

Eternal Heart 731

Chapter 731: The Invisible Sword

The internal space of the Blood Snake Ring was a cuboid space more than sixty zhang in length and width.

Apart from some miscellaneous items, there were many martial arts secrets, metal ores, and treasures of heaven and earth hidden here...

Bloodthirsty Double Kill was obsessed with killing and brutality, and therefore had amassed an extremely substantial fortune.

Besides these resources, there were as many as one hundred and ten thousand Grade Essence Stones alone.

"Killing Spirit Blood Crystal!"

Chen Yu found two red crystals, and upon holding them in his hand, he felt a chilling Evil Qi rush towards his face.

The Killing Spirit Blood Crystal could help Blood Dao Practitioners improve their cultivation, but it came with certain side effects.

Still, most people would first enhance their cultivation and worry about potential problems later.

"Flame Spirit, refine these two crystals."

Chen Yu communicated with the Flame Spirit of the Blood Crystal Flame, letting it handle the task.

"As you wish, Master!"

Inside Chen Yu, a brilliant, glassy Blood Crystal Flame shot out and enveloped one of the red crystals.

The quality of the Blood Crystal Flame was continually improving.

Previously, Chen Yu had competed for a Blood Essence Crystal Stone with Lu Ling beneath Burning Sun Mountain. After the Blood Crystal Flame devoured it, it could easily burn to death a typical Early-stage Sky Sea Realm cultivator.

At this moment, the nourishing effect of these two Killing Spirit Blood Crystals on the Blood Crystal Flame was no less than that of the Blood Essence Crystal Stone he acquired back then.

Next.

Chen Yu pulled out two jars of liquor from the Blood Snake Ring.

Upon opening them, a fiery, pungent aroma immediately spread out.

Chen Yu took a gentle sniff, and his body uncontrollably began to heat up, with his blood temperature gradually rising, becoming hot, and its circulation speeding up. Even the True Yuan in the True Yuan Sea inside him stirred slightly.

"Could this be 'Fire Burning Wine'?"

Chen Yu sniffed a few more times, and finally confirmed that this was indeed the legendary Fire Burning Wine.

The wine had an excellent taste, and those who loved liquor would definitely treasure it.

The primary use of Fire Burning Wine was to expel impurities from True Yuan, stabilizing the foundation.

Those who regularly consumed this wine had surefire cultivation, with pure and condensed True Yuan.

Bloodthirsty Double Kill had practiced evil methods halfway through their path, with their cultivation advancing by leaps and bounds. Logically, their foundation should be unstable, with limited potential.

It was precisely because of Fire Burning Wine that they eradicated these hidden dangers.

In addition, Fire Burning Wine had certain benefits for the body, being able to strengthen the physique and promote the advancement of the life level.

Ordinary people might not value this effect, but cultivators of Body Cultivation could not ignore it.

"Good stuff."

Chen Yu smiled.

There were two jars of Fire Burning Wine here, enough for him to use for some time.

Immediately, Chen Yu took a small sip.

Hum bang!

It was as if he had swallowed a ball of fire that exploded within him, turning into countless fierce flames that instantly swept through his body.

Chen Yu felt as if every part of his body was burning.

Eventually, the potency of the Fire Burning Wine reached the True Yuan Sea, merging into the tranquil black sea of Demon Pattern True Essence.

Rumble~

The True Yuan Sea surged, stirring continuously.

"Indeed, it's good stuff."

Feeling the all-around changes in his body, Chen Yu couldn't help smiling as he said.

"Now for a sip of Hundred Flowers Honey."

Chen Yu suddenly remembered that he had taken a pot of honey from the Golden Armored Giant Bear during the day.

Hundred Flowers Honey could also nourish the body and promote the advancement of the life level.

Besides, its most significant effect was to push cultivation, and compared to other treasures that could promote cultivation, Hundred Flowers Honey had minimal side effects.

If combined with Fire Burning Wine, then consuming the cherished Hundred Flowers Honey to promote cultivation would leave virtually negligible hidden dangers.

Thinking of this, Chen Yu took out the Hundred Flowers Honey and drank a small sip.

One scorching bitter spice and one refreshing sweetness, the two flavors intertwined together, making Chen Yu feel comfortable all over, involuntarily humming in pleasure.

Chen Yu thus sat down cross-legged and began to cultivate, operating the mental method of the Heavenly Demon Secret Pattern Record.

The night passed swiftly.

In the meantime, Chen Yu consumed another small sip of Hundred Flowers Honey and Fire Burning Wine.

"Progress has been made in all aspects."

Chen Yu checked himself and came to a conclusion.

The quality of the Demon Pattern True Essence had improved, becoming more purified, while his body felt comfortable all over, filled with an urge to engage in a decisive battle immediately.

"Time to move out!"

Chen Yu left the cave and began the action of seizing marks.

Just as he had covered a certain distance.

Hum~

A wave of energy fluctuations emanated all around, as the rock walls and trees on both sides suddenly lit up with dark blue Array patterns.

"An Array!"

Chen Yu muttered to himself.

The next moment, a huge dark blue light shield enveloped and isolated him.

Whoosh!

A woman in black emerged not far away, holding an ancient Array Plate in her hand.

"Haha, caught a prey!"

Without another word, the woman in black activated the Array.

Instantly.

Around the Array wall, suddenly formed hundreds of blue light arrows, flickering with a cold and harsh light.

"Die."

The woman in black shouted lowly.

Whoosh—

Hundreds of blue light arrows, all flew towards Chen Yu at the center of the Array.

If it were a normal Early-stage Sky Sea Realm cultivator, even if they used defensive moves, facing so many light arrows, they could possibly be pierced through, instantly turned into a hive.

Secret Pattern Demon Body!

A tremendous burst of Demonic Qi erupted from within Chen Yu, causing even the Array to tremble slightly.

Immediately, his entire body turned pitch black, with ancient and strange inscriptions and demon patterns flickering with a dim light.

Boom!

Exuding a powerful aura, Chen Yu punched forward, a mass of black-patterned demon light, shrouded in a layer of Demonic Qi fog and containing a scorching hot breath, roared out.

Bang bang crack!

Directly in front, over a hundred blue light arrows were completely shattered by Chen Yu's punch!

"What?"

The woman in black outside, shocked, wore an expression of great surprise.

"You're Chen Yu!"

It was only then that she took a serious look, and when she saw Chen Yu's face, she was terrified, turning as pale as a ghost, without a trace of color.

If it were daytime, she certainly wouldn't have such a reaction.

But at night, a message spread nearby: Chen Yu had killed Bloodthirsty Second, who ranked thirty-sixth on the "Heroes Ranking," and Bloodthirsty Leader was now looking for Chen Yu's whereabouts.

Chen Yu had even killed the one who ranked thirty-sixth, Bloodthirsty Second. For her to confront Chen Yu now would be suicidal!

Boom—

The remaining arrow lights all fell on Chen Yu's body, kicking up a layer of blue light storm.

Before the explosion had subsided, a powerful Demonic True Essence swept out, pushing everything aside.

Immediately afterward, Chen Yu harnessed the power of his body and punched down at the Array beneath his feet.

Boom!

The dim blue Array trembled violently, its energy draining rapidly, and cracks spread in all directions from Chen Yu's fist.

With a "bang," the Array shattered and disappeared instantaneously.

However, as soon as the woman in black outside the Array confirmed Chen Yu's identity, she slipped away.

Whoosh!

Chen Yu, unruffled, pursued out and quickly caught sight of the figure.

The woman in black struggled but was left heavily wounded by Chen Yu's punch and eventually handed over her mark.

"What a monster, luckily he didn't kill me, unlike the Bloodthirsty Double Kill," the woman in black felt a lingering fear.

Following that, Chen Yu activated the Purple Cloud Cloak, running around and attacking anyone he saw, collecting many marks.

At a certain moment.

Chen Yu felt a formidable Sword Intent fluctuating in the distance, and his heart skipped a beat even though they were several miles apart.

He slowly approached, wanting to see who it was.

After all, in the battle for the Heroes Ranking, anyone could become Chen Yu's opponent; knowing your enemies and yourself, you will fight without defeat.

Soon, Chen Yu arrived at the edge of a gorge and saw three figures below.

In the front, two figures were fleeing at high speed, among whom a man in a black robe with short hair had a cultivation level at the peak of the Early-Stage Sky Sea Realm.

The other person wore a black dress, with a pale but full complexion and deep eyes, exuding a mature and sexy aura; a black moon mark was at the center of her eyebrows.

"One of the Yin-Yang Twin Moons, 'Yin Yue'."

Chen Yu's expression turned solemn.

The woman with the black moon mark on her forehead was none other than Yin Yue of the Evil Moon Sect, one of the Yin-Yang Twin Moons, and a top ten master on the "Heroes Ranking."

The black-robed, short-haired man was also no weakling.

Yet the two were being chased by a single person.

Who could that be?

The person behind them wore white, with hair like a cascading waterfall and otherworldly eyes.

She held her hand as if gripping a sword, yet no sword was seen.

Around her, countless sword lights drifted, cutting trees in the vicinity and leaving dozens of alarming sword marks on the rocks nearby.

"Absolute Sword Immortal... Guan Aoxue!"

Chen Yu recognized the stunning beauty, the Absolute Sword Immortal herself.

"Yin Yue, hand over your mark, and I will spare your life!"

The crisp voice of the Absolute Sword Immortal sounded out, pleasant to the ear but exceedingly cold.

"Haha, Guan Aoxue, you're delusional. Yang Yue will be here soon, and then we can settle the score," Yin Yue laughed.

Guan Aoxue didn't reply, and as she raised her arm, a terrifying Sword Intent that shocked the surrounding area ebbed out, as if myriad invisible swords were swirling and roaming.

At this moment, Chen Yu barely made out the "invisible sword" in Guan Aoxue's hands, and his mind throbbed uncontrollably.

"Who?"

Guan Aoxue sensed something and looked up the cliff.

Suddenly, a sword light, sharp beyond compare and capable of annihilating everything, shot toward him.

The invisible Sword Intent pierced the void, reaching Chen Yu's mind first.

Chen Yu's figure wavered, and he felt a stabbing pain in his consciousness.

Once he had recovered, he turned and fled.

Whoosh—

Behind him, numerous transparent sword lights chased after him, carrying an aura of absolute slaughter.

The sword lights were faster than Chen Yu. He tried to dodge and weave but felt an inescapable sensation.

Countless invisible swords had already locked onto Chen Yu!

...

Outside, the surroundings were abuzz with discussion.

Some factions were also tallying the marks obtained by various talents.

"Guan Aoxue encountered one of the Yin-Yang Twin Moons, Yin Yue."

"Wow, just three moves, and Yin Yue and another disciple from the Evil Moon Sect were beaten back!"

"I wonder who is stronger when the Yin-Yang Twin Moons team up against the Absolute Sword Immortal, Guan Aoxue!"

Everyone was looking forward to the clash between these three incredibly beautiful women.

"Chen Yu!"

Two high-ranking members of the Black Demon Sect suddenly saw Chen Yu approaching Guan Aoxue.

"This kid is asking for death!"

Sure enough, Guan Aoxue's keen senses detected Chen Yu's presence, and with just a thought, invisible and deadly swords were sent flying at Chen Yu.

"Now Chen Yu's done for. Although he could kill Bloodthirsty Second, who's ranked thirty-sixth, who is the Absolute Sword Immortal? She's a contender in the top five, even the top three!"

"Even if the Absolute Sword Immortal just launched a casual strike, it holds enough strength to kill Chen Yu several times over."

But in the next moment, the faces of those discussing changed.

In their view, Chen Yu shot out from the midst of the sword lights.

"How is that possible? That kid made it out?"

...

Some thousands of feet above everyone's heads, a faint fluctuation suddenly appeared, and a figure was vaguely visible.

"Silent Blood King, there's no need to be so tense."

A voice with a teasing tone sounded.

"Heh heh!"

Silent Blood King chuckled.

"But your disciple sure has some skill, escaping from the sword of my most proud student, even though it was just a casual stroke."

The voice continued.

As Guan Aoxue was a disciple of a Vice Pavilion Master of the Three-star Peak force "Heavenly Sword Pavilion," the identity of the speaker was evident.

"In the next Heroes Ranking battle, he will have a place in the top five!" Silent Blood King said offhandedly.

In truth, Chen Yu's performance so far had exceeded Silent Blood King's expectations. He had positioned Chen Yu within the top three for the next ranking battle.

But in front of others, it was better to remain modest.

"Hmm, indeed, the kid has a chance," the voice agreed.

"Don't speak too soon; the Three-star Peak forces of the Southern Domain are not to be trifled with. I'm afraid your Black Demon Valley might not claim a spot in the top five."

Various voices chimed in.

From the exchange, it was clear that the figures present were Condensed Star Kings from the Southern Domain, each powerful enough to cause a stir with a mere stomp of their feet!

Normally, the battle for the Heroes Ranking wouldn't draw the attention of these giants.

But this time, it was unusual for all these mighty beings to gather here.

Chapter 732: Mysterious Situ Lin Yu

Guan Aoxue's Sword Dao attack was indeed formidable; a casual strike could crush a common Early-stage Sky Sea Realm.

Luckily, Chen Yu's Secret Pattern Demon Body had reached the peak of the Early-stage Sky Sea Realm, allowing him to use the Demon Rune Battle Technique, the Demon Dragon Barrier, and safely block it.

"This woman is really vicious. Is it necessary to kill someone just for looking?"

Chen Yu spat in contempt.

From Guan Aoxue's casual attack, Chen Yu had also assessed the opponent's approximate strength.

No need to draw his sword; merely with a thought, an invisible sword would automatically attack, even locking onto the enemy.

If they were to truly battle, Chen Yu feared that even his best defensive techniques might hardly withstand the Absolute Sword Immortal's Sword Dao attacks.

"Fortunately, I didn't face her directly...," Chen Yu thought to himself.

However, that scene also made Chen Yu realize the distance between himself and the top geniuses.

"I have Hundred Flowers Honey and Fire Burning Wine; maybe I can catch up to them."

A trace of unwillingness and fighting spirit showed in Chen Yu's eyes.

He certainly didn't want to flee in such a sorry state the next time he encountered Guan Aoxue.

