

Eternal Heart 741

Chapter 741: The Formidable Shen Ji

"The people from Heavenly Jade Sect and Black Demon Valley have started fighting."

"I didn't expect Little Demon King Shen Ji to be so strong, able to hold his own against Luo Qiumei."

"How foolish of you, can't you see? Little Demon King Shen Ji has been concealing his true strength all along, aiming to make a name for himself in one fell swoop during the ranking battle."

Many outsiders were watching this battle unfold.

After all, this battle might very well give rise to another possessor of a thousand imprints.

This included the powers lurking high above the Southern Domain, who were also dedicating most of their attention to this fight.

They all remembered the bet made between Silent Blood King and Dark Feather King a moment ago.

"If Luo Qiumei wins, then Silent Blood King loses," the Demon Valley Master thought to himself.

However, he felt that this possibility was not great.

As Shen Ji's Master, he had great confidence in Shen Ji's strength.

The rumors circulating among the outsiders were nothing but deliberate misinformation by Black Demon Valley, meant to make others underestimate and belittle Shen Ji.

Dark Feather King's gaze was entirely focused on Shen Ji and Luo Qiumei, his face showing no clear sign of joy or anger.

Unable to sense the battlefield's atmosphere and relying solely on sight, he could not determine the outcome of the battle.

"Shen Ji, if you lose, this old man will show you no mercy," Silent Blood King's gaze sharpened.

If these two had not encountered each other, Luo Qiumei might not have been able to collect a thousand imprints in the end, and at the very least, he would not lose.

At the same time, his gaze briefly swept over Chen Yu.

Silent Blood King wished he could communicate with Chen Yu, telling him about the bet with Dark Feather King and urging him to snatch imprints quickly.

It was just a pity that both he and Dark Feather King could not interfere with the world inside the Holy Sanctuary Sky Realm Formation.

...

The disciples of Black Demon Valley and Heavenly Jade Sect were fighting in a chaotic melee.

"Chen Yu, you're really not all that impressive, are you?"

Dong Quanjian said with a smile.

At first, facing Chen Yu, his heart was filled with dread, even thinking about fleeing directly.

But as they clashed, he found that Chen Yu was not as powerful as the rumors had made him out to be.

Even, he felt a sense of empowerment, feeling that he could match Chen Yu and a sense of pride welled up within him.

"After this battle, my fame, Dong Quanjian, will surely spread far and wide."

He was filled with longing in his heart.

Seeing Dong Quanjian's behavior, Chen Yu felt a mix of amusement and resignation.

Having decided to delay the fight, no matter how Dong Quanjian provoked him, he had to keep his composure.

"Eat my 'East Born Purple Smoke'!"

Dong Quanjian bellowed, preparing to unleash his ultimate technique.

The treasured sword danced, True Yuan surged, Sword Qi scattered, turning into waves of purple mist, rising and undulating as if a great power was about to burst forth.

But in Chen Yu's eyes, Dong Quanjian was obviously still not skilled in executing this move, instantly revealing three flaws.

Considering his goal was to prolong the fight, Chen Yu ignored these flaws, allowing Dong Quanjian to smoothly release his ultimate move.

Boom swoosh swoosh~

Countless tiny purple Sword Lights turned into a cloud of purple mist, surging towards Chen Yu.

"I've never been successful in using it against an enemy before, but this time I succeeded, has my strength really improved imperceptibly?" Dong Quanjian was overjoyed and his face beamed with happiness.

Boom boom boom!

Chen Yu waved his hands continuously, and Demonic Qi imbued with Demon Pattern True Essence turned into a series of black patterned light waves that swept around, blocking Dong Quanjian's strike.

"Chen Yu, weren't you quite arrogant before? If you dare, use the same methods you did before the ranking battle, and I, Dong Quanjian, will certainly block them," Dong Quanjian shouted with renewed confidence, thinking of the humiliation of being defeated by Chen Yu with a single move.

Chen Yu glanced at him.

Initially, his Taiyin Sword Point had just been learned and he had not gone all out, leaving only minor injuries on Dong Quanjian.

Now, the power of his Taiyin Sword Point had greatly increased, and it could be called one of his killing moves.

If executed, it would be enough to kill Dong Quanjian several times over!

"I can't waste the power of the Soul Stabilizing Pearl on this worthless trash," Chen Yu thought to himself, holding back.

Boom!

A terrible shockwave came from the distance, making many of the fighting disciples from both sects tremble in their hearts.

"The strength of those two is too terrifying."

Many people kept their distance to avoid being affected by the fight between Shen Ji and Luo Qiumei.

"Luo Qiumei, with just this level of strength, you think you can make it into the top five? A toad lusting after swan meat," Shen Ji laughed loudly.

Behind him, the demonic figure's shadow became more distinct, and two vast and boundless arms materialized on each side.

Swish swish!

The arms waved, massive demonic claws stirring up a black demonic cyclone, heading straight for Luo Qiumei.

"Ice Blade Slash!"

Luo Qiumei kept a stern face, unwilling to argue with Shen Ji so as to not disturb her focus.

Her mind was entirely on her sword, and the ice pick in her hands suddenly chopped down fiercely.

A huge frigid Sword Qi suddenly materialized, stretching forty to fifty feet in length, with an exceptionally sharp edge, and the surrounding air filled with coldness as it slashed diagonally.

Boom!

The first of the giant demon claws was split in two by the cold Sword Qi, severed into halves.

But the second giant demon claw grabbed hold of the icy Sword Qi.

Cold Sword Qi spread, brutal Demonic Qi raged, the two forces wildly intertwining until both shattered, turning into a black and white storm that alarmed all directions!

"I can win this battle."

Having fought this far, Shen Ji had a clear assessment of Luo Qiumei's strength.

The rumor that she had a chance of making it into the top five seemed highly exaggerated in Shen Ji's view; Luo Qiumei would at most rank eighth or ninth.

Although this was the case, he still needed to exert some effort to secure the victory.

If only someone could lend him a hand, taking some of Luo Qiumei's offensive away, that would be ideal.

"That's right, Chen Yu!"

Shen Ji suddenly thought of Chen Yu.

He had come here mainly to deal with Chen Yu, but ironically, he ended up helping Chen Yu resolve a crisis.

For this, Shen Ji felt very frustrated in his heart.

Now, an opportunity for vengeance lay before his eyes.

When Chen Yu came over to support him, he would intentionally let Chen Yu take on the brunt of Luo Qiumei's assault, at which point Chen Yu would be either dead or severely wounded.

"Chen Yu, what are you doing? Hurry up and deal with the others, and come help me defeat Luo Qiumei."

Shen Ji immediately sent a telepathic message to Chen Yu.

At this moment, he realized that Chen Yu was entangled with someone of insignificant strength.

Wasn't it rumored that Chen Yu was the dark horse of this event, powerful and unstoppable when paired with Situ Lin Yu as they plundered tokens?

How had he been entangled by a minor character now?

"Brother Shen, I'm injured and my combat strength has diminished. I'm afraid I can't help you."

Chen Yu made up an excuse.

Making a deal with a tiger; he wasn't so foolish. Shen Ji definitely didn't harbor good intentions.

"You..."

Shen Ji had no way to counter Chen Yu's excuse.

Just then, Luo Qiumei seemed to realize the difficulty of dealing with Shen Ji, her offensive suddenly intensified, preparing to fight with all her might. If she could win, so much the better, otherwise she would retreat first.

"Seeking death..."

Shen Ji felt somewhat annoyed.

Boom!

The demonic figure and shadowy arms behind him gradually became complete, revealing a gigantic upper body of a demon that caused the demonic might to stir wildly in all directions.

Shen Ji, by nature, preferred to crush his enemies, and now he was ready to unleash his trump card to defeat Luo Qiumei.

Once successful, his prestige would reach unprecedented heights, and Chen Yu would recognize the vast chasm between their strengths.

"Sky Ice Falling River Sword."

Luo Qiumei began to feel the pressure, her gaze sharpening as the ice cone in her hand emitted a bone-piercing icy Sword Qi.

Whoosh whoosh whoosh~

Countless beams of ice light, like a snow-white river, fell from the sky, with a momentum that seemed to freeze and destroy everything.

"Apocalyptic Demon Strike!"

Shen Ji, the Little Demon King, surged with momentum, his body emanating extremely dense Demonic Qi as he unleashed his killing move against Luo Qiumei.

The half-bodied demon on him roared, crossing its claws and ferociously tearing open a swath of pitch-black demonic light, as if to swallow everything before it.

Bang!

As the trump cards clashed, a terrifying storm demolished everything within a hundred yards.

Spurt!

Luo Qiumei spat out a mouthful of fresh blood, staining her white clothes red, and was sent flying backward.

"Die."

Shen Ji had some damage to his armor and his complexion was slightly pale, but he was excitedly pursuing the retreating Luo Qiumei.

Luo Qiumei, her face showing a trace of pain, was surprised in her heart at Shen Ji's strength, which was even greater than she had imagined.

"Frostbound Domain!"

Seeing Shen Ji charging at her, Luo Qiumei threw her ice cone and shaped a spell, releasing a terrifying cold True Yuan that gathered towards Shen Ji, the Little Demon King.

"What is this?"

Shen Ji felt a piercing cold force converging from all directions, his body freezing stiff, and the circulation of his True Yuan slowing down.

And the cold force kept increasing.

Fortunately, this force focused more on freezing control than on destructive power.

Others not far away, were also affected by this cold force, frigid frost forming over them, as if turning them into Blood Men.

"What's happening? Help!"

"This is Senior Sister Luo's life-saving secret technique, capable of instantly freezing an area."

In three breaths' time, Shen Ji was enclosed within a huge block of ice.

Others including Chen Yu, were also affected to varying degrees.

Swoosh!

Luo Qiumei, who had executed the secret technique, spat out a large mouthful of fresh blood, retracted her Spiritual Artifact, and fled into the distance.

Though she had lost the battle, the damage she suffered was minor, and with her injuries healed, she would have opportunities in the future.

"Luo Qiumei has lost."

Chen Yu muttered to himself, Shen Ji's strength was slightly stronger than he had anticipated.

Five breaths later.

Boom crack!

The ice shattered, exploding outwards, and a dark figure burst forth.

"Damn it, let her get away!"

Shen Ji's eyes were ferocious, as he roared out in rage.

"Die, all of you, die!"

Shen Ji turned to the rest of the Heavenly Jade Sect members present and began a massacre.

Soon after, the other members of the Heavenly Jade Sect either died or fled.

"Chen Yu, why did you not come to help me just now?"

Shen Ji glared furiously at Chen Yu, his angry face all the more imposing, and his fearsome aura poured down on Chen Yu.

Now that Luo Qiumei had left, he could still carry out his original plan to pressure Chen Yu into handing over the tokens.

Without waiting for Chen Yu to reply, he continued, "Hand over half of your tokens to me so that I, your Senior Brother, can activate the Radiance of a Genius and bring glory to Black Demon Valley. I'm sure you, as a Junior Brother, would also like to see Black Demon Valley shine before the mighty ones of the Southern Domain."

By bringing up Black Demon Valley, Shen Ji put on an appearance of fighting for the greater good, making it difficult for Chen Yu to refuse.

At that moment.

Whoosh!

The spiritual energy vortex in the sky suddenly vanished, and a strong and eerie ghostly Qi rose from a cave below the gorge, causing the souls of everyone present to tremble instinctively.

At that moment, their souls felt an unfathomable fear and dread.

Swoosh!

A black figure flew out, and Situ Lin Yu arrived in front of Chen Yu.

He had just made a breakthrough and couldn't perfectly contain his aura; the terrifying presence of a Mid-stage Sky Sea Realm cultivator spread out.

"Brother Chen, is this your fellow sect member?"

Situ Lin Yu looked towards Shen Ji with a light, sinister smile and casually sized him up.

Shen Ji's gaze sank slightly; this man who had just advanced to the Mid-stage Sky Sea Realm gave him a profound and unfathomable feeling.

Chapter 742: Battle with Luo Qiumei

It was clear that Situ Lin Yu was on Chen Yu's side.

If Shen Ji forcefully pressured Chen Yu to hand over the seal, the other party would not stand by idly.

Having just battled with Luo Qiumei and suffered injuries, Shen Ji was not willing to engage with the unfathomable Situ Lin Yu at this time.

If he were not careful and lost, his illustrious life would end right here.

"Chen Yu, take care of yourself."

Shen Ji snorted coldly and turned to leave.

His original plan was to force Chen Yu to hand over the seal, but in the end, he not only failed to do so but actually helped Chen Yu drive away a powerful enemy.

Thinking of this, Shen Ji felt extremely annoyed and frustrated.

If someone uninformed saw this, they might actually think Shen Ji and Chen Yu had a good relationship and had come a long way to assist.

"Take care, Brother Shen."

Chen Yu's cheerful voice came from behind.

"Chen Yu, I'll see how long you can stay pleased with yourself."

A fierce light flashed in Shen Ji's eyes as he swallowed this anger and, along with the other disciples of Black Demon Valley, left the area.

Outside, the battle between the disciples of Black Demon Valley and Heavenly Jade Sect caused a great stir.

"Who would have thought Luo Qiumei would not be a match for Shen Ji."

"Shen Ji is quite the dark horse; maybe he can make it into the top five."

"I've been overestimating Luo Qiumei all along; seems like rumors can't be trusted."

Before the ranking battle of the Tianjiao List began, rumors had it that Luo Qiumei had a chance to enter the top five, and the Little Demon King Shen Ji could make it to the top twenty. However, once the fight started, the outcome was beyond everyone's expectations.

"Situ Lin Yu has broken through; now we're in for a good show. The competition for the top five spots is going to be more intense."

Above them all, the Silent Blood King and the Dark Feather King both let out sighs of relief.

"This Shen Ji is so strong; it's fortunate that Luo Qiumei managed to escape using a secret technique. Otherwise, if the seal had been taken, there would have been no hope."

The Dark Feather King still held some hope that once Luo Qiumei collected a thousand seals, he would win the bet with the Silent Blood King.

