chen, the strongest sword wielder from Sky Sword Academy in the penultimate Academy's grand contest!

His sword was incredibly fast, and he had a deadly technique called Sudden Wind Sword Kill, swift and powerful, catching people off guard.

Wan Baoguang felt that the move the man under the bamboo hat just executed would make even the Peak of Middle Stage Guiyuan Realm take notice.

If the red-clothed sister weren't so greatly enhanced in strength and oblivious to life and death, feeling no pain, that single sword strike from the man would have been enough to defeat her.

While Wan Baoguang was distracted, the blue-clothed sister, who had been repeatedly driven back and only able to passively defend, suddenly spoke, "Wait, wait..."

"Could it be that the influence of the Yin evil qi is about to dissipate?"

Wan Baoguang stopped his hand, and Chen Yu also didn't continue his attack.

This relic's existence was unknown for how long, and the "Yin Evil Essence Qi" left by Evil Yin Ancestor was certainly not as potent as in the beginning. Those invaded still had a chance to become clear-headed.

They did not wish to be enemies with the twins, after all, they needed to quickly leave the Evil Yin Tower, to leave this relic.

"Ah..."

The blue-clothed sister struggled, letting out a low, pained hum.

After a while, she raised her head again, her gaze no longer as dim and silent as before.

"You've finally come to your senses," Wan Baoguang said with a smile.

"Sister!"

The blue-clothed sister didn't respond to Wan Baoguang but turned to call out to the red-clothed sister, her voice containing a strong mental impact, entering the red-clothed sister's mind, causing her to seem as if shocked. She squinted her eyes tightly, and when they opened again, the homicidal intent on her face had lessened.

Wan Baoguang, Chen Yu, and the man in the bamboo hat saw that the sisters seemed to have regained their consciousness and let out a sigh of relief.

Now, they couldn't stay here any longer; they had to find a way to leave, not wanting to waste time on meaningless fights.

However, the subsequent actions of the twin sisters gave the three men another bad premonition.

Swoosh! Swoosh!

Two figures leaped to where the skeletal frame was before, and their palms struck downwards.

Bang!

The brick and stone below them quivered, and a four-foot long and wide stone rose up, revealing cracks on its surface, then suddenly burst apart.

Upon the opening of the stone, several items hidden inside were revealed: a slender grey bone sword, a black horsetail whisk, a secret manual, and three oddly-shaped rare stones.

"This... must be the private stash of Evil Yin Ancestor."

Wan Baoguang's heart pounded heavily.

However, they were far from there, and slower than the twin sisters.

The red-clothed sister reached for the slender grey bone sword, and the blue-clothed sister grasped the horsetail whisk in her hands.

Then, they reached for the other items.

On the other side, Wan Baoguang, the man in the bamboo hat, and Chen Yu, all burst forth with all their might to approach.

These items were definitely the private stash of Evil Yin Ancestor!

The stash of a Late Stage Guiyuan Realm Peak would surely be nothing less than extraordinary.

Boom!

Chen Yu swung the Giant Ruler Sword with all his might, unleashing a violent surge of black Sword Qi.

The man in the bamboo hat was incredibly fast, sweeping up a trail of blue Sword Qi, surging towards the twin sisters.

Wan Baoguang clenched his fists and struck out a mighty golden light column.

The twin sisters, one wielding the horsetail whisk and the other brandishing the bone sword, displayed combat power even stronger than before, contending with the three men.

However, Wan Baoguang, Chen Yu, and the man in the bamboo hat all went all out and held the advantage, driving the twins back.

The man in the bamboo hat, being the fastest, took the secret manual.

Chen Yu grabbed two of the stones, one a silver-grey that resembled both stone and jade. The other black stone, rough and uneven, gave off a hint of sparks when lightly rubbed.

And Wan Baoguang claimed the third stone.

"These items are all ours, hand them over," the blue-clothed sister said, her face fierce as she snarled.

"If you don't give them over, then all of you can go die," the red-clothed sister, wielding a bone sword, was surrounded by a layer of gray-black Yin Sha Qi, with a more powerful aura than before.

"Weren't we supposed to distribute the treasures we found equally? How dare you want to monopolize everything?"

Chen Yu's expression darkened.

"Ha ha ha, we sisters found this place, naturally everything here is ours. What does that have to do with all of you?" The red-clothed sister laughed loudly. The coquettish woman of before now revealed a vile and wanton demeanour, like a stunningly beautiful female demon.