Chen Yu's foundation was solid and stable, greatly fortified by the Hundred Flowers Honey and Fire Burning Wine. He was confident that within one or two months, his cultivation could advance further.

However, the first phase only lasted one month, so this approach was somewhat risky.

Additionally, if Chen Yu continued to seclude himself for cultivation, even if he survived to the end, the number of marks he held would be among the fewest.

Thus, he abandoned this idea and decided to continue plundering marks.

Killing, battling, and adventuring were also forms of cultivation that could enhance his personal strength.

"But it's time to change locations."

Chen Yu decided to move.

Since he had killed the Bloodthirsty Second, his name had already spread in the nearby area.

If it had been very early, people like Sun Xin Hao would have been thrilled to rush towards Chen Yu.

But now, most people who saw Chen Yu would turn and flee.

On the other hand, the Bloodthirsty Leader was still searching for Chen Yu's whereabouts.

Chen Yu wasn't afraid of the Bloodthirsty Leader, but facing him one-on-one would be difficult to kill him without wasting time.

He traveled westward for half a day.

With a sweep of his Spiritual Sense, Chen Yu suddenly made a discovery.

Under a giant, ancient tree, there was a tree hole.

"This Situ Lin Yu is terrifying. He isn't on the list of geniuses, but his strength is at least top forty, or even higher."

"If it hadn't been for 'Yang Yue' from the Evil Moon Sect suddenly appearing, I'd have probably met my end there."

A handsome man, sitting cross-legged, was healing his injuries.

Reflecting on the recent events still gave him shudders.

He was ranked sixty-seventh on the genius list, yet he had been severely injured by an unknown person, utterly humiliated.

"Hm? Someone's coming."

The handsome man suddenly sensed something and immediately rushed out.

Boom!

The next moment, a huge surge of demonic light formed a giant fist that came crashing down, instantly turning the stout ancient tree into countless fragments, leaving a huge crater.

"Chen Yu?"

The handsome man saw a black figure speeding toward him.

"You really have a death wish. With your rank of ninety-four on the genius list, you wouldn't last ten moves in my hands!"

If he hadn't been injured, the handsome man was confident he could resolve Chen Yu in five moves.

"Is that so? Try taking one of my moves!"

Chen Yu scoffed, his True Yuan erupted, attacking the handsome man with an even fiercer momentum.

A simple punch was thrown, containing the peak power of the Early-stage Sky Sea Realm physique, the condensed force of the Demon Pattern True Essence, and it integrated the Power of Heaven and Earth Realm!

Boom!

Before the attack even arrived, the domineering demonic intent directly assaulted the handsome man's mind, causing a moment of panic and fear.

"Not good..."

The handsome man's complexion changed slightly, Chen Yu's punch brought a strong sense of crisis.

Murmur~

He waved his palms, and a layer of emerald-green water rippled out, forming a shield of light in front of him.

Chen Yu was so fierce that he countered with softness against hardness!

Puff!

Chen Yu's punch smashed into the emerald water shield, the concentrated power immediately dispersed, weakening the impact.

"Break!"

Chen Yu shouted lowly, storing up strength in his heart.

A powerful surge erupted again from within his body, and the two forces combined and crashed out.

Pop~

The water shield was directly broken by Chen Yu, turning into countless droplets of light, scattering in all directions.

"How is this possible?"

The handsome man looked shocked and incredulous.

His rank on the "Genius List" was nearly thirty places higher than Chen Yu's.

At this moment, he couldn't even block one of Chen Yu's moves.

Boom!

Chen Yu's punching power came blasting in, the pain wracked his body as if it was falling apart, sending him flying backward, crashing harshly into the ground.

"Slow, slow, I'll hand over the mark!"

Before Chen Yu could even speak, the handsome man immediately begged for mercy.

He feared Chen Yu might just kill someone for a mark, as Chen Yu had the strength to do so.

After obtaining the mark, Chen Yu immediately left to find his next target.

"What is happening?"

The handsome man sighed in frustrated anguish.

That previously unknown Situ Lin Yu had almost killed him, and now this Chen Yu, ranked much lower than him, he couldn't even block a single move.

Inside a gloomy valley.

Three figures interweaved back and forth, engaging in a breathtaking battle, the sounds of conflict unending.

One of them, dressed in white, his skin as smooth as porcelain, his body emitted white moonlight. However, this moonlight wasn't bright and shiny but rather possessed an eerie feel.

This person was none other than Yang Yue, one of the Twin Moons of the Evil Moon Sect.

Swoosh!

Her palm, as delicate as jade, gently swept through the air, and a pristine moonbeam transformed into a dazzling crescent moon radiating a brilliant light.

Beside her, there was another woman. Though not as beautiful as Yang Yue, she boasted a tall and voluptuous figure and an exceptional demeanor, also a beauty in her own right.

Had there been bystanders, they would certainly recognize that this woman was none other than Han Yan from Canglei Palace, ranked fifteenth on the "Celestial List."

Zzt zzt!

Electric lights entwined around her, and the treasured sword in her hand was like a Thunder Sword, bright and breathtaking, exuding a heart-pounding aura of destruction.

Han Yan slashed with her sword.

Boom zzzt!

It was as though a bolt of lightning streaked across the sky, carrying with it the ferocious might to devastate everything in its path as it struck down.

Across from the two women, there was a figure shrouded in a sinister and eerie mist of the Netherworld.

That person was Situ Lin Yu.

His handsome face remained undisturbed, surrounded by hundreds of ghostly shadows all kneeling in unison, as if worshipping a king.

With these ghostly shadows as his backdrop, Situ Lin Yu seemed like the king among ghosts. His every move radiated an aura and authority that disturbed the spirit of both Han Yan and Yang Yue.

Situ Lin Yu's eyes flickered with a ghostly gleam as his hands swiftly manipulated spell after spell.

Boom!

All around the valley, massive currents of Yin energy and ghostly Qi surged into the sky, with numerous Evil Ghosts swiftly gathering.

This sight made Han Yan and Yang Yue's scalp tingle.

At that moment.

The radiant moonlight and the lightning sword energy fell together, igniting a vast layer of white lightning, which clashed with the dense eerie ghost Qi, illuminating everything around.

Han Yan's Thunder Dao had a potent suppression effect on the evil and ghostly paths!

However.

When the brightness faded, a layer of dark and gloomy ghost fog once again scattered around, with Situ Lin Yu standing within it, surrounded by ghostly shadows.

"Yang Yue, who exactly is this person? How is he so powerful!"

Han Yan communicated through sound transmission.

Although she was a disciple of Canglei Palace, she was on good terms with Yang Yue from the Evil Moon Sect.

"I'm not sure either."

Yang Yue did not know Situ Lin Yu either.

This was precisely why she was startled!

That an unknown person could contend with her was already quite remarkable.

To think that when Han Yan joined in, Situ Lin Yu could still hold his own against them.

"However, he just used a secret technique which involved channeling the local cold and ghostly Qi, which must have depleted him, we must seize this opportunity to strike and eliminate him," Yang Yue conveyed.

Situ Lin Yu could hold his own against them largely because of the geographical advantage; the valley was rich in Yin energy and ghostly Qi.

"Right!"

Han Yan's eyes sparkled, and her Thunder Sword shone even more brilliantly.

Both prominent warriors of the Celestial List collaborating, if they could not handle Situ Lin Yu, what face would they have left?

Meanwhile, Yang Yue's body was also enveloped in a strong, bizarre light of moonlight.

Not far in the bushes.

Chen Yu was hidden, observing the battle within the valley.

"Situ Lin Yu has had some incredible fortune. How has he grown so powerful!"

Chen Yu marveled inwardly.

Yang Yue was among the top ten masters on the Celestial List.

And the other tall woman, Chen Yu also remembered.

When Canglei Palace arrived previously, she was beside Thunder Prince Duan Xiao.

Yet now, even with the two women joining forces, they could not overcome Situ Lin Yu.

Of course, it was thanks to the geographical advantage that Situ Lin Yu could hold them off.

To achieve this was nothing short of a miracle.

Chen Yu speculated what kind of adventures Situ Lin Yu had experienced after going to the Blood Star Realm, and why he hadn't returned, and what he had gone through over the years.

Thinking back, it seems that while in Kunyun Holy Land, Situ Lin Yu was often quiet, but he always played a crucial role at crucial moments.

Suddenly.

A heart-stopping force emanated from the valley.

"Not good, those two women are about to use their killer move!"

Chen Yu's gaze intensified.

To help or not to help?

Chen Yu was reluctant to offend the two formidable opponents, Han Yan and Yang Yue.

In an instant, myriad thoughts went through his mind.

After finally meeting an old friend, Chen Yu didn't want to see him die tragically here.

On the other hand, even if Situ Lin Yu wasn't a match for the two women, he could simply leave. Why stand his ground here?

Could there be a secret in this valley?

Swoosh!

Chen Yu's eyes revealed determination as he dashed out.

In the valley.

The aura fluctuations from Yang Yue and Han Yan grew increasingly powerful, and for the first time, Situ Lin Yu's expression grew solemn.

"You're too arrogant to think that you alone can contend against us," came Yang Yue's voice, laced with disdain.

Situ Lin Yu sighed, seemingly making a decision, as an exceptional, powerful aura faintly emanated from him.

Suddenly, a Black Line pattern briefly appeared on his forehead...

However, sensing something, Situ Lin Yu turned his gaze slightly, and the Black Line pattern on his forehead instantly vanished.

Swoosh!

A dark shadow approached swiftly, trailing a long black dragon tail.

"Haha, Brother Situ, long time no see!"

Chen Yu laughed heartily, rushing forward.

Both Han Yan and Yang Yue frowned.

"Hmph, Celestial List ninety-four!"

Han Yan couldn't help but snort coldly.

A mere rank ninety-four on the Celestial List daring to interfere in her battle, it felt like a provocation to her authority.

She scoffed, "Such touching friendship, let me send both of you to the Netherworld together!"

Chapter 733: Dark Horse Alliance

Situ Lin Yu looked at Chen Yu, a hint of surprise flashing across his composed face.

Immediately, a faint smile curled at the corners of his mouth, "It turns out to be Brother Chen."

After many years, the two met under these circumstances without any particular strangeness between them.

"Your friend came here to seek death, won't you advise him?"

Yang Yue revealed a slight smile, finding Chen Yu rather amusing.

As a member listed on the "Heaven's Pride Ranking," didn't he know his own and Han Yan's ranking? Yet, he still actively sought death.

"I think... he might give you all a surprise."

The smile on Situ Lin Yu's face deepened.

Recalling the Kunyun Realm, during the grand competition at No Demon Academy, he had lost to Chen Yu.

Within the Kunyun Sacred Land, the speed at which Chen Yu's advancement to the Holy Guard level had also far surpassed others.

In any case, he was someone whose strength and potential were not much less than his own.

"Bright Moon Illuminates the Sky!"

Yang Yue stretched out her arms, and a bright and clear crescent moon rose behind her, enveloping everything with a silent and oppressive aura.

Even though it was clearly daytime, it gave the illusion of the night moon shining over the earth.

"Thunder of Heaven!"

Han Yan's Thunder Sword glinted with dazzling thunder light, sweeping away all the sinister ghostly qi around her into ashes.

Swoosh!

The Thunder Sword soared up, transforming into a foot-thick white thunder light, flashing out and instantly piercing the heavens, descending upon them.

"Deservingly from Canglei Palace and Evil Moon Sect's prodigies."

Chen Yu felt immense pressure, and instead of fear, a surge of excitement welled up in him.

Having previously witnessed Guan Aoxue's Sword Dao attack, although these two's attacks were strong, they were still slightly weaker in comparison.

Buzz, boom!

Chen Yu activated his Secret Pattern Demon Body, his body becoming pitch black, an overwhelming demonic intent surged like a demon lord.

Standing next to Situ Lin Yu, demonic qi and ghost qi merged together, creating a more powerful evil force!

Demon Dragon Barrier!

On Chen Yu's back, the sixth demon pattern seemed to spring to life, surging forward.

The demon patterns were dense with scale motifs, and with the influx of a massive amount of Demon Pattern True Essence, it turned into a pitch-black, thick scale armor wall, blocking in front of him.

Situ Lin Yu knew that Chen Yu, being a Body Cultivator, was skilled in defense.

The reason he had been suppressed by the two women earlier was also due to their somewhat troublesome attacks.

Now that Chen Yu appeared, it perfectly compensated for his shortcoming.

Boom, hiss!

The thick white thunder light attacked first, instantly bombarding the Demon Dragon Barrier, causing a thunderous boom.

Sizzle, sizzle!

Demonic qi dispersed, and lightning spilled out in all directions.

Although Situ Lin Yu's power of will augmented Chen Yu from the side, the effect was minimal.

Chen Yu's arms turned numb, followed by his entire body being invaded by lightning.

The Demon Dragon Barrier barely lasted a breath before it seemed like it was going to shatter.

Across from him, Han Yan opened her small mouth, showing an incredulous expression.

She had thought her sword strike would be enough to blast Chen Yu to pieces.

Had her strength decreased?

Boom, crack~

As the Demon Dragon Barrier was about to shatter, the Demon Pattern True Essence inside Chen Yu surged out like two Black Dragons, integrating into the Demon Dragon Barrier.

Just then, in the sky above, a bright and slightly eerie white moon suddenly plummeted down.

"Chen Yu!"

Situ Lin Yu called out a warning.

He waved his hand, and some Yin Soul Ghost Evil surrounded Chen Yu, helping him share the burden.

Meanwhile, he began to deploy a secret technique.

Beside him, a Big-headed Evil Spirit quietly floated, uttering a creepy "heeheehee" and harboring a potent force brewing within.

Boom, bang!

The Demon Dragon Barrier and the Light of Thunder both collapsed.

Thanks to Situ Lin Yu's assistance, Chen Yu blocked Han Yan's strike, sustaining only minor injuries.

Above in the sky.

Yang Yue's killing move descended.

Yang Yue, one of the Twin Moons of Yin and Yang, was even more formidable than Han Yan.

This strike surpassed the previous thunder, but whereas thunder was a nemesis to demon cultivators, Yang Yue's attack was not.

At this stage, Chen Yu no longer concealed his abilities.

Boom, buzz!

A scorching power suddenly erupted within him, igniting his entire body.