On the other hand, the Silent Blood King was worried about Shen Ji losing to Luo Qiumei.

"I didn't expect Old Wang to be so low-key; he must have given Shen Ji many benefits in secret."

The Silent Blood King inwardly sneered, glancing at the Demon Valley Master.

However, the Demon Valley Master did teach his disciples well; otherwise, Shen Ji would have likely lost to Luo Qiumei, and his Heavenly Cold Blood Bamboo would have to be given to the Dark Feather King.

"Dark Feather King, your disciple is nothing special after all," said the Silent Blood King with a laugh.

This embarrassing defeat of Luo Qiumei was a perfect opportunity to mock the Dark Feather King.

The Dark Feather King's face turned grim but then smiled suddenly as if he thought of something, "Heh, your disciples are no better, managing only a draw with a mid-tier disciple from my Heavenly Jade Sect."

The two Kings traded barbs a few times and then fell silent.

The first segment had not yet ended.

Above the gorge, in an instant, only Chen Yu and Situ Lin Yu were left.

"Being a protector for you is really no easy task."

Chen Yu said jokingly.

After all, countless people had died here before.

"These two groups of people must have come for you."

Situ Lin Yu's mind was as clear as a mirror.

"That's not wrong..."

Chen Yu laughed heartily. In the end, Situ Lin Yu's emergence had thwarted Shen Ji's plan.

"However, if it weren't for you, I would not have been able to break through successfully."

Situ Lin Yu expressed his gratitude, finally revealing a mysterious smile, "So, I have a big gift for you."

"A big gift?"

Chen Yu's expression shifted slightly.

"Let's talk as we go."

Situ Lin Yu took off flying first, with Chen Yu following behind.

On the way, Situ Lin Yu finally explained what the "big gift" was.

"What? You know where Luo Qiumei is?"

Chen Yu said with a mix of surprise and joy.

"Perhaps we can find her."

"Before I went into seclusion, I dispersed the Evil Spirit and all the Yin Soul Ghost Servants in all directions; if anyone approached, they would be intercepted..."

Situ Lin Yu explained.

Chen Yu was aware of this as well.

Those who approached Situ Lin Yu's seclusion area were capable and resourceful; in fact, even more ruff-raff had been chased away.

"And when Luo Qiumei escaped, she happened to be spotted by one of my Ghost Servants."

Situ Lin Yu said with a smile.

Therefore, he could roughly determine Luo Qiumei's escape route.

But they needed to act quickly; if too much time passed and Luo Qiumei got too far away, even Situ Lin Yu would find it difficult to track her down.

Soon after, the two arrived at a continuous mountain range.

"She's here."

Situ Lin Yu's mouth curled into an evil smile.

Luo Qiumei hadn't run far but had found a concealed place nearby, clearly in urgent need of healing her injuries.

"Brother Chen, shall I take action, or will you take it upon yourself?"

Situ Lin Yu asked with a smile.

"Is that even a question?"

Chen Yu retorted, then firmly replied, "Of course, I shall take action myself!"

During the previous fight, Chen Yu had deliberately hidden his strengths and prolonged the battle.

His opponent Dong Quanjian kept provoking him, and Chen Yu had endured much, feeling somewhat stifled.

Moreover, Luo Qiumei's previous target was Chen Yu himself.

Now, Chen Yu naturally wanted to take his revenge personally.

...

Inside a cave within the great mountain, Luo Qiumei sat cross-legged, circulating her Cultivation Technique to heal her injuries.

"I never thought the Little Demon King Shen Ji would be so powerful."

"Today's defeat to him doesn't mean I can't beat him in the future; I, Luo Qiumei, will surely take my revenge."

Luo Qiumei's face was frosty, her eyes filled with unwillingness and rage.

"Hu!"

Moments later, Luo Qiumei exhaled a breath of cold air.

"Thank goodness I have the 'Heavenly Returning Pill,'" Brother Chen sighed, "or my wounds would take much longer to heal..."

Luo Qiumei estimated that within two days, her injuries could recover by seventy to eighty percent.

She still had hope for the ranked battle on the Pride of Heaven List.

Suddenly, Luo Qiumei sensed something was amiss.

Boom!

A sound like thunderous lightning abruptly burst forth, causing rocks to crumble and revealing the pitch-black cave to the world outside.

"Luo Qiumei, hand over the seal!"

A booming voice shook the air.

Amidst the debris, a layer of icy light protected Luo Qiumei within, leaving her unharmed.

Upon seeing Chen Yu, a trace of surprise flickered in Luo Qiumei's eyes.

"What a joke, even with my injuries, you are no match for me within ten moves."

Luo Qiumei's face betrayed a mocking sneer.

It seemed Chen Yu was hoping to benefit like the fisherman who profits from the quarrel of the snipe and the clam. Unfortunately, Chen Yu was overestimating himself.

"On the contrary, you've escaped death once and now you've come to me willingly. Since that's the case, I'll take both your seal and your life."

If it hadn't been for Shen Ji's sudden arrival, Chen Yu would have already fallen to her sword.

"Ha-ha, I'm not kind enough to do such good deeds."

Chen Yu laughed loudly, suddenly launching an attack.

Bang! Bang!

He thrust out two palms in rapid succession, and two dull gleaming translucent palm strikes dashed out from within the darkness.

"Spatial Realm..."

Luo Qiumei instantly realized something was wrong.

She quickly took out her weapon to block in front of her.

Bang bang!

The two strikes from the Space Palm Technique hit their mark, colliding with an ice spike sword and sending an immediate burst of icy light splashing outward.

Luo Qiumei staggered back three steps before stopping.

"What tremendous force."

She thought to herself, channeling her True Yuan to ease the numbness in her arms.

"Indeed, as the leader of the Heavenly Jade Sect, even with your injuries, you still have such combat strength."

Chen Yu said aloud, his voice betraying neither disappointment nor excitement but rather a surge of eager fighting spirit.

Whoom!

A terrifying Blood Crystal Flame power surged through his entire body.

In an instant, golden feathery patterns emerged on Chen Yu's skin, and subtle golden wings seemed to appear on his back. An ancient, world-burning bloodline aura spread in all directions.

His opponent was Luo Qiumei; even in her weakened state, she could not be underestimated.

"This kid, he actually has such Bloodline Power?"

Luo Qiumei felt her blood chill under the immense pressure of the powerful bloodline.

Chen Yu dived from the sky, his punch thundering down.

Boom~

The black punch seemed to ignite suddenly, flames erupting around it and transforming into a meteor-like attack that plummeted towards the earth.

Luo Qiumei looked up at the sky, feeling the earth-shaking might of the terrifying attack.

Ice Blade Slash!

With a calm face, she swung her ice spike sword, and suddenly a massive beam of icy Sword Qi materialized, reaching forty to fifty feet long.

The Sword Qi was incredibly sharp, the surrounding coldness chilling to the bone, confronting Chen Yu's punch.

Boom!

The two forces clashed with a fierce impact. The icy Sword Qi sliced halfway into the punch's radiance but was then shattered by the colossal force within the punch.

The energies exploded instantly, intertwining in all directions.

Chen Yu's activation of the Golden Winged Phoenix's fiery bloodline power allowed his attack to counteract the frost and instantly engulfed all the chill, lashing toward Luo Qiumei.

"How is this possible?"

Her expression shifted dramatically upon witnessing this scene.

Although she had sustained serious injuries in her fight with Shen Ji, she had already taken the "Heavenly Returning Pill" and her wounds had healed by thirty to forty percent.

Yet, to her surprise, she found herself at a disadvantage in a direct confrontation!

Swoosh!

Luo Qiumei lunged with her sword again, her biting cold Sword Intent filling the air and weaving into a net of icy Sword Qi.

Chen Yu met her head-on, unwavering, launching punches and kicks.

The greatest enhancement of the Golden Winged Phoenix Bloodline was in vitality and aggressiveness.

Chen Yu's attacks were overwhelmingly powerful and intense. With the increase from the bloodline flame, he was able to subdue Luo Qiumei to some degree.

After a few exchanges, Luo Qiumei felt even more shocked.

Chen Yu's defensive power was like an impenetrable fortress. Her attacks might occasionally wound Chen Yu, leaving only minor cuts.

What dumbfounded her even more was that these small wounds would disappear after a short while, completely healed.

Yangming Sword Point!

Chen Yu summoned the force of the Blood Crystal Flame, concentrating it in his right pointer finger and transforming it into a column of bloody Sword Qi that sped forth.

Boom!

The net of icy Sword Qi before Luo Qiumei was immediately pierced open by the column of bloody Sword Qi.

Before the Sword Point even arrived, an overwhelming wave of fiery energy approached her.

"Blood Crystal Flame?"

Luo Qiumei's brows furrowed.

She had thought Chen Yu's trump card was just his Bloodline Power.

To that, she was not afraid—the Bloodline Power couldn't last, and once Chen Yu's bloodline was exhausted, victory would be hers.

Unexpectedly, Chen Yu also possessed the Blood Crystal Flame.

This attack was similarly fierce and undoubtedly another one of Chen Yu's trump cards.

Swoosh!

Luo Qiumei swiftly thrust her sword, her icy sharp Sword Qi piercing toward the imposing Blood Qi Sword Point.

In a flash, the Sword Point obliterated the Sword Qi and came crashing down.

Boom!

The Yangming Sword Point shattered Luo Qiumei's True Yuan defense and struck her shoulder, tearing away a chunk of flesh.

"Hiss..."

Luo Qiumei staggered back six steps, feeling an intense burning pain in her shoulder, and couldn't help but hiss through clenched teeth.

Chapter 743: The Fifth Light of the Proud Son of Heaven

Luo Qiumei looked at the wound on her shoulder, missing a chunk of flesh, and there was also a blood-colored flame burning, devouring her vitality.

She immediately circulated her True Yuan, forcing the power of the blood flame out of her body.

Just then, Chen Yu attacked again, unleashing his offensive.

Luo Qiumei, after all, was a top ten powerhouse on the "Pride of Heaven" list, and she could not be careless; she needed to seize every opportunity to attack.

Demon Annihilation Claw! Swallowing Cloud Demon Fist!

Chen Yu activated two Demon Patterns simultaneously, and on his left and right arms, the dark and grim Demon Patterns surged to life, gathering enormous Demon Pattern True Essence. Then, with the sweep of his arms, he released two ferocious attacks!

"Damn it... If not for my injury, killing you would be as easy as crushing an ant."

Luo Qiumei bit down on her silver teeth, her face shrouded in gloom.

Had she been in her prime, Chen Yu's Golden Winged Phoenix's Bloodline Fire might have struggled to suppress her ice-based True Yuan.

Whoosh!

Luo Qiumei threw her Ice Sword, tracing a dazzling white arc through the air, leaving behind a layer of severe frost.

Bang bang bang!

Luo Qiumei's Spiritual Artifact clashed with Chen Yu's attacks, rampaging in every direction and drawing streaks of cold Sword Qi.

In the sky, it was as if a net of ice swords had formed, blocking Chen Yu's two assaults and separating the two combatants!

Demon Scale Armor, Demon Scale Shield!

Chen Yu activated the second and third Demon Patterns, materializing a set of dark, fierce Demon Armor on his body, forming a Demon Scale light shield around him.

Under dual protection, Chen Yu dove down, piercing through the offensive of Luo Qiumei's Spiritual Artifact.

Hiss~

The extremely cold Ice Sword flew at high speed, leaving a cutting mark on the Demon Scale light shield.

Just three strikes, and the Demon Scale Shield broke.

Next, the attack of the Ice Sword landed on the Demon Scale Armor.

But by that time, Chen Yu had already closed in on Luo Qiumei.

Boom boom! Boom boom boom!

Chen Yu's mysterious heart entered an explosive state, his body transformed, and his strength increased exponentially as he launched a punch.

Boom...

This punch, infused with the Bloodline Power of the Golden Winged Phoenix, seemed to hammer into the void, unleashing boundless flames.

A black and crimson light orb, like a falling meteor, cast a heavy shadow over Luo Qiumei.

"Not good!"

Luo Qiumei's body sank, feeling immense pressure.

It was inconceivable that Chen Yu could burst forth with such power!

She immediately controlled the Ice Sword to return to her hand, or her life would be in jeopardy.

"Cold Ice Needle!"

Luo Qiumei drove the Ice Sword into the ground and pinched a spell.

An extreme cold force burst forth, instantly freezing the ground within a hundred yards into ice.

Boom!

In front of Luo Qiumei, cold ice and Sword Intent rapidly merged, forming a straight and sharp giant Ice Needle, shooting up into the sky, standing in front of her.

Just at that moment, Chen Yu's fist came crashing down, the brutal and ferocious force striking.

Bang crack!

A cracking sound spread, and the giant Ice Needle was shattered by Chen Yu's punch.

Boom!

A black and red storm kicked up from the ground, swallowing up Luo Qiumei's figure.

Chen Yu immediately rushed in, only to see a huge crater formed on the ground, with ice shards scattered everywhere.

And there lay Luo Qiumei amidst the ice fragments at the center of the crater.

Seeing the clarity of the moment, Chen Yu guessed that in that instant, Luo Qiumei had used a defensive measure to encase herself in ice, minimizing the damage.

However.

Chen Yu's punch directly shattered the ice, causing severe injuries to Luo Qiumei inside.

"I am willing to hand over the mark."

Before Chen Yu could speak, Luo Qiumei got up, her mouth oozing a trace of fresh blood.

Chen Yu was slightly surprised; he hadn't expected Luo Qiumei, a woman so resolute and icy, to surrender so easily.

Suddenly.

Whoosh!

From the ice near Chen Yu, an Ice Sword burst out, emitting an astonishing chill.

This was Luo Qiumei's Spiritual Artifact.

"Ice-Sealed Realm!"

Luo Qiumei's gaze suddenly turned cold and decisive.

Pinching a spell, she activated her Bloodline Power, and a terrifying force of extreme cold emerged from all directions, converging on Chen Yu.

"This is the same move..."

Chen Yu's expression changed.