"There's no need to waste words with them anymore. Even though these two have regained consciousness, their minds have been tainted and twisted, completely falling into the path of evil. The reason they know about the treasures hidden here is probably because of the remnants and memories of the Evil Yin Ancestor within that mass of Yin evil Qi," Wan Baoguang said coldly.

He wasn't wrong at all. The sisters were clear-headed at this point but emitted an eerie and chill aura from head to toe, clearly not the good kind.

"Sister, kill them and take back what's ours," the blue-clothed sister said.

"Hmph, naturally. With these two mid-grade Spiritual Artifacts, our strength has greatly increased. Killing them will be a breeze," the red-clothed sister sneered and thrust out her sword, a gray-black flame energy bursting forth.

The red-clothed sister waved her horsetail whisk, sending a ring-shaped wave of Yin Qi and gray light sweeping out.

The sisters, having obtained mid-grade Spiritual Artifacts and infused with the remnants of the Evil Yin Ancestor's evil essence, didn't need to refine them to make use of their power.

Combined with the sisters' skill in fighting together, their coordinated assault was terrifying!

"These are the two mid-grade Spiritual Artifacts once owned by the Evil Yin Ancestor," Wan Baoguang said resentfully.

It could be said that due to a stroke of misfortune, the sisters stumbled upon the treasure left by the Evil Yin Ancestor and acquired the two most valuable mid-grade Spiritual Artifacts.

It should be known that average Guiyuan Realm cultivators used lower-grade Spiritual Artifacts, and even those at the Middle Stage of Guiyuan Realm would use at best top-tier lower-grade Spiritual Artifacts.

The three of them had no choice but to join forces again to fend off the twin sisters.

Boom! Bang! The combat grew more intense.

In the beginning, the three were able to withstand the sisters, but as time went on and the sisters grew more familiar with the Spiritual Artifacts and their strength increased with the boost from the Array, Wan Baoguang and his companions fell into disadvantage.

"Together, these two are as powerful as someone in the Late Guiyuan Realm," Wan Baoguang strained to say.

Continuing like this, they would definitely be the ones to be defeated.

"Is it time to reveal my true strength?" Chen Yu wondered to himself.

The situation was dire. They were trapped by the Array, facing formidable enemies, and outside, Elder Kun might be bringing people over.

As Chen Yu was pondering,

Boom! The door on the ninth floor boomed with a resounding crash.

The next moment, the stone door trembled again, fractures appearing, and then it blasted open with a violent burst.

"No good, have the foreign races come?" Wan Baoguang felt his heart jump, sensing a huge crisis.

He knew the defensive power of the Array, but whoever was coming had broken through it.

His eyes flicked towards the twin sisters, and then he bellowed, "You sisters, to actually embezzle the Evil Yin Ancestor's treasure and even try to kill to cover up your tracks."

Hearing this, Chen Yu secretly praised Wan Baoguang's cunning strategy of redirecting the enemies' firepower to the twins, giving them a chance to escape.

Boom! The dust at the doorway was blown away, and five figures walked in.

"The Evil Yin Ancestor's treasure!" Ren Bing's heart stirred.

After entering the ruins, he realized that this place was the remnant of Yinluo Sect.

And the Evil Yin Ancestor was one of the strongest in Yinluo Sect.

As a formidable sect figure, the Ancestor must have hoarded many valuable treasures, and even Ren Bing was very tempted.

The excitement was even greater for the other four who followed Ren Bing; their eyes widened as they carefully scanned the tower before settling on the two women.

"Oh no, it's that old man..." When Chen Yu saw the five people, his gaze fell on the foremost, a middle-aged man with a grim and austere demeanor.

This man was Ren Han's father—Ren Bing.

"Retreat." Without another word, Chen Yu found it best to withdraw first.

If the newcomers had been a foreign race, they could have drawn their attention to the sisters, but unexpectedly, Ren Bing had tracked them down, making such a diversion less viable.

"Chen Yu!" Ren Bing revealed a ferocious smile, his palm surging with black light condensing into a profound demonic light black orb, hurtling towards Chen Yu.

"Demon Scale Shield!"

Chen Yu activated his Secret Pattern Demon Body, along with the third Demon Rune, and used his Demon Rune Battle Technique.

Bang! The black demonic orb struck like lightning, creating a dent in the Demon Scale Shield, and then, it exploded, shattering Chen Yu's shield into pieces.

Chen Yu placed the Giant Ruler Sword in front of himself to withstand the blast, and with the defensive power of his Demon Body, he was largely unharmed.

At the same time, he took the opportunity to dash towards the doorway.