The next moment, golden phoenix fire surged over Chen Yu's body, his skin revealed phoenix feather patterns, spreading a daunting bloodline aura that intimidated all beings.

Even the Bloodline Power within Yang Yue's body vibrated slightly.

Yangming Sword Point!

Chen Yu condensed the "Blood Crystal Flame" and the power of his bloodline flame, executing the complete Yangming Sword Point.

A blood-red fiery light column shot straight into the sky!

In terms of power, the Yangming Sword Point was not as strong as Yang Yue's strike.

But the Blood Flame Light Column's aggressive and penetrating power was formidable.

Boom!

The Yangming Sword Point hit the bright crescent moon, pouring all its force into it, leaving a dent at its center.

The power of the Blood Flame seeped into it, causing some impact and reducing the force of the strike.

At the same time, the surrounding sinister ghost qi and some Yin Soul Ghost Evil rushed towards it like martyrs.

"The final hit!"

Chen Yu charged his heart, amplifying his strength, and threw a punch with all his might.

Boom, whoosh!

A giant black and red fist erupted like a volcanic explosion, striking out with mingled demonic and fiery qi, whipping up a black and red storm.

The fiercest and most robust power confronted Yang Yue's strike.

Boom!

A loud crash resonated, awe-inspiring and terrifying.

The explosion's range was close to Chen Yu, who immediately employed the defensive power of the Purple Cloud Cloak to protect himself.

Simultaneously, Situ Lin Yu's secret technique activated.

"Evil Ghost Chaos God Technique!"

He and the Evil Spirit together executed it, a dark, chilling light of Evil Ghost burst forth, transforming into hundreds of dusky grey streams of light, darting forward, stirring the entire area!

The entire world was eerie, filled with an intense malevolent energy.

"What is this?"

"Such powerful strength!"

Han Yan and Yang Yue's expressions changed simultaneously, a deep shock painted on their faces.

This strike had exceeded their imagination, causing their souls to shudder.

The two immediately moved closer together to defend themselves.

Boom boom boom!

The loud noise echoed throughout the entire valley, alarming all directions and attracting the attention of many, but it also deterred them, making them hesitant to step forward.

...

Outside, this battle was naturally the center of attention, initially only because of Yang Yue.

Later, people were surprised to find that Situ Lin Yu, by taking advantage of the terrain, managed to contend with Yang Yue, earning continuous praise.

But then, with Han Yan joining in, Situ Lin Yu still remained undefeated!

The entire field was astounded, as a dark horse emerged powerfully!

And finally, another dark horse, Chen Yu, joined in.

Two dark horses, together battling the top experts of the "Champion List"!

"How did the battle turn out?"

"I guess Chen Yu and Situ Lin Yu lost, right? As strong as Chen Yu is, it's hard to withstand the attacks from both Yang Yue and Han Yan."

"Not necessarily; the Bloodline Power Chen Yu just displayed seemed extremely remarkable."

Finally, the dust settled, and the results were revealed.

"Chen Yu and Situ Lin Yu are both alive!"

"Wait, why do Yang Yue and Han Yan seem weaker?"

"It's terrifying, these dark horses really scare people!"

The crowd was astonished, finding it hard to believe.

They all lamented, only able to watch from a distance, unable to feel the battle closely.

Even higher up in the sky, the powers of the Southern Domain that had quietly gathered also fell silent for a moment.

"Thunder King, who was it that said there's no place for Black Demon Valley among the top five in the Southern Domain?"

Silent Blood King, somewhat smug, spoke first.

"..."

Another king remained silent.

This time, Chen Yu's performance was too astonishing.

In the next ranking battle, if Chen Yu participated, he would have no problem being in the top five, maybe even the top three.

"However, that kid practicing the Evil Ghost Path is also quite impressive."

A king from the Evil Moon Sect said.

There were no voices of dissent around.

Chen Yu, after all, had a reputation as a disciple of a famous master.

But Situ Lin Yu was a sudden rise, stunning everyone with his prowess.

Inside the valley, devastation was everywhere.

Han Yan and Yang Yue, their clothes torn, revealing fair skin, slightly exposed.

They supported each other, looking towards the opposite side, their eyes filled with shock and fear.

It was hard to imagine, the two top experts of the "Champion List" could do nothing against these two men.

"Brother Chen, are you alright?"

Situ Lin Yu flew down.

Chen Yu lay in a large pit, his body covered in wounds.

The strength of Han Yan and Yang Yue was terrifying, even surpassing Shangguan Feiyun of the Sky Dragon Spear, yet Chen Yu had faced two formidable opponents simultaneously.

"No big deal."

Chen Yu stood up, and on the surface, he looked much better than Han Yan and Yang Yue.

"How is this possible?"

The two stunning beauties, their faces filled with emotion, experienced a surge of turmoil within.

Chen Yu took out Hundred Flowers Honey and drank a mouthful.

Instantly, a refreshing and sweet fragrance spread from within, slowly flowing throughout his body.

Combining Chen Yu's own self-healing abilities with his rapid absorption of the medicine's effects, his injuries, including some internal ones, healed at an astonishing rate.

Within moments, the minor cuts on Chen Yu's body had all healed.

This scene left Han Yan and Yang Yue staring agape.

Yang Yue, whose complexion had regained some color, stood up; she had changed into a clean new dress.

"We acknowledge your strength. Continuing the fight is pointless, so let's stop here," she said calmly.

Han Yan was somewhat reluctant.

"If only we knew this earlier, why bother starting?"

Situ Lin Yu appeared casual.

"So, let's explore this treasure land together."

Yang Yue spoke again, her voice softer and more solemn this time.

Previously, when Situ Lin Yu had suggested this, she had disagreed and attacked him.

If he disagreed now, they had no other choice.

Now, Yang Yue and Han Yan had no desire to be enemies with Situ Lin Yu and Chen Yu.

"A treasure land?"

Chen Yu's eyebrows twitched.

He had guessed right, Situ Lin Yu's unwillingness to leave was because of a secret here.

"Okay."

Situ Lin Yu agreed simply.

Following that, everyone rested on the spot, seemingly adjusting their state.

Meanwhile, someone in the distance quietly approached, looking to check out the outcome of the battle, perhaps to pick up anything valuable.

"Scram!"

Han Yan shouted angrily, her voice beautiful but carrying the force of lightning, resonating through the area and sending those who approached running away.

Moments later.

"Brother Situ, my injuries are fully healed now. Let's move quickly. This is the first phase, and time is limited, plus there are other onlookers nearby."

Chen Yu took the initiative.

On the other side, Han Yan and Yang Yue's lips twitched slightly, all eyes on Chen Yu.

Was this kid's injury really healed? Or was he just pretending?

Their injuries had also recovered to about 60% with the help of magical pills.

Chapter 734: Valley Cave Dwelling

Han Yan and Yang Yue looked at Chen Yu in utter shock.

Chen Yu had withstood the attacks from both of them, and the fact that he hadn't died was already a miracle, let alone that he might have at least suffered heavy injuries that were hard to heal.

Unexpectedly, as their injuries had just recovered to about sixty to seventy percent with the aid of miraculous Spirit Pills, Chen Yu's injuries were almost completely healed.

The current situation was such that Situ Lin Yu and Chen Yu's side held the initiative.

Yang Yue and Han Yan had no choice but to agree and immediately set into action.

After all, Chen Yu was not wrong; currently, during the first segment of the ranking battle of elites, they couldn't afford to spend too much time on healing and exploring.

On the other hand, there were indeed still others watching from all sides.

The longer time dragged on, the more likely there would be unforeseen changes.

Once they reached a consensus.

Situ Lin Yu and Yang Yue walked side by side to the front, moving deeper into the valley.

Here, a bone-chilling gloominess and ghostly qi swirled around, continuously assailing them with an extreme coldness.

If someone with too low a cultivation level or weak willpower were to carelessly approach this place, they would have their temperament twisted by the negative aura.

Yang Yue and Han Yan couldn't help but frown. In the battle just now, they had both been injured by Situ Lin Yu's spiritual attacks, and they felt slightly unwell at the moment, with their bodies and spirits experiencing a chilling sensation.

Not far away, a pile of ghastly white human and beast bones billowed with surging Yin Sha Qi.

Behind these remains, they could vaguely make out an entrance to a cave.

Chen Yu felt a jolt through his body, as the scene before him didn't resemble a place with treasures, but more like a perilous land fraught with crises.

However, people like Situ Lin Yu, Yang Yue, and Han Yan weren't fools; there must be some conjecture or evidence they were following.

After entering the cave mouth, a spacious passageway presented itself before the group.

They had not walked far when the ground ahead began to tremble slightly, and a powerful aura of Corpse Demon Path spread out.

Whoosh!

A white skeletal figure suddenly sprang from the ground, its eye sockets burning with dark purple flames.

The aura emanating from the skeletal figure was extremely powerful, reaching the level of the Mid-stage Sky Sea Realm.

Roar!

After the skull's appearance, it let out a roar, and a soul-shaking screech resonated, causing the spirits of the four to quiver.

The skeleton then waved its hand, and a ball of dark purple flaming orb tumbled out, emitting an aura that could scorch the soul.

Situ Lin Yu stood his ground, surrounded by a group of Evil Ghosts protecting him.

His Big-headed Evil Spirit's eyes flickered with a profound black radiance, and suddenly, it shot out a beam of dark flame, aiming for the skeleton.

Swish!

Yang Yue gathered True Yuan in her jade hands and with a gentle wave, a pure white moonlight beam shot out.

The skeleton raised its arms in defense and was sent flying four or five steps back by Yang Yue's casual move.

Buzz-zzz!

Han Yan lightly swung her Thunderbolt Light Sword, and a slash of lightning tore through the surrounding malevolent Yin and corpse qi, aiming for the skeleton.

Seeing the lightning, the purple flames in the skeleton's eyes trembled slightly, revealing a look of terror.

Whoosh whoosh!

It immediately stretched out its hands, and white bones erupted from the ground, forming a "bone wall" to block the way.

Bang crack!

The lightning strike descended, and this line of skeletal defenses was shattered.

Finally, Chen Yu also casually threw a punch.

Logically speaking.

With the four of them joining forces, even a mid-stage warrior in the Sky Sea Realm could be easily slain, let alone the skeleton before them.

But the four held mutual animosity and were wary of each other.

Facing an enemy, they all sought to hold back their strength, and no one was foolish enough to rush to the front line.

"Rank 15 on the elite list, is this the extent of Miss Han Yan's and Miss Yang Yue's strength?" Chen Yu said with a sneer.

Han Yan's and Yang Yue's expressions instantly stiffened.

In such a situation, being doubted by others might not be a big deal, but being questioned by Chen Yu, the two of them found it hard to remain calm.

Han Yan displayed a look of pride and said, "Our injuries have not yet fully recovered; otherwise, one or two Evil Spirits and demons could easily be annihilated with a flip of the hand."

However, anger had taken root in their hearts, and the strength they displayed next was visibly greater.

After a few moves, the skeleton was slain by the group, and its bones scattered on the ground.

The group continued onward, and after just a few steps, a "Bat-winged Ghost Demon" suddenly pounced out of the darkness. With a flap of its wings, a purple Yin cloud flew at them.

This Bat-winged Ghost Demon was somewhat more formidable than the skeleton they had faced earlier. It was a Yin Spirit that existed between spirit and matter, agile and quick, and better at ranged combat.

"The two of you are heavily injured; if you stay too long in this place, the environment will be even more disadvantageous for you. I advise you to bring out some of your real skills and quickly eliminate these obstacles," Chen Yu said amidst the battle.

This advice was indeed true; in such a place steeped in Yin and evil, Situ Lin Yu was hardly affected at all, which meant his combat strength was at its peak here.

The demonic path Chen Yu cultivated also provided strong resistance.

But for Han Yan and Yang Yue, it was different, especially after the previous battle, as they had suffered injuries to their spirits.

Continuing to fight in a disadvantageous environment, with wounds still fresh.

No matter how you looked at it, the outcome would not be favorable.

"Besides, the cultivation techniques you two possess pose a greater threat to the enemy," said Situ Lin Yu with a sly smile, agreeing with Chen Yu.

Chen Yu glanced at Situ Lin Yu, suddenly feeling as if two grown men were picking on little girls.

"You guys..." Han Yan's brows furrowed in annoyance, and her phoenix eyes widened in anger.

Swoosh!

Feeling utterly infuriated, she furiously slashed her Thunder Sword, and a dazzling, bright white thunder light suddenly lit up, radiating in all directions. The force of thunder and lightning spread out, utterly destroying the surrounding malevolent ghostly energy.

A bolt of Thunder Sword Light flew out, striking the bat-winged ghost demon on its wings, causing it to scream in agony, its body rigid and twitching uncontrollably in place.

Subsequently, Yang Yue's body flickered with pure white moonlight, and a solemn, tranquil aura permeated the area.

She swung both hands, and two tangible white crescents soared forth.

Spurt spurt!

The crescents swept across the body of the bat-winged ghost demon, leaving behind two smooth and neat wounds.

After sustaining successive heavy blows, the bat-winged ghost demon transformed into a black mist and dissipated without a trace.

This was the real strength of a top expert on the "Pride of the Heavens" list!

Han Yan and Yang Yue started to show their true capabilities; the various evildoers and ghosts that subsequently appeared were no challenge at all. Together, the two effortlessly exterminated them one by one.

Chen Yu and Situ Lin Yu exchanged a smile, very content with the outcome.

Although they had an advantage in the battle outside the valley,

The strength of the two women was ultimately formidable, and they had risked a lot to forge that advantage.

For the upcoming treasure contention, they now needed to weaken the women's strength.

Before long, the four of them reached the end and arrived at an enormous and spacious underground palace.

At the center of the palace, on a stone platform, sat a skeleton radiating a ghastly black aura, engulfed in a vast shroud of ghostly mist.

"What a potent presence; if this person wasn't a Condensed Star King in life, they must've been very close."

Han Yan took a deep breath, feeling a sense of oppression in both body and mind.

"The Soul Stabilizing Pearl!"

Yang Yue's bright eyes fixed on the dark purple light pearl resting in the skeleton's palms.

Previously, as she passed by this place and prepared to seize Situ Lin Yu's seal, suddenly a pearl flew out, emitting an astonishing presence.

It was for this reason she plotted to kill Situ Lin Yu and take the treasures.