Previously, when Luo Qiumei lost to Shen Ji in a fierce battle, she had used this move to temporarily trap Shen Ji before escaping.

Now she was repeating the trick to deal with Chen Yu.

At this moment, Chen Yu seemed to be in a world of ice, with fierce coldness converging towards him crazily, as if wanting to freeze everything he had.

Instantly, Chen Yu's body was coated in a layer of ice that quickly thickened.

"Break for me!"

Chen Yu shouted loudly, his heart thumping vigorously.

The Bloodline Power of the Golden Winged Phoenix flowed through his body, dispelling the cold.

A powerful and scorching flame burst out from within him.

Crack!

A dark red spread across Chen Yu's body, causing the ice on his body's surface to crack.

Luo Qiumei's icy eyes fixated on Chen Yu, veins filled with blood; she bit down on her silver teeth as True Yuan furiously surged out.

The might of the cold ice abruptly escalated!

"Blood Crystal Flame!"

Chen Yu showed no weakness, releasing the "Blood Crystal Flame."

After devouring the Killing Spirit Blood Crystal, the "Blood Crystal Flame" had not insignificantly increased in power. Now, fused with the flame of the Golden Winged Phoenix's Bloodline, it continued to pour out from within Chen Yu.

At a certain moment!

Chen Yu's arm's ice "crack", and a crack appeared, leaking flames.

Boom bang!

Chen Yu took the opportunity to mobilize his strength, and with a fierce swing of his arm, the ice broke into pieces and fell to the ground.

His heart was still in a state of eruption, the bloodline flames of the Golden Winged Phoenix and the power of the Blood Crystal Flame burst forth, colliding with the icy world around him.

Boom, crack!

The ice encasing Chen Yu's entire body crackled with countless fractures.

"Break!"

Chen Yu roared, his heart pulsed vigorously, unleashing all the power it had been brewing.

Bang!

With a loud boom, he broke free, the extreme cold around him expelled and scattering outward.

Whoosh!

This cold, icy power lashed against Luo Qiumei.

In an instant, a layer of ice formed on her body, and she stood on the snowfield like a statue of ice.

"I've lost."

Luo Qiumei sighed.

She had intended to employ the same trick and then flee.

But, unexpectedly, the secret technique that had trapped Shen Ji failed to confine Chen Yu.

The man before her had actually broken free from the shackling of her Bloodline Secret Technique.

Swoosh!

Suddenly, a figure appeared in the distance—it was Situ Lin Yu.

Surprise flashed across his handsome face.

Just now, when Situ Lin Yu saw Luo Qiumei using that move, he was ready to help—least of all to prevent Luo Qiumei from escaping.

Unexpectedly, Chen Yu broke through Luo Qiumei's "Cold Sealing Ice Domain" head-on, which had taken him by surprise.

"Although he has the Bloodline Power and Blood Crystal Flame, breaking this move still requires an explosive force. Even Shen Ji was helpless in such a state, why could he unleash a power far beyond the ordinary?"

Situ Lin Yu wondered inwardly, suddenly feeling that he couldn't see through Chen Yu.

Before this, when Shen Ji was faced with this move, he too attempted to release all his power and break the ice seal.

However, his body, blood, True Yuan, and so forth were all frozen, suppressed, unable to erupt!

But Chen Yu seemed to possess a force unaffected by any of it.

Naturally, it was his mysterious heart!

Not even the thrust of a knife or sword could injure it; so, a bit of cold ice could not affect it in the slightest!

"Situ Lin Yu?"

Luo Qiumei caught sight of Situ Lin Yu, and her heart sighed once more.

It turned out that Situ Lin Yu had already broken through to the Mid-stage Sky Sea Realm and was nearby.

Even if she had just successfully trapped Chen Yu, she was unlikely to escape.

However, what shocked her even more was that Chen Yu did not let Situ Lin Yu make a move.

Could it be that from the very beginning, Chen Yu was confident of victory?

Crack, crack!

As the chill slowly receded, cracks appeared on the ice encasing Luo Qiumei, breaking and falling off to reveal her shaky, weakened body.

In the sky, Chen Yu stood proudly, surrounded by golden flames, coldly overlooking Luo Qiumei.

"I've lost; the mark is yours."

Luo Qiumei immediately spoke.

After all, she had said the same thing just a moment ago but had abruptly attacked Chen Yu.

This time, as soon as she spoke, a dazzling five-pointed star light flew from the back of her hand.

Swoosh!

Chen Yu swooped down, reaching for the brilliant five-pointed star light.

...

Outside, the crowd was in an uproar.

"How is this possible? Chen Yu has forced Luo Qiumei into retreat. Even if Luo Qiumei was gravely injured, it shouldn't be like this."

"Well, with Situ Lin Yu right nearby, there was no escaping for Luo Qiumei."

"Why not let Situ Lin Yu take action? Then Chen Yu wouldn't have to take any risks."

"Look, Luo Qiumei is using her life-saving secret technique again."

But suddenly, the chaotic voices fell silent.

Then, the deafening discussion erupted.

"Luo Qiumei has lost!"

"My God, Chen Yu has defeated Luo Qiumei by himself."

Nobody could stay calm with such an outcome; it was too unexpected.

Everyone thought that Luo Qiumei would use her life-saving secret technique to trap Chen Yu and then escape, only to be stopped by Situ Lin Yu in the end.

Situ Lin Yu had already made his move, already flying over.

But at the very end, there was a dramatic reversal!

Higher up, many powerful figures from the Southern Domain were equally stunned.

"This kid actually broke Luo Qiumei's life-saving secret technique; it seems he still has hidden cards in his hand."

"Unexpectedly, Luo Qiumei has been defeated by Chen Yu."

"That's mistaken; if Luo Qiumei hadn't been seriously injured, it's uncertain who would have won."

Suddenly.

A loud laugh echoed from the Silent Blood King: "Hahaha!"

"Old goat, your disciple has been defeated by my disciple."

The Silent Blood King's brows unfurled, his heart filled with great joy, laughing triumphantly without regard to his image.

Previously, all he thought was, even if Chen Yu was not a match, nothing bad would happen with Situ Lin Yu nearby.

The Silent Blood King had not anticipated such an outcome.

His disciple had beaten the favored student of the Dark Feather King!

Truly a pleasure to behold!

Beside, the Dark Feather King's brows knitted tightly, his gaze darkened, and his face turned iron blue.

"How could this be?"

He felt extremely frustrated and suffocated.

Luo Qiumei had defeated Shen Ji, which, although not pleasing, was not a big deal.

But how could Luo Qiumei lose to Chen Yu?

Boom!

Within the Holy Sanctuary Sky Realm Array, a resounding boom reverberated, a brilliant Star Light Pillar formed from converging starlight, shooting into the sky.

This was the light of a genius, the fifth light of a genius.

It originated from Chen Yu!

Chapter 744: Seclusion before the End

When Silent Blood King witnessed the rising Star Light Pillar, he was momentarily stunned before bursting into laughter and exclaimed, "Dark Feather King, you've lost our bet!"

Silent Blood King was elated when Chen Yu ultimately triumphed over Luo Qiumei, momentarily forgetting about the bet.

Now, recalling the bet, he was even more thrilled, his face glowing with delight.

He had bet Dark Feather King that if Chen Yu collected eight hundred marks in the first round or made it into the top fifteen, Dark Feather King would lose.

Now, not only had Chen Yu obtained eight hundred star marks, but he had also exceeded that amount, triggering the vision of the light of the chosen.

"Take it."

Dark Feather King grudgingly bit his lip and took out a "mystical weapon" from his storage space.

To shut Silent Blood King up and stop his gloating, Dark Feather King generously handed over the "wager."

Whoosh!

A burst of black light surged, transforming into a massive weapon, three fathoms in length with triple edges, a Fangtian Hua Ji.

When the weapon appeared, the surrounding void darkened, with black fire seeming to rise.

Coiled around the long shaft of the Hua Ji were dense scale patterns, and its cold crescent blade, when moving through the void, occasionally revealed the phantom of a black fire dragon, exuding a fierce and domineering presence.

There were kings nearby at the Condensed Star Level, with no real threat.

But for an ordinary person from the Sky Sea Realm, it would be quite challenging even to stand before this Fangtian Hua Ji.

Silent Blood King immediately took it into his hands, inspected it thoroughly, and said, "I thought you would casually give me a 'pseudo-mystical weapon' to deceive me. This weapon is not bad, you have some conscience."

"Hmph, as a king, I honor my bets. Why would I do such a thing?"

Dark Feather King scoffed disdainfully.

But in his heart, he thought differently: "I only have this one demon dao mystical weapon. If I had other pseudo-mystical artifacts, I would definitely give one to cheat you, old man."

Mystical weapons, containing the profound power of heaven and earth, possess formidable divine abilities. Even in the Great Yu Realm, such weapons are extremely rare; the emergence of one could cause blood and turmoil.

"Old goat, how about we keep betting? If my disciple reaches the second milestone and makes it into the top fifteen, will you offer another mystical weapon?"

Silent Blood King blinked, his demeanour softened, and he spoke with a hint of a smile.

"Do you really think mystical weapons are so common that you can just hand them out randomly?"

Dark Feather King glanced at Silent Blood King and scolded angrily.

He declined Silent Blood King's suggestion.

Given Chen Yu's recently displayed strength, reaching the top fifteen wouldn't be a problem, making the bet a certain loss for him. So why continue?

Silent Blood King smiled and stopped pressing the issue.

He had raised the bet to make Dark Feather King admit Chen Yu's capabilities and praise his own disciple.

If Dark Feather King had actually agreed, that would truly indicate a problem in his judgment.

However, Dark Feather King had not explicitly recognized Chen Yu's strength, instead citing the rarity of mystical weapons as his reason for refusal, which somewhat disappointed Silent Blood King.

Silent Blood King's gaze then fell to Chen Yu below, feeling profoundly within himself: "Yu'er, this ranking battle of the prodigies is a rare opportunity in the history of the Great Yu Realm, perhaps even a unique chance for the future... You must seize it well."

...

In the Holy Sanctuary Sky Realm Array.

Brilliant starlight scattered all around.

As new light arose, four others also felt a sensation.

In a dark, quiet valley.

Silence filled the air, with a sharp smell of blood and a harsh, solemn atmosphere.

A man, dressed in white and with white hair, floated forward slowly, wearing a gentle smile, his handsome features extraordinary.

His body radiated dazzling light, shining intensely, making him the most luminous being in this gloomy valley.

Suddenly.

Roar!

A startling roar erupted, and from a crevice in a nearby rock, a swift black shadow shot out, revealing sharp, vicious teeth.

Then, from all directions, shadows surged out.

This valley was home to a pack of Shadow Wolves.

In the darkness, they moved like fish in water, their speed incredibly fast.

At that moment, the entire pack of Shadow Wolves launched an attack on the white-robed man!

"Die."

The white-haired man whispered a single word.

In the next instant, a terrifying surge of lightning radiated from his entire body, turning into arcs of thunder that swept across all directions.

Boom, buzz!

Thunderous roars filled the air, accompanied by the pitiful howls of the Shadow Wolves, echoing throughout the valley.

The white-robed man hovered in the void, immaculate, his dark eyes flashing with electricity, emanating an extraordinary aura.

But in the next moment, the power of the lightning disappeared without a trace, and he appeared once more as a handsome, mild-mannered youth.

Suddenly, the starlight around him fluctuated, as if sensing kin.

"Another prodigy's light. That makes five now."

"However, this light of the prodigy has appeared too late. My only competitor is Fallen Moon Venerable."

The white-robed man, Duan Xiao, spoke to himself leisurely.

Elsewhere.

Amid a crowd of disciples, a man in a dark green robe with curly hair, radiating intense starlight, reached into the sky.

"Brother Chen, you're amazing. Before we even met up, you had collected a thousand marks."

A pretty woman with braided hair followed closely beside the curly-haired man, smiling with pursed lips.

Before Chen Yu formed the light of the prodigy, the rise of the curly-haired man "Hou Chen" had been most unexpected.

Soon after, the reputation of the Hou Clan from the Middle Ancient Clanric in the Great Yu Realm began to spread.

The Hou Clan, being a reclusive and great family among the six Middle Ancient Clanrics of the Great Yu Realm, was usually invisible.

Suddenly, the starlight above Hou Chen's head fluctuated intensely, scattering a burst of light in a specific direction. novel.cøm

At the same time.

Everyone could see that not far away, a new pillar of starlight shot into the sky, dazzling and eye-catching.

"The final days have arrived, and someone has gathered a thousand marks."

"I wonder who this genius is?"

Hou Chen's clear eyes looked into the distance as he immediately said, "Cousin, I shall go and meet this person."

"Ah, Brother Chen, don't go. The other party also collected a thousand marks and is definitely not a common foe. Don't take risks at the last moment."

The beautiful woman immediately spoke and reached out to grab Hou Chen's sleeve.

But it was a step too late.

Hou Chen soared into the air, lightly stepping on the void, stirring up a ripple in space, and quickly departed.

"I'm so angry, Brother Chen ran away again, why didn't you stop him just now?"

The clever girl stomped her feet fiercely.

The people around helplessly shrugged their shoulders, indicating that if Hou Chen really wanted to go, who could stop him?

After flying several miles away, Hou Chen stopped and couldn't help but pout, "It's still more comfortable to be alone. Having a group of people follow me all the time is really troublesome."

Having said that, Hou Chen changed direction and did not bother with that new prodigy's light anymore.

Elsewhere, on the peak of a giant mountain.

Guan Aoxue stood proudly, her black hair and white dress flowing, her gaze cold and void of any emotional fluctuations, indifferently overlooking everything beneath her.

At a certain moment, the starlight on her body fluctuated, producing a sense of resonance in the unknown.

"A new prodigy's light, who is it?"

Guan Aoxue's gaze looked towards the distance, seemingly able to penetrate everything.

Suddenly, the starlight above Guan Aoxue's head resonated again, emitting strong fluctuations as layers of starlight scattered, illuminating the heavens and the earth.

At the same time, another radiance, another dazzling pillar of starlight, suddenly appeared.

Within the starlight, a man came striding alone. His hands clasped behind his back, his face stern, and his eyes a dark yellow, like a vast, desolate desert.

This man, in every motion, exuded an aura of a strong character and absolute confidence, and also a sense of loneliness of having ascended to the peak alone.

"Fallen Moon Venerable!"

Guan Aoxue fixed her gaze on the approaching man, her eyes growing heavy; she slightly raised her jade hand, and an invisible sword materialized, causing hearts to tremble.

Buzz whoosh!

Around her, countless invisible sword lights frenziedly flew up, emitting dense and sharp shrieks, filling the world with an incomparably sharp and unparalleled sword intent.

"Absolute Sword Immortal, can you handle a few of my moves?"

Fallen Moon Venerable asked evenly.

Whoosh!

Guan Aoxue did not answer; she burst forth from the mountain peak like a Heavenly Immortal, with tens of thousands of swords roaring around her, all directed at Fallen Moon Venerable.

...

"The marks have exceeded a thousand."

Chen Yu looked up, his vision filled with starlight, dazzling and brilliant.

In the state of the prodigy's light, he suddenly felt like he had reached the pinnacle and was looking down on his peers.

At the same time, Chen Yu felt an immense, invisible luck fortifying him.

Whoosh—

Not far away, several members of the Heavenly Jade Sect who had just arrived were scared out of their wits.

They had received information from Luo Qiumei and rushed over to meet up with her, only to witness the birth of the prodigy's light.

Among the crowd, Dong Quanjian stood stupefied, his mind surging like a tumultuous wave.

The person who had gathered the prodigy's light, wasn't it Chen Yu, whom he had fought evenly before?

He had thought at the time that Chen Yu was merely overrated, or perhaps his own strength had invisibly improved.

Later, he even felt that during this ranking battle for prodigies, he might be able to aim for the top fifty or even higher.

But what was happening now?

How did Chen Yu manage to gather the prodigy's light?

Whoosh!

Luo Qiumei immediately flew over.

"Let's go."

She suppressed her injuries, not even lifting her head, and barked out an order.

"Brother Chen, how do you feel?"

Situ Lin Yu did not care about the others and asked with a smile.

Observing the prodigy's light up close, he discovered it was not just mere light, it seemed to possess some unique and mysterious power.

"I need to go into seclusion to break through to the early peak."

Chen Yu immediately replied.

Upon gathering a thousand marks, his cultivation vibrated subtly, as if about to break through a bottleneck.

Such an opportunity was not to be missed.

There were still two days left until the end of the first phase.

If all went well, he would have enough time to break through before the end of this phase.

"Good, I'll protect you this time."

Situ Lin Yu nodded.

Subsequently, the two left the area and searched for a place rich in elemental energy.

After establishing a temporary cave dwelling, Chen Yu sat cross-legged and set up an Array.

Through the rock layers, the prodigy's light still pierced through, illuminating the area.

Chen Yu took out some Hundred Fl...

Chapter 745: Path of the Proud

The emergence of the fifth Heavenly Pride's light gradually spread to the ears of all the talents.

"Who exactly is the fifth person?"

"I only know the first four, they are: Fallen Moon Venerable of the Evil Moon Sect, Absolute Sword Immortal Guan Aoxue, Thunder Prince Duan Xiao, and Hou Chen from the Middle Ancient Clan."

"I heard that the fifth person is Chen Yu from Black Demon Valley, who defeated Luo Qiumei of the Heavenly Jade Sect and seized all the marks."

"What? Chen Yu has such strength?"

Ninety percent of the geniuses participating in the first phase had already deemed Chen Yu a taboo, a terrifying existence to be avoided.

With only two days left, if anyone carelessly encountered Chen Yu and had their mark taken, it would be the end.

Meanwhile, those without marks or with very few were scheming to plunder others.

On the other side, in the gathering area of Black Demon Valley disciples.

"What? Chen Yu defeated Luo Qiumei, seized the mark, and triggered the anomaly of the Heavenly Pride's light?"

After learning all this, Shen Ji felt as if struck by lightning, standing frozen on the spot.

He had rushed over earlier to plunder Chen Yu's marks.

Instead, Luo Qiumei also arrived, and due to the stance of his sect, he had to face her first.

In the end, he injured Luo Qiumei, and Chen Yu took advantage, stealing Luo Qiumei's mark!

"Chen... Yu!"

Shen Ji's forehead veins bulged, eyes emitting a bone-chilling coldness, his words each bitten off sharply.

Whoomph!

A terrifying demonic aura burst forth from within him, turning into a black torrent that shattered the surrounding sand, stones, and vegetation.

Shen Ji's heart was full of hatred, overwhelming with grievance.

He had intended to target Chen Yu, yet ended up aiding him greatly.

"Chen Yu, those marks are mine."

Shen Ji roared, preparing to set out.

Having triggered the Heavenly Pride's light, Chen Yu was not difficult to locate.

"Brother Shen, hold on."

The black-robed man who had been following Shen Ji immediately stopped him.

"Brother Shen, now that Chen Yu has triggered the Heavenly Pride's light, striving for glory for the sect, if you forcefully extinguish it, this action equates to opposing the sect..."

The black-robed man conveyed the warning.

After a long while, the terrifying aura around Shen Ji gradually dissipated.

"There are two more days. Let's go gather some marks."

He spoke coldly, his gaze dark, temporarily giving up on dealing with Chen Yu.

On the other side, Tu Zhixiang burst into laughter upon receiving this news: "Hahaha..."

Initially, when she learned that Shen Ji was going to deal with Chen Yu, she left alone to find Chen Yu first, to keep him away from Shen Ji.

However, before she found Chen Yu, she heard that Shen Ji led the Black Demon Valley disciples in a fierce battle with Luo Qiumei and the Heavenly Jade Sect disciples, and ultimately retreated.

Now knowing that Luo Qiumei was defeated by Chen Yu, she could easily piece together the whole situation.

"Shen Ji has probably never suffered such a loss before. He must be furious now, hahaha..."

Tu Zhixiang laughed beautifully, her charm captivating.

Among a range of continuous mountains, a column of starlight stood upright.

Not far from the middle of the mountain, Situ Lin Yu sat cross-legged.

"What exactly is this Heavenly Pride's light?"

He closely observed the rich glow emanating from Chen Yu.

As Chen Yu cultivated, primordial Qi from all around rushed towards him, quickly forming a massive primordial Qi vortex centered on this column of starlight, flowing into Chen Yu's body.

"What powerful primordial Qi control."

Situ Lin Yu felt the condition of the surrounding Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi and couldn't help but exclaim.

All of a sudden, his eyes twinkled lightly, suggesting a guess, and thus he dispatched his Yin Soul Ghost Servant.

"He can actually mobilize the Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi within a thousand paces."

Moments later, Situ Lin Yu showed a look of surprise: "Perhaps, this is the influence of the Heavenly Pride's light."

He had previously secluded himself to breakthrough to the Sky Sea Middle Stage and could also mobilize the Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi within a thousand paces, but that was due to his special secret technique.

"I see now, this starlight itself contains Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi, and it also integrates the 'primordial strength' of a Condensed Star King. Being under this power for a long time will improve one's inherent talent and potential."

"It's no wonder people of the Great Yu Realm often say that entering the 'Heavenly Pride List' qualifies one to be crowned a King. In fact, this five-pointed starlight itself is a precious resource, paving the path for one to become a King."

Situ Lin Yu's eyes sparkled.

He was also bathed in the starlight, but the effect was minimal due to the low number of marks he possessed.

"If I had known this earlier, I would have pushed harder."

Situ Lin Yu couldn't help but smile.

Now, with the last two days remaining, and having to protect Chen Yu, he likely had no time to gather a thousand marks.

During his closed cultivation, Chen Yu felt an unprecedented smoothness in his cultivation; everything naturally fell into place.

The Heaven and Earth Primordial Qi continuously entered his body from all around, the Demon Pattern True Essence swiftly coursing through his meridians, devouring other energy essences, eventually converging in his True Yuan Sea.

This smoothness was rarely felt before.

Moreover, his spiritual consciousness, spreading out and merging with the heavens and earth, gradually extended.

His comprehension of the mystical meaning of demons and space also deepened.

He even faintly touched upon other realms of understanding.

The next day.

Chen Yu emerged from seclusion, his cultivation breaking through to the Peak of Early Stage Sky Sea Realm.

With the assistance of the Heavenly Pride's light, his cultivation right after the breakthrough was very stable.

His physical strength and spiritual realm had long reached this level, and in this cultivation surge, Chen Yu benefited in several aspects and saw some enhancements.

Most notably, his life physique took a significant step forward.

With his cultivation breakthrough, Chen Yu's confidence increased further.

"Even if it's the fully powered Luo Qiumei, I am confident I can defeat her."

Chen Yu thought confidently to himself.

His ambitions inevitably grew larger.

He closed his eyes and could sense the existence of four other Heavenly Pride Lights.

"It seems the Heavenly Pride Light is indeed extraordinary, making Brother Chen's advancement so smooth."

Situ Lin Yu walked over and initiated the conversation.

Next, he shared his conjectures about the markings with Chen Yu.

"Since that's the case, I have more markings on my body, why don't I give some to you..."

He originally had over six hundred, and Luo Qiumei also had a similar number in her hands, together totaling over a thousand.

However, as he spoke, Chen Yu realized that the pentagram light on the back of his hand had become a whole unit, unable to separate any markings.

Situ Lin Yu noticed something amiss and said, "No worries, there isn't much time left in the Heavenly Throne Ranking Battle anyway."

On the last day of the first phase, the two continued to plunder markings.

However, due to the Heavenly Pride Light on Chen Yu, almost nobody dared to approach within a thousand zhang.

Finally.

The time for the first phase ended.

Boom!

The power of the Holy Sanctuary Sky Realm Array activated again, and all the talents within felt as if the entire heaven and earth were trembling.

Above the sky, starlight twinkled and surged, eventually forming a giant pentagram pattern.

At the same time, in this space, many talents without markings or with too few markings were all transported out.

A moment later, only five hundred people remained in the entire space.

Rumble!

The huge pentagram pattern slowly rotated and finally opened a pentagonal channel, pitch black inside, leading to the unknown.

Suddenly.

From within the pentagram channel, white lights extended, winding and twisting, falling upon the land.

From afar, it looked like countless entwining tentacles scattered across the ground.

The next moment, Chen Yu suddenly found that these numerous winding and twisting white light bands were indistinguishable, as if some formidable power was interfering.

"The first phase, 'Heavenly Pride Garden,' has ended."

"The second phase, 'Heavenly Pride Road,' begins."

"Heavenly Pride Road consists of five hundred paths, every five converging like streams to a river, eventually merging into the 'Heavenly Pride Road,' leading to the finish line."

A mechanical-like voice within the array conveyed this message distinctly.

"Five hundred Heavenly Pride Roads will eventually converge into one hundred paths, and only one hundred people will reach the end."

"That is to say, those who reach the end are the ones who make it onto the 'Heavenly Throne List.'"

Chen Yu understood the rules of the second phase.

It was roughly every five people competing for one spot.

Within the array, that mechanical-like voice rang out again: "Additionally, spending five hundred markings can randomly change one's path."

"So the markings have this use too," remarked Situ Lin Yu.

If one encountered an unbeatable opponent, spending five hundred markings could randomly change one's path.

Like if two powerful contenders capable of entering the 'Heavenly Throne List' met, one of them would definitely be eliminated, and at that time, they could spend markings to change the path.

"The second phase, Heavenly Pride Road, begins!"

...

Southern Domain, eastern side.

Above the sky, a giant ship sped forward, cutting through the wind and waves.

The ship was incredibly huge, fifty zhang long, with a palace on board marked at the top with a symbol made of eight different swords.

Swoosh!

Not far away, a figure swept past the giant ship.

"Eh? The symbol on that ship!"

The old man suddenly stopped, turned, and looked towards the ship that had disappeared into the clouds.

"Eight swords..."

The elder pondered briefly, then suddenly, his eyes sparkled with realization: "I remember now, the Eight Sword Saints, a three-star peak force of the Eastern Domain!"

In the Eastern Domain, the Eight Sword Saints were the holiest sword cultivation Holy Land, renowned by all.

But this was the Southern Domain, so the elder pondered a bit longer.

"Eight Sword Saints of the Eastern Domain, what are they doing here in the Southern Domain?" the elder muttered.

On the deck of the Eight Sword Saints' giant ship, two men and a woman walked out.

The lead figure, clad in a silver robe, with sword-like eyebrows and starry eyes, exuded an extraordinary presence; his every move expressed an ethereal quality, completely overshadowing the other two handsome men and women.

"We've arrived in the Southern Domain. I've heard that these days, the Southern Domain is holding the Heavenly Throne Ranking Battle."

The man beside him, dressed in plain clothes with a gentle jade-like face, smiled.

"The Heavenly Throne Ranking Battle?"

The voice of the silver-robed man, rich and slightly weathered, echoed.

In the Eastern Domain, there was also a Heavenly Throne Ranking Battle, but it wasn't synchronized with the Southern Domain's timetable.

"Is Brother East Gate interested in the Southern Domain's Heavenly Throne Ranking Battle?" asked the other woman, dressed in a green skirt with a blue sash, smiling.

"Haha, if Brother East Gate participates, he's sure to snatch the top spot on the Southern Domain's Heavenly Throne List, but perhaps that wouldn't be too fair," the man in plain clothes laughed.

The silver-robed man "East Gate Zhengyu," the number one talent of the Eight Sword Saints!

The silver-robed man stood indifferently, not responding.

Just then, another woman emerged from the palace.

She was dressed in a flowing white robe, with an ethereal grace.

Her black hair fluttered, revealing her flawless, jade-like face, delicate nose, willow-shaped eyebrows, and cold eyes like ice crystals, exuding a faint cold light.

Her skin was as white as snow, pure and untainted, like that of a celestial being.

"Junior Sister Luo Feng?"