The Soul Stabilizing Pearl, a Soul Path Spiritual Artifact, served to protect the mind and ward off soul attacks.

The quality of this pearl was extraordinary; it was at least a top-grade Spiritual Artifact!

Besides that, next to the skeleton were a crimson short blade and a Glazed Jade Bottle.

The crimson short blade was also a top-grade Spiritual Artifact, while the contents of the Glazed Jade Bottle were unknown to anyone.

"Act now!"

Yang Yue sent a telepathic message and immediately made her move, aiming for the familiar Soul Stabilizing Pearl.

Han Yan had also coveted the Soul Stabilizing Pearl but had to give up and instead went for the Glazed Jade Bottle.

Chen Yu was also ready to take action.

However, he noticed Situ Lin Yu beside him had not moved an inch, his obscure eyes intently watching the black skeleton, which was somewhat inscrutable.

All of a sudden.

Woo~

A terrifying aura burst forth from the black skeleton, transforming into a skull ghost shadow clad in a black robe.

This ghost shadow was five zhang tall, with its black robe fluttering wildly, exuding boundless might.

"Hehe, another creature has trespassed here; let this lord devour your essence and blood."

The skull ghost shadow let out a wicked laugh, waving its claws menacingly, stirring up a cold purple blaze.

"What?"

Both Han Yan and Yang Yue were taken aback by this development, retreating in haste.

The aura exuded by the skull ghost shadow was horrifying, giving both women a sense of being unable to compete.

"Die!"

With purple ghost fires flickering in the eyes of the skull ghost shadow, it swung its claws fiercely, and ten tracks of dark purple light, carrying a sinister ghostly qi, tore through the air.

At a time when Han Yan and Yang Yue's minds were in turmoil, the skull ghost shadow took the initiative for a forceful attack!

Han Yan stepped back, swinging her Thunder Sword, surrounding herself with a web of lightning.

Yang Yue swung her palms, and the pure white moonlight formed a smooth shield before her.

Boom crack!

The dark purple light tracks raced forward, striking the moonlight shield and the electric net with a series of explosive noises.

Boom! Boom!

The two women were forced back by the skull ghost shadow's move, with Yang Yue's shoulder tearing open a rip in her clothes.

Han Yan fared somewhat better since her Thunder Dao provided a stronger restraint against the forces of the skull ghost shadow.

"Futile resistance; today you will all be buried here!"

The skull ghost shadow's chilling roar echoed in all directions.

"Attack now, or else none of us will have the chance to get the treasures here."

Han Yan looked toward Situ Lin Yu and Chen Yu, shouting urgently.

The strength of the skull ghost shadow was overpowering, and only by the four of them working together was there a chance for victory.

Situ Lin Yu slowly stepped forward, his gait steady, with a wicked smile on his lips and his deep eyes fixated on the skull ghost shadow.

"Your strength is only at the mid-stage Sky Sea Realm, but since you possessed great power while alive, you could imitate the aura of a stronger being. Furthermore, as you're proficient in the Soul Path, you've influenced their minds without them realizing it, thereby gaining an advantage."

Situ Lin Yu spoke calmly.

Yet, his words were like a thunderclap, striking the skull ghost shadow's spirit—and the minds of Han Yan and Yang Yue.

Han Yan and Yang Yue shook violently, their minds suddenly clearing. Both women's cheeks flushed with embarrassment.

"We four allied against you will ensure your certain death."

Situ Lin Yu spoke again, his demeanor calm and collected, exuding a tranquil confidence.

These words resonated with authority, absolutely irrefutable, instantly turning the tables.

The skull ghost shadow's body trembled slightly, with purple flames dancing within its eyes, staring at Situ Lin Yu and bellowing, "Youngster, what nonsense are you talking about?"

Chapter 735: You Swindler

"Youngster, what nonsense are you talking about?"

With a roar from the Skull Ghost Shadow, a chilling ghostly aura combined with endless eerie purple flames stirred in all directions, its power seeming boundless.

Yet, deep down, the Skull Ghost Shadow was already feeling somewhat panicked.

Not long ago, it had activated the "Soul Stabilizing Pearl" to lure living beings close, and then devoured them;

This had been a well-worn path for the Skull Ghost Shadow.

But this time, something went awry and attracted four people all at once.

Each of these four was in the Sky Sea Realm, making them difficult to handle.

Thus, the Skull Ghost Shadow had adopted a strategy, exactly as Situ Lin Yu had said, only it hadn't expected to be exposed.

Han Yan and Yang Yue thought carefully.

In their recent clash with the Skull Ghost Shadow, the power it displayed hadn't been very strong; it was just proficient in Soul Path, which had clouded their spiritual senses.

Realizing this now made them somewhat ashamed.

"Take action!"

Situ Lin Yu didn't respond to the Skull Ghost Shadow.

As soon as he spoke, the two women instinctively obeyed the command, leaping forward, one radiating bright moonlight and the other surrounded by thunder, both dazzling to behold.

"Could you two ladies take the lead in the attack?"

Situ Lin Yu spoke again.

This time, Han Yan and Yang Yue did not object, solely because their earlier misstep had been embarrassing.

Han Yan, wielding the Thunder Sword, drew a series of electric light chains, sweeping across.

Crackle and hiss—

The sinister ghostly aura ahead was destroyed by the electrical energy, and the heart-throbbing Thunder Sword arcs pressed toward the Skull Ghost Shadow.

Han Yan went all out with this strike, enough to concern anyone in the Mid-stage Sky Sea Realm.

And the Skull Ghost Shadow, restrained by the Thunder Dao, dared not underestimate it.

Boom-hoo-hoo—

The Skull Ghost Shadow's robes fluttered as it waved its claws, unleashing dense trails of eerie purple light, casting a vast purple net over the area.

The ghostly purple fire net collided violently with the arcs of lightning, the terrifying power interweaving continuously, resulting in a series of explosions.

On the other side, Yang Yue gathered a bright crescent moon above her head.

With a light wave of her hand, the crescent moon traced a cold white arc, slashing towards the Skull Ghost Shadow.

The Skull Ghost Shadow's eyes shimmered with cold light, its claws wreathed in purple flames, as it struck out.

But at that moment—

Situ Lin Yu and the Big-headed Evil Spirit launched their spiritual secret technique, their spiritual powers merging into one, forming a dark ghostly fire that instantly fell upon the Skull Ghost Shadow's head.

Puff—

The gray flame exploded, and the Skull Ghost Shadow screamed, turning its claw towards Situ Lin Yu.

Swish!

Chen Yu immediately appeared beside Situ Lin Yu, his sixth demonic pattern emerging behind him, transforming into a dark demonic scale barrier, blocking in front.

Bang-boom!

The eerie purple flame claw hit the Demon Dragon Barrier, causing a series of blasts, eventually breaking through the barrier's defense.

But by then, both Chen Yu and Situ Lin Yu had moved from their original positions, making the strike miss them.

And in that moment, Han Yan and Yang Yue's attacks arrived again.

After this round of ineffective attacks, the Skull Ghost Shadow was thoroughly forced into a defensive and weaker state.

"These damned bastards."

The Skull Ghost Shadow cursed furiously, mobilizing the nearby sinister ghostly aura to bolster itself.

But the combined strength of Chen Yu, Yang Yue, and the others was too strong, their roles distinct: Yang Yue and Han Yan leading the offensive, Situ Lin Yu creating distractions, and Chen Yu withstanding the damage.

"Group of ignorant fools, now let me show you the true power of myself!"

The Skull Ghost Shadow roared, its prowess surging, sending a gust of purple flame out in all directions.

Whoosh—

The Skull Ghost Shadow swiped its claw, and the nearby "Soul Stabilizing Pearl" and a crimson short blade, respectively, landed in its hands.

Hiss-hiss—

Holding the crimson blade, the Skull Ghost Shadow fiercely drew a large swathe of red and purple mixed light.

Han Yan's Thunder Sword Light was instantly split in two, the thunder dissipating.

"What a powerful top-grade Spiritual Artifact."

Han Yan's eyes involuntarily fell on the crimson short blade.

"Attack with full force, don't let him escape."

Situ Lin Yu suddenly said.

Don't let him escape?

Han Yan and Yang Yue looked slightly stunned.

"The 'Soul Stabilizing Pearl,' as a Soul Path Spiritual Artifact, won't be of much use unless we deploy spiritual attacks, and that short blade doesn't meld well with him, limiting the power it can exert, so his combat strength is still inferior to ours."

"He merely wants to deceive us. If we adopt a defensive strategy, this Yin Spirit would take the chance to flee."

Situ Lin Yu spoke slowly.

The Skull Ghost Shadow's form stiffened; he felt as if the human before him could see through his thoughts.

With his plan exposed again, the Skull Ghost Shadow was infuriated and harbored deep hatred towards Situ Lin Yu.

Hiss-hiss—

The Skull Ghost Shadow continuously slashed with the crimson blade, sending astonishing blood-purple light traces, relentlessly targeting Situ Lin Yu.

Xuankong Palm!

Chen Yu, possessing the power of the Spatial Realm, took action in the instant the Skull Ghost Shadow attacked.

Bang! Bang!

Two palm prints, dim with flecks of silver, struck the blood-purple light traces, causing them to tremble slightly, reducing their power a bit.

The next moment, two Blood Flame columns of Sword Qi struck, hitting the traces, penetrating several of the eerie purple light marks.

Chen Yu used the Demon Dragon Barrier to block the remaining minor waves of attack.

"Ah... Damn it!"

The Skull Ghost Shadow yelled in exasperation.

Never had he felt so frustrated, nor could he come up with another plan.

The four humans before him were incredibly powerful and cooperated well, completely restraining him.

Moments later, the Skull Ghost Shadow was gravely injured and fell into a weakened state.

"Damn it, these bastards just want to take my treasures. If that's the case... If I die, I'll drag you down with me!"

The Skull Ghost Shadow's face was deeply gloomy, hatred raging tumultuously.

"Attack with all your might, he's going to self-destruct!"

Situ Lin Yu's voice transmission resonated in the minds of the trio.

Self-destruct!

This was no joke!

In this narrow space, if the Mid-stage Sky Sea Realm Yin Spirit self-destructed, and they got lucky, it could take all four of them with it as cushioning.

"Die!"

Han Yan's gaze was sharp as electricity, her momentum surged dramatically.

A robust and fierce Thunder Dao power burst forth from her body, flowing into the Thunder Sword in her hand.

Crackle fizz!

With one slash, thunder illuminated the entire cave, and the dazzling Thunder Sword Qi sped forward, instantly reaching the Skull Ghost Shadow.

On the other side, Yang Yue manipulated the True Yuan in her hands, creating a crescent moon insignia that cast a pure white moonlight.

Facing an enemy about to self-destruct, they both opted for techniques fast in execution speed and secondary in power pursuit.

Chen Yu, without a second word, mobilized the Blood Crystal Flame, and executed the Yangming Sword Point.

Whiz!

A beam of blood flame light, majestic and straight, thundered forward.

Situ Lin Yu and the Big-headed Evil Spirit, both unleashed the Pupil Skill simultaneously, bringing a grey sinister flame down upon the Skull Ghost Shadow's head.

"You..."

The Skull Ghost Shadow was completely dumbfounded.

How could, all of a sudden, everyone launch a lightning-fast assault, this terrifying attack force made him fearfully shaken, sensing an intense danger.

He pulled his black robe around him, curling up into a ball to protect himself.

Boom!

An explosion sounded, and energy waves spread in all directions.

Swoosh —

The four of them immediately rushed forward, closing in on the Skull Ghost Shadow.

It was a joint effort to slay the enemy just now; now it was each for themselves in the treasure grab, whoever had the capability would own it.

As the dust settled, the Skull Ghost Shadow was badly damaged and seemed extremely weak as if it would completely dissipate.

"Treasure!"

Han Yan's eyes focused on a Glazed Jade Bottle on a stone platform, and she was about to rush over to snatch it.

Yang Yue's eyes were drawn to the Soul Stabilizing Pearl in the left hand of the Skull Ghost Shadow.

"Retreat quickly, he's not dead yet, he might make a last ditch counterattack."

Situ Lin Yu suddenly said.

What?

On hearing this, the two women hesitated.

During this expedition, Situ Lin Yu played a pivotal role, influencing the battle situation at several critical moments.

Hence, their first impulse was to believe him, and then to reconsider.

However.

The two women then saw Chen Yu and Situ Lin Yu, wearing wicked smiles and looking a bit excited, dash out quickly.

"You..."

The two women were stunned.

Seeing this, they would have to be fools not to realize they had been tricked.

"Haha!"

Seeing that Han Yan and Yang Yue had realized it, Chen Yu laughed loudly. The True Yuan inside him surged, mobilizing his physical strength, he threw a punch at the Skull Ghost Shadow.

Boom!

His punch was dark, vicious, and covered with a blood-colored, glass-like flame, like a falling meteor smashing through the weak, battered Skull Ghost Shadow.

The Skull Ghost Shadow was already on the verge of death, and Chen Yu's strike claimed its life.

Swoosh!

Chen Yu exploded with speed, closing in on the Soul Stabilizing Pearl.

The Soul Stabilizing Pearl, sensing intelligence and prepared to flee, but Chen Yu, wielding the power of the Spatial Realm, anticipated its flight path and grabbed it.

Once gripped by Chen Yu's iron-like claw, the Soul Stabilizing Pearl, no matter how it struggled, was ineffective.

After securing the Soul Stabilizing Pearl, Chen Yu also eyed another crimson dagger.

But at that moment, Yang Yue charged over.

"Bastard, daring to trick us."

Even the calm and composed Yang Yue could not help but curse loudly, throwing ladylike demeanor aside.

Bang!

A beam of pure white moonlight, carrying a silent and dreadful authority, attacked Chen Yu.

"This woman, going straight for the kill!"

Chen Yu's heart skipped a beat.

Even if he survived Yang Yue's attack, he might not necessarily seize the crimson short blade.

On the other hand, if Chen Yu was seriously injured now, then his alliance with Situ Lin Yu would be at a disadvantage.

Ultimately, Chen Yu decided to give up, as he had already obtained the most needed Soul Stabilizing Pearl.

As for Situ Lin Yu, he wasn't after the Soul Stabilizing Pearl or the crimson short blade but rushed towards the stone platform, apparently to snatch the Glazed Jade Bottle.