The silver-robed man slightly turned and looked at the woman, a sparkle flashing in his eyes.

The woman before him, no matter how many times he saw her, always gave him a breath-taking sense of beauty.

Chapter 746: Accident

"Junior Sister Luo Feng seems quite interested in the Southern Domain?"

The woman in the green skirt asked with a smile.

The man in plain clothes nodded and said, "Has Junior Sister Luo Feng ever been to the Southern Domain before?"

At the Eight Sword Saints, "Ice Lotus Fairy" Ye Luofeng hardly ever left the sect. She didn't participate in any large or small sect competitions, as if she were detached from the world, concentrating solely on sword training.

Over the years, many disciples of the Eight Sword Saints perhaps only had two or three opportunities to witness the elegance of Ice Lotus Fairy.

Yet a single glimpse was enough to captivate countless men.

It was a great surprise for them when Ye Luofeng, who seldom left the sect and focused solely on sword training, took the initiative to visit the Southern Domain.

Silver Robed Man East Gate Zhengyu slowly walked over, his bearing gallant and extraordinary. He spoke in a magnetic voice, "Junior Sister Luo Feng, it won't be long before we arrive at our destination."

"I know."

Ye Luofeng looked toward the horizon, speaking slowly.

East Gate Zhengyu's expression slightly stiffened.

Among the male disciples of the Eight Sword Saints, he was indisputably the foremost. Countless women admired and looked up to him, yearning to be close to him.

However, the woman before him treated him just like any other ordinary person, no different.

This instilled a sense of frustration in East Gate Zhengyu's heart.

But the more she was like this, the more he felt that Ye Luofeng was completely different from the ordinary vulgar crowd.

Seeing East Gate Zhengyu's gaze continuously fixed on Ye Luofeng made the woman in the green skirt feel somewhat disheartened.

At the same time, Ye Luofeng's attitude toward East Gate Zhengyu also made her feel that Ye Luofeng was somewhat unappreciative.

Not far away, the plain-clothed man's gaze subtly and continuously observed Ye Luofeng.

"What's so great about her, just being a bit prettier..." The woman in the green skirt thought with a slight disdain.

This was a martial world, and with East Gate Zhengyu's talents, he would certainly ascend to be a King in the future.

The woman in the green skirt did not believe Ye Luofeng could keep pace with East Gate Zhengyu's strides, and thus, they would no longer be people of the same world.

"This time we go to the Southern Domain, it's inevitable that we will mingle with the talents of the Southern Domain."

"Junior Sister Ye is inconspicuous within the sect, and her actual strength is unknown. It's best for us to be aware so that we can plan accordingly if something happens," the woman in the green skirt said, smiling graciously.

Originally, there were only three spots, but Ye Luofeng suddenly joined in at the last minute, reportedly because her master, the Ice Extreme King, had interceded on her behalf; otherwise, she would not have been eligible.

Ye Luofeng was seldom seen and her strength unknown. However, the woman didn't think Ye Luofeng's abilities could compare with the three of them.

Before Ye Luofeng could speak, East Gate Zhengyu earnestly said, "You are not her match."

"What?"

The woman in the green skirt looked stunned.

Unexpectedly, the most outstanding talent of the Eight Sword Saints, the man she admired, would say such a thing.

She was the third-ranked prodigious female in the major competition of the Eight Sword Saints, how could she possibly not be a match for Ye Luofeng.

"East Gate Brother, did you perhaps spar with Junior Sister Ye?"

Instead of immediately countering East Gate Zhengyu, the woman in the green skirt inquired in a different manner.

"No."

East Gate Zhengyu responded tersely, appearing unwilling to elaborate further.

The woman in the green skirt gently shook her head and sighed internally. It seemed East Gate Brother thought she was bullying Ye Luofeng, hence he spoke out to protect her and warn her.

Ye Luofeng's gaze wandered to the distant horizon.

Her world was quiet, and she disregarded the presence of the three before her.

"I wonder if you are here..."

Ye Luofeng sighed inwardly.

Previously, she, Chen Yu, and Luo Tianshang had set out for the Great Yu Realm. Along the way, Luo Tianshang had "lost" Chen Yu.

Whether Chen Yu was alive or dead, even Luo Tianshang did not know, much less her.

However, Ye Luofeng felt that Chen Yu would not die!

There was no news concerning Chen Yu in the Eastern Domain, and recently, upon hearing that the sect would send a few geniuses to the Southern Domain, she decided to check it out.

Perhaps, hope lay here?

...

In a desolate ancient land, the venue for the Heavenly Pride Ranking battles.

Within a massive Array, a pentagram-shaped tear suddenly appeared, extending into five hundred intertwined "Heavenly Pride Roads."

Above the Array, a huge circular plaza had a hundred exits.

Those who walked out from here would be part of the "Heavenly Pride List."

"Hmm? Something seems odd."

In the Evil Moon Sect, a blue-haired beauty uttered softly.

"Elder Huai, wasn't the third part supposed to be the 'Heavenly Pride Seats'? Why aren't there any seats arranged on that plaza?"

This blue-haired beauty secretly communicated.

She had been involved in the discussions for the Heavenly Pride Ranking battle and had been away from the Evil Moon Sect due to certain matters afterward.

However, the three parts of the Heavenly Pride Ranking battle were already set:

The first part, the elimination round, Heavenly Pride Garden.

The second part, the advancement round, Heavenly Pride Road.

The third part, the ranking round, Heavenly Pride Seats.

Not far away, an old man with a wooden staff managing the Array replied to the blue-haired woman:
"The third part has been changed."

"How can such a major event be changed just like that?"

The blue-haired woman slightly furrowed her brows and continued to inquire.

The rules were collectively established by the great sects of the Southern Domain, and any change to the rules was always troublesome.

Moreover, the final segment of the previous few sessions had always been the same.

In fact, the blue-haired beautiful woman didn't care much about this. What intrigued her more was, what had the third segment changed into?

"The third segment is no longer hosted by us."

The elder with the wooden staff pondered for a moment. He originally did not want to reveal it, but he had some connections with the blue-haired beautiful woman, so he disclosed some information in the end.

"What?"

The blue-haired beautiful woman's expression showed shock as she listened.

As a four-star ruling power of the Southern Domain, if not hosted by the Evil Moon Sect Hierarchy, who else had the qualification to host the ranking battle of Heavenly Pride?

Furthermore, the blue-haired beautiful woman faintly felt that the "us" Elder Huai mentioned perhaps did not only refer to the Evil Moon Sect but seemed to imply all the sect powers of the Southern Domain.

What exactly had gone wrong with the ranking battle of Heavenly Pride?

With deep doubts, she looked toward the center of the Holy Sanctuary Sky Realm Array.

...

Inside the Array space, the remaining five hundred geniuses had started moving, each finding their own path.

Of course, some geniuses were observing from above, seemingly trying to discern the layout of the five hundred paths to avoid encountering strong foes.

However, whenever they looked at the intersection of the five hundred roads of Heavenly Pride, they suddenly felt everything before their eyes become surreal, unable to see things clearly, and even after staring for a long time, they would feel dizzy and confused.

Chen Yu and Situ Lin Yu did not pay much attention to this and chose two nearby paths.

What lay before them was a huge round passageway, shrouded in darkness.

Chen Yu flew inside, moving forward slowly.

In the passageway, it felt as if separated from the world, neither Spiritual Sense nor any sound could penetrate.

At first, Chen Yu didn't feel anything abnormal, but after taking a few steps, he suddenly sensed something amiss.

"Gravity?"

Chen Yu felt that there was gravitational suppression in this passageway.

However, as a practitioner of Body Cultivation with immense physical strength, he initially didn't feel anything, so only now did he notice it.

"I wonder if everyone else is experiencing the same."

Chen Yu thought thoughtfully.

Gravitational suppression was a commonly used tactic by major sect powers in some assessments to squeeze out the potential of participants.

Thus, it was not surprising for gravitational suppression to appear in the battle of the Heavenly Pride ranking.

As he continued forward, Chen Yu finally felt a significant pressure.

After a short while, he had to stop walking, as it was somewhat easier to handle, especially since he would encounter enemies soon.

"According to the rules, among every group of five, only one could advance, meaning, at least four enemies must be defeated."

At this moment, Chen Yu came upon a fork in the road.

This was precisely where two roads of Heavenly Pride intersected!

Here, there was a huge circular arena, seemingly prepared specifically for battle.

Chen Yu walked onto the circular field and saw that the path ahead was blocked by a Star Pattern Light Film.

"It seems I can only continue forward after defeating my opponent!"

Having found the answer, Chen Yu sat down cross-legged, waiting for his opponent to arrive.

The path he traversed had gravitational suppression, and perhaps, other geniuses experienced similar suppressions or other disturbances in their paths.

Therefore, the pace varied among them.

Clearly, Chen Yu was one of those who moved quickly.

He didn't have to wait long.

A man with a black mole at the corner of his mouth appeared from another path entrance.

"Ah, the intersection of the paths? I wonder who my opponent is?"

"But, he's unlucky. My target is the top sixty of the Heavenly Pride ranking. I'm certain to pass the second segment."

The man with the black mole smiled confidently and walked forward.

"Wait, why is it so bright?"

Suddenly, the man with the black mole noticed something amiss.

A few steps later, he finally saw a figure on the circular plaza ahead. Dressed in a black and red robe, sitting cross-legged peacefully on the ground, his face calm and stoic, slightly rugged.

The most shocking aspect was the infinite stardust that encircled this person, forming a blazing column of light that shot into the upper boundary, making the entire circular plaza radiate with abnormal brightness, even slightly dazzling.

Suddenly, the seated person opened his eyes. Those dark, profound eyes seemed to flash with a fierce and terrifying light, causing the man with the black mole to tremble.

"That, this must be the fifth person who activated the Heavenly Pride Light... Chen Yu Venerable!"

The man with the black mole instantly bowed, lowering his head, and spoke with a flattering smile.

"Hand over your insignia."

Chen Yu looked at his opponent.

In his view, only when the other person's insignia vanished and they were transported away, would the Star Pattern Light Film in front of him open, allowing him to continue forward.

Seeing Chen Yu's no-nonsense attitude, the man with the black mole laughed bitterly.

He had never anticipated that his first opponent would be Chen Yu, the bearer of the Heavenly Pride Light.

Although outsiders rumored that Chen Yu could defeat Luo Qiumei because Shen Ji had grievously wounded her first.

But Chen Yu was still not someone he could contend with.

The man with the black mole's face showed a contorted mix of struggle and pain, and after a brief moment of hesitation, handed over all the insignias on his wrist.

In that instant, a teleportation light descended upon him.

Simultaneously, the light film in front of the plaza dissipated.

Chen Yu took the insignias from the man with the black mole, turned around, and continued forward.

Chapter 747: All Acquainted People

After defeating his first opponent, Brother Chen felt gravity suppression on the path ahead increase to a new level.

At this moment, he was almost certain that everyone participating in the second segment was affected by the gravity suppression.

For him, this was good news, as Body Cultivation provided a much superior resistance to gravity suppression than ordinary people.

"I have a special body constitution and abundant energy. Since that's the case, I can afford to exert some effort and arrive at the intersection of the passageways earlier. After all, it won't take long for my energy to recover..."

An idea formed in Brother Chen's mind.

After he made his decision, the power inside his body exploded, releasing a terrifying oppression from his Demon Body that permeated the air.

This force, similar to gravity, could oppress his enemies in battle.

Boom!

Brother Chen fiercely stomped the ground and soared into the air.

His Secret Pattern Demon Body, having surpassed the Peak of Early Stage Sky Sea Realm, unleashed a formidable force when he exerted his full strength.

Bang! Bang! Bang!

Brother Chen sprinted, each step echoing like a thunderclap.

...

Those inside the passageway were completely isolated, unable to sense anything happening outside.

However, those outside could see through the passageway and discern what was roughly happening inside.

"The five heavenly prides who activated the light of heaven all had enemies who surrendered immediately."

Those who possessed the light of heaven shone like brilliant stars in the passageway, distinctly different from other geniuses and recognizable at a glance.

"Look, Brother Chen is so fast!"

Suddenly, someone exclaimed.

The reason for his shock was purely because Brother Chen's speed was incredibly fast, seemingly unaffected by gravity, and resembling a cheetah in a full sprint.

"This person practices Body Cultivation, which gives him a slight advantage in the second segment... However, maintaining such a high speed consumes a lot of physical energy. If his opponent is of the same level, excessive consumption could put him at a disadvantage."

A woman with blue hair analyzed, providing her perspective.

Despite these words, everyone still thought Brother Chen's speed was exceedingly fast.

Before long, Brother Chen had reached the intersection of the passageways while his opponent was still on the way.

Above the skies, the powerful figures from the Southern Domain watched the situation on the "Heavenly Pride Road."

Those inside were unaware of their impending opponents, but those outside could see clearly.

"Yu'er's opponents are not strong; he should smoothly advance to the next segment without any problems."

Silent Blood King squinted his eyes and scanned the chaotic intertwined passageways.

"No... his last opponent..."

Silent Blood King's expression turned complex and he fell silent.

...

Brother Chen arrived at the intersection of the passageways and sat down cross-legged.

"My opponent will probably take a long time to get here."

Brother Chen couldn't help but smile.

Having run all this way, he felt a bit tired, but sitting down now, his energy quickly recovered.

"During this time, I can use the strong gravity suppression within the passageway to temper my Secret Pattern Demon Body."

That was Brother Chen's true purpose for reaching the intersection so quickly.

When he had broken through the Peak of Early Stage Sky Sea Realm, both his life level and mental realm had benefitted and improved.

At this time, tempering the Secret Pattern Demon Body had a significant effect.

Moreover, there was a gravity suppression cultivation environment here.

Glug glug!

Brother Chen took a big gulp of Fire Burning Wine and immediately felt as though a volcano erupted inside him, with blazing hot magma flowing through his body, scorching every inch and millimeter.

Fire Burning Wine could refine True Essence and was suitable for people like Brother Chen who had just made a breakthrough.

In addition, this wine could strengthen the body and promote advancement in life levels.

Then, Brother Chen circulated his Demon Pattern True Essence, transforming it into two dark, fierce demon claws, that etched mysterious ancient patterns onto the surface of his body.

These patterns, similar to inscriptions, contained unique powers. With each section of pattern etched, his Secret Pattern Demon Body strengthened by a bit.

At the same time, the gravity suppression continuously affected Brother Chen, squeezing out his potential.

With the dual effects from inside and outside, Brother Chen's Secret Pattern Demon Body advanced at a rate faster than usual.

Before long,

Brother Chen's second opponent appeared.

"So tired. This second segment also has gravity suppression; I hope my opponent is not too strong."

A voice familiar to Chen Yu came from the passageway.

"So bright? Why is it so bright? Is there something different ahead?"

That voice continued.

Soon after, a figure of a man emerged.

Brother Chen opened his eyes, slightly startled, and looked at the man before him, his lips curling into a smile.

Opposite him stood a man in a white robe with a jade crown on his head and a handsome face—it was Dong Quanjian.

He stood frozen on the spot, stiff all over, looking almost like a fool.

Suddenly, he came to his senses, but it would have been better if he hadn't.

"Oh my God, why is it like this?"

"How can it be him?"

"Why did I encounter someone who activated the light of heaven, and moreover, it's Brother Chen?"

Dong Quanjian's entire demeanor was off, his expression extremely complicated as he continuously struggled, alternating between helplessness and bitter smiles.

"Brother Dong, last time we didn't determine a winner. It seems heaven also regrets it and has specifically arranged for us to compete once more."

Brother Chen spoke very courteously.

Upon saying these words, Dong Quanjian on the other side felt even more uncomfortable, his face turning a flushed red.

Now, how could he not have known that Chen Yu had deliberately retained his strength and prolonged the battle?

And he actually thought Chen Yu was nothing special, boasting recklessly in front of him.

Thinking back, he regretted it deeply, having lost face entirely.

"Come, Brother Dong, didn't you say before that you wanted me to use the same method that injured you before the ranking battle? You also said that this time you would surely withstand it."

Chen Yu stood up, walked toward Dong Quanjian, a mocking smile on his face.

Dong Quanjian gave a dry laugh, indeed he had said that back then.

Because every time he recalled being defeated by Chen Yu's move before the ranking battle began, he felt humiliated.

But now, that feeling of humiliation had already vanished.

Being defeated by Chen Yu, wasn't it expected?

"Misunderstanding, Brother Chen, all that before was a misunderstanding, I beg you to not remember the offenses of the insignificant, and not take it to heart."

Dong Quanjian, wearing a sheepish smile, bowed his head and pleaded.

"Didn't Brother Dong also say before that I was nothing special? Then let's have another match now."

Chen Yu's smiling expression thickened, he stepped closer to Dong Quanjian.

"I dare not, Brother Chen, Brother Chen, Venerable Chen Yu, that was purely a slip of the tongue, a moment of carelessness, speaking wrongly."

Terrified, Dong Quanjian immediately stepped back, hurriedly explaining.

He, who was not on the "Heavenly Pride List", to have spoken such words to Chen Yu, who possessed the light of the heavenly pride, felt too audacious, and additionally... somewhat thrilling.

"Brother Dong is too modest. Weren't you once someone who fought me to a draw?"

Chen Yu spoke again.

Opposite him, Dong Quanjian wore a pitiful look, now at a loss for words.

"Watch out!"

Chen Yu shouted lowly.

Startled, Dong Quanjian immediately leaped up, his whole body's hairs standing on end, throwing out his symbol and turning to run.

"Ha ha ha, this guy."

Chen Yu collected the symbol, no longer concerning himself with Dong Quanjian.

He turned around to continue forward.

However, this time, the light membrane in front of him did not dissipate, which surprised Chen Yu.

At that moment.

At the center of the plaza, a column of silver starlight shone down.

Whoosh!

A tall figure appeared within, clad in red armor, exuding an astonishing aura of blood.

"This person must have consumed five hundred symbols to change his path."

Chen Yu guessed internally.

It had been mentioned in the rules earlier, that consuming five hundred symbols allowed for a random change of path once.

The person before him had obviously switched to Chen Yu's path.

When Chen Yu saw the face of the other, he blurted out, "Bloodthirsty Leader!"

"Chen Yu!"

The Bloodthirsty Leader was struck with horror, his eyes filled with complex emotions.

His brother had been slain by Chen Yu, and he had been searching everywhere for Chen Yu's whereabouts.

But when he learned that Chen Yu and Situ Lin Yu had teamed up, sweeping through numerous teams, he hesitated and didn't continue pursuing Chen Yu.

Later, when he heard that Chen Yu defeated Luo Qiumei, igniting the light of the heavenly pride, he was utterly scared.

Now, standing in front of the Bloodthirsty Leader was one of the five great heavenly prides who had ignited the light, and also the beast who had killed his brother.

"Chen Yu, I'm no match for you. I will no longer pursue my brother's death, here, take the symbol."

The Bloodthirsty Leader sighed, his head lowered in a look of resignation, as if a prodigal son was turning back.

He stretched out his hand as if to hand over the symbol.

But suddenly, a clump of blood-red powder sprinkled from his hand.

This blood-red powder, twinkling faintly, merged into the void, invisible and intangible, drifting toward Chen Yu.

The Bloodthirsty Leader had received a Blood Dao inheritance, which included the secret technique for refining "Blood Burning Poison Powder."

"Blood Burning Poison Powder" could penetrate True Yuan defenses, and upon contact with a person's skin, it would enter the body and become blood poison.

Moreover, integrating it within his own Blood Dao attacks would multiply its power!

"Chen Yu, die!"

Screaming madly, the Bloodthirsty Leader's True Yuan surged out, and a vast sea of blood rolled in all directions.

Within the blood sea, numerous ferocious blood pythons emerged, opening their wide mouths and lunging to bite.

These blood pythons, when they came into contact with the Blood Burning Poison Powder in the air, underwent subtle transformations, becoming like rotting and mad creatures, frenziedly lunging out.

At this moment, the Bloodthirsty Leader unleashed his peak combat power in a surprise attack on Chen Yu!

Although he knew Chen Yu had defeated Luo Qiumei and ignited the anomaly of the heavenly pride's light, he also learned that Luo Qiumei had been severely damaged by Shen Ji before Chen Yu's success.

He wasn't without a chance to defeat Chen Yu.

Moreover, Chen Yu was the enemy who had killed his brother!

Boom, boom~

From all around, thirty-six massive, rabid blood pythons simultaneously lunged to attack.

"How naïve."

Chen Yu stood still, his expression untroubled.

Suddenly.

He made his move, his palm enveloped by Demon Pattern True Essence, and with a fierce wave, he kicked up a black storm.

Simultaneously, atop this pitch-black tempest, a layer of brilliant, dazzling cinnabar blood flames ignited, transforming into a whirlwind of black and red flames, sweeping in all directions, crashing into the thirty-six blood pythons.

Instantly, over the blood sea and the blood pythons, a layer of cinnabar blood flames wildly spread, burning everything. The pythons, amidst their screeching, vanished into nothingness.

Chapter 748: The Last Obstacle

At the beginning of the first test, the Bloodthirsty Leader may have been a formidable opponent.

But a month had passed, and Chen Yu had undergone earth-shattering changes; his cultivation had broken through, and the "Blood Crystal Flame" had devoured the Killing Spirit Blood Crystal, enhancing its quality.

Boom!

In a single move, blood flames engulfed the surroundings, frantically devouring and burning all vital forces.

In an instant, the attack released by the Bloodthirsty Leader vanished into thin air, completely devoured by the "Blood Crystal Flame."

"It's the 'Blood Crystal Flame'!"

The Bloodthirsty Leader's face turned pale, his heart felt like it had been struck heavily.

In his heart, Chen Yu was already a formidable enemy.

Thus, he had deceived Chen Yu with lies and launched a surprise attack, even using the Blood Burning Poison Powder.

Unexpectedly, Chen Yu also possessed the "Blood Crystal Flame," an Innate Spiritual Flame that was a significant nemesis for Blood Dao Practitioners!

"However, I still have a chance to win. Once the effect of the Blood Burning Poison Powder kicks in, his blood will boil and burn within him, causing unbearable pain and making him wish for death while weakening him."

The Bloodthirsty Leader calculated in his heart and did not rush to attack Chen Yu, instead waiting for the Blood Burning Poison Powder to take effect.

The Bloodthirsty Leader didn't attack, but Chen Yu wouldn't just wait around.

Boom!

He activated the power of the Secret Pattern Demon Body and simply threw a punch. Above the dark pressing punch, blood-colored glaze flames ignited immediately, pressing down towards the Bloodthirsty Leader.

This punch gave the Bloodthirsty Leader a great sense of crisis.

"I must wait until the poison acts."

The Bloodthirsty Leader's face twisted ferociously as he clenched his teeth.

Facing Chen Yu's strike, he felt like he was facing a huge enemy, continuously waving his palms.

Boom! Boom! Boom!

Rays of Blood Python light palms continuously collided with the punch released by Chen Yu, reducing the power of Chen Yu's strike.

Since the "Blood Crystal Flame" suppressed Blood Cultivation, he had to pay a greater price to counter it.

Bang!

The Bloodthirsty Leader waved his palms releasing a thicker True Essence Protection Shield to block Chen Yu's punch.

His arms went numb, faintly aching.

Immediately thereafter, Chen Yu's second punch arrived.

"What's going on? He seems to be unaffected, and this punch is even more powerful than before."

After resolving Chen Yu's move, the Bloodthirsty Leader looked at the next strike unleashed by Chen Yu; his face turned ashen, and large beads of sweat appeared on his forehead.

He had no choice but to defend with all his might again.

But before fully resolving it, Chen Yu's third punch arrived.

Each punch was a crisis for the Bloodthirsty Leader, but for Chen Yu, it was just a simple, ordinary strike.

Bang! Puff!

The True Essence Protection Shield in front of the Bloodthirsty Leader was shattered; he stumbled back several steps and spit out a large mouthful of fresh blood.

"The Blood Burning Poison Powder hasn't acted yet? Even if Body Cultivation strengthens the body greatly, it should have activated by now."

The Bloodthirsty Leader's face was filled with shock and fear.

"You're still waiting for the toxin to react?"

Chen Yu softly chuckled coldly.

The Secret Pattern Demon Body inherently had strong defenses against attacks from Evil Demons, and the same applied to toxins.

Additionally, Chen Yu's own physique had been transformed by a mysterious heart, making him nearly immune to all poisons; even some of the world's most uniquely potent poisons had their effects significantly reduced on him.

But Chen Yu didn't elucidate the Bloodthirsty Leader's confusion.

He delayed no further and burst forth with full power, a terrifying demonic presence pressuring in all directions.

Boom!

He punched, igniting the blood flames which merged with the demonic and spatial realms, increasing its power far beyond before, forming a tumultuous surge of black and red demonic light crashing down.

With a force like toppling dead trees and pulling up rotten stumps, it collided and shattered the True Essence Protection Shield of the Bloodthirsty Leader.

Bang!

The Bloodthirsty Leader was slammed against the wall, his body a bloody, indistinct mess, his aura weak.

Realizing he had no chance of winning, and might even be killed by Chen Yu, he immediately threw out a mark, hoping to be quickly teleported away.

Suddenly, a cold, purple ghostly light swiftly darted towards him, agile and flickering like a venomous snake, biting into his chest and burrowing inside.

The next moment.

The power of the Taiyin Sword Point transformed into thousands of minute filaments, roaming throughout the Bloodthirsty Leader's body, turning him into a lifeless, icy corpse.

Buzz~

The mark on the back of the Bloodthirsty Leader's hand floated up on its own, seemingly drawn in, and melted into Chen Yu's mark, adding a bit of brilliance to his Prodigy's Light.

Behind him, the Star Pattern Light Film dissipated.

Chen Yu continued forward, adopting the same strategy as before, sprinting full force towards the intersection of the passageways.

The further he progressed, the stronger the gravitational suppression in the passageway became; even he felt a bit of pressure.

After some time, Chen Yu reached the intersection.

He sat down cross-legged, continuing to temper his Secret Pattern Demon Body.

The Prodigy's Light also aided in cultivation; once the Prodigy Rankings battle ended, the Light would likely dissipate.

Moreover, since this was the Prodigy Rankings battle, a battle for honor, Chen Yu strove to enhance his strength every second.

This time, Chen Yu's cultivation lasted a long time.

Perhaps due to the strong gravitational suppression later on, slowing the speed of his opponents' progression, which for Chen Yu, was a good thing.

Before long, a surge of True Essence fluctuations transmitted from another passageway.

Chen Yu stood up to face his opponent.

Given it was already the third intersection, defeating this opponent would mean he had passed the second test.

Thus, anyone who made it this far couldn't be considered weak!

In his field of vision, a man in azure garments, walking steadily, appeared. He was handsome with a calm expression.

Chen Yu glanced at the man and thought to himself, this time's opponent wasn't "an acquaintance."

However, upon seeing Chen Yu, the man's expression changed dramatically, and a complex emotion flashed through his eyes.

"Unexpectedly, to meet him in the second test."

The man in azure, "Li Wenyi," felt emotionally complex.

He was indeed the top young disciple of Carefree Palace, Li Wenyi.

When he learned that Chen Yu had stolen the treasure belonging to the Carefree Palace and killed an outstanding disciple of theirs, he swore that in this Prodigy Rankings battle, he would teach Chen Yu a severe lesson.

At the beginning of the first segment, he had also searched for Chen Yu's whereabouts, but to no avail.

Later, Chen Yu activated the "Genius Light," causing him a considerable blow.

Originally, Li Wenyi had given up on the idea in his heart, but unexpectedly, in the second segment, he faced Chen Yu.

Since it had come to this, he would fight with all his might!

Whoosh!

A radiant green-light sword suddenly appeared in Li Wenyi's hands, emitting a dazzling spectacle of verdant sword radiance.