"You cheater, that's mine."

Han Yan's angry shout echoed, accompanied by a surge of Thunder-designed electricity.

Swoosh!

She rushed forward, but was still a step behind Situ Lin Yu.

Just as she decided to give up the contest and attack Situ Lin Yu.

"Don't rush, I don't want this broken bottle."

Situ Lin Yu stood on the platform, waved his sleeve, and collected the dark and eerie skeleton.

The Glazed Jade Bottle remained quietly standing on the stone platform.

This left Han Yan, boiling with rage and ready to vent, suddenly unsure what to do, feeling neither here nor there.

Finally, Han Yan, thick-skinned, snorted coldly, "Lucky you know better."

She approached the platform and took away the Glazed Jade Bottle.

"Situ Lin Yu, why did you deceive us?"

By this time, Yang Yue had secured the crimson short blade and voiced her accusation.

"It might be that Brother Situ overestimated the enemy, not expecting this Yin Spirit to be so weak it couldn't manage a dying counterattack."

Chen Yu stepped forward, wearing a triumphant smirk, shrugged his shoulders as if to say, "You can't blame us."

Chapter 736: The Value of the Soul Stabilizing Pearl

Yang Yue and Han Yan's almond-shaped eyes went wide with shame and fury.

However, they also had no face to continue pursuing this matter.

It was their own fault for so easily believing their opponent, and if this incident were to spread, they would instead become the laughingstock.

But if they could eliminate both Situ Lin Yu and Chen Yu, not only could they clear their disgrace, but they would also gain the treasures.

Boom! At that moment, a roar echoed from a distant passage.

"There are quite a few people rushing over here."

Han Yan swept the area with her Spiritual Sense, frowning.

If they, alongside Yang Yue, dealt with Situ Lin Yu and Chen Yu now, it was very likely that others would take advantage of the situation.

Moreover, they themselves did not have much chance of winning.

"Break through!"

Chen Yu shouted in a low voice.

At present, it was their only way.

Afterwards, Situ Lin Yu and Chen Yu rushed into the passage together.

Han Yan and Yang Yue exchanged a glance and followed behind Chen Yu and Situ Lin Yu.

"Han Yan, let's not intervene for now. Let these two lads take the lead."

Yang Yue sent a message quietly.

"Just what I was thinking."

Han Yan glanced at Yang Yue, and the two had come to the same conclusion.

Without avenging the "deception," they wouldn't easily let go of Situ Lin Yu and Chen Yu, finding the grudge difficult to swallow.

Swoosh!

The four of them flew rapidly, taking the initiative to charge ahead.

Ahead, they could vaguely see eleven or twelve silhouettes, each with an extraordinary aura, all geniuses participating in the ranking battles of the Proud Heaven's List.

"Be careful, I heard Yang Yue and Han Yan went in."

A chubby man in a blue robe said.

Yang Yue! Han Yan!

Merely the two names made many present tremble inwardly, with many harboring thoughts of retreat.

With the prowess of these two top talents, those ranked beyond one hundred on the Proud Heaven's List stood hardly any chance against them in a single move.

"With so many of us here, are we still afraid of just the two of them? Besides, Brother Shangguan and Miss Xiao are also here."

Another man with a hooked nose, his gaze dark, shouted quietly, his eyes turning towards a man and a woman walking at the front of the group.

The man in green was Sky Dragon Spear Shangguan Feiyun, while the woman in purple was Xiao Qian ranked twentieth on the Proud Heaven's List. With them, plus the numerous others present, they might be able to contend with Yang Yue and Han Yan.

"How come I heard that Chen Yu and another nameless youngster entered with Yang Yue and Han Yan?"

A man at the back of the group said with a puzzled face.

"That must be a rumor. Chen Yu, merely ranked ninety-four on the Proud Heaven's List, could be crushed in one move by Yang Yue. How could he have entered with them?"

The man with the hooked nose immediately negated.

But at that moment, two figures flew towards them from the front.

One of them was precisely Chen Yu!

The man with the hooked nose was dumbstruck, his face flushed with embarrassment, as if he had been slapped in the face.

Suddenly, the approaching Chen Yu shouted loudly, "Save us, save us."

"All the treasures in here have been taken by Yang Yue and Han Yan, they want to silence us by killing us."

Chen Yu and Situ Lin Yu, their faces painted with fear and panic, fled rapidly towards them.

From the previous battle, Chen Yu had sustained quite a few injuries, appearing rather disheveled, matching exactly the scenario he described.

Yang Yue and Han Yan, who had been following behind and were ready to enjoy the show, were abruptly left standing with their mouths agape in shock.

"Damn it, these two thieves."

Han Yan couldn't help but curse.

They had been tricked by these two thieves once again.

"It's Yang Yue!"

"And Han Yan."

With Shangguan Feiyun and Xiao Qian leading the group, everyone heightened their vigilance, as if facing a major adversary.

"Ladies and gentlemen, these two men are lying. The real treasures are in their hands."

Yang Yue, also somewhat annoyed, stood up and said.

After hearing Yang Yue's words.

The dozen or so people led by Shangguan Feiyun and Xiao Qian wore peculiar expressions, falling into an eerie silence.

Yang Yue actually claimed the real treasures had been obtained by Situ Lin Yu and Chen Yu.

Everyone was resolute, convinced they weren't foolish enough to be deceived by Yang Yue's simple lie.

"Yang Yue, do you think you can deceive the heroes present with such a crude lie?"

Chen Yu said righteously indignant.

"Ladies and gentlemen, Yang Yue and Han Yan have taken all the treasures inside, including four Grade Spiritual Artifacts and over a dozen materials worth no less than one hundred thousand Grade Essence Stones. We just happened to witness this, and now they want to silence us."

Situ Lin Yu cooperated with Chen Yu, one after the other.

Among these, they exaggerated Yang Yue and Han Yan's gains somewhat, inciting greater envy in the crowd.

"Miss Yang Yue, there are so many of us present. If you hand over some treasures, we can let bygones be bygones, how about it?"

Shangguan Feiyun stood up, his gaze locked onto this formidable enemy, speaking neither humbly nor arrogantly.

"That's right, give up some of the loot, and we can let this slide," Xiao Qian also said evenly.

The rest all looked to Shangguan Feiyun and Xiao Qian for direction.

Even if Chen Yu and Situ Lin Yu were exaggerating, the treasures were definitely in Han Yan and Yang Yue's hands; there was no mistake about that.

"You..."

Han Yan was so furious that her chest heaved violently.

What was all this? They had just been deceived by Chen Yu and Situ Lin Yu, allowing the most precious Soul Stabilizing Pearl to fall into Chen Yu's hands.

And now, they had to carry this false accusation.

Han Yan felt incredibly wronged, on the verge of tears, with a torrent of rage she longed to unleash.

"Sigh."

Yang Yue sighed, knowing that whatever she said would be in vain.

Swoosh!

Her body radiated a pure and solemn light. With a wave of her hand, a massive crescent moon, carrying a terrifying oppressive force, shot out.

Since words were useless, she decided to strike first.

"Die!"

Han Yan let out a low shout, filled with hatred and anger.

Hiss sizzle!

With a fierce swipe of her Thunder Sword, a dazzling Sword Qi enveloped in lightning streaked across the sky.

The instant the two women launched their attack, this terrifying momentum and assault made Shangguan Feiyun, Xiao Qian, and the others take the situation very seriously.

"Attack together."

Shangguan Feiyun ordered coldly.

Then, over a dozen prodigies launched their attacks simultaneously.

Chen Yu and Situ Lin Yu were also among them, each executing an attack.

Of course, the two of them did not show their full strength, for that would easily raise suspicion.

The group believed what they had said because, to them, Chen Yu and Situ Lin Yu were weaklings.

After striking once each, Chen Yu and Situ Lin Yu moved back.

At a certain moment.

Swoosh! Swoosh!

The two immediately fled and flew out of the valley passageway.

"Let's go."

Chen Yu laughed heartily.

Lies were always at risk of being exposed, and since they had already gained the benefit, it made sense to leave directly.

They flew for a long time before stopping to rest for a moment.

"Ha ha ha, whether those two got beaten to death or were infuriated to death, they must be furious now."

Chen Yu couldn't help laughing.

Situ Lin Yu's smile grew even broader, and on exchanging glances, they shared a sense of camaraderie.

"We need to be careful next," Situ Lin Yu said with a smile. "Once those two regroup with their sect members, they will definitely target us."

With the strength of Yang Yue and Han Yan, facing those dozen or so people, even if they couldn't win, escaping wouldn't be a problem.

All of this trouble could be attributed to Chen Yu and Situ Lin Yu; the two women would not let the matter rest.

Moreover, it was very likely they would mobilize all available forces to deal with Chen Yu and Situ Lin Yu.

Evil Moon Sect was a Four-star Ruling Force, while Canglei Palace was a Three-star Peak Force.

Many talented disciples from these two forces participated in this ranking battle, and none were to be underestimated.

Chen Yu's expression grew solemn, then he said, "Let's rest for a moment, I'll start refining the Soul Stabilizing Pearl."

Then, the two found a hidden place and constructed a temporary cave dwelling to conceal themselves.

"Soul Stabilizing Pearl."

Chen Yu's consciousness seeped into the storage ring on his hand.

After obtaining the Bloodthirsty Second's storage ring, Chen Yu had changed his storage space.

Swoosh!

A deep purple pearl appeared in Chen Yu's palm.

Instantly, a cold, purple flame Qi emanated from it, penetrating into Chen Yu's soul, sending a shiver down his spine and chilling his heart.

Suddenly, the Soul Stabilizing Pearl darted out.

"Where do you think you're going?"

Chen Yu acted like lightning, capturing it back.

"This is the Soul Stabilizing Pearl? Something feels off."

Chen Yu felt puzzled.

As a defensive Spiritual Artifact, the Soul Stabilizing Pearl was well-known, capable of blocking mental attacks, nourishing the soul, calming the mind, and preventing cultivation deviation.

However, the Soul Stabilizing Pearl obtained by Chen Yu was exuding a cold aura and had a certain offensive nature.

"Let me have a look."

Situ Lin Yu said.

Taking the Soul Stabilizing Pearl, Situ Lin Yu inspected it closely and then, with a smile, said, "Congratulations, Brother Chen."

"Congratulations?"

Chen Yu looked puzzled.

"This Soul Stabilizing Pearl is of the finest top grade, a truly extraordinary Spiritual Artifact," Situ Lin Yu explained with a smile.

Chen Yu was somewhat surprised as the grade of the Soul Stabilizing Pearl was even higher than the Nine Bone Demon Spirit Sword, and it was very close to the legendary "Mystic Artifact."

"As for the offensive Yin Cold power within the Soul Stabilizing Pearl, it's likely the residue left by its previous owner. Brother Chen, if you refine this Spiritual Artifact, you can collaborate with its Artifact Spirit to harness this residual power."

Situ Lin Yu said with a hint of envy and then added, "However, this does increase the difficulty of refining the Soul Stabilizing Pearl for you, Brother Chen."

"No problem, ha ha!"

Chen Yu couldn't help but laugh.

"Brother Chen, I have a proposition for you,"

Situ Lin Yu said, smiling, "The Yin Cold power in the Soul Stabilizing Pearl doesn't align with the Cultivation Technique you practice. How about transferring that power to me..."

Situ Lin Yu was also willing to offer something in return for it.

Chen Yu pondered for a moment, then replied, "No, that power, I need it for something important."

Situ Lin Yu looked a bit surprised but didn't ask further.

Although he hoped to obtain that power, he didn't insist, especially since he had already obtained that black skeleton with its residual energy, which was not insignificant.

It wasn't that Chen Yu didn't want to share the benefit with Situ Lin Yu, but he truly needed it.

His practice of the "Six Flames Sword Finger" second layer was of the Yin attribute.

So far, the progress in cultivating it was slow, and its power was not yet strong enough.

But if the Yin Cold Flame Qi in the Soul Stabilizing Pearl was used to activate this finger technique, it would surely be more conducive for Chen Yu to comprehend it.

Besides, the previous owner of the Soul Stabilizing Pearl must have been a higher level than Chen Yu or Yang Yue, very likely nearing the level of a Condensed Star King.

The power left by this formidable being would certainly be extraordinary.

Chen Yu was secretly looking forward to how this power could enhance his Taiyin Sword Point!

Chapter 737: The Light of the Proud Son of Heaven

"This time Brother Chen took the initiative to help, and I have a secret technique here that can target Artifact Spirits and speed up the refinement of Spiritual Artifacts."

Situ Lin Yu did not mind Chen Yu's refusal and actively offered him benefits.

"Then I won't be polite."

Chen Yu's eyes lit up, and he smiled.

The Soul Stabilizing Pearl had a relatively high grade, and because of its special nature, it was difficult to refine.

Moreover, the first stage was time-limited.

With Situ Lin Yu's secret technique, Chen Yu would be able to refine the Soul Stabilizing Pearl in a short time, and his spiritual aspect was also secured.

Additionally, he could utilize the residual Yin Flame power from an unknown powerful being earlier, which gave him an extra trump card.

Next, Situ Lin Yu imparted the secret technique to Chen Yu.

This secret technique was not profound and not very precious, but at this moment, it was like sending charcoal in snowy weather.

"Why did Brother Situ choose this skeleton?"

Chen Yu was quite puzzled.

Logically, among all the items present, the Soul Stabilizing Pearl, the crimson short blade, and the Glazed Jade Bottle had higher values than the skeleton.

"This skeleton is not of much use to you, but for me, it has some wonderful uses."

Situ Lin Yu spoke very simply, probably involving some matters related to his personal secrets, so Chen Yu did not ask further.

Next, Chen Yu began to refine the Soul Stabilizing Pearl.

Situ Lin Yu took out the black skeleton that radiated a sinister and evil aura.

He didn't know what secret technique he was using, but he seemed to be able to convert the residual aura on the skeleton and the dense ghostly qi for his own use.

Generally, another's power and one's own power are completely different and cannot be merged; if forced, it might backfire.

It was similar to the power left by a powerful being inside the Soul Stabilizing Pearl.

But Situ Lin Yu advised Chen Yu and the Artifact Spirit to jointly urge this power, not to convert it for personal use.

Chen Yu did not interfere further and first practiced the secret technique given by Situ Lin Yu.

In just two hours, he almost mastered it.

Next, Chen Yu began to refine the Soul Stabilizing Pearl.

Inside the Soul Stabilizing Pearl, the Artifact Spirit was ready, and the moment Chen Yu began to refine it, he encountered strong resistance.

Furthermore, with the daunting aura remaining inside the Soul Stabilizing Pearl, without this secret technique, Chen Yu indeed needed a long time to refine it.

"Surrender obediently, I am your future master."

Chen Yu snorted coldly.

Two hours later, Chen Yu finally refined a trace of the Soul Stabilizing Pearl.

The beginning is the hardest.

Now that the first step had been taken, the rest was much easier.

Two days later.

Chen Yu completely refined the Soul Stabilizing Pearl.

Whiz~

A dark purple pearl drifted around Chen Yu.

After refining the pearl, Chen Yu felt a cool and tranquil aura constantly emanating from the Soul Stabilizing Pearl, affecting him at all times.

Spiritual power surged in, urging the ability of the Soul Stabilizing Pearl.

Instantly, a layer of dark luminescent film spread out, enveloping the surroundings.

With Chen Yu's spiritual power at the Peak of the Early Sky Sea Realm, this dark luminescent film could at least block a general mental attack from the Mid-stage Sky Sea Realm Peak.

With this Spiritual Artifact, Chen Yu's shortfall in the spiritual aspect was compensated.

He then began to attempt to use the power inside the Soul Stabilizing Pearl.

Who~

On the Soul Stabilizing Pearl, a small cluster of dark purple chilly flame wisp popped out.

It indeed became easier to control with the Artifact Spirit's collaboration.

If Chen Yu had acted alone, there would have been the possibility of losing control, and the consequences were unpredictable.

Chen Yu attached this small cluster of flame to his right thumb, integrating it into the routine of Taiyin Sword Point.

After brewing for a moment.

Whoosh!

A dark purple delicate finger light, emitting a cold and chilly aura, suddenly burst forth.

Its trajectory was elusive, making it difficult to capture and eventually hitting the front barrier restriction.

There was no significant might or loud noise.

The power of the Taiyin Sword Point turned into numerous strands of purple flame airstream, dispersing in all directions, instantly causing the entire barrier to vanish.

"Uh?"

Situ Lin Yu suddenly opened his eyes and looked ahead.

The barrier had disappeared, leaving behind a subtle cold fiery force.

"It seems you really need that force."

Situ Lin Yu smiled.

"I have a secret skill that exactly requires this type of force, but I'm not yet adept at using it."

Chen Yu confessed.

That one strike just now utilized only a trace of the residual power inside the Soul Stabilizing Pearl, but the power of the Taiyin Sword Point underwent a qualitative change, instantly damaging the entire barrier restriction.

If this strike entered a human body, the damage would be more terrifying.

Meanwhile, as Chen Yu continued to practice the Taiyin Sword Point, there was still a large room for improvement in all aspects.

Chen Yu noticed that Situ Lin Yu's aura was also a bit stronger than before.

After all, using external forces to enhance oneself cannot perfectly conceal the aura, allowing Chen Yu to clearly sense it.

"It's about time to act. We're still in the first stage; the number of marks might still be useful in the later stages." Situ Lin Yu said.

"Exactly my thought."

Chen Yu stowed away the Soul Stabilizing Pearl.

As soon as the two left the place, they made a discovery.

Whiz—

Three figures quickly swept through the forest.

Among them, a leader with a handlebar mustache suddenly stopped, his gaze darting to the right:
"Someone's coming."

The other man and woman immediately got into combat readiness.

"Hand over your marks."

Before they saw anyone, a deep and powerful voice came through, stirring up gusts of wind and shaking the heavens and earth.

The three people's eardrums trembled and their blood surged within.

"The comer is no ordinary person!"

The other two in the team thought to themselves secretly.

Soon, two men appeared in their field of vision, it was Chen Yu and Situ Lin Yu.

"Heavenly Pride List number ninety-four, Chen Yu?"

The goatee-bearded man looked at Chen Yu, a trace of doubt flickering in his eyes.

His ranking on the "Heavenly Pride List" was higher than that of Chen Yu.

Could it be that the voice that made him slightly apprehensive was from the young man beside Chen Yu?

They had no recollection of Situ Lin Yu.

"Hehe, those words should be mine, hand over your token!"

The goatee-bearded man relaxed, chuckling.

Among the two before him, the only famous one was Chen Yu, but his ranking on the "Heavenly Pride List" was lower than his own.

On the other hand, they also had an advantage in numbers.

"Then let it be settled by our abilities."

Chen Yu wasted no time and took action immediately.

He stimulated his Secret Pattern Demon Body, his entire body radiating an ancient, dark, demon light.

Harnessing the power of his body and Demon Pattern True Essence, he threw a punch—simple yet heavy—giving the goatee-bearded man and his companions an overwhelming sensation, difficult to contend with.

"What a formidable punch."

The goatee-bearded man was inwardly shocked.

From this punch alone, it was clear that Chen Yu's strength was definitely not limited to ninetieth-fourth on the "Heavenly Pride List."

Just when the goatee-bearded man and others were preparing to strike back.

Buzz boom!

A sinister and powerful Ghost Path spiritual power radiated from the man beside Chen Yu.

In the void, a dark gray ripple swiftly approached the three men.

Spiritual attacks are much faster than those in the material world, arriving first and striking the goatee-bearded man and the others.

Buzz~

Their spirits felt as though they were heavily struck, dazing them and darkening their surroundings.

The goatee-bearded man, who had a relatively stronger spiritual power, recovered first, but Chen Yu's majestic, demonic punch had already arrived.

In a hurry, he swung out a sword.

Bang!

The sword light was instantly crushed by the dark, gigantic fist.

By the time the other two had just regained consciousness, they saw a massive, oppressive dark fist descending.

Boom boom boom!

The three were sent flying by Chen Yu's punch, crashing onto the ground.

The weakest amongst them was smashed to death by Chen Yu's punch, and the other two, including the goatee-bearded man, were severely injured.

"How is this possible?"

The goatee-bearded man was shocked, unable to believe.

His ranking was far above Chen Yu's, and they had more people on their side.

But after a single exchange, their side suffered one death and two injuries, resulting in their immediate defeat.

"Stop, I am willing to hand over the token."

The goatee-bearded man immediately said, not wanting to die.

There was still a long time left in the first segment, and as long as they had a token in the end, they could pass.

Eventually, the tokens of the three were taken by Chen Yu and Situ Lin Yu, and the two shared them equally.

At this point, Chen Yu recalled the beginning of the first segment, when a small-eyed man named Wu Xiao'er wanted to team up with Chen Yu.

But not everyone can be a teammate.

Next, Chen Yu and Situ Lin Yu began their action to plunder more tokens.

Situ Lin Yu controlled Evil Ghosts, spreading them far and wide, making it more effective to search for targets.

Once they locked onto a target, the two would rush over and plunder the tokens.

After one day, the two had amassed one hundred and fifty-two tokens.

The first segment had just passed recently, and other people didn't have many tokens in their hands, unless they were the top ten or even top five talents of the "Heavenly Pride List."

So far, Chen Yu and Situ Lin Yu had not targeted such powerful contestants.

On the second day, they changed locations and continued their plunder, their haul exceeding the previous day.

Gradually, two dark horses, a powerful combination, rose within this trial.

...

Outside, the many powers of the Southern Domain monitored the performance of all geniuses within the first segment.

"These two dark horses are amazing."

"The number of their tokens is nearing those of the top ten on the 'Heavenly Pride List.'"

"So far, no one beyond thirtieth on the 'Heavenly Pride List' has escaped their plunder."

The high ranks of Ancient Ghost Temple were all smiles.

Situ Lin Yu's performance had greatly boosted their face before all the major powers of Southern Domain.

However, some higher-ups from other powers were displeased to see their members' tokens being plundered by these two dark horses.

A long-bearded old man from Evil Moon Sect, holding a wooden staff in one hand and a stone plate emitting a hazy glow in the other, which sparkled with countless stars—some dim, some dazzling—commented,

"So far, there are still one thousand two hundred and fifty-eight people with tokens, a ways off from the five hundred needed."

"It seems we must wait until the time limit of the first segment ends for those with tokens ranked in the top five hundred to advance, with the rest eliminated."

The high ranks of the various powers discussed.

Just then, in the venue of the first segment, a dense starlight shot straight into the sky.

Many participants inside the ordeal were alarmed, and outside, everyone's attention was captured.

"A thousand tokens will cause this phenomenon to appear."

"This is the starlight stepping towards the Heavenly Pride Star!"

Within the ordeal, a man bathed in starlight stood, the dazzling starlight transforming into a magnificent column of light shooting skyward.

His face was chiseled, and his eyes a peculiar yellow, giving off a sense of ancient depth.

This man was none other than Fallen Moon Venerable.

Chapter 738: Battle of Marks

Above the circular arena, hidden powers from the Southern Domain were also attracted by this beam of starlight.

"The first 'Heavenly Pride Light' indeed belongs to the Fallen Moon Venerable from the Evil Moon Sect,"

A Vice Pavilion Master from the Heavenly Sword Pavilion remarked.

Duan Xiao of Canglei Palace, considered a genius of the century, collected marks at a speed incredibly fast, yet still a notch below the Fallen Moon Venerable of the Evil Moon Sect.

"It's just unknown how many will manage to collect a thousand marks and form a 'Heavenly Pride Light'."

Another casually said.

"I think those two dark horses are gathering marks quite quickly; they might have a chance."

A King from Canglei Palace commented with a smile.

Previously, Chen Yu's performance exceeded his expectations, allowing the Silent Blood King to show off in front of him.

Now, he intentionally brought up Chen Yu's name.

The Silent Blood King didn't join the conversation. With the limited number of participants in the ranking battle of the Heavenly Pride List, collecting a thousand marks was extremely challenging.

Although the team of Chen Yu and Situ Lin Yu was strong, the notion of plundering so many marks seemed unrealistic.

The Silent Blood King knew that the Thunder King was only joking about his disciple and didn't say more.

"Heh heh, Thunder King really knows how to joke. The combination of Chen Yu and Situ Lin Yu is undoubtedly strong, but their widespread plundering has offended both Yang Yue and Han Yan. With so many enemies made in the first phase, they're bound to be defeated sooner or later by those harboring grudges, who will strip them of all their marks!"

An elder with a pointed chin and goat beard from the Heavenly Jade Sect spoke disdainfully.

"Old Goatbeard, what nonsense are you spouting?"

The Silent Blood King retorted coldly.

He could overlook the Thunder King's intentional praise of Chen Yu,

But he couldn't tolerate this goat-bearded elder from the Heavenly Jade Sect belittling his disciple.

Beside, the Demon Valley Master frowned subtly but did not intervene.

The Silent Blood King and the goat-bearded elder from the Heavenly Jade Sect, "Dark Feather King", had a deep-seated grudge and could be considered old rivals.

The Dark Feather King, a ruler of one of the peaks within the Heavenly Jade Sect, had Zhuo Buhuan, who was the Young Sect Master of his peak and entrusted by the Blood Race.

Having been at fault previously, the Dark Feather King had allowed the Silent Blood King to gain the upper hand and this had always bothered him.

Chen Yu, as a disciple of the Silent Blood King, naturally rubbed the Dark Feather King the wrong way, hence his derisive remarks.

"I see your disciple Luo Qiumei isn't that impressive either. The outside world even claims she has hope of entering the top five; I think she'd have to exhaust all her luck in this lifetime just to make it into the top ten,"

The Silent Blood King retorted, belittling Dark Feather King's disciple Luo Qiumei.

"Heh heh, my disciple isn't much? What if she does make it into the top five? What if she collects a thousand marks?"

The Dark Feather King countered coldly, laughing.

He was well aware of Luo Qiumei's talent and believed she had some hope of making it into the top five.

In any case, Luo Qiumei was certainly stronger than Chen Yu, so he was confident.

The Silent Blood King's gaze darkened. What he loathed the most was Dark Feather King showing off in front of him. After thinking it over for a moment, he said, "If your disciple collects a thousand marks in the first phase or ends up within the top five in the final ranking, I will give you the 'Heavenly Cold Blood Bamboo'."

The Dark Feather King was slightly startled. He hadn't expected the Silent Blood King to be so vain as to make such a claim.

The Heavenly Cold Blood Bamboo!

It was said to be an ancient treasure the Silent Blood King obtained in an ancient relic eight years ago, extremely precious. He still preserved it now, planning to use it at a crucial moment.

However, the likelihood of Luo Qiumei collecting a thousand marks or making it into the top five was slim.

But what if she did it?

The Dark Feather King was tempted.

After pondering for a moment, he said, "You said it yourself, everyone here heard it, right?"

If Luo Qiumei exceeded expectations and met one of those criteria, then he could acquire the 'Heavenly Cold Blood Bamboo.'

The Silent Blood King's brow furrowed. The Dark Feather King was actually taking his boastful joke seriously.

Still, it would indeed be difficult for Luo Qiumei to reach that goal.

"Hold on, Dark Feather King, surely that's not enough,"

The Silent Blood King added.

Regardless of whether the Dark Feather King won or lost, he would suffer no loss; the Silent Blood King could not agree to this.

"What more do you want?" the Dark Feather King snorted coldly.

"If my disciple collects eight hundred marks during the first phase or enters the top twenty, then you must offer up a treasure of equivalent value too,"

The Silent Blood King stated his terms.

"Heh heh, your conditions are a bit too low,"

The Dark Feather King sneered, beginning to haggle.

In reality, for Chen Yu himself to collect eight hundred marks was even more challenging than Luo Qiumei collecting a thousand marks.

The key was the top twenty, this was something the Dark Feather King was not quite sure about.

Separated by a barrier screen, he couldn't judge Chen Yu's capabilities.

Eventually, after a few exchanges, they adjusted the terms.

If Chen Yu managed to collect eight hundred marks in the first phase or landed in the top fifteen, the Dark Feather King would give the Silent Blood King a 'Mystic Artifact' from the demonic path that he acquired by chance.

The other surrounding Kings remained silent from start to finish.

As long as these two Kings didn't start fighting, that was all that mattered.