This sword, known as the "Qinghua Sword," was a gift from the Carefree Palace Master, intended to help him enter the top 20.

However, Li Wenyi's target was the top 10!

"Top-tier Spiritual Artifact."

Chen Yu thought to himself, realizing that this opponent was not simple!

Whoosh whoosh~

Li Wenyi wielded the "Qinghua Sword," sending out a sweep of cyan Sword Qi like an elegant whirlwind, aiming at Chen Yu.

His Swordsmanship mainly focused on nimble changes, making it very difficult for opponents to predict his attacks.

Therefore, during combat, Li Wenyi could easily take the initiative.

Chen Yu shouted loudly, not caring how flexible and difficult the opponent's Swordsmanship was. He threw a punch straightforwardly with a grand momentum, overpowering everything with sheer force, crushing all in his path!

Clang clang bang bang!

Chen Yu's attack encompassed a wide area, crushing all the Sword Qi within it and targeting Li Wenyi.

The power of this punch impressed Li Wenyi.

He immediately used his movement technique, and in a few flashes, dozens of shadows appeared at the place, making it difficult to distinguish real from fake.

Chen Yu's punch went through, shattering over a dozen illusions.

"Such a brilliant movement technique, I seem to have seen it somewhere before."

Chen Yu thought to himself as he executed the power of the Spatial Realm.

"Xuankong Palm" second form!

He struck like thunder, with a silvery dull glow in the gray light palm abruptly thrusting out, swiftly cutting through the void and targeting Li Wenyi.

"Spatial Realm..."

This palm strike was too fast for Li Wenyi to dodge, and he felt a strange force enveloping him, locking him in place.

He immediately placed his sword horizontally in front of him, activating a radiant green Sword Qi barrier.

Bang!

The gray dull light palm struck, shattering about eighty percent of the Sword Qi, finally dissipating.

Yet, the tremendous force contained in the palm drove Li Wenyi back several steps, causing his arms to ache.

This was the result of directly resisting Chen Yu's attack!

"Rumor has it that Luo Qiumei was first severely injured by Shen Ji, and Chen Yu benefitted as a bystander, thus activating the Genius Light, but his strength, too, is great."

Li Wenyi promptly circulated his True Yuan to alleviate the numbness in his arms.

His goal was the top 10, but facing Chen Yu, he felt a heavy pressure.

It was clear that Chen Yu's own strength was immense; otherwise, he couldn't have defeated even an injured Luo Qiumei.

Boom!

An incredibly wild and powerful force surged forth as Chen Yu attacked Li Wenyi.

Li Wenyi dared not clash directly with Chen Yu and could only rely on his movement and sword techniques to cope with Chen Yu.

However,

The predictive power and locking of the Spatial Realm made Li Wenyi's movement technique lose its advantage.

Facing Chen Yu's aggressive direct attack, Li Wenyi's fluid and agile Swordsmanship was also completely suppressed.

After a brief exchange, Li Wenyi found himself at a disadvantage, only able to fight Chen Yu with all his might.

If not for the top-tier Spiritual Artifact "Qinghua Sword," he may have lost within twenty moves.

"So strong, giving me not even a slight chance."

Li Wenyi was inwardly shocked.

On the other side, Chen Yu also recognized that this opponent was extremely strong, even stronger than the Bloodthirsty Leader and on par with Han Yan in terms of ability.

So far, using some ordinary techniques, he could only gain the upper hand but couldn't defeat him.

Suddenly,

Chen Yu saw the patterns on the cuffs of Li Wenyi's clothes, and it suddenly dawned on him that the Fang Brothers and Sisters in the Blood Star Realm also had similar patterns on their clothes.

"So it's from the Carefree Palace."

Chen Yu's expression turned grave.

The Carefree Palace might have already known that Chen Yu had obtained the Blood Star Holy Pill, which made him uneasy.

He now wished to avoid any association with the Carefree Palace, and he didn't want to see anyone from there.

Swallowing Cloud Demon Fist, Demon Annihilation Claw!

On Chen Yu's arms, two demon patterns seemed to come alive, surging with an astonishing demonic pressure.

Heart energized, strength amplified!

Spatial Realm power locked on!

Chen Yu struck with one punch and one claw, the onslaught as devastating as mountains collapsing, furiously crushing everything.

"How could this be? Was he hiding his strength earlier?"

Li Wenyi's face paled as he faced Chen Yu's sudden fierce attack, feeling utterly defenseless.

Realizing he had no chance of winning, he immediately activated the marks on the back of his hand, using up five hundred to change his course.

Waiting to change course until after being severely injured would be foolish.

Swoosh!

A layer of star-patterned radiance enveloped him and teleported him away.

"He ran?"

Only Chen Yu was left in the circular area, with the obstacles ahead disappearing on their own, indicating he could continue forward.

He didn't dwell on the matter of the Carefree Palace much, as he was still focusing on climbing the rankings in the Genius List.

After all, the Black Demon Valley he relied on was far stronger than the Carefree Palace, and with his own great strength, all crises and dangers could be easily resolved.

Swoosh!

Chen Yu sprinted rapidly, arriving at the last junction of the passageways before long.

The star-patterned light film in front of him was the final barrier.

Once he defeated one more person, he could pass the second segment.

Chen Yu sat down to meditate, continuing to cultivate his Secret Pattern Demon Body while waiting for his final opponent.

Chapter 749: Battle of Shen Ji

Outside, the gazes of the crowd were all focused on the five hundred passageways.

By now, over two to three hundred people had been eliminated.

Most of the remaining contestants were stuck between the second and third passageways.

"People of the five geniuses prompted by the light of genius, Chen Yu and the Fallen Moon Venerable actually reached the fourth passageway at the same time!"

"Chen Yu, being a Body Cultivator, still holds a slight advantage, but for him to keep pace with the Fallen Moon Venerable is already quite remarkable."

In everyone's hearts, the interesting part of this ranking battle of genius was starting from the second place downwards.

This was because the first place was undoubtedly held by the Fallen Moon Venerable.

He had occupied this position for three full years, unchallenged by anyone.

Before the second segment, the Fallen Moon Venerable had fought a battle against the Absolute Sword Immortal.

Everyone originally harbored some thoughts, guessing whether the Absolute Sword Immortal might create a miracle.

But in the end, the Fallen Moon Venerable still defeated the Absolute Sword Immortal with a considerable advantage.

Above the Holy Sanctuary Sky Realm Array, the mighty ones from the Southern Domain mainly focused on those who were leading, including Chen Yu.

"I didn't expect the Silent Blood King's disciple to create miracles step by step in the first segment and now in the second segment, he is keeping pace with the Fallen Moon Venerable."

A king from the Wind Fire Sect said with a smile.

He had a good relationship with the Silent Blood King and was generous with his praise.

Not far away, the Dark Feather King's expression was gloomy.

He had once proudly said that his disciple far surpassed the disciples of the Silent Blood King.

But what about the result?

Luo Qiumei was defeated by Chen Yu in the first segment, and in the second segment, Chen Yu was far ahead, keeping pace with everyone's expected first place—"the Fallen Moon Venerable".

"Eh, who is Chen Yu's opponent in this segment?"

While the Dark Feather King was observing Chen Yu, he also glanced at the opponent Chen Yu would face next.

He couldn't help but curl his lips with a sinister smile, saying, "It's such a pity, Silent Blood King, the light of genius of your disciple is about to disappear."

"The light of genius that is not sparked by true ability is ultimately just a fleeting brilliance."

With these words, the other kings also looked puzzled, wondering why the Dark Feather King would say such a thing.

"Chen Yu's opponent is... Shen Ji..."

The king from the Wind Fire Sect said abruptly, his voice trailing off.

In Black Demon Valley's corner, the Silent Blood King and Demon Valley Master were silent.

There was already some friction between the two, and their relationship was not very good.

Chen Yu and Shen Ji, one was the leader of the younger generation from Black Demon Valley, representing the sect's honor, and the other was a genius who had spurred the light of genius, symbolizing the sect's glory.

Unexpectedly, they would meet in the final part of the second segment.

Shen Ji's strength was unquestionable—stronger than Chen Yu from what everyone felt, and he was expected to enter the top five.

Wouldn't Chen Yu be eliminated if Shen Ji won?

Or could Chen Yu choose to consume 500 imprints to change his route, but this would mean the loss of the symbolic genius light.

The sect actually preferred retaining the genius light, which would bring more prestige to Black Demon Valley.

But given Shen Ji's temperament, he would definitely not consume imprints to change his route.

"Silent Blood King, why don't we continue to bet? Bet that your disciple will win, hehe..."

The Dark Feather King's face was filled with mischief.

The Silent Blood King gave no response; as one of Black Demon Valley's leaders, he couldn't gamble on a showdown between two of his disciples.

Moreover, Shen Ji was indeed much stronger, and he wasn't really confident about Chen Yu.

"Hehe."

Seeing the Silent Blood King remain silent, a wave of satisfaction rushed through the Dark Feather King's heart.

It was ironic that the sect's own disciple would strip away its light of genius.

...

At the junction of the passageways, after taking the Fire Burning Wine, Chen Yu began refining his Secret Pattern Demon Body.

Behind him, a Star Pattern Light Film spread, which would let him pass through the second segment if he passed through it.

It was precisely for this reason that the gravitational suppression here was astonishingly strong.

If it were an average Mid-stage Sky Sea Realm practitioner, maintaining flight here would be extremely draining on his True Yuan.

But for Chen Yu, who was refining his body, this was actually beneficial.

Under such immense external pressure, the effect of the Fire Burning Wine was quickly stimulated, and it exerted its best effect.

A while later, he took out more Fire Burning Wine and drank a large mouthful.

Originally, Bloodthirsty Second's storage space had two pots of Fire Burning Wine, which would otherwise have been insufficient for Chen Yu.

"There should also be Fire Burning Wine in Bloodthirsty Leader's storage space."

Chen Yu suddenly thought, remembering that he had also killed the Bloodthirsty Leader just before.

He hadn't sorted out the spoils yet, currently prioritizing the ranking battle.

Sometime later.

Chen Yu's mysterious heart suddenly sensed a powerful fluctuation.

"Here it comes!"

Chen Yu ended his body refinement, stood up, and waited for his last opponent.

Vroooooom~

A wave of powerful and wild Demonic True Essence spread out, making Chen Yu feel somewhat familiar.

"Could it be him?"

Chen Yu speculated.

The next moment, a tall, armored man stepped forward with a harsh gaze and a haughty expression that seemed to carry absolute confidence.

This man was Shen Ji.

When he saw Chen Yu ahead, he was initially stunned, showing a look of surprise.

But soon, his lips curled into a smile, his eyes glimmering fiercely as a dominantly powerful demonic aura surrounded him, with black light swirling into a massive demon head phantom.

His spirit was boiling, filled with fervor for battle!

"Junior Brother Chen, I didn't expect you to be my last opponent in the second segment!"

Shen Ji's face bore a rich smile.

"I didn't expect it either."

Chen Yu's gaze slightly deepened.

"You're not going to just run away, are you? A long time ago, didn't you say, if you had the chance during the ranking battle of the outstanding talents list, you would definitely seek my guidance?"

"Now, as you wished, you have this opportunity."

Perhaps because he was in a good mood, Shen Ji spoke so much to Chen Yu.

In reality, he was also worried that Chen Yu would directly use five hundred seals to change his route.

If that were to happen, how would he vent his anger? How would he torment Chen Yu?

"Indeed, I did want some guidance, but first let's see if you have the ability."

A sharp edge shone in Chen Yu's eyes as a heavy physical presence emanated from his body, firmly meeting Shen Ji's gaze!

Although they were from the same sect, Shen Ji's actions greatly displeased Chen Yu.

Before the ranking battle started, in front of the Heavenly Jade Sect, Shen Ji deliberately sabotaged Chen Yu.

During the first segment, Shen Ji even tried to force him to hand over his seals!

"Good!"

Shen Ji bellowed, his voice resonating like a great bell.

Assured that Chen Yu would not flee, he didn't waste any more words.

Boom!

He shouted loudly, and the demon shadow behind him as well roared, a soul-shaking demonic sound echoing like the wails of ghosts and howls of wolves, reverberating in all directions.

Shen Ji took the initiative to attack, not only boosting his own momentum but also incorporating a mental assault aimed directly at Chen Yu's weak points!

If it had been earlier, even with the Four Souls Jade, Chen Yu would have struggled to withstand this strike from Shen Ji.

Hum!

Chen Yu took out the "Soul Stabilizing Pearl," his spiritual power surged into it, and a dark light film flowed out, quickly expanding to envelop Chen Yu.

The demonic sound swept in, causing a ripple on the dark light film before becoming ineffective.

"Soul Stabilizing Pearl?"

Shen Ji's eyes widened as he blurted out.

He had guessed that Chen Yu might have some Soul Path defensive measures, but he didn't expect it to be the "Soul Stabilizing Pearl," an exceptionally outstanding Spiritual Artifact among Soul Path armors!

Could it have been gifted by the Silent Blood King?

But the "Soul Stabilizing Pearl" was merely a defensive item.

Roar~

Shen Ji released a surging dark demonic radiance all over his body, and the demon shadow behind him rose slightly, with two massive dark arms condensing on either side.

Boom!

One of the hands attacked like lightning from the right side, grasping towards Chen Yu.

Above Chen Yu's head, another dark demonic claw descended with skies-obscuring might, its presence immense.

Faced with such a situation, only by fully unleashing his speed could Chen Yu have a chance to dodge.

But sometimes, the best defense is a good offense.

Chen Yu neither retreated nor dodged, his Secret Pattern Demon Body fully activated; demonic patterns on his skin slowly moved like black ** snakes.

Demon Annihilation Claw!

Chen Yu charged forward to meet the enormous demonic claw above his head, countering with a demonic claw of his own, meeting it head-on.

On the sinister black demonic claw, scales densely packed, suddenly ignited a blood-red glassy flame.

Bang!

The massive black demonic claw was directly punctured, flames flickering around it.