As for the bet, in their view, it was unlikely there would be a winner,

Meaning that most of the Kings thought this wager would have no victor.

The Silent Blood King's gaze turned toward the area below, thinking to himself, "You little rascal, put in some extra effort for your Master. Don't worry about the top fifteen; should fortune favor us and you gather eight hundred marks, I definitely won't mistreat you once we return to the valley."

"I might as well let Situ Lin Yu give all the marks to you..."

The Silent Blood King considered various possibilities in his heart.

Yet even the Spiritual Sense of a King couldn't penetrate the Holy Sanctuary Sky Realm Formation to reach out to the beings within.

...

Inside the Heavenly Pride Garden,

Chen Yu and Situ Lin Yu suddenly looked up towards a pillar of starlight not far away.

"What is this?"

Chen Yu felt a sense of surprise in his heart.

"I'm afraid it's a phenomenon triggered by reaching a certain number of marks,"

Situ Lin Yu replied, his eyes flashing.

"How many marks could that be!"

Chen Yu couldn't help but wonder.

Undoubtedly, the one who triggered such a phenomenon must be among the very strongest of all competitors.

Chen Yu bowed his head to glance at the pentagram mark on the back of his hand. He had now accumulated five hundred and twelve marks, the pentagram dazzlingly brilliant, surrounded by starlight.

There were certain unusual phenomena, but not to an extreme extent.

"As soon as the phenomena reaches that extent, continuing to plunder marks would become quite difficult."

Chen Yu speculated inwardly.

Perhaps, this was also to maintain the normal operation of the power ranks competition and to prevent top contenders from madly plundering and slaughtering for marks.

"Shall we continue to plunder marks?"

Situ Lin Yu asked Chen Yu for his opinion.

With the number of marks they currently had, they could at least rank in the top twenty.

There were only ten days left until the end of the first segment.

At present, only a very small number of people were holding marks, which might not be many.

Most of the marks were in the hands of the top contenders.

"There's no need to be too aggressive about this. If we have a target, we'll take action."

After pondering for a moment, Chen Yu felt he didn't need to push himself too hard.

He didn't know that his Master had already made a bet with a King from the Heavenly Jade Sect concerning his and Luo Qiumei's number of marks.

If the Silent Blood King heard what Chen Yu had just said, he would probably have a fit and might even want to give Chen Yu a thrashing.

"We'll move at night and rest and meditate during the day."

Chen Yu shared his view.

"Good."

Situ Lin Yu agreed with Chen Yu's opinion.

In the following days, the two spent their days in retreat, strengthening themselves.

At night, they carried out their plans, occasionally making gains, but not many.

Two days later.

Another glorious light of Heavenly Pride shot straight into the sky.

As time passed, there were only two more days until the end of the first segment.

At this moment, in the Heavenly Pride Garden, one could faintly see four magnificent pillars of light reaching into the heavens, dazzling and stealing the limelight.

This was a symbol of glory, but also of status.

The weak avoided this brilliant light at all costs.

The strong, confident in their own abilities, could approach and challenge that particular prodigy.

In a desolate basin.

Some disciples from Black Demon Valley had gathered here.

"Brother Shen, how many marks have you collected?"

One male disciple gaped, looking up at Shen Ji, the Little Demon King, with awe.

Shen Ji stood tall in midair, his demeanor proud and his presence extraordinary. His body was enveloped in swirling starlight, with fluctuations that lit up a radius of several dozen meters.

"Six hundred and fifty-one!"

Shen Ji grinned, baring two sharp canine teeth.

"Six hundred and fifty-one."

"My god, that's so many."

The disciples exclaimed with envy; Shen Ji truly deserved to be the leading figure of Black Demon Valley, holding the highest number of marks among all his fellow disciples.

In the crowd, Tu Zhixiang's beautiful eyebrows sunk low as she watched Shen Ji bask in his glory, her mood a bit downcast.

"With the number of marks Brother Shen has now, there is hope to break through a thousand and trigger the phenomenon of Heavenly Pride Light."

The attendant dressed in a black robe beside Shen Ji suddenly spoke up.

"That's right, by then, Brother Shen Ji will become the fifth prodigy to stand shoulder to shoulder with the other four great prodigies."

Another female added with a laugh.

These two were True Disciples who usually followed Shen Ji.

Hearing their words, the others looked at Shen Ji with even greater admiration.

For Black Demon Valley, if someone could trigger this phenomenon, they would all feel a sense of pride and honor.

"So, I hope everyone will hand over some of their marks to me, to aid me in triggering the Heavenly Pride Light."

The Little Demon King's clear and ringing voice spread out, carrying an imposing and overbearing aura that made breathing difficult for everyone present.

The expressions of the people present changed slightly, and they all fell silent.

According to the current situation, they needed to wait until the end of the first segment in two days. Only those with mark counts in the top five hundred could advance.

But no one knew exactly how many marks were needed to successfully advance.

Or perhaps, was there a corresponding reward for having a high number of marks?

As a result, most people were unwilling.

Seeing this, Shen Ji's face turned dark, and he snorted coldly. A vast demonic power burst forth: "Hmph, those with fewer than twenty marks don't need to worry, but the rest of you, hand over half your marks."

Those of lesser strength could not resist the pressure emanating from Shen Ji, fear growing in their hearts as they handed over some marks.

After the first person did so, a second followed, and the rest handed over varying amounts, seven or eight or as many as ten or twenty marks.

"Tu Zhixiang, where's your mark?"

Shen Ji turned his eyes to Tu Zhixiang, his mouth curling into a disdainful sneer.

"Why should I give them to you?"

Tu Zhixiang lifted her snow-white neck, staring right back at Shen Ji.

"Are we not fellow disciples, and shouldn't we help each other in times of need?"

Shen Ji looked down at Tu Zhixiang with a wicked smile, his tone growing colder, "If you're not willing, then I'll just assume you're not a disciple of Black Demon Valley... If that's the case, I have no need to be courteous with you."

"You..."

Tu Zhixiang glared with wide almond-shaped eyes.

But Shen Ji was too powerful, arrogant and domineering. He was capable of anything.

In the end, Tu Zhixiang relented and handed over part of her marks.

Buzz! Boom!

A beam of starlight burst forth from Shen Ji, but it only rose five meters high, unable to compare with those four magnificent pillars of light.

"Eight hundred and one!"

Shen Ji's smile deepened, his eyes brimming with unrestrained ambition.

"Tu Zhixiang, I've heard recently that your little fellow disciple is in the limelight, doing quite well, plundering quite a few marks."

Shen Ji turned to look at Tu Zhixiang again, his smile wild.

"If he were to give me a hand, reaching a thousand marks shouldn't be a problem."

Chapter 739: The Last Two Days

Only two days remained until the end of the first segment.

Now, Chen Yu held six hundred and eleven marks in his hands.

In the later stages, collecting marks had become exceedingly difficult.

The distribution of the marks showed a polarization.

Most people had none or only a few marks.

A few top talents held the vast majority of the marks.

Added to this, Chen Yu and Situ Lin Yu had also slackened their efforts, thus they hadn't plundered many marks.

However, over these days,

Chen Yu had repeatedly practiced the Taiyin Sword Point, advancing to the Small Success Realm, significantly enhancing its power.

Furthermore, after consuming the Hundred Flowers Honey and Fire Burning Wine, his physical constitution had greatly strengthened, and his cultivation of True Yuan had advanced greatly. He was only one step away from the peak of the Early Stage Sky Sea Realm.

Situ Lin Yu had also absorbed all the power and aura from the black skeleton, reaching his cultivation's bottleneck.

"Brother Chen, I plan to break through my cultivation in these two days," Situ Lin Yu stated outright.

Breaking through before the next segment would give them greater confidence for the challenges ahead.

In fact, Chen Yu had also considered this but had yet to make a decision.

"I'll help you protect," Chen Yu offered, understanding Situ Lin Yu's intention.

Situ Lin Yu did not stand on ceremony.

The two searched around and found a cave beneath a mountain gorge.

Situ Lin Yu dispatched the Evil Ghost and Big-headed Evil Spirit to guard the surroundings, then began his closed-door breakthrough, aiming for the Mid-stage Sky Sea Realm.

"Once Situ Lin Yu breaks through, his strength will certainly increase significantly..."

Chen Yu glanced at Situ Lin Yu inside the cave.

He decided to cultivate nearby to consolidate his cultivation, preparing to reach the Peak of the Early Stage Sky Sea Realm.

Taking out the Hundred Flowers Honey and Fire Burning Wine, Chen Yu sipped a little of each. The mellow-sweetness of the honey and the fierce heat from the wine mingled inside him, surging throughout his body.

"No wonder the Hundred Flowers Honey and Fire Burning Wine have allowed such rapid progress in my cultivation. These two treasures are indeed invaluable,"

Chen Yu felt the changes within his body and silently rejoiced.

The Hundred Flowers Honey primarily promoted cultivation growth, while the Fire Burning Wine refined True Yuan.

Together, their effects were outstanding.

Moments later, the Primordial Qi of Heaven and Earth nearby began to stir and gathered towards his location.

More precisely, it surged into Situ Lin Yu's body.

Chen Yu, being nearby, also benefited and absorbed some of the Primordial Qi.

On the other hand, Shen Ji and others were searching for Chen Yu.

His primary motive was to suppress Chen Yu.

Especially when Shen Ji heard that Chen Yu's reputation had risen as he plundered marks everywhere and had gained a considerable harvest, discontent brewed in his heart.

In Shen Ji's eyes, Chen Yu was just an ant.

However, Chen Yu's actions during the first segment marked a rapid rise not befitting of an ant.

Secondly, Shen Ji wanted to reach a thousand marks, and Chen Yu held a large number of them.

"Brother Shen, I heard that Chen Yu was seen in the ancient forest to the north two days ago."

"Chen Yu was spotted in the Three Rivers Region to the north yesterday." f

With this information handed to him, Shen Ji roughly determined Chen Yu's location.

"Junior Brother Chen, I'm coming, I hope the number of marks you hold won't disappoint me."

Shen Ji sneered, flying towards the north.

...

Above the gorge, three figures descended.

"What's going on here?" a woman in red asked.

"Someone is breaking through."

Beside her, a man with green hair and piercing eyes showed a sneer.

"It seems our luck isn't bad."

The third person laughed.

They descended together.

Suddenly, a figure appeared in their vision.

"Chen Yu!"

The green-haired man was startled when he saw Chen Yu.

This ranking battle had seen many dark horses emerge.

But the duo of Chen Yu and Situ Lin Yu was darkest of them all, significantly so.

It was said that even Han Yan from the Canglei Palace and Yang Yue from the Evil Moon Sect had suffered at their hands.

"What? It's Chen Yu!"

The other man and woman trembled, fear flashing through their eyes.

"Scram, or don't blame me for being impolite."

Chen Yu issued a cold shout.

The thunderous sound stirred gusts of wind, causing their robes to flutter loudly.

"Brother, let's withdraw," the woman in red suggested, now contemplating retreat.

The green-haired man's eyes darkened as he stared at Chen Yu.

Truth be told, he did not want to become enemies with Chen Yu and Situ Lin Yu, but Chen Yu's arrogance, which completely disregarded him, had offended him.

He, after all, ranked forty-second on the "Genius List," known as the "Green Flame Demon."

"You are overly arrogant!"

A fierce look crossed the green-haired man's face.

Though the duo of Chen Yu and Situ Lin Yu was formidable, he believed that they appeared so powerful only because they complemented each other's strengths.

Among them, Situ Lin Yu was the stronger.

Now, as Situ Lin Yu was secluded in a breakthrough to the Mid-stage Sky Sea Realm,

What was there to fear from Chen Yu alone?

Moreover, if he defeated Chen Yu, dealing with Situ Lin Yu, who was in the midst of a breakthrough, would also be easy.

Looking at the stellar phenomenon around Chen Yu, together, they must hold at least a thousand marks.

If he defeated Chen Yu and Situ Lin Yu, his reputation would skyrocket!

The other two gradually recovered, their fear diminishing significantly.

"You are courting death."

Chen Yu's expression slightly stiffened.

Being underestimated irked him.

"Haha, it's not certain who will die yet."

The green-haired man sneered, signaling his companions, then suddenly attacked.

Boom!

The power of his intent unfolded, green fire wildly burning in the air, enveloping an area of a hundred feet around, instantly incinerating any flora in sight.

The woman in red and the other person positioned themselves on either side of Chen Yu, their powerful intents also unfolding.

The formidable might of heaven and earth converged, pressing towards Chen Yu.

Chen Yu's eyebrows slightly furrowed.

The three Mid-stage Sky Sea Realm experts were frantically absorbing the Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi nearby, which would affect Situ Lin Yu's breakthrough and also extend the time it took for him to break through the barrier.

"Since it's impossible to lure these people away, let's make it quick!"

Chen Yu made up his mind.

The blue-haired man opposite, seeing no signs of Chen Yu making a move, had a smug smile on his face.

"If you willingly hand over the seal, I might spare your life," the blue-haired man said with a smirk.

But just then, Chen Yu suddenly looked up and pointed his right index finger.

Boom!

A blood-red Sword Qi, like a crimson pillar, shot out with the momentum of a rainbow, rapidly streaking across the sky, annihilating everything in its path and heading straight for the blue-haired man.

"What?"

The blue-haired man's face changed drastically.

Chen Yu attacked without warning, and the swift and forceful attack left him feeling a strong sense of crisis.

Fortunately, the blue-haired man had already deployed his conceptual power; with a slight thought, blue flames gathered from all around.

However—

Swoosh-bang!

The blood-red beam pierced through the blue flames, creating a circular passage within.

Bang!

The Yangming Sword Point struck the blue-haired man, sending him crashing into the ground in the distance and stirring up a cloud of dust.

"Cough cough, so powerful."

The blue-haired man tasted blood in his throat, coughed twice, and blood spewed out.

His inner armor was penetrated, leaving a bloody hole in his chest while the blood-colored flames madly devoured his vitality.

Had he not reacted quickly and defended with all his might, Chen Yu's strike could have killed him.

"Too terrifying, he used his killing move right from the start, but he certainly can't execute a second strike in succession," the blue-haired man thought to himself.

Just then, a chilling purple light suddenly appeared to his left.

This finger strike, with a subtle aura and not much force, made the blue-haired man sense a deadly threat.

Puff!

The ethereal purple Sword Qi light pierced the blue-haired man's temple.

The power of the Taiyin Sword Point instantly dispersed, moving throughout his body, eroding his flesh and vitality, including the spiritual aspect.

In less than two breaths, the blue-haired man was breathless, his body emanating bursts of cold air.

The remaining two in the sky stood stunned, a newfound fear swiftly overwhelming their bodies, causing them to tremble.

The fight was over too quickly.

In the blink of an eye, the Green Flame Demon, ranked forty-second in the "Tianjiao List," was killed on the spot.

"Run!"

The two exchanged a glance, and the thought naturally emerged.

Swoosh—

They turned to flee, one to the left and the other to the right.

"Think you can escape?"

Chen Yu looked at the red-clothed woman as he launched two Xuankong Palms simultaneously.

With his mastery of space, the red-clothed woman couldn't evade and could only watch helplessly as death descended.

Bang!

Two beams of spatial palm lights, flickering with silver amidst the darkness, struck the red-clothed woman.

Blood spurted, her body fell.

Immediately after, Chen Yu used the Demon Dragon Shadow Control to pursue the other person.

Eliminating the roots was the only way to prevent future troubles.

Chen Yu did not want to let them go out of a moment of mercy, only for them to bring back stronger enemies.

After all, he and Situ Lin Yu had made many enemies.

As soon as Chen Yu left, a shadow emerged from behind a nearby rock.

Surrounding faint lights shimmered as a short man appeared.

"Too terrifying. I was planning to fish in troubled waters."

The short man quickly retreated.

With Chen Yu's strength, it would only take a few moments to kill the remaining person and return here.

Thus, he didn't want to take the risk.

"Chen Yu's departure was unexpected; this ranking battle in the 'Tianjiao List' might even see him break into the top twenty."

"And that Situ Lin Yu, after his breakthrough, his strength will surely skyrocket."

The short man ran for an hour.

Just then, three figures burst from a river below, instantly blocking all of the short man's paths of retreat.

"Hand over the seal."

One of the notably handsome men coldly commanded.

This person was Dong Quanjian, a disciple of the Heavenly Jade Sect, who was defeated by Chen Yu with one move before the ranking battle had started.

The short man shook his head with a sigh and could only hand over the seal.

"Only ten? So few, then I'll take your life instead."

Another bloodthirsty disciple of the Heavenly Jade Sect cruelly said.

"Wait, wait, I have important information!"

The short man, scared pale, said.

"Speak."

"If you spare my life, I'll tell you."

The short man crouched and said timidly.

"Enough with the nonsense, believe it or not, I can chop off your head right now!"

The bloodthirsty disciple threatened impatiently.

"I, I have information about Chen Yu."

The short man blurted out immediately.

Knowing that Black Demon Valley and Heavenly Jade Sect were hostile forces, he decided to trade this information for his life.

"Chen Yu!"

Dong Quanjian's expression shifted, remembering his defeat by Chen Yu, he felt a strong resentment.

Just then—

The river below suddenly turned to ice with a chilling air.

Immediately after, countless icy Sword Qi burst forth, piercing the frozen river making it riddled with holes.

Swoosh-swoosh-swoosh~

Streams of bone-chilling Sword Qi shot into the sky.

Following which, a figure in white floated out. Her skin was pale as snow, and she had a striking demeanor with her eyes radiating a cold light. Surrounded by stars, she appeared as dazzling and beautiful as a fairy.

"Heavenly Jade Sect's leader, Luo Qiumei!"

Fear and cold overwhelmed the short man's body.

Chapter 740: Easy Instigation

Luo Qiumei, the leader among the geniuses of the Heavenly Jade Sect.

Rumors from outside indicated that, in this ranking battle, she was likely to break into the top five.

Based on this alone, her level of terror was above that of Yang Yue, Han Yan, and others.

The short man had not expected Luo Qiumei to be hiding here as well.

Though the other party was a top beauty, the short man dared not harbor any disrespectful thoughts.

Swoosh, swoosh!

Beneath the shattered ice river, several people closely followed Luo Qiumei as she flew out.

This turned out to be a gathering place for some disciples of the Heavenly Jade Sect.

The short man felt that his luck was terribly bad, having blundered into this place.

"Senior Sister Luo."

Dong Quanjian and the others immediately took a step back, removing the sword from the short man's neck.

With Luo Qiumei here, the short man had no chance of escaping.

"What do you know about Chen Yu?"

Luo Qiumei asked coldly.

Before the ranking battle, Shen Ji spoke arrogantly, insulting the disciples of the Heavenly Jade Sect.

But considering Shen Ji's character and the strength of the opposition, those words were expected.

Chen Yu, however, also followed in insulting the Heavenly Jade Sect.

Moreover, he defeated Dong Quanjian with a single move, causing all the disciples of the Heavenly Jade Sect to lose face, unable to retort.

However, now, there was an opportunity to erase the shame.

That was, in the first segment, to humiliate Chen Yu, to kill Chen Yu!

On the other hand.

Luo Qiumei heard that during the first segment, Chen Yu thrived like a fish in water, accumulating quite a few seals.

If she could get all the seals from Chen Yu, she would be able to trigger the phenomenon of the "Genius's Light."

"I know his current location, he's with Situ Lin Yu..."

Prompted by Luo Qiumei's questioning, there was no need for threats, the short man spilled everything he had seen and heard.

After hearing the short man's narrative, a glimmer of brilliance appeared on Luo Qiumei's face, her haughty voice transmitted, "I'll spare your life, but if you deceive me, I will personally reclaim your life."

Swoosh~

The short man turned and ran, not daring to linger here any longer.

"Let's go."

Luo Qiumei turned and flew in the direction from where the short man had come.

Several Heavenly Jade Sect disciples immediately followed, their expressions brimming with excitement.

"Chen Yu, this time you're definitely going to die a dreadful death."

A dark gleam flashed in Dong Quanjian's eyes.

Before the ranking battle, he had been defeated by Chen Yu in a single move, completely disgraced, the female disciple he fancied hadn't cared for him since.

Dong Quanjian had always kept this grudge in mind.

...

Below the gorge, Chen Yu squatted before a corpse, taking away its storage space.

"This is already the fourth batch."

Chen Yu sighed.

It should have been a remote enough area they were searching, not so easily attracting enemies.

But the impact of Situ Lin Yu breaking through was too vast, the Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi for nearly a thousand yards around was being mobilized.

Above the gorge, a huge vortex of Primordial Qi emitted a sinister and eerie terrifying aura.

Originally, Chen Yu had planned to benefit from Situ Lin Yu's breakthrough to cultivate and increase his cultivation level.

Instead, he was constantly busy fighting enemies.

"Luckily, I haven't encountered any of the top twenty or even top ten opponents."

Chen Yu thought to himself.

But just then, his heart suddenly felt a powerful surge of energy rapidly approaching from the south.

"You've got to be kidding."

Chen Yu wanted to retract his previous statement.

Swoosh—

In his field of view, several points of light appeared, rapidly approaching.

Chen Yu's eyes narrowed slightly, staring at the fastest person ahead.

Before he could clearly see the person's face, Chen Yu already felt the starlight phenomenon formed by numerous seals.

The newcomer was definitely no pushover!

"Luo Qiumei!"

A moment later, Chen Yu saw a cold, icy face.

The newcomer turned out to be Luo Qiumei, the strongest among the Heavenly Jade Sect disciples present.

Even if Chen Yu hadn't had any grudges with the Heavenly Jade Sect disciples, the others wouldn't let him off, especially since he had humiliated the disciples of the Heavenly Jade Sect before the ranking battle.

This time, he was in big trouble!

"Chen Yu, looking well."

Luo Qiumei revealed a hint of a smile, casually greeting him.

"Haha, it really is Chen Yu."

"Chen Yu, you're doomed this time."

The rest of the Heavenly Jade Sect disciples, upon seeing Chen Yu, became excited and thrilled.

Just as the short man had said, Situ Lin Yu was in seclusion, and Chen Yu was his protector.

Whirring~

After Luo Qiumei's arrival, a chilling breath covered everything around it with a layer of frost.

Her gaze, sharp and cold like an ice drill, pierced towards Chen Yu's spirit.

The other Heavenly Jade Sect disciples, seeing Luo Qiumei stop, also halted behind her.

"You're not running away?"

Luo Qiumei stood tall, her tone tinged with surprise.

"I think he knows he can't escape, has given up struggling, and accepts his fate."

Dong Quanjian wore a mocking smile.

"Why should I run?"

Chen Yu smiled slightly, retorting.

He then added, "You can't kill me now."

"Haha, can't kill you?"

Luo Qiumei laughed heartily twice, then asked.

Her gaze suddenly became incredibly sharp, as if a sword of ice had materialized in the void, aiming straight at Chen Yu.

With her strength, she didn't regard Chen Yu as a threat at all.

Luo Qiumei estimated that one or two moves would be enough to kill Chen Yu.

But at that moment.

From another direction, fluctuation of primordial Qi arose, and several figures suddenly appeared.

Among these men and women, the leading figure was clad in black armor, his body engulfed in Demonic Qi, swirling with stardust.

Previously, the mystical heart of Chen Yu had sensed another team approaching, thus he had purposely made those comments to buy time, hoping for a turning point in the situation.

Now that Chen Yu saw the newcomers clearly, his brow instantly relaxed.

"I didn't expect Brother Shen to come to our aid. I thank you in advance, junior brother."

Chen Yu's voice, filled with a smirking tone, drifted through the air.

"Shen Ji!"

Luo Qiumei, too, sized up the 'Little Demon King' Shen Ji, a gloom casting over her face.

Shen Ji was very displeased after hearing Chen Yu's words.

"Why would the people of the Heavenly Jade Sect be here?"

He surveyed the situation and furrowed his brows.

Shen Ji had initially planned to force Chen Yu to surrender the mark after finding him.

The sect sent disciples to participate in the ranking battle for honor, and his actions were also meant to bring glory to Black Demon Valley.

Moreover, his master was the Demon Valley Master, so Shen Ji had no fear.

However, he hadn't expected the Heavenly Jade Sect's people to be here.

This changed things drastically.

Chen Yu's gaze alternated between Shen Ji and Luo Qiumei, aware that both of them were targeting him.

"Luo Qiumei, didn't you ask about the whereabouts of Brother Shen? Well, he's right here."

Chen Yu's lips curled into a sly smile.

Luo Qiumei's expression remained cold, her elegant brows slightly furrowed.

Chen Yu's statement was clearly nonsense, but she couldn't deny it, for fear of appearing scared of Shen Ji to outsiders.

Meanwhile, Shen Ji thought to himself, "So Luo Qiumei wants to deal with me."

"Luo Qiumei, you're not strong enough yet if you want to deal with me."

Shen Ji stated disdainfully, his demeanor haughty.

Being a very proud individual who valued his face, he would likely lash out if treated impolitely.

How could Shen Ji show weakness when Luo Qiumei wanted to deal with him?

"Hmph, that foul mouth of yours truly can't utter anything good!"

Luo Qiumei revealed a look of disgust.

She detested Shen Ji's personality and even more so his mouth.

"You're courting death!"

Violence sparked in Shen Ji's eyes.

He had never been insulted like this before.

Shen Ji spread his arms wide, a chilling demonic intent rolling out, and a demonic shadow vaguely coalesced behind him, its presence daunting.

Not far away.

Chen Yu saw this development and barely suppressed his laughter.

With the hostile relationship between the Heavenly Jade Sect and Black Demon Valley, plus Shen Ji's personality, he easily instigated them against each other.

Chen Yu's own crisis thus resolved!

Suddenly.

'Little Demon King' Shen Ji struck out with his claws, a radius of several hundred meters enveloped by savage Demonic Qi, two huge dark claws emerging from the darkness, moving with a domineering stance.

Shen Ji took the initiative.

Although he didn't want to start a battle with Luo Qiumei right now, preferring to force Chen Yu to hand over the mark, the situation didn't allow it.

If facing a disciple of the Heavenly Jade Sect, he couldn't attack his enemy and still force Chen Yu. That would cross the sect's bottom line, and even the Demon Valley Master couldn't protect him.

Whoosh!

In Luo Qiumei's hand, a slender ice spike suddenly appeared, shaped like a sword, emitting a piercingly cold fog.

The ice spike swept across, a white cold Sword Qi pulling along a vast icy sword shadow, shooting out, its chilling Sword Intent making many disciples of Black Demon Valley shiver.

The fight had begun!

Chen Yu couldn't help but laugh, joining the fray.

He spotted someone familiar and actively approached.

"Chen Yu!"

Upon seeing Chen Yu flying towards him, Dong Quanjian shivered.

Before the ranking battle began, he had lost to Chen Yu in a single move, and hadn't been convinced.

But after hearing about Chen Yu's accomplishments during the first round, he had no complaints left.

Now, facing Chen Yu, he felt utterly devoid of fighting spirit.

But with Luo Qiumei and other disciples fighting here, how could he flee?

Boom!

Chen Yu unleashed an attack, a black and dominant fist shadow advancing.

Dong Quanjian, sensing the power of this blow, his expression changed: "Eh? This strike isn't as strong as I expected."

Although strong, Chen Yu's attack didn't make him feel a strong crisis, giving him a sense he could withstand it.

Swoosh!

Dong Quanjian swung his sword, a purple sword wave sweeping across.

After two strikes, he successfully extinguished Chen Yu's move.

"Could the rumors be exaggerated? As for the pairing of Chen Yu and Situ Lin Yu, Situ Lin Yu must be the main force, and Chen Yu just rode on his coattails, his real combat power being just so."

Dong Quanjian pondered internally, guessing repeatedly.

Boom!

After a few more exchanges, Dong Quanjian felt strained, but managed to block all of Chen Yu's attacks, only sustaining some minor injuries.

"Alas, this guy is too weak."

Chen Yu sighed inwardly.

He was deliberately hiding his strength to prolong the battle.

Once Shen Ji and Luo Qiumei determined the winner, the remaining party would target him.

Thus, Chen Yu didn't go all out but casually muddled through to delay the battle.

He could drag it out until Situ Lin Yu emerged from seclusion, or until Shen Ji and Luo Qiumei exhausted each other.

Yet, this Dong Quanjian was too weak; Chen Yu, using only fifty percent of his power, almost killed him.