Immediately after, Chen Yu threw a punch, completely shattering this already fractured giant demonic claw!

Shen Ji remained silent but a shade of morose irritation crossed his face.

Boom!

He bellowed, releasing Demonic True Essence and demonic intent, the demon shadow and arms behind him becoming more substantial, manifesting a gigantic upper demon body, its boundless demonic power stirring wildly.

Faced with such an enemy as Shen Ji, how could Chen Yu hold back?

Moreover, he had to win.

It wasn't about the sect, it was just for himself.

Suddenly.

A faint sound of a phoenix cry emitted from Chen Yu, bringing an incomparably intense oppressive force.

Shen Ji frowned slightly, his blood energy inexplicably stagnating.

In his sight, on Chen Yu's dark body, suddenly golden lines emerged, resembling feathers, dazzling and splendid.

The next moment.

A vigorous power of flames burst forth from within Chen Yu, forming golden fiery wings on his back, a fierce tide of golden flame swirling all around.

"Kill!"

Chen Yu roared, activating the Golden Winged Phoenix's bloodline in that instant and launching an attack.

His speed enhanced, he executed Demon Dragon Shadow Control.

As he closed in on Shen Ji, his hands, densely covered in phoenix feather patterns, clenched into a fist and smashed down.

Whoom!

A heavy dark shadow surrounded by a layer of golden phoenix flames and a layer of blood-colored glassy flames, carrying a scorching domineering force, crashed down onto Shen Ji.

The might demonstrated by Chen Yu in that instant overpowered Shen Ji, making him feel pressured.

Shen Ji's eyes widened, feeling the pressure emanating from Chen Yu!

With an angry face, he roared, "World-Ending Demonic Strike!"

Facing his enemy, he never defended; attack was everything!

Behind Shen Ji, the demon shadow roared, its claws crossed, and after accumulating a vast amount of demonic Qi True Essence, it ferociously tore through!

Whoom! Rumble!

Two powerful, domineering forces collided.

The space trembled faintly, causing Shen Ji to involuntarily step back three steps, his internal energy in turmoil.

But facing the powerful explosive shock, Chen Yu didn't retreat but advanced, plunging headlong into it.

In his hands, suddenly appeared a sinister bone sword with a peculiar design, the entire sword pitch-black, with nine bone spurs slightly quivering, emitting a bone-chilling scraping sound.

Swish!

The "Nine Bone Demon Spirit Sword" slashed through, a massive dark ravaging sword mark split the chaotic storm in front of it in two.

Faced with this sudden strike, panic flickered in Shen Ji's eyes.

Chapter 750: Passing the Second Segment

Shen Ji had always been known for his fierce and violent fighting style, disrupting the rhythm of his enemies and throwing them into disarray, making them scurry away like frightened rats.

This time, the battle between Shen Ji and Chen Yu began with both of them launching fierce attacks against each other.

But now, Chen Yu had taken the initiative with a strong offensive.

That massive dark void, like a space rift tearing through everything, split the chaotic and violent storm in front of him in two, slashing towards Shen Ji.

At this moment, Shen Ji felt a strong sense of crisis; the darkness that widened before him seemed to be swallowing him whole.

Shen Ji's eyes narrowed, and a murderous light flashed.

In his world, the best defense was offense, and offensive action was the only way to victory.

Boom!

The shadow of a demonic body behind Shen Ji surged forward, like a dark demon emerging, with terrifying demonic light flickering from its two monstrous claws.

The shadow's claws lunged forward, tracing a dark demonic scar in the air, confronting Chen Yu's powerful sword.

Bang!

The demonic claws met the Demon Sword's attack, and at the moment of collision, dark light surged, sweeping the surroundings.

The shadow of the demonic body staggered backward, its claws completely shattered, numerous cracks appearing on its arms, looking much weaker overall.

Meanwhile, Chen Yu relied on his body's formidable defensive power to again withstand the blast's aftermath, launching the first attack.

One step ahead, always a step ahead, Chen Yu seized control of the initiative.

The Nine Bone Demon Spirit Sword emitted a chilling sound of bone rubbing, tracing one dark sword ripple after another in the void.

...

From the outside, the onlookers could only see a rough idea of the situation through the passageway.

But they could tell that Chen Yu was gaining the upper hand in the battle.

"I originally thought that out of the five geniuses who activated the light of prodigies, Chen Yu was the least credible. After all, Luo Qiumei was seriously injured by Shen Ji, and that's how he had a chance to succeed. Now it seems I was shortsighted."

"Shen Ji has actually fallen into a disadvantageous position, being relentlessly attacked by Chen Yu. This is not his style."

This battle raised people's estimation of Chen Yu in an instant.

Chen Yu was able to activate the light of prodigies partly due to luck but also because of his strength.

Even higher up.

The Dark Feather King had originally been confident that the light of the prodigy from Black Demon Valley would dissipate, and that it would be a disciple from his own sect who made it happen.

But now, he lost his certainty, unable to predict the development or outcome of this battle.

It was not just him; it was difficult for the other great powers to discern the situation, including Shen Ji and Chen Yu's masters—the Demon Valley Master and the Silent Blood King.

"This kid actually has a top-quality Spiritual Artifact," thought the Silent Blood King to himself.

He had not held much hope for Chen Yu in this prodigy ranking battle.

He had planned to wait until Chen Yu participated in the next one, then give him some powerful Spiritual Artifacts or defensive items to help build Chen Yu's brilliance.

Unexpectedly, Chen Yu turned out to be a dark horse in this ranking battle, remaining under the radar until the very end.

Even Shen Ji, the leading prodigy of the Black Demon Valley, seemed unable to stop Chen Yu's momentum.

As time tick-tocked away, Shen Ji was forced into a corner within the passageway, his body covered with wounds.

"Old Wang, your disciple is going to lose."

The Silent Blood King said calmly.

Others also gradually came to the same conclusion.

The situation was becoming increasingly unfavorable for Shen Ji, and he was on the verge of defeat.

"Isn't it a bit early to conclude now?"

The Demon Valley Master's face was inscrutable, but his words seemed to hint at a certain confidence.

The crowd was slightly surprised—did Shen Ji still have a trick up his sleeve?

The Silent Blood King's brows knitted slightly. The Demon Valley Master wouldn't make such a statement without reason; it seemed Shen Ji still had a trump card.

Suddenly, the Silent Blood King seemed to think of something and asked, "Old Wang, it's not that move, is it?"

The Demon Valley Master's expression darkened, and he wanted to say, "Please call me Demon Valley Master."

But if he emphasized this, people would pay more attention to the nickname "Old Wang," so he decided to let it go.

"That's right."

The Demon Valley Master gave a firm reply.

The Silent Blood King's expression immediately changed, his previous calmness turning into some worry.

Although both Shen Ji and Chen Yu were from Black Demon Valley, he naturally favored his own disciple and hoped that Chen Yu would win.

"That move? Could it be your Black Demon Valley's ultimate secret technique?"

The Thunder King asked with interest.

Each sect and power had its own heritage or secret teachings.

The Black Demon Valley possessed a powerful secret technique known as "Demon Descends Sixfold Heaven."

Legend had it that the land where Black Demon Valley was located bore battle scars left by an extraordinary being.

And the founder of Black Demon Valley became enlightened there, grasping many Divine Skills, the strongest of which was "Demon Descends Sixfold Heaven."

...

Inside the passageway, Chen Yu pressed on relentlessly, the Demon Sword danced wildly, and powerful dark demonic ripples swept out.

Bang! Bang!

The demonic body shadow was in tatters, seemingly on the verge of breaking apart.

Shen Ji, sweating profusely, would have already lost to Chen Yu if he hadn't been funneling all his True Yuan into controlling the shadow.

He watched Chen Yu in disbelief, seemingly unable to accept the current situation.

He hadn't expected Chen Yu, who had once been like an ant in his eyes, to now soar brilliantly like a golden phoenix.

Shen Ji's grim face suddenly twisted with ferocity, his features distorting.

"Victory is mine!"

Shen Ji roared with intense longing.

"Demon... Descends..."

Shen Ji bellowed with all his might, as if expending his last breath to utter these words.

His presence suddenly changed dramatically, a terrifying demonic might exploded, seemingly infinite, lashing out in all directions, causing Chen Yu to stagger.

Buzz boom!

The shadow of the broken demonic body shattered itself, only to recombine into an immense shadow foot.

An overwhelming pressure of demonic might hammered down like a deluge, causing Chen Yu's form to sink violently.

It was as if the moment this shadowy demonic foot landed, it would crush everything beneath it.

"What secret technique is this?"

Chen Yu's heart was secretly shocked.

Although he was unclear about what secret technique Shen Ji was using, there was no way he could let him succeed; otherwise, even Chen Yu wouldn't be able to withstand it.

Swish!

Chen Yu took out the Soul Stabilizing Pearl, summoning from within a stream of cold, purple flame into his right thumb, and began circulating the mental method of the Taiyin Sword Point.

"Go!"

Mobilizing the strength of his body, a trail of ghostly purple sword Qi suddenly shot out.

Above the cold, purple light of the finger, an aura of chilling coldness emitted, zipping towards Shen Ji at incredible speed.

Shen Ji's eyes shifted slightly; the "Demon's Descent Six Heavens" he was using was no ordinary combat technique.

Though yet to be fully executed, any attack launched by an enemy would be greatly suppressed, greatly diminishing its potency.

Chen Yu's attack was incredibly fast, and theoretically, it shouldn't be overly powerful. If weakened further, it would be tough to exert any significant strength!

But suddenly, he felt an unease.

Regrettably, he had just begun learning "Demon's Descent Six Heavens," and had barely mastered the first level, "One Step Heavenward." He was completely unable to perform it quickly.

While Chen Yu's Taiyin Sword Point had already reached a minor level of proficiency after a long period of practice.

With no other choice, Shen Ji diverted a portion of his focus to circulate his True Yuan for defense.

He continued to execute his secret technique, and the majesty of his being swiftly soared, the wild surge of True Yuan gathering above like tidal waves, making that one foot even more heavy and intimidating with an earth-shattering might.

"One Step Heavenward!"

Shen Ji lifted his foot, and with a fierce stomp!

The giant foot of the demon shadow in the sky suddenly fell, as if the sky itself had collapsed, plummeting down.

Chen Yu was already in position for the counterattack, his strongest defensive technique, the Demon Dragon Barrier, released.

Boom!

That pitch-black demon foot stomped towards Chen Yu.

But in that instant, the force of the stomp suddenly weakened slightly.

On the other side.

Chen Yu's Taiyin Sword Point had already broken through Shen Ji's defense shield, striking his body.

The terrifying force within the Taiyin Sword Point erupted swiftly, causing Shen Ji to collapse to the ground like being struck by lightning, his secret technique affected as well, its might abruptly reduced.

Poof! Rumble rumble~

The violent demonic force from "One Step Heavenward" poured down, layers of dark glowing Qi waves striking out in all directions.

When everything dissipated, the Demon Dragon Barrier above Chen Yu was destroyed, his body bore many wounds, yet he stood upright.

In contrast, Shen Ji was making an all-out effort, circulating the True Yuan within his body to suppress the force of the Taiyin Sword Point!

Chen Yu's Taiyin Sword Point was a Yin-natured finger technique, inherently a sneaky move.

Shen Ji had underestimated this strike and had been outmaneuvered.

If he had not immediately ceased his attack to suppress the force of the Taiyin Sword Point, he would have almost certainly ended up dead or nearly incapacitated.

Struggling to open his eyes, Shen Ji saw Chen Yu before him, a bitter and reluctant smile crossing his lips.

Hum!

The marking on the back of his hand lit up, and the starlight around his body suddenly dimmed.

With a sacrifice of five hundred marks, a beam of transmission light descended upon him.

Shen Ji was teleported away!

"I won!"

Chen Yu let out a sigh of relief.

Shen Ji was not just blatantly arrogant on the surface; in fact, he was a dark horse with top five strength.

...

Outside, although the spectators couldn't see clearly or feel the specific scene, just the visual aspects were enough to discern the remarkable and perilous nature of the battle.

"What was that technique Shen Ji just used? I didn't sense any aura, but I can't help but feel awe and fear!"

"I've heard that Black Demon Valley has a secret technique called 'Demon's Descent Six Heavens.' What Shen Ji used just now must be it."

"But how did Chen Yu win?"

Many people recognized Shen Ji's dominance but couldn't understand how Chen Yu had emerged victorious.

However, the victor is king.

In their eyes, Chen Yu finally stood on the same level as the other four who had sparked the brilliance of the heavens.

Above, quiet reigned.

"Old Wang, your disciple has lost."

Silent Blood King broke the silence with great surprise in his heart.

Demon Valley Master's face showed a trace of astonishment, returning to normal shortly.

"Shen Ji did well. If he had managed to execute 'One Step Heavenward,' he would have won."

"After all, it is the town-defending secret technique of Black Demon Valley, and throughout the centuries, only a few have managed to master it," sighed the other Kings.

"Silent Blood King, where did you obtain the 'Six Flames Sword Finger'?"

Demon Valley Master inquired, deducing the finger technique Chen Yu had been practicing based on his previous battles.

"Six Flames Sword Finger?"

"Isn't that the famous technique created by the Six-Fingered Demon?"

The Six-Fingered Demon was an extremely notorious Demon Cultivator, known for his cruelty and numerous killings.

His self-created secret technique, the "Six Flames Sword Finger," was also extraordinary.

"Hehe, although you are the Valley Master of Black Demon Valley, I don't see a need to report everything to you, do I?"

Silent Blood King chuckled.

If he directly stated the technique as unrelated to himself, others might wonder about Chen Yu's connection with the Six-Fingered Demon.

Silent Blood King rather stopped this train of thought, without disclosing any details, leaving everyone in the dark.

Meanwhile.

Above the Holy Sanctuary Sky Realm Array, on a large circular plaza with a hundred exits,

Suddenly, from two of the exits, one person rushed out from each.

One of them was the prodigy disciple of Evil Moon Sect, Fallen Moon Venerable.

The other was Chen Yu!